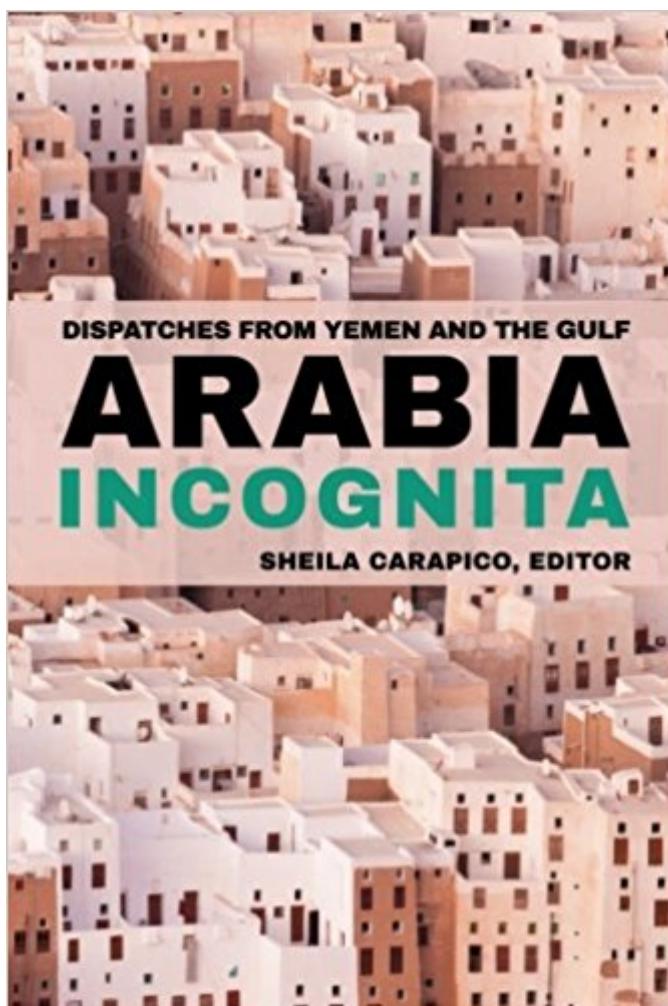


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Arabia Incognita: Dispatches From Yemen And The Gulf



Synopsis

Yemen is an intriguing, strategically located country that is the perennial "poor relation" of the wealthy oil monarchies of the Arabian Peninsula and has been plagued by deadly conflict since early 2015. In 2011, it saw a broad eruption of the mass protests associated with the "Arab Spring". But four years later, that popular movement was largely over-run by a series of deadly conflicts, stoked from outside by a lengthy, lethal military intervention led by neighboring Saudi Arabia. Arabia Incognita helps readers understand Yemen's unfolding crisis by tracing the country's modern history from the strong anti-imperial movement of the 1960s through the present complex of conflicts. The "dispatches" in this anthology, originally published in Middle East Report, were chosen by renowned Yemen expert Dr. Sheila Carapico. Arabia Incognita is published in collaboration with the Middle East Research and Information Project (MERIP), which has published Middle East Report since 1971.

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Customer Reviews

Reaction to Dr. Carapico's earlier book, "Civil Society in Yemen": "The wide-ranging scope of this book and its depth will make it a standard source on Yemeni society and politics for years to come." ~ Choice, a magazine

Sheila Carapico is widely recognized as a leading expert on Yemen. She is the author of "Civil Society in Yemen: The Political Economy of Activism in Modern Arabia" and numerous other

books. During 2010, she was Visiting Chairperson of the Department of Political Science at the American University in Cairo. The Middle East Research and Information Project is a progressive, independent non-profit based in Washington, DC. Since 1971 MERIP has provided critical analysis of the Middle East, focusing on political economy, popular struggles, and the implications of U.S. and international policy for the region.

This is the best volume I have read on post-2011 Yemen. It artfully smashes common misperceptions of who's on what side in the current conflict (or not), and why. It is also a devastating critique of the vagaries of Western policy, propelled (in part) by poor understanding of the dynamics of this strategically critical (and critically poor, and poorly governed) state in the Arabian peninsula. Edited volumes can be tedious, but Sheila Carapico has done a great job assembling past MERIP pieces, by herself and many of her colleagues, into a readable whole. Someone new to Yemeni politics one can browse, as basic information is repeated across articles; for those with prior background, the material is organized chronologically and by topic. Yemen's past is essential to understanding its present, and the introductory chapters cover a lot of relevant history, succinctly.--
Ethan Chorin, author of 'Exit the Colonel: The Hidden History of the Libyan Revolution'

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