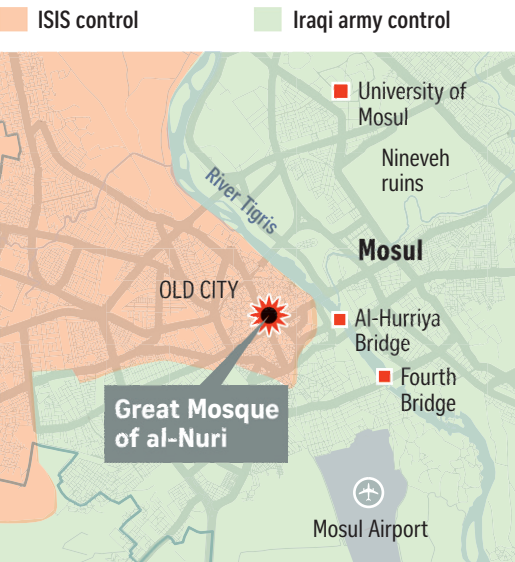


850-year-old icon

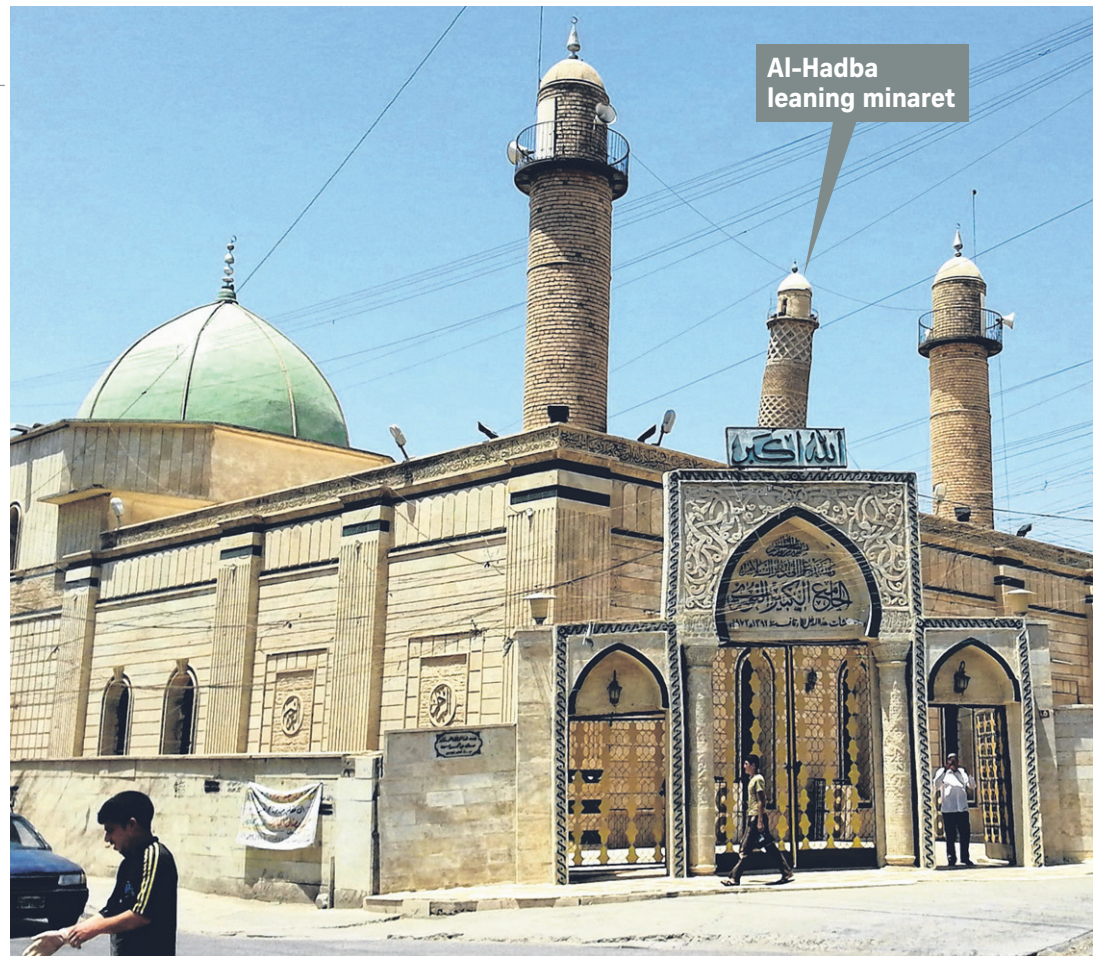


GREAT MOSQUE OF AL-NURI

- The mosque was well known for its leaning minaret, known as al-Hadba ("the hunchback")
- Completed in 1172, the minaret was 45m high, with seven ornamental bands of brickwork at different levels around its cylindrical shaft.
- Built by the Seljuk ruler Nur al-Din al-Zangi Atabeg, it was part of a religious complex including a mosque and a madrasah named for its patron.
- Gained its tilt after Prophet Muhammad passed overhead while ascending to heaven.
- The minaret bowed itself in reverence but could only regain its balance after its top joint had been kinked in the opposite direction.



An image taken from a video of the destroyed mosque.



Al-Hadba leaning minaret