

TIMELINE

Date	Detail
1914 November	British occupation of Basra
1917 March	British occupation of Baghdad
1918 November	British occupation of Mosul
1920 April	San Remo meeting assigns Mandate for Iraq to United Kingdom
1920 July	July-October: Iraqi revolt
1920 November	Sayyid `Abd al-Rahman al-Kailani forms first Iraqi government
1921 March	Cairo Conference decides on Prince Faisal bin Husain al-Hashemi as king of Iraq
1921 August	Enthronement of King Faisal in Baghdad
1924 March	Constituent Assembly opens
1924 June	Anglo-Iraqi Treaty passed
1925 March	Iraqi government signs Turkish Petroleum Company oil concession
1925 December	League of Nations decides that Mosul should remain part of Iraq
1927	First major oil finds near Kirkuk
1930 June	New Anglo-Iraqi Treaty signed promising Iraqi independence
1932 October	League of Nations ends Mandate and grants independence to Iraq
1933 September	King Faisal dies; King Ghazi succeeds
1935 January	Official opening of Kirkuk-Mediterranean pipeline
1936 October	Military coup d'état, backed by General Bakr Sidqi; Hikmat Sulaiman forms a government
1937 August	Bakr Sidqi assassinated; Hikmat Sulaiman over-thrown by army
1939 April	King Ghazi killed in car accident; succeeded by infant son, Faisal II, under regency of Prince `Abd al-Ilah
1941 April	Military coup d'état: `Government of National Defence´ formed by Rashid `Ali al-Kailani; regent flees Baghdad
1941 May	British troops march on Baghdad; collapse and flight of Rashid `Ali al-Kailani's government
1941 June	Regent returns to Baghdad
1948 January	New Anglo-Iraqi Treaty signed at Portsmouth; mass protests in Baghdad - known as al-Wathba (the leap); treaty abandoned
1948 May	Iraq sends expeditionary force to Palestine
1949 February 28	Iraqi army withdraws from Palestine
1952 February 28	Iraqi agreement with Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC) on 50-50 share of profits

1952 November	November-December: demonstrations erupt in Baghdad - known as al-Intifada (the uprising)
1953 May	King Faisal II enthroned; regency ends
1955 February 28	Formation of Baghdad Pact
1956 October	Suez Crisis; riots in Baghdad, Mosul and Najaf
1958 February 28	Formation of United Arab Republic (Egypt and Syria); Jordan and Iraq form Arab Union
1958 July	Military coup d'état in Baghdad; monarchy overthrown and republic established; Brigadier `Abd al-Karim Qasim becomes prime minister, minister of defence and commander in chief
1958 September	Agrarian Reform Law
1959 October	Mustafa Barzani asserts his control of Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP)
1959 December	Iraq withdraws from Baghdad Pact
1961 June	Kuwaiti independence; Qasim demands its integration into Iraq; Great Britain sends troops to Kuwait, replaced by Arab League force in August
1961 July	Barzani demands substantial autonomy for Kurdish region
1961 September	Fighting in Kurdistan between Barzani's forces and Iraqi army
1961 December	Law 80 reclaims unexploited areas of IPC's concession
1963 February 28	Military coup d'état by Ba`thist and Arab nationalist officers; Qasim and colleagues killed
1963 October	October-November: splits and confusion in the Ba`th
1963 November	President `Abd al-Salam `Arif and military allies eject Ba`thists from power
1964 July	Nationalisation of all banks, insurance companies and large industrial firms; further land reform
1964 October	Kurdish autonomy talks break down and fighting resumes
1965 April	April: full-scale war in Kurdistan
1965 September	`Abd al-Rahman al-Bazzaz appointed prime minister
1966 April	Death of `Abd al-Salam `Arif in helicopter crash; succeeded by his brother `Abd al-Rahman `Arif
1966 July	Barzani accepts al-Bazzaz's twelve-point programme on Kurdish autonomy
1966 August	`Arif dismisses al-Bazzaz
1967 June	War with Israel; Iraq sends token force to Jordan
1968 July 17	Military coup d'état by Arab nationalist and Ba`thist army officers; `Abd al-Rahman `Arif sent into exile; Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr becomes president
1968 July 30	Ba`thist military coup d'état organised by al-Bakr ousts non-Ba`thist allies
1969 June	Major agreement between Iraq and USSR on Soviet assistance in exploiting Iraqi oil fields
1969 November	Saddam Hussein appointed to ruling Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) and becomes its vice-chairman

1970 March	Manifesto on Kurdistan, granting limited autonomy; Barzani calls cease-fire
1970 May	Land reform measures
1970 July	New provisional constitution recognises Kurdish nationalism
1971 November	Relations between Iraq and Iran severed
1972 April	Iraq and USSR sign fifteen-year Iraq-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation
1972 June	IPC nationalised
1972 November	November-December: fighting in northern Kurdistan
1973 July	Failed coup attempt by Kazzar; al-Bakr and Saddam Hussein reinforce their hold on the state
1973 October	Limited Iraqi participation in war with Israel
1974 March	Autonomy Law for Kurdish areas announced despite continuing disagreement between government and KDP; widespread fighting throughout Kurdistan