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Autore	Simonen Katarina
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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Historical Landscapes -- Ibadi Islam and the Imamate Tradition -- Falaj and Agreement -- Tribalism and Local Agreement -- Oman Water Diplomacy Part I: The Beginnings of the Middle East Desalination Research Centre (MEDRC) -- Oman Water Diplomacy Part II: The Establishment of the Middle East Desalination Research Centre (MEDRC) -- Epilogue -- Selected Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	This book traces the development of Oman's inclusive agreements and highlights their importance for international negotiations, dealing with issues most relevant to humanity's own survival today, nuclear weapons or climate change. In Oman, a historical seafaring nation on the south-

eastern corner of the Arabian Peninsula, a culture of agreement that accommodates the interests of everyone has developed around the division of scarce water resources. Life in the arid inland of the Omani Hajar mountains would not have been possible without water. Irrigation channel (falaj) construction is extremely old and skilful therein. Local practices evolved around the division of water and land on the basis of fairness. The community would be best served by inclusion and the avoidance of conflict. A specific Islamic school called Ibadi arrived at Oman early on in the eighth century. Ibadi scholars conserved local practices. Consultation and mediation by sheikhs and the religious leader, Imam, became the law of the land. The Omanis were known as the People of Consultation, Ahl Al Shura. In time, the practice of inclusive agreements would extend far beyond the village level, affecting Oman's foreign policy under Sultan Qaboos. Oman's water diplomacy succeeded in uniting the contestants of the Middle East Peace Process in the 1990s to work together on common problems of water desalination.
