



**His Excellency Hamid Al-Bayati,  
Ambassador Extraordinary  
and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative to the  
United Nations**

Dr. T Hamid Al-Bayati was appointed Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations in

April 2006. He worked as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Political Affairs and Bilateral Relations from 2004 to 2006. During the same period, he headed the Iraqi Center for Strategic Studies in Iraq.

Upon his approval by the UN in New York in 2006, Dr. Al-Bayati made significant progress as Iraq's Permanent Representative and was elected as Chair of the United Nations Third Committee related to Social, Economic, and Human Rights. This was only the second time Iraq presided over a Committee since the establishment of the United Nations.

Al-Bayati was also a member of the supervising committee that overlooked the work of INDICT, an organization that gathered documents and evidence of crimes committed by Saddam Hussein against the people of Iraq and requested for an International Tribunal to judge Saddam and his cronies. He was put in jail, tortured, and forced to flee Iraq when Saddam's regime tried to re-arrest and execute him.

Dr. Al-Bayati obtained a Bachelors degree in Baghdad University, a Masters degree in Cairo University, and a PhD in Politics from Manchester University in England. He has written and published many books and research papers in Arabic and English including: The Secret of February 8, 1963 Coup, the Shiite of Iraq, The Bloody History of Saddam Hussein Al Takriti, The Secret of July 17, 1968 Coup, The Terrorism Game, Fall of the Evil, and many others.

Click [here](#) for more information on Ambassador Al-Bayati's visit to UVU

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**WHO WE ARE**

The Office of International Affairs & Diplomacy actively supports UVU's global engagement efforts by advancing UVU's presence and prestige in the International community; helping UVU students become globally competent graduates; promoting cultural literacy and diversity both on campus and in the community.

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## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT IRAQ



### Iraqi Flag History:

The current Iraqi flag has been in use since 1963, with several changes to the green symbols in the central white band, the most recent version being the Takbir rendered in green. Following the U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq in 2003, there has been considerable debate about the design of the flag. This version of the flag was officially adopted in 2008.

### Iraqi Flag Meaning:

The red, white, and black colors derive from the Arab Liberation flag and represent oppression (black), overcome through bloody struggle (red), to be replaced by a bright future (white). The Takbir which is written in green on the central white band is the Arabic term for the phrase "Allāhu Akbar" or "God is Great."

*Information taken from wikipedia.org and CIA factbook.*

- The region between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers is identified as the cradle of civilization and the birthplace of writing, law, and the wheel.
- Eridu (Abu Shahrain), a Sumerian settlement in Iraq, is believed to be inhabited since 5000 BC, making it one of the earliest cities of the world.
- Satellite images of northern Iraq and Syria show evidence of major roads used over four thousand years ago.



- Baghdad, the capital city of Iraq was founded in the 8th century dating back to the times of ancient Mesopotamia.
- Similar to the Empire State Building for New York City. The 14th of Ramadan Mosque (pictured left) in recent years has become an iconic symbol of Baghdad.
- Abraham, believed to be the father of both the Arab and Jewish people, is said to have been born in Ur, in Sumer which is the site of modern Tell el-Muqayyar in Iraq's Dhi Qar Governorate.
- The Hanging Gardens of Babylon, situated in the palace of Nebuchadnezzar II in Iraq, were one of the Seven Wonders of the World.
- Winston Churchill is considered most responsible for arbitrarily drawing up the borders of modern day Iraq which have forced un-neighborly peoples (Kurds and Arabs) into the same crowded country.
- Iraq gained independence from under British administration in 1932 as a result of a League of Nations mandate.
- After almost 8 years of fighting in Iraq U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta officially declared the end of the Iraq War on December 15, 2011. The last U.S. combat troops left Iraqi territory on December 18, 2011.



*Information gathered from wikipedia.org, usatoday.com, neatorama.com, & lifestyle.iloveindia.com.*