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Abstract of paper to be presented at the conference.

For details of the conference programme go to www.iraqistudies.org

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Title: Managing oil in Kurdistan Iraq: 1991-2003

Abstract:

The paper will examine dynamics of state-formation in Kurdistan-Iraq by focusing on oil smuggling between Turkey and Iraq from 1991 to 2003. Following the invasion of Kuwait, Iraq-Turkey pipeline had been closed but it was reassembled by truck drivers, who take in extra diesel into their gasoline tanks to make extra money in carrying international humanitarian aid from Turkey to Iraq by land routes, although the UN regime of sanctions banned any oil export transaction. By presenting historical account of the oil pipeline on wheels through in-depth interviews with truck drivers, I will show how oil as a natural resource and technologies that allow its production, circulation and consumption as a market commodity enabled the state-formation in Kurdistan-Iraq.