

CAPITALIST COLONIALISM IN THE ERA OF GLOBALIZATION: THE CASE OF IRAQ

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ABSTRACT

1. This paper tackles the recent developments of the World System (WS). Its main argument is that the WS is in the process of repeating two dangerous developments:

—*The colonial aggressions*

—*The world war*

2. The aggressions against Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Iraq are the mere beginnings of these two developments.

3. While colonial wars, during the beginning of the colonial era were launched separately by each colonial power, new aggressions are, at least for the time being, taking place jointly. To what extent they will continue this trend, will be analysed in the paper.

4. The focus of this paper will be on the case of Iraq. How did the new- world empire became able to launch a war against a country of the periphery assisted by other old imperialist powers, while the others failed to stop it.

5. Additionally, the paper discusses how imperialist countries, that did not directly participate in the war against Iraq, did in fact support the United States through the United Nations 'legitimization' of the occupation on the one hand, and through their demands for gaining business contracts for their companies on the other.

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6. Furthermore, the paper examines the real causes of the occupation of Iraq, i.e. the role of controlling oil, the Arab markets, the economic crisis in the core capitalist countries and the indirect economic war between the Euro and U.S. dollar. However, on the top of all these reasons remains the destruction of the nationalist role and project of the Iraqi regime.
7. The paper places emphasis on U.S. plans and policies in Iraq. Of these plans, it analyzes how the United States is trying to establish a puppet regime in Iraq, which justifies its military occupation of the country.
8. Until today, the United States had succeeded in subjugating the Iraqi economy and assets to the control of the multi-national corporation, mainly those of the U.S., which is a process that will not succeed without the privatization of the Iraqi economy.
9. Finally, the paper evaluates the fate and role of Iraqi resistance as the first resistance against colonialism in the era of globalism. Will it be a beginning of joint Third World resistance against the ruling classes in the core capitalist countries on the one hand, and the local comprador classes in the Arab Homeland on the other? Will it be a beginning of a new wave of revolutions against capital?.