

# *Several Bomb Blasts Kill 26 in Iraqi Capital*

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Baghdad, January 20 (RHC)-- Seven bomb blasts across the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, have left at least 26 people dead and 67 others injured.

According to security and medical officials, the deadliest attack on Monday was carried out in the mainly Shia Muslim Abu Dsheer district in southern Baghdad, where a car bomb near a crowded market killed seven people and wounded 18.

Five of Monday's explosions took place in mainly Shia districts of Baghdad, while two targeted mostly Sunni areas. Officials have warned that the death toll could rise in the coming hours.

The bomb attacks were the latest in a surge of violence that has killed over 650 people in the Arab country so far this month. No group has claimed responsibility for the attacks.

On Saturday, several blasts in Baghdad claimed 25 lives, while nearly 40 more were killed in a similar spate of attacks on Wednesday.

Over the past few weeks, the country has been the scene of fighting between security forces and militants from the la-Qaeda-affiliated Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in the western province of Anbar.

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