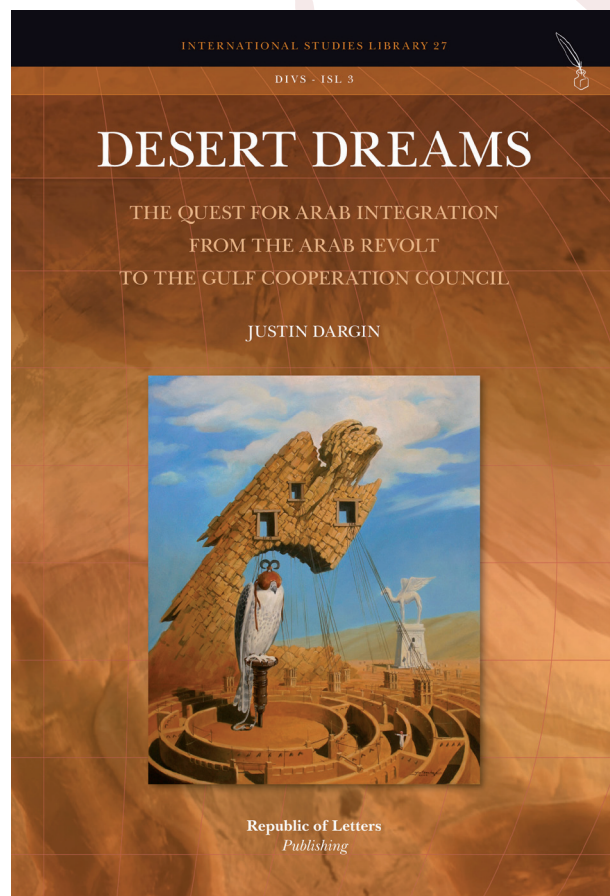


Desert Dreams

The Quest for Arab Integration from the Arab Revolt to the Gulf Cooperation Council

Justin Dargin

Harvard University-Dubai Initiative



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This book discusses the history of Arab integration attempts from the late Ottoman period to the creation of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Although there is significant scholarship on the history of pan-Arab nationalism and the drive for disparate Arab nations to integrate, there is precious little literature that seeks to understand the development of closer integration in the Gulf in the context of the long history amongst Arabs of the awareness that a common cultural and social nation exists that should politically and economically collaborate. This book reassesses the history of Arab integration, and argues convincingly, that while the more politically charged “unionist” attempts of Arab political integration may have failed, instead what we can anticipate, based on the illustration of the GCC, is deeper and closer economic, financial, political and social coordination amongst various Arab countries.

Table of Contents

Preface

Introduction

Part I: The Birth of the Arab Revolt

Part II: A Region Aflame-Post War Integration Attempts

Part III: The Gulf and Structural Arab Integration

Justin Dargin is a research fellow at the Dubai Initiative at Harvard University. He specializes in Middle Eastern geopolitics, the Gulf energy sector and the global energy market. He has published extensively on the Gulf and its energy and economic sectors, including, *The Dolphin Project: The Development of a Gulf Gas Initiative* (OIES Press Jan. 2008). He completed his graduate studies at Georgetown University Law Center with distinction.

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