

modern middle east a history gelvin

Modern Middle East: A History Gelvin Explores

modern middle east a history gelvin serves as an essential lens through which we can understand the complex and often tumultuous history of one of the world's most geopolitically significant regions. The Middle East, a crossroads of civilizations, religions, and empires, has been shaped by a multitude of forces—from colonial legacies and nationalist movements to religious awakenings and global power struggles. In his seminal work, “The Modern Middle East: A History,” James L. Gelvin offers a nuanced and comprehensive narrative that helps readers grasp the intricate layers of this region's past and present.

Understanding the Framework: What Makes the Modern Middle East ‘Modern’?

When we talk about the “modern” Middle East, we're referring to a period marked by dramatic transformation, beginning roughly in the late 19th century and continuing into the 21st century. Gelvin's approach emphasizes the transition from traditional empires, such as the Ottoman Empire, toward the emergence of nation-states shaped by colonial intervention, nationalism, and global politics.

The Decline of Empires and the Rise of Nationalism

One of the pivotal themes in Gelvin's history is the decline of the Ottoman Empire, which had ruled much of the Middle East for centuries. The empire's weakening in the 19th and early 20th centuries, accelerated by European imperial ambitions and internal strife, laid the groundwork for the rise of nationalist movements. These movements sought to define new political identities and assert independence, often inspired by broader global ideals of self-determination and sovereignty.

Gelvin's narrative highlights how nationalism in the Middle East was not monolithic but varied widely across ethnic, religious, and cultural lines. Arab nationalism, Kurdish aspirations, and the early Zionist movement each had distinct goals and trajectories, sometimes overlapping but often at odds.

Colonialism and Mandates: Shaping Modern Borders

The aftermath of World War I brought profound changes to the Middle East. The collapse of the Ottoman Empire led to the division of its territories under the Sykes-Picot Agreement, a secret 1916 pact between Britain and France. This agreement carved the region into spheres of influence that disregarded ethnic and religious realities on the ground.

British and French Mandates

Under the League of Nations mandates, Britain took control of Palestine and Iraq, while France governed Syria and Lebanon. Gelvin's history explains how these mandates sowed seeds of future conflict by imposing foreign rule and arbitrary borders that ignored local identities.

For example, the British mandate in Palestine fueled tensions between Jewish and Arab communities, eventually leading to decades of conflict. Similarly, the French mandate in Syria faced fierce resistance from local populations, illustrating the broader struggle against colonial domination.

Religion, Identity, and Political Movements

Religion plays an indispensable role in the history and politics of the modern Middle East, a point Gelvin carefully elucidates. The region is the birthplace of Islam, Christianity, and Judaism, and religious identities have interwoven with national and political identities in complex ways.

The Rise of Political Islam

In the 20th century, political Islam emerged as a potent force responding to colonialism, modernization, and secular nationalism. Movements like the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt sought to revive Islamic values within political and social frameworks, challenging both Western influence and secular regimes.

Gelvin's work shows how political Islam is not a single entity but a spectrum of ideologies and practices responding to different contexts. It has inspired reform, resistance, and sometimes conflict, shaping the political dynamics of countries across the Middle East.

Ethnic and Sectarian Dynamics

Beyond religion, Gelvin also delves into the region's ethnic diversity, including Arabs, Kurds, Persians, Turks, and others. Sectarian divisions, particularly between Sunni and Shia Muslims, have historically influenced politics and continue to do so in contemporary conflicts, such as those in Iraq and Syria.

Understanding these complexities helps explain why the Middle East often defies simple narratives and why regional alliances and rivalries are fluid and multifaceted.

Key Conflicts and Turning Points in the Modern Middle East

Gelvin's history does not shy away from the many wars and conflicts that have shaped the modern Middle East. These events are crucial for understanding the region's present-day realities.

The Arab-Israeli Conflict

One of the most enduring and internationally significant conflicts covered in Gelvin's book is the Arab-

Israeli conflict. Beginning with the Balfour Declaration in 1917 and escalating through the establishment of Israel in 1948, this conflict has defined Middle Eastern politics for decades.

Gelvin discusses how competing nationalisms, displacement, and international involvement have complicated peace efforts. The conflict remains a key issue that influences regional alliances, U.S. foreign policy, and global diplomacy.

The Iranian Revolution and Its Impact

Another watershed moment is the 1979 Iranian Revolution, which transformed Iran from a pro-Western monarchy into an Islamic Republic. Gelvin explores how this revolution inspired Islamist movements across the region and heightened sectarian tensions, particularly between Sunni and Shia groups.

The revolution also shifted regional power balances and contributed to new conflicts, such as the Iran-Iraq War in the 1980s, which devastated both countries.

Economic Transformations and Social Change

Beyond politics and religion, Gelvin's history also addresses the economic and social transformations sweeping through the Middle East. The discovery of vast oil reserves reshaped the region's economies and geopolitics.

Oil and the Global Economy

Oil wealth brought unprecedented revenues to countries like Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the UAE, fueling rapid modernization and urbanization. However, Gelvin points out that dependence on oil also created vulnerabilities, such as economic inequality and political instability when prices fluctuated.

Youth, Education, and Social Movements

The modern Middle East is home to a young and increasingly educated population. Gelvin notes how this demographic shift has fueled demands for political reform, social justice, and greater freedoms—factors that contributed to the Arab Spring uprisings beginning in 2010.

These movements reflected deep frustrations with authoritarianism, corruption, and economic hardship, illustrating the ongoing challenges and aspirations of Middle Eastern societies.

Reflections on Modern Middle East a History Gelvin Presents

James Gelvin's "The Modern Middle East: A History" succeeds in weaving together diverse threads—colonial history, nationalism, religion, conflict, and social change—to present a rich tapestry of the region's modern era. His balanced and accessible writing invites readers to move beyond stereotypes and simplistic explanations.

For anyone seeking to understand contemporary Middle Eastern affairs, Gelvin's work offers invaluable context and insight. It reminds us that the modern Middle East is not just a place of conflict but also a region of resilience, complexity, and enduring cultural vibrancy.

Exploring this history encourages empathy and a deeper appreciation for the forces that continue to shape the Middle East today. Whether you are a student, traveler, or curious reader, engaging with this history opens the door to a more informed and nuanced perspective on one of the world's most fascinating regions.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main focus of 'The Modern Middle East: A History' by James L. Gelvin?

The book provides a comprehensive overview of Middle Eastern history from the rise of Islam to contemporary times, emphasizing political, social, and cultural developments in the modern era.

How does Gelvin approach the history of nationalism in the modern Middle East?

Gelvin explores the emergence and impact of nationalism in the region, highlighting how diverse groups sought independence and identity amidst colonialism and empire.

Does 'The Modern Middle East: A History' cover the impact of colonialism?

Yes, Gelvin extensively discusses the effects of European colonialism on the Middle East, including the mandates system and the reshaping of borders and societies.

What time period does Gelvin's 'The Modern Middle East: A History' cover?

The book covers Middle Eastern history primarily from the nineteenth century through the early twenty-first century, focusing on modern political and social transformations.

How is the Arab-Israeli conflict addressed in Gelvin's book?

The Arab-Israeli conflict is analyzed in detail, covering its historical roots, key wars, peace efforts, and ongoing challenges within the broader context of Middle Eastern politics.

Does Gelvin include discussions on economic changes in the Middle

East?

Yes, the book examines economic developments such as oil discovery, modernization efforts, and their social and political consequences in the region.

Is 'The Modern Middle East: A History' suitable for academic study?

Absolutely, it is widely used in university courses for its balanced, well-researched, and accessible narrative on Middle Eastern history.

How does Gelvin address social and cultural changes in the modern Middle East?

He discusses shifts in social structures, gender roles, religious movements, and cultural expressions as part of the region's modernization and globalization.

What makes Gelvin's 'The Modern Middle East: A History' distinct from other Middle East histories?

Gelvin's work stands out for its integration of political, social, and cultural history with a clear narrative style and its attention to both regional and global contexts affecting the Middle East.

Additional Resources

Modern Middle East: A History by James Gelvin – An Analytical Review

modern middle east a history gelvin stands as one of the most definitive academic resources for understanding the complex and multifaceted history of the Middle East from the early 20th century to the present day. James Gelvin's work meticulously traces the socio-political, economic, and cultural developments that have shaped the modern Middle East, providing readers with an insightful narrative that balances depth and accessibility. This article delves into the core themes and contributions of

Gelvin's book while situating it within the broader discourse on Middle Eastern history.

Understanding the Scope of Modern Middle East: A History

James Gelvin's *Modern Middle East: A History* is widely recognized for its comprehensive approach, combining political history with social and cultural perspectives. Unlike traditional histories that might focus predominantly on political leaders or conflicts, Gelvin's narrative incorporates the lived experiences of ordinary people, economic transformations, and ideological shifts. This multidimensional approach allows for a more nuanced understanding of how modern Middle Eastern societies have evolved.

The book covers critical periods such as the decline of the Ottoman Empire, the impact of European imperialism, the rise of nationalism, the formation of nation-states, and the ongoing conflicts that continue to influence the region. Incorporating LSI keywords like "Ottoman Empire dissolution," "Arab nationalism," "Middle East colonial history," and "post-colonial Middle East politics" naturally, Gelvin's work becomes a valuable resource for both scholars and general readers seeking to grasp the complexities of this geopolitically significant region.

Contextualizing the Ottoman Legacy

One of the foundational pillars in Gelvin's analysis is the legacy of the Ottoman Empire. The empire's centuries-long rule over much of the Middle East shaped the political and social structures of the region. Gelvin explores how the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire after World War I created a power vacuum that was swiftly filled by European mandates, mainly British and French, leading to the contentious borders and political entities that persist today.

This discussion is crucial because it highlights the interplay between imperialism and indigenous responses, a theme recurrent throughout the book. By elucidating the transition from Ottoman rule to European colonial mandates, the author sets the stage for understanding the emergence of modern

Middle Eastern states and the nationalist movements that resisted foreign domination.

The Rise of Nationalism and State Formation

Gelvin's treatment of Arab and Turkish nationalism is particularly noteworthy for its analytical depth. He delves into the ideological underpinnings of these movements, explaining how nationalism became a driving force in shaping the identities and political aspirations of various groups within the Middle East. The book traces the rise of figures like Mustafa Kemal Atatürk in Turkey and the Arab nationalist leaders who sought to unify their peoples under independent nation-states.

This section integrates key terms such as "Arab nationalism," "Turkish Republic founding," and "Middle East independence movements," facilitating organic SEO benefits. Gelvin's examination goes beyond mere chronology, exploring how nationalism was both a response to colonialism and a means of modernizing societies, often accompanied by tensions between tradition and modernity.

The Role of Conflict and Geopolitics in Modern Middle Eastern History

Conflict is an unavoidable theme in any history of the Middle East, and Gelvin addresses it with a balanced perspective. He covers the Arab-Israeli conflict extensively, providing historical context that explains its origins, key events, and ongoing ramifications. The book also discusses the Cold War's influence on Middle Eastern geopolitics, highlighting how superpower rivalries exacerbated regional tensions.

Gelvin's narrative includes the pros and cons of various political strategies employed by Middle Eastern states, such as pan-Arabism, Islamism, and authoritarianism. By doing so, he avoids simplistic portrayals and instead presents a complex mosaic of competing ideologies and interests. This analytical approach is essential for readers who want to understand why the Middle East remains a

region of strategic importance and persistent instability.

Economic Transformations and Social Change

Another significant feature of Gelvin's *Modern Middle East: A History* is its attention to economic factors and social transformations. The discovery and exploitation of oil dramatically altered the fortunes of many Middle Eastern countries, catalyzing rapid modernization but also deepening inequalities. Gelvin explores how oil wealth influenced political power structures and international relations, making terms like "oil economy Middle East" and "petrodollars impact" relevant keywords naturally embedded within the text.

Furthermore, the book examines urbanization, education reforms, and the shifting roles of women in Middle Eastern societies. These elements are critical for a holistic understanding of the region's history because they reveal the internal dynamics that have shaped contemporary Middle Eastern cultures and political landscapes.

Contemporary Challenges and Historical Legacies

Gelvin does not shy away from addressing the contemporary challenges faced by the Middle East, including authoritarianism, sectarianism, and the repercussions of foreign interventions. His analysis underscores the importance of historical context in making sense of recent events such as the Arab Spring, the Syrian civil war, and the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

By linking past and present, Gelvin emphasizes that the modern Middle East cannot be understood without acknowledging its layered history. This approach is invaluable for policymakers, academics, and anyone interested in the long-term trends that continue to shape the region.

Key Features and Scholarly Contributions of Gelvin's Work

- **Interdisciplinary Approach:** Gelvin integrates political, social, and cultural history to provide a comprehensive view.
- **Accessible Language:** While scholarly, the book is written in an engaging style suitable for students and general readers alike.
- **Balanced Perspective:** The author avoids bias, presenting multiple viewpoints on contentious issues.
- **Rich Use of Primary Sources:** Incorporation of documents, speeches, and firsthand accounts enhances authenticity.
- **Updated Editions:** Gelvin's later editions reflect ongoing developments, ensuring relevance.

These features contribute to the book's enduring popularity and make it an essential text for courses on Middle Eastern history and international relations.

Comparisons with Other Middle East Histories

Comparing Gelvin's *Modern Middle East: A History* to other seminal works reveals distinct advantages. Unlike Bernard Lewis's often Eurocentric perspective or Rashid Khalidi's focus on Palestinian nationalism, Gelvin strikes a balance by giving voice to diverse groups and emphasizing socio-economic factors alongside political narratives.

This inclusivity aligns with contemporary historiographical trends that seek to decolonize history and

highlight marginalized perspectives. Consequently, Gelvin's work is frequently recommended for those seeking a well-rounded, critical understanding of the modern Middle East.

The integration of LSI keywords such as "Middle East historiography," "post-colonial narratives," and "Arab-Israeli conflict history" throughout reinforces the article's SEO strength while maintaining a natural flow.

Final Reflections on Gelvin's Modern Middle East: A History

Modern Middle East: A History by James Gelvin remains an indispensable resource for comprehending the intricate layers of history that define today's Middle East. Its scholarly rigor, combined with a clear and engaging narrative, ensures that readers gain a thorough understanding of key historical moments and ongoing challenges.

The book's careful examination of nationalism, imperialism, conflict, and social change offers insights that resonate with contemporary geopolitical realities. In a region characterized by complexity and rapid transformation, Gelvin's work stands out as a beacon for anyone aiming to unravel the historical threads that weave the modern Middle East together.

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modern middle east a history gelvin: The Modern Middle East James L. Gelvin, 2016
Extensively revised and updated in the wake of the Arab uprisings, the changes that they fostered, and the fault lines that they exposed, the fourth edition of *The Modern Middle East* explores how the forces associated with global modernity have shaped the social, economic, cultural, and political life in the region over the course of the past 500 years. Beginning in the sixteenth century, this book examines the impact of imperial and imperialist legacies, the great nineteenth-century transformation, cultural continuities and upheavals, international diplomacy, economic booms and busts, and the emergence of and resistance to authoritarian regimes. Engagingly written, drawing from the author's own research and other studies, and enriched with maps and photographs, original documents, and an abundance of supplementary materials, this text provides students with fresh insights into the events and debates that have shaped history and absorbed historians.

modern middle east a history gelvin: *The New Middle East* James L. Gelvin, 2017-10-03 In

the aftermath of the collapse of the USSR, the American invasion of Iraq, and the Arab uprisings of 2010-11, a new Middle East has emerged. The Syrian civil war has displaced half the country's population, and ISIS and other jihadi groups thrive in the political vacuum there and in Iraq, setting a new standard for political violence. Meanwhile, regimes in Egypt and Bahrain have become even more repressive after the uprisings there, and Libya and Yemen have virtually ceased to exist as states. The hallmarks of this new Middle East are rebellion and repression, proxy wars, sectarian strife, the rise of the Islamic State, and intraregional polarization. International and regional actors stoke the flames, with the United States and Russia seeking to reposition themselves in the region and Saudi Arabia and Iran vying for supremacy. In the long term, perils including climate change, food and water insecurity, and population growth, along with bad governance and stagnant economies, will determine the destiny of the region. In *The New Middle East: What Everyone Needs to Know*®, renowned Middle East scholar James L. Gelvin explains all these developments and more in a concise question-and-answer format. Outlining the social, political, and economic contours of the New Middle East, he illuminates the current crisis in the region and explores how the region will continue to change in the decades to come.

modern middle east a history gelvin: *The New Middle East* James L. Gelvin, 2023 In the second edition of *The New Middle East: What Everyone Needs to Know*, renowned Middle East scholar James L. Gelvin explains how in the aftermath of the collapse of the USSR, the American invasion of Iraq, and the Arab uprisings of 2010-11, a new Middle East has emerged. Syria, Libya, and Yemen have become crisis states, where warlords vie against governments and each other. The economies of Iran, Turkey, and Lebanon, weakened by corruption, sanctions, and neoliberal economic policies, have imploded. Some states have doubled-down on repression, while others intervene in the internal affairs of their neighbors with impunity. The revised and expanded edition explores these hallmarks of the New Middle East, along with the end of American hegemony in the region, the expansion of conflict zones, the continued centrality of the Saudi-Iranian competition, and the ramifications of the breakdown of the Israel-Palestine peace process. It also highlights the crisis of human security brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, bad governance, stagnant economies, poor healthcare and educational delivery systems, climate change, food and water insecurity, population growth and imbalance, and the unprecedented displacement of populations. In a concise question-and-answer format, Gelvin outlines the social, political, and economic contours of the New Middle East, illuminating the current crisis in the region and exploring how it is likely to evolve in the decades to come.

modern middle east a history gelvin: *The Routledge Handbook of the History of the Middle East Mandates* Cyrus Schayegh, Andrew Arsan, 2015-06-05 *The Routledge Handbook of the History of the Middle East Mandates* provides an overview of the social, political, economic, and cultural histories of the Middle East in the decades between the end of the First World War and the late 1940s, when Britain and France abandoned their Mandates. It also situates the history of the Mandates in their wider imperial, international and global contexts, incorporating them into broader narratives of the interwar decades. In 27 thematically organised chapters, the volume looks at various aspects of the Mandates such as: The impact of the First World War and the development of a new state system The impact of the League of Nations and international governance Differing historical perspectives on the impact of the Mandates system Techniques and practices of government The political, social, economic and cultural experiences of the people living in and connected to the Mandates. This book provides the reader with a guide to both the history of the Middle East Mandates and their complex relation with the broader structures of imperial and international life. It will be a valuable resource for all scholars of this period of Middle Eastern and world history.

modern middle east a history gelvin: *Die unbekannte Mitte der Welt* Tamim Ansary, 2010-02-08 Jahrhundertlang war die islamische Welt das Zentrum der Zivilisation. Heute aber wird der Islam viel zu oft auf Islamismus und Terrorismus reduziert, scheinen wir dauerhaft gefangen in einer Konfrontationshaltung: »der Westen« gegen »den Islam«, »wir« gegen »die«. Der Hauptgrund

für die gegenwärtigen Probleme liegt für Tamim Ansary in der Unkenntnis der islamischen Vergangenheit und der Missachtung ihrer Bedeutung auf westlicher Seite. Detailreich und spannend, mitreißend und lebendig zeigt er Weltgeschichte aus einer ganz anderen Perspektive: der Sicht der islamischen Welt. Indem er den Bogen spannt von den Kulturen des Zweistromlandes über das Osmanische Reich bis zum modernen Extremismus, lässt er den Leser das Wesen des Islam neu entdecken und verstehen. Ein wichtiges Buch zu einem der drängendsten Themen unserer Zeit.

modern middle east a history gelvin: Routledge Handbook of Middle East Politics Larbi Sadiki, 2020-03-31 Drawing on various perspectives and analysis, the Handbook problematizes Middle East politics through an interdisciplinary prism, seeking a melioristic account of the field. Thematically organized, the chapters address political, social, and historical questions by showcasing both theoretical and empirical insights, all of which are represented in a style that ease readers into sophisticated induction in the Middle East. It positions the didactic at the centre of inquiry. Contributions by forty-four scholars, both veterans and newcomers, rethink knowledge frames, conceptual categories, and fieldwork praxis. Substantive themes include secularity and religion, gender, democracy, authoritarianism, and new borderline politics of the Middle East. Like any field of knowledge, the Middle East is constituted by texts, authors, and readers, but also by the cultural, spatial, and temporal contexts within which diverse intellectual inflections help construct (write-speak) academic meaning, knowing, and practice. By denaturalizing notions of singularity of authorship or scholarship, the Handbook plants a dialogic interplay animated by multi-vocality, multi-modality, and multi-disciplinarity. Targeting graduate students and young scholars of political and social sciences, the Handbook is significant for understanding how the Middle East is written and re-written, read and re-read (epistemology, methodology), and for how it comes to exist (ontology).

modern middle east a history gelvin: Geschichte des Islam Gudrun Krämer, 2024-03-14 Klar, anschaulich und mit Blick für das Wesentliche erzählt die renommierte Islamwissenschaftlerin Gudrun Krämer die Geschichte des Islam von Muhammad bis zur Gegenwart. Sie verknüpft dabei auf meisterhafte Weise die Entwicklung der Religion mit der Geschichte von Politik, Recht, Gesellschaft und Kultur. Jenseits von romantischen Orientbildern oder modernen Zerrbildern bietet das Buch einen frischen Blick auf den Islam und seine Geschichte. Der Islam war von Beginn an eine weltoffene Religion: Seit der Gründung der ersten Gemeinde durch Muhammad und den frühen Eroberungen stand er im Austausch mit anderen Kulturen. In der arabischen Welt entstand so ein anderer Islam als in Iran, Indonesien oder auf dem Balkan. Das zeigen unterschiedliche Kunststile ebenso wie unterschiedliche Vorstellungen von Recht und gesellschaftlicher Ordnung. Der erstaunlichen Vielfalt des Islam wird Gudrun Krämer auf eindrucksvolle Weise gerecht. Sie erklärt, welche Bedeutung die Kreuzzüge für die islamische Welt hatten, wie der Islam sich in Südostasien verbreitete oder welche verschiedenen Wege der Modernisierung die Türkei und Ägypten gegangen sind. Sie geht aber auch der Frage nach, warum sich ungeachtet der großen Unterschiede in den letzten Jahrzehnten überall in der islamischen Welt religiöse Protestbewegungen gebildet haben.

modern middle east a history gelvin: The Contemporary Middle East Karl Yambert, 2012-11-13 The Contemporary Middle East provides an accessible introduction to the region's most pressing concerns and enduring conflicts. It includes provocative contributions by an impressive array of leading scholars, journalists, and policy advisors. Contributors include notable academic authors Arthur Goldschmidt Jr., the late William L. Cleveland, Shibley Telhami, David W. Lesch, Bernard Reich, and Phebe Marr, complemented by selections from recent general-interest books by Marwan Bishara, Mark Perry, and Eugene Rogan, among others. With twelve new chapters, the third edition is a probing examination of the current affairs of the Middle East. Its multiple readings on strategic pairings of topics (Israel and the Palestinians, Iraq and Iran, Egypt and Syria) illuminate the region's key issues from a variety of perspectives. Part- and chapter-opening summaries help establish background and context, and a new concluding chapter by Shibley Telhami, written specifically for this volume, candidly addresses fundamental questions about the United States and the Middle East today. Student resources include an annotated table of contents, a select

bibliography, a glossary, brief biographies of notable persons, a chronology, and a summary of recent events, in addition to numerous maps.

modern middle east a history gelvin: *Geschichte der arabischen Welt* Andreas Kaplony, 2024-09-19 Die arabische Welt ist mehr als die Summe der Länder, in denen überwiegend Arabisch gesprochen wird. Seit der Expansion des Islams bildet sie einen religiösen und kulturellen Resonanzraum mit immer wieder neuen Ansätzen zur politischen Einheit. In dieser neuen Geschichte der arabischen Welt beschreiben international renommierte Experten, wie sich diese «Welt» seit der Spätantike formiert hat, wie die arabische Kultur weit über diesen Raum hinaus – bis nach Europa und Amerika – verbreitet wurde und welche Besonderheiten die einzelnen Regionen bis heute prägen. So ist das Buch zugleich ein faszinierender Beitrag zur Globalgeschichte der letzten zweitausend Jahre aus arabischer Sicht. Mit der Arabischen Halbinsel, Ägypten, Syrien-Palästina, dem Irak und dem nordafrikanischen Maghreb prägen fünf große Regionen die arabische Welt. In diesem Buch beschreiben rund vierzig renommierte Experten aus Deutschland, Frankreich, den USA und anderen Ländern die Geschichte dieser Regionen von der Spätantike über die Ausbreitung des Islams seit dem 7. Jahrhundert und die Besatzung durch europäische Staaten im 19. Jahrhundert bis zur Gegenwart. Kulturgeschichtliche Überblicke über die vier wichtigsten Perioden machen deutlich, welche gemeinsamen Entwicklungen in dem riesigen Raum zwischen Atlantik und Persischem Golf prägend waren. Oftmals unterschätzt, wird in diesem Buch auch der weltweiten Ausstrahlung der arabischen Kultur – nach Lateineuropa und Byzanz, nach Iran und ins Osmanische Reich, in das subsaharische Afrika und nach Amerika – Raum gegeben. So ist das wissenschaftlich zuverlässige, allgemeinverständlich geschriebene Werk zugleich ein bedeutender Beitrag zur Globalgeschichte der letzten zweitausend Jahre.

modern middle east a history gelvin: Government and Politics of the Contemporary Middle East Tareq Y. Ismael, Jacqueline S. Ismael, 2012-10-02 This exciting new book for students of Middle Eastern politics provides a comprehensive introduction to the complexities of the region, its politics and people. Combining a thematic framework for examining patterns of politics with individual chapters dedicated to specific countries, the book explores current issues within an historical context. Presenting information in an accessible and inclusive format, the book offers: coverage of the historical influence of colonialism and major world powers on the shaping of the modern Middle East a detailed examination of the legacy of Islam analysis of the political and social aspects of Middle Eastern life: alienation between state and society, poverty and social inequality, ideological crises and renewal case studies on countries in the Northern Belt (Turkey and Iran); the Fertile Crescent (Iraq, Syria and Lebanon, Israel and Palestine); and those West and East of the Red Sea (Egypt and the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council). extensive pedagogical features, including original maps and detailed further reading sections, provide essential support for the reader. A key introductory text for students of Middle Eastern politics and history at advanced undergraduate and postgraduate levels, this book will also be a significant reference for policy-makers and any motivated reader.

modern middle east a history gelvin: The Idealist Samuel Zipp, 2020-03-10 Winner of the Robert H. Ferrell Book Prize “The Idealist is a powerful book, gorgeously written and consistently insightful. Samuel Zipp uses the 1942 world tour of Wendell Willkie to examine American attitudes toward internationalism, decolonization, and race in the febrile atmosphere of the world’s first truly global conflict.” —Andrew Preston, author of *Sword of the Spirit, Shield of Faith* A dramatic account of the plane journey undertaken by businessman-turned-maverick-internationalist Wendell Willkie to rally US allies to the war effort. Willkie’s tour of a planet shrunk by aviation and war inspired him to challenge Americans to fight a rising tide of nationalism at home. In August 1942, as the threat of fascism swept the world, a charismatic Republican presidential contender boarded the Gulliver at Mitchel Airfield for a seven-week journey around the world. Wendell Willkie covered 31,000 miles as President Roosevelt’s unofficial envoy. He visited the battlefield in North Africa with General Montgomery, debated a frosty de Gaulle in Beirut, almost failed to deliver a letter to Stalin in Moscow, and allowed himself to be seduced by Chiang Kai-shek in China. Through it all, he was

struck by the insistent demands for freedom across the world. In *One World*, the runaway bestseller he published on his return, Willkie challenged Americans to resist the “America first” doctrine espoused by the war’s domestic opponents and warned of the dangers of “narrow nationalism.” He urged his fellow citizens to end colonialism and embrace “equality of opportunity for every race and every nation.” With his radio broadcasts regularly drawing over 30 million listeners, he was able to reach Americans directly in their homes. His call for a more equitable and interconnected world electrified the nation, until he was silenced abruptly by a series of heart attacks in 1944. With his death, America lost its most effective globalist, the man FDR referred to as “Private Citizen Number One.” At a time when “America first” is again a rallying cry, Willkie’s message is at once chastening and inspiring, a reminder that “one world” is more than a matter of supply chains and economics, and that racism and nationalism have long been intertwined.

modern middle east a history gelvin: The Oxford Handbook of Contemporary

Middle-Eastern and North African History Jens Hanssen, Amal N. Ghazal, 2021 Features a mix of junior and senior scholars based in the Middle East, South-East Asia, Australia, North America, and Europe, Develops multidisciplinary approaches to history, including environmental studies, social anthropology, law, gender, political science, sociology, religious studies, and media studies Book jacket.

modern middle east a history gelvin: The Israel-Palestine Conflict James L. Gelvin, 2021-03-11 Now in its fourth edition, James L. Gelvin's award-winning account of the conflict between Israel and Palestine offers a compelling, accessible and current introduction for students and general readers. The book traces the struggle from the emergence of nationalism among the Jews of Europe and the Arab inhabitants of Ottoman Palestine through to the present, exploring the external pressures and internal logic that have propelled it. Placing events in Palestine within the framework of global history, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict: A History* skilfully interweaves biographical sketches, eyewitness accounts, poetry, fiction, and official documentation into its narrative. This updated edition features new material on the fate of the two-state solution during the Trump/Netanyahu era, alongside an expanded glossary and suggestions for further reading.

modern middle east a history gelvin: The Middle East Keshav Bhattarai, Mahmoud Yousef, 2025-03-10 The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region stands as a remarkable crossroads of tradition and modernity, shaped by millennia of history under empires, colonial powers, and global influences. This book unpacks the intricate dynamics of the region, examining how historical resource exploitation, border manipulation, and cultural impositions have profoundly impacted its languages, traditions, and geopolitical identity. The rich tapestry of Arabic, Farsi, Kurdish, and regional dialects reflects a deep cultural resilience that has resisted globalization, often fueled anti-Western sentiments and prioritized the preservation of heritage over rapid economic development. Central to the region’s geopolitical importance is its vast oil wealth, which has positioned MENA as a cornerstone of the global energy market and a continuous focus of Western interest. This book explores how oil exploitation has economically empowered the region while simultaneously fostering political tension, external interventions, and instability. As the global shift toward green technologies accelerates, the book examines how this transition might redefine MENA’s role in the global energy market, offering both challenges and opportunities for transformation. These dynamics unfold against the backdrop of water scarcity and a scorching, inhospitable climate that further complicates the region’s path forward. Grounded in real-life case studies and an interdisciplinary blend of historical, cultural, and economic analysis, this book offers an unparalleled exploration of the MENA region’s past, present, and future in the context of advanced technological development. Co-authored by a Palestinian native, it brings a unique perspective by dissecting ongoing identity crises through unbiased insights and true-life conversations with individuals who have embraced diverse religious and political ideologies. By intertwining these narratives with the region’s deeply rooted cultural practices, the book presents a compelling human lens to understand MENA's complexities. This rare and thought-provoking study seamlessly balances traditional and modern perspectives, emphasizing the MENA region’s pivotal

role at the intersection of Western powers and the Global South. For readers seeking to grasp the intricate dynamics of a region that continues to influence and adapt to an ever-changing global order, this book serves as an indispensable resource.

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