Record Nr. UNINA9910461753803321 Autore Chaudhry Kiren Aziz Titolo The price of wealth: economies and institutions in the Middle East // Kiren Aziz Chaudhry Ithaca:,: Cornell University Press,, 1997 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-5017-0033-2 **ISBN** 1-5017-0034-0 1 online resource (351 pages): illustrations Descrizione fisica Collana Cornell studies in political economy Disciplina 338.953 Soggetti POLITICAL SCIENCE / Political Economy Electronic books. Saudi Arabia Economic policy Yemen (Republic) Economic policy Middle East Economic conditions Saudi Arabia Politics and government Yemen (Republic) Politics and government Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Glossary of Saudi Archival Documents -- 1. Oil and Labor Exporters in the International Economy -- I. Institutional Origins in Isolation -- 2. The National Market Unified -- 3. Taxation and Economic Fragmentation -- II. The Boom -- 4. The Business of the Bureaucracy -- 5. Migrants and Magnates -- 6. Informal and Formal Banking -- III. The Bust -- 7. Beyond the Paradox of Autonomy -- 8. Worlds within the Third World -- Index Sommario/riassunto The emerging consensus that institutions shape political and economic outcomes has produced few theories of institutional change and no defensible theory of institutional origination. Kiren Aziz Chaudhry shows how state and market institutions are created and transformed in Saudi Arabia and Yemen, two countries that typify labor and oil exporters in the developing worlds. In a world where the international economy dramatically affects domestic developments, the question of

where institutions come from becomes at once more urgent and more

complex. In both Saudi Arabia and Yemen, fundamental state and market institutions forged during a period of isolation at the end of World War I were destroyed and reshaped not once but three times in response to exogenous shocks. Comparing boom-bust cycles, Chaudhry exposes the alternating social and organizational origins of institutions, arguing that both broad changes in the international economy and specific forms of international integration shape institutional outcomes. Labor and oil exporters thus experience identical economic cycles but generate radically different state, market, and financial institutions in response to different resource flows. Chaudhry supplemented years of field work in Saudi Arabia and Yemen with extensive analysis of previously unavailable materials in the Saudi national archives.