

References

Dysfunctional politics in the Middle East and their corrosive consequences April 17

Imperial History

Who has controlled the Middle East over the course of history? Pretty much everyone. Egyptians, Turks, Jews, Romans, Arabs, Persians, Europeans...the list goes on. Who will control the Middle East today? That is a much bigger question.

<http://www.mapsofwar.com/ind/imperial-history.html>

The Islamic World

The Islamic World to 1600 Tutorial, a multimedia introduction to the first millennium of Islamic history, developed by the [Applied History Research Group](#). It will outline Muslim beliefs and practices, as well as the history of the Islamic world from the 7th to the 17th centuries, including the expansion of the Islamic empires of Asia, Africa, and Europe.

http://www.ucalgary.ca/applied_history/tutor/islam/index2.html

Strategic realism the Middle East &US and Arab relations

Every September for the past 14 years decision makers and thought leaders have gathered at the Arab-US Policymakers Conference series to discuss the pressing issues of the day effecting the relationship between America and the Arab world.

<http://www.saudi-us-relations.org/newsletter2005/saudi-relations-interest-09-19.html>

Frontline : the lost year in Iraq, PBS

The Lost Year in Iraq begins on April 9, 2003, as American troops help a crowd of Iraqis topple a statue of Saddam Hussein. In Washington there was celebration, but in Baghdad the looting was beginning.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/yeariniraq/view/>

The origin of Shia-Sunni split

Although the origins of the Sunni-Shia split were violent, over the centuries Shia and Sunnis lived peacefully together for long periods of time. But that appears to be giving way to a new period of spreading conflict in the Middle East between Shia and Sunni.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=7332087>

CBS- 60 Minutes program on Iraqi Kurds

Correspondent Bob Simon reports, Iraqi Kurds have their own prime minister, their own army, their own border patrol—even their own flag. And the overwhelming majority of Kurds will tell you they want nothing to do with Baghdad and the rest of Iraq

http://www.theotheriraq.com/press_CBS.html

The Arab Human Development Report Series (2002 – 2005)

Deals with some essential background on the Arab Human Development Reports' purpose, parameters, methodology, and key findings.

http://www.rbas.undp.org/PDF2005/AHDR4_04.pdf

Fossilized Arab logic

Substantial Arab progress is possible, but prospects are poor where there is no will to change, writes Issa Khalaf*

The central issue is what it has always been: absence of real or meaningful democratic participation and representation among the Arab peoples in the affairs of state, whose elites spend their time in calibrated application of co-option, control and repression, though in this age of globalization, of rapid changes in technology and information, the pressures for change are unrelenting, particularly in the poorer (relative to the oil states), demographically larger but more economically and socially complex Arab nation

<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/print/2007/831/op11.htm>

Socio-Economic Roots of Radicalism

Why do “Islamic radicals” enjoy so much sympathy in the Middle East and wider Muslim world? The author argues that such radicalism is a political response to the deepening economic, social, political, and cultural crisis in the Muslim World. Rapid demographic growth, educational changes, government policy failure, and rapid urbanization are among the causes of high unemployment, and increasing poverty, which, together with other forces, have alienated large sectors of Muslim youth.

<https://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdf/files/pub105.pdf>