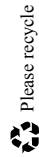


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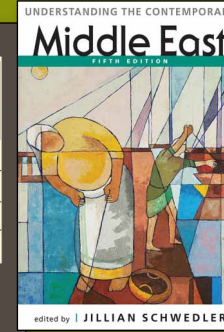
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# THE Middle East & North Africa



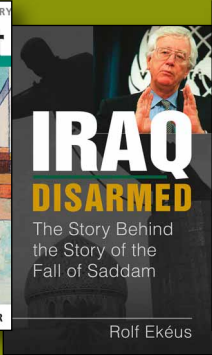
**Defining Democracy**  
Democratic Commitment in the Arab World

HANNAH M. RIDGE



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**NEW!**

## Defining Democracy: Democratic Commitment in the Arab World

Hannah M. Ridge

*“Combines theoretical insights with impressive empirical evidence.... Ridge successfully unpacks the conceptual divergence between democracy and dimuqratiyya in the MENA region.”* —Sabri Ciftci, Kansas State University

The Middle East and North Africa comprise by all measures one of the least democratic regions in the world. At the same time, decades of research show robust support for democracy among MENA residents. A paradox ... or is it?

Hannah Ridge explores the “democracy paradox” by parsing the meanings that citizens assign to the Arab word *dimuqratiyya*. Drawing on Arab Barometer data from across the region, as well as original surveys in Egypt and Morocco, she shows that democracy and *dimuqratiyya* are typically not the same thing—and how conflating the two has led to misconceptions about public support for democratic governance.

**Hannah M. Ridge** is assistant professor of political science at Chapman University.

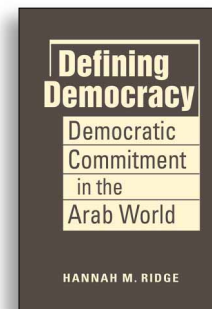
CONTENTS: A Democracy Paradox? Defining Democracy. Defining *Dimuqratiyya*. *Dimuqratiyya* and Political Behavior. Democratic Commitment in Egypt. Democratic Commitment in Morocco. Making Choices. For the People.

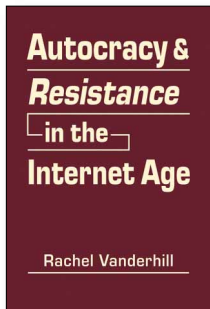
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## Autocracy and Resistance in the Internet Age

Rachel Vanderhill

*“Well conceptualized, and well researched.... Vanderhill systematically explores the political effects of social media on authoritarian regimes in Central Asia and the Middle East.”*

—Marc Lynch, George Washington University

How do autocratic governments exploit communication technology in their efforts to maintain power? Can prodemocracy activists successfully use that same technology to support the overthrow of autocratic rulers? Rachel Vanderhill addresses these two questions, exploring in detail how social media are both aiding and undermining autocratic regimes in the Middle East, North Africa, and the former Soviet republics.

Rachel Vanderhill is associate professor in the Department of Government and International Affairs at Wofford College.

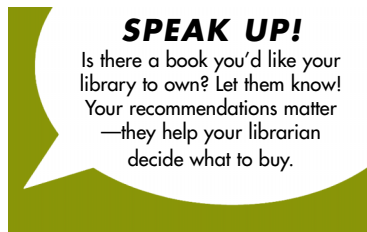
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of Kyrgyzstan and Egypt. From Protest to Democratization: The Case of Tunisia. Autocracy in the Internet Age.

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## The Political Economy of Education in the Arab World

Hicham Alaoui and Robert Springborg, editors

*“A rich set of studies.... No future work on education in the region can avoid engaging the insights and analyses presented in this volume.”*—Laurie A. Brand, Middle East Journal

*“A timely discussion about the urgency of the issue at hand—how to restructure Arab educational systems away from a context of political cronyism, nepotism, and clientelism into one where high levels of educational achievement by students are actually rewarded and realized with the commensurate success and status in their societies.... Let’s hope a few current (and future) Arab technocrats and legislators pick up this book.”*—Nisma Elias, Comparative Education Review

*“Well researched and timely, this diverse analysis of educational dynamics and problems in the Arab World covers lots of new ground.”*

—Pete W. Moore,  
Case Western Reserve University

Despite substantial spending on education and robust support for reform both internally and by external donors, the quality of education in many, if not most, Arab countries remains low. Which raises the question: why?

The authors of *The Political Economy of Education in the Arab World* find answers in the authoritarian political economies that shape the architecture of national governance across the region. Presenting studies from North Africa and the Gulf region, as well as comparative perspectives from Asia and Latin America, they show clearly that efforts to improve education—and thereby enhance economic development and broaden the base of citizenship on which more stable and effective systems of governance can be built—will fail until ruling elites are no longer able to increase their political and economic power at the expense of the greater good.

Hicham Alaoui is research associate at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University. Robert Springborg is a nonresident research fellow of the Italian Institute of International Affairs and adjunct professor in the School of International Studies at Simon Fraser University.

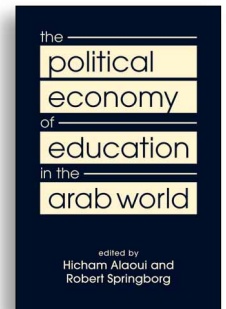
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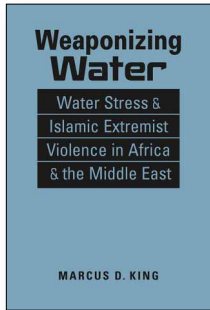
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**NEW!**

## Weaponizing Water: Water Stress and Islamic Extremist Violence in Africa and the Middle East

Marcus D. King

*“Provides timely and essential research on an understudied topic... An important contribution to the field of water security, not only situating water in the complex web of factors that enable violent conflict and human suffering but also identifying potential points of intervention.”*

—Angus Soderberg, *NewSecurityBeat*

*“Marcus King’s concise and very readable analysis of how water resources can be and have been weaponized in conflicts is perfect for anyone who wants to learn more about the treatment of scarce environmental resources in contested areas.”*

—Elizabeth Chalecki, University of Nebraska Omaha

*“Undoubtedly the most comprehensive book on the subject of water weaponization that there is today.”* —Jeremiah Ogonda Asaka, Sam Houston State University

**D**rought, lack of access, poor quality ... water supplies are in jeopardy across Africa and the Middle East. These same areas are rife with conflicts involving Islamic extremist groups. Marcus King explores linkages between water stress and violent conflict by looking closely at how ISIS in Syria and Iraq, Boko Haram in Nigeria, and al-Shabaab in Somalia have weaponized water in the pursuit of political ends.

**Marcus D. King** is professor of practice in environmental and international affairs at Georgetown University.

CONTENTS: Water Stress and Violent Extremism. The Islamic State of Syria and Iraq. Extremist Violence in Nigeria. Al-Shabaab in Somalia. Stemming the Tide of Water Weaponization. 2023/245 pages ISBN: 978-1-955055-83-3 hc \$95/£88.95 Australia: A\$159.50

**NEW!**

## The Islamic State in Afghanistan and Pakistan: Strategic Alliances and Rivalries

Amira Jadoon with Andrew Mines

*“Jadoon and Mines are two of the best researchers on the Islamic State’s franchise in the Afghanistan/Pakistan region. Their first-rate book is the new authoritative source on ISK.”*

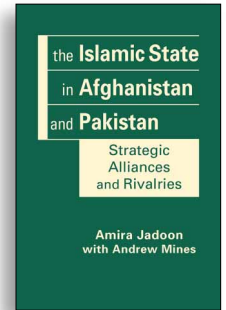
—Craig Whiteside, US Naval War College

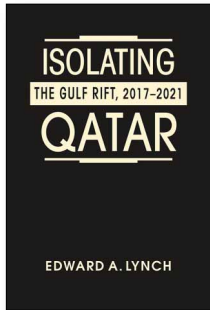
*“A groundbreaking, in-depth treatment of a militant group that has defied the odds to carve out a resilient position in South Asia.... This thoroughly researched and clearly written book is invaluable for anyone who wants to understand ISK and the threat that it poses.”* —Tricia Bacon, American University

**T**he deadly attack on Kabul’s airport in August 2021 shocked the world and brought concentrated attention to the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISK). New questions quickly arose: How did this ISIS affiliate become such a force in Afghanistan and Pakistan? And why is it now a lethal threat to the Taliban? Addressing these questions, Amira Jadoon and Andrew Mines draw on original data and newly available primary sources to dissect ISK’s inner workings and explain its rise and resilience.

**Amira Jadoon** is assistant professor of political science at Clemson University and nonresident fellow at the Stimson Center. Previously, she was assistant professor in the Department of Political Science and the Combating Terrorism Center at the US Military Academy at West Point. **Andrew Mines** is research fellow in the Program on Extremism at George Washington University.

CONTENTS: Emergence of the Islamic State Khorasan. Ideology and Goals. Tracing ISK’s Operational Capacity. Surviving State-Led Operations. Seeking Friends: Alliances and Mergers. Making Enemies: Strategic Rivals. The Persistence of ISK. 2023/241 pages ISBN: 978-1-955055-85-7 hc \$95/£88.95 Australia: A\$159.50





**NEW!**

## Isolating Qatar: The Gulf Rift, 2017–2021

Edward A. Lynch

*“Well-argued analysis of the reasons that led Qatar to successfully weather the storm of the Gulf blockade... Lynch’s book represents a key resource to understanding the Gulf rift as well as its future repercussions.”*

—Marc Martorell Junyent, *New Arab*

*“Amid a plethora of recent publications on Qatar, this book stands out for its depth, insight, and thorough analysis of a defining diplomatic development that rocked the Gulf Cooperation Council.... Highly recommended.”*

—Mehran Kamrava,  
Georgetown University Qatar

In June 2017, Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE announced a comprehensive boycott of Qatar. Diplomatic ties were severed, trade was banned, and airspace was closed. Qatari nationals were expelled from all four countries. It seemed that disaster loomed for this small Gulf nation. But not so. Instead, in an unexpected turn of events, the Qatari government deftly used its enormous wealth and extensive reserves of soft power to nullify most of the effects of what came to be known as the Rift.

Edward Lynch tells the story of the Gulf Rift from start to finish. Exploring the historical and contemporary causes of the dispute, the reactions to it both regionally and globally, and the surprising end to the crisis, his work serves also to highlight the often unrecognized role of small states in international relations.

**Edward A. Lynch** is professor of political science at Hollins University.

CONTENTS: Qatar and the Gulf Rift: Small States in the International System. The Making of Modern Qatar. The Emergence of a Regional Player. Al Jazeera and Qatari Soft Power. The Boycott Begins. Qatar Responds. The World Reacts. The End of the Rift. How Did Qatar Prevail?

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**NEW!**

## Iraq Disarmed: The Story Behind the Story of the Fall of Saddam

Rolf Ekéus

*“A fascinating and clear-sighted book about the UN, the United States, and Iraq, and what happens behind the closed doors of power.”* —Evin Ismail, *Svenska Dagbladet* [Swedish Daily News]

**T**he quest to disarm Iraq took place between two wars—one justified and right, the other a dreadful mistake, a violation of international law that led to hundreds of thousands of deaths.” With these unvarnished words, Rolf Ekéus begins his political-thrilleresque story of the disarmament of Iraq—and the machinations that ultimately led to the fall of Saddam Hussein and the rise of ISIS.

After Saddam’s invasion of Kuwait and the war that followed, the UN Security Council ruled that Iraq must rid itself of all weapons of mass destruction. The difficult, politically sensitive, and dangerous task of accomplishing this rested with the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM), led by Ekéus, one of Sweden’s most seasoned diplomats. This was a radical experiment in UN governance—essentially conveying to one individual the power to conduct a disarmament program, with oversight only by the Security Council.

What followed were a succession of tense conversations with the Iraqi leadership, often-dangerous inspections, complex destruction processes, negotiations with Security Council representatives, and diplomatic maneuvering by world leaders. The recounting of these events lies at the heart of Ekéus’s personal narrative of disarmament history in the making, a narrative that adds substantially to the evidence that UNSCOM’s mission was successful and the 2003 war clearly illegal.

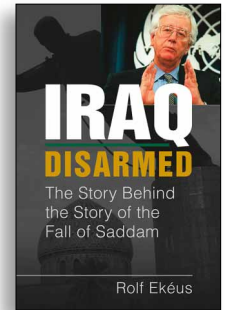
Crafted not in the interests of a political agenda, but rather for the sake of historical accuracy, *Iraq Disarmed* serves today as a sobering cautionary tale.

**Rolf Ekéus** served as executive chair of the UN Special Commission on Iraq (UNSCOM) in 1991–1997. Among numerous other diplomatic posts, he was Sweden’s permanent representative to the Conference on Disarmament (1983–1989) and ambassador to the US (1997–2000). In 2002–2010, he was chair of the Governing Board of SIPRI, where he is now a Distinguished Associate Fellow.

CONTENTS: Iraq—Revolution, Oil, and War. The Building of UNSCOM. Moving to Action. The Map and the Reality. Long-Term Monitoring and Verification. The Saddam Clause. Secrets and Lies. Hussein Kamel’s Defection. Working with Israel. Is the Job Done? Say Goodbye to the Weapons. On the

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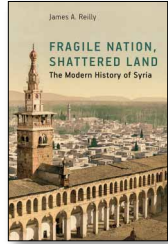




## Fragile Nation, Shattered Land: The Modern History of Syria

James A. Reilly

“Distills half a millennium of conflict and shifting alliances into a clear, eminently readable work that demystifies the origins and fault lines of the current crisis in Syria.... An essential book for anyone seeking to understand the modern Middle East.” —*Publishers Weekly*



“Likely to be the best book published on Syria for a long time.... Outstanding.”

—Michael Provence,  
UC San Diego

“An epic history of modern Syria ... vital to understanding the roots of what has become the most devastating conflict of the 21st century.”

—Murtaza Hussain, *The Intercept*

How did the lands that are today Syria survive the vicissitudes of centuries of Ottoman, Egyptian, and French rule, only to stand now in ruins, shattered by a brutal civil war? To provide answers, James Reilly traces five centuries of Syrian history, from the Ottoman period to the present.

Reilly brings to life the myriad historical, cultural, social, economic, and political factors that have bound Syrians together, as well as those that have torn them apart. Drawing on extensive primary sources and recent historiography in English, French, and Arabic, he has written an essential book for those who want to understand not only contemporary Syria, but also the Middle East region.

**James A. Reilly** is professor of history at the University of Toronto.

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## Changing Saudi Arabia: Art, Culture, and Society in the Kingdom

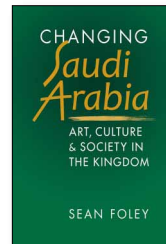
Sean Foley

“A fascinating and multi-layered exploration of art and culture in the kingdom.... Changing Saudi Arabia is an important book.”

—Caroline Montagu, *Asian Affairs*

“Helps illustrate that the Kingdom has a vibrant cultural scene and cannot be reduced, nor properly understood, by simply focusing on the hoary themes of royals, oil and Islam.”

—Bernard Haykel, *Middle East Journal*



**T.E.** Lawrence once observed that Saudi Arabia had “so little art” that it could “be said to have no art at all.” Whether that was once the case is arguable. But that it is not the case now is clear in Sean Foley’s *Changing Saudi Arabia*.

Exploring the contemporary arts movement in Saudi Arabia in the context of the kingdom’s changing political realities, Foley finds that artists are expressing thoughts and feelings that the Saudi public typically has not felt safe to articulate. These artists are promoting discussions about the need for peaceful and progressive social reform—and they are doing it in ways that escape the wrath of the absolute monarchy. Without confronting the state or the political system, Foley argues, Saudi society is exercising significant agency through its cultural production.

**Sean Foley** is professor of history at Middle Tennessee State University.

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## Mohammed bin Salman: The Icarus of Saudi Arabia?

David B. Ottaway

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*International Affairs*

“A must-read analysis of the tensions driving the changing nature of the seventy-five-year-old US-Saudi relationship. Ottaway has masterfully placed at the center of his narrative Mohammed bin Salman, the ruthless, repressive, reformer would-be king who may well hold the key to Saudi Arabia’s future.”

—Aaron David Miller,  
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“[Ottaway provides] deep analysis of the rationale for MBS’s actions and the intricacies of the political machinations within the Saudi royal family.” —Helen Lackner, *Asian Affairs*

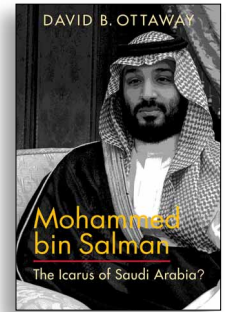
**M**ohammed bin Salman. A monarch-to-be without scruples? Or a visionary seeking a path to global power? A social reformer determined to bring his country into the twenty-first century? Or just another brutal dictator? A leader on the road to greatness, or one destined to follow in the footsteps of Icarus? Veteran *Washington Post* foreign correspondent David Ottaway draws on more than a half-century of observation and reporting to shed light on these conundrums at the heart of any attempt to understand Saudi Arabia—and the man who is poised to rule the country for decades to come.

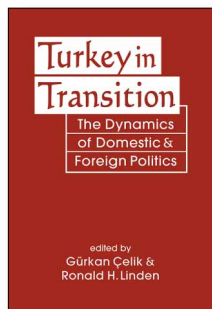
**David B. Ottaway** has been covering Saudi Arabia, as a *Washington Post* journalist and Middle East bureau chief and then as a scholar, since the 1970s. At present, he is a Middle East fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center.

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## Turkey in Transition: The Dynamics of Domestic and Foreign Politics

Gürkan Çelik and Ronald H. Linden, editors

“This new edited volume stands out with its broad range of topics analyzed and its meticulous attempt to comprehend Turkey under the concentration of power in the hands of President Erdogan.... A valuable contribution ... to the comprehension of Turkey’s ongoing transformation.” —**Canan Aslan Akman, Democratization**

“Very timely and comprehensive.” —**Choice**

The ongoing turbulence in Turkey’s domestic and international politics raises a number of crucial questions. What explains the movement toward one-party, and even one-person, rule? What role does Islam play in the ideology and policies of the ruling party and its leader, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan? Is the country’s long commitment to secular rule a thing of the past—and if so, with what consequences for Turkish society? What is Turkey’s likely international role in the Middle East and beyond?

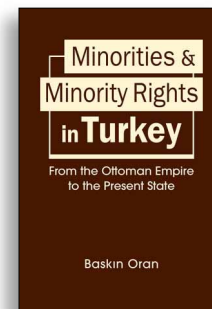
These are among the key issues addressed in this comprehensive analysis of the actors and factors driving recent developments in Turkish politics at home and abroad.

**Gürkan Çelik** is director of TurkeyInstitute.org. **Ronald H. Linden** is professor emeritus of political science at the University of Pittsburgh.

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## Minorities and Minority Rights in Turkey: From the Ottoman Empire to the Present State

Baskin Oran

“An essential introductory read.... It is a valuable contribution to scholarship on minority rights in general and minorities in Turkey in particular.” —**Dilek Kurban, Middle East Journal**

The collapse of the multiethnic, multireligious, and multilingual Ottoman Empire after World War I led to the establishment of several nation-states, with enormous repercussions for the empire’s minority populations. Baskin Oran focuses on religious and ethnic minorities in the Republic of Turkey—home for centuries to Alevites, Armenians, Greeks, Jews, Kurds, Syrians, and more—to provide a comprehensive analysis encompassing the Ottoman era to the present.

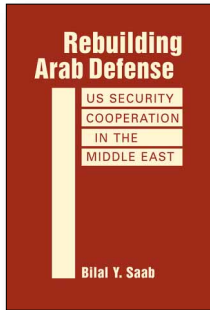
*Minorities and Minority Rights in Turkey* is a revised and updated version of *Etnik ve Dinsel Azınlıklar: Tarih, Teori, Hukuk, Türkiye*, published by Literatür in 2018.

**Baskin Oran** is professor emeritus of international relations at Ankara University. An outspoken activist, his challenges to the ideology and practices of Turkish state institutions have led to numerous reprisals, but he continues to advocate for human rights.

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**NEW!**

## Rebuilding Arab Defense: US Security Cooperation in the Middle East

*Bilal Y. Saab*

*“Well-written and impeccably researched, Rebuilding Arab Defense makes an invaluable contribution to scholarship and US policy on security sector assistance.”* —**Daniel L. Byman**, Georgetown University

*“A convincing analysis of the historical, political, and cultural factors impacting American attempts to assist Middle Eastern states in creating combat-capable military forces and supporting defense institutions.”* —**Jeff Jager**, *Journal of International Affairs*

After decades of US military assistance in the Middle East—providing expensive weapons systems and conducting military exercises—why are the military capabilities of US allies in the region still lacking? Why does it matter? And what can be done to remedy the status quo?

Bilal Saab addresses these vexing questions through a set of in-depth case studies. Identifying the pitfalls of diverse assistance programs, Saab convincingly demonstrates the importance of institution building in efforts to achieve effective security cooperation in a region that remains of great strategic significance.

**Bilal Y. Saab** is senior fellow and director of the Defense and Security Program at the Middle East Institute.

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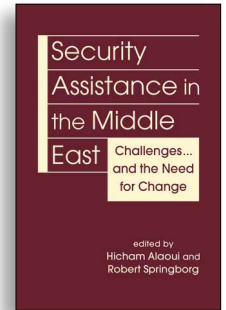
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**Hicham Alaoui** is research associate at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University. **Robert Springborg** is nonresident research fellow of the Italian Institute of International Affairs and adjunct professor in the School of International Studies at Simon Fraser University.

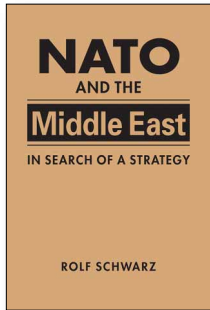
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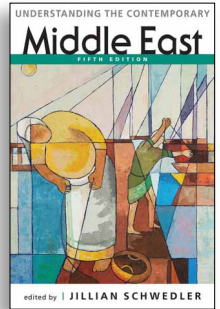
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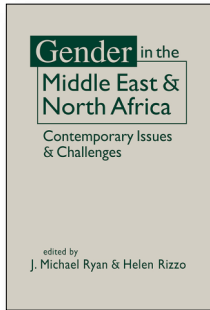
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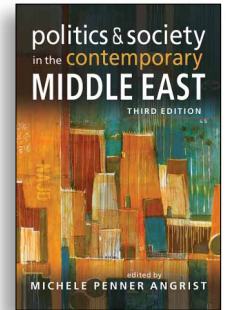
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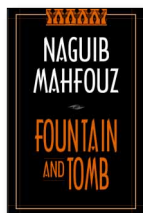
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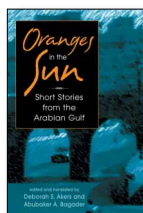
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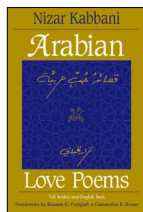
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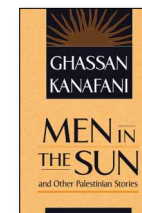
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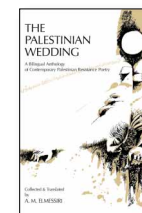
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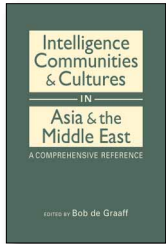


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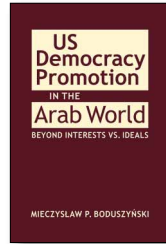
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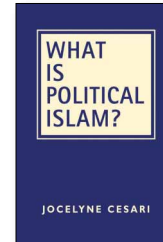
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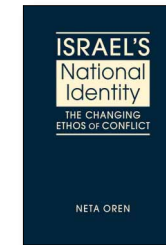
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Neta Oren is visiting scholar at the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University.

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