

Baghdad, August 13, 2004—
Demonstrators supporting Shiite leader Muqtada al-Sadr pray outside the Green Zone, a heavily fortified compound where the new Iraqi government offices and the U.S. embassy are located. The protestors demanded an end to U.S. military actions against al-Sadr's militia, the Mahdi Army, during the buildup to a major battle in Najaf.



Sadr City, Baghdad, July 22, 2004—A bride leaves a beauty salon with her face covered. She will not show herself until she reaches the privacy of a family gathering. The Mahdi Army has threatened beauty salon owners who advertise using pictures of women without their hair covered. Mahdi Army fighters police neighborhood streets, enforcing strict moral codes.



Sadr City, Baghdad, July 30, 2004— Children at a Husseiniya, a Shiite center for religious learning, perform a reenactment of a battle between U.S. soldiers and the Mahdi Army militia. In this scene they carry the body of a fallen martyr, a young boy who is playing the role of the first casualty of the fighting between U.S. soldiers and the militia.



Baghdad, September 5, 2004— University students gather at a restaurant popular among young, middle-class Baghdadis. These women spend more time at home than they did before the invasion due to the deteriorated security situation in Baghdad and rampant kidnapping. They also fear being singled out by radical militia groups who have threatened women for studying in university or appearing in public without covering their heads.