

**ROUND - UP**  
*Iraqi Business News*  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2006

**Economy**

**An-Najaf gets back its economic position as a trade center in Iraq:**

An-Najaf city is starting to get back its position as a commercial and economic center. Due to economic growth, An-Najaf has begun competing with Baghdad markets and many people from other governorates visit An-Najaf for shopping, especially the southern governorates. An-Najaf merchants have commercial and economic relations with trade and industry centers around the world.

✉ Haider Nazar

**Al – Sabah Al - Jadeed**

**\$1 billion is Jordanian export volume to Iraq in 2005:**

Jordan recently confirmed the necessity of economic and commercial relations with Iraq which imports a lot of Jordanian goods. The Jordanian Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr. Shareef Al – Zugbi, said that the Jordanian export volume in 2005 was \$1 billion. The Jordanian minister stressed the importance of overcoming obstacles concerning the flow of goods and passengers between the two countries otherwise the national economy for Iraq and Jordan will lose a lot.

**Al - Adala**

**Iraq participates in the Arab financial institution meetings:**

Iraq is currently participating in the annual meetings for Arab financial institutions that are being held in Morocco. A source in the Ministry of Finance said that a delegation headed by Finance undersecretary Mr. Kareem Hamoud is attending these meetings that began on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April.

✉ Alaa Al – Taaei

**Al - Sabah**

**WTO**

**Iraq participates in the ministerial conference for the WTO:**

Iraq will participate in the sixth ministerial conference for the WTO that will be held in Beirut on the fourth of May. A source in the Ministry of Trade said that the team that is responsible for providing answers that were raised to Iraq by the WTO country members is preparing a draft for these questions.

✉ Khaïoun Ahmed

**Azzaman**

**Petroleum**

**China is ready to help Iraq in the oil sector:**

The Chinese ambassador in Iraq, Mr. Lee Hwashin, recently said that China seeks mutual cooperation with Iraq in the oil industry and training fields. The Ministry of Oil announced

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on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April that Mr. Hashim Al-Hashimi, the Minister of Oil, received the Chinese ambassador and discussed stimulating relations between the two countries, especially in the economic field.

**Al - Dustor**

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