



Why is Iraq in the News?

For Preview Only





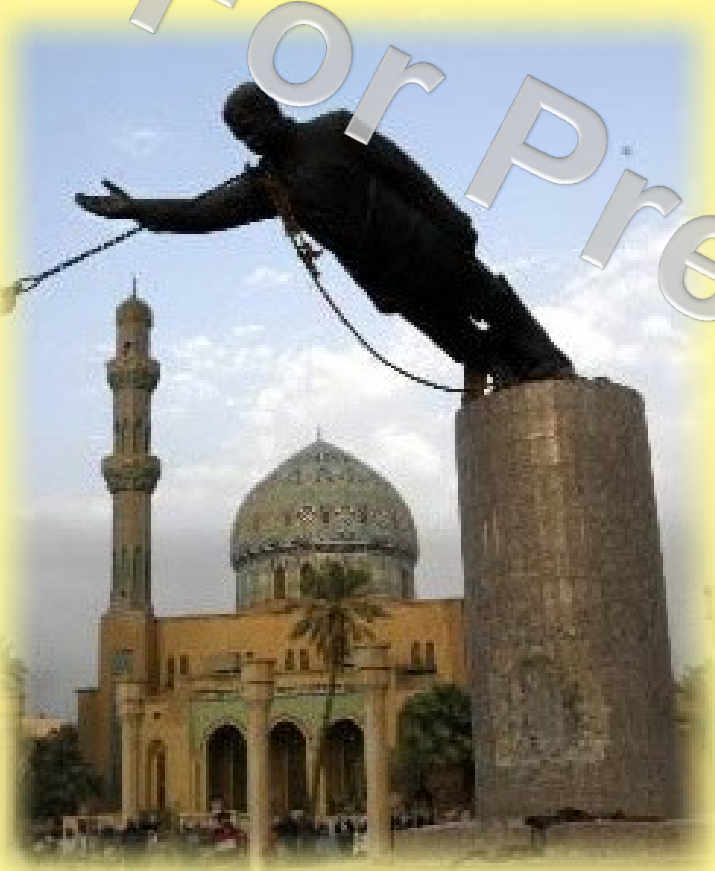
Iraq has been in the headlines a lot since the USA-led invasion of the country in 2003.



At the time there were fears that the leader of Iraq, President Saddam Hussein, would use very dangerous weapons, called weapons of mass destruction, to attack other countries.



Saddam Captured



Saddam Hussein was a very powerful leader before the invasion. However control of the country was taken from Saddam Hussein very quickly, and he was captured.

Saddam on Trial



Saddam Hussein was put on trial for the murder of 148 people in 1988 in Iraq and was found guilty in 2006. He was sentenced to the death penalty. He was killed by hanging on 30th December 2006 in the Iraqi capital Baghdad.

Still a Violent Country



But Iraq is still a violent country. Thousands of soldiers from other countries, including Britain, tried to keep the peace. All the Iraqi soldiers and police officers were retrained.



Some people think the government led by Saddam Hussein should still be in charge.



There are also many problems because Iraqis are fighting each other. Some Iraqis don't like each other because of religion. Although most Iraqis are Muslim, they belong to different branches of the faith - Shia and Sunni.



Iraq is now a democratic country - the people choose their own government. This is a big change to when Saddam Hussein was in control. However it will take many, many years for the violence to stop because of the different beliefs of the citizens.

The Future

