

Why did events in the Gulf matter, 1970-2000

Igcse core content
By Ms.Farida

Rise of saddam - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lFseD4B3aFg>

I knew saddam (Aljazeera report) -
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_Wuqm22gUU

Background

- By the final third of the twentieth century oil was vital commodity for industrialised nations of the world
- Where is gulf?- The states located around the Persian Gulf (Iran, Iraq, Kuwait , Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates and Oman)
- Events in the gulf therefore a prime importance to the rest of the world to ensure steady supplies at stable prices.
- Yet through out this periodthe Gulf region was one of instability and votality

Persian Gulf



Why was Saddam Hussein able to come to power in Iraq?



Early life, power building and presidency

Early life - Baath Party and assassination attempt

- He was politically influenced by his uncle Khairallah Tulfah (developed an appreciation of Arab nationalism)
- He joined the Baath party in 1957 becoming involved in anti-govt. activities.
- In early years he established his credentials as a ruthless operator and a man of action
- In July 1958, the Hashemite monarchy was overthrown by General Qaseem, Iraq later became Republic
- Saddam was selected by the Baath party to participate in an attempted assassination of General Qaseem. The attempt failed and therefore Saddam emerged as the most wanted man.
- Saddam had to go into exile and spent time extending his studies in Egypt

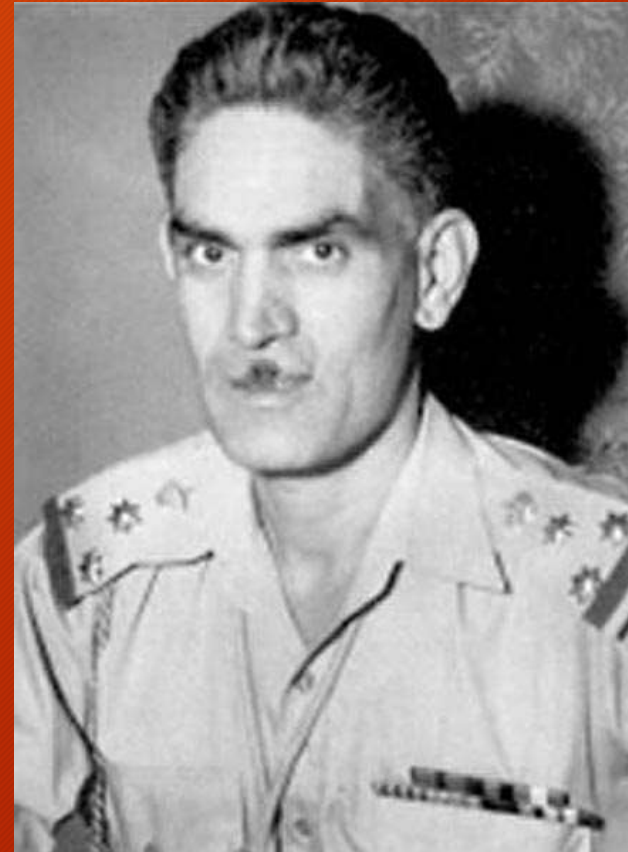
Early life - BAGHDAD, IRAQ: Members of the ruling Baath party parade with kalashnikovs and portraits of Saddam

- In February 1963, Qaseem was overthrown and die.
- He was replaced by a govt consisting of army officers and the Baath party
- Saddam came back and held a minor position in this government.

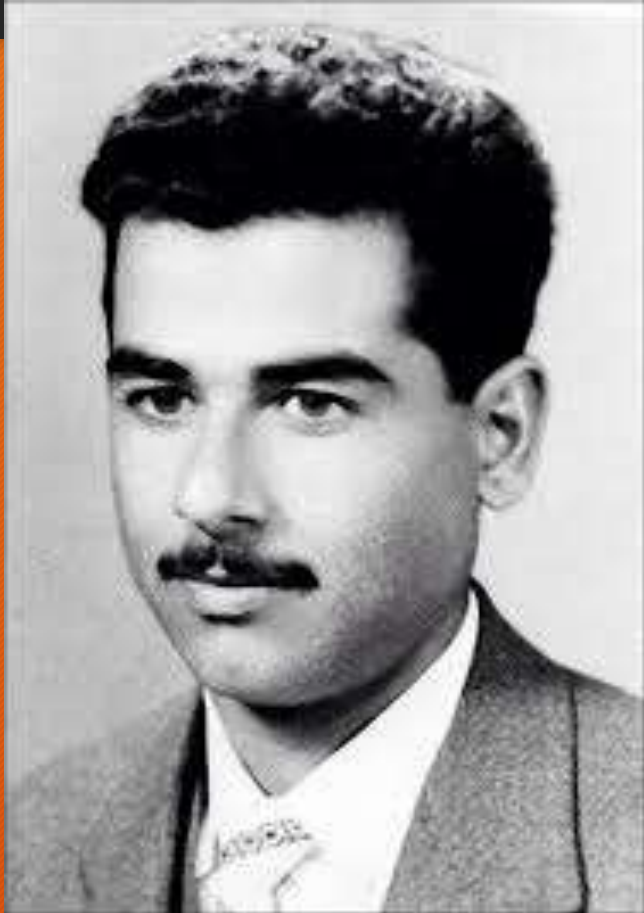


Harshemite monarchy- Faisal II of Iraq, aged 18, taking his oath of office before parliament

General Qaseem



Saddam and Kahirallah Tulfah



Building up power base - Supporting new Prime Minister and receiving rewards

- Saddam gave his support to the new Prime Minister , Ahmad Hassan Albakr
- Bak's position as leader of the moderate strengthened (Baath party were ousted from power while the extremeist wings of the party were discredited)
- Saddam was rewarded with a position within the Regional Command (Decision making body of the Baath Party within Iraq)
-

Building up power base - Military coup 1968

- Saddam realise that the key to acquiring and staying in power was an armed force
- He was later put in charge of the Party Military Organisation
- He immediately plotted a coup against President Arif but it was uncovered. He spent 2 years in jail before escaping in July 1966
- Upon his escape, he was planning to establish new military force and his new position
- How did he do that? - He collaborated with group of senior army officers and they carried out bloodless coup in 1968 . President Arif was forced flown to London and Bakr became president
- Saddam was made Deputy Chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council. He was now the second most important man in the party

Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr was the fourth President of Iraq, serving in this capacity from 17 July 1968 until 16 July 1979



- Photo dated 1976 shows former Iraqi President Ahmad Hassan Al-Bakr (R) sitting next to Saddam



The road to presidency

- In his position as Deputy , Saddam was anxious to avoid being identified as having presidential ambitions . He carefully consolidated his relation with Bakr
- His key success was the way he outwitted, outmanoeuvred and eliminated those who might pose a threat to him
 - How- by uncovering their plots and conspiracies
 - His target - civilian politicians as well as hi-ranking military personnel
- He appointed individuals friendly to himself to the Revolutionary Command Council to maintain the dignity of the presidency
- Saddam was extremely adept at foreign issues. He ensured Iraq had a superpower ally by negotiating Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation with Soviet Russia
- Using money from the oil industry, he built schools, hospitals and improving transport facilities
- In 1979, in age of 42, Saddam had achieved the position of leader of Iraq replacing the “aging” Bakr.

Alexei Kosygin (left) and Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr signing the Iraqi-Soviet Treaty of Friendship and Co-Operation in 1972



Saddam's rise to power

(p. 150 – 151)

POWER BASE

1968: coup - President: Bakr
Vicepresident : Saddam Hussein

He placed family and friends in:

- key positions in Baath party
- most important departments in government
- army
- Revolutionary Command Council (RCC)

CONTROL

- Trade unions, schools, sports clubs
- Membership of Baath party to obtain positions in govt.
- Education to immunise young Arabs against foreign culture & to promote Arab unity and "love of order" (ideal st. ...)

REPRESSION

1976: Saddam made general in army

Extended govt control of army and secret police
Spending to keep army happy
Indoctrination & rotation
Imprisonment & execution
Repression throughout society
Secret police came to dominate army and Baath party

Having control of the party's security apparatus he was ideally placed to uncover or invent plots & conspiracies.

Targets: civilian politicians & high-ranking military personnel

POPULARITY

1972: NATIONALISATION OF OIL - \$ to build up education, health & welfare

1973: together with other Arab oil-producing states made price rise – used \$ to improve national economy and infrastructure

7.2 What was the nature of Saddam Hussein's rule?

Saddam ruled Iraq as a dictator. As President he was commander in chief of the arm forces. His political hero was Joseph Stalin and he closely followed many aspects of Stalin's method of governing
Arms and terror , waging war on his own people, personality cult ,
modernisation , military expansion and totalitarianism

Purges and terror - Questioning his position

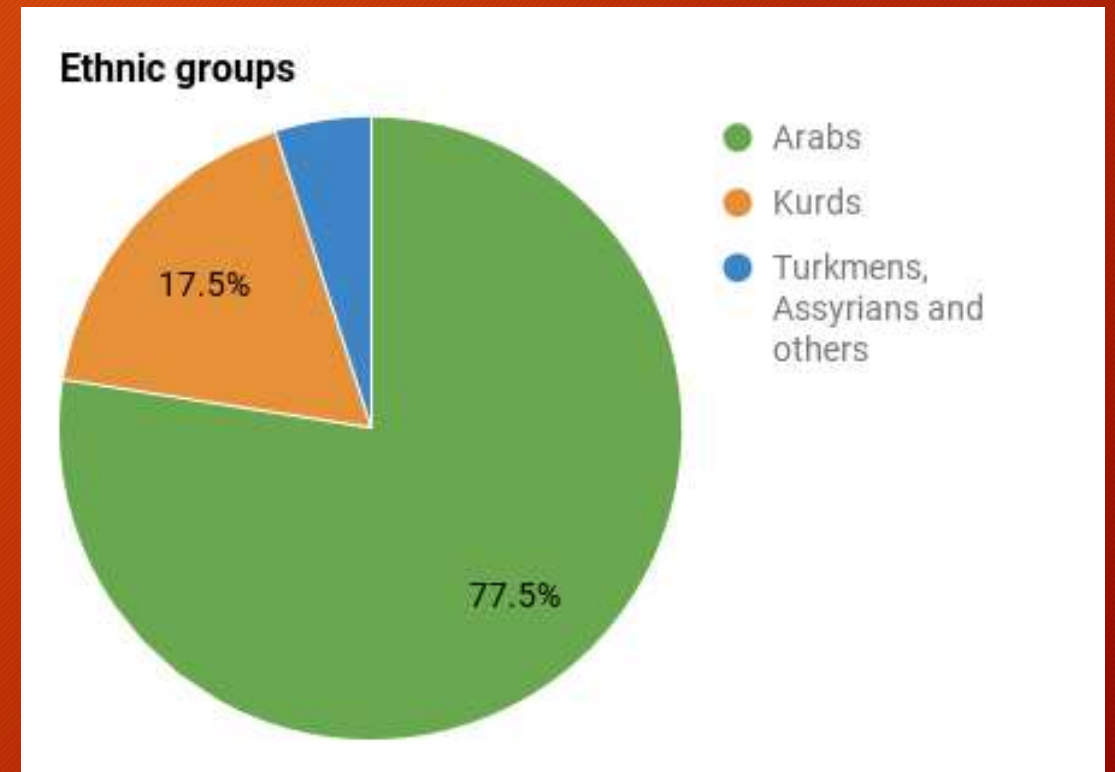
- Method- Saddam began to deal with those who questioned the way he gained power (opportunist)
- Event - Incident involved Mashhadi (Secretary General of the Revolutionary Command Council) . He questioned the validity of Saddam's appointment.
- Consequences- He was relieved from duty and brought before the senior Baath party members.
- Trial - He gave a detailed fabricated confession of crimes against the state naming 66 alleged co-conspirators.
- 55 found guilty and either sentence to death or prison

Purge and terror

- The purging continued, hundreds of party members and military officers were removed from their positions with many being executed.
- False accusations, arrest, torture and trials became regular feature of Saddam's rule by terror.

Waging war on his own people

- Saddam aimed to unify the state of Iraq but this was difficult because of the differences within the population with 20% kurds and 60% Shiites. The Shiites were hostiles and unni dominated region.



Waging war on his own people

The Bloody Friday in Halabjah

- Saddam's brutal campaign against the Kurds, who wanted independence between 1987-1988 and again in 1991.
- He destroyed half of Kurdistan villages and towns, killed thousands of Kurds using mustard and cyanide
- Many fled to Iran or Turkey while others were housed in concentration camps in the Iraqi desert -(Halabja - March 1988)





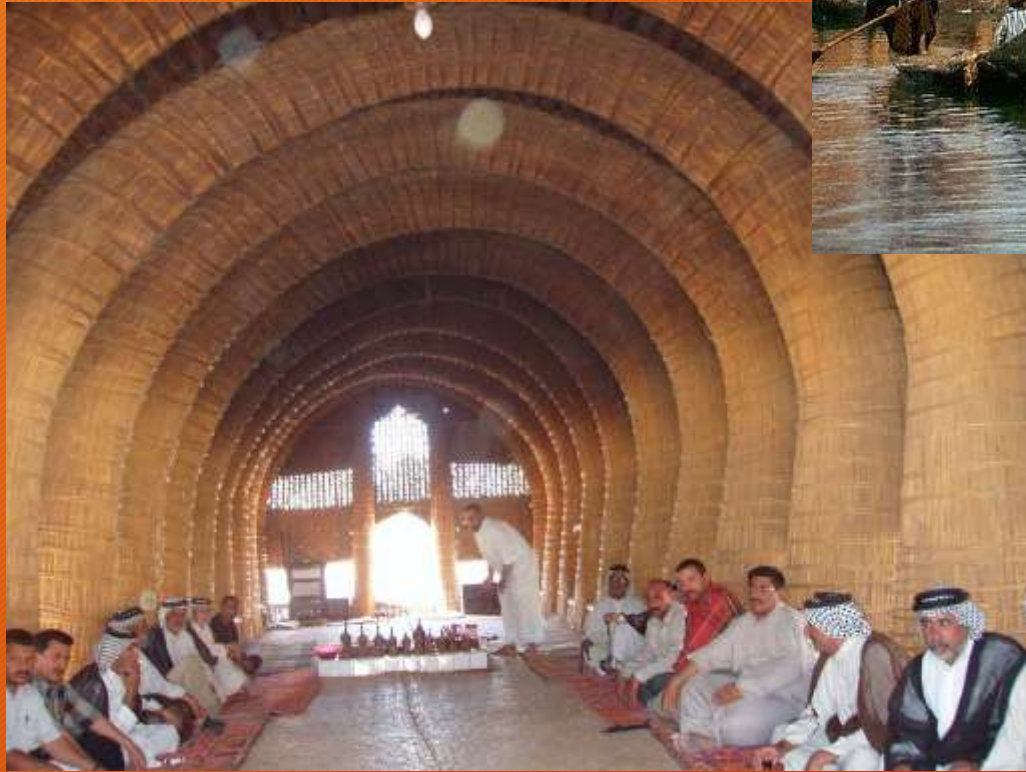
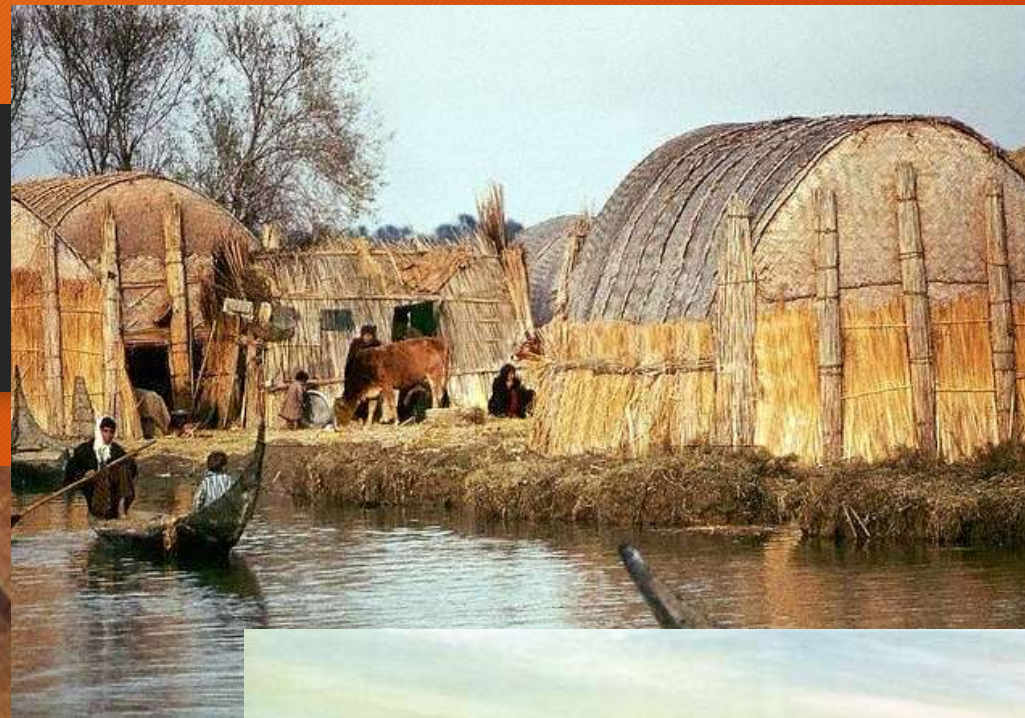
- Rubbar Mohammed visits the grave of her family members who were killed in a chemical attack by Saddam Hussein's forces in 1998, in Halabja, Iraq

- Forensic specialist working on a mass grave revealing The al-Anfal Campaign, also known as the Kurdish Genocide

Waging war against his own people

- In 1991, Saddam took action against the Shiites.
- The republican guard carried out arrests and summary executions.
- Civilians were used as human shields fastened to the front of tanks. Women and children were shot on sight
- In South-east of Iraq , Saddam wanted to destroy the marshes to enable new waterway to be constructed.
- The Marsh Arabs were victims of chemical weapon attacks or were starved to death

The Marsh Arab



Operation Desert Storm 1991

- US forces expelled Iraqi forces from Kuwait
- Shiites in south and Kurds in north rose up against Saddam's forces (with US encouragement)
- US troops did not assist/defend Shiite or Kurds
- Saddam attacks Shiite in south and Kurds in north, 30,000+ killed
- Kurds flee to mountains in Turkey, die of exposure

OPERATION
DESERT STORM
25TH
ANNIVERSARY

Airpower in Operation Desert Storm

Bringing High-Tech to the Fight

1ST conflict in history to make comprehensive use of stealth and space

US Downed Iraqi Aircraft **39**

More Than **9,300** Laser-Guided Bombs on enemy targets

Damaged Iraqi Aircraft Shooters **375** Out of 966

465,000 Cargo in 8 months

The Weight of **2,066** Statue of Liberty

5K+ GPS Receivers used in support of combat operations

America's Airmen - Total Force Integration

Total Force Deployed

68,830

Active Duty, Reserve & National Guard

660,000 Coalition Forces



12 Nations

Guard & Reserve Footprint



More than **20%**

of total Air Force personnel in the Gulf

Air Force Cross

Awarded twice for extraordinary heroism in combat



Presidential Selected Reserve Call-up, 22 August 1990
DoD Total = 48,000

Army Navy Marines Air Force

Modernizing the Force

51.6%

16 of 31 aircraft flown operational today

Average age of current Air Force aircraft is older than many of the pilots flying them



21 ANTIQUE VEHICLE **VA.**

Fleets of operational aircraft that qualify for antique plates in the state of Virginia

"The capability gap separating the Air Force from others (as noted during the conflict) is narrowing and requires modernization to maintain asymmetric advantages"

Number of sorties flown by USAF

A-10 8,084	B-52 1,741	C-12 8	C-130 13,971	C-141 1,266	C-21 256	C-29 20	C-5 740	C-9 64	E-3 379	E-8 42	EC-130 450	EC-135 24	EF-111 1,105	F-111E 458	F-117 9,423
F-117 1,299	F-15C 5,685	F-15E 2,172	F-16 13,087	F-4E 4	F-4D 2,683	KC-10 1,465	KC-135 9,559	Q4-10 660	EP-3 4	RC-135 197	RF-4 719	RF-4C 103	TR-1 89	U-2 149	Total Sorties 69,406

Personality cult

- Saddam realise to survive long term he needed to move away from fear and terror
- To sustain his dictatorship, he needed to cultivate popularity and made Iraqi people love him
- He sent hout to cultivate and image of a father style leader

Father style leader is achieved by:

- Establishing a permanent exhibition about himself to public in Baghdad
- Featuring hi life story through press
- Glorifying himself through articles in newspaper and TV
- Hanging potraits on street corners , in party and govt. offices
- Having songs written in praise of him
- Renaming road fter himself
- Commisioning statues, murals and paintings

Modernisation

- From Iraq's massive oil revenues he carried out an extensive modernisation program
- Wages rose, taxes were cut and basic foodstuff were subsidised

Modernisation include:

- Supplying electricity to even remote village
- Developing heavy industry including steel , petrochemicals and coal
- Building a countrywide network of oil pipelines
- Establishing new radio and TV to enable the spreading of government propaganda
- Starting major campaign to end adult illiteracy
- Making hospital treatment for free

Military expansion

- Iraq became a major military power, with Soviet Russia providing most supplies. Additional supplies came from many European states
- Saddam purchased tanks, planes, helicopters, surface-to-air missiles and electronic equipment

Chemical warfare

- By the middle of 1979, he constructed his first chemical warfare plants and soon producing chemical weapons including agent such as anthrax

Totalitarianism

- He was inspired to achieve absolute power in Iraq.
- He and the Baath party controlled every aspect of life
- At school- Children were brainwashed as were young adults in the Baath youth organisation as they introduces a glorious leader
- Censorship- to ensure critical view of Saddam were never heard or read
- It was a capital offence to criticise govt
- The court- were under Saddam influence
- Economy - all production generated was geared to the needs of the state
- Career - membership of Baath part were essential if a career in public office was to be followed

Why was there a revolution in Iran in 1979?

I knew Ayatollah Khomeini part 1 :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EA22431spOk>

I knew Ayatollah Khomeini part 2:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PETHWydE0Ok>

- The shah of Iran left the country in January 1979, never return. He had upset almost every sector of society and the last year of his rule was one of demonstrations, violent deaths and widespread strikes. The ressure for the Shah to go had been building for over 25 years

Iran during reign or Monarch

- I knew shah (fled iran)
Aljazeera - (part 1)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VcBbG-y-Jho>
- I knew shah (fled iran)
Aljazeera - (part 2)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klx3LyDEuRs>

Ahmad Reza Pahlavi and western relation

- Overthrown his father at the age of 21 in 1941 after his father Reza Khan was removed by the Britain's and Russia's forces
- Reza Pahlavi maintained close relation with Britain and US
- 1951 This relation was abrupted after his PM Ahmed Musaddeq nationalised British owned Anglo-Iranian oil company that control the oil fields.
- The move proved cause the huge problems with western powers who now refused to buy oil from iran since they have no longer in control of it
- Shah was plotting to remove musaddeq using the expertice of American CIA and British forces MI6
- Conflict - This move could give wealthy benefits to Iran oil industries but many see this as a betrayal of Iran's sovereignty and pandering of the western powers
- In 1956, Shah had join the anti-soviet and anti-communist alliance and this is clear that Iran was taking side in the cold-war

Why reform was needed in Iran?

- His moves was seen as a national betrayal
- To win the hearts of his people , their income was supported from the new national Iranian oil company to modernize
- He introduced series of reforms known as white revolution from 1962 to improve social and economic condition of the people

New Reforms gave changes :

- Peasants were allowed to purchase land
- Women were given the right to vote
- Literacy course was introduces in the rural areas to teach poor how to read and write
- Iran became a huge market for American grain and meat causing local farmers were put out of business
- Industrial development made foreign investment were ploughed in modern industries yet putting local shops out of business
- According to Iranian people this was getting worse as Shah introduces ideas against Iranian tradition benefitting the government but not the poeple

Opposition to foreign influence

Relation with western countries (Anti-western feeling)

- The Iranian Prime Minister Mohamed Mussadeq was popular as he did not want foreign domination
- He nationalised Iran's oil industry (due to market pressure)
- His action upsetting the British who controlled it.
- Shah supported by CIA and MI6, overthrew Musaddeq in 1953
- This coup resulted in that Shah being associated with British and America whose main interest was the safeguarding of oil supplies to the West
- The relation with US became more noticeable when Shah began importing large quantities of American foodstuffs.
- This affected the local farmers
- Shah also attempted to introduce local shipping malls , damaging the interest of the bazaar merchants

Dissatisfaction with the Shah's modernisation programme

In 1960, Shah introduced the "White revolution"

- Land reform was supposed to redistribute and among peasantry
- Piped water , electricity and roads
- Health reforms increased the numbers of doctors, nurses and hospital beds
- Education reforms increased numbers of schools and intellectuals.

Resulting (Widespread the social and economic inequality)

- Peasants ended up with holdings barely sufficient to support their families
- The programme failed to ensure that all villages had piped water, electricity and roads
- Health reforms failed to reduce infant mortality rates.
- New education reform failed to impact on the high levels of adult illiteracy.

Poor and rich

- Distribution of income- was becoming more unequal, the rich were living in palaces while the poor were condemned to shanty towns without a proper roads and other essentials facilities.

Military capability

- The vast sum of money from oil were used to build up military capability while the majority of the population saw little improvement in their living standard.

Impact of the new reforms

1957

- There were several assassination attempts plotted to kill Shah
- So secure himself from this harm, he often ignore the constitution an introduced policies that further alienated him from the people : Savak

Resentment at autocratic and repressive government.

Resurgence Party

- Members of govt. had to be prepared to accept Shah's leadership
- In march, 1975, Shah established one party state. The new Resurgence Party immediately made enemies by waging an anti-profiteering campaign in the Bazaar.

Impact - they attacked clerical establishment and introducing new calendar

Secret Police SAVAK

- SAVAK was established in 1957 rooter out opposition to Shah's rule
- They were known for the brutal tactics, including tortures, force confession and summary executions to intimidate silence political opponents
- This led the people of Iran to liv in a constant fear consequently the opposition was silenced but the growing number of Iranians were turning against the Shah.
- In 1977, there was some relaxation of police controls. This was all because of international criticism of human right violations.

Solution- The Red Cross were allowed into prisons and measures to ensure fair trials were introduced



Political prisoners before 1979

SAVAK (**Persian:** , short for *Sāzemān-e Ettelā'āt va Amniyat-e Keshvar*, **Organization of Intelligence and National Security**) was the secret police, domestic security and intelligence service established by Iran's Mohammad Reza Shah with the help of the United States' Central Intelligence Agency (the CIA) and Israel.

SAVAK operated from 1957 to 1979, when the prime minister Shapour Bakhtiar ordered its dissolution during the outbreak of the Islamic Revolution. SAVAK has been described as Iran's "most hated and feared institution" prior to the revolution of 1979 because of its practice of torturing and executing opponents of the Pahlavi regime.

→ In Persepolis (part 1) we witness the release of these prisoners, but are also confronted with what followed.



Establishment of SAVAK



Suspected SAVAK agents, arrested and blindfolded by Revolutionary Guards.



Consequences of the silence and fear

- Opposition parties were shut down
- Many religious leaders used mosques and weekly Friday prayers to speak against Shah's regime
- They criticise his support for the western and for Israel oppressing muslims in Palestine
- This had led the muslim attack on cinemas as foreign proposed sexualised films was felt to be unislamic
- They also criticise he and his family luxury lifestyle when many Iranian people were still struggling in afford to eat
- Event- October 1971 there were demonstration as Shah held a 3 days party to celebrate 2and half thousand years anniversary of the founding of Persian empire which he claims to cost 40 million dollar spending but likely the real cost was over a hundred million as the American Journalist Robin Bewright said in 2000

The leadership of Ayatollah Khomeini

- Ayatollah was criticising the Shah on his western decadence upon his spending since 1964 which forced him to exile to France
- He continued to speak out against shah govt. His speech were recorded into cassette tape sand smuggled into Iran. Just like internet viral through out the social media.
- This would help Khomeini to broadcast his message to his people even though he wasn't with them in person.
- As a cleric, he also received a lot of respect from religious people in iran.
- Shah was aware of the strong role of Khomeini and his potential of building the Islamic state with help of other opposition party

- By the mid 1970's, there was a widespread opposition to the leadership of the Shah.
- By 1978, Shah's opposition party began to publicly demonstrate in the capital of Tehran and was becoming increasingly volatile
- In 1978, Shah imposed martial law that's military rule following by the protest from Iranian people. More than 500 were killed by the soldiers. Its known as the Black Friday
- Shah condemned the killing but people wanted him dead. He attempt to calm the people by giving more political freedom and releasing political prisoners but this had no effect on the people which continued to recall for his removal
- In December 11, 1978, another huge demonstration called for Ayatollah Khomeini to return to Iran and to lead the revolutions
- Aware for this demand from people, Shah and his family left Iran in January 16th 1979 to receive his cancer treatment. They never returned
- Prime Minister attempt to close the main airport to block the return of Khomeini
- Khomeini left France on a specialy chartered flight and landed in Iran On 1st February 1979 he returned and to be met with crowd over 3 mills
- Thousands of civilians celebrated the popular revolution on the streets. Opposition took power just 10 days later
- The Khomeini supporters purged Iran government and perceived an Islmic law based on the Holy Quran
- Despite of being theocracy, Iran became more anti-western and anti-American
- In 1979, students stormed into American embassy in protest as they allow Shah in their country for medical treatment

Discuss??

- Why the Iranian revolution was successful . Place the reasons in order of importance

WATCH THIS

- Daughter of saddam speak out on CNN
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XN4Tegh4II>

7.4 What were the causes and consequences of the Iran-Iraq War, 1980-88

The first gulf war

- In September 1980 Iraq's land and air invasion marked the beginning of war which destabilised the region.
- The cause were both long term and also more immediate.
- On the face of Saddam was undoubted aggressor, but it could also be argued he was launching a pre-emptive strike.
- He wanted to destroy Khomeini before Khomeini destroy him.

Territorial disputes : Shatt al-Arab

- * Iraq and Iran shared a land border of 1400 km
- Shat al Arab waterways wa important for both countries for their oil exports as it provided a link to the Persian Gulf. It was Iraq's only outlet to the sea.
- In 1937, an agreement favourable to Iraq had been signed which placed the boundary between the two countried on the eastern bank of the river
- In 1969, the Shah Iran rejected this treaty and refused to pay any further shipping tolls

Territorial disputes : South western Iranian province of Khuzestan

- Saddam claim to have control in south western Iranian province. He encouraged Arabs who lived there to revolt against Shah's rule.
- Khuzestan was an oil rich province
- Retaliation began when Iran encouraged the Kurds in the north of Iraq to take up arms against Saddam's regime
- The Shah of Iran himself provided training bases and military equipment

Territorial disputes: Algiers Agreement

- The signing of Algiers Agreement between the two countries in 1975
- It was a setback by Saddam as he was determined to regain lost ground
- Under this agreement- Iran ended its support for the Kurds and in return, Iraq dropped its claims to Khuzestan

Domination of the Gulf

- Saddam was looking for a shift power for his dominance. Iran was the only serious contender as they both had the necessary financial and military resources.
- The war between these two countries can be regarded as part of the old age contest for power between the Persian and the arabs
- Saddam believed by controlling Shatt-alarab waterways and large scale of oil reserve in Khuzestan would expand against his main rival
- Gaining power was seen as an aid to saddam being leader of arab world

The opportunity provided by the Islamic revolution

Impact of the revolution to Iran

- Saddam was keen to exploit the impact of the Islamic revolution in 1979
- The overthrow of Shah broke Iran's alliances with USA thus depriving their army as they need spare parts for military weapons
- Major purge to Iran's senior officers thus reduce their military effectiveness

How did Saddam view the revolution as an opportunity

- Saddam saw Iran as being politically unstable, having diplomatic exploited and military disintegrating.
- Saddam had miscalculated, Iran was not as weak as anticipated

Khomeini's opposition to Saddam

Khomeini's anger

- Khomeini regarded Saddam's regime with contempt
- Reason 1- he was expelled from Iraq in 1977 (to Egypt)
- Reason 2- Iran was a muslim shia' a state governed by muslim la
- Event - Khomeini encouraged irqi shia' to overthrow Baath regime.

Saddam's action

- Expelling Khomeini due to his religious belief affluances
- By contrast, Iraq wa secular state where leading politicians were Sunni muslims
- From event- Saddam became convinced that Khomeini was trying to undermine his govt and the best form of defence is attack

The course of the war

Beginning - Iraq invaded Iran on 22 Sept 1980, triggering bitter 8 year war
distablize both nations

Reasons for the attack:

*Saddam laim dispute over Shatt Al-arab waterays in addition of the religion rivalry

* Saddam felt threatened by the new revolutions

Iran's view

- Khomeini saw Saddam as brutal sunni tyrant who was oppressing his country shia majority
- By 1982, Iranian forces had regained the territory they had lost and rejected offer of ceasefire

The course of the war

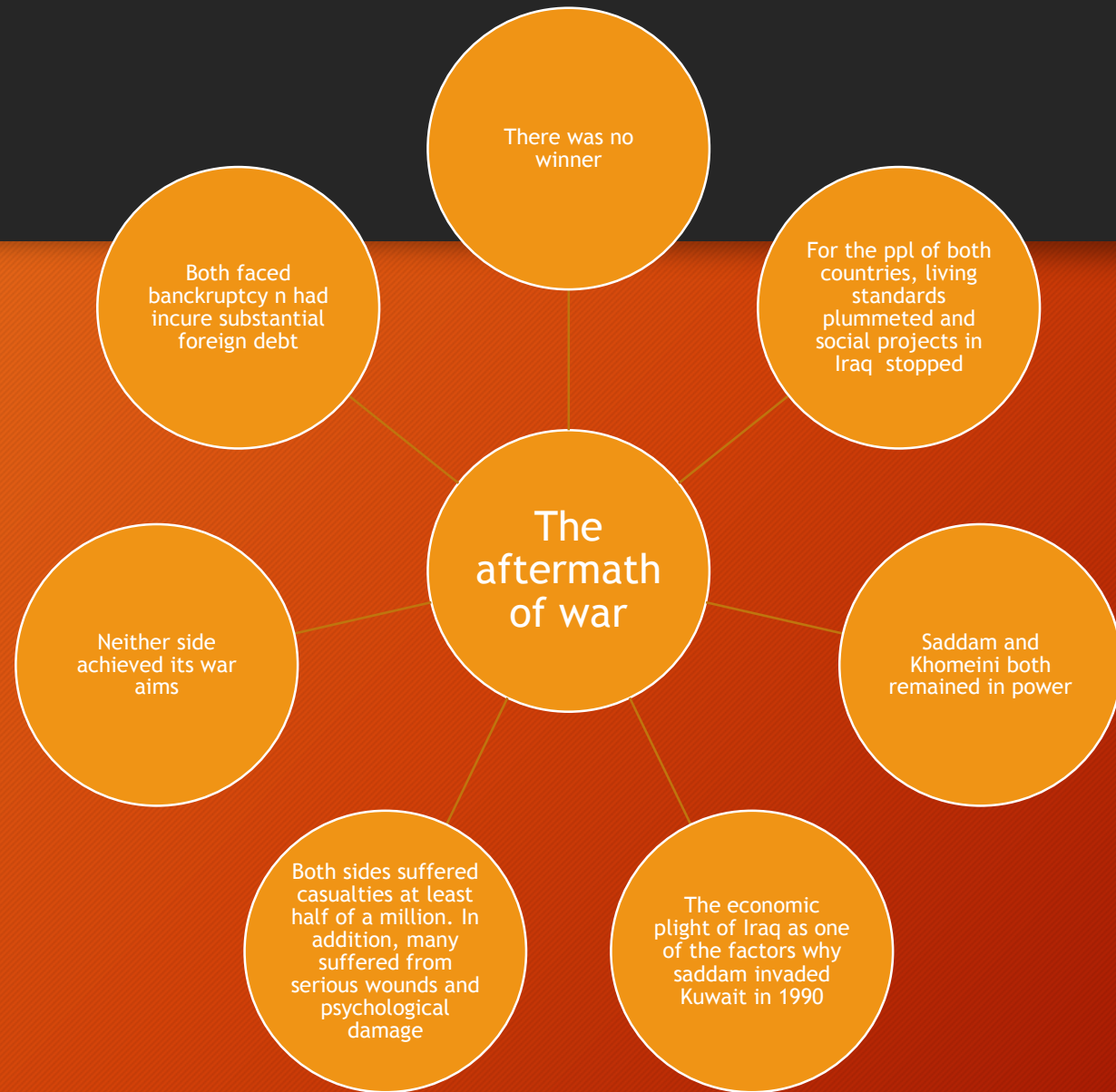
The conflict turned into a war of attrition with each side disregarding the human cost : claimed to be as holy war by their leaders

- Thousands of young men were sent to their death in human wave attack
- Chemical weapons were used against Iranian (eg: incident in Halabja)
- The civilians were constantly bombarded from air raid in both sides
- Both sides attacked opposition oil tankers in the Gulf in attempt to prevent trade
- The tanker war changed into an international offence:
 - - Both US and Russia became involved in response to Kuwait's appeal for protection
 - This opposition was too great forcing Khomeini to accept the ceasefire in July 1988.

Western involvement in the war

How did they get involve?

- They wanted to preserve the balance of power in the middle east and they wanted to ensure the interrupted flow of oil supplies
- The fear of growing conservative Islamic power of Iran - The USA aim was to ensure that Iraq is not losing the war
- They supplied Iraq with arms, intelligence, and finance.
- Britain, france, and west Germany supplied military equipment
- The Usa became more involved from may 1984, sending warship to the gulf to help guarantee oil supplies as each side is attacking their oil reserves and merchant shipping
- As result - Western assistance Iraq ended the war and convinced Khomeini to ceasefire in August 1988.



There was no winner

Both faced bankruptcy n had incur substantial foreign debt

For the ppl of both countries, living standards plummeted and social projects in Iraq stopped

The aftermath of war

Neither side achieved its war aims

Saddam and Khomeini both remained in power

Both sides suffered casualties at least half of a million. In addition, many suffered from serious wounds and psychological damage

The economic plight of Iraq as one of the factors why saddam invaded Kuwait in 1990

The view of saddam - after war

- He claimed a glorious victory for Iraq
- He claimed halted the spread of the Shia Islamic revolution and prevented toppling of his regime
- An imposing monument to this achievement appeared in Baghdad
- He knew ppl won't be bought off by these extravagant symbols
- And he needed to increase the wealth of his country

Iran and Iraq war

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bd09h_5Nupk - part 1
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6s-Fs4RnFY> - part 2
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmepR8seo0U> - part 3

7.5 Why did the First Gulf War take place?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HMV_0iTk1qs - operation dessert storm

Why did Iraq invade Kuwait?

Economic reason

- Iraq was economically weak following the Iraq-iran war and needed to increase wealth of the country
- Kuwait had the valuable oil wells that could be taken over.
- In 1990, world oil prices dropped steeply
- Saddam blamed Kuwait and UAE for the overproducing oil to undermine the Iraqi economy

Historical relationship with Kuwait

- Saddam had claimed that Kuwait was historically part of Iraq though it has existed separately much longer than Iraq had.
- Saddam blamed British for taking it as a landlock state (meddling by British imperialist)
- In 1960's, British recognise the independence of Kuwait. At first, Iraq did not and this had increase tension in between the border
- Debt- Saddam was angry that Kuwait was demanding the 14 million dollars repayment loan of money they lend during the war with Iran
- Many Iraqis thought the Kuwaitis were ungrateful though they were protected from Iranian expansion

Standing in the world

- Saddam had failed to gain regional leadership from the war as he saw it an opportunity to become dominant of Arab nations
- Iraq was the strongest military in the area. America allies had supported them with arms during war with Iran
- Saddam was valued as stabilising influence. USA had taken no action when he crushed the Kurds and Shiites

Problems within Iraq

- After war with Iran, Iraqis economic were tatters. therefore Saddam needs to divert this attention away by continuing to strengthen his military machine
- There was no to be post war economic recovery
- There were several attempts to overthrow him between 1988 and 1990

The wider-world reaction to the invasion of Kuwait

The United Nations took the following actions

- Trade sanctions were placed on Iraq- No country was to trade with Iraq effectively preventing their oil exports
- Saddam was ordered to remove his troops by 15 January. UN would use “all necessary means” if he refused
- Saudi Arabia, Syria and Egypt were concerned about Saddam’s next move and therefore supported UN action.
- British Prime minister Margaret Thatcher and American president Bush decided that Saddam’s power should be curbed

The course of the war

Invasion of Kuwait

- Saddam's troops occupied Kuwait in August 1990.
- An international force over 600 thousand troops assembled in Saudi Arabia
- A coalition of 34 nations contributed troops, armament and cash
- Involvement of troops from Pakistan, Bangladesh, meant Saddam could not claim this is West against Arab and Islam
- Operation Desert Storm the liberation of Kuwait then began on 17 January 1991

War and casualties

Air war

- Bombing attack carried out in Baghdad (capital) causing many casualties among civilians
- Military targets, bridges and roads were also attacked
- Iraq launched SCUD missile attack on Israel hoping to provoke a split between the west and their Arab allies. They did not succeed

Ground war

- Kuwaiti oil wells were set on fire and blown up by Iraq. Millions of gallons of crude oil poured into Persian Gulf
- Iraq carried out brief invasion in Khafji in Saudi Arabia but driven out by coalition
- Within 4 days, Iraqis were driven out of Kuwait. Casualty comparison of Iraqis and coalition are 90 thousands over 400 of the coalition. 10 thousand were killed on “the Highway of Death” in motorway from Kuwait to Basrah
- Iraqis retreated. President Bush called for ceasefire as he feared the allies would lose support of Arab nation

Consequences of the First Gulf War

Following the ceasefire, peace terms were imposed on Iraq by the UN . The terms were:

- To recognise Kuwait's sovereignty
- Payment of reparations
- To cooperate with the UN to uncover and destroy all biological , chemical or nuclear “weapons of mass destructions”
- Trade sanctions which cut off Iraq from the rest of the world
- “No-fly” zones to be established and must be policed by American planes feared that Saddam would carry out further atrocities against his own ppl in the south and the north

NO-FLY ZONE

36th Parallel

IRAQ

Baghdad

33rd Parallel

NO-FLY ZONE



© 1992 MAGELLAN Geographix, Santa Barbara, CA



Highway of Death

- A six-lane highway between Kuwait and Iraq, officially known as **Highway 80**
- The road had been used by Iraqi armed divisions for the 1990 Invasion of Kuwait.
- Target of coalition bombing campaign (especially by American & Canadian aircraft)





Called the “highway of death” this is where Iraqi troops that were trying to leave were shot down by American troops





U.S. troops, using tanks and earthmovers, buried thousands of Iraqi soldiers alive.



If I don't photograph this, people like my mom will think war is what they see on T.V.
-Kenneth Jarecke, photojournalist

The war is over

- Saddam had suffered the massive humiliating defeat.
- His troops were forced removed within 100 hours of the start of the ground war
- Much of Iraq's infrastructure had been destroyed by the coalition attacks.
- This includes power stations, oil refineries, water purifications , plants, roads and bridges
- Civilian fatalities were estimated around 100 thousand
- They were facing the shortage of food, clean drinking water and medical supplies
- The war and resultant sanction means financial disaster for the country
- Saddam had lost trust of most of the international community through his actions in Kuwait. Many leaders realised that Saddam should be removed from power



- The End !