



SUCCESS

story | ISC-Erbil

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As a global school management organization, SABIS® operates Pre-K and K-12 schools in 15 countries on four continents. The schools, which provide a high-quality education for all students, are found in both the private and public arenas and serve thousands of students worldwide.

A member of the SABIS® School Network, the **International School of Chouefat-Erbil (ISC-Erbil)** — the first SABIS® School in Kurdistan — opened its doors to 240 students in September 2006. Today, ISC-Erbil is recognized as a provider of high-quality education and boasts an enrollment of approximately 2,000 students from 38 different nationalities. This year, the school celebrates its first ever graduation ceremony when 40 students will receive their high school diploma.

This is a story of a student at ISC-Erbil who, through the international SABIS® Educational System, conquered his shyness and developed into a confident, well-rounded individual ready to attend one of the most prestigious universities in the world.

When Alan Khaledi first joined ISC-Erbil as a Grade 5 student in 2006, he was extremely shy and always tried to divert any attention from himself. After escaping from Iran, where his father was being persecuted for his political beliefs, Alan had a difficult time settling in to life in Kurdistan. In addition to the challenge of fitting in, when Alan joined ISC-Erbil, he only spoke Persian and although he was a 5th grader, his English skills put him on the same level as a Grade 1 student.

Despite the many challenges he was faced with, Alan demonstrated a strong will to succeed. Through hard work, determination, and commitment and the constant support of the SABIS® Educational System, Alan rapidly caught up with his peers. This year he was part of the first graduating class at ISC-Erbil and graduated with honors.

In addition to his academic diligence, while at ISC-Erbil Alan dedicated himself to serving his school community. He was the head of various Student Life departments including academics, discipline, and sports. No matter what he was doing, whether helping peers get up to speed in math and English, starting the Sunshine Program, or heading the Saturday School Academy, Alan was dedicated to helping others and was a role model for many. Alan also represented his school on various occasions away from ISC-Erbil. In 2010, he represented the school at the SLO® summer training camp in Cairo, Egypt, and in 2013 he played on the ISC-Erbil basketball team in the SABIS® 9th Annual Regional Tournament that was held in Dubai.

Today, Alan is ready to begin the next chapter in his life. After receiving acceptances from 10 leading universities in the world, including Michigan State and the University of California – Los Angeles (UCLA) among others, Alan has decided to study electrical engineering at the prestigious Stanford University in the U.S.