



PRESS RELEASE

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**IRAQ BOOK LIST UPDATED AND REVISED—
NEW SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE**

*“Books For Understanding” Lists Available Experts and Books
For Both General and Special Interest Audiences*

NEW YORK (February 22, 2006) – Iraq is the daily focus of international news, and it is also where many scholars—of history, religion, sociology, politics, and many other fields—have turned their attention. The deep and broad view of such scholars brings essential understanding to the daily news from Iraq. The newly revised and updated Iraq book list at Books for Understanding (<http://www.booksforunderstanding.org>) guides journalists, librarians, and other researchers to the best scholarship now available.

Books for Understanding originally published a list of books relevant to Iraq in June of 2002, when Saddam Hussein was still in power and the U.S.-led invasion still seemed only a possibility. The developments of the past three years in Iraq have expanded both the subjects of interest and the body of scholarship in print. In addition to newly available works on Iraq’s history, such as *Memories of State: Politics, History, and Collective Identity in Modern Iraq* by Eric Davis (University of California Press, 2005), the online bibliography includes a new section, “The 2003 Invasion and Its Aftermath”—listing 35 titles and covering subjects from the military tactics employed to the sectarian issues affecting Iraq’s future political landscape.

<http://www.aaupnet.org/news/bfu/iraq/list.html>

Subject areas covered by the revised Books for Understanding Iraq include:

- The 2003 Invasion and Its Aftermath
- The History of Iraq
- Iraq’s International Relations
- Iraq’s Culture and Society
- Pre-Invasion Issues (Preventive Diplomacy and Military Strategy)

Books for Understanding is a free public service of the Association of American University Presses to help librarians, journalists, educators, and interested readers find the best books on current events. The program highlights one of the highest values of university presses: to publish top research and scholarship in all fields regardless of immediate commercial potential. Often the most complete and illuminating background research and knowledge for a breaking news story is only available in scholarly books from presses committed to the public interest.

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