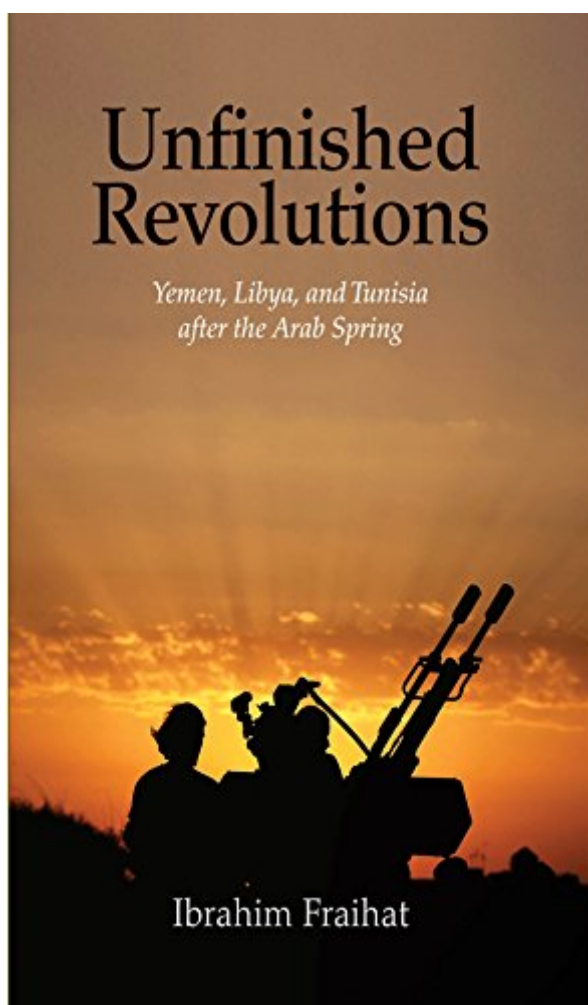


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Unfinished Revolutions: Yemen, Libya, And Tunisia After The Arab Spring



Synopsis

Post-revolution states often find that once dictators have been deposed, other problems arise, such as political polarization and the threat of civil war. A respected commentator on Middle Eastern politics, Ibrahim Fraihat examines three countries grappling with political transitions in the wake of the Arab Spring: Yemen, Libya, and Tunisia. Drawing on extensive research and interviews, Fraihat argues that to attain enduring peace and stability, post-revolution states must engage in inclusive national reconciliation processes with the support of women, civil society, and tribes.

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Customer Reviews

Dr. Ibrahim Fraihat's important, rare and nuanced contribution to the Arab spring's unfinished revolutions is must-read book for all academics, scholars, practitioners, students and, above all, politician. With focus of Tunisia, Libya and Yemen, Dr. Ibrahim Fraihat offers a nuanced, rare and lucid perspective on the root causes and issues that precipitated to the Arab spring. More importantly, he dissects the clan dynamic, the intricate social and political landscape in those countries, which easily informs readers to have a comprehensive picture and perspective. Among

the many takeaways from the book is the situation in these countries -- Yemen, Tunisia and Libya -- are far more complex and convoluted than the pundits and media portrays you. Dr Ibrahim Fraihat's book offers readers a well-articulated, accessible and well-argued analysis, researches and interviews from a wide array of societies in these countries. It's a must read book.

I felt like the information was repetitive, but nonetheless provides good insight into the problems of each country, and reconciliation processes needed to take place. I wanted more information on how terrorist organizations have impacted these societies, and how Tunisia has a large contribution of those migrating to fight for ISIS.

“Unfinished Revolutions” provides a long-overdue angle on the aspect of reconciliation after the Arab Spring. Thereby, Fraihat's book moves away from merely presenting another account of the empirical causes of the Arab revolutions post 2011. It looks both empirically and conceptually at the triggers of the current socio-political fragmentation of the Arab World. Amid the resulting climate of polarization across a wide spectrum of social, political and religious agents, the problem of stabilization, transition and reconciliation is more fundamental in the conflicts resulting from the Arab Spring than anywhere else. In this book, Ibrahim Fraihat analyzes the problems of transition and reconciliation in detail on basis of three countries that are representative of the revolutions that have swept across the region since 2011. Yemen, Libya and Tunisia are three case studies that exemplify how difficult it is within the current fractured socio-political context to engage in inclusive national reconciliation with the support of all actors in the public sphere “something that Fraihat argues is essential if any of these countries would ever find peace and stability. Writing this book, Fraihat manages to find a balance between concepts that emerge from the Western-dominated literature of conflict resolution and the empirical reality of the Arab World. His in-depth subject knowledge built through excessive fieldwork in Yemen, Libya and Tunisia make him stand out from his peers who mostly take an outsider's view on the region's intimate socio-political realities that are not openly accessible to everyone. The author's work in the Middle East as an academic, commentator and consultant allows him to engage this complex subject with the necessary degree of academic rigour while not losing himself in purely conceptual or philosophical debates. The attention to empirical detail makes this book a highly credible contribution to the academic literature as much as to the practitioners' discourses. Politicians, diplomats as well as students of International Relations will find a lot of guidance in this book to one of the most complex insecurities of the 21st century. Dr Andreas Krieg,

assistant professor for Defence Studies, King's College London

Dr. Fraihat's well-researched and analytical book is a timely and important contribution not just to Middle East politics, but also to transitional justice scholarship and practice. His in-depth analysis of the various national reconciliation efforts taken in Yemen, Libya and Tunisia brings to the fore the complexities of each context and the resulting impact on these post-transition societies. Fraihat presents a compelling and original analysis that highlights what has and has not worked and why. Based on over two hundred interviews with a variety of actors in Yemen, Libya, and Tunisia, readers will be much better informed about the role of tribes, militias, women, civil society, political actors, and institutions at a critical time in those countries' histories. Fraihat's book is an impressive comparative case study that opens up much needed debate about the difficult process of national reconciliation in ongoing, unfinished revolutions.

Unfinished Revolutions is a unique study of the current affairs of the region. The author's analytical approach to the root causes leading up to these conflicts and the study of the underlying social, economical and political factors which contributed to their ultimate eruption is brilliant! What makes this study exceptionally different is the local expertise of the region's history the author commands, in addition to basing the study on qualitative data and personal interviews conducted on ground with the people directly affected and sometimes shaping the movement of these conflicts spreading from the mountains of Yemen to the Libya's desert. The book is a leap into the uncharted territories of Arab Spring revolutions and the dynamics which influence them. It's an essential read for everyone interested in the current politics of the Middle East.

An excellent and insightful book. This book brings to life the true nature of the situation on the ground in Yemen. Libya and Tunisia by way of comparative reflection on three case studies not one. This book is analytical not descriptive and most importantly is based on research conducted on the ground not just theory. I highly recommend this book.

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