

US invasion of Iraq: Neo-cons, media responses and humanitarian implications

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ABSTRACT

U.S 'War on Terror' (WOT) under Bush administration in Iraq was launched with the pretext of Saddam Hussain's 'collaboration' with terror network, al-Qaida, and conspiracy of developing 'weapons of mass destruction' (WMD). However, to construct a narrative to legitimize Iraq's invasion diverse opinions and perspectives were popularized in media, press conferences, newspapers, policy statements and presidential speeches. Iraq was popularized as a country run by Saddam's regime that was responsible for violating human rights, demoralizing and suppressing Iraqis' urge of democracy, dictatorship, sponsoring terror networks and weaponizing Iraq with WMD. Iraq, under President Bush policy, was in nutshell a rogue state operating in the nexus of 'axis of evil'. To undo Saddam's regime of dictatorship, to democratize Iraq, neutralize Iraq from WMD and eliminate al-Qaeda, U.S under President Bush invaded Iraq. This paper will critically explore the rationale of war on Iraq and its implications. Beyond rhetorical underpinnings this paper will critically examine rationale of Bush's invasion of Iraq. The paper will be based on how neo-cons lobbied for war on Iraq, role of media in sensitizing and providing legitimacy to invade Iraq and how Iraq's invasion led to human sufferings.

Key words: War on Terror (WOT), War on Iraq, Bush Doctrine, Neo-Cons, President Bush, Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), Terrorism, Corporate Media