

adDin (in Arbil) and al-Mustansiriya (in Baghdad). Baghdad also has a university of technology.

## Currency

The Iraqi monetary unit is the dinar. It is divided into 1 000 subunits called fils and is equivalent to about US \$3.38 (early 1989). All cash transactions in Iraq are in Iraqi dinars.

Although first-class hotels do take major credit cards, they are not allowed to accept foreign currencies. The daily exchange rates of the Iraqi dinar against other currencies are determined by the Foreign Exchange Control Department of the Central Bank of Iraq using the U.S. dollar as the intervening currency. The Central Bank publishes a daily list of the official exchange rates.

In Iraq, foreign currency must be converted into Iraqi dinars through the commercial banks. There are branches in every first-class hotel and you must present an exchange receipt on payment of your hotel bill, including overseas calls. There is a 24-hour currency exchange service at the Baghdad airport. No more than 5 Iraqi dinars may be taken out of the country by one person, nor may more than 25 dinars be brought into Iraq.

Because of the war and the resultant exchange restrictions, a black market exists for foreign currencies. Visitors are warned that exchange in the black market can result in prison sentences. At the very least, black market currency dealings will result in being denied an Iraq visa.

## Local Time

Local standard time in Iraq is eight hours ahead of eastern standard time. Iraq goes on daylight saving time between the first day of May and the last day of October. During the period when Canada is on standard time and Iraq on daylight time, the difference is nine hours.

## Business Hours

Thursday afternoon and Friday are the weekly holidays in Iraq. A few Christian firms are closed on Sunday. Some government offices start and finish half an hour earlier than the times listed below.