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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half Title; Title Page; Copyright Page ; Table of Contents; Preface; Acknowledgements; Introduction: Will the shari'a state be the outcome? The Arab Spring and the hope for democratization; Beyond obsessions and Western wishful thinking; What do Islamists want? Epistemology employed in the search for an answer; About this book; Major themes and core assumptions; Structure and outline; Intended readership and overview of the field; And finally ...; 1. The shari'a state and Western scholarship: the reality of the Islamist shari'atization of politics that seeks a name Terms, confusions and the trajectory of the argumentThe facts: traditional shari'a is not about governance!; The prevailing narrative: the distorted understanding of Islamism in US Islamic studies; Misconceptions regarding the return of the sacred to politics; Confusion among scholars: a representative debate; Islam, Islamism and violence: the need for a realistic understanding; Islamism's core issue: the shari'a state; Conclusions: the need for an Islamic enlightenment against the obstacles impeding a critique of the shari'a state

2. The shari'a state is not the faith of Islam: shari'a and politics; Shari'a between faith and political abuse: the confusion between shari'a and fiqh; The invention of shari'a as a constitution for the Islamic state; The return of the sacred as an Islamist shari'a; Why is the return of shari'a law to politics a challenge?; Shari'a law and democratic rights; The hypothesis of shari'atization of Islam as an obstacle to democratization; Universality of law: the tensions between the shari'atization of Islam and constitutionalism in international law
A plea for a reformed Islamic shari'a law in the pursuit of a universal cosmopolitan law
Conclusions: shari'atized Islam is not a democratic constitutionalism; 3. The challenge of the Islamist shari'a state to international order: torn between the Westphalian synthesis, Pax Americana and Pax Islamica; Enlightened Muslim thought in an 'enlightened turn' on religion and political order; Great confusions of Islamic orders: the caliphate, pan-Islamism, and Islamist internationalism in the context of a new world order
Is the order of a din-wa-dawla Islamocracy an Islamic democracy compatible with democratic world peace? An outline of the major issues: religious faith and religionized politics; Is institutional Islamism a moderation? Or is it a variant of religious fundamentalism?; The world view and ideology of Islamism: origins; The Islamicate: torn between incorporation into the Westphalian synthesis and the vision of a Pax Islamica; Bottom line: the Westphalian synthesis is not Pax Americana; Islamism and the Western triumphalism of 'the end of history'
Conclusions: which world order? The Westphalian synthesis, Pax Americana and political Islam in competition. The need for a democratic world peace

Sommario/riassunto

<P>Set against the backdrop of the Arab Spring, <I>The Sharia State</I> examines the Islamist concept of political order. This order is based on a new interpretation of sharia and has been dubbed ""the Islamic state"" by Islamists. The concept of ""the Islamic state,"" has been elevated to a political agenda and it is this agenda that is examined here.</P><P>In contrast to the prevailing view which sees the Arab Spring as a revolution, this book argues that the phenomenon has been neither a Spring, nor a revolution. The term 'Arab Spring,' connotes a just rebellion that led to toppling dictato
