

My dear friend,



What a day it has been! You must visit me here in Baghdad. It is the most wonderful place. Baghdad is the capital of Iraq and the second-largest city in West Asia. Located along the Tigris River, the city's docks accommodate hundreds of different boats including trading vessels, pleasure crafts and warships.

I see merchants and sailors bring precious goods, news and knowledge from around the world into the city. It is at the centre of the world's great trade routes and the caliph therefore is extremely wealthy.

Did you know that the city was founded in the 8th century and is the capital of the Abbasid Caliphate. Baghdad is the largest city in the world, with a population of about 1 million. It is a perfectly round city, with all the important buildings in the centre.

The architecture of my city ranges from traditional two- or three-story brick houses to modern steel, glass, and concrete structures.

The traditional Baghdad house, usually located on a crowded, narrow street, has latticed windows and an open inner courtyard (its beautiful to look out of the window)!

If you come and visit me you have to visit the Baghdadi Museum and the Abu Hanifa Mosque which is one of the largest mosques in Baghdad. The mosque is built around the tomb of Abu Hanifa an-Nu'man who is the founder of Hanafi School. Do you remember abi talking about it?

Hurry now as the weather will get dismal soon!!

Yasin Ahmed