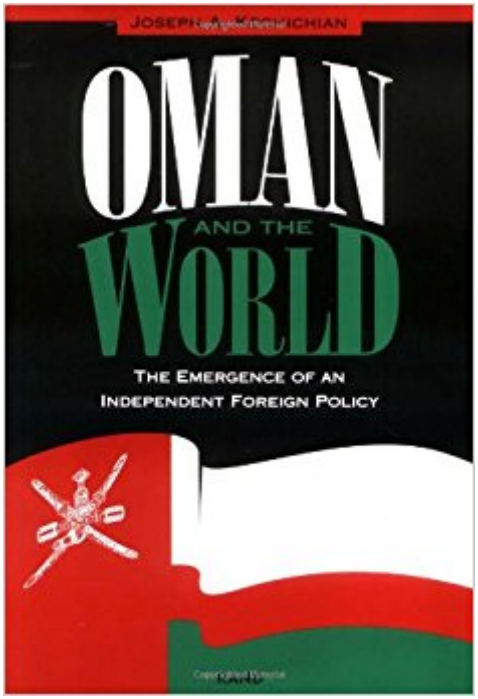
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Oman And The World: The Emergence Of An Independent Foreign Policy



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Synopsis

In July 1970, amid vast turmoil throughout the Persian Gulf region, Qaboos bin Sa'id led a successful coup against his father and proclaimed himself the new Head of State. Sultan Qaboos promised to institute a modern, efficient, and just government and to establish friendly relations with neighboring countries. Facing significant internal challenges to his authority, Qaboos restored internal order through effective military and economic measures. Simultaneously, he adopted long-term principles that facilitated the introduction of capable foreign policy initiatives, based on nonintervention in the affairs of other countries, respect for international law, and nonalignment. Today, the Sultanate of Oman remains stable--its foreign policy flexible by nature, its regional preeminence assured. This report systematically analyzes the foreign policy of the Sultanate. It traces the origins of the Omani nation-state, identifies trends in Omani diplomacy, and examines the Sultanate's foreign policy in the modern era, focusing on relations with states on the Arabian Peninsula and in the Persian Gulf region, with the West, and around the world.

Book Information

Paperback: 434 pages

Publisher: RAND Corporation (November 29, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0833023322

ISBN-13: 978-0833023322

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.9 x 10.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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The Sultanate of Oman is one of the least-studied countries in the Persian Gulf. This book by an associate political scientist at The Rand Corp. and a keen observer of recent developments in the Gulf goes a long way toward filling the gap in our knowledge of the domestic and external dynamics of contemporary Oman. The author has done an admirable job of interweaving a vast array of Western and Arabic source materials, including interviews with key Omani officials, into a coherent,

readable, and much-needed volume on Oman's foreign policy. The book contains an extensive bibliography and useful statistical charts. Highly recommended for Middle East specialists and students of foreign policy. [Kechichian is an LJ reviewer.?Ed.]?Nader Entessar, Spring Hill Coll., Mobile, Ala..-?Nader Entessar, Spring Hill Coll., Mobile, Ala.,Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Those interested in Oman and the region will be grateful for Kechichian's thorough and informative study.Middle East PolicyA first rate book that is not only the first study of its kind, but will become the starting point for all future analyses of Omani foreign policy. This work should serve as a model for much needed studies of the foreign affairs of other Gulf states. Highly recommended.Middle East JournalAn extremely valuable contribution to our understanding of the contemporary Gulf by documenting Oman's foreign policy.Gulf States NewsletterThis volume is a reliable guide to the country's foreign policy... On balance, the country's recent history is a success story, and one will better understand the achievement after reading this book... One of the few books on Oman in English, this volume is a reliable guide to the country's foreign policy ... the country's recent history is a success story, and one will better understand the achievement after reading this book.Foreign AffairsGoes a long way toward filling the gap in our knowledge of the domestic and external dynamics of contemporary Oman... Highly recommended for Middle East specialists and students of foreign policy.Library Journal

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