

Iraq

Vanderbilt

Iraq is considered authoritarian from independence in 1932 through 1945. We lack Geddes authoritarian regime type coding, but according to Morby (2002) Iraq was ruled by the Hashimid dynasty so we consider the country a monarchy. Faisal I (also: Faysal) ruled as king in 1932. In 1933 Faisal I died and Ghazi, his only son, became king. This is not a SOLS change. In 1939 Ghazi died and Faisal II, his son, became king. This is not a SOLS change.

Iraq is coded authoritarian in 1945 and is considered a monarchy until 1958. Abdu-llah ruled as a regent for King Faisal II of the Hashemite dynasty until 1953, when Faisal took over as effective ruler himself (Morby 2002). In 1958, Abdul Karrim Kassem, Mil, took power in a military coup and killed king Faisal II. This is a SOLS change. The country is coded as a personalist authoritarian regime under Kassem from 1958 until 1963. In 1963, Abdul Salam Arif, of the Arab Socialist Union (Ittihad al-Ishtiraki al-Arabi, or IIA – also ASU) took power and assassinated Kassem (U.S. Library of Congress). According to Geddes, he establishes his own personalist system. Thus, this is a SOLS change. In 1966 Salam Arif was killed in a plane crash and was succeeded by his brother Abdul Rahman Arif, Mil/IIA. This is not a SOLS change since Abdul was basically a pre-designated successor and depended on the same personalist clique as his deceased brother. In 1968 the military overthrew Rahman Arif and instituted the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) with Ahmad Hassan Al-Bakr, Mil/Ba'ath, at its head. This is a SOLS change as the country transitions to a single-party(Ba'ath)-personalist-hybrid regime from 1968 until 1979. In 1979 al-Bakr's cousin and Vice President Saddam Hussein, Ba'ath, took power and ruled until 2003. Although some claim that Hussein forced al-Bakr out of power, "Al-Bakr named Saddam as his successor and vested him with executive power (Hunt 2005, p.88)." Saddam Hussein had been the second man in the country for many years and had led Iraq together with al-Bakr. This is a minor SOLS change because the country goes from being coded as a single-party-personalist-hybrid regime to a personalist regime and Saddam Hussein was arguably al-Bakr's pre-designated successor. The country is considered a personalist regime from 1979 until 2002. In 2003, the United States invaded Iraq and the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) was set up. Leadership of the CPA passed to U.S. military generals General Tommy R. Franks, Gen. Jay Garner, and Gen. Jerry Bremer. These are not SOLS changes because the CPA was intended as an interim body and because the three U.S. generals are occupation leaders. In 2004, power was transferred to the Iraqi Interim Government (U.S. Library of Congress). Iyad Allawi, of the Iraqi National Accord party (INA), became interim PM until elections could be held in 2005. This is not a SOLS change because Allawi was an interim leader (U.S. Library of Congress; The New York Times). In 2005 Ibrahim al-Shiqr al-Jaafari of the IDM party (Harakat al-Dawa al-Islamiya), became PM. This is a SOLS change. In 2006 al-Maliki, also IDM, succeeded al-Jaafari as PM. This is not a SOLS change. Al-Maliki ruled through 2008.

References:

Arango, Tim. 2010. "Ex-Leader Is Top Rival to Premier in Iraq Vote." The New York Times, March 5, 2010. Available from
<<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/06/world/middleeast/06allawi.html>>. Accessed July 26, 2010.

“Background Note: Iraq.” 2010. U.S. Department of State, March 8, 2010. Available from <<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/6804.htm>>. Accessed July 26, 2010.

Bennett, Brian. 2006. “Saddam Hussein Is Dead.” TIME magazine, December 29, 2006. Accessed from <<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1573255,00.html>> August 9, 2010.

Hunt, Courtney. 2005. *The History of Iraq*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing.

Morby, John E. 2002. “Hashimid Dynasty” in *Dynasties of the World*. Oxford University Press, *Oxford Reference Online*. Accessed through Vanderbilt University. 26 July 2010 <<http://www.oxfordreference.com.proxy.library.vanderbilt.edu/views/ENTRY.html?subview=Main&entry=t130.e95>>.

“Saddam Hussein: A life of brutality, ended by war.” 2006. USA Today, December 29, 2006. Accessed from http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/iraq/2006-11-05-saddam-profile_x.htm> August 9, 2010.

U.S Department of State. 2010. “Background Note: Iraq.” <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/6804.htm> (July 26, 2010).

U.S. Library Congress. 1988. “A Country Study: Iraq.” <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/iqtoc.html> (July 26, 2010).

Pre- and post-1945 coded by Anna Carrella (Vanderbilt) on 01/2010 and 08/09/2010

Pre-1945 reviewed by Michaela Mattes (Vanderbilt) on 02/09/2012

Post-1945 checked by Michaela Mattes (Vanderbilt) on 08/12/2010

Post-1945 revised Eelco van der Maat (Vanderbilt) on 26/10/2011

Post-1945 revised by Michaela Mattes (Vanderbilt) on 03/07/2012

Combined by Matt DiLorenzo (Vanderbilt) on 06/10/2013

Edited by Andrew Wood (Rice) on 5/23/14