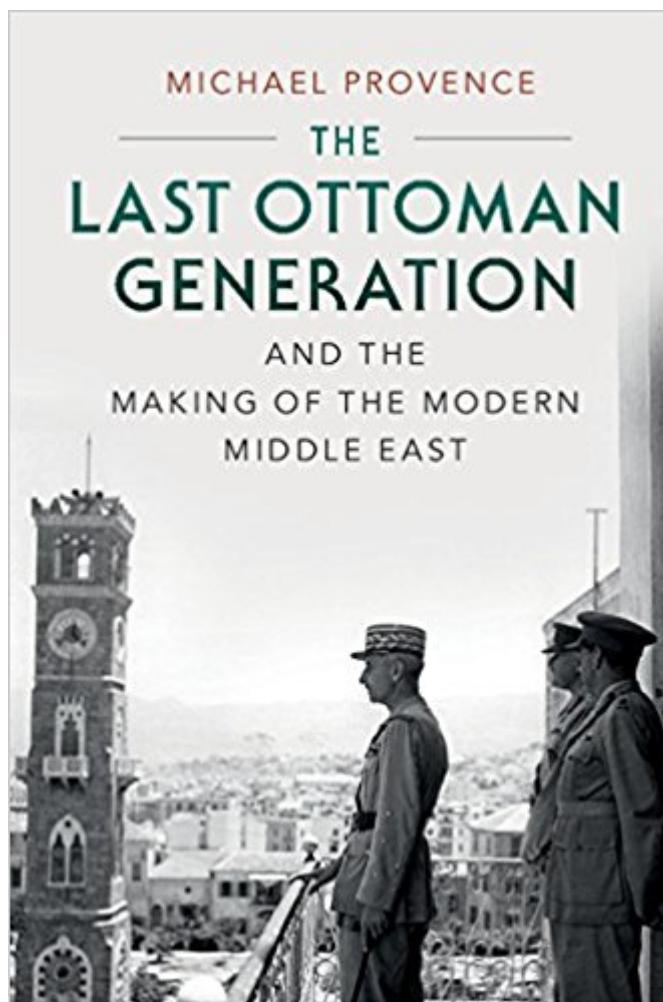


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The Last Ottoman Generation And The Making Of The Modern Middle East



Synopsis

The modern Middle East emerged out of the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, when Britain and France partitioned the Ottoman Arab lands into several new colonial states. The following period was a charged and transformative time of unrest. Insurgent leaders, trained in Ottoman military tactics and with everything to lose from the fall of the Empire, challenged the mandatory powers in a number of armed revolts. This is a study of this crucial period in Middle Eastern history, tracing the period through popular political movements and the experience of colonial rule. In doing so, Provence emphasises the continuity between the late Ottoman and Colonial era, explaining how national identities emerged, and how the seeds were sown for many of the conflicts which have defined the Middle East in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. This is a valuable read for students of Middle Eastern history and politics.

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Cambridge University Press (August 18, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0521747511

ISBN-13: 978-0521747516

Product Dimensions: 6.6 x 0.7 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

Advance praise: 'A brilliant new history that captures the Ottoman foundations of the modern Middle East in the decades between the First and Second World Wars. The hopes and disappointments of the interwar years shaped the Arab world down to the present day. Engagingly written, Michael Provence brings this era to life for readers today.' Eugene Rogan, University of Oxford

Advance praise: 'This is a wonderfully original book, a merciless reconstruction of the British and French mandates in the Middle East as local contemporaries would have experienced them.' Peter Sluglett, National University of Singapore

Advance praise: 'This remarkable work examines how the peoples

of the Middle East perceived their present and future before the cataclysm of World War I, famine and death, Ottoman collapse and foreign occupation completely reshaped their region. Instead of looking at the main features that we think of when we look back on the twentieth century in the Middle East, The Last Ottoman Generation and the Making of the Modern Middle East rather starts with the hopes and expectations of an elite in what became the separate Arab states and Turkey that in many respects shared a common background, expectations and outlook. This is an original and illuminating interpretation of events in a region that is still deeply affected by the transformations that Michael Provence illustrates so perceptively.' Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies, Columbia University Advance praise: 'Michael Provence's book is a revelation.

Casting aside the old pieties of state nationalism, Provence sets the story of the Arab Middle East in the first half of the twentieth century squarely in the context of the late-Ottoman scene, bringing to life the world of soldiers, politicians and intellectuals struggling to cope with the loss of the Ottoman system, which they believed was a fairer dispensation than the colonial nation states imposed on the Middle East in the wake of World War I. Deeply researched and written in clear, compelling prose, this book is essential reading for anyone who wants a deeper understanding of the history of the modern Middle East.' Laila Parsons, McGill University, Canada

This book is for students interested in modern Middle East history, the origins of the Middle East, the impact of colonialism, and modern politics and conflict. It is a study of the armed revolts and uprisings that followed the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in the Middle East.

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