



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

## UNESCO Iraq Office

### Press Statement on

### Restoration Project of Al-Askari Holy Shrine in Samarra – Iraq

Amman, 11 March 2008

The United National Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in close collaboration with and support of the Government of Iraq, the people of Samarra city, the European Commission and the international community, continues to honor its commitments and implement its assignments within the framework of the Restoration Project of Al-Askari Holy Shrine in Samarra city. Works are ongoing in the site of the project to complete the cleaning of the site as well as the classification of material in order to re-use the sorted items in the re-construction of the Holy Shrine.

Under the direct supervision of UNESCO, the organization's experts along with the Iraqi engineers and workers are working to set the entire basis for the restoration project in addition to completing the classification works.

Moreover, the Restoration Project of Al-Askari Shrine provides job opportunities to the people of Samarra city as part of the project's goals that aim at achieving national reconciliation through the participation of all of the people of Iraq in the restoration project.