

1: The Middle East for Dummies by Craig S. Davis

Middle-Eastern Heads of State. Knowing the political players is an important component of understanding the Middle East. The following list contains the names and positions of those in power in key Middle Eastern countries at the end of

After reading about the history of Afghanistan I noticed that I need to look at the entire region as a whole This book although very simple to read gives you a very good perspective of what is happening The only problem is that it was published in It woul I bought this book to expand on my knowledge of the middle east. It would be great if they published a revised edition I read the edition. It was like reading the history of the world The middle east or near east as it is sometimes called extends from Morocco in the west to Pakistan in the east and from Turkey in the north to as far south as the Sudan. This area is predominantly Muslim but there are considerable numbers of other religions like Coptic Christians and Jews. The Coptic Christians have their own pope called the Alexandrian pope. Also Israel due to its rapidly expanding population often settled Jews in settlements in areas they had invaded and often forced Arabs off land to make way for these. They also gave the Jews licences to drill for water on their land but not the Arabs. In Algeria a million French people governed 9 million Arabs and this has often been called the French Vietnam. Charles de Gaulle whilst president gave Algeria its independence. There is still a civil war going on here. This book looks at all the different countries in this region on a country by country basis. I enjoyed reading this book and it is very interesting also with sections on the history of this region. Non-Muslims paid higher taxes and were an important revenue source and becoming a Muslim was considered an honor of which one had to want before it could be conferred. Many became Muslim in order to pay less taxes but there were still large numbers in the region of different religions. I think in any religion there are going to be daft radicals. Islam is a very varied religion with even groups like Sufism who believe in being spiritually aware and having a spiritual connection with God.

2: The Middle East For Dummies : Craig S. Davis :

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The first problem with this is that bombing places makes them more violent, not less. Nobody is shocked or awed into nonviolence, not 14 years ago and not for the past century. A hundred years ago, Britain and France carved up Western Asia, and not to spread democracy. The West has been propping up brutal kings and dictators ever since. Outside of Israel, which is essentially a Western colony, the Middle East does not manufacture weapons. Virtually all the weapons used in all the wars around the world and all the major wars around the world, apart from Afghanistan and Mexico, are in the Middle East and Northeast Africa come from six nations. They are the five permanent members and saboteurs of the United Nations Security Council plus Germany. These are the nations that will be working hard to defeat and disrupt the treaty negotiations beginning Monday in New York to ban nuclear weapons. They are also the nations whose weapons dealers profit from the blood of millions of innocent people too far away to see and too valueless to be reported on U. Yesterday a racist drove up to New York to kill black men, thinking that would make big news. He forgot that someone white might be attacked in London. At the same time, the U. Guess which of these three killing sprees is labeled terrorism, and which other two see the media slander the victims and completely ignore the terror and trauma to the survivors. Imagine being a black man walking in Manhattan today. Imagine being anyone living in the Middle East today. Most if not all forces against which these weapons are used also use U. Each overthrow that the U. But of course the people of the region appreciate the effort, right? Yeah, about as much as the people of Fergusson appreciate the police. Send food, medicine, farm equipment, clean energy equipment. Doing that would cost a tiny fraction of what it costs to keep making everything worse. The global policeman headquartered in Arlington is less popular in the places policed than a congressman at a healthcare rally. In December , Gallup surveyed 65 countries around the world, and most said the United States was the greatest threat to peace on earth. In eight countries in or near the Middle East, four said the United States was the greatest threat to peace, three placed the U. Trump says the U. And he wants to defund everything else to fund a yet more expensive military. Charlottesville City Council to its great credit has opposed this, but one of its five members would only do so if the resolution pretended that all the killing protects U. The mayor of Charlottesville refused to support the resolution because it mentioned the U. These are organizations whose entire purpose is to oppose some of the symptoms of the wars, yet they promote the wars because they have so internalized the propaganda that they literally cannot imagine questioning it. Mike Signer is not the only coward among us. Our entire foreign policy and public budget are shaped by irrational fear. More likely than ISIS killing you are each of the following: I make no comment on which of those fates would be the worst. During each of the past 15 years, our government in Washington has informed us that success was imminent. During each of the past 15 years, Afghanistan has continued its descent into poverty, violence, environmental degradation, and instability. Afghanistan is the most heavily bombed country of all current U. In numerous other incidents, terrorists targeting the United States have stated their motives as including revenge for the U. In addition, Afghanistan is the one nation where the United States is engaged in major warfare in a country that is a member of the International Criminal Court. That body has now announced that it is investigating possible prosecutions for U. Over the past 15 years, we have been treated to an almost routine repetition of scandals: Ordering young American men and women into a kill-or-die mission that was accomplished 15 years ago is a lot to ask. Expecting them to believe in that mission is too much. That fact may help explain this one: The second highest killer of American military is green on blue, or the Afghan youth who the U. Our troops are being killed by the Afghans we train and we waste billions there. At 14 years since the launch of Operation Iraqi Liberation to use the original name with the appropriate acronym, OIL and over 26 years since Operation Desert Storm, there is little evidence that any significant number of people in the United States have a realistic idea of what our government has done to the people of Iraq, or of how these actions compare to other horrors of world history. A majority of Americans

believe the war since has hurt the United States but benefitted Iraq. A plurality of Americans believe, not only that Iraqis should be grateful, but that Iraqis are in fact grateful. A number of U. Misinterpreting what has happened in Iraq is central to their argument. By the most scientifically respected measures available, as of some years ago, though the death and destruction has continued, Iraq had lost 1. That compares to 2. In a very American parallel, the U. The invasion included 29, air strikes, followed by another 3, over the next eight years. Birth defects, cancer rates, and infant mortality are through the roof. Water supplies, sewage treatment plants, hospitals, bridges, and electricity supplies have been devastated, and not repaired. Healthcare and nutrition and education are nothing like they were before the war. And we should remember that healthcare and nutrition had already deteriorated during years of economic warfare waged through the most comprehensive economic sanctions ever imposed in modern history. Click here help support the effort required to deliver it to you. The educated who might have best helped rebuild Iraq fled the country. Obama shifted to air war, and dropped more bombs and missiles on Iraq than Bush did. Obama set records for military spending and for weapons sales and gifts abroad. He created drone wars including in Pakistan and Somalia and Yemen. He ended the idea that presidents need Congress for wars, with his war in Libya fueling the violence in Syria and Iraq among other places. He put more troops in more countries. He bombed eight countries and bragged about it. He firmly established warrantless spying, baseless imprisonment, torture, and assassination as policy choices rather than crimes. He wrote secret and public so-called laws that his successor is picking and choosing from without input from the legislature. He created a new cold war with Russia. He did these things willingly or he permitted his subordinates to do them. Secretary of Exxon-Mobil said yesterday: This article was originally published at DavidSwanson.

3: The Middle East For Dummies - Craig S. Davis - Google Books

The book I read to research this post was The Middle East For Dummies by Craig S Davis which is an excellent book which I bought from kindle. The middle east or near east as it is sometimes called extends from Morocco in the west to Pakistan in the east and from Turkey in the north to as far south as the Sudan.

Middle East history for dummies by Shmuel Katz Jerusalem Post article There is much talk of illegal occupation in this land. But the only illegal occupation of Judea, Samaria and the Jordan Valley in modern times was effected by Transjordan. When the Ottoman Empire collapsed in Britain was granted a Mandate by the League of Nations in as a trustee for the reconstitution of the Jewish National Home. This was the modern charter for the development of sovereignty for the Jewish people in its ancient homeland. When, in , the United Nations successor to the League of Nations recommended the partition of Palestine into two states, one Jewish, one Arab thereby gifting the Arabs with a part of the Jewish heritage the Jews consented, but the League of Arab States declared that it would not "allow the creation of a Jewish State in Palestine. Transjordan went on to "annex" the captured territories and was henceforth renamed "Jordan. Never during these years did the Arabs living in the annexed areas protest against the occupation, let alone rise up, declare themselves a separate nation or demand the territories for themselves. They peacefully accepted Jordanian citizenship. True, after 16 years, the PLO was established in and carried out a number of terrorist acts not against Jordan and its occupation but against Israel inside the narrow waist of the armistice lines of In May he took practical preliminary steps. While concentrating his armed forces in Sinai, Nasser delivered a series of belligerent speeches describing the lethal aim of the impending war. On May 25, Cairo radio announced to the world: The effect of this preparatory campaign was tremendous. The notion of an assault on tiny Israel by the massed forces of the Arab nations was overwhelming. Young men rushed to get places on planes to Israel. In Israel old men, women and children dug trenches in the parks and open spaces of the cities; hospitals were emptied of all but urgent cases in preparation for thousands of casualties. Then, in six days, the Israeli forces won a great victory. The stunning victory was followed by an equally stunning offer by Israel to hand back the liberated territories to the Arabs in return for peace. The Arabs refused categorically. From a conference at Khartoum, they announced that there would be no peace, no negotiations and no recognition of Israel. It was then, in the early seventies, that Jews came to live and build their homes in the wide acres of Judea, Samaria, the Gaza Strip and the Golan. They are the "settlers" who have written a new and heroic chapter in the Zionist imperative of building the land; and their living where they are living is as legal and as natural as President George W. THE MAKERS of the road map tried to impose a deleterious policy on Israel and evidently, to our shame, succeeded without any discussion, precisely because they did not want to discuss the central historical facts facts that expose the grotesque Arab fabrications on which rests the policy underlying the road map. First, that the current "dispute" between Israel and the Arabs began with murderous Arab terror in the s and s; that deliberate Arab military aggression brought on the war of , and Arab terror continued during the decades that followed. Throughout this whole period there were no "settlers" in Judea and Samaria or Gaza; and when the Six Day War, which the Arabs pretend did not happen, was launched, there were no "settlers. The mapmakers are thus collaborating in trying to make the hoax work. Secondly, the Arabs have demonstrated, admit even boast and teach their children that they mean to get rid of Israel and that killing Jews is a virtue, a mitzva. Once you ignore these damning facts you can construct any scenario you like. And if the scenario is conceived by a consortium of veteran friends of the Arabs like Britain, other Europeans and the US State Department and the UN, which harbors dyed-in-the-wool anti-Semites see Durban , plus Saudi Arabia, then you are not creating a vision of peace but of the next war; a repetition, as the Arabs see it, of The alternative may simply be a continuation of terror against Israel from behind the protective wall of the sovereignty of a Palestinian state. Their contemptuous rejection of the offer was an open declaration that peace with Israel was not their objective. The propaganda against Israel in the Arab world, indeed within the Muslim world, has since that time become more strident and more specific. In the mosques, on the streets and in the schoolrooms they do not call for a state on the "West Bank," they call for a Palestinian State "from the [Jordan] river to the

[Mediterranean] sea. The answer seems to be that they cannot tolerate the idea that the Jews who lived in Muslim lands as third-class citizens are now treated as equals in human society. That is why the Arabs, when they have been defeated in war by Israel, insist that it is England or America that fought the war for them. If the present policy of pressure on Israel while the Arabs are cheering is pressed to the end, the Bush vision will prove empty and the road map a lie. And there will still be no peace. The writer, a co-founder with Menachem Begin of the Herut Party and member of the first Knesset, is a biographer and essayist.

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Description Demystifies the area's culture, politics, and religions Explore Middle Eastern history from ancient to modern times Looking to better understand the Middle East?

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The first point I'd like to touch on is the idea that the Middle East is a culturally violent place that can be made less violent by bombing it. The first problem with this is that bombing places makes them more violent, not less.

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7: Middle East history for dummies

Article: The Middle East for Dummies - The first point I'd like to touch on is the idea that the Middle East is a culturally violent place that can be made less violent by bombing it. The first.

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Disputed areas may be the greatest threat to stability in the Middle East and the world. Disputed areas are, well disputed because, in order to secure peace in the here and now, warring parties decided to move forward and leave the resolution of the dispute for later generations to handle. As.

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