

# Life and times of Saddam Hussein



**Born:** April 28, 1937, *Al-Ouja*, near *Tikrit, Iraq*

**1956:** Joined *Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party*

**1958-9:** Imprisoned for revolutionary activities

**1959:** Flees to *Egypt* after failed assassination attempt on Prime Minister *Abdul Karim Qasim*

**1960:** Sentenced to death *in absentia*

**1963:** Returns to *Baghdad* after *Ba'ath* revolution

**1964-7:** Imprisoned during purge of Party

**1968:** Plays minor role in *Ba'ath* coup

**1969:** Appointed Vice-President by *President Al-Bakr*, a relative

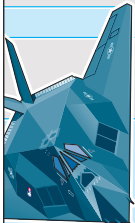
**1969-79:** Oversees major health, literacy improvements. Orders massacres of Kurds and mass deportations of Shia and Turkomen

**1979:** Assumes Presidency of Iraq. Hundreds of Party members purged

**1980:** *IRAN-IRAQ WAR* – Saddam receives tacit western support for invasion of Iran

**1987:** Directs *Anfal* campaign against Kurds – 180,000 “disappear”

**1988:** Ceasefire declared between Iraq and Iran – 1 million believed dead



**1990:** Invades Kuwait, proclaims it Iraq's 19th province

**1991:** *GULF WAR* – Saddam warns of “mother of all battles” but alliance led by U.S. *President George Bush Snr* quickly forces withdrawal. Saddam crushes revolt by Shia and Kurds

**1992:** UN inspections imposed to eliminate weapons of mass destruction. Sanctions cripple economy but regime able to abuse oil-for-food programme

**1998:** U.S. and UK bomb Iraq in attempt to force compliance with UN inspections

**2001:** U.S. *President George W. Bush* names Iraq in *axis of evil*. Administration focuses on regime change

**2003:** *IRAQ INVASION* – U.S.-led coalition enters Baghdad. Regime collapses, Saddam forced into hiding until his capture in “spider-hole” near Tikrit

**2005:** Saddam brought to trial for 1982 massacre of 148 Shia Muslims following assassination attempt

**Nov 5, 2006:** Saddam Hussein sentenced to death by hanging for crimes against humanity

