

# Iraq - power and society

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Tags: #Babylonia

## US Exit from Iraq Prelude to Expulsion from Entire Region: Shamkhani

**Tower of Babel** The city of Babylon appears in both Hebrew and scriptures. As the provision of education, health, and other social services to the generally impoverished rural areas increases, the number and the social influence of these nontribal people increase.

## Iraq wins independence

In urban settings, more authority is found in schools rather than with the family. We think that, in large part, this is because reform programs in Iraq have been designed outside a robust political framework.

## The Power of Political Islamization in Iraq: The Case of Ending the Civil State

**Fall of Babylon** The Neo-Babylonian Empire, like the earlier Babylonia, was short-lived. Government leaders might have this kind of influence as well, but they also have the advantage of wielding power

### US Imperialism After Iraq

Ken Fuchs

What is the future direction of US imperialism? The strategic choices being debated by ruling elites are framed by the disaster in Iraq. And while the exact outcome remains unclear, one thing is perfectly clear: the US has been defeated in its Middle East invasion.

To properly judge the US war we must remember its original goals. A compliant pro-US government, a steadily privatized economy run mainly by US capital, 14 permanent US military bases, and a Middle East ready for regime change in Iran, Syria and wherever else the US deemed necessary. None of this has been achieved nor likely will be.

Shelby Steele from Stanford's Hoover Institution lays out the original vision in unambiguous terms: "Victory in foreign war has always meant hegemony. You win, you take over... A complete American victory in Iraq would put that nation...entirely under American power and oversight. We would in fact 'own' the society as a colony." (Shelby Steele, "Our Unconscious Ambivalence," Wall Street Journal, 12/20/06, p. A15.)

In fact the opposite has occurred. Rather than a stronger and more threatening presence the world has witnessed the US military unable to control the battlefield and the US government unable to direct the political course of events. Iran emerges stronger, terrorist networks more organized and the region more unstable than before the war. A failure on this scale, comparable to Vietnam, will have far reaching ramifications in US ruling circles on the role and capabilities of the US military in the decades to come. Even Charles Krauthammer, who first popularized US unilateralism, admits: "The unpopular moment is now over." ("Glad Obama's 'A' uniform isn't," How democracy worldwide is on the back foot," FT 1/17/07, p. 9)

But if the unpopular moment is over has the globalist era fully asserted itself? For all the power of economic globalization there is a political and military dimension. In Does world elites benevolent political violence and turmoil during a "golden period" of economic integration and success, Martin Wolf, "A divided world of economic success as political turmoil," FT, 1/13/07, p. 111 Much of this success is centered on the war in Iraq and growing protectionism. While capital globalization continues open to political protectionism, while capital globalization continues open to political protectionism and corresponding military policy seems aimed at nationalization.

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associated with their position in the government.

### Power and Authority

Violence against foreign troops has recently picked-up with June being the worst month in combat-related deaths for the military in Iraq in more than two years. The sentencing was appealed, but was ultimately upheld by a court of appeals. A more elaborate analysis of this process would have to look specifically at the differences between Kurdish and Arab shaykhs, between political and religious leadership functions, between Sunni and Shia shaykhs, and between nomadic and riverine shaykhs, all within their ecological settings.



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