



## An analytical look at the performance of the United States in the war imposed by the Iraqi Baath regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran

AbbasAli Talebi<sup>1</sup>

29

Volume 8, Issue 2  
Serial Number 29  
Summer 2024

Review Article

Received:  
2024/03/30

Accepted:  
2024/06/27

pp.35-61

Print ISSN: 2588-4565

Online ISSN: 2717-0381



### Abstract

The occurrence of the Islamic revolution in Iran, the fear of the regional regimes and the alignment of America caused the Iraqi government to initiate the biggest and most erosive unequal and unconventional battle of the 20th century in the geography of the Persian Gulf. America's role in the beginning and continuation of the war showed that despite the long-standing differences with the Baath regime, due to the common threat of the Islamic revolution, it cooperated with Iraq. This research, with the descriptive-analytical method, aims to investigate the role and performance of the United States in the war, and raised the question, what role did the United States play in the war of the Baath regime of Iraq against the Islamic Republic of Iran, considering the political and economic goals in the region? This hypothesis was proposed that the joint goals of Iraq and the United States in limiting the Islamic revolution led to the start of the war and the continuation of their alignment in practice. The findings show that, firstly, the degree of alignment between the two countries was subject to the results achieved on the fronts, and the peak of this cooperation was the opening of the second front in the Persian Gulf by America. Secondly, the war took place in a region where America had vital interests and the fate of the war was important to them considering the parties involved in it; On one side was Iran, which became America's main enemy in the region after the Islamic Revolution, and on the other side was Iraq, which was considered an ally of the Soviet Union. Thirdly, this war happened at the height of the Cold War, when it was possible for the Soviets to exploit it to increase influence in the Persian Gulf.

**Keywords:** Imposed war, Islamic Republic of Iran, Baath regime of Iraq, American intervention.

1. Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, and International Relations, Savdkoh Branch, Islamic Azad University, Savadkoh, Iran. (Corresponding author) [talebi\\_abbas@yahoo.com](mailto:talebi_abbas@yahoo.com)