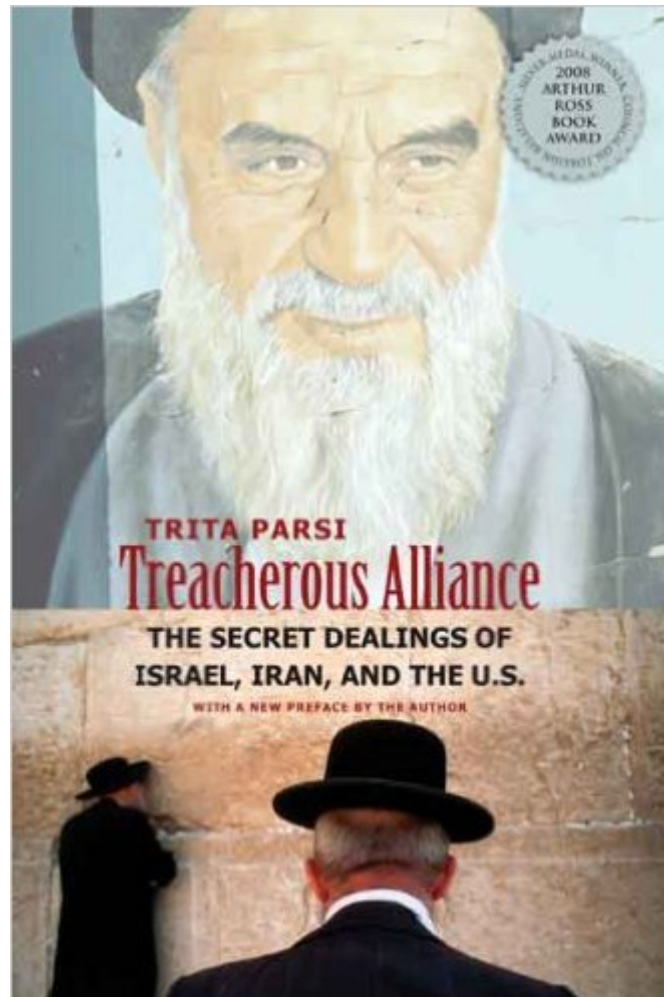


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Treacherous Alliance: The Secret Dealings Of Israel, Iran, And The United States



Synopsis

In this era of superheated rhetoric and vitriolic exchanges between the leaders of Iran and Israel, the threat of nuclear violence looms. But the real roots of the enmity between the two nations mystify Washington policymakers, and no promising pathways to peace have emerged. This book traces the shifting relations among Israel, Iran, and the United States from 1948 to the present, uncovering for the first time the details of secret alliances, treacherous acts, and unsavory political maneuverings that have undermined Middle Eastern stability and disrupted U.S. foreign policy initiatives in the region.Â Trita Parsi, a U.S. foreign policy expert with more than a decade of experience, is the only writer who has had access to senior American, Iranian, and Israeli decision makers. He dissects the complicated triangular relations of their countries, arguing that Americaâ™s hope for stability in Iraq and for peace in Israel is futile without a correct understanding of the Israeli-Iranian rivalry.Â Parsiâ™s behind-the-scenes revelations about Middle East events will surprise even the most knowledgeable readers: Iranâ™s prime minister asks Israel to assassinate Khomeini, Israel reaches out to Saddam Hussein after the Gulf War, the United States foils Iranâ™s plan to withdraw support from Hamas and Hezbollah, and more. This book not only revises our understanding of the Middle Eastâ™s recent past, it also spells out a course for the future. In todayâ™s belligerent world, few topics, if any, could be more important.Â Â

Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Yale University Press; 1 edition (October 28, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0300143117

ISBN-13: 978-0300143119

Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 0.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (45 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #804,393 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #347 inÂ Books > History > Middle East > Iran #736 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Middle East #949 inÂ Books > History > Middle East > Israel & Palestine

Customer Reviews

Trita Parsi has written a compelling book, cutting thorough ideological and political propaganda

emanating from the three countries he has focused on (US, Israel, and Iran), and going right through the core issues involving geopolitical and regional hegemony aspirations of the three governments. What is fascinating is that Parsi reveals that such political calculations transcend the particular ideology of the governments in these three countries. Whether it is Likud or Labor in Israel, Democrats or Republicans in the US, or The former Shah's regime or the reformists or hardliners of the Islamic government in Iran, the decision making process remarkably follows more or less the same logic, and the same priorities are at play. When a shift in policy takes place, Parsi reveals that again the political faction of the government involved is irrelevant. In fact, amazingly, the very same people who were advocating one set of policies, often advance a diametrically opposite set a few years later. Parsi underlines this point by revealing how Israeli Labor leaders, the late Itzhak Rabin and Shimon Perez were lobbying the Reagan administration to disregard virulent rhetoric from Iran and try to open up channels of communication with them, while just a few years later these two men were warning about the Iranian menace in every domestic and international speech. He points out how the neo-conservatives dominating the Bush administration were the very same people who were advocating supporting Iran in the Iran-Iraq war and opening channels in the eighties in the Reagan administration. And how the former hostage takers in Iran are now mostly leading liberals advocating negotiations and moderation in Iranian policies.

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