

Protests in Iraq

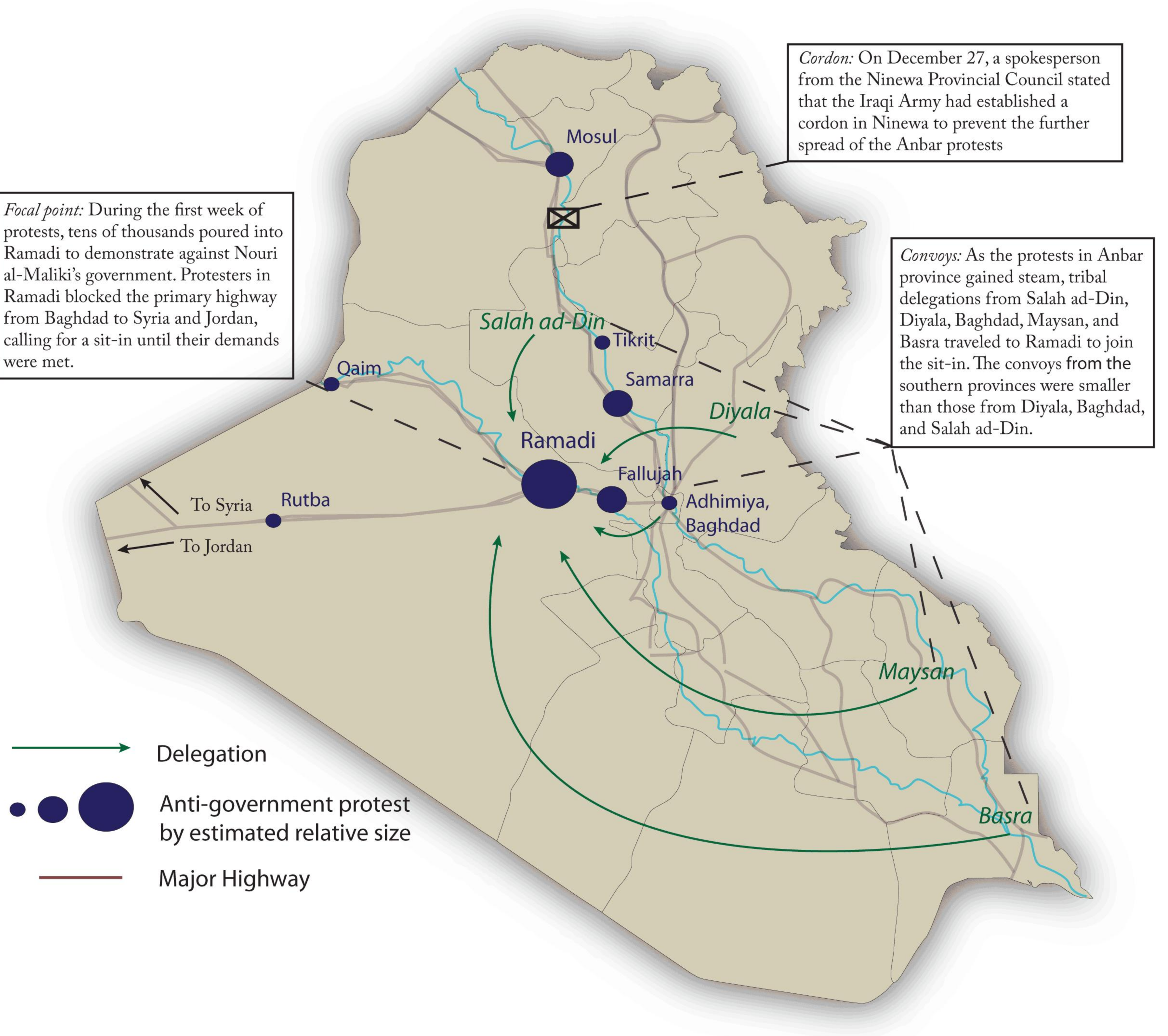
Week 1: December 21 - December 28, 2012

Overview: Quickly following the arrest of Iraqi Finance Minister Rafa al-Issawi's security detail, anti-government protests were held in the provinces of Anbar, Salah ad-Din, and Ninewa. Within the first week, convoys of supporters converged on Ramadi, a city in central Iraq that has become the focal point for resistance.

Focal point: During the first week of protests, tens of thousands poured into Ramadi to demonstrate against Nouri al-Maliki's government. Protesters in Ramadi blocked the primary highway from Baghdad to Syria and Jordan, calling for a sit-in until their demands were met.

Cordon: On December 27, a spokesperson from the Ninewa Provincial Council stated that the Iraqi Army had established a cordon in Ninewa to prevent the further spread of the Anbar protests

Convoys: As the protests in Anbar province gained steam, tribal delegations from Salah ad-Din, Diyala, Baghdad, Maysan, and Basra traveled to Ramadi to join the sit-in. The convoys from the southern provinces were smaller than those from Diyala, Baghdad, and Salah ad-Din.



- Delegation
- Anti-government protest by estimated relative size
- Major Highway