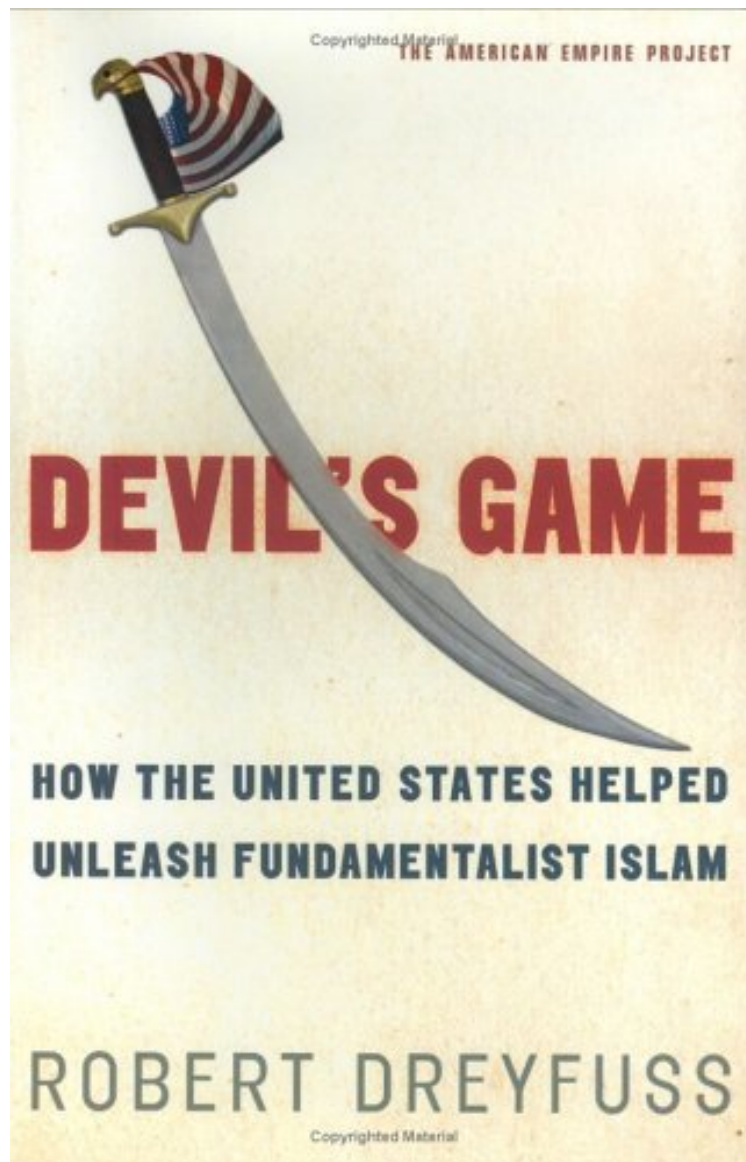


[Download ebook] Devil's Game: How the United States Helped Unleash Fundamentalist Islam (American Empire Project)

Devil's Game: How the United States Helped Unleash Fundamentalist Islam (American Empire Project)

Robert Dreyfuss

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#1109535 in Books Metropolitan Books 2005-11-03 2005-10-13Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.80 x 1.33 x 6.86l, #File Name: 0805076522400 pages | File size: 66.Mb

Robert Dreyfuss : Devil's Game: How the United States Helped Unleash Fundamentalist Islam (American Empire Project) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Devil's Game: How the United States Helped Unleash Fundamentalist Islam (American Empire Project):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. If you want to know the origins of Al Qaeda, you need to read this. By Michael D. I gave this a 4-star rating because the biases the writer holds still come out in some of his explanations that I don't agree with. However, American foreign policy is a continuation of English Imperial foreign policy. Every couple hundred years, someone else takes the empire torch, and continues the same nightmare. Our CIA, Mossad and the British played a game that backfired. You'll have to find another book on AIPAC and US Lobbying to learn who really benefits. This book is an excellent look into the failures of manipulating radicals for potential political gain. Whether you have a friend who is Republican, Democrat, Liberal, Conservative, Libertarian or flat out Socialist; they deserve to know the historical lessons from playing the devil's game of empire building. 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. The Devil Made Us Pay Them By Dwight C. Douglas The way I discovered this book was when two former CIA Afghani operatives sat down next to me at a bar in Washington, DC. After a brief discussion about the state of the world, they suggested I read Devil's Game: How the United States Helped Unleash Fundamentalist Islam by Robert Dreyfuss. For those people who are conspiracy freaks, this book will only make you more paranoid. For those of us who are looking for a fuller understanding of how we got to the point that a religion would be so politically and militarily driven, this is the perfect book. In a sense, it makes me ashamed of my country. My only regret was that this was published in 2006 and in the decade since, there have been so many things this book predicted. Wake up Washington I give Devil's Game five stars and hope that other writers and researchers carry on this work. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic!! The history seems too detailed at times ... By Kenneth Jamme Fantastic!! The history seems too detailed at times but after I moved into the 1950's and on, the picture became clear. Most Americans are students of history about ten minutes old, too bad. What happened on 9/11 and what is happening now in the middle east is our Frankenstein.

The first complete account of America's most dangerous foreign policy miscalculation: sixty years of support for Islamic fundamentalism Devil's Game is the gripping story of America's misguided efforts, stretching across decades, to dominate the strategically vital Middle East by courting and cultivating Islamic fundamentalism. Among all the books about Islam, this is the first comprehensive inquiry into the touchiest issue: How and why did the United States encourage and finance the spread of radical political Islam? Backed by extensive archival research and interviews with dozens of policy makers and CIA, Pentagon, and foreign service officials, Robert Dreyfuss argues that this largely hidden relationship is greatly to blame for the global explosion of terrorism. He follows the trail of American collusion from support for the Muslim Brotherhood in 1950s Egypt to links with Khomeini and Afghani jihadists to cooperation with Hamas and Saudi Wahhabism. Dreyfuss also uncovers long-standing ties between radical Islamists and the leading banks of the West. The result is as tragic as it is paradoxical: originally deployed as pawns to foil nationalism and communism, extremist mullahs and ayatollahs now dominate the region, thundering against freedom of thought, science, women's rights, secularism--and their former patron. Wide-ranging and deeply informed, Devil's Game reveals a history of double-dealing, cynical exploitation, and humiliating embarrassment. What emerges is a pattern that, far from furthering democracy or security, ensures a future of blunders and blowback.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . One of the CIA's first great moments of institutional reflection occurred in 1953, after American covert operatives helped overthrow Iran's left-leaning government and restored the Shah to power. The agency, then only six years old, had funded ayatollahs, mobilized the religious right and engineered a sophisticated propaganda campaign to successfully further its aims, and it wanted to know how it could reapply such tradecraft elsewhere, so it commissioned an internal report. Half a century later, the most prescient line from that report is one of caution, not optimism. "Possibilities of blowback against the United States should always be in the back of the minds of all CIA officers," the document warned. Since this first known use of the term "blowback," countless journalists and scholars have chronicled the greatest blowback of all: how the staggering quantities of aid that America provided to anti-Marxist Islamic extremists during the Cold War inadvertently positioned those very same extremists to become America's next great enemy. (Indeed, Iran's religious leaders were among the first to turn against the United States.) Dreyfuss's volume reaches farther and deeper into the subject than most. He convincingly situates America's attempt to build an Islamic bulwark against Soviet expansion into Britain's history of imperialism in the region. And where other authors restrict their focus to the Afghan mujahideen, Dreyfuss details a history of American support sometimes conducted with startling blindness, sometimes, tacitly through proxies for Islamic radicals in Egypt, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Syria. At times, the assistance occurred openly through the American private sector, as Dreyfuss describes in a fascinating digression on Islamic banking. But ultimately, too few government officials were paying attention to the growth and dangers of political Islam. A CIA officer summarizes Dreyfuss's case when he says, "We saw it all in a short-term perspective" the long-term consequences are what we're facing now. (Nov.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist In an effort to thwart the spread of communism, the U.S. has supported--even organized and funded--Islamic fundamentalist groups, a policy that has come back to haunt post-cold war geopolitics. Drawing on archival sources and interviews with policymakers and foreign-service officials, Dreyfuss traces this ultimately misguided approach from support for the Muslim Brotherhood

in Egypt in the 1950s, the Ayatollah Khomeini in Iran, the ultraorthodox Wahhabism in Saudi Arabia, and Hamas and Hezbollah to jihads in Afghanistan and Osama bin Laden. Fearful of the appeal of communism, the U.S. saw the rise of a religious Right as a counterbalance. Despite the 9/11 terrorist attacks and the declared U.S. war on terrorism in Iraq, Dreyfuss notes continued U.S. support for Iraq's Islamic Right. He cites parallels between the cultural forces that have promoted the religious Right in the U.S and the Middle East and notes that support from wealthy donors, the emergence of powerful figures, and politically convenient alliances have contributed to Middle Eastern hostilities toward the U.S. A well-researched and insightful book. Vanessa Bush Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Eye-opening, original, and important. Chalmers Johnson, author of *The Sorrows of Empire* Crisp, lively . . . Provides a concise and readable account of the evolution of America's partnerships with radical Islamic groups and regimes. *The American Conservative*