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HISTORY OF IRAQ RESEARCH PAPER PROPOSAL History of Iraq Research Paper Proposal Evolution of Islamic and Iraqi political culture
Thesis: The paper talks about Iraq’s political Islam nature, her relations with her neighbors, her evolution as a country, traces of Islam civilization and the impacts of the external powers in her daily activities.
Iraq anciently known as Mesopotamia, has the oldest civilization that is as old as 10000 years; hence, crowned as the cradle of civilization. Iraq became the center of the Islamic golden age after it was conquered by the Muslim Rashidun caliphate in the 7th century. In the 16th century, Iraq fell under the Ottoman rule, which intermittently fell under Iranian Safavid and Mamluk control1.
Nature of political Islam in Iraq
The federal government of Iraq defined as an Islamic democratic federal parliamentary republic. It is composed of the executive, legislative and judicial branches plus numerous independent commissions. The legislative composed of the council of representatives, the executive branch composed of the president, prime minister, and the council of ministers. The judiciary is composed of the higher judicial council, the Supreme Court, the court of cassation, the public prosecution department and judiciary oversight commission.
Evolution of Iraq as a nation-state
Iraq was under the rule of native empires, Assyrian, Babylonian, Akkadian, Sumerian and foreign empires such as Median, Achaemenid, Persian and Sassanian empires. In the 16th century, Iraq fell under the Ottoman rule, which intermittently fell under Iranian Safavid and Mamluk control. After the fall of Saddam Hussein 10 years later, the country is full of lawlessness, autocracy, daily deaths and havoc. The country has rapidly declined economically unlike in the 1970s whereby it was named as the country of positive success, despite destructive groups among them.
Traditional social fabric in Iraq
In Iraq, cousin marriage is a central element in the social fabric of Iraq. The practice strengthens family bonds, and enhances fierce and cohesion relationships among the family clans2.
By marrying the infant of an uncle or a mothers sister, a husband and wife are of the same clan and their property. Their unity and their strength further strengthens the clan they are both from. The most basic and vital tribal structure is an extended family3.
Traces of Islamic civilization
The Islamic political state of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) is a Sunni extremist, jihadist rebel group controlling territory in Iraq and Syria. This situation is a clear proof of Islamic dominance in Iraq. It is also shown by the use of the Sharia law in the country4.
Impact of external powers in Iraq
From 1980, the external relations of Iraq were influenced by the Saddam Hussein government. Iraq had good relations with the Soviet Union, France, and Germany, who provided advanced weapons systems. In 2003, the US and its allies invaded Iraq causing insurgency that deepened ethnic, tribal and sectarian divisions in the country. The US also supported him in the Iran - Iraq war. Kuwait invasion triggered the gulf war, which changed Iraqs relations with the Arab world and the west Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and countries supporting Kuwait5.
Historical developments of Iraq conflict with its neighbors
Kuwait invasion triggered the gulf war, which changed Iraqs relations with the Arab world and the west Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and countries supporting Kuwait 6. In 2003, the US and its allies invaded Iraq causing insurgency that deepened ethnic, tribal and sectarian divisions in the country. By 2014, January more than 1600 people had died as a result of the war. Iraq had its first election in 2005 after the reign of Hussein.
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