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Our Last Best Chance: The Pursuit Of Peace In A Time Of Peril



Synopsis

A newsbreaking memoir that tackles head-on the toughest challenge in the world today. When a dying King Hussein shocked the world by picking his son rather than his brother, the longtime crown prince, to be the next king of Jordan, no one was more surprised than the young head of Special Operations, who discovered his life was in for a major upheaval. This is the inspirational story of a young prince who went to boarding school in America and military academy in Britain and grew up believing he would be a soldier. Back home, he hunted down terrorists and modernized Jordan's Special Forces. Then, suddenly, he found himself king. Together with his wife, Queen Rania, he transformed what it meant to be a monarch, going undercover to escape the bubble of the court while she became the Muslim world's most passionate advocate of women's rights. In this exceptionally candid memoir, King Abdullah tackles the single toughest issue he faces head-on- how to solve the Israeli-Palestinian standoff- and reveals himself to be an invaluable intermediary between America and the Arab world. He writes about the impact of the Iraq war on his neighborhood and how best to tackle Iran's nuclear ambitions. Why would a sitting head of state choose to write about the most explosive issues he faces? King Abdullah does so now because he believes we face a moment of truth: a last chance for peace in the Middle East. The prize is enormous, the cost of failure far greater than we dare imagine.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

King Abdullah II spent his formative years in the United States, where he went to Eaglebrook and

Deerfield, and in England, where he trained to be an officer at Sandhurst. A cavalry officer in the Jordanian army, he eventually became commander of the Jordanian Special Forces, a position that allowed him to forge invaluable relationships with intelligence and military offices around the world. The head of the Hashemite family, he is a forty-third generation direct descendant of the Prophet Mohammad. His family ruled the holy city of Mecca for more than eight hundred years and his great-grandfather led the Arab revolt for independence from Ottoman rule.

Great story of the King's life. It's clear it is partially to make a case why he was chosen to succeed instead of his Uncle but it is a good biography nonetheless. He paints a good picture of the issues facing the Middle East from the perspective of someone who is from there but he also understands the Western view of the world. The book is mostly biography, slightly propaganda (how can someone's own story not be, though?), and a little bit of suggestion how to move forward. It is dated by being written before the rise of Daesh (ISIS) but it can give some insight into how we got to that point.

Very interesting to get his point of view on the Middle East conflict. This is an honorable man and should be an American ally.

King Abdullah's life has been nothing short of extraordinary. Although I still don't feel fully informed about the Palestinian Israeli conflict - I Really enjoyed reading this book, especially around King Abdullah's upbringing. His love and esteem for his father the late King Hussein r allowed shines through in the book

This book is a little dated but good insight about what was, and is, happening in that crazy part of the world. The King seems to be a fine man and working in the direction of world peace. I do hope that his bodyguards stay loyal and committed to his well-being and safety.

I believe it is important to learn from a number of sources to get a realistic picture of events around the world. Even though I lived through these times I realize that we only get part of the picture from our media in the USA (NPR does a pretty good job.) This book is extremely interesting. I believe King Abdullah II to be a man of integrity and wisdom. I recommend it to anyone who cares about harmony in the world.

This is a good history lesson from the perspective of King Abdullah, which can be at odds with other Middle East perspectives. I particularly like his work advancing moderate Islam in his country and the region. These types of efforts are of critical importance to everyone in the world at this time.

This insider's view allows Americans, Israelis, and Arabs to examine their own understandings and prejudices critically. Perhaps even state leaders will rethink their positions and bring about a lasting peace. Additionally, the details of the life of a modern Arab king are fascinating and enjoyable.

It's very interesting to hear a report from the Middle East that is the other side of the story. It is well written and engaging. I looked forward to reading it.

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