



---

## Uploaded to VFC Website

▶▶▶ February 2013 ◀◀◀

---

This Document has been provided to you courtesy of Veterans-For-Change!

Feel free to pass to any veteran who might be able to use this information!

For thousands more files like this and hundreds of links to useful information, and hundreds of "Frequently Asked Questions, please go to:

[Veterans-For-Change](http://www.veteransforchange.org)

---

*Veterans-For-Change is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation  
Tax ID #27-3820181*

***If Veteran's don't help Veteran's, who will?***

We appreciate all donations to continue to provide information and services to Veterans and their families.

[https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=WGT2M5UTB9A78](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=WGT2M5UTB9A78)

---

**Note:**

VFC is not liable for source information in this document, it is merely provided as a courtesy to our members.



# Trial of Saddam Hussein

The **Trial of Saddam Hussein** was the trial of the deposed [President](#) of [Iraq Saddam Hussein](#) by the [Iraqi Interim Government](#) for crimes against humanity during his time in office.

The [Coalition Provisional Authority](#) voted to create the Iraqi Special Tribunal (IST), consisting of five Iraqi judges, on 9 December 2003, to try Saddam Hussein and his aides for charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and [genocide](#).<sup>[1]</sup>

The trial was viewed in some quarters as a [kangaroo court](#) or [show trial](#).<sup>[2][3][4][5][6]</sup> [Amnesty International](#) stating that the trial was "unfair,"<sup>[7]</sup> and [Human Rights Watch](#) noting that Saddam's execution "follows a flawed trial and marks a significant step away from the rule of law in Iraq."<sup>[8]</sup>

Saddam was captured on December 13, 2003.<sup>[9]</sup> He remained in custody by US forces at [Camp Cropper](#) in [Baghdad](#), along with eleven senior Ba'athist officials. Particular attention was paid during the trial to activities in violent campaigns against the Kurds in the north during the [Iran–Iraq War](#), against the Shiites in the south in 1991 and 1999 to put down [revolts](#), and in [Dujail](#) after a failed assassination attempt on July 8, 1982, during the Iran–Iraq War. Saddam asserted in his defense that he had been unlawfully overthrown, and was still the president of Iraq.

The first trial began before the Iraqi Special Tribunal on 19 October 2005. At this trial Saddam and seven other defendants were tried for crimes against humanity with regard to events that took place after a failed [assassination](#) attempt in Dujail in 1982 by members of the [Islamic Dawa Party](#) (see also human rights abuses in Iraq). A second and separate trial began on August 21, 2006,<sup>[10]</sup> trying Saddam and six co-defendants for genocide during the [Anfal](#) military campaign against the Kurds of northern Iraq. Saddam may also have been tried [in absentia](#) for events dating to the Iran–Iraq War and the [invasion of Kuwait](#), including [war crimes](#), crimes against humanity, and genocide.

On November 5, 2006, Saddam was sentenced to death by [hanging](#). On December 26, Saddam's appeal was rejected and the death sentence upheld. No further appeals were taken and Saddam was ordered executed within 30 days of that date. The date and place of the execution were secret until the sentence was carried out.<sup>[11]</sup> [Saddam Hussein](#) [was executed](#) by hanging on December 30, 2006.<sup>[12]</sup> With his death, all other charges were dropped.

## First hearing: 1 July 2004

The 68-year-old [deposed](#) Saddam appeared confident and defiant throughout the 46-minute hearing. Alternating between listening to and gesturing at the judge [Rizgar Mohammed Amin](#), he questioned the [legitimacy](#) of the [tribunal](#) set up to try him. He called the court a "play" aimed at [Bush's](#) chances of winning the US presidential elections.<sup>[13]</sup> He emphatically rejected charges against him. "This is all theater. The real criminal is Bush", he stated.<sup>[14]</sup> When asked by the judge to identify himself in his first appearance before an Iraqi judge (three of the five judges and the prosecutor are never identified nor photographed for security reasons), he answered, "You are an Iraqi, you know who I am."<sup>[15]</sup> "I am still the president of the republic and the occupation cannot take that away", declared Saddam Hussein.

Also during the arrangement, Saddam defended Iraq's August 1990 [invasion of Kuwait](#) and referred to Kuwaitis as "dogs" who were trying to turn the women of Iraq into "two penny whores", which led to an admonishment from the judge for using coarse language in court. Later on July 1, [Kuwait's information minister](#) Abul-Hassan said crude language was "expected" of Saddam. "This is how he was raised", said the minister. <sup>[16]</sup>

Although no [attorneys](#) for Saddam were present at the 1st of July hearing, his first wife, [Sajida Talfah](#), hired a multinational legal team of attorneys, headed by [Jordanian](#) Mohammad Rashdan and including Ayesha Qaddafi ([Libya](#)), [Curtis Doebbler](#) ([United States](#)), Emmanuel Ludot ([France](#)), Marc Henzelin ([Switzerland](#)) and Giovanni di Stefano (Unknown legal qualifications, not admitted to the [Bar](#) in [England](#)). Towards the end of the first hearing, the deposed president refused to sign the legal document confirming his understanding of the charges.

### Pre-trial events

In a leaked transcript of a February 2003 meeting between Bush and Spanish Prime Minister Jose Aznar, Bush expressed a willingness to have Saddam tried at the International Tribunal of Justice in The Hague. <sup>[17]</sup>

In December 2004, [Clive Stafford Smith](#) prepared a 50-page brief for the defense team arguing that Saddam Hussein should be tried in the US under US criminal law. <sup>[18]</sup>

The London-based Arab-language daily newspaper [Al-Quds Al-Arabi](#) reported in early May 2005 that during a meeting with [Donald Rumsfeld](#), "known only to a few Iraqi officials in [Jordan](#)", Saddam refused an offer of release if he made a televised request to armed groups for a ceasefire with allied forces. <sup>[19]</sup> The British *Daily Telegraph* newspaper, quoting an unnamed senior UK government source, had reported two weeks before that Iraqi insurgents were being offered a "deal" whereby the former President of Iraq would receive a more lenient sentence if they gave up their attacks. <sup>[20]</sup>

On 17 June 2005, former [Malaysian](#) prime minister Mahathir Mohamad, former US Attorney General [Ramsey Clark](#), former minister of Foreign Affairs of France [Roland Dumas](#) and former President of Algeria [Ahmed Ben Bella](#) announced the formation, under their joint chairmanship, of an international [Emergency Committee for Iraq](#), with a main objective of ensuring fair trials for Saddam and the other former Baath Party officials being tried with him. <sup>[21]</sup>

On 18 July 2005, Saddam was charged by the Special Tribunal with the first of an expected series of charges, relating to the mass killings of the inhabitants of the village of [Dujail](#) in 1982 after a failed assassination attempt against him.

On 8 August 2005, Saddam's family announced that they had dissolved the Jordan-based legal team and that they had appointed [Khalil al-Duleimi](#), the only Iraq-based member, as the sole legal counsel. <sup>[22]</sup> In an interview broadcast on Iraqi television on 6 September 2005, Iraqi president [Jalal Talabani](#) said that he had directly extracted confessions from Saddam that he had ordered mass killings and other "crimes" during his regime and that he deserved to die. Two days later, Saddam's lawyer denied that he confessed. <sup>[23]</sup>

Saddam's defense repeatedly argued for a delay in the proceedings, insisting that it had not been given evidence secured by the prosecution, had not been given sufficient time to review any prosecution documents, but these submissions received no response from the court. International human rights groups, including [Human Rights Watch](#),

[Amnesty International](#) and UN bodies such as the [Working Group on Arbitrary Detention](#) and the High Commissioner for Human Rights stated that the Iraqi Special Tribunal and its legal process did not meet international standards for a fair trial. The United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Anan declined to support the proceeding, expressing similar concerns over fairness as well as over the possibility of a death sentence in the case.

### **Al-Dujail trial: 19 October 2005**

Iraqi authorities put Saddam and seven other former Iraqi officials on trial on 19 October 2005, four days after the 15 October 2005 referendum on the new Iraq constitution. The tribunal specifically charged the defendants with the killing of 148 Shiites from [Dujail](#), in retaliation for the failed assassination attempt of 8 July 1982. Supporters of Saddam protested against the trial in [Tikrit](#).<sup>[24]</sup>

Saddam's co-defendants were:

[Barzan Ibrahim al-Tikriti](#), his half-brother and former chief of intelligence

[Taha Yassin Ramadan](#), former Vice-President

[Awad Hamed al-Bandar](#) Al-Sa'dun, a former chief judge

Abdullah Kadhem Roweed Al-Musheikhi, Al-Dujail Baath party official

Mizher Abdullah Roweed Al-Musheikhi, (son of Abdullah Kadhem), Al-Dujail Baath party official

[Ali Daeem Ali](#), Al-Dujail Baath party official

[Mohammed Azawi Ali](#), Al-Dujail Baath party official

As in his pre-trial appearance, at the opening of the 19 October Trial Saddam appeared defiant. He rejected the tribunal's legitimacy and independence from the control of the foreign occupation. "I do not respond to this so-called court, with all due respect to its people, and I retain my constitutional right as the president of Iraq", Saddam declared. He added, "Neither do I recognize the body that has designated and authorized you, nor the aggression because all that has been built on false basis is false."<sup>[25]</sup>

When the judge asked for his name, Saddam refused, stating "I am the president of the Iraq". He returned the question, asking Kurdish judge Rizgar Mohammed Amin, "Who are you? I want to know who you are." When Amin addressed Saddam as "the former president", Saddam objected emphatically, saying he was still the President of the Republic of Iraq and had not been deposed.

While Saddam's seven co-defendants appeared in traditional Arabic male dress, Saddam wore a dark suit and a white shirt. Al-Bandar, sitting next to Saddam in the front row in a pen of white metal bars, complained that the defendants had been stripped of their head-coverings, upon which they were given back to them.

After the charges were read to them, all eight defendants pleaded not guilty. The first session of Saddam's trial lasted three hours. The court adjourned the case until 28 November 2005, as some of the witnesses were too frightened to attend, and to allow the defense more time to study evidence.<sup>[26]</sup>

During an interview with the Arab news agency al-Arabiya following the opening of the trial, Saddam's eldest daughter Raghda branded the court a "farce" and claimed that her father behaved like a "lion" during the proceedings. "My father is brave, a lion, I am proud of him", she said. "He

is a man who dedicated his life to serve his country, he was brave in his youth, so how can he be afraid now?" she added.

On 20 October 2005, attorney [Saadoun Sughaiyer al-Janabi](#), charged with the defense of Awad Hamed al-Bandar, was abducted from his office by gunmen, and found shot dead near his office a few hours later. On 8 November 2005, attorney [Adel al-Zubeidi](#), who had been representing Vice President [Taha Yassin Ramadan](#) and Abdullah Kazim Ruwayyid, was killed by three gunmen in Baghdad. [Barazan Ibrahim](#)'s lawyer Thamer Hamoud al-Khuzai was also wounded in the attack.

On 28 November 2005, Chief Judge Rizgar Mohammed Amin adjourned the trial until 5 December to allow time to find replacements for two defense lawyers who were slain and another who fled Iraq after he was wounded. On 5 December, Saddam's legal defense team stormed out of the court after questioning the tribunal's legitimacy, and asking about return of defence papers seized by US Army troops and security issues regarding the protection of the defense. Saddam, along with his co-defendants, railed against Chief Judge Amin and the tribunal. The next day, after listening to hours of testimony against him, he lashed out at the judge. He said that he was exhausted, he did not intend on returning to the trial, and to "go to hell".

On 7 December 2005, Saddam refused to enter court, complaining of the conditions in which he was being held and the conduct of the trial. Saddam's complaints included, among other things, that he had not been able to change his clothes for four days. <sup>[27]</sup>

On 12 December 2005, instead of cross-examining witnesses, Saddam accused his American captors of torturing him, saying, "I have been beaten on every place of my body, and the signs are all over my body." <sup>[28]</sup>

On 23 January 2006, [Rauf Rashid Abd al-Rahman](#) was nominated interim chief judge of the tribunal. He replaced former chief judge [Rizgar Amin](#), also a Kurd, who resigned after complaining of government interference. <sup>[29]</sup> Saddam and his co-defendants objected to the change in judge, citing bias after he ordered defendant [Barzan Ibrahim al-Tikriti](#) out of the court, <sup>[30]</sup> and announced they would boycott the trial under Rahman. On 1 February they failed to show up in court.

On 15 March 2006, Saddam was called by the prosecution as a witness. On the stand, he began making political statements, insisting he was still President of Iraq. He got in an argument with the judge, who closed the trial to the public in response. <sup>[31]</sup>

On 19 June 2006, Chief Prosecutor Jaafar al-Moussawi called for the death penalty for Saddam and four other defendants including Barzan al-Tikriti, Saddam's half-brother, Taha Yassin Ramadan, former Iraqi Vice President and Awad Hamed al-Bander, former chief judge of Saddam's Revolutionary Court. The suspects faced execution by hanging if convicted and sentenced to death. <sup>[32]</sup>

On 21 June 2006, Saddam's chief defense lawyer, [Khamis al-Obeidi](#), was assassinated in Baghdad. Protesting the lack of international protection for lawyers, Saddam began a hunger strike. On 23 June 2006, it was reported that Saddam ended his hunger strike, having missed one meal. <sup>[33]</sup>

On 27 June 2006, two of Saddam Hussein's lawyers, [Ramsey Clark](#), a former US Attorney-General, and [Curtis Doebbler](#), held a press conference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., to call for immediate security for all

the Iraqi defense lawyers and to complain in a written statement that the trial was unfair, and was being conducted by the American authorities using Iraqis as a front. The two lawyers claimed that the United States had refused to provide adequate protection for the defense lawyers despite repeated requests that were made and that the United States was intentionally ensuring an unfair trial. <sup>[34]</sup>

Verdict: 5 November 2006

On 5 November 2006, Saddam Hussein was sentenced to death by hanging for the killing of 148 Shiites from [Dujail](#), in retaliation for the assassination attempt of 8 July 1982. When the judge announced the verdict, Saddam shouted, "Long live the people. Long live the Arab nation. Down with the spies. [God is great](#)." <sup>[35]</sup> Chief defense lawyer Khalil al-

Dulaimi later quoted a statement from Saddam Hussein given just before the Court issued its verdict. He said that Saddam urged his countrymen to "unify in the face of sectarian strife". Al-Dulaimi added that Saddam's message to the people was to "pardon and do not take revenge on the invading nations, its civilians". <sup>[36]</sup> An [appeal](#), mandated by the

Iraqi judicial system, followed. There was speculation that the appeals could last years, postponing his actual execution. However, on 26 December, Saddam's appeal was rejected and the death sentence was given. <sup>[37]</sup> No further appeals

were possible and Saddam had to be executed within 30 days of that date. The decision still had to be ratified by the Iraqi President but could not be commuted. <sup>[11]</sup> Judge Arif Shaheen, one of the nine appeal judges, said, "It cannot exceed 30 days. As from tomorrow the sentence could be carried out at any time. The appeals court has issued its verdict. What we have decided today is compulsory."

On 30 December 2006 at approximately 6:05am Baghdad time, Saddam Hussein's sentence was carried out and he was executed by hanging.

Among Saddam's co-defendants, [Barzan Ibrahim al-Tikriti](#), his half-brother and Iraq's intelligence chief at the time of the Dujail killings, and [Awad Hamed al-Bandar](#), who issued death sentences to Dujail residents as head of a Revolutionary Court, were also sentenced to death by hanging. The former Iraqi vice-president [Taha Yassin Ramadan](#) was sentenced to life in prison. <sup>[38]</sup> However, on 12 February 2007, <sup>[39]</sup> the sentence was changed to death by hanging, and Ramadan was executed on 20 March 2007. <sup>[40]</sup>

Former Baath party officials in the Dujail region Abdullah Kadhem Roweed Al-Musheikhi, his son Mizher Abdullah Roweed Al-Musheikhi, and [Ali Daeem Ali](#) were sentenced to 15 years in prison. [Mohammed Azawi Ali](#), also a Baath party official in Dujail region, was acquitted due to a lack of evidence. <sup>[38]</sup>

## Reactions to the verdict

It is said that there was a collective "thumbs up" worldwide at the news of Hussein's verdict.

Iraq

[Iraq](#)

President [Jalal Talabani](#) said in a statement, "I think this trial was fair", and "I must respect the independence of the Iraqi judiciary. Until the end I must be silent." <sup>[41]</sup>

Prime Minister Nouri Maliki said the sentence may "help alleviate the pain of the widows and the orphans" who lived under Saddam's regime. [41]

First Deputy Speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly [Khaled al-Attiyah](#) said "we expected the maximum penalty against the criminal Saddam Hussein and his henchmen because they committed horrible crimes against the Iraqi people, the Arabs, Muslims and the entire [Western](#) community." [41]

## Asia

### India

External Affairs Minister [Pranab Mukherjee](#) reacted guardedly to the death sentence, saying such verdicts should not appear to be "victor's justice" and should be acceptable to the people of Iraq and the international community. In a statement, he said "such life and death decisions require credible due process of law." [42]

## Europe

### Belgium

Belgian Foreign Minister [Karel De Gucht](#) believed that carrying out the death penalty on a 69-year-old would be "unethical", reported [flandersnews.be](#).

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister [Guy Verhofstadt](#) told the press that "justice has been done", although a spokesman for the Prime Minister later said that Verhofstadt felt that it would have been better to have tried Saddam Hussein at the [International Court of Justice](#) in [The Hague](#) (The Netherlands).

## Ireland

A spokesperson for the Foreign Affairs Minister said "Ireland and its EU partners have made it clear in the past to Iraqi authorities that we are opposed to courts applying the death sentence." [41]

## Italy

Prime Minister [Romano Prodi](#) said "While not wishing to play down the crimes... I cannot but express the firm opposition of the Italian government - as well as mine - to a death sentence. As I reiterated again today (27 December 2006) at the cabinet meeting, Italy is opposed to capital punishment, always and in all cases. It is a general principle that I reiterated firmly also at the United Nations." [43]

## Russia

Foreign affairs committee member Konstantin Kosachev made a cautious statement, saying he doubted the death penalty would be carried out. He said, "this is more of a moral ruling, revenge that modern Iraq is taking on the Saddam Hussein regime." [44]

## United Kingdom

[Foreign Secretary Margaret Beckett](#) said "it is right that those accused of such crimes against the Iraqi people should face Iraqi justice." [45][46] Prime Minister Tony Blair stated that he is "against the death penalty, whether it is Saddam Hussein or anybody else." [47]

## Vatican City

The head of the [Vatican's](#) Council for Justice and Peace, Cardinal Renato Raffaele Martino, opposed the death sentence for Saddam Hussein, saying, "For me, punishing a crime with another crime — which is what killing for vindication is — would mean that we are still at the point of demanding an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth." [48]

## Americas

### Canada

Foreign Affairs Minister [Peter MacKay](#) said "my understanding is there is an appeal process to follow, so given that fact, I think it would be pre-emptive to be passing any judgments or making any firm public declarations until all of those avenues have been exhausted." [49]

### United States

The [White House](#) spokesman [Tony Snow](#) said the trial showed "absolute proof" that the judiciary in Iraq are independent. [50] President George W. Bush in a statement said, "Saddam Hussein's trial is a milestone in the Iraqi people's efforts to replace the rule of a tyrant with the rule of law", and "today, the victims of this regime have received a measure of the justice which many thought would never come." [51]

## Africa

### Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe Exiles Forum in [South Africa](#) welcomed Saddam's death sentence, and hoped it sent a message to Zimbabwe's dictator [Robert Mugabe](#), as well as deposed dictators [Augusto Pinochet](#) of Chile and former Liberian dictator [Charles Taylor](#), saying:

"[We] believe that together with the Pinochet, Taylor, and other recent cases, this case sends an unequivocally clear and resounding message to dictators and perpetrators of serious crimes under international and national laws. [We] hope that this loud message will not escape the ears of tyrants like President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and all those who serve under him in the commission of torture and other crimes against humanity." [52]

## Oceania

### Australia

Prime Minister [John Howard](#) said, "They could've easily allowed him to be arbitrarily executed as has happened in so many other countries, yet no, he could've been shot ... or something like that, but no, they were determined to have a transparent trial they were determined to demonstrate to the world that there was a new Iraq."

Mr Howard said he was opposed to the death penalty, but could not govern what another country did. Howard stated that the death penalty is not the issue of significance. "The real issue is that he was tried in an open, transparent fashion and one of the great marks of democratic society is due process and the rule of law and this mass murderer was given due process." [53]

New Zealand

[Prime Minister Helen Clark](#) stated that the guilty verdict was appropriate but that she has "a long-standing objection to the death penalty and that will always be a concern to me." She declined to make a comment on whether the trial was fair, saying it was hard to determine from so far away. <sup>[54]</sup>

## Execution

Main article: [Execution of Saddam Hussein](#)

Saddam was executed by hanging after being convicted of crimes against humanity following his trial and conviction for the illegal killings of 148 Shi'as in the town of Dujail in 1982. He was hanged on the first day of an important Islamic holiday, Eid ul-Adha, 30 December 2006, at approximately 06:05 AM local time (03:05 UTC). The execution was carried out at "[Camp Justice](#)," an Iraqi army base in Kazimain, a neighbourhood of northeast Baghdad. There were some foreign groups who wanted Saddam dead after Eid ul-Adha, but Prime Minister Maliki wanted Saddam gone before the New Year.

## Criticism

Critics, including Saddam's legal counsel Khalil al-Dulaimi, alleged that American officials had a heavy influence on the court. <sup>[55]</sup> In a statement, Khalil said, "this court is a creature of the US military occupation, and the Iraqi court is just a tool and rubber stamp of the invaders." <sup>[56]</sup>

Khalil al-Dulaimi and various international commentators alleged that the date on which the verdict was read live to the world, 5 November 2006, was deliberately selected by the Bush Administration in order to influence the US midterm elections which occurred two days later. This has been called a November Surprise. <sup>[56][57]</sup> The verdict was expected to be on 16 October 2006, but was postponed to consider recalling some of the witnesses. <sup>[58]</sup> Even as the verdict was released verbally on 5 November, the written, final verdict was not released until days later. <sup>[59]</sup>

The television link of the trial was provided by a US company which frequently edited out the sound of what Saddam and other defendants said, and sometimes edited the video as well. <sup>[60]</sup>

Some witnesses were told by court staff what to say. <sup>[61]</sup>

Judges were replaced numerous times, reportedly because of "leniency" towards the defence. <sup>[61]</sup>

All defence lawyers who questioned the court's legitimacy were ejected. <sup>[61]</sup>

A defence lawyer who showed images of US torture was ejected. <sup>[61]</sup>

Witnesses claimed to be forced or tortured to testify. <sup>[61]</sup>

Evidence was allegedly forged in numerous circumstances. <sup>[61]</sup>

Numerous witnesses' statements claimed the accused's innocence. [61]

An unidentified witness claimed chief prosecutor Jaafar al-Moussawi offered him \$500 to give false evidence and said his family was threatened. [61]

Three witnesses told the court people allegedly killed by Saddam in Dujail are actually alive. [61]

A defense lawyer was abducted and killed. [61]

#### More criticism

The Washington Post reported that "Americans have drafted most of the statutes under which Hussein and his associates are being tried". It also reported that "A US official in Baghdad confirmed last weekend that only the United States and Britain had contributed experts to advise the court on how to prosecute governments for war crimes and other such matters". [62]

The human rights organization [Amnesty International](#) criticized the death sentence and said the trial was "deeply flawed and unfair." The process was marred by "serious flaws that call into question the capacity of the tribunal," Malcolm Stuart, director of Amnesty's Middle East and North Africa program, said. "In particular, political interference undermined the independence and impartiality of the court." [63]

The specific concerns raised by Amnesty International included the status of the trial as a "Special Trial" (unconstitutional according to the Iraqi Constitution), political interference in trial proceedings by the removal of a judge mid-trial, exclusion of members of the defense team at points in the trial, assassination of multiple members of the defence team, and the closure of the trial before the defence team had completed presenting its legal case.

In the opening statement of the Jury of Conscience of the [World Tribunal on Iraq](#), keynote speaker [Arundhati Roy](#) retorted, "Saddam Hussein is being tried as a war criminal even as we speak. But what about those who helped to install him in power, who armed him, who supported him—and who are now setting up a tribunal to try him and absolve themselves completely?" [64], referring to the assistance provided by the US government under

President [Ronald Reagan](#) during the [Iran–Iraq War](#), as revealed incontrovertibly by documents declassified by the [National Security Archive](#). [65]

#### U.N. Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, Opinion 31/2006

Even prior to the conclusion of the trial, the U.N. Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, in its Opinion 31/2006 dated 1 September 2006: [66] (a) has held that the detention is arbitrary within Category III of the Working

Group's categories (failure to provide a fair trial) [paragraph 27]; and (b) has called upon the governments of Iraq and the USA to remedy the situation by providing a fair trial [paragraph 28].

**See also**

[Execution of Saddam Hussein](#)

[2003 invasion of Iraq](#)

[Victor's justice](#)

[Show trial](#)

## References

1. ^ Sachs, Susan (10 December 2003). "Iraqi Governing Council Sets Up Its Own Court for War Crimes". [The New York Times](#).
2. ^ <http://www.harvardilj.org/attach.php?id=93>
3. ^ The Show Trial of the Century
4. ^ BBC NEWS | World | Middle East | Iraq PM 'seeks Saddam show trial'
5. ^ <http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article10691.htm>
6. ^ Middle East Online
7. ^ Amnesty International | Working to Protect Human Rights
8. ^ Iraq: Saddam Hussein Put to Death (Human Rights Watch, 30-12-2006)
9. ^ Lewis, Neil A. (15 December 2003). "The Capture of Hussein: Legal Process; Iraqis Just Recently Set Rules to Govern Tribunal". [The New York Times](#).
10. ^ <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/21/AR2006082100058.html>
11. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> Death sentence for Saddam upheld, BBC World Service 2006/12/26
12. ^ <http://www.dailynews.lk/2007/01/01/wld02.asp>
13. ^ "Saddam defiant in court", 2 July 2004, Al-Jazeera.
14. ^ "Know Nothing, Do Nothing", [The American Spectator](#), 11 October 2005.
15. ^ "You are an Iraqi. You know who I am", [The Guardian](#), 20 October 2005.
16. ^ Saddam upsets Kuwaiti 'dogs' at [Mail & Guardian](#) online
17. ^ [http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Bush-Aznar\\_memo](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Bush-Aznar_memo)
18. ^ Saddam bids to challenge case in US ([The Sunday Times](#), 19 December 2004)
19. ^ Saddam rejects Rumsfeld offer of release at [The Peninsula](#)
20. ^ "Saddam may escape noose in deal to halt insurgency" at [The Daily Telegraph](#)
21. ^ Malaysia: Former Prime Minister Urgers Fair Trial for Saddam at Adnki.com
22. ^ Saddam family slims defence team at [BBC News](#)
23. ^ Lawyer denies Saddam confession at [BBC News](#)
24. ^ Demonstrations, statements, supporting Saddam
25. ^ "Excerpts: Saddam's courtroom clashes", [BBC News](#), 5 November 2006.
26. ^ Saddam pleads innocent, trial adjourns at [MSNBC](#)
27. ^ A defiant Saddam pleads innocent, scuffles with guards in stormy hearing at the [San Diego Union-Tribune](#)
28. ^ Saddam alleges that he was tortured by the Americans at [BBC News](#)
29. ^ Court names new judge at [BBC News](#)
30. ^ Judge orders Saddam ejected from court at Guardian Unlimited
31. ^ Judge closes trial at [Fox News Channel](#)
32. ^ Saddam prosecution begins sum up at [The Daily Telegraph](#)
33. ^ [Reuters](#): "Saddam ends hunger strike after missing one meal". Published 23 June 2006.
34. ^ Attorney Says US Intimidating Saddam Hussein's Lawyers at [Cybercast News Service](#)

35. ^ "Saddam Hussein Is Sentenced to Death". New York Times. 2006-11-05.  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/05/world/middleeast/05cnd-saddam.html?em&ex=1162875600&en=a28b7d91d06de1ba&ei=5087%0A>.
36. ^ "Saddam urges Iraqis not to take revenge on US". Associated Press. 2006-11-05.  
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15570667/?GT1=8717>.
37. ^ "Translation of Appellate ruling". Case western University/Iraqi High Tribunal. 26 December 2006.  
[http://law.case.edu/saddamtrial/documents/20070103\\_dujail\\_appellate\\_chamber\\_opinion.pdf](http://law.case.edu/saddamtrial/documents/20070103_dujail_appellate_chamber_opinion.pdf). Retrieved 20 November 2009.
38. ^ <sup>a b</sup> BBC (5 November 2006). "Saddam trial: Verdicts in detail". BBC News.  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle\\_east/6118302.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/6118302.stm).
39. ^ [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle\\_east/6354205.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/6354205.stm)
40. ^ [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070320/ap\\_on\\_re\\_mi\\_ea/iraq](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070320/ap_on_re_mi_ea/iraq)
41. ^ <sup>a b c d</sup> BBC News "Saddam sentence: Reaction in quotes" 5 November 2006.
42. ^ PTI (5 November 2006). "Saddam verdict: India reacts guardedly". Rediff.com.  
<http://www.rediff.com/news/2006/nov/05saddam4.htm>.
43. ^ BBC (27 December 2006). "In quotes: Reaction to Saddam sentence". BBC.  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle\\_east/6211761.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/6211761.stm).
44. ^ Russia warns Saddam hanging would divide Iraq at Daily News & Analysis
45. ^ BBC News. "Government hails Saddam verdict" 5 November 2006
46. ^ Reuters. "Britain welcomes Saddam death verdict" 5 November 2006.
47. ^ BBC News (2006-11-06). "PM 'opposes' Saddam death penalty".  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk\\_politics/6120050.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/6120050.stm). Retrieved 2006-11-06.
48. ^ Reuters. "Vatican, Catholic officials say 'don't hang Saddam'" 5 November 2006.
49. ^ Canadian Press (5 November 2006). "Tories' MacKay circumspect on Saddam verdict".  
[http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20061105/hussein\\_mackay\\_061105/20061105?hub=Canada](http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20061105/hussein_mackay_061105/20061105?hub=Canada).
50. ^ Agence France-Presse (6 November 2006). "Verdict shows Iraq progress, says US". News Limited.  
<http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,20707850-1702,00.html>.
51. ^ George W. Bush (5 November 2006). "President's Statement on the Saddam Hussein Verdict". Office of the Press Secretary. <http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2006/11/20061105-1.html>.
52. ^ "ZEF's Statement". www.zimbabwejournalists.com.  
[http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/dec5\\_2006.html#Z23](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/dec5_2006.html#Z23). Retrieved 2008-11-24.
53. ^ The Age (6 November 2006). "Saddam trial 'heroic', says Howard".  
<http://www.theage.com.au/news/world/saddam-trial-heroic-says-howard/2006/11/06/1162661578964.html>.
54. ^ NZPA (6 November 2006). "Clark backs Saddam verdict but opposes death penalty". New Zealand Herald. [http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/story.cfm?c\\_id=2&ObjectID=10409377](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/story.cfm?c_id=2&ObjectID=10409377).
55. ^ Defining Justice: Victors' Justice - PBS Frontline World

56. ^ <sup>a b</sup> Reuters: Saddam verdict date 'rigged' for Bush (New Zealand Herald, 5 November 2006)
57. ^ Bazzi, Mohamad (3 November 2006). "Saddam verdict to come Sunday".  
<http://www.newsday.com/news/nationworld/world/ny-wosado1104,0,2074407.story?coll=ny-top-headlines>.
58. ^ Qassim Abdul-Zahra (3 October 2006). "Verdict in Saddam Case to Be Delayed". Associated Press.  
[http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=D8KH687G0&show\\_article=1](http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=D8KH687G0&show_article=1).
59. ^ Julia Preston (6 November 2006). "Hussein Trial Was Flawed but Reasonably Fair, and Verdict was Justified, Legal Experts Say". New York Times.  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/06/world/middleeast/06trial.html?ex=1320469200&en=485879ef021a4b9c&ei=5090&partner=rssuserland&emc=rss>.
60. ^ John Simpson: Saddam's trial is not a farce (BBC, 23 December 2005)
61. ^ <sup>a b c d e f g h i j</sup> [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle\\_east/4507568.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/4507568.stm)
62. ^ Ellen Knickmeyer (25 January 2006). "Hussein Trial Halts Again, Setting Off Wave of Criticism". Washington Post. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/01/24/AR2006012400299.html>.
63. ^ Amnesty International (5 November 2006). "Iraq: Amnesty International deplores death sentences in Saddam Hussein trial". <http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGMDE140372006>.
64. ^ "The Most Cowardly War in History" | BaltimoreChronicle.com
65. ^ Shaking Hands with Saddam Hussein - Press Release
66. ^ [http://www.albasrah.net/pages/mod.php?mod=art&lapage=../en\\_articles\\_2006/1106/un-saddam\\_011106.htm](http://www.albasrah.net/pages/mod.php?mod=art&lapage=../en_articles_2006/1106/un-saddam_011106.htm)

## External links

Saddam's final message/letter to the world - on his Baath party's website 2 January 2007

Execution on Muslim Holiday Eid Not Allowed

Streaming Video of Saddam Hussein in Trial

To the victor belongs the judge's gavel

3000 american troops dead, 3000 on december 28, two days before hanging

Saddam's last hours

Iraqi Special Tribunal (IST) homepage

Grotian Moment: The Saddam Hussein Trial Blog

Bombings kill over 60 people, mostly Shiites, 3 American soldiers, revenge for Saddam's death, 30 December 2006

Shiite professor dies in Iraq, Diya al-Meqoter, one of many

Daoud al-Qaissi, Saddam's singer executed

blog about the danish documentary *The Trial of Saddam Hussein* (2007) (TV) by catalan filmmaker Esteban Uyarra.