

About FYF

The Free Yezidi Foundation (FYF) is one of the leading Yezidi NGOs providing humanitarian and development aid to Yezidis in Iraq and the diaspora, with an emphasis on women, girls, and survivors of sexual violence. Founded in the aftermath of the 2014 Yezidi Genocide, FYF aims to empower the Yezidi community to heal, rebuild, and establish resilience while fostering gender equality and women's rights within the Yezidi community and broader Iraqi society.

Who are the Yezidis?

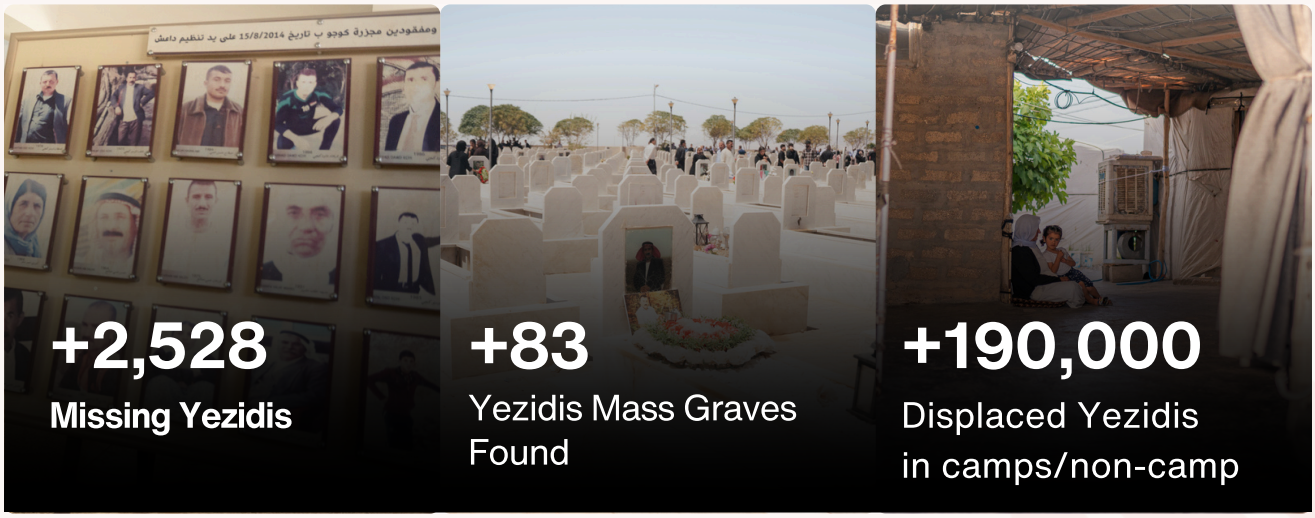
The Yezidis are an indigenous ethno-religious minority with ancient roots in Iraq and the surrounding region. Their distinct religion, language, and cultural practices have endured for centuries despite repeated attempts at extermination. The Yezidi Genocide committed by ISIS in 2014 resulted in mass killings, enslavement of more than 6,000 Yezidi women and children, displacement of over 400,000 Yezidis, and the destruction of the Yezidi homeland of Sinjar.

Why Yezidis Need Continued Support

More than a decade later, the effects of the genocide continue. As of 2026, 2,528+ Yezidis remain missing, more than 190,000 Yezidis remain displaced in camps and non-camp settings, and the majority of survivors continue to face severe economic hardship, displacement, trauma, and limited opportunities to rebuild their lives.



As of 2026



Enterprise and Training Center

FYF's flagship program and award-winning Enterprise and Training Center (ETC) located just outside an IDP camp in Khanke, Duhok is more than a training center — it is a community-owned economic recovery model, generating an annual revenue of more than **30,000 USD**.

The ETC is home to several successful businesses, including the Chonky Animals® and Crafts and Enterprise® artisan programs, where women create handmade products and traditional carpets, as well as the Sugar is Sweet Bakery and Café®, operated by displaced Yezidi women.

Importantly, these enterprises are designed to move beyond traditional aid models. 100% of proceeds generated through ETC enterprises are reinvested directly into the center, including artisan wages, production materials, business operations, and facility maintenance. In addition, recent installation of solar energy systems has strengthened the ETC's sustainability by reducing operational costs and increasing self-reliance.









Creating Impact Through Strategic Investment

The greatest opportunities for impact are currently in two key areas:

- Expanding the ETC model and establishing centers in new locations;
- Strengthening access mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)

1. EXPANDING FYF'S ENTERPRISE AND TRAINING CENTER

Replicate the ETC model in **additional locations**.

Expand artisan enterprises into **small-business incubators** and **entrepreneurship programs** for women and youth, creating employment opportunities and supporting survivor-led businesses.

Strengthen operations and **revenue generation**, and further advance a **self-sustaining model** that reduces reliance on external funding.

2. BUILDING A MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT TEAM

Economic recovery must happen alongside healing. Many survivors continue to live with the lasting effects of genocide, captivity, displacement, and trauma.

FYF is seeking support to establish and expand a dedicated MHPSS team, including psychologists and social workers, to **provide**

Trauma-informed mental health care through individual and group counseling and psychosocial support.

Survivor-centered case management to support long-term recovery for women, children, and survivors.





SUPPORT US

BE PART OF A STRONGER TOMORROW

Ready to make a difference? Your support helps create a safer, stronger future for the Yezidi community. Connect with us today.

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www.freeyezidi.org