The Musical Characteristics of the Folk Songs in South of Iraq

General preview
This study is an ethno musicological study to examine the musical legacy of south of Iraq. Evaluate the social, cultural, and economic reality of the local community. Samples of the folk songs will be subject to analysis to determine the musical characteristics and the melodic construction of the folk songs in the rural region. The text will be apply to analysis to disclose the relationship between the linguistic structure of the text and the musical performance of the songs by the singer.

Research Contribution
Make a typical measurement for the analysis of the texts in the Iraqi and Arabic songs. Will contribute to the understanding process of integration between the text and the melody of the folk song in the south of Iraq. This study is the first in the field of ethnomusicology in the Iraqi musical studies, hopefully it will not be the last which will therefore have a say as an added source to the Arabic and international library.

Research Key Questions
What are the melodic and rhythmic characteristics of the folk songs in the south of Iraq? The relationship between the melody and the text and to what extent does the text affect on the song and vice versa? What social factors are likely to influence the singing and the singer under the social and religious pressures in the rural area?

Research Objectives
Present an appropriate analytical system to be applied on analysing melody and texts in the Iraqi and Arabic songs. Analyses the melody and the text of the folk songs in south of Iraq and find out the musical and linguistic characteristics of the folk songs. Discern the relationship between the melody and the text and to what extent do the text affect on the song and vice versa.