

ISIL Car Bombing Kills More than 100 in Iraq's Diyala



Baghdad, July 18 (RHC)-- More than 100 people, including women and children, have lost their lives and more than 70 others sustained injuries in a car bomb blast carried out by ISIL terrorists in an Iraqi town north of the capital Baghdad, officials say.

The Friday bomb went off in a market in the center of Khan Bani Saad, a city predominantly populated by Shia Muslims and located about 20 kilometers (12 miles) north of Baghdad in the eastern province of Diyala.

The blast occurred on the eve of Eid al-Fitr, a major religious festival marking the end of the holy fasting month of Ramadan, when markets are usually crowded.

According to a member of the Iraqi parliament, the huge explosion "caused a lot of damage." Footage aired on the Iraqi television showed that several buildings around the blast site have been completely destroyed, and panicked people were trying to tend to the wounded on the streets filled with debris from the toppled buildings.

The report also showed some people running around to gather the scattered remains of their beloved ones in cardboard boxes available in the devastated market.

The ISIL Takfiri terrorist group claimed responsibility for the deadly attack. Provincial Governor Muthanna al-Tamimi has officially declared three days of mourning across the province and has cancelled Eid al-Fitr festivities.

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