

*Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center
The Interfaith Council of Contra Costa and the
Social Action Committee of Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church*
Present the

American Friends Service Committee Speaking Tour

Nightmare Beyond Borders



*The Iraqi Displacement Crisis
and
What Can Be Done About It.*

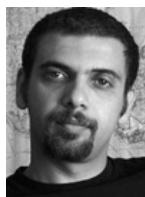
Saturday, September 29, 2007 — 3:00 PM

Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church

55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek

Iraq is by any measure a humanitarian catastrophe. Inside Iraq, ongoing deterioration of basic services, including the collapse of the health care system, lack of electricity and potable water, and personal and economic insecurity make daily life for Iraqis nearly impossible. *Eight million Iraqis are in need of emergency assistance, and more than one in seven Iraqis have been forced from their homes.*

Over two million Iraqis have fled to neighboring countries, with the majority in Syria and Jordan, and thousands more flee daily. Infrastructure in host countries is sorely inadequate, and the economic and political strain is increasing. It is the fastest growing refugee crisis in the world. Joining us to discuss the event will be:



Raed Jarrar is an Iraqi political analyst and consultant to American Friends Service Committee Iraq Program. After the U.S.-led invasion, Jarrar became the country director for CIVIC Worldwide, the only door-to-door casualty survey group in post-war Iraq. He established a grassroots organization that provided humanitarian and political aid to Iraqi

internally displaced persons (IDPs). The organization delivered medicine and food, helped initiate micro-enterprise projects for IDPs, and engaged in political advocacy on behalf of populations displaced due to ethnic discrimination.



Noah Baker Merrill spent four months living and working among Iraqi refugees in Jordan and Syria conducting interviews, working to secure release for detainees, advocating for improvements of aid to Iraqi families, and consulting for UNHCR missions. He now coordinates the Direct Aid Initiative, a project of the Electronic Iraq news and analysis web-

site, where he is a regular contributor, providing medical care to displaced Iraqis. He has worked on conflicts and peace-building efforts in Africa, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. Noah is a lifelong member of the Quakers.

\$10 donation

No one turned away for lack of funds.

Doors open at 2:30 PM



Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center

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Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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