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## Trends. Why Iraq is Winning

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**Abstract:** This Trends article discusses the contrast between military performance and war narrative in the context of the United States-led military intervention in Iraq in the era of Saddam Hussein.

By virtually all common and objective indicators of military performance, the United States (US)-led military intervention in Iraq is well on its way to removing the Saddam Hussein regime and initiating military and politico-military control over the country. But if the war is not adequately described by common and objective indicators, the story may be quite different.

In fact, the script may be the Iraqi demonstration of Arab and/or Islamic standing up to the US Government and to the West. Of the underdog giving the top dog more than the latter bargained for. Of the beginning of a change in historical trends of power or at least the reinforcement of such perceptions. Of creating a legend of Arab and Islamic bravery and fortitude that will be timeless.

With each passing day, the latter script is being written and reinforced. So we may have a war only with victors. So we also may have an aftermath in which the military victory may be the less crucial and significant. (See Corning, A. F., & Myers, D. J. (2002). Individual orientation toward engagement in social action. *Political Psychology*, 23, 703-729; Drzewiecka, J. A., & Halualani, R. T. (2002). The structural-cultural dialectic of diasporic politics. *Communication Theory*, 12, 340-366; Okolie, A.C. (2003). The appropriation of difference: State and the construction of ethnic identities in Nigeria. *Identity*, 3, 67-92; Simon, B., & Stuermer, S. (2003). Respect for group members: Intragroup determinants of collective identification and group-serving behavior. *Personality & Social Psychology Bulletin*, 29, 183-193.) (Keywords: Iraq, Military, Politics.)