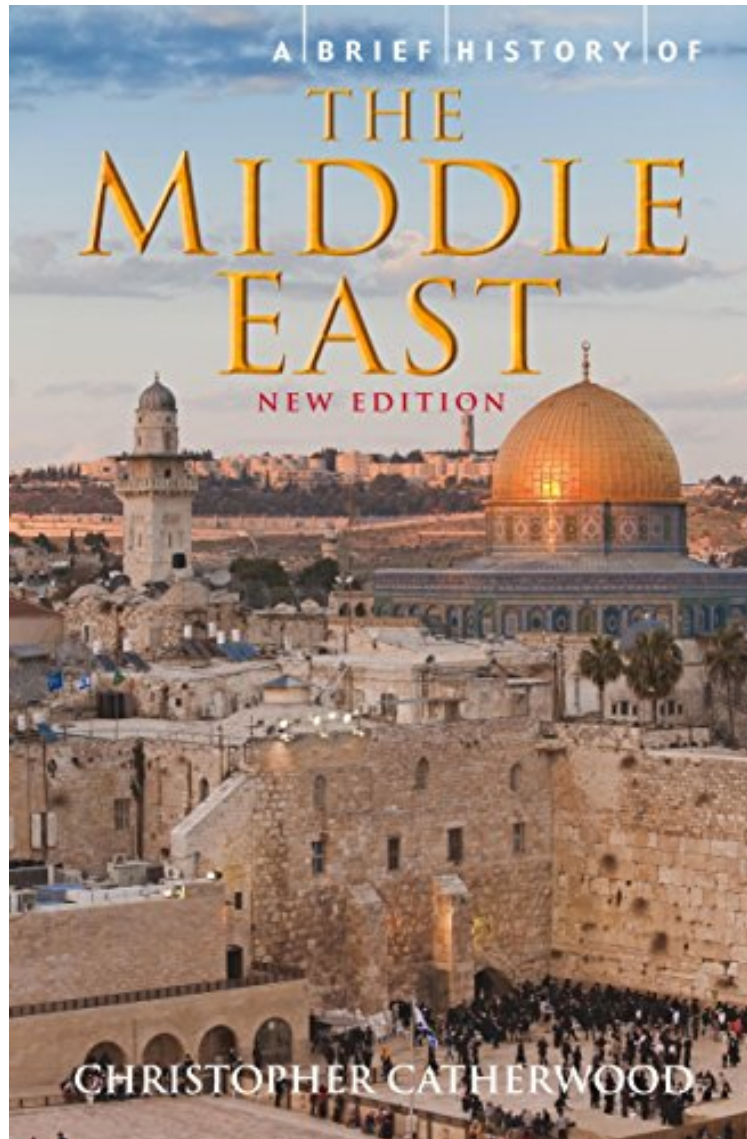


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A Brief History of the Middle East (Brief Histories) (English Edition)

Von Christopher Catherwood

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Von Christopher Catherwood : A Brief History of the Middle East (Brief Histories) (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Brief History of the Middle East (Brief Histories) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Hchstaktuell, exzellent recherchiert Von Gaspar Dieses Buch gewährt nicht nur einen hervorragenden Überblick über die Geschichte des mittleren Ostens seit der vorchristlichen Zeit, es erklärt auch eindrucksvoll Zusammenhänge zwischen bedeutungsvollen historischen Meilensteinen bzw. Fehlentscheidungen und aktuellen Konsequenzen. So werden unter anderem die Entstehung des Judentums, des christlichen Glaubens sowie des Islams eigene Kapitel gewidmet, und die Folgen und Konsequenzen aus heutiger Sicht eingehend erörtert. Zudem wird Bezug genommen auf die Entstehung des al Qaida Terrorismus, sowie auch die Rolle westlicher Staaten in dem immer komplexer werdenden politischen Territorialgefuge im Mittleren Osten illustriert. Insgesamt ein äußerst gelungener Abriss zu diesem komplexen Thema - aus meiner Sicht ein fünf Sterne Buch! 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Engaging read with unique insights Von Peter Uys For such a large subject, the author succeeds quite well in providing a concise history of the region. Starting with the ancient Sumerians, Hittites, Phoenicians, Assyrians and Babylonians, he deals with the history of the Middle East up to 2006. In this journey through time, Catherwood discusses the origin of monotheism, Akhenaten, Abraham, Judaism, Jesus, the early church and the council of Nicaea. Two chapters are devoted to Islam: Muhammad And the Dawn Of Islam and The Golden Age Of Islam, where subjects like inter alia Jihad, the Sunni-Shia divide, the Fatimid dynasty and the arrival of the Turks are dealt with. The author frequently references great historians like Bernard Lewis and offers original insights. For example, he points out the significance of the Battle of Manzikert near Lake Van in 1071 where the Byzantines were defeated by the Seljuk Turks. Then followed the Crusades and the terrible Mongol incursion of 1242. Next he deals with the rise of the Ottoman Empire, its expansion into the Balkans, Asia and Africa, and its fall. He discusses the significance of the end of the khalifate with this event and chronicles the Iranian revolution, the hostage crisis and the first and second Gulf wars in reasonable detail. A chapter is devoted to the creation of Israel and the Arab-Israeli wars. The final chapter focuses on 9/11, the clash of civilizations, Sayyid Qutb, Arab regimes in the 20th century, Pan-Arabism, Islamism, transnational terrorism and the ideas of Francis Fukuyama and Samuel Huntington. There are 4 maps and the book concludes with a Selective Chronology from 3500 BC to the present, a glossary of terms, bibliography and index. Overall the book provides a balanced history of the region where Western civilization began, providing an engaging link between ancient history and the problems of the 21st century. Many of Catherwood's observations are unique and valuable, and the book is an engaging read. For more comprehensive and scholarly studies, I recommend the work of Bernard Lewis and Efraim Karsh.

Kurzbeschreibung Western civilization began in the Middle East: Judaism and Christianity, as well as Islam, were born there. For over a millennium, the Islamic empires were ahead of the West in learning, technology and medicine, and were militarily far more powerful. It took another three hundred centuries for the West to catch up, and overtake, the Middle East. Why does it seem different now? Why does Osama bin Laden see 1918, with the fall of the Ottoman Empire, as the year everything changed? These issues are explained in historical detail here, in a way that deliberately seeks to go behind the rhetoric to the roots of present conflicts. A Brief History of the Middle East is essential reading for an intelligent reader wanting to understand what one of the world's key regions is all about. Fully updated with a new section on the Iraq Invasion of 2003, the question of Iran and the full context of the Israeli/Palestine conflict. Werbetext From Abraham to Arafat, via Jesus Christ and Mohammed Kurzbeschreibung Western civilization began in the Middle East: Judaism and Christianity, as well as Islam, were born there. For over a millennium, the Islamic empires were ahead of the West in learning, technology and medicine, and were militarily far more powerful. It took another three hundred centuries for the West to catch up, and overtake, the Middle East. Why does it seem different now? Why does Osama bin Laden see 1918, with the fall of the Ottoman Empire, as the year everything changed? These issues are explained in historical detail here, in a way that deliberately seeks to go behind the rhetoric to the roots of present conflicts. A Brief History of the Middle East is essential reading for an intelligent reader wanting to understand what one of the world's key regions is all about. Fully updated with a new section on the Iraq Invasion of 2003, the question of Iran and the full context of the Israeli/Palestine conflict.