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Nota di contenuto	The land that once was known as Shaam -- French rule, 1920-1946 -- From independence to Hafez al-Assad, 1946-1970 -- Hafez al-Assad, 1970-2000: foreign policy challenges -- Inside the Syria of Hafez al-Assad, 1970-2000 -- Bashar al-Assad, 2000-: from succession to civil war -- Drawing the threads together.
Sommario/riassunto	The collapse of Syria into civil war over the past two years has spawned a regional crisis whose reverberations grow louder with each passing month. In this timely account, John McHugo seeks to contextualize the headlines, providing broad historical perspective and a richly layered analysis of a country few in the United States know or understand. McHugo charts the history of Syria from World War I to the tumultuous present, examining the country's thwarted attempts at independence, the French policies that sowed the seeds of internal strife, and the fragility of its foundations as a nation. He