In the Service of the Sultan

By Ian R. Gardiner
Genre: Middle East

Release Date: 2007-01-19

In the Service of the Sultan by Ian R. Gardiner is Middle East While the Americans were fighting in Vietnam, a struggle of even greater strategic significance was taking place in the Middle East: the Sultanate of Oman guards the entrance to the Arabian Gulf, and thus controls the movement of oil from that region. In the 1960s and 70s, the Communists tried to seize this artery and, had they succeeded, the consequences for the West and for the Middle East would have been disastrous - and yet, few people have ever heard of this geo-political drama at the height of the Cold War. In the Service of the Sultan tells, first-hand, the largely unknown story of a small number of British officers who led Muslim soldiers in this hard-fought anti-insurgency war which has shaped today’s Gulf. After outlining the historical, geographical and political background, the book describes military action in a stark and mountainous environment, including operations with irregular forces and the SAS as well as action in the air and at sea. The book gives a gripping, moving, funny account of all these and paints a powerful and illuminating picture of the realities of war. It will appeal to all who are interested in the Cold War and relationships between the Western and the Arab worlds. Politics, history, irregular warfare, religion, international affairs: all are ingredients in this absorbing, informative read. In the light of the current insurgencies in Iraq and Afghanistan, it is also timely to be reminded how a rare victory was won over Communist guerrillas.

More Recommended Books

Κωνσταντινούπολη. Μια Ιστορία Τριών Πόλεων

By: Bettany Hughes

Η Κωνσταντινούπολη ήταν ανέκαθεν ένας τόπος όπου οι ιστορίες συγκρούονται με την Ιστορία, όπου το αφήγημα είναι τόσο δυνατό όσο το καθαρό ιστορικό γεγονός. Από το Κοράνιο μέχρι τον Σαϊξπήρ, η πόλη με τα τρία ονόματα –Βυζάντιο, Κωνσταντινούπολη, Ιστανμπούλ–, αντηχεί ως ιδέα και ως τόπος και ξεπερνά τα σύνορά της, πραγματικά και φανταστικά. Η πύλη ανάμεσα στην Ανατολή και στη Δύση, τον Βορρά και τον Νότο, έχει λειτουργήσει ως πρωτεύουσα της Ευρώπης και της Ανατολίας. Για ένα μεγάλο χρονικό διάστημα της ύπαρξής της το κοσμοπολίτικο αυτό μέρος ήταν γνωστό απλώς ως Η Πολιτεία, αλλά, όπως αποκαλύπτει η Μπέτανι Χιουζ, δεν αποτελεί μόνο μια πολιτεία αλλά μια παγκόσμια ιστορία. Στο επικό αυτό βιβλίο, η Χιουζ μάς οδηγεί σε δυνατές μερίδες της θρησκευτικής, της θρησκευτικής, της Ανατολίας και της Οθωμανικής. Φανέρωσε ό,τι η Κωνσταντινούπολη ήταν μία από τις μεγαλύτερες πόλεις της ιστορίας, εξερευνώντας τρόπους με τους οποίους η επιρροή της διαμόρφωσε τον ευρύτερο κόσμο. Η Χιουζ
μελετά αυτό που απαιτείται για να γίνει μια πολιτεία και αφηγείται την ιστορία όχι μόνο αυτοκρατόρων, βεζίρηδων, χαλίφηδων και σουλτάνων, αλλά των φτωχών και όσων δεν έχουν φωνή, γυναικών και αντρών των οποίων οι προσδοκίες και τα όνειρα επανεφηύραν την Κωνσταντινούπολη. Βασισμένο σε λεπτομερή έρευνα και στοιχεία που συλλέχθηκαν επί μια δεκαετία καθώς και νέα αρχαιολογικά ευρήματα, πρόκειται για ένα συναρπαστικό πορτρέτο μιας σπουδαίας πόλης.

**Mirror of the Arab World: Lebanon in Conflict**

By: **Sandra Mackey**

How the recent history of Lebanon provides insight into the many trials currently facing the larger Arab community. It is crucial to the interests of the West to grasp the complexities of the Arab world. In this clear, concise volume, Sandra Mackey provides a unique view of this tortured and tortuous region through the lens of Lebanon. A small, fractured country at the gateway of the Arab east, Lebanon signals the challenges that the Arab world poses to itself and to the West. As Mackey vividly demonstrates, the Lebanese have experienced every issue currently roiling the Middle East: borders contrived by others, a weak state housing weak institutions, a Palestinian presence, civil war, resistance to societal and political change, Sunni/Shia sectarianism, occupation, militant Islam as a political ideology, conflict over the common identity essential to turning a fragile state into a viable nation, a troubled democratic tradition, and war perpetrated by forces inside and outside its borders. Lessons learned from these conflicts will ease understanding and resolution elsewhere.

**Enemies and Neighbours**

By: **Ian Black**

SUNDAY TIMES AND GUARDIAN BOOKS OF THE YEAR 2017 'Comprehensive and compelling ... A nuanced, landmark study that has deservedly won plaudits from both Palestinian and Israeli historians' Justin Marozzi, The Times A century after Britain’s Balfour Declaration promised a Jewish 'national home' in Palestine, veteran Guardian journalist Ian Black has produced a major new history of one of the most polarising conflicts of the modern age. Drawing on a wide range of sources - from declassified documents to oral testimonies and his own decades of reporting - Enemies and Neighbours brings much-needed perspective and balance to the long and unresolved struggle between Arabs and Jews in the Holy Land. Beginning in the final years of Ottoman rule and the British Mandate period, when Zionist immigration transformed Palestine in the face of mounting Arab opposition, the book re-examines the origins of what was a doomed relationship from the start. It sheds fresh light on critical events such as the Arab rebellion of the 1930s; Israel's independence and the Palestinian catastrophe (Nakba in Arabic) of 1948; the watershed of the 1967 war; two Intifadas; the Oslo Accords and Israel's shift to the right. It traces how - after five decades of occupation, ever-expanding Jewish settlements and the construction of the West Bank 'separation wall' - hopes for a two-state solution have all but disappeared, and explores what the future might hold. Yet Black also goes beyond the most newsworthy events - wars, violence and peace initiatives - to capture thereality of everyday life on the ground in Jerusalem and Hebron, Tel Aviv, Ramallah, Haifa and Gaza, for both sides of an unequal struggle. Lucid, timely and gripping, Enemies and Neighbours illuminates a bitter conflict that shows no sign of ending - which is why it is so essential that we understand it.

**The Palestine-Israeli Conflict**

By: **Dan Cohn-Sherbok & Dawoud El-Alami**

With coverage of all the recent events, the new edition of this best-selling book gives a thorough and accessible account of the history behind the Palestine-Israeli conflict, its roots, and the possibilities for the future. The book is divided into two parts: the first by an American rabbi and professor of Judaism, and the second by a Palestinian lecturer on Islam. The result is a real insight into the
situation, with each author giving full vent to the emotions behind the two sides of the debate. New material outlines recent developments, while an updated conclusion consists of a direct debate between the two authors, which raises many issues, yet offers real solutions to which future peace talks may aspire.

**Chaos und Glaubenskrieg**

By : Patrick Cockburn


**The Ottoman Endgame**

By : Sean McMeekin

'An outstanding history ... one of the best writers on the First World War' Simon Sebag Montefiore Shortlisted for the Duke of Westminster Medal for Military Literature The Ottoman Endgame is the first, and definitive, single-volume history of the Ottoman empire's agonising war for survival. Beginning with Italy's invasion of Ottoman Tripoli in September 1911, the Empire was in a permanent state of emergency, with hardly a frontier not under direct threat. Assailed by enemies on all sides, the Empire—which had for generations been assumed to be a rotten shell—proved to be strikingly resilient, beating off major attacks at Gallipoli and in Mesopotamia before finally being brought down in the general ruin of the Central Powers in 1918. As the Europeans planned to partition all its lands between them and with even Istanbul seemingly helpless in the face of the triumphant Entente, an absolutely unexpected entity emerged: modern Turkey. Under the startling genius of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, a powerful new state emerged from the Empire's fragments. This is the first time an author has woven the entire epic together from start to finish - and it will cause many readers to fundamentally re-evaluate their understanding of the conflict. The consequences, well into the 21st century, could not have been more momentous - with countries as various as Serbia, Greece, Libya, Armenia, Iraq and Syria still living with them.

**Zionism, Post-Zionism & the Arab Problem**

By : Yosef Mazur

Dr. Mazurs book is a must read! It will serve to uplift the young of our generation and strengthen their confidence and trust in the righteousness of the Zionist way Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Moshe (Bogie) Yaalon Vice Prime Minister & Minister of Strategic Affairs Belongs in the permanent collection of core books owned by every person who loves Zion and cares about the welfare of the State of Israel Zvi Hauser, Cabinet Secretary, Govt of Israel Definition of the problem is half the solution. Dr. Mazurs complete and comprehensive display of the core issues allows the reader to fully understand the Arab-Israeli conflict from the Zionist perspective and understand that world peace will not come from further Israeli concessions Prof. Gabi Avital, former Chief Scientist, Israel Ministry of Education Chairman, Professors for a Safe Israel With immense patience and the precision of a
surgeon, Dr. Mazur allows the facts to speak for themselves which makes a refutation of Israels right
to exist practically impossible Prof. Dan Meirstein, President, Ariel University Center Dr. Mazurs
book is the answer for anyone who wants to know the truth rather than the lies and distortions
constantly hurled at the Jewish people and the Zionist enterprise Dr. Yossi Achimeir, Director,
Jabotinsky Institute "Dr. Mazur has revealed the secrets and dangers of post-Zionism and his
stunning conclusions will contribute to the life-or-death discourse of our nation." Prof. Rafi Israeli,
The Hebrew University

**History of Egypt From 330 B.C. To the Present Time, Volume 10 (of 12)**

By : S. Rappoport
Ukrainian-British historian Angelo Solomon Rappoport describes the history of Egypt from ancient
times to the 1800s in this book published in London in 1904.

**Tarihizimden Yaşanmış Öyküler**

By : Yavuz Bahadıroğlu
Tarihizim şanlı zaferlerle doludur. Biz tarihizimle övünüz. Çünkü tarihizim gerçekten övünulecek
bir tarihtir. Bu kitapta, tarihin şanlı sayfalarından seçilmiş örnekler bulacaksınız. Tarihizimden
yaşanmış öyküleri zevkle okuyacak ve gerçekten şeref dolu bir tarehe sahip olduğunu
anlayacaksınız. Tarih ibrettir. Tarih ölçüdür. Tarih yalnızca bilgi değil, geleceğin aynasıdır. Tarihi iyi
bilen, geleceğinden emin olur.

**The Lebanon (Mount Souria); a history and a diary. Vol. II.**

By : David Urquhart
The HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE EAST collection includes books from the British Library digitised by
Microsoft. This collection reflects the changing perceptions of Western historians, travellers, traders,
and others surveying the Middle East. Texts and first-person travelogues include illustrated volumes.
Other works focus on the earlier history of Persian and Arabic areas of the world.
I read this book in parallel with "The Sultan in Oman," account by Jan Morris of her trip in the mid-1950s with Qaboos’ father when he united the country. Anyone traveling to Oman (also recommended) should read both books. It will allow you to appreciate all the more how far this country has progressed in the past 50 years. This was a resounding and hard-fought victory against a well equipped and trained Communist threat. If you want to read about how to lose a war, read any book about the American experience in Vietnam. If you want to gain insight on the trials and struggles on the path to achieving a victory in modern war, "In The Service of the Sultan" is a must-read. Read more.

5 people found this helpful. The Sultan of Brunei often appears in a medal-studded military uniform or traditional tunic made with gold and silver thread, with a jewel-studded dagger in his belt. Among his good friends are Prince Charles of England. His Majesty plays polo, squash and badminton. He is also a qualified pilot of both aeroplanes and helicopters. In 1992, the Silver Jubilee of the reign of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was celebrated. Sultan of Brunei as the Ruler of Brunei. In 1978, His Majesty led a Mission to London for discussions with Her Britannic Majesty’s Government on the change of status of Brunei Darussalam to that of a sovereign, independent state. Suleiman I (Ottoman Turkish: سلطان سليمان اول‎ Sultan Süleyman-ı Evvel; Turkish: Birinci Süleyman, Kanunî Sultan Süleyman or Muhteşem Süleyman; 6 November 1494 – 6 September 1566), commonly known as Suleiman the Magnificent in the West and Kanunî Sultan Süleyman (Ottoman Turkish: قانونى سلطان سليمان‎; "The Lawgiver Suleiman") in his realm, was the tenth and longest-reigning Sultan of the Ottoman Empire from 1520 until his death in 1566. Under his administration, the Ottoman state ruled over at least