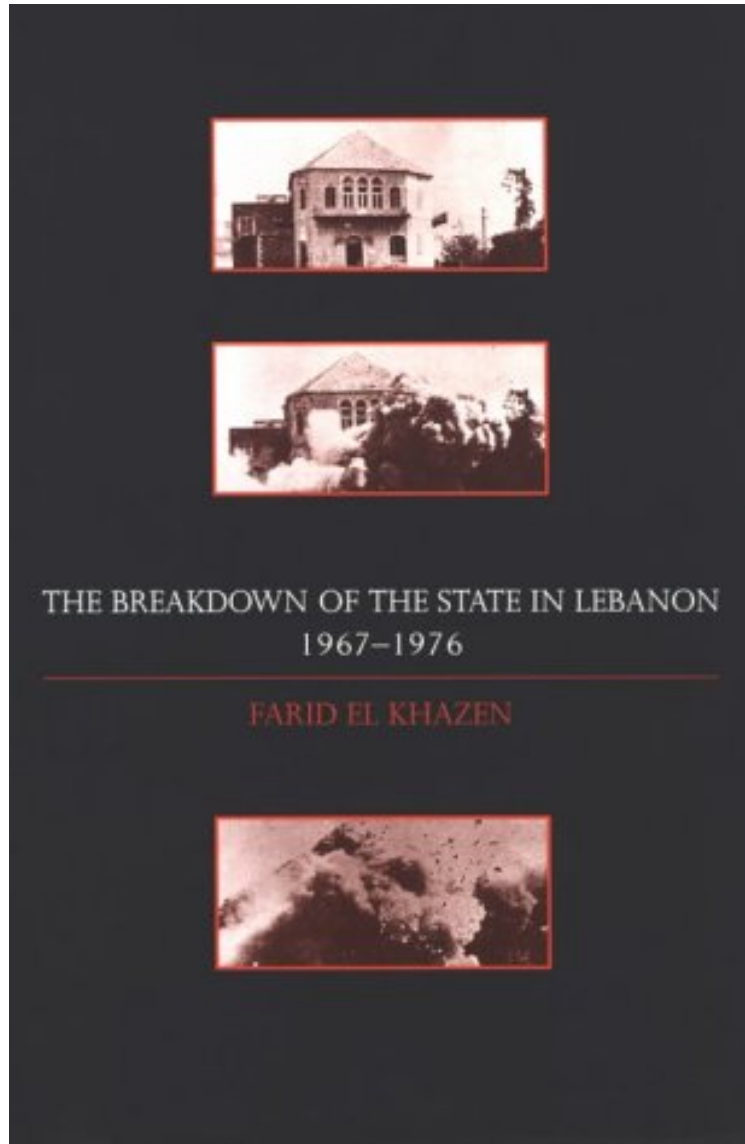


(Free pdf) The Breakdown of the State in Lebanon, 1967-1976

The Breakdown of the State in Lebanon, 1967-1976

Farid el Khazen

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Farid el Khazen : The Breakdown of the State in Lebanon, 1967-1976 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Breakdown of the State in Lebanon, 1967-1976:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Academic but partial analysis of LebanonBy Samir KassirThis book by Professor Farid Khazen is a good read and is well-researched. However, it is an attempt to articulate in academic mantle the Right Wing view in the Lebanon War that the Palestinians were largely responsible for the decay of the Lebanese state, supported by radical Arab states and the Soviet Union. Prof Khazen moves then to a meticulous

refutation of Leftist views of the war, denying that sectarian divisions led to the war or that there were legitimate social and economic grievances among the Lebanese (as the leftists were saying). Despite the length of Prof Khazen's book, I don't find it satisfying as an account of what happened in Lebanon in the period 1967-1976, nor does it cover adequately the destructive role played by the Lebanese elites in these tragic years. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Realistic history of the war in Lebanon. By Jeremiah Aram Excellent coverage of the war and the breakdown of the Republic. Prof Khazen gives us an outstanding analysis and a welcome anti-Marxist-leftist view of the war. This is a real anti-thesis to the usual broken record and clichés of Pan-Arabists, Fascist Syrians aka SSNP, Commies, 'romantic' Arabist idiots of the Western foreign press (Jonathan Randal, Robert Fisk, Patrick Seal, Thomas Friedman etc), Anti-Catholic 'WASP' coverage, etc. It deserves 10 stars. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Original and scholarly work. By A Customer This well researched, scholarly book on Lebanese politics and society is a welcome contribution to the study of conflict in the Middle East. The subject matter Farid el Khazen deals with is no doubt complex and controversial. But the author presents his arguments in a balanced and convincing way. His novel approach - examining Lebanon in crisis situations in broader regional perspective - is original and lucid. For anyone seeking to know the internal and external causes of the war in Lebanon, this is the book to read.

Straddling the boundaries of politics and history, this discerning book allows the reader to dig through the rubble of Lebanon's wars and learn exactly what has befallen it. With its remarkable open society, its plural political system, its well-educated and sophisticated peoples, and its tolerant confessional outlook, Lebanon is only now recovering the independence it once had, albeit in the face of Syria. In view of recent Lebanese history, can an open and democratic state be recaptured by a people entangled in a largely authoritarian Arab state system? Farid el Khazen's arresting book shows how Lebanon was led toward its fate by its neighbors, yet ultimately undid itself. The Palestine Liberation Organization's presence was of central importance to the breakdown of the state, while the porousness of the democratic system could not contain the problems and violence. The breakdown was less a civil war in the conventional sense than a series of little wars with outside interference.

Some works are works of a lifetime. And this book is in that tradition. Everything about this scholar's life has led him to this book. Lebanon has been his home and vocation and calling. No one else in our field of Middle Eastern Studies could or would produce a book of this weight and seriousness and knowledge. Its mine of information, its interviews with the protagonist in that drawn-out struggle over Lebanon, the rich, textured data are all testimonies to a voracious commitment to tell Lebanon's tale. Straddling the boundaries of politics and history, this able, knowing, discerning book has mini-histories of all of Lebanon's communities. It situates Lebanon in its region, and in the world, and tells of what became of a land without a strong state of its own in a world of other, more powerful states. Others have written of Lebanon's politics. The Breakdown of the State in Lebanon exceeds them all in power and integrity and knowledge and research and detail. A study that should make its way in Middle Eastern affairs as the definitive account of modern Lebanese politics. --Fouad Ajami, Johns Hopkins University In a massively researched, factually reliable, and politically centrist interpretation... [el Khazen] provides what will surely become the authoritative account of Lebanon's slide to war. As the title implies, el Khazen sees the weakening of the Lebanese government as the central development in the period following the 1967 Six-Day War... He is scathing on the press coverage of the PLO's role in the conflict--and also that of Western scholars--for their willingness 'to accept the Palestinian version of the story.' -- Daniel Pipes (Jerusalem Post 2000-12-01) About the Author Farid el Khazen is Associate Professor of Political Studies at the American University of Beirut.