1. Record Nr. UNINA9910457785603321 Autore Lacroix Stephane Titolo Awakening Islam [[electronic resource]]: the politics of religious dissent in contemporary Saudi Arabia / / Stephane Lacroix; translated by George Holoch Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-674-06107-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (384 p.) Altri autori (Persone) HolochGeorge Disciplina 320.5/5709538 Soggetti Religion and politics - Saudi Arabia Islamic fundamentalism - Saudi Arabia Islam and state - Saudi Arabia Electronic books. Saudi Arabia History 1932-Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Islamism in a fragmented society -- The development of the Sahwa --Resistance to Sahwa ascendancy -- A sacrificed generation -- The logic of the insurrection -- Anatomy of a failure -- The Islamists after the insurrection -- Conclusion: the lessons of the insurrection. Sommario/riassunto Amidst the roil of war and instability across the Middle East, the West is still searching for ways to understand the Islamic world. Stéphane Lacroix has now given us a penetrating look at the political dynamics of Saudi Arabia, one of the most opaque of Muslim countries and the place that gave birth to Osama bin Laden. The result is a history that has never been told before. Lacroix shows how thousands of Islamist militants from Egypt, Syria, and other Middle Eastern countries, starting in the 1950's, escaped persecution and found refuge in Saudi Arabia,

where they were integrated into the core of key state institutions and

society. The transformative result was the Sahwa, or "Islamic Awakening," an indigenous social movement that blended political activism with local religious ideas. Awakening Islam offers a pioneering analysis of how the movement became an essential element of Saudi society, and why, in the late 1980's, it turned against the very state that

had nurtured it. Though the "Sahwa Insurrection" failed, it has bequeathed the world two very different, and very determined, heirs: the Islamo-liberals, who seek an Islamic constitutional monarchy through peaceful activism, and the neo-jihadis, supporters of bin Laden's violent campaign. Awakening Islam is built upon seldom-seen documents in Arabic, numerous travels through the country, and interviews with an unprecedented number of Saudi Islamists across the ranks of today's movement. The result affords unique insight into a closed culture and its potent brand of Islam, which has been exported across the world and which remains dangerously misunderstood.