

The Reign Of Mubarak Al Sabah

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amidst political upheaval and the decline of the ottoman empire the state of kuwait emerged as an independent country under british protection in 1899 with sheikh mubarak al sabah widely accredited as the instrument of its foundation but the path to power for mubarak was not a simple or smooth one the author here presents an

original perspective on the difficulties and controversies surrounding mubarak s ascension with unparalleled insights and access to original sources she reveals the life personality and politics of a man who determined to secure a distinctive kuwaiti state helped to shape the modern middle east this biography provides a comprehensive overview of a time of significant political and social change in the gulf when development diplomacy economics finance and trade were both routes to political independence and the perpetuation of british domination remembered for his unyielding determination to boost the profile and wealth of kuwait and establish his leadership at a turbulent time of regional war mubarak engineered major change for kuwait from the negotiations of the 1899 anglo kuwait agreement during which mubarak sought to outfox lord curzon and other british officials to his ambitions to tame tribal politics the author here presents a unique portrait of the man who transformed kuwait from an ottoman sub province to an independent state

mubarak al sabah took control of his tiny state in 1896 just as the ottoman empire seemed on the point of swallowing it up he then played for time by manipulating the indecision and venality of the ottoman system at the same time he managed to kindle a hesitant british interest in kuwait doing so by deftly exploiting a rivalry among european powers that was fuelled by speculation over kuwait s strategic importance as the possible terminus of a railway conceived as the vital link in rapid communication between europe and india

this is a critical history of the reign of sheikh mubarak al sabah widely regarded as the founder of modern kuwait the author discusses the sheikh s seizure of power and the nature of his involvement in tribal politics

sheikh mubarak was the founder of the modern state of kuwait but the man who actually led kuwait to modernity was his son abdullah mubarak al sabah one of the most significant figures of kuwait from the 1940s to kuwaiti independence in 1961 largely responsible for the creation of the kuwaiti defence forces abdullah mubarak al sabah made a point of prioritising what he saw to be kuwait s national interests in the face of british american and iranian pressures during a crucial period of change he developed carefully crafted cautious relations with foreign oil companies and secured kuwait s economic standing through his driven and single minded policies the author here presents this part biography part history of modern kuwait with fresh new research

and insights from america s drive to build stronger connections in the region in the 1950s when both the cold war and arab nationalisms were in full play to sensitive diplomatic issues such as water border disputes and difficult interactions with iraq especially following the 1958 revolution of abd al karim qasim the author examines kuwait s relations with its neighbours and the west and the role played by this pivotal figure in the country s history and development this book makes a significant contribution to understanding the complex politics of modern kuwait and the recent history of the gulf states

making at state the building of a nation social development and the outside world economic development regional relations and the employment of political resources the international struggle for kuwait

as arab leaders play an increasingly important role on the world stage they also face new and complex challenges at home challenges that could affect both regional and regime stability power and succession in arab monarchies provides an essential compendium of information regarding the politically charged issue of succession in bahrain jordan kuwait morocco oman qatar saudi arabia and the united arab emirates based on scarce source material and a wide range of inside information this exhaustive reference traces the rise of each ruling family outlines key constitutional developments provides details on current rulers and their approaches to succession discusses potential contenders to powerthe appendixes supply a chronological list of rulers for each monarchy as well as the text of decrees private letters and constitutional provisions related to succession

encompasses the interaction of political historical social economic and cultural movements as well as relevant persons living and dead places and events spans the geographical area from afghanistan to morocco covers topics in politics economics religion hsitory literature the arts and more

this is a well documented and analytical review of the most significant developments and interactions across the gulf cooperation council gcc states and those of iraq iran and yemen during the last twelve months it covers political economic and security developments within each of these nine countries and also explores the dynamics and scale of their relations at regional and international levels in parallel the yearbook

investigates the positions held by the main international powers towards the gulf region while also covering key areas such as economic and social developments and the status of the media in the region

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