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a small congregation of Iraqi Dominican Sisters is sharing the compelling story of their community's founding and unfolding in a turbulent region, under unusual ecclesial circumstances.

In a new book titled, Drawn by Love, Sister Marie Therese Hanna, OP, a former prioress of the congregation, tells the story of their founding as a lay community at the end of the 19th century, to present day Iraq where the Catholic sisters are striving to rebuild their country even as the Christian minority is being persecuted in the aftermath of the U.S. invasion seven years ago.



The cover of Drawn by Love showing Sister Marie Aimee Hindu, O.P., first native prioress of the Dominican Sisters of Mosul, Iraq.

Notwithstanding the threats and danger, as the book recounts in its final chapters, the St. Catherine Dominicans are dedicated to working alongside their Iraqi brothers and sisters— Christians, Muslims, Kurds, Yazidis, and others alike—in their mission of helping to build a new, nonviolent future for Iraq. The 280-page history provides a unique lens through which to view the tumultuous history of Iraq; the story of the sisters is intimately tied to that of the Iraqi people, whose welfare remains their abiding concern. Published in English and Arabic, the book includes 20 pages of photographs and a map illustrating the sisters' mission areas.

Proceeds from the sale of the book will be used to help finance the higher education of the congregation's young sisters. Their training—in peace studies, medicine, pastoral care, psychology, theology, and other

fields—is a priority for the congregation, in their mission of forging a better future for the people of Iraq.

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الأخت ماريا تزور الأخرات الدارسات السبعة في الولايات المتحدة (٢٠٠٨) Prioress Maria visits the seven young women studying and ministering in the United States



الأخت اليز بريت نيلسن، الرئيسة العامة لر اهبات سيدة النعمة شاتيون-فرنسا مع الأخد ماريا الرئيسة العامة للأخوات الدومنيكيات للقديسة كاثرينا الموصل-العراق، خلال ز بار تيما لأدر بان مشكن ٢٠٠٨

Sister Maria enjoys a moment with Sister Else-Britt Nilsen, O.P., prioress of the Dominican Sisters of Notre Dame de Grâce, during their visit to Adrian, Michigan, in 2008.





