

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910790093803321
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Titolo	Shocked and awed : how the war on terror and Jihad have changed the English language // by Fred Halliday
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : I.B. Tauris, , 2010
ISBN	0-7556-1439-9 0-7556-1059-8 1-283-04827-2 9786613048271 0-85771-875-4
Edizione	[First edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (354 p.)
Disciplina	303.6250321
Soggetti	English language English language - New words Jihad Language and international relations Linguistic change War on Terrorism, 2001-2009 - Language Language: history & general works
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	Contents; Publisher's Note; Introduction; Chapter 1. 9/11, US Intelligence and Counterterrorism; Chapter 2. Motifs of Jihad: Terrorist Group, Armed Actions and the Imagery of Osama bin Laden; Chapter 3. Extraordinary Renditions: Abduction, Abuse and Torture; Chapter 4. The Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq; Chapter 5. Some Islamic and Middle Eastern Vocabulary; Chapter 6. Images of Muslims: Stereotypes, Insults, Self-Perceptions; Chapter 7. Palestine and Israel: 'Holy Land' and Other Inventions; Chapter 8. From 'Collateral Damage' to 'Mowing the Lawn': The Euphemisms of War Chapter 9. 'Bad Guys', 'Circular Firing Squad', 'Slum Dunk': The Vitality of US Colloquial Chapter 10. Spaces, Real and Imagined; Chapter 11. Obscuring Responsibility: Euphemisms, Circumlocutions and Vagaries

of 'Exculpatory Passive'; Chapter 12. Some Other Distortions: History, Politics and International Relations; Acknowledgements; Note on Transliteration, Standardisation and Abbreviation; Works Consulted; Index

Sommario/riassunto

"Far more than just a military conflict, the 'War on Terror' has been a struggle over values and meanings, a desperate contest for hearts and minds in which language has become its battlefield. In this highly original book, Fred Halliday takes us on a tour of this new war-zone, its artillery and trenches, minefields and booby-traps. Drawing on years of painstaking collation, Halliday shows how the 'War on Terror' has brought us not just new words and acronyms, such as 'Gitmo' and 'IED', and new imports, such as 'jihad' and 'Salafi', but also new - and distinctly sinister - ways of using existing language, such as 'extraordinary rendition' and 'enhanced interrogation techniques'. Halliday chronicles the use and development of all the neologisms produced by the 'War on Terror', and examines the underlying dynamics driving them. He argues that the increased use of everyday words from Arabic, for example, reflects not only increased interest in the Arab world but also hostility to it, a sense that its reference points are 'untranslatable' in our own culture. Scanning the pock-marked semantic landscape of the post 9/11 world, he uncovers hidden twists of phrasing and word associations which in themselves tell a story about the violent clash of ideologies that has marked the opening of the 21st century. Part indispensable reference, part polemic, part entertaining snapshot of our times, *Shocked and Awed* is a bristling arsenal of the 21st century's most potent weapons: Words."-- Bloomsbury Publishing.
