

Violence in Baghdad

President Bush has given the U.S. military a green light to target leaders of political and religious militias in Iraq who are implicated in sectarian violence and encouraging ethnic cleansing. The insurgency is blamed on the Shia **Mahdi Army** of radical cleric **Muqtada al-Sadr** and **Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution (SCIRI)**, and the **Sunni Muslim Scholars Association (MSA)** and **Islamic Party**

Muqtada al-Sadr: Leads 60,000-strong Mahdi Army, based in Sadr City. Al-Sadr's followers hold 30 of 275 seats in Parliament

Funding: Salaries of "ghost" workers at Sadr-controlled **Transportation, Health and Agriculture Ministries** fund insurgents

Facilities Protection Service: 145,000-strong, U.S.-created, security service. FPS is known to be involved in death squads

Abdel Aziz al-Hakim: Head of SCIRI. Controls **Interior Ministry** and **Badr Brigade** which is allegedly involved in sectarian killings

Shia district Turning Shia Sunni district Turning Sunni Major U.S. bases

Most dangerous districts: Militias of MSA and Islamic Party are forcing Shia families out of western Baghdad

1. **Kadhimiya**
2. **Adhamiya**
3. **Hurriya**
4. **Ghazaliya**
5. **al-Adal**
6. **al-Ammal**
7. **Al-Amariya**
8. **Qadissiya**
9. **Jihad**
10. **Doura**

Christian communities

Rusafa: Mahdi Army attempting to cleanse eastern bank of Sunni Muslim minority

Sadr City: Shia slum with 2 million population. Every family has been asked to provide one male aged between 15 and 45 for service in Mahdi Army. This could raise extra 100,000 fighters to resist U.S.

BAGHDAD
Population: **6.7 million**

Baghdad International Airport.
Camp Victor,
Camp Cropper

Baghdad residents displaced since Feb 2006:
146,322

