

The Inside Story Of The Struggle For Iraq From George Bush To Barack Obama

Since the dawn of the new millennium, the Middle East has been at the center of global attention. In the midst of this tumultuous period, the struggles faced by Iraq and its people have played a significant role in shaping the region's political landscape.

One cannot discuss the history of modern Iraq without delving into the presidencies of both George W. Bush and Barack Obama. Their approaches to the Iraq conflict and the subsequent consequences highlight the complexity and challenges of the situation.

The Beginning: George W. Bush's Decision

In the aftermath of the horrific 9/11 attacks, the United States was determined to combat terrorism and dismantle potential threats in the Middle East. George W. Bush, the then President of the United States, justified the invasion of Iraq as an essential step towards safeguarding American security and removing Saddam Hussein from power.



The Endgame: The Inside Story of the Struggle for Iraq, from George W. Bush to Barack Obama

by Michael R. Gordon (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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The invasion of Iraq in 2003 marked a turning point in the nation's history. While it was initially met with some support and perceived as a necessary action to eliminate weapons of mass destruction and promote democracy, the aftermath proved to be far more challenging than anticipated.

Sectarian violence, insurgency, and the rise of extremist groups like Al-Qaeda in Iraq marred the stability of the country. The Iraqi people found themselves in a state of chaos, grappling with the consequences of the US-led intervention.

The Surge and the Dawn of Hope

With the situation worsening, President Bush sought to implement a new strategy known as "the surge" in 2007. This influx of troops aimed to quell the ongoing violence and provide an opportunity for political reconciliation among Iraq's various factions.

The surge, combined with the efforts of General David Petraeus, showcased promising signs of progress. Violence decreased, and there was a glimmer of hope that Iraq could eventually stabilize and rebuild itself.

However, the success of the surge was short-lived. As the 2008 US presidential elections approached, the future of Iraq became entangled in the political discourse, and the focus began to shift towards ensuring a smooth withdrawal rather than long-term stability.

A New Era: Barack Obama's Challenge

Barack Obama's presidential campaign echoed the growing sentiment among the American people that it was time to bring the troops home. He criticized the Iraq

War and promised a responsible withdrawal strategy.

Upon assuming office in 2009, President Obama faced the task of following through on his promise to end the Iraq War while simultaneously combating the rise of ISIS in the region.

The withdrawal of US troops in December 2011 marked a turning point in Iraq's journey. While certain sections celebrated the end of foreign occupation, others expressed concern about the potential power vacuum left behind.

The void created by the withdrawal, coupled with an increasingly sectarian government, offered fertile ground for ISIS to gain strength and ultimately proclaim a caliphate in parts of Iraq and Syria.

The Islamic State Threat

The rapid rise of ISIS, their violent tactics, and their control over significant territorial areas posed a significant threat not just to Iraq but to the wider international community. Iraq's struggle for stability, post-US intervention, reached a critical juncture.

Recognizing the severity of the situation, President Obama authorized airstrikes against ISIS targets and deployed military advisors to assist Iraqi forces in their fight against the extremist group.

Over the next few years, a determined coalition of international forces, led by the United States, worked alongside the Iraqi government to push back against ISIS. Gradually, territorial losses mounted for the extremist group, and it faced internal conflicts and external pressure.

The Legacy and Lessons Learned

The struggle for Iraq, from George W. Bush to Barack Obama, represents a complex and challenging period. It serves as a reminder of the consequences of intervention, the importance of careful planning for the post-conflict phase, and the difficulty of achieving stability in a region marred by deep-rooted divisions and external influences.

Today, Iraq continues to face numerous hurdles as it strives towards a brighter future. Rebuilding infrastructure, establishing effective governance, and fostering national unity are key priorities in the ongoing struggle for a stable Iraq.

As the world reflects on the inside story of the struggle for Iraq, it is important to remember the significant human cost of war and the ongoing resilience and determination of the Iraqi people.

The inside story of the struggle for Iraq from George Bush to Barack Obama provides valuable insights into the challenges faced by both presidents and the lasting implications for Iraq and the region. It highlights the complexities of international interventions, the difficulties of post-conflict stabilization, and the need for careful strategic planning when dealing with fragile nations.

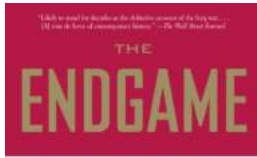
The journey from the invasion to the rise of ISIS should serve as a reminder to future leaders and policymakers that their decisions carry weight and can shape the destiny of nations. Iraq's struggle continues, and it is crucial that the international community remains engaged and supportive in helping the country overcome its obstacles and build a stable and prosperous future.

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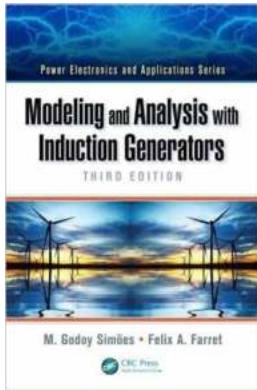
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A Wall Street Journal Best Nonfiction Book of 2012

In this follow-up to their national bestseller *Cobra II*, Michael Gordon and General Bernard E. Trainor deftly piece together the story of the most widely reported but least understood war in American history. This stunning account of the political and military struggle between American, Iraqi, and Iranian forces brings together vivid reporting of diplomatic intrigue and gripping accounts of the blow-by-blow fighting that lasted nearly a decade. Informed by brilliant research and extensive interviews with key figures—including everyone from the intelligence community to Sunni and Shi’ite leaders and former insurgents to senior Iraqi military officers—*The Endgame* presents a riveting chronicle of the occupation of Iraq to the withdrawal of American troops that is sure to remain the essential account of the war for years to come.

This E-book edition also contains a new Appendix collecting twenty-three classified documents, with commentary, that shed new light on some of the military’s crucial mistakes and missed opportunities.



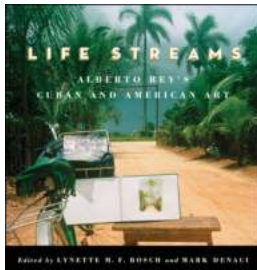
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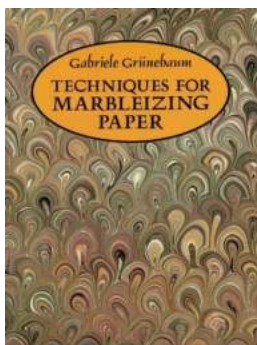
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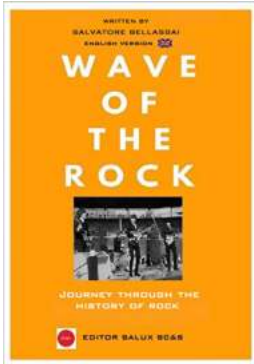
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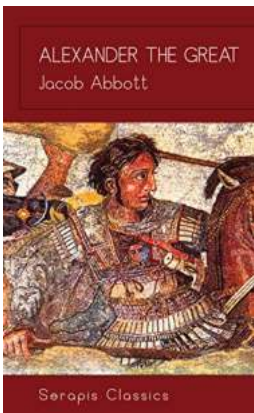
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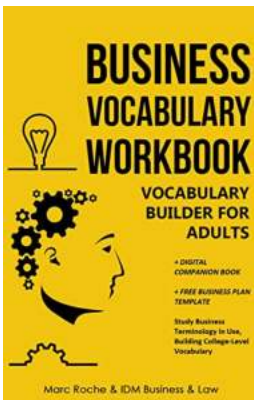
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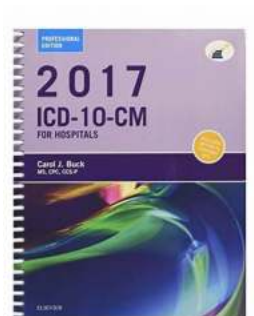
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