

English Translation:

To simply compare the situation in Iraq before the war, especially this last war in 2003; the situation before this war was good in fact. But as we say, it was a barrel of gunpowder which might explode at any moment. The situation was stable but the stability was phony or fake stability, in fact. But generally, at least there were services, there were people in the streets after twelve or one or three in the night, you can see people in street, especially young men. Somewhat people were stable in their jobs, but unfortunately after the war, this last war, the situation seriously deteriorated especially from the security side. And definitely the news, I mean, the biggest witness on this.

And I can say that because I spent almost two years after the war, after this last war, two years I spent in Baghdad until I traveled outside Iraq. Those two years were, by Allah, the worst years honestly. The situation became very difficult especially for girls. Most girls were free in their clothes. After the war, no. There was a lot of extremism religiously and many people came with different agenda who are trying to impose their principles on people. As you know, the majority of the people who entered are insurgents coming from outside the country. They started to force their traditions, or sorry, their backward thoughts on Iraqi society. Iraqi society in fact is secular in general.

Generally, the situation before the war was – I can say that it was much better than after the war; however, we do not wish to go back to dictatorship, no, impossible.

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