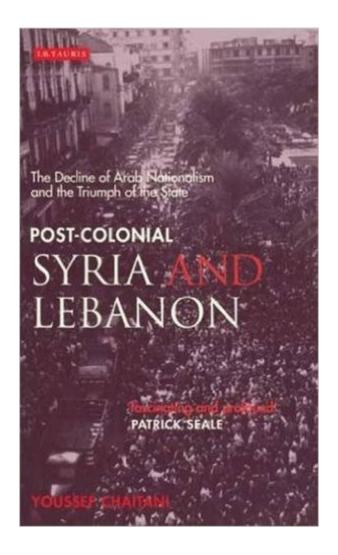
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# Post-Colonial Syria And Lebanon: The Decline Of Arab Nationalism And The Triumph Of The State (Library Of Modern Middle East Studies)





## Synopsis

The complex relationship between Syria and Lebanon is the political fulcrum of the Middle East, and has dominated headlines since the withdrawal of French colonial forces from the Levant in 1943. One of the great paradoxes of this relationship is how two such very different political systems emerged in what many Syrian and Lebanese people see as one society. At the time of independence, it was assumed that only the divide-and-rule strategies of foreign powers kept the Arab peoples artificially separated. In this major new book, Youssef Chaitani examines how, despite the prevalence of Arab nationalism and the regression of imperial interference, Syria and Lebanon became more divided, rather than more integrated in the post-independence period. Drawing on untapped sources from the archives of Western foreign offices and the local press, Chaitani uncovers the strategies and motivations of both countries' elites during this period, and produces conclusions which have major implications for our understanding of Arab nationalism, as well as the complexities of the Syrian-Lebanese relationship.

## **Book Information**

Series: Library of Modern Middle East Studies Hardcover: 240 pages Publisher: I.B.Tauris (May 15, 2007) Language: English ISBN-10: 1845112946 ISBN-13: 978-1845112943 Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1 x 9.5 inches Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item Best Sellers Rank: #2,034,124 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #174 in Books > History > Middle East > Lebanon #274 in Books > History > Middle East > Syria #1912 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Middle East

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