

Mayada Al Askari (Staff Writer), "Book Review: In-Camera Revelations: Going Behind-the-scenes into Saddam Hussein's Trial," *Gulf News*, Friday, October 24, 2008, at page 24.

NON-FICTION

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In-camera revelations

Going behind-the-scenes into Saddam Hussain's trial

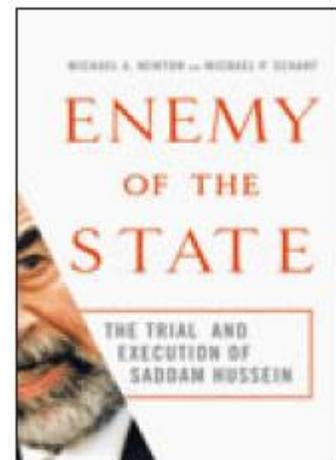
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Staff Writer

No Iraqi would have dared to even imagine Saddam Hussein being brought to trial. But on October 19, 2005, the impossible happened, launching a long and tedious legal process. Prior to that historic day, two American professors of law had led a team of experts who prepared the Iraqi High Tribunal for what came to be known as "the Mother of all trials." One was Michael A. Newton, then a professor at West Point, and the other was Michael P. Scharf, a former US State Department official who had helped create the Yugoslavia Tribunal in 1993.

After Saddam's capture in December 2003, Scharf and Newton helped the Iraqi judicial body frame rules, conducted a mock trial in Stratford-Upon-Avon, England, and provided legal analysis on dozens of issues. Newton visited Baghdad several times before and during the trial.

When Saddam was being tried in Baghdad, no one needed to issue orders for a curfew, as the people remained at home, their eyes glued to the televisions. *Enemy of the State*, a book authored by Newton and Scharf, has the same effect on readers.

The book is a chronicle of the trial and a behind-the-scenes account of its goings-on – where the phrase "one of the most important chaotic trials in history" seems to become an understatement.



Enemy of the State: The Trial and Execution of Saddam Hussain
By Michael A. Newton and Michael P. Scharf, St Martin's Press,
320 pages, \$26.95

Over ten sections of the book, including *The Genesis of Justice, Hammurabi Was an Iraqi, The Creation of the Iraqi Tribunal, and Echoes of Nuremberg: The Dujail Trial in Historic Perspective*, the writers guide the reader to realms that seem new and astonishing, though some of them have been there for centuries and others for years. Reading about the Hammurabi code via the authors' eyes is a unique experience matched in brilliance by the historical perspective and comparison of the first case against Saddam with the Nuremberg trials.

Enemy of the State is serious in parts, giving facts and accounts, and sensational in others where Saddam is described during the trial – the disorder he created, the last minutes of his life when he provoked everyone around him so that they reacted and he could appear a martyr.

Jean Sasson, the bestselling author of *The Rape of Kuwait* and *Mayada, Daughter of Iraq*, says: "Enemy of the State gives us an incomparably immediate view of one of the liveliest episodes in recent Middle Eastern history ... Newton and Scharf have so vividly described the courtroom dramatics that readers will feel themselves a witness to Saddam Hussein's swagger. A page-turner with fast-paced action that reads like a novel, this book is sure to satisfy the casual reader and history enthusiasts alike."