

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910779137703321
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Titolo	Dubai [[electronic resource]] : gilded cage // Syed Ali
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven [Conn.], : Yale University Press, c2010
ISBN	0-300-16816-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (360 p.)
Disciplina	953.57
Soggetti	Foreign workers - Legal status, laws, etc - United Arab Emirates - Dubayy (Emirate) Dubayy (United Arab Emirates : Emirate) History Dubayy (United Arab Emirates : Emirate) Economic conditions Dubayy (United Arab Emirates : Emirate) Politics and government United Arab Emirates Emigration and immigration Economic aspects
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 -- PREFACE -- INTRODUCTION -- CHAPTER ONE THE ROOTS OF DUBAI -- CHAPTER TWO BECOMING A GLOBAL BRAND -- CHAPTER THREE IRON CHAINS -- CHAPTER FOUR LIVING IN 'FLY-BY' DUBAI -- CHAPTER FIVE GUESTS IN THEIR OWN HOMES -- CHAPTER SIX STRANGERS IN THEIR OWN LAND -- CHAPTER SEVEN THIS IS THE FUTURE? -- NOTES -- SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY -- INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	In less than two decades, Dubai has transformed itself from an obscure Gulf emirate into a global center for business, tourism, and luxury living. It is a fascinating case study in light-speed urban development, hyperconsumerism, massive immigration, and vertiginous inequality. Its rulers have succeeded in making Dubai into a worldwide brand, publicizing its astonishing hotels and leisure opportunities while at the same time successfully downplaying its complex policies towards guest workers and suppression of dissent. In this enormously readable book, Syed Ali delves beneath the dazzling surface to analyze how-and at what cost-Dubai has achieved such success. Ali brings alive a society rigidly divided between expatriate Westerners living self-indulgent lifestyles on short-term work visas, native Emiratis who are largely passive observers and beneficiaries of what Dubai has become, and

workers from the developing world who provide the manual labor and domestic service needed to keep the emirate running, often at great personal cost.
