

‘The world we thought we knew has been turned upside down, and no publishing list today answers our perplexity, or relieves our anxiety, as effectively as Hurst’s.’ — Pankaj Mishra



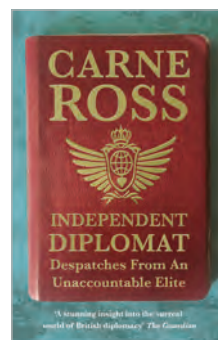
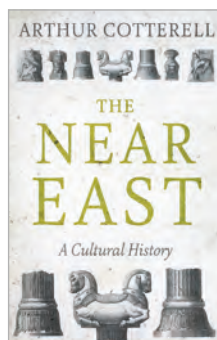
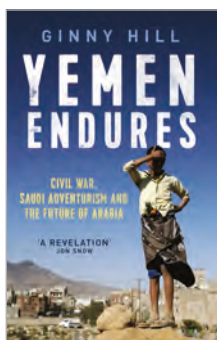
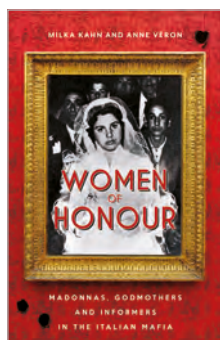
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*Spring – Summer 2018*

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## Table of Contents

General Interest .....	1-15	South Asia .....	26-29
Conflict Classics .....	14	ME and Islamic Studies .....	30-36
New in Paperback .....	16-21	Critical Muslim .....	37
Africa .....	22-25	Recent Highlights .....	38-43



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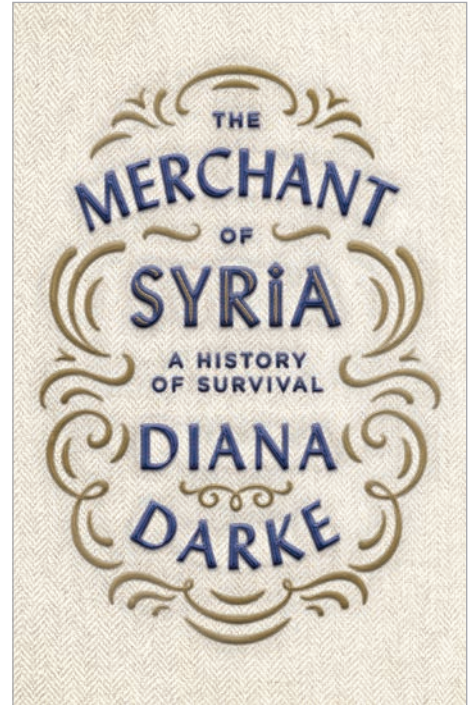
# The Merchant of Syria

## A History of Survival

The remarkable story of Abu Chaker, who saved his family and its fortune amid a brutal civil war by buying a woollen mill in northern England.

What hope is there for the future of Syria? Clues can be found in the life and times of the Syrian cloth merchant Abu Chaker (1921–2013). Barely literate, and supporting his mother and seven sisters from the age of ten, he built up his business empire on trust, despite losing everything twice through political instability and war, before coming to England as an economic migrant. The climax of his tumultuous life was to buy and save a Yorkshire mill, which still serves as the headquarters of the textile manufacturing company he turned into a global brand.

Drawing on her first-hand knowledge of the man, and on scores of interviews conducted in Syria, Lebanon and Britain since his death, Diana Darke shows how Abu Chaker's story embodies the struggles of many young Syrians, and touches upon many of today's pressing global issues—from Islamic values, religious coexistence and multiculturalism to poverty, political unrest, terrorism, displacement and refugees.



**Diana Darke** is an Arabist and cultural expert who has lived and worked in the Middle East for over thirty years. She is the author of *My House in Damascus: An Inside View of the Syrian Crisis*. Her links to Syria are deep and ongoing.

Hardback

9781849049405

£20.00 / 320pp

April 2018

216mm x 138mm

History / Current Affairs





**Michel Eltchaninoff** is Editor-in-Chief of *Philosophie* magazine and a former lecturer in philosophy at the University of Burgundy and Pantheon-Sorbonne University. His *Inside the Mind of Vladimir Putin* won the Prix de La Revue des Deux Mondes in its original French edition.

Paperback  
9781849049344  
£12.99 / 192pp  
February 2018  
198mm x 130mm  
Politics / Current Affairs

MICHEL ELTCHANINOFF

## Inside the Mind of Marine Le Pen

What drives Marine Le Pen and the Front National? How savvy is she? And how has extreme nationalism in France become a family business?

What is the core ideology of France's Front National? In the age of Brexit and President Trump, what lies behind the FN's success in growing the audience for identity-based politics? Has the party really changed its ways?

This is a probing enquiry into the philosophy and intellectual influences of Marine Le Pen, and of the party under her leadership. It seeks answers in her rhetoric, but also in the history of French nationalism and in unique insights shared by far right specialists and members of the FN entourage—including Jean-Marie Le Pen himself.

'Marine' has undeniably transformed her party—but she has not cast off the shackles of its traditions. Her speeches characterise France as labouring under the new tyranny of Liberalism, and reveal a vision for an uncompromising alternative: a Republic beyond right and left politics, defining itself in opposition to its enemies, and aligned with Putin's Russia.

Michel Eltchaninoff offers a thoughtful and engrossing look at how the FN's thought has been updated and rejuvenated by its new leader. Whatever Marine Le Pen is thinking, it has left the French far right stronger than at any time in the party's history.

MICHEL ELTCHANINOFF

# Inside the Mind of Vladimir Putin

Does Vladimir Putin deserve his reputation as a modern Machiavelli? Is he really a great strategic thinker? And where does he get his ideas?

What does Vladimir Putin think about? What are his hopes and aims: for the lands bordering Russia, for Europe, and even for the world?

In January 2014, the Kremlin sent its senior civil servants, governors and party bigwigs a special New Year's present: philosophy books, by nineteenth- and twentieth-century Russian thinkers. Those paying attention will have found this reading material strangely familiar, from references in landmark speeches by the president himself. These great works set forth ideas about the national leader's role in an 'authentic' democracy, the importance of being conservative, the urgency of rooting morality in religion, and the historic struggle of the Russian people against the timeless hostility of the West.

President Putin is the man who manages and manipulates these existential Russian anxieties. Since the annexation of Crimea, the challenge of decrypting his vision for the nation—propelled by the Kremlin's Eurasian neo-imperialists and 'Russian-way' conservatives—has become more pressing than ever.

This revealing and engrossing book invites us into the psyche of the Russian president—his doctrine and geopolitical vision—to answer one of the most urgent questions of today: what is Vladimir Putin thinking?



**Michel Eltchaninoff** is Editor-in-Chief of *Philosophie* magazine and a former lecturer in philosophy at the University of Burgundy and Pantheon-Sorbonne University. This book won the Prix de La Revue des Deux Mondes in its original French edition.

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Politics / Current Affairs

Martin Slater



*A Short History*

**Martin Slater** was Economics Fellow at St Edmund Hall, Oxford for over thirty years before retiring in 2013. He has also served as Oxford's Economics Sub-Faculty chair and as a managing editor of *Oxford Economic Papers*. Principally an industrial economist, recent years have stimulated his interest in the peculiarities of debt.

Hardback

9781849049412

£20.00 / 256pp

March 2018

216mm x 138mm

History / Economics

MARTIN SLATER

# The National Debt

## A Short History

Slater vividly recounts the story of our national debt and how attempts to manage it explain many key turning-points in British history.

In today's 'austerity era', the national debt is newsworthy once again. But while central to today's politics, it can be a highly technical subject. Few people fully understand its implications.

Without the national debt, England would not have gained—or lost—two empires, nor prevailed in desperate wars against France and Germany. But it heavily constrained peacetime economic policies—Keynesian economics was born out of the post-war desire to break free from debt, and twenty-first-century 'austerity' likewise identifies national debt as an evil. Yet it was not always so: the debt was the cornerstone of Victorian financial rectitude.

This short book traces the history of the national debt for the general reader. Far from dry economic theory, it is a colourful tale encompassing many of the most dramatic incidents and personalities of Britain's past—from clashes between King and Parliament, American independence and war in Europe, to the abolition of slavery, the development of the Union and the role of leading figures such as Pitt, Gladstone and Adam Smith.

From medieval times to the 2008 crash and beyond, *The National Debt* explores the changing fortunes of the national debt, and of Great Britain.

PHILIP MURPHY

# The Empire's New Clothes

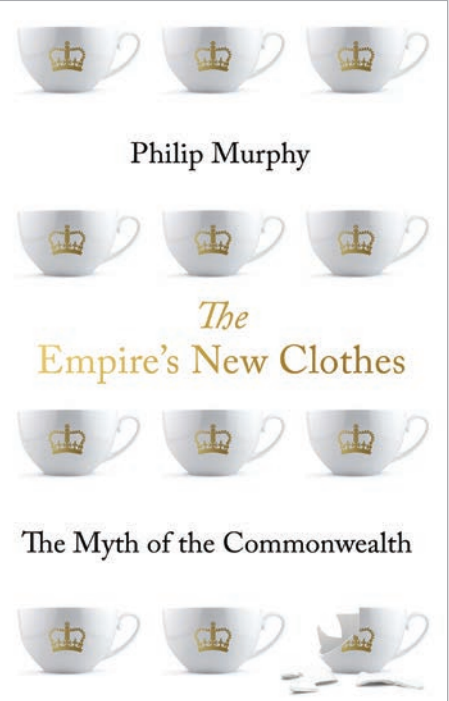
## The Myth of the Commonwealth

Murphy strips away the gilded self-image of the Commonwealth to reveal an irrelevant institution wallowing in imperial nostalgia.

In the wake of the UK's vote to leave the EU, the Commonwealth has been identified as an important element of the mooted realignment in British trade and diplomacy. Philip Murphy, Director of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, offers a surprising personal perspective on this complex and poorly understood institution.

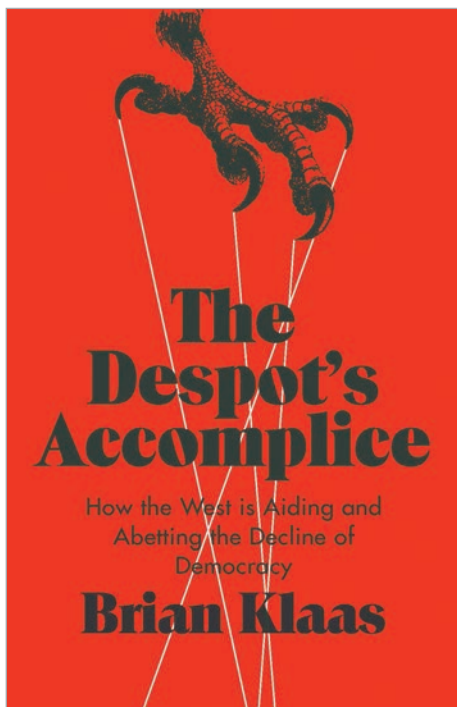
*The Empire's New Clothes* considers the relevance of the modern Commonwealth, both to the UK and to the other fifty-one member states. How is it organised and what has held it together for so long? How successful has it been in escaping from the shadow of the British Empire to become an organisation based on shared values, rather than a shared history? How important is the Queen's role as Head of the Commonwealth? Most importantly, why has it had such a troubled recent past, and is it realistic to imagine that its fortunes might be reversed?

The Commonwealth has defied many predictions of its imminent demise. But despite periodic attempts at reinvention, this book argues that the Commonwealth, now more than ever, is little more than a mirage—as lacking in substance as the emperor's new clothes.



**Philip Murphy** is Director of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies and Professor of British and Commonwealth History at the University of London. He has published extensively on the history of British decolonisation and, recently, on the Commonwealth-wide role of the British monarchy. Since 2007, he has been co-editor of the *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*.

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July 2018  
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History / Current Affairs



**Brian Klaas** is a fellow in Comparative Politics at the London School of Economics, where he focuses on democratisation and political violence. He has advised several national governments and major international NGOs, including International Crisis Group, the Carter Center, and One Earth Future. Klaas received his doctorate from the University of Oxford.

Paperback

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February 2018

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Politics / International Relations

BRIAN KLAAS

New in paperback

## The Despot's Accomplice

How the West is Aiding and Abetting the Decline of Democracy

'Spirited and contrarian ... Klaas makes the case for pushing back against the global authoritarian tide.'

— *Foreign Affairs*

'An efficient and thought-provoking plea for the US and other Western countries to prioritize democracy promotion. ... Klaas is no armchair academic.' — *Publishers Weekly*

For the first time since the end of the Cold War, the world is steadily becoming less democratic. Though the true culprits are dictators and counterfeit democrats, the West is often complicit in contributing to the global decline of democracy. In pursuit of short-term economic and political objectives, governments in Washington, London and Brussels ultimately make the world less prosperous and stable. As Brian Klaas argues in this thoughtful and lively book, this is in nobody's interests, least of all Western democracies—it is time for a rethink.

This updated paperback edition of *The Despot's Accomplice* draws on interviews on the frontlines of the global struggle for democracy, from a poetry-reading, politician-kidnapping general in Madagascar, and Islamist torture victims in Tunisia, to Belarusian activists tailed by the KGB, and tea-sipping members of the Thai junta. Cumulatively, their stories weave together the tale of a broken system at the root of democracy's global retreat.



BRIAN KLAAS

# The Despot's Apprentice

## Donald Trump's Attack on Democracy

Autocratic tendencies? This is a **FAKE** book  
written by a **DELUDED** liberal who misunderstands  
and misrepresents me. **SAD!**

Donald Trump isn't a despot, but he is increasingly acting like a despot's apprentice. Whether it's attacking the press, threatening rule of law by firing those who investigate his alleged wrongdoings, or using nepotism to staff the White House, Donald Trump is borrowing moves from the world's dictators.

Brian Klaas, an expert on despots and democratisation, is well placed to recognise these symptoms: to him, Trump's fascination with the military, his obsession with his own personality cult, and his deliberate campaign to blur the line between fact and falsehood are familiar territory. But they are new to the United States. With every authoritarian tactic or tweet, Trump further erodes democratic government in the world's most powerful democracy.

This apprenticeship also has consequences beyond the shores of the US. Trump's bizarre adoration and idolisation of despotic strongmen—from Presidents Putin and Erdogan to the Philippines' Duterte—has transformed the US into a cheerleader for some of the world's worst regimes.

*The Despot's Apprentice* is an urgent exploration of the unique threat that Trump poses to global democracy—and how to save it from him.

THE  
DESPOT'S  
APPRENTICE

DONALD  
TRUMP'S  
ATTACK  
ON  
DEMOCRACY

Brian Klaas

**Brian Klaas** is a fellow in Comparative Politics at the London School of Economics, where he focuses on democratisation and political violence. He has advised several national governments and major international NGOs, including International Crisis Group, the Carter Center, and One Earth Future. Klaas received his doctorate from the University of Oxford.

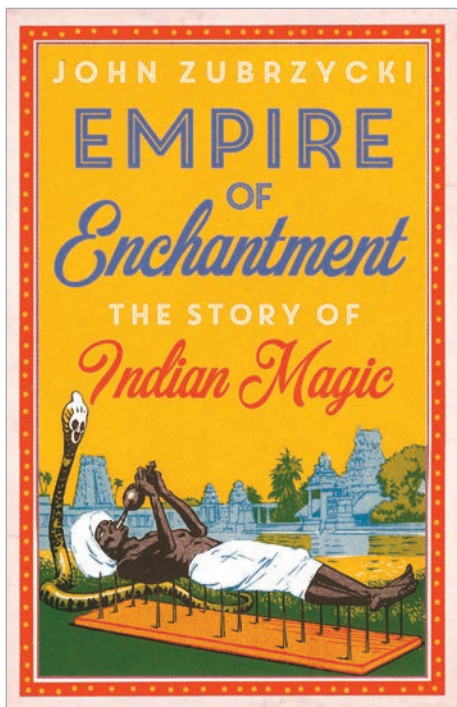
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December 2017

198mm x 130mm

Politics / Current Affairs



**John Zubrzycki** has worked in India as a diplomat, consultant, tour guide and deputy foreign editor for *The Australian*. His background is in South Asian history and Hindi, and his doctoral thesis (University of New South Wales) concerns historical links between Indian and Western stage magicians. John's previous books include *The Last Nizam* and *The Mysterious Mr Jacob*.

Hardback

9781849049443

£25.00 / 288pp

June 2018

234mm x 156mm

History / India

JOHN ZUBRZYCKI

## Empire of Enchantment

### The Story of Indian Magic

Praise for *The Last Nizam*: 'The sort of amazing, jaw-dropping and almost completely unexplored and unwritten story that writers of non-fiction spend their careers dreaming of.'

— William Dalrymple

India's association with magicians goes back thousands of years. Hindus believe that the god Indra used magic to defeat evil, and the Atharva Veda (c. 1000 BCE) contains hundreds of exorcisms, healing hymns and charms. Jugglers, yogis and fakirs dazzled the courts of Hindu maharajas and Mughal emperors. As Britain extended its dominion over the subcontinent, such magicians became synonymous with India and even travelled to Britain, sometimes remaining for decades. Western illusionists, threatened by these 'primitive' practitioners, appropriated Indian attire, tricks and stage names; Indian magicians fought back, earning the grudging respect of their European peers.

This heavily illustrated book tells the extraordinary, untold story of how Indian magic descended from the realm of the gods to become part of daily ritual and popular entertainment across the globe. Drawing on ancient religious texts, early travellers' accounts, colonial records, modern visual sources, and magicians' own testimony, *Empire of Enchantment* is a vibrant narrative of India's magical traditions, from Vedic times to the present day.

JEREMY SEABROOK

# Orphans

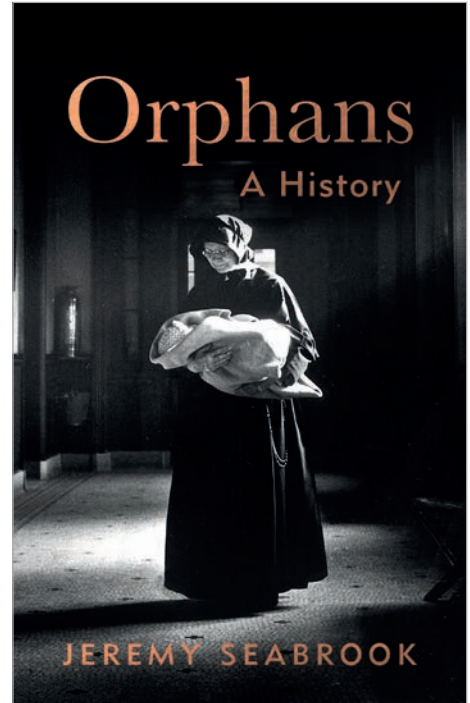
## A History

A rich and varied cultural and social history of an overlooked but ever-present phenomenon, and an impassioned plea for proper care today.

Orphans, like widows, have always officially been objects of piety and compassion. But this has rarely been reflected in their treatment by society, which has often punished, abused or ill-treated them.

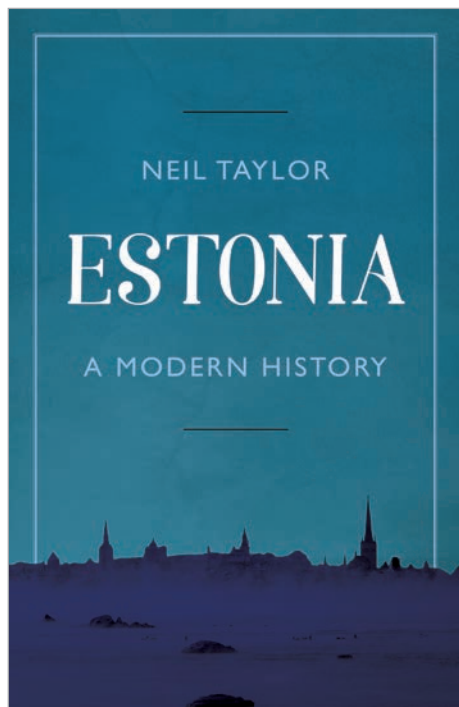
*Orphans* illuminates the attitudes behind this maltreatment—often, that those without parents are disruptive or malevolent, and must be trained into wholesome disciplines of labour and obedience. Charting the changing and often loose definitions of ‘orphans’ throughout history, Seabrook explores their many ‘makers’, from natural or man-made catastrophes and social dislocation to the State, charity and other forces that have separated children, and especially the poor, from their close kin.

Drawing on historic documents, interviews, memoirs and living testimonies, Jeremy Seabrook probes how it has felt to belong to this distinctive, and often stigmatised, group over the centuries. But this history is not only one of suffering—*Orphans* also reveals the uncounted millions taken in and loved by relatives, neighbours or strangers. Driven by their insecurity and freedom from constraints, their achievements have often been remarkable.



**Jeremy Seabrook** is the author of more than forty books on subjects as diverse as transnational prostitution, child labour, social class, ageing, unemployment and poverty. His most recent include *Pauperland: Poverty and the Poor in Britain* and *The Song of the Shirt: The High Price of Cheap Garments, from Blackburn to Bangladesh*, which won the Bread and Roses Prize for Radical Publishing in 2016.

Hardback  
9781849049429  
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July 2018  
216mm x 138mm  
History / Politics



**Neil Taylor** has spent most of his life in the travel business and pioneered tourism to Estonia in 1992. His Bradt Travel Guide to Estonia, now in its seventh edition, remains the definitive guidebook to the country. He divides his time between London and Tallinn.

Paperback

9781849049573

£14.99 / 256pp

May 2018

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History / Europe

NEIL TAYLOR

## Estonia

### A Modern History

As Russia rattles its sabres in the Baltic, Neil Taylor reconsiders the history of Estonia and its struggle to achieve statehood.

With only 1.3 million inhabitants, Estonia is one of Europe's least populous nations—yet it boasts one of the continent's fastest growing economies. In the first serious English-language history of this small Baltic state, Neil Taylor charts Estonia's long, arduous journey to its present-day prosperity, through a thousand years of occupation by Danes, Swedes, Germans and Russians.

In the wake of the First World War, out of the heat of a national awakening and the collapse of the Russian and German empires, Estonia was recognised as an independent nation in 1920. This was not to last—the country was tossed between the Soviets and Nazis during the Second World War, then fully integrated into the USSR, bringing on more than half a century of renewed occupation and misery. But hopes of true independence never dimmed and, in 1991, the Republic of Estonia was restored.

This unflinching history includes charming moments of colour and levity, from ambassadorial reports on nude bathing and a presidential press conference deliberately held beside a dirty toilet, to the story of a blind pianist, the first foreigner allowed to visit the city of Tartu in the Soviet era.



GILES MACDONOGH

## On Germany

A panegyric on Europe's dominant country and its startlingly heterogeneous people.

'Giles MacDonogh has repeatedly shown himself to be in the front rank of British scholars of German history.' — *The Spectator*

At the close of the Second World War, Germany was an undisputed pariah. Seventy-three years later, it has become the moral beacon of the Western world.

*On Germany* is a refreshing portrait of the German nation in its present state, viewed through its recent history. In 1945, the country was as good as finished, but it took advantage of the Cold War and the 'Economic Miracle' to rebuild and join the family of Western nations once more.

Giles MacDonogh tells the captivating story of Germany's rebirth, from defeat to gradual rehabilitation, including milestones such as West German NATO accession and founding membership of the future EU. He charts the excitement as the Berlin Wall fell, and the painstaking work that followed: stitching 'the two Germanies' back together again, ultimately to become an economic colossus and a world leader in soft power.

The fruit of thirty years' close study, *On Germany* is more than a political narrative. It is rich with observations on German life, arts, religion, education, food and drink; it probes Germany's relations with other countries, its deep-rooted provincialism, its attitude to outsiders, and, above all, its profound fear of its own dark history.



**Giles MacDonogh** is an acclaimed historian and sometime food, wine and travel writer.

This is his fifteenth book and his eighth on Germany. Previous works include biographies of Frederick the Great and the last Kaiser, histories of Berlin and Prussia, and a bestselling book on the immediate aftermath of the Second World War.

He lives in London.

Hardback

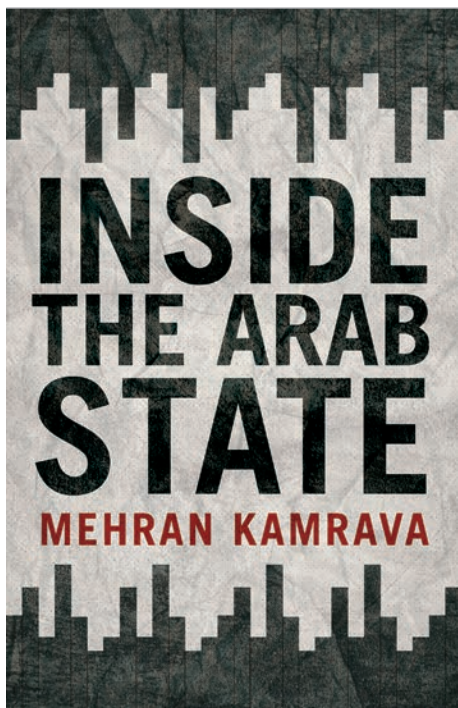
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History / Europe



**Mehran Kamrava** is Professor and Director of the Center for International and Regional Studies at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service in Qatar. He is the author of a number of books, including, most recently, *The Modern Middle East: A Political History Since the First World War*; *Qatar: Small State, Big Politics*; and *Iran's Intellectual Revolution*.

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Islamic Studies / Politics

MEHRAN KAMRAVA

## Inside the Arab State

Kamrava traces the fateful odyssey of domestic Arab politics from the early 1950s, through the upheavals of the Arab Spring, to the present day.

*Inside the Arab State* offers a comprehensive examination of contemporary Arab politics before and after the 2011 uprisings.

Mehran Kamrava examines a broad range of political, economic, and social variables that have shaped conceptions of power, the functions and institutions of the state, the rise and evolution of social movements, the eruption of civil war in some countries and fragile polities in others, and evolving civil-military relations before and after the 2011 uprisings. Beginning with an analysis of politics, and more specifically political institutions, in the Arab world from the 1950s onwards, the book traces the challenges faced by Arab states, and the wounds they inflicted on their societies and on themselves along the way. And at the crux of the book are the 2011 uprisings, states' responses to them, and efforts by political leaders to carve out new forms of legitimacy, as well as the reasons for the emergence and rise of the Islamic State.

Power, and an increasingly narrow conception of it in terms of submission and conformity, remains at the heart of Arab politics, popular protest and movements for change notwithstanding. The 2011 uprisings changed much in the Arab world, but even more has stayed the same.

THOMAS ABRAHAM

# Polio

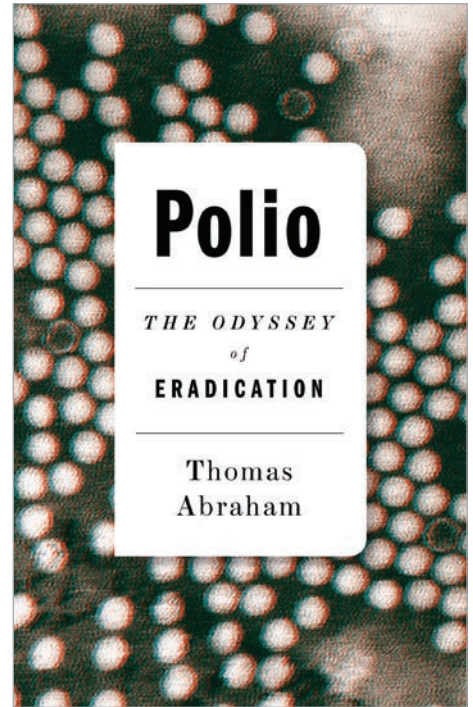
## The Odyssey of Eradication

A rare look inside one of the world's most ambitious and important health campaigns, in some of the poorest parts of the world.

In 1988, the World Health Organization launched what was intended to be a twelve-year campaign to wipe out the polio virus and end the disease for all time. Seventeen years after that deadline, and several billion dollars over budget, the polio campaign continues to grind on, vaccinating millions of children and hoping that each new year might see an end to the disease. A surprisingly resilient polio virus, an unexpectedly weak vaccine, uninterested governments and public indifference in those countries still afflicted by the disease, added to the vagaries of global politics, have meant that success remains elusive.

How did an innocuous campaign to rid the world of a crippling disease become a hostage in geopolitical wars? Why do parents refuse to vaccinate their children against polio? And why have poorly paid healthworkers, trudging from door to door delivering drops of polio vaccine, been assassinated?

Drawing on detailed interviews with key players and reporting from the frontlines of the war against this potentially deadly disease, Thomas Abraham records the story of one of the world's most ambitious health campaigns, and draws lessons for the future.



**Thomas Abraham** is Associate Professor at the Journalism and Media Studies Centre, University of Hong Kong, where he teaches health and science journalism.

He has worked at the World Health Organization in Geneva and is the author of *Twenty-First-Century Plague: The Story of SARS*.

Hardback  
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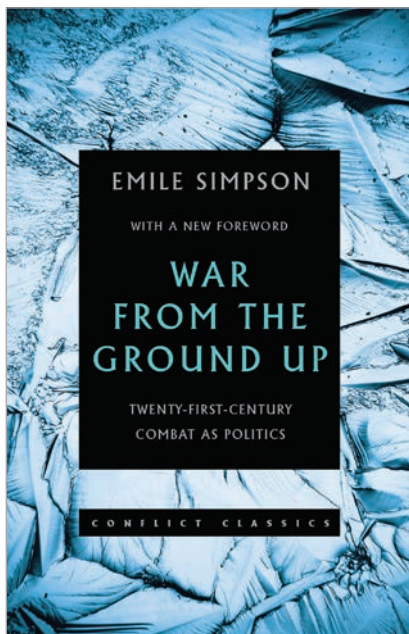
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Current Affairs / Science





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EMILE SIMPSON

# War From the Ground Up

Twenty-First-Century  
Combat as Politics

'Deserves to be seen as a coda to Clausewitz's *On War*.'

— Michael Howard, *Times Literary Supplement*

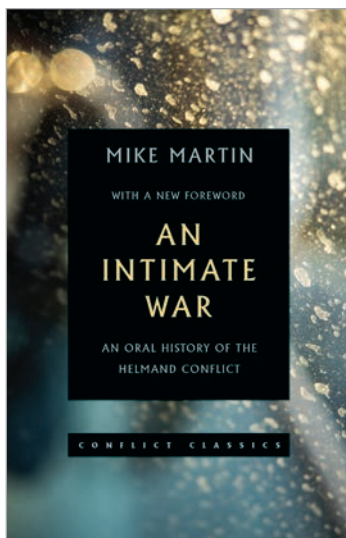
'*War From the Ground Up* should be read by all aspiring military commanders and their Whitehall masters.' — *The Guardian*

'This is the most intelligent book on war that I have read for a very long time.' — Sir Hew Strachan, Chichele Professor of the History of War, University of Oxford

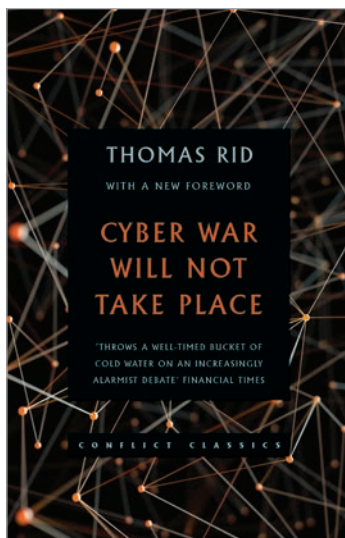
'Best book of the year by a considerable margin.'

— Niall Ferguson, *Bloomberg News Book of the Year*

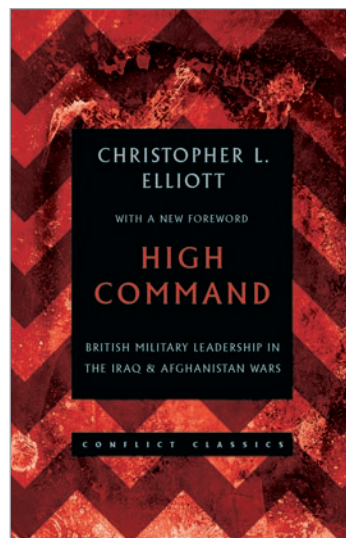
Paperback / 9781849049481 / Feb. 2018 / £12.99 / 304pp



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August 2017  
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May 2017  
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Reannouncing

MIKE MARTIN

## Why We Fight

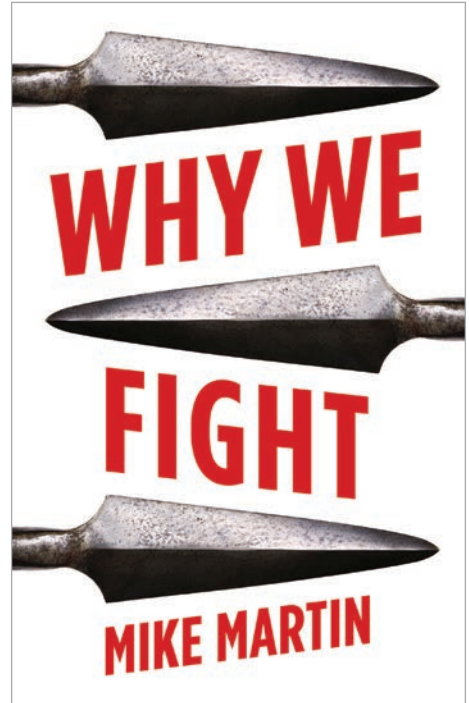
A rollercoaster ride through genetics, psychology and the history of war, searching for the reasons behind our impulse to violence.

Why are we willing to die for our countries? Does religion precipitate violence? Do pride, anger and vengeance lead to war? Can ideology persuade someone to blow themselves up?

This ground-breaking book explores how tens of thousands of years of evolution have shaped our brains to fight, and not to fight. Drawing on insights gleaned as a soldier, a scholar, and a biologist, Mike Martin explains how the lives and deaths of our ancestors have shaped our behaviour to propel us towards conflict, even as that option makes less and less sense.

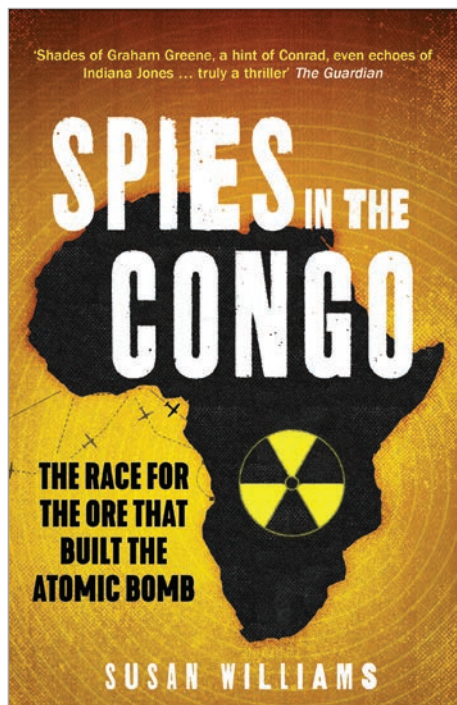
*Why We Fight* highlights the continuums between animal and human individual violence and explains how mankind has massively reduced the preponderance of warfare by creating larger and larger social groups. Together, these arguments form a compelling demonstration of humans' evolutionary predisposition to warfare, rooted in a prehistoric past when going to war actually increased your chances of survival.

Our contemporary world is marked by the disintegration of social groups, which inevitably increases the likelihood of conflict—yet, Martin concludes, humans may still ultimately outlive warfare altogether, consigning it to history.



**Mike Martin** is a former British Army officer who has worked, travelled and lived all over the world in order to try and understand conflict. His previous books include *An Intimate War: An Oral History of the Helmand Conflict*. His *Crossing the Congo: Over Land and Water in a Hard Place*, was shortlisted for the Edward Stanford Travel Writing Award 2016 in the category of Adventure Travel. Educated in biology and conflict, he is a War Studies Visiting Research Fellow at King's College London.

Hardback  
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216mm x 138mm  
Conflict / Psychology



**Susan Williams** has published widely on Africa, decolonisation and the global power shifts of the twentieth century. Her widely acclaimed book on the founding president of Botswana, *Colour Bar* (Penguin, 2006), recently became a major motion picture (*A United Kingdom*). *Who Killed Hammar skjöld?* (2011) triggered a fresh UN inquiry into the death of the Secretary-General. She is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London.

Paperback

9781849049528

£12.99/ 400pp

May 2018

198mm x 130mm

History / Africa

SUSAN WILLIAMS

New in paperback

## Spies in the Congo

The Race for the Ore that Built the Atomic Bomb

'Shades of Graham Greene, a hint of Conrad, even echoes of Indiana Jones ... truly a thriller.'

— *The Guardian*

'An intriguing, beautifully documented tale.' —

Michela Wrong, *The Spectator*

(Best Books of 2016)

'A gripping work that uncovers a world long cast in shadow ... A little-known story, with ultimately devastating consequences.' — *The Economist*

*Spies in the Congo* is the untold story of one of the most tightly-guarded secrets of the Second World War: America's desperate struggle to secure enough uranium to build its atomic bomb.

The Shinkolobwe mine in the Belgian Congo was the most important deposit of uranium yet discovered anywhere on earth, vital to the success of the Manhattan Project. Given that Germany was also working on an atomic bomb, it was an urgent priority for the US to prevent uranium from the Congo being diverted to the enemy—a task entrusted to Washington's elite secret intelligence agents. Despatched undercover to colonial Africa to track the ore and to hunt Nazi collaborators, their assignment was made even tougher by the complex political reality and by tensions with Belgian and British officials.

A gripping spy-thriller, *Spies in the Congo* is the true story of unsung heroism, of the handful of good men—and one woman—in Africa who were determined to deny Hitler his bomb.

New in paperback

ANDREW HARDING

# The Mayor of Mogadishu

A Story of Chaos and  
Redemption in the  
Ruins of Somalia

'A fine book ... captures both the fragile hopes and appalling violence of Somalia.' —*New York Times*

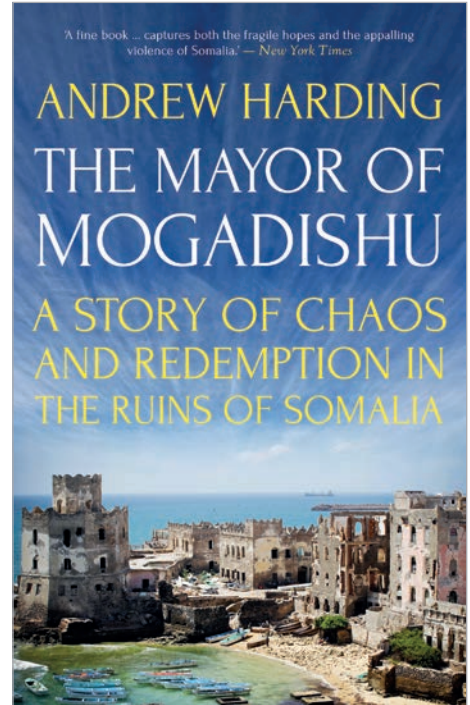
'One of the BBC's most intrepid and empathetic journalists.' —*The Economist*

'A triumph of a book: surprising, informative, and humane.' — Alexander McCall Smith

*The Mayor of Mogadishu* tells the story of one family's epic journey through Somalia's turmoil, from the optimism of independence to its spectacular unravelling.

Mohamud 'Tarzan' Nur was born a nomad, and became an orphan, then a street brawler in the cosmopolitan port city of Mogadishu—a place famous for its cafés and open-air cinemas. When Somalia collapsed into civil war, Tarzan and his young family joined the exodus from Mogadishu, eventually spending twenty years in North London. But in 2010 Tarzan returned to the unrecognisable ruins of a city largely controlled by the Islamist militants of Al-Shabaab. For some, the new mayor was a galvanising symbol of defiance. But others branded him a thug, mired in the corruption and clan rivalries that continue to threaten Somalia's revival.

*The Mayor of Mogadishu* is an uplifting story of survival, and a compelling examination of what it means to lose a country and then to reclaim it.



**Andrew Harding** has worked as a foreign correspondent for the past twenty-five years in Russia, Asia and Africa. He has been visiting Somalia since 2000. His television and radio reports for BBC News have won him international recognition, including an Emmy, an award from Britain's Foreign Press Association, and other awards in France, Monte Carlo, the United States and Hong Kong. He lives in Johannesburg with his family.

Paperback  
9781849049511

£12.99 / 296pp

April 2018

198mm x 130mm

Current Affairs / Africa



**Petter Nesser** is a senior research fellow with the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI). Trained in social science, Middle Eastern studies and Arabic, Nesser has conducted extensive research on jihadism in Europe for more than a decade, while focusing on motivational drivers, recruitment and radicalisation processes.

Paperback

9781849049504

£12.99/ 384pp

April 2018

216mm x 138mm

Current Affairs / Security

PETTER NESSER

New in paperback

## Islamist Terrorism in Europe

'A forensic look at twenty years of terrorist attacks.  
... This is not a book to read if you want to sleep  
easy.' — *The Sunday Times*

Europe is still facing an increase in terrorist plotting. This has led to growing security concerns over the fallout of the Syrian conflict, and the sizeable contingents of battle-hardened European foreign fighters, who are seeking to return home.

This book provides a comprehensive account of the rise of jihadist militancy in Europe and offers a detailed background for understanding the current and future threat. Based on a wide range of new primary sources, it traces the phenomenon back to the late 1980s, and the formation of jihadist support networks in Europe in the early 1990s. Combining analytical rigour with empirical richness, Petter Nesser offers a comprehensive account of patterns of terrorist cell formation and plots between 1995 and 2017.

In contrast to existing research which has emphasised social explanations, failed immigration and homegrown radicalism, this book highlights the transnational aspects. It shows how jihadi terrorism in Europe is intrinsically linked to and reflects the ideological agendas of armed organisations in conflict zones, and how entrepreneurial jihad-veterans facilitate such trans-nationalisation of militancy.



New edition

HUMAYUN ANSARI

# 'The Infidel Within'

## Muslims in Britain Since 1800

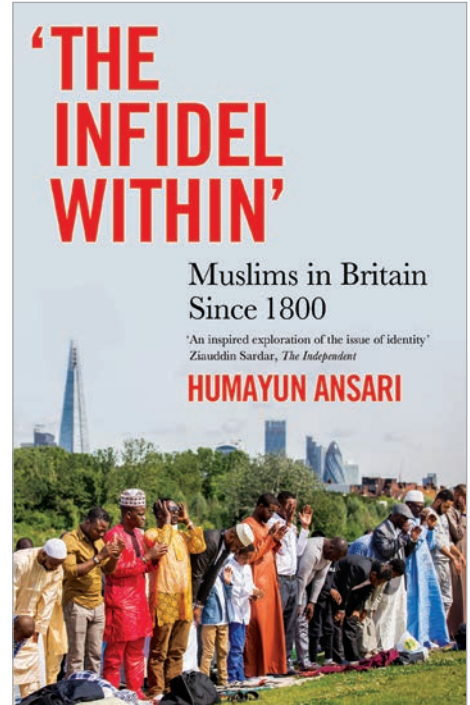
'An inspired exploration of the issue of identity.'

— Ziauddin Sardar, *The Independent*

Muslims constitute Britain's second largest religious grouping, and writing about their experiences has found a new audience in recent years—though not always through a positive lens. But a proper historical treatment of their arrival, settlement and establishment had been conspicuously absent until Humayun Ansari's seminal work, reissued here in an updated edition.

'*The Infidel Within*' draws together rich archival research and first-hand experience into a broad, integrated history of the Muslim presence in Britain. Among the topics addressed are migration and settlement in Britain before 1945, the evolution of a British Muslim identity, Muslim women and families, Muslims and education, and the growing mobilisation of Muslims in Britain's political, religious and economic life.

This definitive and sympathetic history, brought right up to date, is a must-read for anyone seeking to understand modern Britain.



**Humayun Ansari** is Professor of the History of Islam and Culture at Royal Holloway, University of London. He has conducted extensive research into the history of Muslims in Britain, ethnic studies and race relations, the employment and career opportunities of ethnic minorities, and racial discrimination and disadvantage in society. In 2002 Dr Ansari was awarded the OBE for his work in race relations.

Paperback

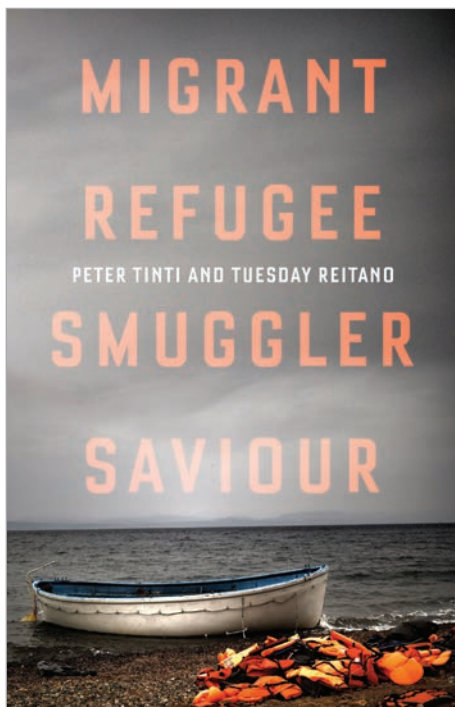
9781849049474

£14.99 / 456pp

February 2018

216mm x 138mm

History / Religion



PETER TINTI &  
TUESDAY REITANO

New in paperback

## Migrant, Refugee, Smuggler, Saviour

'A fascinating, nuanced and highly necessary account of an underworld that is much discussed but little understood.' — Patrick Kingsley, migration correspondent, *The Guardian*

**Peter Tinti** is an independent journalist and Senior Research Fellow at the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime. Formerly based in West Africa, his writing, reporting and photography has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Policy* and *Vice*.

**Tuesday Reitano** has been studying organised crime networks and their impact for over twenty years, both in the UN System, and as the head of the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime, which she co-founded in 2013. She is based in Beirut, Lebanon.

Paperback

9781849049535

£12.99 / 352pp

February 2018

198mm x 130mm

Politics / Current Affairs

As millions of people seek passage to Europe in order to escape conflict, repression, poverty and natural catastrophe, their movements are enabled and encouraged by ruthless professional criminal networks that earn billions of pounds from this insidious new trade. *Migrant, Refugee, Smuggler, Saviour* investigates one of the most under-examined aspects of the great migration crisis of our time to discover who profits from it.

The human suffering that results extends well beyond the Mediterranean: the smugglers' routes cross the Sahara, penetrate deep into the Balkans and reach hidden corners of Europe's capitals. But smugglers are also revered as saviours by many of those they move, delivering them to a safer place and a better life. Disconcertingly, it is often criminals who help the most desperate, when the international system turns them away.

This book is a measured attempt, born of years of research and reporting in the field, to better understand how people-smuggling networks function, the ways in which they have evolved, and their long-term impact on both migration and global organised crime.

New in paperback

ROGER HARDY

# The Poisoned Well

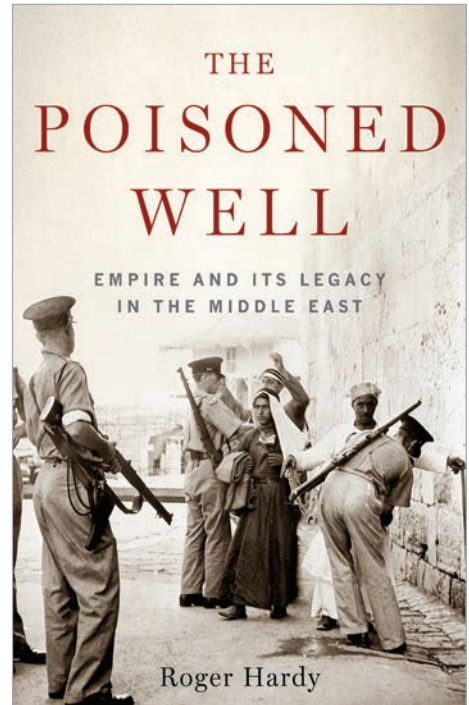
Empire and Its Legacy  
in the Middle East

'Hardy navigates the rocks and eddies of the region's history with a sure touch and brilliant eye for detail.  
... A superb overview.' — *The Financial Times*

Almost fifty years after Britain and France left the Middle East, the toxic legacies of their rule continue to fester. To make sense of today's conflicts and crises, we need to grasp how Western imperialism shaped the region and its destiny in the half-century between 1917 and 1967.

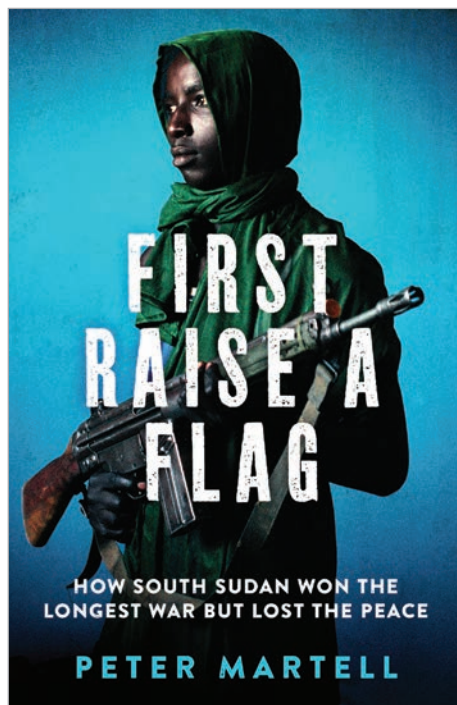
Roger Hardy unearths an imperial history stretching from North Africa to southern Arabia that sowed the seeds of future conflict and poisoned relations between the Middle East and the West. Drawing on a rich cast of eye-witnesses—ranging from nationalists and colonial administrators to soldiers, spies, and courtesans—*The Poisoned Well* brings to life the making of the modern Middle East, highlighting the great dramas of decolonisation such as the end of the Palestine mandate, the Suez crisis, the Algerian war of independence, and the retreat from Aden.

Concise and beautifully written, *The Poisoned Well* offers a thought-provoking and insightful story of the colonial legacy in the Middle East.



**Roger Hardy** worked for more than twenty years as a Middle East analyst with the BBC World Service. He is the author of *The Muslim Revolt: A Journey through Political Islam* (2010) and is a Research Associate at the Centre for International Studies in Oxford.

Paperback  
9781849049542  
£12.99 / 288pp  
March 2018  
198mm x 130mm  
History / Middle East



**Peter Martell** has reported from South Sudan for more than a decade, including as the BBC correspondent in Juba for the three key years around independence. He later ran AFP's East Africa bureau as its news editor.

Paperback

9781849049597

£19.99 / 320pp

June 2018

216mm x 138mm

Africa / Politics

PETER MARTELL

## First Raise A Flag

How South Sudan Won the Longest War but Lost the Peace

A beautifully written first-hand account of how bitter and deadly rivalries dashed the hopes of the world's newest nation.

When South Sudan's war began, the Beatles were playing their first hits and reaching the moon was an astronaut's dream. Half a century later, with millions massacred in Africa's longest war, the continent's biggest country split in two.

It was an extraordinary, unprecedented experiment. Many have fought, but South Sudan did the impossible, and won. This is the story of an epic fight for freedom. It is also the story of a nightmare. *First Raise a Flag* details one of the most dramatic failures in the history of international state-building. Three years after independence, South Sudan was lowest ranked in the list of failed states. War returned, worse than ever.

Peter Martell has spent over a decade reporting from palaces and battlefields, meeting those who made a country like no other: warlords and spies, missionaries and mercenaries, guerrillas and gunrunners, freedom fighters and war crime fugitives, Hollywood stars and ex-slaves. Under his seasoned foreign correspondent's gaze, he weaves with passion and colour the lively history of the world's newest country.

*First Raise a Flag* is a moving reflection on the meaning of nationalism, the power of hope and the endurance of the human spirit.



S. ELIZABETH BIRD &amp; ROSINA UMELO

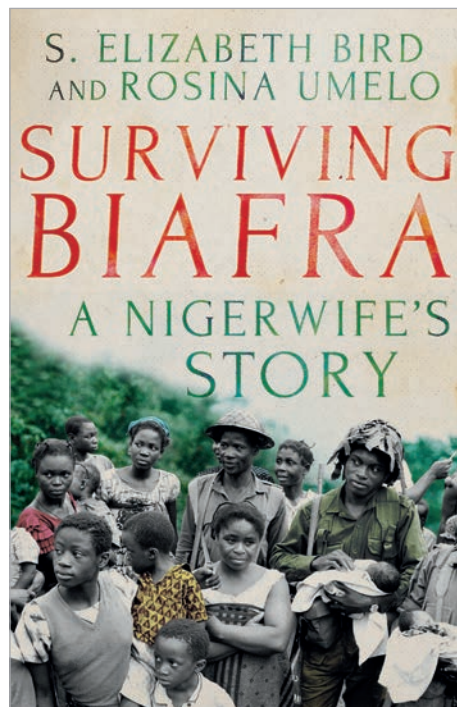
# Surviving Biafra

## A Nigerwife's Story

A remarkable 'ordinary person's' story that captures the day-to-day reality of life during the bloody conflict that divided Nigeria in the late 1960s.

In 1961, Rosina 'Rose' Martin married John Umelo, a young Nigerian she met on a London Tube station platform, eventually moving to Nigeria with him and their children. As Rose taught Classics in Enugu, they found themselves caught up in Nigeria's Civil War, which followed the 1967 secession of Eastern Nigeria—now named Biafra. The family fled to John's ancestral village, then moved from place to place as the war closed in. When it ended in 1970, up to 2 million had died, most from starvation. Rose ('worse off than some, better off than many') had kept notes, capturing the reality of living in Biafra—from excitement in the beginning to despair towards the end.

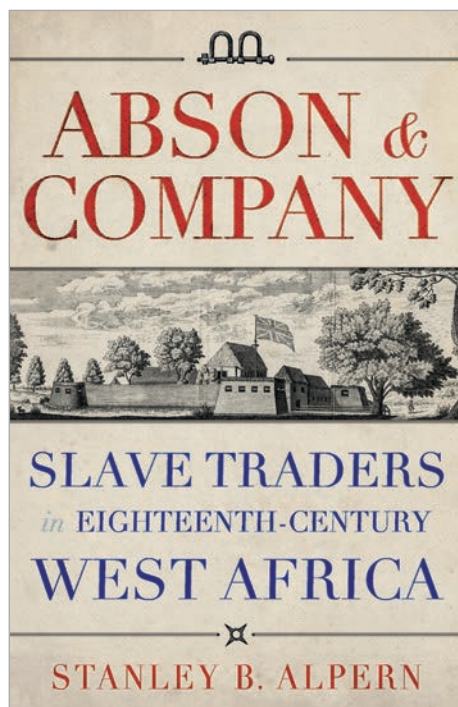
Immediately after the war, Rose turned her notes into a narrative that described the ingenious ways Biafrans made do, still hoping for victory while their territory shrank and children starved by the thousand. Now anthropologist S. Elizabeth Bird contextualises Rose's story, providing background on the progress of the war and international reaction to it. Edited and annotated, Rose's vivid account of life as a Biafran 'Nigerwife' offers a fresh, new look at hope and survival through a brutal war.



**S. Elizabeth Bird** is Professor of Anthropology at the University of South Florida. Her books include *The Asaba Massacre: Trauma, Memory and the Nigerian Civil War*, co-authored with Fraser Ottanelli.

**Rosina Umelo** lived in Nigeria for fifty years, working as a teacher, writer and editor, most recently at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Ibadan. She now lives near London.

Hardback  
9781849049580  
£20.00 / 296pp  
May 2018  
216mm x 138mm  
Africa / History



STANLEY B. ALPERN

## Abson & Company

### Slave Traders in Eighteenth-Century West Africa

This unique micro-history of the Absons charts the family's stewardship of a slave factory in Dahomey, their intermarriage with African neighbours, and their ultimate decline.

Yorkshireman Lionel Abson was the longest surviving European stationed in West Africa in the eighteenth century. He reached William's Fort at Ouidah on the Slave Coast as a trader in 1767, took over the English fort in 1770, and remained in charge until his death in 1803. He avoided the 'white man's grave' for thirty-six years.

Along the way he had three sons with an African woman, the eldest partly schooled in England, and a bright daughter named Sally. When Abson died, royal lackeys kidnapped his children. Sally was placed in the king's harem and pined away; her brothers vanished. That king became so unpopular as a result that the people of Dahomey disowned him.

Abson also mastered the local language and became an historian. After only two years as fort chief, he was part of the king's delegation to make peace with an enemy, a unique event in centuries of Dahomean history.

This singular book recounts the remarkable life of this key figure in an ignominious period of European and African history, offering a microcosm of the lives of Europeans in eighteenth-century West Africa, and their relationships with and attitudes towards those they met there.

**Stanley B. Alpern** served in the US Navy in 1944-46, received his bachelor's degree from Harvard in 1947, and completed a master's degree at Columbia University. After six years as a *New York Herald Tribune* copy editor and twenty-two years with the US information Agency, including five in Africa, he retired to France in 1977 to write about precolonial West Africa. He is the author of *Amazons of Black Sparta: The Women Warriors of Dahomey*.

Hardback

9781849049627

£40.00 / 224pp

May 2018

216mm x 138mm

Africa / History

DANELL JONES

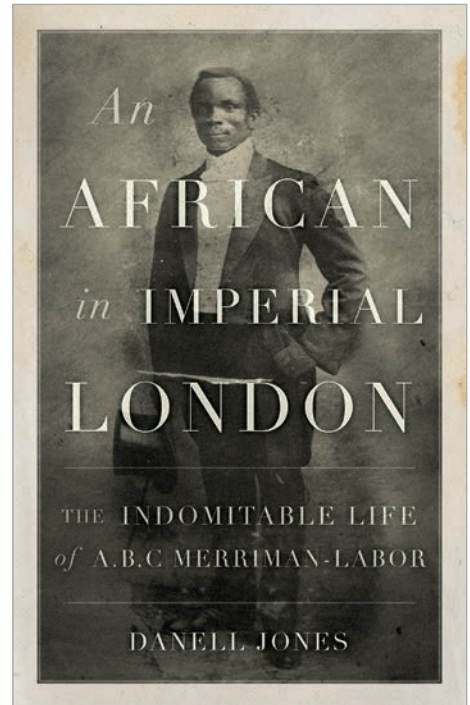
# An African in Imperial London

The Indomitable Life of  
A. B. C. Merriman-Labor

This biography of the author of *Britons Through Negro Spectacles* restores him to the pantheon of African observers of colonialism and opens a window onto racial attitudes in Edwardian London.

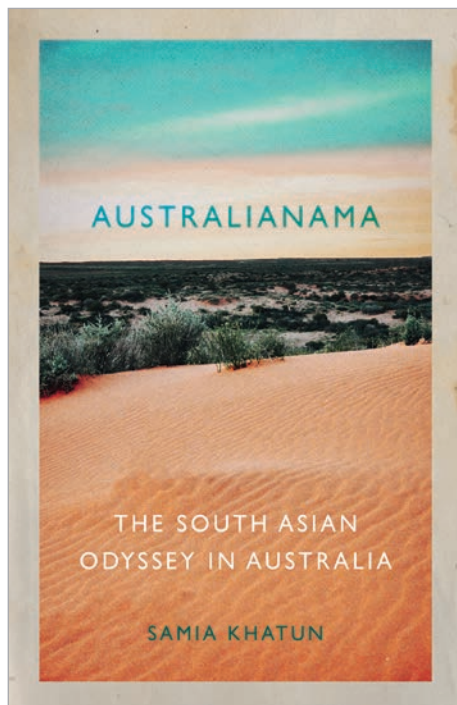
In a world dominated by the British Empire, at a time when many Europeans considered black people inferior, African writer A. B. C. Merriman-Labor claimed his right to describe the world as he found it. During his fifteen years in London, he looked at the greatest city in the greatest empire the world had ever known and laughed.

*An African in Imperial London* is the first biography of this extraordinary man. It describes the tragic spiral that pulled him down the social ladder from writer and barrister to munitions worker, from witty observer of the social order to patient in a state-run hospital for the poor. Danell Jones sketches a vivid portrait of the great metropolis as it writhed its way into a new century of appalling social inequity, world-transforming inventions, and unprecedented demands for civil rights. This cultural history, told through African eyes, provides scholars with a richly researched portrait of a black life in Edwardian England, and transports general readers to an intriguing world of diversity, ingenuity, and struggle.



**Danell Jones** is a writer and scholar whose works have appeared in a wide variety of publications, from British academic journals to small presses. She has a PhD in literature from Columbia University and is the author of *The Virginia Woolf Writers' Workshop* and *Desert Elegy*.

Hardback  
9781849049603  
£25.00 / 320pp  
June 2018  
216mm x 138mm  
Africa / History



**Samia Khatun** is a writer, filmmaker and cultural historian. She was born in Dhaka, educated in Sydney and has held research fellowships in Berlin, Dunedin, New York and Melbourne. She is soon to develop a history programme at the University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh.

Paperback

9781849049696

£20.00 / 320pp

June 2018

216mm x 138mm

History / South Asia

SAMIA KHATUN

## Australianama

### The South Asian Odyssey in Australia

An evocative and gracefully written reflection on cultural encounters between Aboriginals and Indians in the Outback, from the nineteenth century.

Australian deserts remain dotted with the ruins of old mosques. Beginning with a Bengali poetry collection discovered in a nineteenth-century mosque in the town of Broken Hill, Samia Khatun weaves together the stories of various peoples colonised by the British Empire to chart a history of South Asian diaspora.

Australia has long been an outpost of Anglo empires in the Indian Ocean world, today the site of military infrastructure central to the surveillance of 'Muslim-majority' countries across the region. Imperial knowledges from Australian territories contribute significantly to the Islamic-Western binary of the post-Cold War era. In narrating a history of Indian Ocean connections from the perspectives of those colonised by the British, Khatun highlights alternative contexts against which to consider accounts of non-white people.

*Australianama* challenges a central idea that powerfully shapes history books across the Anglophone world: the colonial myth that European knowledge traditions are superior to the epistemologies of the colonised. Arguing that Aboriginal and South Asian language sources are keys to the vast, complex libraries that belie colonised geographies, Khatun shows that stories in colonised tongues can transform the very ground from which we view past, present and future.



DAVID HARDIMAN

# The Nonviolent Struggle for Indian Freedom, 1905-19

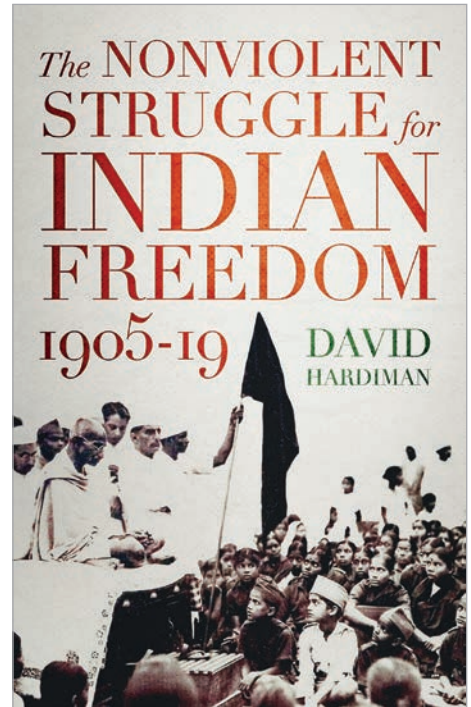
Praise for *Gandhi in his Time and Ours*:

'Hardiman's work is one of the five best books ever written about the Mahatma.' — Ramachandra Guha

Much of the recent surge in writing about the practice of nonviolent forms of resistance has focused on movements that occurred after the end of the Second World War, many of which have been extremely successful. Although the fact that such a method of resistance was developed in its modern form by Indians is acknowledged in this writing, there has not until now been an authoritative history of the role of Indians in the evolution of the phenomenon.

Celebrated historian David Hardiman shows that while nonviolence is associated above all with the towering figure of Mahatma Gandhi, 'passive resistance' was already being practised by nationalists in British-ruled India, though there was no principled commitment to nonviolence as such. It was Gandhi, first in South Africa and then in India, who evolved a technique that he called 'satyagraha'. His endeavours saw 'nonviolence' forged as both a new word in the English language, and a new political concept.

This book conveys in vivid detail exactly what nonviolence entailed, and the formidable difficulties that the pioneers of such resistance encountered in the years 1905-19.



**David Hardiman** is Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Warwick. He lived and worked in India for many years, and is a founding member of the Subaltern Studies group. He has written extensively on the history of the Indian nationalist movement, Gandhi, and Indian social history.

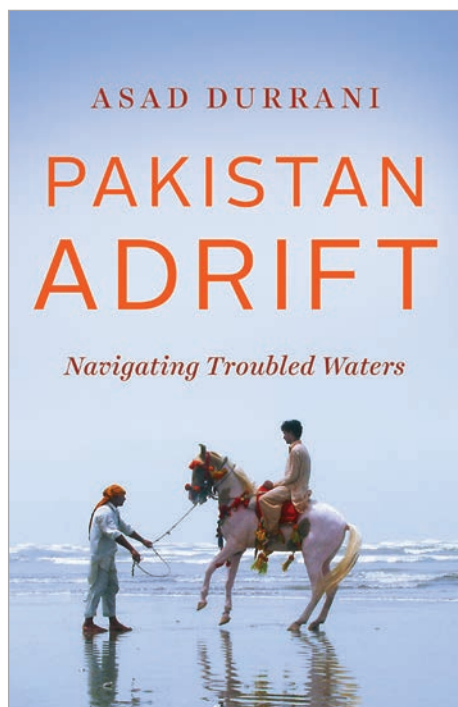
Hardback  
9781849049702

£35.00 / 336pp

June 2018

216mm x 138mm

History / South Asia



ASAD DURRANI

## Pakistan Adrift

### Navigating Troubled Waters

An insider's view of Pakistan's vicissitudes over the last two decades, by the former head of the country's renowned intelligence agency.

**Asad Durrani** is a retired lieutenant general from Pakistan, and former head of the ISI. After retirement he was his country's ambassador to Germany and to Saudi Arabia. A veteran of two wars with India, he now writes and lectures.

Asad Durrani served as a three star general in the Pakistan army, and later headed the Inter-Services Intelligence agency from 1990 to 1992. His time in service encompassed the Soviet Union's withdrawal from Afghanistan and dissolution; shifting regional and international alliances, particularly with the US; and contending with India's economic recovery. On the home front, Pakistan passed through a transition from military rule to a democratic order.

As an intelligence chief General Durrani dealt with many critical issues at home and abroad. Here he reflects on his time in office—refined by distance and by diplomatic stints in Germany and Saudi Arabia, his assessment of the challenges faced by Pakistan in the last decades is both novel and informed. Though critical of the country's civil and military leadership—also conceding some of his own flaws—he argues that the real causes of Pakistan's travails differ from what international observers have come to believe.

This insightful book concludes by offering new perspectives on Saudi involvement in and reaction to 9/11 and on the Kingdom's shifting foreign policy goals following the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

Hardback

9781849049610

£25.00 / 320pp

June 2018

216mm x 138mm

South Asia / Politics

ANTONIO GIUSTOZZI

# The Islamic State in Khorasan

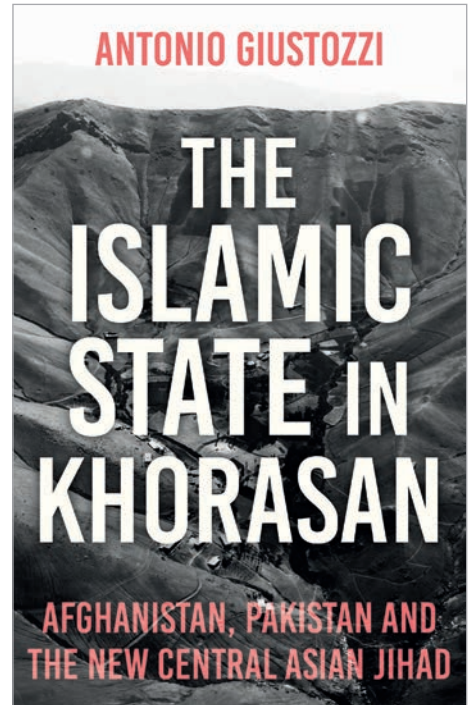
Afghanistan, Pakistan and the  
New Central Asian Jihad

Analyses how Islamic State hopes to establish  
a new bulwark in Central Asia and Pakistan,  
supplanting Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan.

So-called Islamic State began to appear in what it calls Khorasan (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Central Asia, Iran and India) in 2014. Reports of its presence were at first dismissed as propaganda, but during 2015 it became clear that IS had a serious presence in Afghanistan and Pakistan at least.

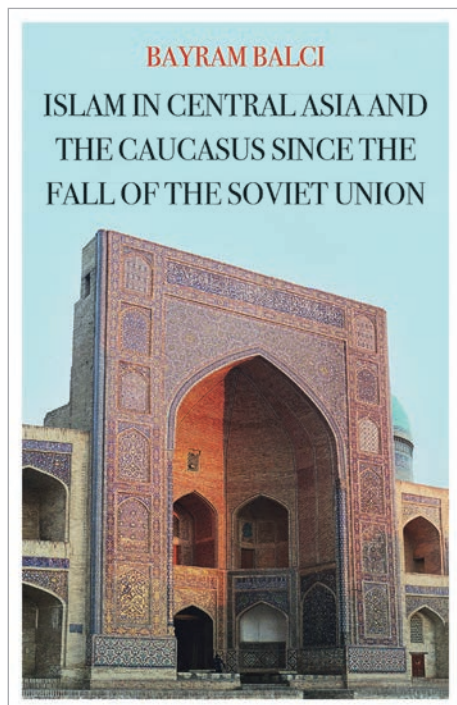
This book, by one of the leading experts on Islamist insurgency in the region, explores the nature of IS in Khorasan, its aim and strategies, and its evolution in an environment already populated by many jihadist organisations. Based on first-hand research and numerous interviews with members of IS in Khorasan, as well as with other participants and observers, the book addresses highly contentious issues such as funding, IS's relationship with the region's authorities, and its interactions with other insurgent groups. Giustozzi argues that the central leadership of IS invested significant financial resources in establishing its own branch in Khorasan, and as such it is more than a local movement which adopted the IS brand for its own aims. Though the central leadership has been struggling in implementing its project, it is now turning towards a more realistic approach.

This is the first book on a new frontier in Islamic State's international jihad.



**Antonio Giustozzi** has a PhD from the London School of Economics and is currently Visiting Professor at King's College London and fellow at the Royal United Services Institute. He has written or edited ten books, among which are *Koran, Kalashnikov and Laptop: The Neo-Taliban Insurgency, 2002-7* and *The Army of Afghanistan: A Political History of A Fragile Institution*.

Hardback  
9781849049641  
£35.00 / 296pp  
March 2018  
216mm x 138mm  
South Asia / Conflict



BAYRAM BALCI

# Islam in Central Asia and the Caucasus Since the Fall of the Soviet Union

*A tour d'horizon of the role Islam plays in politics and the private sphere in Central Asia and the Caucasus.*

With the end of the Soviet Union in 1991, a major turning point in all former Soviet republics, Central Asian and Caucasian countries began to reflect on their history and identities. As a consequence of their opening up to the global exchange of ideas, various strains of Islam and trends in Islamic thought have nourished the Islamic revival that had already started in the context of *glasnost* and *perestroika*—from Turkey, Iran, the Arabian Peninsula, and from the Indian subcontinent; the four regions with strong ties to Central Asian and Caucasian Islam in the years before Soviet occupation.

Bayram Balci seeks to analyse how these new Islamic influences have reached local societies and how they have interacted with pre-existing religious belief and practice. Combining exceptional erudition with rare first-hand research, Balci's book provides a sophisticated account of both the internal dynamics and external influences in the evolution of Islam in the region.

**Bayram Balci** is a researcher at CERI Sciences Po, Paris. He holds degrees in political science and Islamic studies and was Director of the French Institute for Central Asian Studies, Uzbekistan (2006-10). A visiting scholar at Carnegie, Washington, DC (2011 and 2014), Balci's research focuses on Islam in Turkey, Central Asia, and the Caucasus.

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Islamic Studies / Politics



LAURENT BONNEFOY

# Yemen and the World

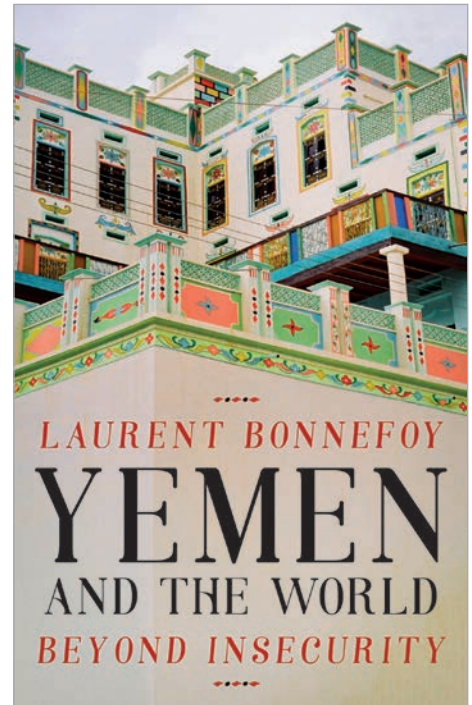
## Beyond Insecurity

The influence of Yemen and its people extends far beyond its nominal borders, both historically and in the present day, as Laurent Bonnefoy reveals.

Contemporary Yemen has an image problem. It has long fascinated travellers and artists, and to many embodies both Arab and Muslim authenticity; it stands at important geostrategic and commercial crossroads. Yet, strangely, global perceptions of Yemen are of an entity that is somehow both marginal and passive, yet also dangerous and problematic.

The Saudi offensive launched in 2015 has made Yemen a victim of regional power struggles, while the global 'war on terror' has labelled it a threat to international security. This perception has had disastrous effects without generating real interest in the country or its people. On the contrary, Yemen's complex political dynamics have been largely ignored by international observers—resulting in problematic, if not counterproductive, international policies.

*Yemen and the World* offers a corrective to these misconceptions and omissions, putting aside the nature of the world's interest in Yemen to focus on Yemen's role on the global stage. Laurent Bonnefoy uses six areas of modern international exchange—globalisation, diplomacy, trade, migration, culture and militant Islamism—to restore Yemen to its place at the heart of contemporary affairs. To understand Yemen, he argues, is to understand the Middle East as a whole.

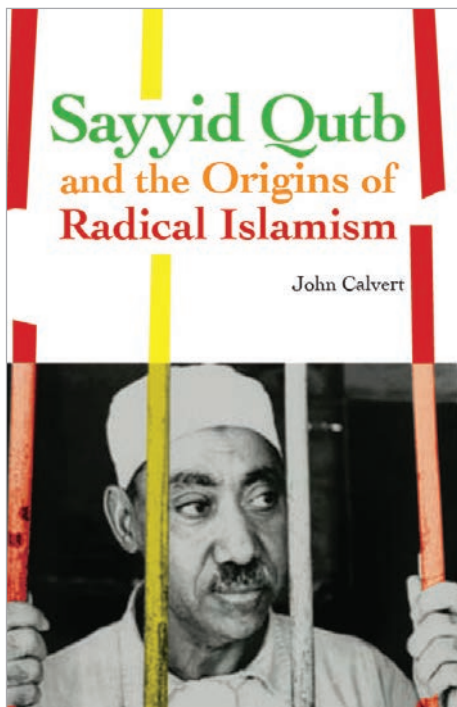


**Laurent Bonnefoy** is a CNRS researcher at CERI Sciences Po, Paris. A specialist in Islamist movements and politics in the Arabian Peninsula, he is the author of *Salafism in Yemen: Transnationalism and Religious Identity*, and has published in numerous international academic journals.

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CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT (EDITOR)

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April 2018  
216mm x 138mm  
History / Middle East



**John Calvert** is Professor of History at Creighton University, USA. His research focuses on social protest and political resistance movements in the modern Middle East; Egyptian nationalism; and the ideological origins of Al-Qaeda. He is co-editor and translator of Sayyid Qutb's *A Child from the Village*.

Paperback

9781849049498

£14.99 / 392pp

April 2018

216mm x 138mm

History / Religion

JOHN CALVERT

New in paperback

## Sayyid Qutb and the Origins of Radical Islamism

'This rich and carefully researched biography sets Qutb for the first time in his Egyptian context. ... It is no small achievement.' — *The Economist*

The influential Egyptian ideologue Sayyid Qutb (1906-66) is credited with establishing the theoretical basis for radical Islamism in the post-colonial Sunni Muslim world. Lacking understanding of Qutb's life and work, the popular media has often conflated his aims with those of bin Laden and Al-Qaeda, portraying him as a terrorist, 'Islamofascist' and advocate of murder.

John Calvert, an expert on Middle Eastern dissent in general and Egyptian nationalism in particular, rescues Qutb from these misrepresentations. He recounts Qutb's life, from his small childhood village to his execution by the regime, via the harrowing incarceration that injected religion into his Islamism. Most importantly, Calvert traces the evolution of Qutb's thought in its context—one of the most eventful periods in Egyptian history. In these years of British tutelage, rising nationalism and Free Officer hegemony, Qutb rubbed shoulders with other great Egyptian thinkers, from Naguib Mahfouz to political giants like Taha Husayn and Nasser himself.

This is a sensitive exploration of the cultural, political, social and economic circumstances that shaped Qutb's thought, leading him to repackage the Islamic heritage as a challenge to authority—including 'infidel' authorities that he did not see as truly Muslim.

MADAWI AL-RASHEED (ED.)

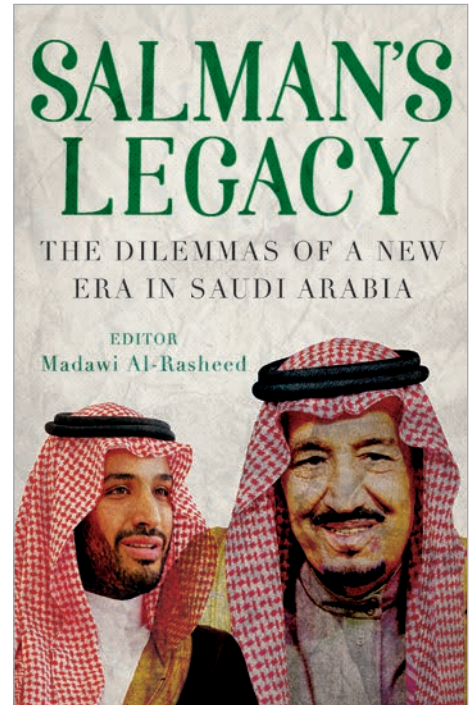
## Salman's Legacy

### The Dilemmas of a New Era in Saudi Arabia

A timely look at the personalities and factions  
contending for power in Riyadh as one princely  
order crumbles and another asserts itself.

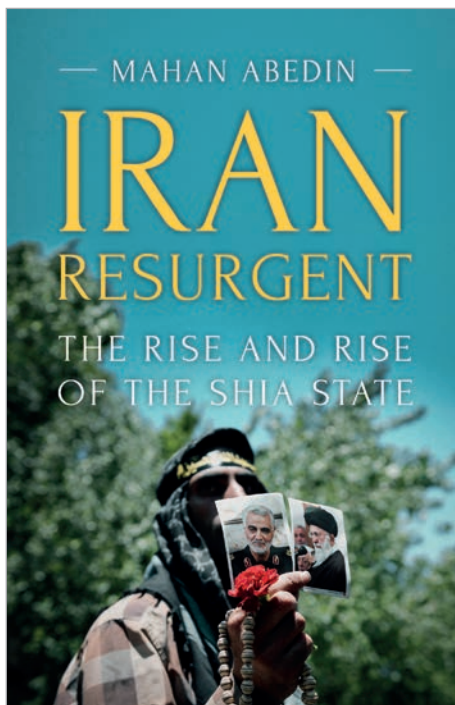
King Salman of Saudi Arabia began his rule in 2015 confronted with a series of unprecedented challenges. The dilemmas he has faced are new and significant, from leadership shuffles and falling oil prices to regional and international upheaval. *Salman's Legacy* interrogates this era and assesses its multiple social, political, regional and international challenges. Whether Salman's policies have saved the kingdom from serious upheaval is yet to be seen, but no doubt a new kingdom is emerging.

This book offers historical and contemporary insights into the various problems that persist in haunting the Saudi state. Madawi Al-Rasheed brings together well-established historians and social scientists with deep knowledge of Saudi Arabia—its history, culture and contemporary politics—to reflect on Salman's kingdom. They trace both policy continuities and recent ruptures that have perplexed observers of Saudi Arabia. This lucid and nuanced analysis invites serious reflection on the Saudi leadership's capacity to withstand the recent challenges, especially those that came with the Arab uprisings. At stake is the future of a country that remains vital to regional stability, international security, and the global economy.



**Madawi Al-Rasheed** is Visiting Professor at the Middle East Centre, London School of Economics. In 2016, she was Visiting Research Professor at the Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore. She is the author of several books on Saudi Arabia. Her latest, *Muted Modernists: The Struggle Over Divine Politics in Saudi Arabia*, was published by Hurst in 2016.

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Politics / Middle East



**Mahan Abedin** is an Iranian-born British journalist and analyst of Iranian and Middle Eastern politics. His strong thinktank background includes stints at the Washington-based Jamestown Foundation and the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses in New Delhi. Abedin regularly appears on international broadcasting media, including the BBC and Al-Jazeera English, to comment on the latest developments in Iranian politics.

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Middle East / Politics

MAHAN ABEDIN

## Iran Resurgent

### The Rise and Rise of the Shia State

Is Tehran on the cusp of achieving regional hegemony or are forecasts of its rise to dominance in the Middle East overblown?

Iran has emerged from decades of isolation and struggle to become a leading, if not the pre-eminent, regional power. Iran projects its influence throughout the Middle East and parts of Central Asia. Moreover, Iranian diplomacy is active on the world stage, with long-term projects in Africa and South America.

The landmark nuclear deal of July 2015 was a major triumph and saw the Islamic Republic successfully negotiate with several world powers to reach a mutually acceptable agreement. Crucially, whilst the nuclear deal restricts Iran's nuclear programme for at least a decade, it doesn't irreversibly dismantle any part of it.

With internal Iranian politics stabilising around a centrist administration led by President Rouhani, the country is set to continue on a path of regional strategic growth. But with clear signs that the Trump administration is determined to contain Iran's regional influence, what is the risk of a military confrontation?

This book argues that Iran has developed sufficient diplomatic strength and credible military capability to deter a full-scale US military assault. But without a dramatic lowering of tensions, there remains a risk of limited clashes, with far-reaching consequences for regional security.



RANJ ALAALDIN

## Sacred Warriors

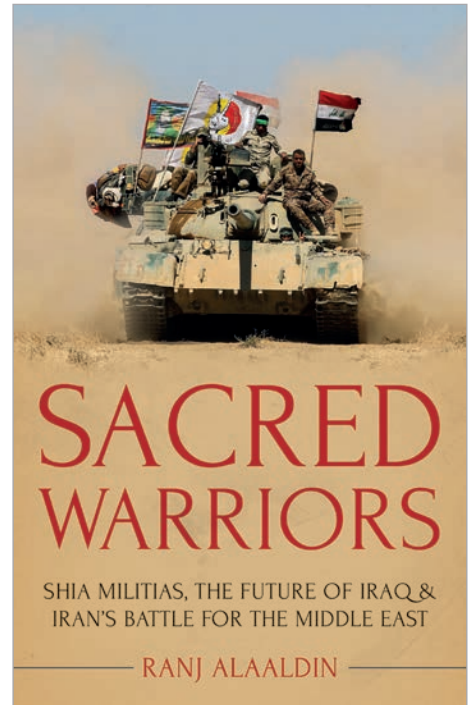
### Shia Militias, the Future of Iraq, and Iran's Battle for the Middle East

A timely analysis of today's Shia jihadists, their  
Iranian patrons and their shared ambitions to  
supplant Sunni power in Iraq, Syria and beyond.

The fall of Iraq's Baath regime was swiftly followed by the proliferation of terrorist groups, militant organisations and an ongoing sectarian conflict that continues to engulf the region. However the Shia militias involved remain poorly understood. Referred to variously as Iranian proxies, Iraqi nationalists, state-builders and terrorists, they have emerged from the ruins of post-2003 Iraq to acquire considerable power.

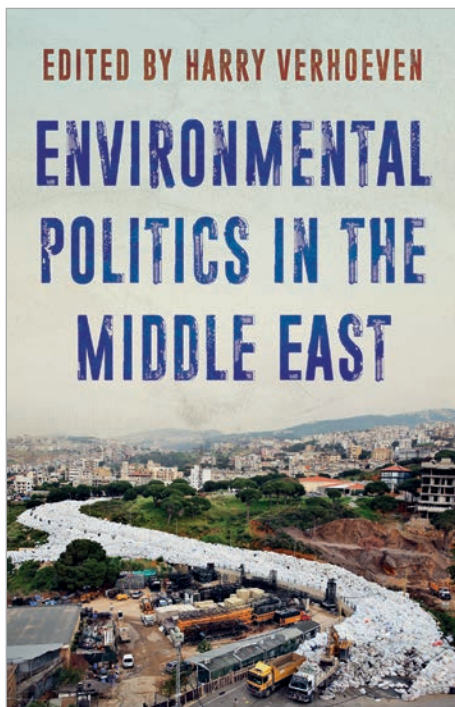
These militias are multifarious in nature—they overlap and interact with the state and social actors, including Iranian proxies but also groups vehemently opposed to Iran's interference in Iraq's affairs. And the challenge of engaging them is compounded by war in Syria, where such groups have shifted the balance of power in the regime's favour, under Iranian supervision. Indeed, Iran has exploited instability across the region to establish, empower, and entrench its proxy organisations as it attempts to shape the future of the region.

Shia militias will shape the future of Iraq (and the region) but to what extent will they do so, and can they be stopped? *Sacred Warriors* draws on the author's decade-long research on Iraq's Shia community and fieldwork in Baghdad, Najaf and Karbala to inform the debate on their ascendancy, Iraq's future and Iran's battle for the Middle East.



**Ranj Alaaldin** is a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution in Doha and an associate fellow at the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation (ICSR), King's College London. He holds a PhD from the London School of Economics and was previously a Senior Consultant at the Next Century Foundation, a track-two conflict resolution organisation.

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Middle East / Conflict



HARRY VERHOEVEN (ED.)

## Environmental Politics in the Middle East

Offers a critical and realistic reassessment of the threats posed to the environment in the Middle East, and what can be done about them.

**Harry Verhoeven** is Assistant Professor at the School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University Qatar, and Associate Member of the Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford. He is the author of *Water, Civilisation and Power in Sudan* and co-author of *Why Comrades Go To War: Liberation Politics and the Outbreak of Africa's Deadliest Conflict*, also published by Hurst.

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Middle East / Politics

This book investigates how ecology and politics meet in the Middle East and how those interactions connect to the global political economy. Through region-wide analyses and case studies from the Arabian Peninsula, the Gulf of Aden, the Levant and North Africa, the volume highlights the intimate connections of environmental activism, energy infrastructure and illicit commodity trading with the political economies of Central Asia, the Horn of Africa and the Indian subcontinent.

The book's nine chapters analyse how the exploitation and representation of the environment have shaped the history of the region—and determined its place in global politics. It argues that how the ecological is understood, instrumentalised and intervened upon is the product of political struggle: deconstructing ideas and practices of environmental change means unravelling claims of authority and legitimacy. This is particularly important in a region frequently seen through the prism of environmental determinism, where ruling elites have imposed authoritarian control as the corollary of 'environmental crisis'. This unique and urgent collection will question much of what we think we know about this pressing issue.

ZIAUDDIN SARDAR (ED.)

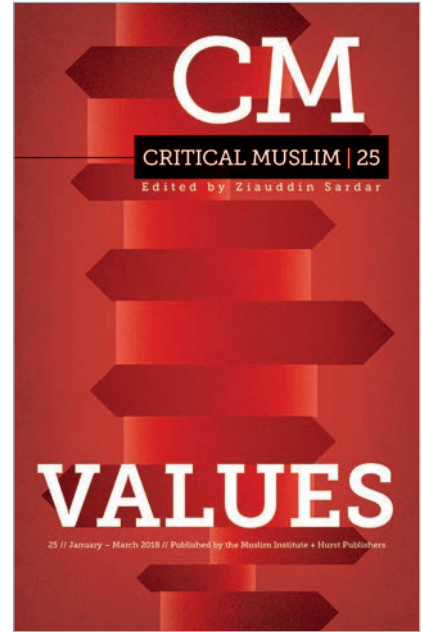
## Critical Muslim 25

### Values

What are values and how do we define them? Are there specific Islamic values? Do universal core values exist? How do we pass on appropriate values to future generations?

This issue of *Critical Muslim* tackles these questions, with contributions from Rowan Williams, Kabir Helminski, Jeremy Henzell-Thomas, Charles Butterworth, Boyd Tonkin, Alex Moore, Mohammed Hashas and others.

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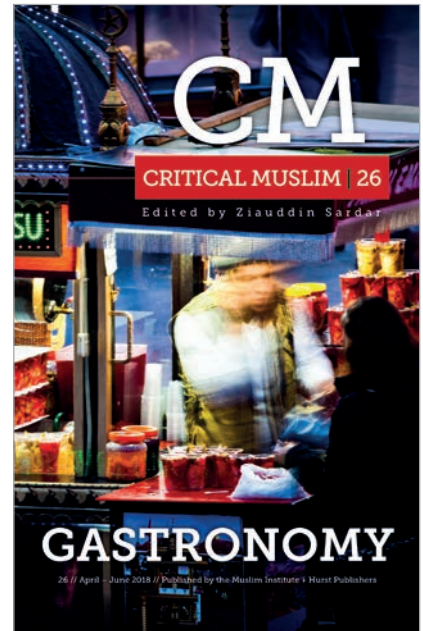
ZIAUDDIN SARDAR (ED.)

## Critical Muslim 26

### Gastronomy

What is halal? Does Islam have a particular flavour? Is culture transferred through gastronomy? In this issue we resist intoxication by wine and soberly sample the culinary delights of the Muslim world—then and now.

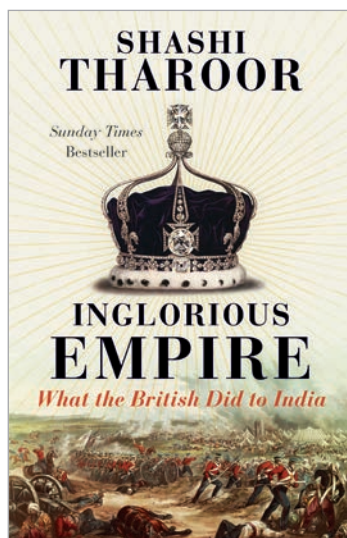
By exploring the more obscure delicacies of international cuisine, we confront the underbelly of gluttony and ask why the Muslim world is so indulgently carnivorous. We go back to nature on an organic farm and consider whether going organic will save the world and promote the true spirit of Islam.



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SHASHI THAROOR

## Inglorious Empire

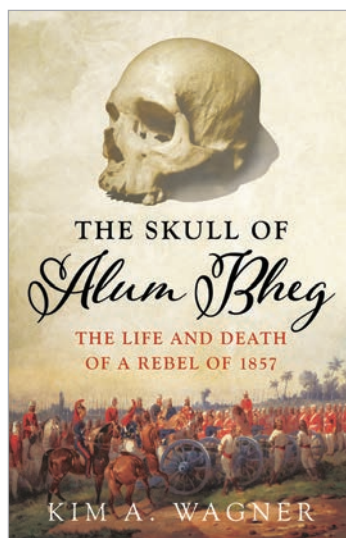
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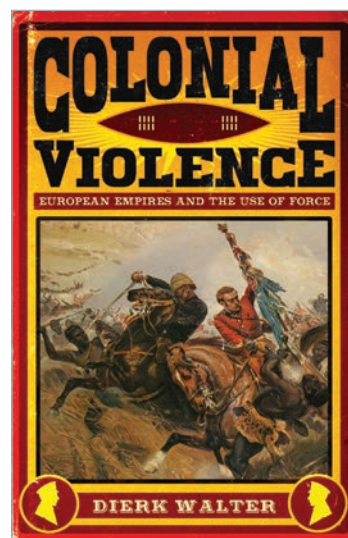
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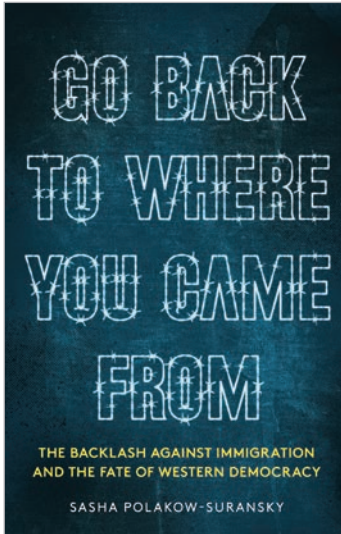
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European Empires and the  
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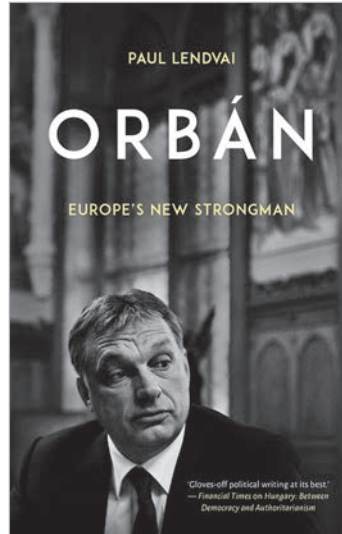
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PAUL LENDVAI

## Orbán

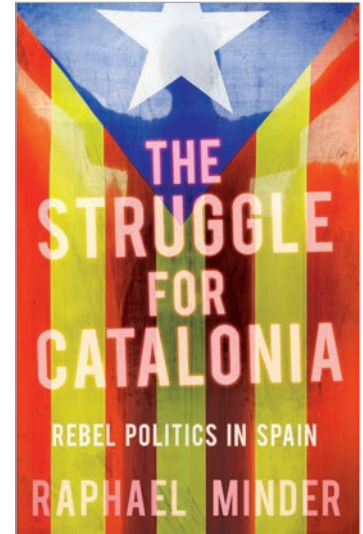
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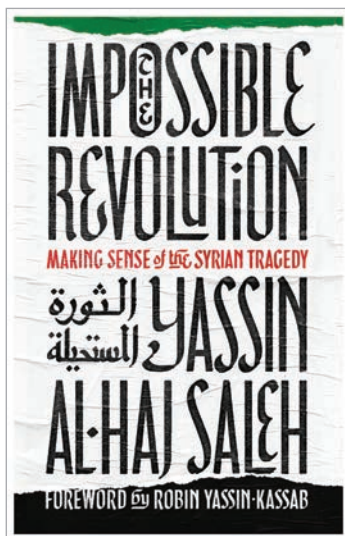
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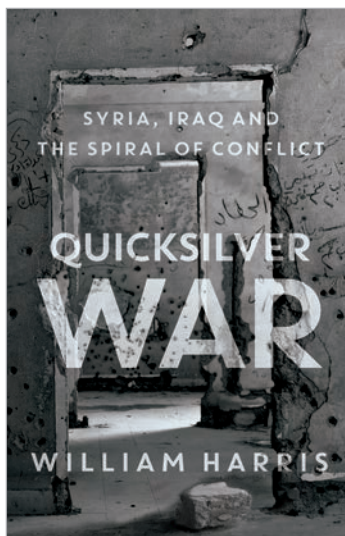
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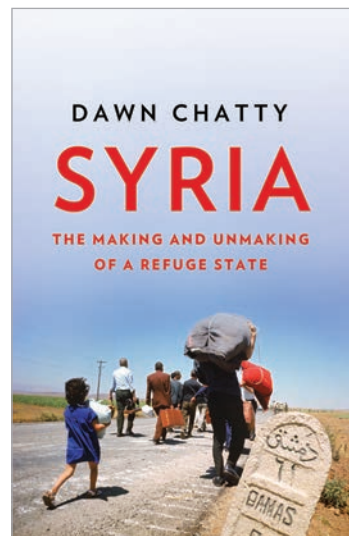
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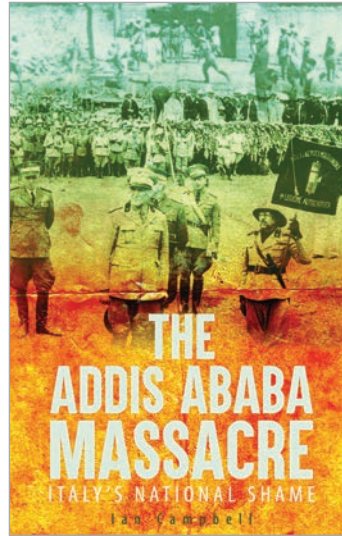
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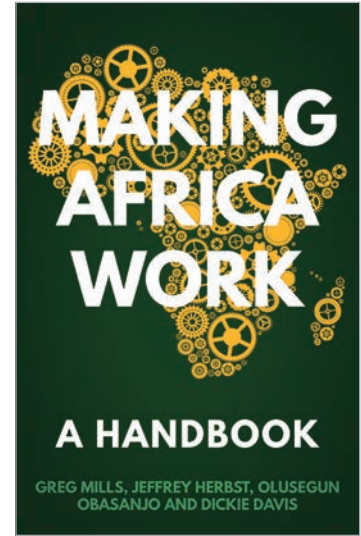
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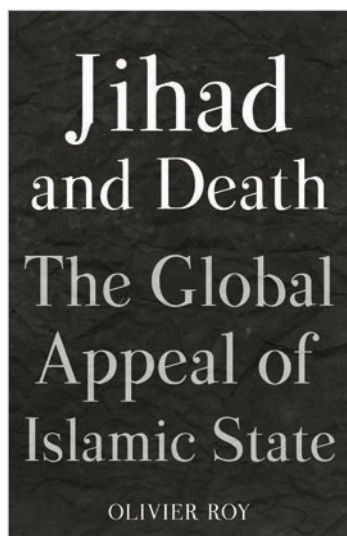
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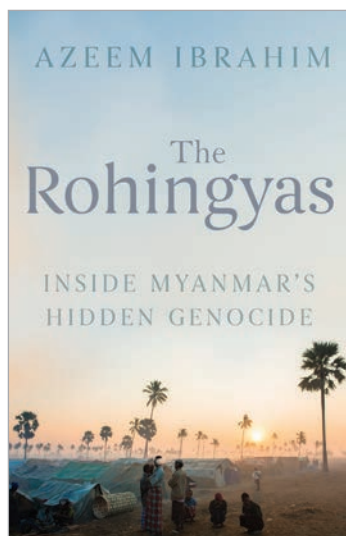
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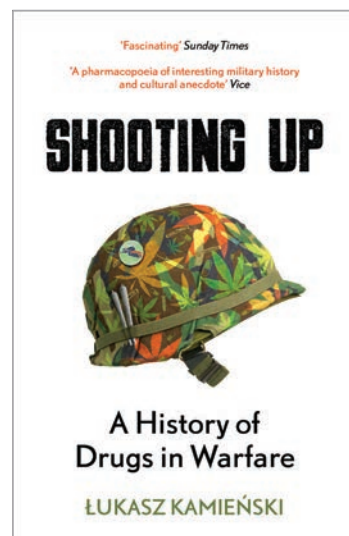
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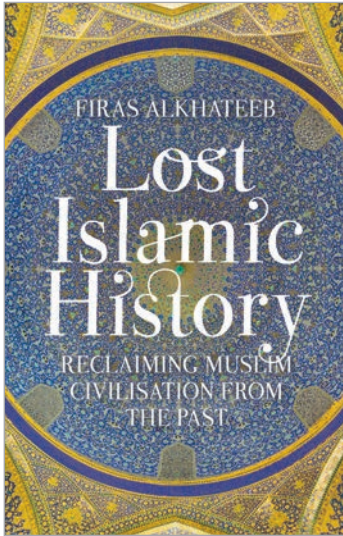
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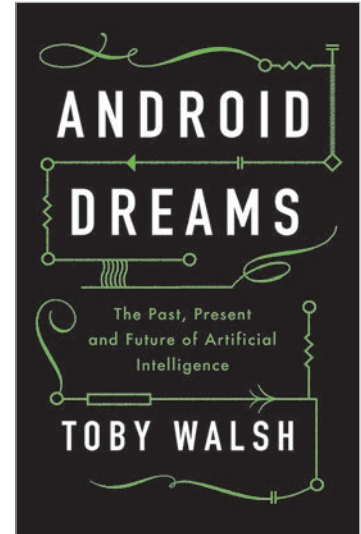
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Abedin, Mahan	34	Hardy, Roger	21	Polakow-Suransky, Sasha	39
Abraham, Thomas	13	Harris, William	40	<i>Polio</i>	13
Abson & Company	24	Herbst, Jeffrey	41	<i>Quicksilver War</i>	40
<i>Addis Ababa Massacre, The</i>	41	<i>High Command</i>	14	Reitano, Tuesday	20
<i>African Kaiser</i>	41	Ibrahim, Azeem	42	Rid, Thomas	14
Alaaldin, Ranj	35	<i>Impossible Revolution, The</i>	40	<i>Rohingyas, The</i>	42
Alkhateeb, Firas	43	<i>Infidel Within, The</i>	19	Roy, Olivier	42
Alpern, Stanley B.	24	<i>Inglorious Empire</i>	38	<i>Sacred Warriors</i>	35
Al-Rasheed, Madawi	33	<i>Inside the Arab State</i>	12	Saleh, Yassin Al-Haj	40
<i>An African in Imperial London</i>	25	<i>Inside the Mind of Marine Le Pen</i>	2	<i>Salman's Legacy</i>	33
<i>An Intimate War</i>	14	<i>Inside the Mind of Vladimir Putin</i>	3	Sardar, Ziauddin	37
<i>Android Dreams</i>	43	<i>Iran Resurgent</i>	34	<i>Sayyid Qutb</i>	32
Ansari, Humayun	19	<i>Islam in Central Asia</i>	30	Seabrook, Jeremy	9
<i>Australianama</i>	26	<i>Islamic State in Khorasan, The</i>	29	<i>Shooting Up</i>	42
Balci, Bayram	30	<i>Islamist Terrorism in Europe</i>	18	Simpson, Emile	14
Bird, S. Elizabeth	23	<i>Jihad and Death</i>	42	<i>Skull of Alum Bheg, The</i>	38
Bonnefoy, Laurent	31	Jones, Danell	25	Slater, Martin	4
Calvert, John	32	Kamienski, Lukasz	42	<i>Spies in the Congo</i>	16
Campbell, Ian	41	Kamrava, Mehran	12	<i>Struggle for Catalonia, The</i>	39
Chatty, Dawn	40	Khatun, Samia	26	<i>Surviving Biafra</i>	23
<i>Colonial Violence</i>	38	Klaas, Brian	6, 7	<i>Syria</i>	40
<i>Critical Muslim 25/26</i>	37	Lendvai, Paul	39	Taylor, Neil	10
<i>Cyber War Will Not Take Place</i>	14	<i>Lost Islamic History</i>	43	Tharoor, Shashi	38
Darke, Diana	1	MacDonogh, Giles	11	Tinti, Peter	20
Davis, Dickie	41	<i>Making Africa Work</i>	41	Umelio, Rosina	23
<i>Despot's Accomplice, The</i>	6	Martell, Peter	22	Verhoeven, Harry	36
<i>Despot's Apprentice, The</i>	7	Martin, Mike	14, 15	Wagner, Kim A.	38
Durrani, Asad	28	<i>Mayor of Mogadishu, The</i>	17	Walsh, Toby	43
Elliott, Christopher L.	14	<i>Merchant of Syria, The</i>	1	Walter, Dierk	38
Eltchaninoff, Michel	2, 3	<i>Migrant, Refugee, Smuggler</i>	20	<i>War From the Ground Up</i>	14
<i>Empire of Enchantment</i>	8	Mills, Greg	41	<i>Why We Fight</i>	15
<i>Empire's New Clothes, The</i>	5	Minder, Raphael	39	Williams, Susan	16
<i>Environmental Politics in the ME</i>	36	Murphy, Philip	5	<i>Yemen and the World</i>	31
<i>Estonia</i>	10	<i>National Debt, The</i>	4	Zubrzycki, John	8
<i>Extinction Market, The</i>	43	Nesser, Petter	18		
Felbab-Brown, Vanda	43	<i>Nonviolent Struggle, The</i>	27		
<i>First Raise A Flag</i>	22	Obasanjo, Olusegun	41		
Gaudi, Robert	41	<i>On Germany</i>	11		
Giustozzi, Antonio	29	Orbán	39		
<i>Go Back to Where You Came From</i>	39	<i>Orphans</i>	9		
Hardiman, David	27	<i>Pakistan Adrift</i>	28		
Harding, Andrew	17	<i>Poisoned Well, The</i>	21		



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