

PRAY
AND
ACT
FOR
PEACE
IN IRAQ



Prayer for Iraq

One block from my home in south-central Elkhart (Ind.) is Stop N Go—a small variety store specializing in “clothes, cigarettes, snacks and soft drinks.” The smiling gentleman who runs the shop comes from Iraq. His name is Hatim.

Lord Jesus, for all of the people who fill our neighborhoods and offer us the chance to experience your big world, we give you thanks.

Twelve years ago, Hatim was preparing for university graduation, after which he was slated for conscription into Saddam Hussein’s army. He chose instead to flee Iraq and travelled from country to country until arriving in United States.

Lord Jesus, for Hatim, and for all those dislocated by political upheaval and war, we ask for physical strength and peace of mind.

Hatim is the only one of his family to come to the United States. His mother, grandmother, and other close relatives still live in various locations across Iraq.

Lord Jesus, for Hatim, for his friends and family, and for all those feeling isolated and alone due to separation from loved ones, we ask for a generous portion of your comforting presence and companionship.

For the first time in twelve years, Hatim is making plans to visit Iraq at the end of this month (December 2007). His aged grandmother lies on her deathbed, mustering every ounce of strength to hang on to life until he returns.

Lord Jesus, you understand the plight and perils of political refugees. You have been one yourself. Grant to Hatim safe passage as he travels. Hold his ailing grandmother in the palm of your hand. Fill his heart with joy as he reunites with family and friends. And protect him on the journey until, in due time, he returns to his new-found home in the United States. AMEN.

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