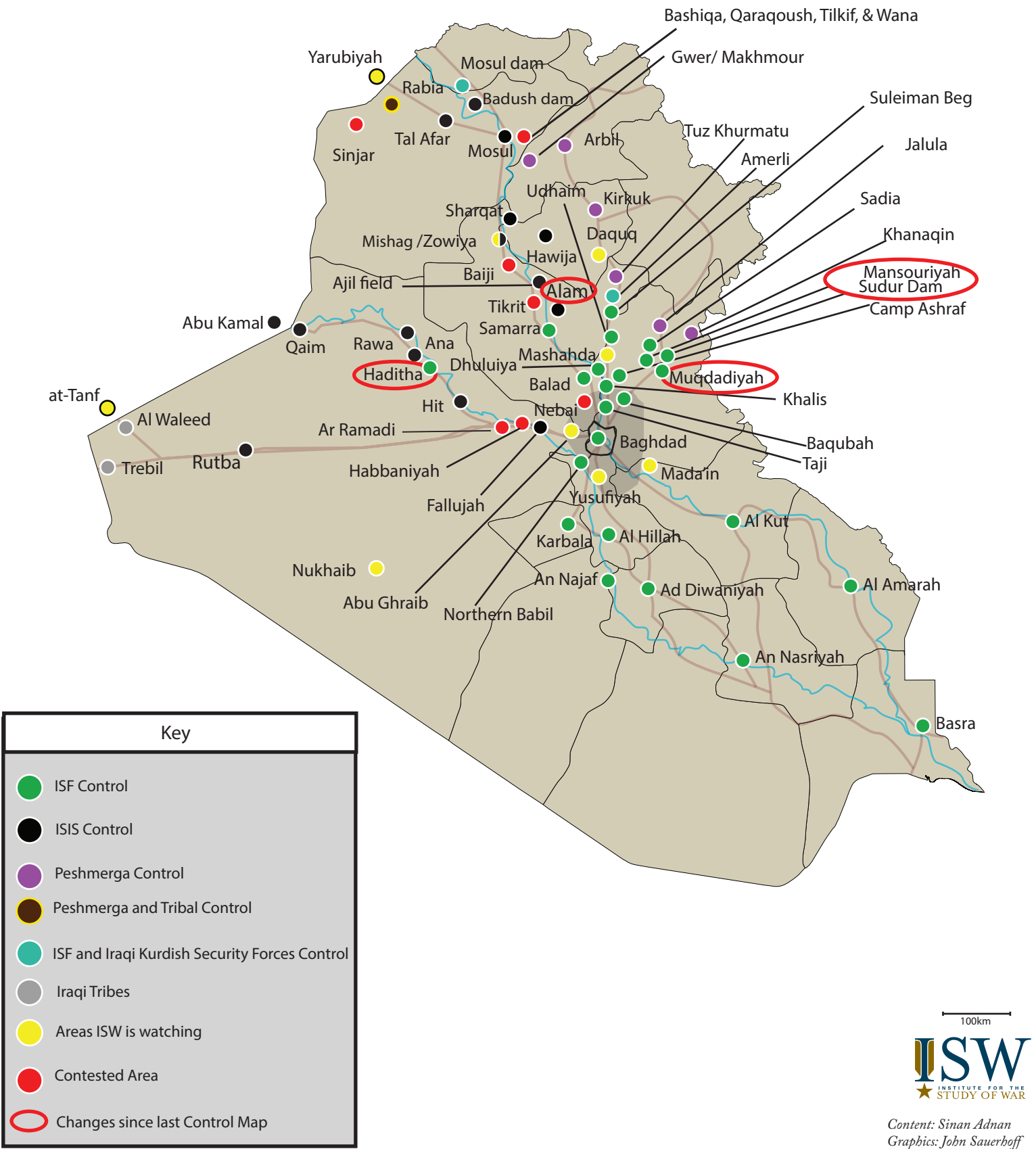


**Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale**

|                                    |                                             |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bilagsnr.:</b>                  | <b>782</b>                                  |
| Land:                              | Irak                                        |
| Kilde:                             | Institute for the study of war              |
| Titel:                             | Control of Terrain in Iraq February 2, 2015 |
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Control of Terrain in Iraq: February 2, 2015



**Mansouriya, Sudur Dam, and Muqdadiyah:** On January 23, the ISF and Iraqi Shi'a militias launched an operation to clear ISIS from areas north of the main area of Muqdadiyah district, including the area where the Sudur dam is located. The operations resulted in ISIS being mostly expelled from the area. ISIS will most likely maintain a minimum presence in this region allowing it carry out sporadic attacks and might regroup and carry out a large scale attack to reclaim this strategic territory in the future. At the present time, however, ISIS appears to have lost control and freedom of movement in the area, and ISW is therefore assessing this area to be under the control of the ISF and its allied militias. The ISF is now also in control of the Sudur dam, which has allowed water to flow once more to areas to its south, especially Balad Ruz, ending a water crisis generated by the previous control of ISIS over the dam. Also, as a result of the successful clearing operation north of Muqdadiyah, the main area of Muqdadiyah district is no longer contested and is under the control of the ISF and the militias.

**Haditha:** The main area of Haditha district has witnessed many attacks by ISIS on a frequent basis since the fall of Mosul in June 2014. ISIS has been able to enter sub-districts and villages around the main area of Haditha, but ISF and Iraqi Sunni anti-ISIS tribes, mostly from the Jughai tribe, have, so far, prevented ISIS from entering the main area of the district. The last attack by ISIS targeting the border of Haditha took place on January 18. ISIS contests places around the main area of Haditha, but the main area is under the control of ISF and Iraqi Sunni anti-ISIS tribes.

**Alam:** Alam sub-district, east of Tikrit, was initially contested between ISIS and Iraqi Sunni anti-ISIS tribes, mainly from the Jubur tribe. ISIS has since entered the area and maintains control of Alam. This is evident in the ability of the organization to implement Shari'a law and kidnap and execute potential competitors in the sub-district. ISW is therefore changing the status of Alam from contested to ISIS controlled.