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Oman: Politics And Society In The Qaboos State



Synopsis

When Sultan Qaboos overthrew his father as ruler of the Persian Gulf state of Oman in 1970, with the help of British advisers, few expected him to survive long. He was unknown to his own population, and the country was poor and plagued by civil wars. Yet he has built his regime's legitimacy on a policy of national unification, the assimilation of all of Oman to the oil rentier state framework, and of his state to the person of the sultan, the incarnation of the country's "renaissance." This book seeks to understand the mechanisms of social and political perpetuation of authoritarianism in post-colonial states such as Oman. It shows how one monarchical power has built and constantly renewed its basis to meet the internal and external challenges threatening its stability. Yet this book also raises the question of what happens when one part of this model, namely an oil-rent economy, falters, with half the population under fifteen years of age and when the privileges enjoyed till recently may no longer be tenable. Valeri also sheds light on the strategies adopted and challenges faced by other Arab monarchies in the Persian Gulf, Morocco and Jordan.

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Customer Reviews

"Marc Valeri has published a very useful addition to the scholarly literature on Oman since 1970."--Calvin H. Allen, *The Middle East Journal*"A comprehensive survey of

Oman...recommended."--Choice"Valeri has produced a helpful study based on extensive local

research and many interviews."--Middle East Policy"Without question *Oman: Politics and Society in the Qaboos State* is the best book available on the contemporary politics of Oman. The volume is

based on extensive local research, ties in fully to the other relevant work on the subject, and tells a compelling story in a way that combines lucid thematic analysis with accessible language."--Gerd Nonneman, University of Exeter" This is an important work and it provokes a multitude of questions and thoughts about the nature of the Qabus regime in Oman, its impact on the development of the Omani state since 1970, and a glimpse of the legacy that the Qabus will leave his country. It makes an excellent starting point for further inquiry."--Asian Affairs

Without question Oman: Politics and Society in the Qaboos State is the best book available on the contemporary politics of Oman. The volume is based on extensive local research, ties in fully to the other relevant work on the subject, and tells a compelling story in a way that combines lucid thematic analysis with accessible language. (Gerd Nonneman, University of Exeter) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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