DIVERSIFICATION IN THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF

Strategies of Knowledge Transfer for Economic Diversification in the Arab States of the Gulf

Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen, Neema Noori, Jean-Marc Rickli (eds.)

In the past decade, Qatar has emerged as one of the world’s most proactive mediators in the international arena. It has also experienced a number of domestic changes to its economic infrastructure, welfare system and political system, along with material improvement in its citizens’ standard of living. Nonetheless, despite such radical and rapid advances, political reform in Qatar has proved to be relatively tentative. This book assesses current policies designed to engender knowledge-based economies in the Gulf States, and analyzes how a diverse array of actors, including government agencies, national and transnational businesses, universities, and individuals coordinate and mediate the transmission of knowledge to support knowledge-intensive industries.

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Muhammad Shahrour

ISLAM AND HUMANITY: CONSEQUENCES OF A CONTEMPORARY READING
First Authorized English Translation of Al-Islam wa-l-Insan by George Stergios. with a Foreword by Dale F. Eickelman

„EXPLAIN THE QUR’AN BY THE QUR’AN“
Shahrour’s reading of the Qur’an is “modern” in that he directly engages the reader. He argues that we must act as if “the Prophet just died and informed us of this book” and interpret his message anew. The reader must actively interpret the meaning of the Qur’an. The Prophet Muhammad conveyed the last of God’s revelations; now, writes Shahrour, humankind is on its own to perfect itself and adapt to modern conditions.

“Allah and Humanity” won the 2017 Sheikh Zayed Book Award in the category “Contribution to the Development of Nations,” an indication of its continuing relevance to contemporary issues.
(from the foreword by Dale F. Eickelman)

Helen Lackner and Daniel Martin Varisco (eds.)

YEMEN AND THE GULF STATES: THE MAKING OF A CRISIS
Yemen is the only state on the Arabian Peninsula that is not a member of the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council). It is also the only local state not ruled by a royal family. Relations between Yemen and the GCC states go back for centuries with some tribes in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman tracing genealogy back to ancient Yemen.

In this timely volume six scholars analyze Yemen’s relations with Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Iran with a focus on recent developments, including the conflict after the fall of Ali Abdullah Salih in Yemen.

Tim Niblock with Talmiz Ahmad and Degang Sun (eds.)

CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND CREATION OF A SECURITY COMMUNITY IN THE GULF REGION
The bitter confrontation between Saudi Arabia and Iran is not only stoking conflicts in Syria, Iraq and Yemen, but now threatens the stability, security and well-being of the whole Gulf region. All the major global powers have significant interests in this area, and the pursuit of these interests adds further layers of division and conflict.

This book goes to the heart of this issue, examining the critical modalities whereby the “Gulf Cold War” can be brought to an end. What is needed, the contributors argue, is the creation of a security community among the states of the Gulf. The processes through which this could be achieved are carefully examined.

All those interested in the future and well-being of the Gulf region should give consideration to the perspectives advanced.

David B. Jones and Sofiane Sahraoui (eds.)

THE FUTURE OF LABOUR MARKET REFORM IN THE GULF REGION: TOWARDS A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY, EVIDENCE-BASED AND PRACTICAL UNDERSTANDING
As governments across the GCC strive to implement labour policies which accelerate the transition to “post oil” knowledge-based economies, this volume provides insights into the size of this challenge, along with analysis of progress to date.

With a comprehensive coverage of the region (each GCC member is included in some respect), this new work provides unique insights into how the domestic policy agenda is shifting the region’s moribund labour markets inexorably towards greater productivity, positivity, sustainability and efficiency.
Afreen Siddiqi and Laura Diaz Anadon (eds.)
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT IN THE GULF STATES:
ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION THROUGH REGIONAL COLLABORATION

The Arab states of the Gulf, currently heavily reliant on oil and gas exports, have stated their intention to promote economic diversification and have embarked on reforming existing institutions for higher education, scientific research, and technology innovation. The region has witnessed huge population growth in recent decades, and in some cases (e.g., Saudi Arabia) almost half the population is under the age of twenty-five and in need of access to quality education and meaningful employment opportunities.

This book provides an in-depth discussion of what is needed to accelerate the development of science, technology and innovation in the Gulf. Among other issues, the authors discuss the need for regional collaboration, and tackle systemic challenges such as immigration policies, career incentives for GCC citizens, and increased inclusion of women in the workforce.

Dale F. Eickelman and Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf (eds.)
HIGHER EDUCATION INVESTMENT IN THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF:
STRATEGIES FOR EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY

Over the last half-century, the GCC states have invested on a huge scale in higher education, but the stated commitment to internationally recognized excellence has also to come with terms of tradition.

These pressure points are examined here in a number of comparative studies, and cover among other topics: higher education as soft power to promote regional or global influence, intense reliance on foreign instructors, citizen entitlements, badu and hadar divisions, gender separation, different visions of languages of instruction, marginalization of foreign students and faculty outside work, branch campuses of foreign universities.

Despite efforts to train and employ nationals, the vast majority of health workers remain non-local, and major challenges remain in fields such as science and technology. Expenditure has not always led to the effective reform of underperforming educational systems, and institutions often fall short of their world-class aspirations. The studies in this book explore ways of making institutions better realise the balance between global and local.

Robert Mason (ed.)
EGYPT AND THE GULF: A RENEWED REGIONAL POLICY ALLIANCE

Egypt continues to be a cultural and political beacon in the Middle East. Its control of the Suez Canal, cold peace with Israel, concern about Gaza, mediation and interest in the Israel-Palestine conflict, and the marginalization of the Muslim Brotherhood are all points of significance. There is a close, and expanding, defence and security relationship between Egypt and the GCC states, most evident in the inclusion of Egypt in Saudi Arabia’s new Sunni counter-terrorism alliance.

The authors of this book contextualise historical linkages, and allies add to this the real postures (especially contentious relations with Qatar and Turkey) and study Egypt’s strategic relations with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE in particular.

The book’s main argument derives from a complex web of political, socio-economic and military issues in a changing regional and international system. It states that the Egyptian regional policy under Sisi will generally remain consistent with existing parameters (such as broad counter-terrorism efforts, including against the Muslim brotherhood). There is strong evidence to support the idea that Cairo wishes to maintain a GCC-first policy.

David Price and Alhanoof AlDebsa (eds.)
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: DEVELOPMENT AND ENFORCEMENT
IN THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF

This volume includes a range of topics addressing aspects of the current status of intellectual property (IP) protection regimes in the Gulf Cooperation Council and its individual member states, and aspiring GCC members Jordan and Yemen. It examines the opportunities and challenges facing the GCC in becoming a real union with common, or at least harmonized, IP laws and regulations, while still allowing flexibility for domestic imperatives and interests. IP is a crucial part of commercial and trade activity which the GCC needs to address as a union to maximize outcomes and benefits for the GCC members collectively and individually.

Contributions represent a broad-based and truly international interest in Gulf IP, with authors from Australia, Bahrain, China, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. The volume provides a catalyst for further deliberation and debate on these above issues and other Gulf-related IP issues, as well as a worthy contribution to the expansion of Gulf studies in the broader context.
**ABU DHABI, THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND THE GULF REGION: FIFTY YEARS OF TRANSFORMATION**

The unexpected decision of the British Government in January 1968 to withdraw its military and diplomatic protection from the Gulf catapulted the region into the limelight. For the following five decades the historian Dr. Frauke Heard-Bey was best placed to observe subsequent developments in the Gulf, having joined her husband David, a petroleum engineer, in Abu Dhabi in 1967. Through her role over decades in the Centre for Documentation and Research (now the UAE’s National Archive), Frauke Heard-Bey made use of its archives about the Gulf, while taking every opportunity to travel in the area and immerse herself in the local environment.

The work covers a broad spectrum, including the formation of the UAE in 1971, the subsequent development of this federation, the first oil crisis and geopolitical repercussions, urbanisation, labour migration, electoral systems, trade, the changing way of life and its implications for traditional loyalties in the Gulf states and Oman.

The results of much of this work (which rely little on secondary sources) are collected in this volume, parts of which have been printed in hard-to-access journals, while others are published here for the first time.

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**Maaike Warnaar, Luciano Zaccara, Paul Aarts (eds.)**

**IRAN’S RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF: COMMON INTERESTS OVER HISTORIC RIVALRY**

GCC-Iran relations are at the heart of important political dynamics in the Middle East today. This is not limited to the ongoing disputes in the Gulf, one of the most important strategic locations globally. Iran and the GCC states also find themselves on opposing sides in the Syrian and to some extent the Iraqi conflicts.

This volume traces the origins of the troubled relations between Iran and the majority of the GCC monarchies. It discusses not only geostrategic rivalries, but also matters of identity which have been of increased importance since 2010.

While important differences are noticeable among the GCC monarchies in regard to their willingness to engage Iran, the difficult relationship between Saudi Arabia and Iran puts a strain on the possibilities for engagement between Iran and the GCC as a whole.

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**Tim Niblock with Degang Sun and Alejandra Galindo (eds.)**

**THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF AND BRICS: NEW STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS IN POLITICS AND ECONOMICS**

How the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) relates to BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) is, in the light of the growing strength and importance of this organisation and the countries which comprise it, of critical importance.

The issue is not simply how the GCC countries handle their relations with the individual BRICS countries, but more importantly how they relate to an alternative structure of coordination and perhaps power in the global order. Their established links and alliances may no longer be enough to satisfy either their economic needs or their security concerns.

The objective of this book is to examine the commonalities and the differences in economic and political interest between the BRICS countries and the GCC countries, so as to assess the potential for cooperation and collective action. Whether the GCC could itself become a part of BRICS is also worth consideration. While the focus is on the GCC, the GCC’s relations with BRICS countries have been, and will continue to be, closely affected by the wider Gulf dimension – the state of their relations with Iran and Iraq, and the manner in which BRICS countries relate to those two countries.
David B. Des Roches and Dania Thafer (eds.)
THE ARMS TRADE, MILITARY SERVICES AND THE SECURITY MARKET IN THE GULF STATES: TRENDS AND IMPLICATIONS
The Gulf is in the first rank of potential global flashpoints. It is the largest market for weapons imports in the world, and is considered to be a vital interest of all the great powers. Iran is viewed as an expansionist threat by the Arab states of the Gulf, who have built considerable militaries in a historically short timeframe.

Security in the Gulf, however, is a complicated matter. The Arab states of the Gulf have pursued different defense policies as well as different ways of building up their forces. In some instances, the establishment of a strong military is not just a way to ensure security, but also a way to build a national identity. In other cases, great powers (such as the United States) seek to promote cooperation between the Arab Gulf militaries as an interim step to promote political reform and integration.

The essays in this volume examine a broad range of issues in Gulf security. Security is a complex and subjective matter—the various perspectives in this volume combine to form a holistic view of a challenging and evolving topic.

Mansour, Ajami
POURING WATER ON TIME. A BILINGUAL TOPICAL ANTHOLOGY OF CLASSICAL ARABIC POETRY... WITH A FOREWORD BY SADIK J. AL-AZM
This bilingual anthology presents the best of Arabic classical poetry’s musings over the many faceted states of the human condition, among them love, generosity, life, time, youth, beauty, ecstasy, longing, wine, death and plenty more. Mansour Ajami’s selection of topical verses and poems is guided by what was deemed best in its genre by the consensus of the great classical Arabic literary critics and theorists.

MANSOUR AJAMI is a writer and translator of books on Arabic poetry. He holds B. A. and M. A. degrees in Arabic Literature and Philosophy from the American University of Beirut and a PhD in Arabic Literature from Columbia University. He taught at Princeton, Columbia, Berkeley and other universities.

„For Mansour Ajami, Arabic poetry is that Midas touch which transmutes the most common-place words, the most mundane meanings and the most pedestrian images into the shimmering gold of the poetically soaring and sublime.” (From the foreword by Sadik Al-Azm)

Nikolay Kozhanov
RUSSIA AND THE SYRIAN CONFLICT: MOSCOW’S DOMESTIC, REGIONAL AND STRATEGIC INTERESTS
This book is the first to offer a comprehensive survey of Moscow’s foreign policy interests in Syria. The author considers the Kremlin’s diplomacy on Syria within the broader system of Russian foreign policy in the Middle East; he analyses the influence of Russian domestic dimensions on Moscow’s approaches to the subject; and he considers how Moscow’s priorities in Syria have evolved during the last five years and what factors influenced this evolution.

Key factors considered include:
- Russian presence in the Middle East before and after the fall of the Soviet Union
- The challenge of the “Arab Spring”
- Why it was so important to save Assad?
- How serious is the jihadist threat for Russia?
- Russian military involvement in the Syrian conflict: what will be the outcome?
- Significance of Moscow’s military intervention in the wider Middle East context

Esther Peskes (ed.)
WAHHABISM - DOCTRINE AND DEVELOPMENT (CRITICAL SURVEYS IN ISLAMIC DENOMINATIONS SERIES, 2 VOLS)
Saudi Arabian Wahhabism is the ultra-puritanical form of Sunni Islam which has been adopted by Islamist radicals, Salafists, and jihadists to legitimize and spread their extremist agenda. The scholarly articles in these two volumes throw fresh light on this messianic radicalism by tracing its origins in the 18th century up to its present role as the authoritative interpretation of Islam in the strategically vital Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

- Volume 1 focuses on the main tenets of Wahhabi doctrine that brought about the Wahhabi community as a group clearly distinguishable from other interpretations of Islam at the eve of modernity, and which are responsible for its essentially exclusive character as well as the militancy ascribed to it with regard to other Muslims.
- Volume 2 covers the development of Wahhabism in the peculiar socio-political conditions it sprung from, particularly its symbiosis with the Saudi ruling house, the structures and institutions it brought forth and its efforts to react to the challenges of a changing society.
Islamic Finance has had a transformational impact on markets well beyond the Muslim world. This development has been the outcome of various stakeholders and agencies interacting to develop a political economy based on Islamic values to generate religiously and culturally authentic financial institutions and instruments.

The studies presented in this volume discuss these interactions through specific examples from the GCC countries, supported by comparative perspectives, in order to articulate the development and consequences of Islamic finance.

In response to the recent global financial crisis, Islamic finance, as a religiously authentic proposition, has shown resilience through its inherited principles such as risk sharing and the avoidance of speculation. Such approaches have provided stability, which in turn has brought unprecedented growth to the sector.

The growth, stability and resilience of Islamic finance is now a well-established fact. However, in order to achieve sustainable growth the Islamic finance industry has to be able to maintain its competitive edge by generating higher efficiency and performance.

Despite their commonalities, the Arab Gulf States have started economic diversification from different settings and against different political backgrounds. This book applies a multi-method approach including Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) to highlight their heterogeneous economic development trajectories and to compare them to other major oil exporters. From a political economy perspective, it demonstrates how neoclassical economic theory fails to grasp the underlying mechanisms of their development. The research design of this study is tailored to small and medium-sized samples with special characteristics. As such, it offers new opportunities for comparative studies not only of this region but also of other specific samples of countries from a wider perspective of heterodox economics.

“Annika Kropf’s book on the Arab Gulf States’ Oil Export Economies sees the light at a crucial time in the economic history and development trajectory of the six GCC countries.”

(From the Foreword by Giacomo Luciani)
David Bryde, Yusra Mouzghi, Turki Al Rasheed (eds.)
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES IN THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF
This volume surveys the increasing challenges facing the Arab Gulf states in terms of sustainable consumption and production. Topics include:
- Environmental sustainability: waste, recycling, water, energy, renewables, and pollution
- Economic sustainability: employment, education, training and business engagement
- Social sustainability: equality and diversity, pollution, congestion, community participation
Includes contributions from specialists from the UAE, Bahrain, Lebanon, Egypt, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Qatar as well as from the US and the UK.

Nasrin Rouzati
TRIAL AND TRIBULATION IN THE QUR’AN.
A MYSTICAL THEODICY
WITH A FOREWORD BY COLIN TURNER
This book offers a critical analysis and re-examination of the notion of Divine trial, first by providing a comprehensive typology and a contextual interpretation of the Qur’anic narratives pertaining to the concept. Divine trial is then investigated through a historical review of prophetic tradition (hadith) and the exegetical literature (tafsir), followed by a discussion on Prophethood, and an overview of bala in the lives of the prophets.
Nasrin Rouzati takes up a neglected aspect of Islamic religious experience. The concept is actually at the heart of the Qur’an and Rouzati’s research in the Qur’anic materials, both classical and modern, on the subject is ground-breaking. (Abdulaziz Sachedina, George Mason University)

Annika Kropf and Mohamed Ramady (eds)
EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER MOTIVATION IN THE ARAB GULF STATES:
THE RENTIER MENTALITY REVISITED
The notion of “rentier mentality” has haunted the literature on the Gulf States for almost 40 years now. However, few studies have actually provided insight into how the nationals themselves perceive their career motivators, employability and productivity. The eleven studies of this book present both empirical findings and case studies that reveal what nationals expect from their workplace and what hinders them from a personal, meaningful contribution. While it seems that an initially high work motivation is often annihilated by structural impediments such as a strong hierarchy or widespread wasta, it also seems that many nationals fail to understand the urgent requirements of the GCC labour markets.

Gawdat Bahgat (ed.)
THE CHANGING ENERGY LANDSCAPE IN THE GULF: STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS
Extreme fluctuations in oil prices (such as the dramatic fall from mid-2014 into 2015) raise important strategic questions for both importers and exporters. In this volume, specialists from the US, the Middle East, Europe and Asia examine the rapidly evolving dynamic in the energy landscape, including renewable and nuclear power, challenges to producers including the shale revolution, and legal issues. Each chapter provides in-depth analysis and clear policy recommendations.
FORTHCOMING

LIST OF TITLES

Steven W. Hook and Tim Niblock (eds.)
THE UNITED STATES AND THE GULF: SHIFTING PRESSURES, STRATEGIES AND ALIGNMENTS

The Gulf region's relations with the outside world are changing radically. The Gulf's major trading partners are now no longer predominantly Western. China, in particular, now has a significant stake and highly critical interests in the region. The United States still dominates the security field, yet its Gulf allies have come to doubt the strength of US commitment. Meanwhile the Arab monarchies of the Gulf are struggling to cope with multiple divisions, problems and threats: the radical forces of change unleashed by the Arab Spring, the rising power of ISIS, and the destabilising impact of their unsettled relations with Iran. This book examines the range of security issues which this situation has given rise to: the nature and scope of US power, and the likely directions of future policy; the options open to Asian powers with interests in the region; the concerns, strategies and dynamics of the regional states; and the feasibility of European states assuming a security role in the region.

Noel Brehony and Saud Al-Sarhan (eds.)
REBUILDING YEMEN: POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES.

As Yemenis start planning the reconstruction and rebuilding of their country after recent turmoil they face huge challenges in every major sphere. This book discusses the political and economic background and analyses the most important issues:
- the option of improved governance through a federal government
- addressing the powerful and patronage networks of the previous regime
- investing in Yemen’s human and natural resources to compensate for falling revenues from oil and gas
- maintaining rural life through reduced dependence on irrigated agriculture and investing in enhancing rain fed agriculture
- addressing the issue of urban water shortage through desalination
- involving women in enhancing security

Rogaia Mustafa Abusharaf and Dale F. Eickelman (eds.)
AFRICA AND THE GULF REGION: BLURRED BOUNDARIES AND SHIFTING TIES

The ties that bind Africa and the Gulf region have deep historical roots that influence both what Braudel called the longue durée and the short-term events of current policy shifts, market-based economic fluctuations, and global and local political vicissitudes. This book, a collaboration of historians, political scientists, development planners, and a biomedical engineer, explores Arabian-African relationships in their many overlapping dimensions. Thus histories constructed from the “bottom up” – records of the everyday activities of commerce, intermarriage, and gender roles – offer an incisive complement to the “top down” histories of dynasties and the elite. Topics such as migration, collective memory, scriptural and oral narratives, and contemporary notions of food security and “soft” power pose new questions about the ties that bind Africa to the Gulf.

Mohammed Khalifa
DER ORIENT - FIKTION ODER REALITÄT?
THE ORIENT - FICTION OR REALITY?
A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF 19TH CENTURY GERMAN TRAVEL REPORTS [TEXT IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUMMARY]

Following the great expeditions of the 18th and 19th century, travel activity in general increased from the end of the 18th century onwards. In addition to European destinations, the Orient and above all Egypt now became the goal of this movement embracing travel and exoticism. This work centers on the question of the received patterns of thought and argumentation that were applied consciously or unconsciously by those travelers. By way of example, the reports of the Austrian scholar and scientist Joseph (Ritter von) Russegger are examined. Russegger’s visits to Egypt are notable because he traveled the country as a scientist on behalf of the Egyptian government.
Carool Kersten
THE CALIPHATE AND ISLAMIC STATEHOOD - FORMATION, FRAGMENTATION AND MODERN INTERPRETATIONS (3 VOLS SET)

Although the Caliphate was formally abolished ninety years ago, it had already ceased to exist as a unitary and effectively administered political institution many centuries earlier. The ever widening gap between political ideal and historical reality is also reflected in the varying conceptualizations and theories of the Caliphate developed by Islamic religious scholars and Muslim intellectuals past and present. However, recent events in the Islamic world show that the idea of a Caliphate still appeals to Muslims of varying persuasions. This three-volume reference work tracks the history of the Caliphate as what many Muslims believe to be a genuine and authentic Islamic political institution: From its emergence in seventh-century Arabia until highly contested and controversial attempts of its revival at the beginning of the twenty-first century by radical Islamists in Afghanistan and Iraq. No matter how grandiose such interpretations of a seemingly archaic institution may be, they show the Caliphate’s longevity as a rallying point - real or symbolic - for Muslims across the world.

- Volume 1 Origins and Formation
- Volume 2 Challenges and Fragmentation
- Volume 3 Modern and Contemporary Interpretations

Mehmet Asutay and Abdullah Q. Turkistani (eds.)
ISLAMIC FINANCE - POLITICAL ECONOMY, PERFORMANCE AND RISK. (3 VOLS SET)

This collection of new research brings together state of the art thinking by 45 experts from academia and business on all key aspects of Islamic Finance. Individual volumes deal with the key issues of: Political Economy, Values and Innovation; Risk, Stability and Growth; Performance and Efficiency.

- Volume 1 Political Economy, Values, and Innovation
- Volume 2 Risk, Stability and Growth
- Volume 3 Performance and Efficiency

Sadik J. al-Azm
ON FUNDAMENTALISMS

Sadik Al-Azm was one of today’s foremost Arab public intellectuals, who offered innovative, often controversial challenges to conventional narratives on Islam and the West, secularism, Orientalism, and the Israel-Palestine issue. On Fundamentalisms includes essays on: Islamic Fundamentalism Reconsidered, Islam and the Science-Religion Debates in Modern Times, The Struggle for the Meaning of Islam, What is Islamism?, and The Takfir Syllogism

Sadik J. al-Azm
ISLAM – SUBMISSION AND DISOBEDIENCE

Sadik Al-Azm was one of today’s foremost Arab public intellectuals, who offered innovative, often controversial challenges to conventional narratives on Islam and the West, secularism, Orientalism, and the Israel-Palestine issue. Islam – Submission and Disobedience includes essays on: Salman Rushdie, Is the Fatwa a Fatwa?, The Tragedy of Satan, Satanic Verses Post Festum: The Global, the Local, the Literary, and Universalizing from Particulars
Sadik J. al-Azm

IS ISLAM SECULARIZABLE? CHALLENGING POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS TABOOS

Sadik Al-Azm was one of today’s foremost Arab public intellectuals, who offered innovative, often controversial challenges to conventional narratives on Islam and the West, secularism, Orientalism, and the Israel-Palestine issue.

Is Islam Secularizable? includes essays on: Civil Society and the Arab Spring, Orientalism and Conspiracy, Ground Zero Revisited, Islam and Secular Humanism, Time out of Joint: Western Dominance, Islamist Terror, and the Arab Imagination, Trends in Arab Thought, Palestinian Zionism, and Orientalism and Orientalism in Reverse

Sadik J. al-Azm

CRITIQUE OF RELIGIOUS THOUGHT
FIRST ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF NAQD AL-FIKR AD-DINI
WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION BY THE AUTHOR

Sadik Al-Azm's Critique of Religious Thought set off one of the the great Arab intellectual uproars of the twentieth century, leading to the author’s imprisonment and trial for mocking religion and inciting sectarian conflict. As in his earlier Self-Criticism after the Defeat, al-Azm takes on the taboos of the age and their sponsors: the religious elites. In this book he attempts to awaken the Arab mind from its dogmatic slumber, leading it out of the Middle Ages and into a modern world characterized by science and rationality. Critique of Religious Thought is one of the most controversial and influential books about the role of religion in Arab politics.

This is the first authorized English translation of Sadik Al-Azm's classic work, Naqd al-fikr ad-dini, originally published in Arabic in 1969. Newly translated by George Stergios and Mansour Ajami, with an introduction for this edition by the author.

Sara Bazooobandi (ed.)

THE POLITICS OF FOOD SECURITY: ASIAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN STRATEGIES

The international food system is increasingly at risk. Increasing demand, limited and diminishing resources and rising volatility are putting new pressures on the agriculture sector globally. One of the growing critical threats to global stability and security is the inadequacy of food resources. This threat, exacerbated by global population growth, is illustrated by shifts in consumption patterns toward protein-rich diets and the growth of multinational food retail, which bring about a greater reliance on food imports.

This book compares the food security policies of selected countries in Asia and the Middle East, and reviews the outcomes of policy applications in a broader context. Themes discussed include: Shifts in regional and international foreign policy, such as new alliances between countries with rich agricultural resources and wealthier importing states – Creation of food security policy competition across regions – Foreign investments and investment risks for farmland investments – Social implications, such as potential unrest – Environmental sustainability of food security programs, such as the depletion of water resources – Impact of food security programs on trade policies and fiscal policies.
Mazhar A. Al-Zoby and Birol Baskan (eds.)
STATE-SOCIETY RELATIONS IN THE ARAB GULF STATES

This book examines the strategies and dynamics through which state-society relations in the Arab Gulf region have been cultivated, and explores the alternative political, social, economic and popular changes that threaten these relations. The work focuses on understanding how state sovereignty has been shifting to accommodate internal social, cultural, and intellectual forces and how these forces have managed to balance social and political powers in order to function within and co-exist alongside the state. - Case-studies give specific examples of how social forces, popular movements, social media and youth culture are actively influencing cultural attitudes and practices as well as political actions.

Aziz Al-Azmeh
THE ARABS AND ISLAM IN LATE ANTIQUITY:
A CRITIQUE OF APPROACHES TO ARABIC SOURCES
[SERIES: THEORIES AND PARADIGMS OF ISLAMIC STUDIES]

This work provides a critique of Arabic textual sources for the history of the Arabs in late antique times, during the centuries immediately preceding Muhammad and up to and including the Umayyad period. Aziz Al-Azmeh considers the value and relevance of a range of literary sources, including orality and literacy, ancient Arabic poetry, the corpus of Arab heroic lore (ayyam), the early narrative, and the Qur'an. The work includes a very extensive bibliography of the works cited. This is the first book in the Gerlach Press series Theories and Paradigms of Islamic Studies.

May Seikaly and Khawla Mattar (eds.)
THE SILENT REVOLUTION: THE ARAB SPRING AND THE GULF STATES.

How immune is the Gulf region to the changes that have engulfed the Arab world since 2011? This volume responds to this question by examining the impact of the Arab Spring on Gulf regimes and societies and contributing to debates on political participation and citizenship; sectarianism, gender and identity formation; as well as the role of the media in exposing the paradoxes of the Gulf system and its relationship to international political actors.

Robert Lacey and Jonathan Benthall (eds.)
GULF CHARITIES AND ISLAMIC PHILANTHROPY IN THE "AGE OF TERROR" AND BEYOND

Gulf Charities and Islamic Philanthropy in the "Age of Terror" and Beyond is the first book to be published on the charities of Saudi Arabia and the Arabian Gulf, covering their work both domestic and international. From a diversity of viewpoints, the book addresses:
• The historical roots of Islamic philanthropy in religious traditions and geopolitical movements
• The interactions of the Gulf charities with "Western" relief and development institutions - now under pressure owing to budgetary constraints
• Numerous case studies from the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia
• The impact of violent extremism on the sector, with the legal repercussions that have followed - especially in the USA
• The recent history of attempts to alleviate the obstacles faced by bona fide Islamic charities, whose absence from major conflict zones now leaves a vacuum for extremist groups to penetrate
• The prospects for a less politicized Islamic charity sector when the so-called "war on terror" eventually loses its salience.
Ranjit Gupta, Abubaker Bagader, Talmiz Ahmad, N. Janardhan (eds.)
A NEW GULF SECURITY ARCHITECTURE: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES
FOR AN ASIAN ROLE

This book explores how growing economic ties between Asian countries and the Gulf
Cooperation Council (GCC) could impact their future relationship. It postulates that the stage is
now set for strategic partnerships and highlights how some Asian countries have been explicit
about showcasing their power and influence in the Gulf region.

While exploring an alternative and broad-based security architecture, it identifies the challenges
that any probable Asian cooperative approach could face as the countries of the Arabian Gulf
show signs of looking beyond the United States to develop their long-term strategic interests.

Giacomo Luciani and Rabia Ferroukhi (eds.)
POLITICAL ECONOMY OF ENERGY REFORM: THE CLEAN ENERGY-FOSSIL
FUEL BALANCE IN THE GULF STATES

Climate change requires coordinated global responses. All nations, including major Gulf Arab oil
producers, should implement policies to contain greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Yet all realistic
scenarios point to the continuing global need for fossil fuels. The countries of the Gulf
Cooperation Council (GCC) thus face a dilemma between continuing development and use of
their fossil fuel endowments and increasing reliance on low carbon sources, such as nuclear, solar
or wind. This book explores various facets of the dilemma.

Sadik J. al-Azm
SECULARISM, FUNDAMENTALISM, AND THE STRUGGLE FOR THE
MEANING OF ISLAM. COLLECTED ESSAYS. (3 VOLS SET)

Sadik Jalal al-Azm is an internationally respected scholar and political commentator who has
offered innovative, often controversial challenges to conventional narratives on issues surrounding
Islam and the West, secularism, Orientalism, and the Israel-Palestine issue. He is recognised as a
principled defender of human rights and has been the main ethical reference for the Syrian
revolution.

Professor al-Azm was educated at the American University Beirut, and at Yale in modern
European philosophy and has taught at Damascus, Harvard, Princeton, Brandeis, Oslo, Antwerp,
Hamburg, and Berlin, his academic specialization being Immanuel Kant and the critique of religious
thought.

Al-Azm has been the recipient of the Dr. Leopold-Lucas Prize 2004, the Erasmus Prize 2004, the
Mahmoud Darwish Award for Freedom and Creativity 2013, and the Goethe Medal awarded by
the Goethe Institute 2015.

Colin Turner
THE QUR’AN REVEALED: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF SAID NURSI’S
EPISTLES OF LIGHT

The Qur’an Revealed is a landmark publication in the history of Islamic studies, providing for the
first time a comprehensive critical analysis of Bediuzzaman Said Nursi’s 6000-page work of
Qur'anic exegesis, The Epistles of Light. In discussing a wide range of themes, from Divine unity to
causation, from love to spirituality, from prophethood to civilization and politics, Colin Turner
invites the reader into Nursi’s conceptual universe, presenting the teachings of arguably the
Muslim world’s most understudied theologian in a language that is accessible to both expert and
interested layperson alike.
Tim Niblock (ed.)
ASIA-GULF ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN THE 21ST CENTURY. THE LOCAL TO GLOBAL TRANSFORMATION

Asia constitutes the hub of the transformation of global economic power today. The Gulf, itself part of Asia, is of increasing importance in this transformation. This book documents the growing interactions between the economies of the Gulf states and those of the rest of Asia. These relationships are critical to how the world economy develops over the next decade, and how economic (and perhaps strategic) power is distributed.

This volume assembles cutting-edge thinking by 16 specialists on a wide variety of topics covering Arab Gulf relations with China, Japan, ASEAN, Korea and India, as well as with Russia, Iran and Turkey.

Richard Youngs (ed.)
THE GCC IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Changing geopolitical realities have seen the Gulf region turning to Asia and Africa to build new economic links, while strengthening old ones. This proactive internationalism is visible not just in economics and energy, but also in politics and security where a host of new agreements has been developed. This work provides an overview of the ways in which the GCC states now need to move ahead with reforms that will reflect issues such as raised expectations from a period of high revenues and the region’s demographics.

The work brings together state-of-the-art analysis by international scholars who participated in a major joint initiative by the EU and the GCC, the al-Jisr Gulf-Europe Research Program.

Giacomo Luciani (ed.)
RESOURCES BLESSED: DIVERSIFICATION AND THE GULF DEVELOPMENT MODEL

The Gulf countries have adopted a unique combination of policies to encourage diversification with largely positive results, while there are significant distinctions between the individual cases. This work evaluates various examples to show the extent to which the Gulf economies have diversified to date, and how results can be measured, taking into consideration factors such as composition of GDP or exports; government services; and the categorization of industrial activities downstream of resources extraction (oil refining, petrochemicals) and their availability (aluminium, phosphates, iron, steel, glass and other energy- and resource-intensive industries).

This work brings together state-of-the-art analysis by international scholars who participated in a major joint initiative by the EU and the GCC, the al-Jisr Gulf-Europe Research Program.

Eckart Woertz (ed.)
GCC FINANCIAL MARKETS: THE WORLD’S NEW MONEY CENTERS

Bond markets in the GCC countries are underdeveloped, and the capital mix is heavily skewed towards banks, while ambitious development plans in fields like petrochemicals and infrastructure, as well as a rapidly growing population, create an increased need for finance. This study outlines the structure of various segments of GCC financial markets and points to regulatory challenges and future developments, ranging from capital market structures to the planned GCC Monetary Union, Islamic banking, and sovereign wealth funds.

The work brings together state-of-the-art analysis by international scholars who participated in a major joint initiative by the EU and the GCC, the al-Jisr Gulf-Europe Research Program.
Steffen Hertog (ed.)
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT, MIGRATION AND EDUCATION IN THE GCC

This volume provides a cross-cutting analysis of the policy challenges related to GCC labor markets. It analyzes the different dimensions of segmentation of these markets, factors of change influencing labor supply such as trends in education and demography, as well as the impact of potential future reforms in areas such as immigration policy, labor sponsorship, taxation and minimum wages. The work therefore provides an overview of what arguably will be the core socio-economic challenge for the GCC in the coming years.

The work brings together state-of-the-art analysis by international scholars who participated in a major joint initiative by the EU and the GCC, the al-Jisr Gulf-Europe Research Program.

Giacomo Luciani, Steffen Hertog, Eckart Woertz, Richard Youngs (eds.)
THE GULF REGION: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSIFICATION. (4 VOLS SET)

The four volumes in this major research collection address the key economic issues which affect the future development and diversification of the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE and Oman. Specifically, this recent research covers Economic Diversification, Development of Global Partnerships, Labor Markets and Migration, and Financial Markets as Global Players. The work brings together state-of-the-art analysis by some 40 international scholars who participated in a major joint initiative by the EU and the GCC, the al-Jisr Gulf-Europe Research Program. This collection will prove an essential reference work for policy makers and scholars on all the critical issues facing the Gulf countries as their economies develop beyond dependence on the oil and gas sector and forge new international alliances.
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