

## Arabic press highlights Iraq negatives

**The one Iraqi paper published on Thursday, a Muslim holiday, says the post-Saddam Hussein experience is a success.**

However, newspapers in the wider Muslim world highlight the death and destruction in the country, and see the enemies of the US prospering from the instability caused.

### **Iraq:**

ALI KHLAYF IN **AL-ADALAH**

The new Iraq has been built on a democratic basis... People have made their own decision and are drawing the outlines of their own free, honourable state... The Iraqi experience is successful and will succeed more because it is a realistic one, respecting the other and the will of the people who have brought it to life.

### **London-based Arabic press:**

ABD AL-BARI ATWAN IN **AL-QUDS AL-ARABI**

Are the expulsion of the middle class, killing one million Iraqis and displacing another five million the successes that President Bush is claiming... Bush is talking of a big strategic victory in Iraq, but he is the last person who understands strategy and we doubt that he understands anything else.

GHASSAN SHARBIL IN LONDON-BASED **AL-HAYAT**

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad today has the right to smile: Iran is blowing out the fifth candle for the US invasion of Iraq, which has benefited him and his country. If Iran had planted a president in the White House, he would not have served them as well as this.

### **Mid-East Arabic press:**

EGYPT'S **AL-AHRAM**

The US administration could not win the hearts and minds of people in the Arab world, and hatred for America has spread.

## MURSI ATALLAH IN EGYPT'S **AL-AHRAM**

The Iraq invasion and occupation were like earthquakes that destroyed Iraq and struck a blow against Arab and regional entities... US Vice-President Dick Cheney was not able to move a single step outside the Green Zone, while the Iranian president moved freely under the eyes of US forces.

## QATAR'S **AL-RAYAH**

This should have been an opportunity for self-examination and correction of the course of action by announcing military withdrawal and allowing the Iraqis to engage with the world at the Arab, Islamic and international levels.

## HASAN YUNIS IN QATAR'S **AL-WATAN**

It is likely that what the US wanted was to disseminate chaos, turbulence and instability. It succeeded... Now, contemplate the price of this foolish policy.

## NAHID HATTAR IN JORDAN'S **AL-ARAB AL-YAWM**

After five years of illusion and death, the Iraqis are still left without a state, security, institutions, jobs or services. They are suffering from destitution, despotism, anxiety, displacement and death free of charge.

## SAMIH AL-MA'AYTAH IN JORDAN'S **AL-GHAD**

Five years of terrorism did not only affect Iraq and the Iraqis, they affected all of us. We should all be aware that the Americans will do anything if it's in their interests or the interests of Israel or of people with money, oil and weapons.

## MUWAFIQ MAHADIN IN JORDAN'S **AL-ARAB AL-YAWM**

If the Americans were successful in toppling the Iraqi state and looting its resources, Iraq is now hitting back against the Americans, who could be knocked out of the history of colonialism after a move they thought could tighten their grip on the world.

## SUBHI GHANDUR IN UAE'S **AL-BAYAN**

What was supposed to be an example of change in the region has become a nightmare for the region and the US... The Iranian and Turkish regional

projects prosper on the borders of the Arab lands thanks to the mistakes of the US and the lack of Arab involvement.

### **UAE'S AL-KHALIJ**

A new Iraq was not born, nor did the old one disappear. What is confirmed is that we, the Arabs, have turned into spectators of the destiny of Iraq.

### **Rest of the Muslim world:**

#### **PAKISTAN'S EXPRESS**

The situation in Iraq is proof of the failure of US strategy... US and coalition forces should be withdrawn and UN troops should be deployed. Only then could it be hoped that the situation would improve.

#### **PAKISTAN'S ISLAM**

Hundreds of thousands are dead, and decapitated bodies are discovered all over Iraq. The destruction of neighbourhoods, cities and villages has become routine. All this has made the overwhelming majority of Iraqis miss the late president [Saddam Hussein].

#### **MUSTAFA BALBAY IN TURKEY'S CUMHURIYET**

Saddam was a dictator, but the situation in Iraq today is much worse than during Saddam's reign.

#### **SEPUTAR INDONESIA**

Are the deaths of millions of people still insufficient for Bush and his aides to pull troops out of Iraq? What is clear is that history will record a ruthless colonisation in this modern age by a country which regards itself as a teacher of democracy.