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historically incisive geographically broad reaching and brimming with illuminating anecdotes max rodenbeck new york review of books one of america s leading commentators on current events in the middle east iranian born scholar vali nasr brilliantly dissects the political and theological antagonisms within islam in this smart clear and timely book washington post still

essential and still timely ten years after its original publication the shia revival provides a unique and objective understanding of the 1 400 year bitter struggle between shias and sunnis and sheds crucial light on its modern day consequences a new epilogue elucidates the rise of isis and ongoing tensions between iran and saudi arabia

a new york times bestseller historically incisive geographically broad reaching and brimming with illuminating anecdotes max rodenbeck new york review of books iranian born scholar vali nasr has become one of america s leading commentators on current events in the middle east admired and welcomed by both media and government for his concise and coherent analysis wall street journal front page profile in this remarkable work anderson cooper nasr brilliantly dissects the political and theological antagonisms within islam providing a unique and objective understanding of the 1 400 year bitter struggle between shias and sunnis and shedding crucial light on its modern day consequences

this book illuminates the historical origins and present situation of militant shia transnational networks by focusing on three key countries in the gulf kuwait bahrain and saudi arabia whose shia islamic groups are the offspring of iraqi movements the reshaping of the area s geopolitics after the gulf war and the fall of saddam hussein in april 2003 have had a profound impact on transnational shiite networks pushing them to focus on national issues in the context of new political opportunities for example from being fierce opponents of the saudi monarchy saudi shiite militants have tended to become upholders of the al sa ud dynasty the question remains however how deeply in society have these new beliefs taken root can shiites be saudi or bahraini patriots louer concludes her book by analysing the transformation of the shia movements relation to central religious authority the marja who reside either in iraq and iran this is all the more problematic when the marja is also the head of a state as with ali khamenei of iran who has many followers in bahrain and kuwait

vidiadhara surajprasad naipaul b 1932 trinidadian writer of indian origin and nobel prize winner

any mention of lucknow conjures up images of a unique way of life practised for almost ninety years in avadh it is a journey back in time to the world of nawab asafudaula and nawab wajid ali shah and to the city of begum hazrat mahal mir anis and of majaz lakhnawi what one can most associate with lucknow is the reputation it has as the refuge of countless urdu poets and here mehru jaffer attempts to chronicle just that her captivating and vividly visual account of lucknow s romance with its classical urdu poets magically transports us to the mehfiles of mir and anis from the love lanes of lucknow celebrates the poetry

of the avadh region of india like never before transporting its readers to a land that became the focal point of an unparalleled cultural renaissance

this book is an accessible comprehensive and nuanced history of pakistan it reflects upon state and society in pakistan and shows they have been shaped by historical forces and personae hoodbhoy expertly maps the journey of the region from many millennia ago to the circumstances and impulses that gave birth to the very first state in history founded upon religious identity he documents colonial rule the trauma of partition the nation s wars with india the formation of bangladesh and the emergence of baloch nationalism the book also examines longstanding complex themes and issues such as religious fundamentalism identity formation democracy and military rule as well as their impact on the future of the state of pakistan drawing on a range of sources and written by one of the foremost intellectuals of the region this book will be indispensable for scholars researchers students of history politics and south asian studies it will be of great interest to the general reader interested in understanding pakistan

in recent years much has been said about a so called third way the impression has been given that it offers a viable and exciting new design for living in this work donald wilhelm argues that this debate is sterile and amounts to little more than reshuffling a pack of old ideas in the hope that a different combination will produce the magic formula he suggests that at the heart of any new social paradigm must be a recognition of the interconnectedness of all aspects of life as ecologists are finding the enemy of such a comprehensive view is the over compartmentalization and over specialization of academic studies so that few are equipped to see the overall picture this often leads different government departments to advocate contradictory policies

what do george w bush wal mart halliburton gangsta rap and suvs have in common they re all among the hundred ways in which america is screwing up the world the country that was responsible for many if not most of the twentieth century s most important scientific and technological advancements now demonizes its scientists and thinkers in the twenty first while dumbing down its youth with anti darwin pro intelligent design propaganda the longtime paragon of personal freedoms now supports torture and illegal wiretapping spreading its principles and policies at gunpoint while ruthlessly bombing the world with big macs and mickey mouse ears at once serious minded and satirical john tirman s 100 ways america is screwing up the world is an insightful unabashed entertaining and distressing look at where we ve gone terribly wrong from the destruction of

the environment to the promotion of abhorrent personal health and eating habits to the wussification of the free press an alternately admonishing and amusing call to arms for patriotic blue america

this unique biography explores the life of muhammad and his central role both in the early development of islam and in the contemporary muslim world

an analysis of the turmoil in the middle east journeys behind the familiar facade of iraq to argue that troubles in the arab world can be linked to america s limited understanding of the region thirst for oil and need to deal with terrorism

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