



seed foundation
Social Educational Economic Development

PROTECT YOURSELF

from Fraud and Extortion under the Yezidi Survivors' Law

In 2021, the Government of Iraq passed the Yezidi Survivors' Law (YSL) to provide reparations for survivors of ISIS. In the process of trying to access or use your benefits under the YSL, you might face risks of fraud or extortion. Perpetrators may offer to complete your YSL application in exchange for money or a percentage of your salary; steal money from your QiCard; or promise to invest your salary payments. Such actions are illegal and punishable.



How to Stay Safe from Fraud and Extortion:

- **Do not agree to pay fees** or a percentage of your salary to any person or organization offering to assist you with your application. If money or any other form of favors, including those of a sexual nature, are requested from you, consult a trusted NGO or the General Directorate for Survivors' Affairs (GDSA). If this action is initiated by a government employee, call the police or visit the investigation court.
- **Do not hand over your application** and documents to any actor other than the GDSA. If an individual or NGO is assisting you, ensure that they are well recognized.
- After your application is approved, the GDSA will issue a QiCard to provide your monthly salary. Your QiCard can be used to withdraw money or check your balance at bank offices or designated ATM machines in Iraq.
- **Keep your QiCard in your possession** at all times, and do not let others use it. If your QiCard is lost, contact the QiCard company directly to deactivate it and get a new one. Send an email to qicard@qi.iq, or call 422 from inside Iraq or +964 771 640 4444 from outside Iraq.
- **Minimize the use of your QiCard** for unnecessary transactions. Electronic payment protections are not sufficient in Iraq.
- Consult the QiCard company to **link your mobile number to your QiCard**, so that you receive an alert whenever a transaction is made. If you don't recognize a transaction, contact the QiCard company directly.
- **Be cautious online.** You should never reveal personal information or anything related to your YSL benefits to the public. Turn off your geolocation and do not share your current location or the locations where you often spend time. Be aware that not everything you read online is true, and not everyone is who they claim to be.

If you are experiencing fraud or extortion, it is not your fault and you are not alone. There are a few different ways **you can get help**: talk to someone you trust; report online violations to the platform where the violation occurred; go to an NGO to get free and confidential help; or call the Directorate of Combating Violence Against Women and Families hotline (119) in the Kurdistan Region, the Community Police hotline (497) in Iraq, or the regular police hotline (104), which is available across the country.