

De Nikolaos Van Dam

The period between the late Renaissance and the early Enlightenment has long been regarded as the zenith of the "republic of letters," a pan-European community of like-minded scholars and intellectuals who fostered critical approaches to the study of the Bible and other ancient texts, while renouncing the brutal religio-political disputes that were tearing their continent apart at the same time. *Criticism and Confession* offers an unprecedentedly comprehensive challenge to this account. Throughout this period, all forms of biblical scholarship were intended to contribute to theological debates, rather than defusing or transcending them, and meaningful collaboration between scholars of different confessions was an exception, rather than the norm. "Neutrality" was a fiction that obscured the ways in which scholarship served the interests of ecclesiastical and political institutions. Scholarly practices varied from one confessional context to another, and the progress of 'criticism' was never straightforward. The study demonstrates this by placing scholarly works in dialogue with works of dogmatic theology, and comparing examples from multiple confessional and national contexts. It offers major revisionist treatments of canonical figures in the history of scholarship, such as Joseph Scaliger, Isaac Casaubon, John Selden, Hugo Grotius, and Louis Cappel, based on unstudied archival as well as printed sources; and it places those figures alongside their more marginal, overlooked counterparts. It also contextualizes scholarly correspondence and other forms of intellectual exchange by considering them alongside the records of political and ecclesiastical bodies. Throughout, the study combines the methods of the history of scholarship with techniques drawn from other fields, including literary, political, and religious history. As well as

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presenting a new history of seventeenth-century biblical criticism, it also critiques modern scholarly assumptions about the relationships between erudition, humanistic culture, political activism, and religious identity.

In early 2011 an elderly Alawite shaykh lamented the long history of oppression and aggression against his people. Against such collective memories the Syrian uprising was viewed by many Alawites, and observers, as a revanchist Sunni Muslim movement and the gravest threat yet to the unorthodox Shi'a sub-sect. This explained why the Alawites largely remained loyal to the Ba'athist regime of Bashar al-Asad. But was Alawite history really a constant tale of oppression and was the Syrian uprising of 2011 really an existential threat to the Alawites? This book surveys Alawite history from the sect's inception in Abbasid Iraq up to the start of the uprising in 2011. The book shows how Alawite identity and political behaviour have been shaped by a cycle of insecurity that has prevented the group from achieving either genuine social integration or long term security. Rather than being the gravest threat yet to the sect, the Syrian uprising, in the context of the Arab Spring, was quite possibly a historic opportunity for the Alawites to finally break free from their cycle of fear.

Population rurale pauvre, taxée d'hérésie, en butte à l'hostilité de la bourgeoisie urbaine, les alaouites étaient encore considérés, dans les années 1930, comme des " attardés de l'histoire " (J. Weulersse). Trois décennies plus tard, ils font une entrée éclatante sur le devant de la scène syrienne et proche-orientale avec le coup d'Etat de l'un des leurs, Hafez A1 Assad. Le berceau territorial de la communauté alaouite, longtemps sous-développé, devient le vivier des hommes forts du régime. En analysant les dynamiques à l'œuvre dans le destin d'une région syrienne, sur quelques décennies, ce livre dessine une étonnante histoire de territoire et de

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pouvoir. Le pays alaouite, sur la frange côtière de la Syrie, hérite de la période ottomane un statut de périphérie lointaine, une situation de quasi-relégation. Unique fenêtre maritime du pays, il reçoit finalement l'attention des dirigeants baathistes à partir des années 1960. Les politiques volontaristes d'aménagement du territoire désenclavent cet espace : il devient une région intégrée. Mais dans la Syrie baathiste, la politique territoriale est indissociable d'une volonté de contrôle central. Pour la région côtière, il apparaît de plus en plus clairement qu'avec Hafez Al Assad, la contrepartie de l'intégration, c'est la clientélisation. Choyée par le régime, la communauté alaouite en est dépendante. Cette relation est un facteur essentiel de la production du nouvel espace régional, et révèle avec une acuité particulière l'ambiguïté fondamentale d'un régime qui, malgré un discours laïc d'unité nationale, joue sur des lignes de fracture communautaires. L'intégration régionale prend en effet des allures de revanche des campagnes alaouites sur les villes sunnites. Les alaouites jouissent d'un accès privilégié à l'emploi et aux postes de direction dans le secteur public industriel, dans l'administration et dans l'armée. L'économie privée en revanche leur reste peu ouverte. Aussi la timide libéralisation déclenchée dans les années 1990, prélude au " capitalisme des copains " de la Syrie d'aujourd'hui, va-t-elle renvoyer une partie de la communauté alaouite aux limites de son intégration. Tandis que la nouvelle configuration économique réactive la bourgeoisie industrielle et commerçante sunnite et chrétienne, l'affaiblissement des moyens de l'Etat remet en question les opportunités sociales offertes aux alaouites. Tout se passe comme si la région côtière, à l'image de la communauté alaouite elle-même, se trouvait à l'aube d'une nouvelle périphérisation dans l'espace politique et économique syrien.

Zesenhalf jaar geleden leek de Arabische Lente ook in Syrië tot bloei te komen. Maar

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eendrachtige, vreedzame demonstraties voor vrijheid, rechtvaardigheid en democratie werden meteen met harde hand door het regime van dictator Assad neergeslagen. Een bloedige burgeroorlog volgde. Veel Syriërs, ook zij die in Nederland een nieuw leven proberen op te bouwen, hebben zich sindsdien afgevraagd waarom men in het Westen zo stil blijft. De redenen om te zwijgen hebben vaak te maken met een diepgevoelde onmacht, terwijl openlijk betuigde steun voor slachtoffers juist van grote betekenis kan zijn: door onmenselijkheden te benoemen en ertegen in opstand te komen, geef je mede vorm aan menselijkheid en medemenselijkheid. In Als stilte steekt onderzoekt Désanne van Brederode aan de hand van eigen ervaringen en die van (Syrische) vrienden de pijnlijke kanten van stilte. Hoe kun je hierin iets veranderen? En wanneer is stilte juist wél gewenst?

Throughout the turbulent history of the Levant the 'Alawis - a secretive, resilient and ancient Muslim sect - have aroused suspicion and animosity, including accusations of religious heresy. More recently they have been tarred with the brush of political separatism and complicity in the excesses of the Assad regime, claims that have gained greater traction since the onset of the Syrian uprising and subsequent devastating civil war. The contributors to this book provide a complex and nuanced reading of Syria's 'Alawi communities -from loyalist gangs (Shabiha) to outspoken critics of the regime. Drawing upon wide-ranging research that examines the historic, political and social dynamics of the 'Alawi and the Syrian state, the current tensions are scrutinised and fresh insights offered. Among the themes addressed are religious practice, social identities, and relations to the Ba'ath party, the Syrian state and the military apparatus. The analysis also extends to Lebanon with a focus on the embattled 'Alawi community of Jabal Mohsen in Tripoli and state relations with Hizballah amid the current crisis.

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Ontwikkelingshulp heeft onder de Nederlandse bevolking nog altijd een groot draagvlak, zo blijkt uit opinieonderzoek. Maar de twijfels nemen toe. Ook in de media worden steeds meer vraagtekens geplaatst bij de effecten van hulp. Met name de situatie in Afrika stelt velen teleur. Waarom geven we eigenlijk ontwikkelingshulp, en helpt die hulp? Wat weten we over ontwikkelingstrajecten van landen en over de mogelijkheid daar van buiten aan bij te dragen? Hoe relevant is hulp nog voor ontwikkelingslanden nu andere financiële stromen zoals remittances en buitenlandse investeringen (FDI) door globalisering zijn toegenomen? En heeft beleid gericht op thema's als klimaat, migratie, financiële stabiliteit, kennis, handel en veiligheid niet meer invloed op de ontwikkelingskansen van arme landen? Deze en andere vragen komen aan bod in dit rapport van de Wetenschappelijke Raad voor het Regeringsbeleid. Op basis van bijna vijfhonderd gesprekken in het veld en een uitgebreide bestudering van de literatuur formuleert de WRR aanbevelingen voor forse wijzigingen in de organisatie van ontwikkelingshulp, en voor gestructureerde aandacht voor terreinen die ontwikkelingsrelevant zijn en voor mondiale publieke goederen.

Why have social spending levels and social policy trajectories diverged so drastically across labour-abundant Middle Eastern and North African regimes? And how can we explain the marked persistence of spending levels after divergence? Using historical institutionalism and a mix of qualitative and quantitative methods *Social Dictatorships: The Political Economy of the Welfare State in the Middle East and North Africa* develops an explanation of social spending in authoritarian regimes. It emphasizes the importance of early elite

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conflict and attempts to form a durable support coalition under the constraints imposed by external threats and scarce resources. *Social Dictatorships* utilizes two in-depth case studies of the political origins of the Tunisian and Egyptian welfare state to provide an empirical overview of how social policies have developed in the region, and to explain the marked differences in social policy trajectories. It follows a multi-level approach tested comparatively at the cross-country level and process-traced at micro-level by these case studies.

Arita Baaijens gave up her job as an environmentalist nearly twenty years ago, and has been exploring the deserts of Egypt and Sudan with her small camel caravan ever since. In *Desert Songs* she recounts her passion for the desert, the place she loves and fears. On one level *Desert Songs* reads as an ode to camels, vistas and horizons, nomads and exploration. On another it is a story about an inward journey, a rite of passage. It is about leaving the world you know to venture into the unknown where you discover your true strength. How strong are you when there's no backup? Where do your limits lie? Baaijens sets out on a voyage of self-discovery and unrelenting physical trials to find the answers. The experience changes her forever.

No justification is needed for the selection of the much-studied but inexhaustible general theme of the new annual publication. *Orientations: the history of the*

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numerous and multifarious relations and contacts between the Middle East and the West, political, economic, cultural and literary. In the first volume, entitled *The Middle East and Europe: Encounters and Exchanges*, Jacques Waardenburg provides a broad survey of Muslim attitudes towards other religions in the medieval period. Mercedes García-Arenal compares the methods of Spanish conquest and evangelization in Spain and in the New World. The Dutch share in the 17th-century slave trade in Yemen is studied by C.G. Brouwer. The life of Ahmad ibn Qasim ibn al-Hajari, born in Spain, living in Morocco, and a traveller in France and the Low Countries in the early 17th century, is the subject of an article by Gerard Wiegers. The experiences of Egyptians who visited France in the 19th and early 20th centuries are discussed by Ed de Moor. Rotraud Wielandt explores the concept of the Enlightenment in the works of the 19th-century Syrian writer Marrash. Bassam Tibi analyzes the contemporary Muslim fundamentalist response to the challenge of modernity.

This book shows how competing Islamic ideas and practices create alternative political and social realities in the Muslim majority regions of the Arab Middle East, Iran, South Asia, Africa, and elsewhere in ways that differ from the emergence of the public sphere in Europe.

Treaty Series 2306 United Nations

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Covering all aspects of the history of Arabic, the Arabic linguistic tradition, Arabic dialects, sociolinguistics and Arabic as a world language, this introductory guide is perfect for students of Arabic, Arabic historical linguistics and Arabic sociolinguistics. Concentrating on the difference between the two types of Arabic the classical standard language and the dialects Kees Versteegh charts the history and development of the Arabic language from its earliest beginnings to modern times. Students will gain a solid grounding in the structure of the language, its historical context and its use in various literary and non-literary genres, as well as an understanding of the role of Arabic as a cultural, religious and political world language. New for this edition: additional chapters on the structure of Arabic, Bilingualism and Arabic pidgins and creoles; a full explanation of the use of conventional Arabic transcription and IPA characters; an updated bibliography and all chapters have been revised and updated in light of recent research.

Original Scholarly Monograph

Population rurale pauvre, taxée d'hérésie, en butte à l'hostilité de la bourgeoisie urbaine, les alaouites étaient encore considérés, dans les années 1930, comme des "attardés de l'histoire"(J.Weulersse). Trois décennies plus tard, ils font une entrée éclatante sur le devant de la scène syrienne et proche-orientale avec le

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coup d'Etat de l'un des leurs, Hafez Al Assad. Le berceau territorial de la communauté alaouite, longtemps sous-développé, devient le vivier des hommes forts du régime. En analysant les dynamiques à l'oeuvre dans le destin d'une région syrienne, sur quelques décennies, ce livre dessine une étonnante histoire de territoire et de pouvoir.

The Syrian Crisis, the bloodiest front of the Arab uprisings and one of the main determinants of policies of regional and global powers, has been dominating international politics for the last five years. Having caused the death of more than 300 thousand civilians and forced relocation of more than 7 million Syrians, it is one of the direst international problems that the global powers must deal with. It began as a local issue, but after a very short period of time it morphed into a proxy war between regional and global powers. "Redlines" drawn by regional and global actors were crossed, yet there has been no tangible reaction to these violations. Among others, chemical weapons were used, crimes against humanity were committed, fundamental human rights were repeatedly violated. Over time, the crisis has revealed limitations and maladies of the actors involved.

Nikolaos van Dam maakt de balans op van zijn avontuurlijke carrière als diplomaat. Hij was ambassadeur in Irak tijdens de bezetting van Koeweit, toen vele Nederlanders werden gegijzeld, en in Egypte met zijn prominente rol in het

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Midden-Oosten onder president Mubarak. Hij maakte Turkije mee op het pad van secularisme naar islamisering en toenadering tot de Europese Unie; hij verbleef in Indonesië, met het gevoelig liggende Nederlandse koloniale verleden; en hij was Syriëgezant tijdens de bloedige oorlog. Daarnaast was hij ambassadeur in Berlijn, de spannendste hoofdstad van Europa. 0Als jongere diplomaat diende hij in Libanon tijdens de burgeroorlog en de Israëliëische invasie; in Jordanië en de Palestijnse bezette gebieden met het onvermijdelijke Arabisch-Israëliëische conflict; en in Libië onder het provocatieve regime van Khaddafi. 0Van Dam zat steeds op razend spannende posten, in een beslissend tijdsgewricht, waarbij hij zich meermalen in levensgevaarlijke situaties bevond. Met doorwrochte analyses geeft hij duiding aan de ingrijpende ontwikkelingen in deze landen en exploreert hij de mogelijkheden voor dialoog en vrede. 0.

Contemporary studies on Syria assume that the country's Ba'thist regime has been effective in subduing its Islamic opposition, placing Syria at odds with the Middle East's larger trends of rising Islamic activism and the eclipse of secular ideologies as the primary source of political activism. Yet this assumption founders when confronted with the clear resurgence in Islamic militantism in the country since 2004. This book examines Syria's current political reality as regards its Islamic movement, describing the country's present day Islamic

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groups – particularly their social profile and ideology – and offering an explanation of their resurgence. The analysis focuses on: Who are today's Syrian Islamic groups? Why and how are they re-emerging after 22 years of relative silence as an important socio-economic and political force? How is the Syrian state dealing with their re-emergence in light of Syria's secularism and ideologically diverse society? Bridging area studies, Islamic studies, and political science, this book will be an important reference for those working within the fields of Comparative Politics, Political Economy, and Middle Eastern Studies. Van Dam provides an in-depth analysis of the role of sectarian, regional and tribal loyalties in contemporary Syrian history, and focuses attention on developments within the military and civilian power elite and the Ba'th Party organization.

Arap Dünyas?'ndaki son geliřmeler, mevcut düzenlerinin yapřsal nitelikleri tazelenmeden sosyal ve siyasi yapřnř eski usuller ile artřk sürdürülemeyeceđini gösteriyor. Ortadođu'nun en otoriter rejimlerinde bile liderlerin karizmasđ sarsılıřyor. Ne yapacađđnř bilemeyen bu liderler, ciddi bir ikilem içinde bir çřkřř yolu arřyor. Kimisi taviz üzerine taviz verirken, kimisi de gücünü sonuna kadar kullanma yolunu seçiyor. Ancak son tahlilde deđiřim kaçřnřlmaz. A'dan Z'ye bütün liderlerin ve rejimlerin bu dalgadan etkileneceđi ađikâr. Bu karmařřk ortamda gerek komřuluk iliřkilerimiz ve

akrabalarımız, gerekse son 10 yılda hızla bir şekilde geliştiğimiz ikili diyalog hesaba katıldığında, dünyanın bir şekilde üzerine eylememiz gereken ülkelerden biri Suriye olarak karşımıza çıkıyor. Bu verilerden yola çıkarak USAK Ortadoğu ve Afrika Araştırmaları Merkezi uzmanları Osman Bahadır Dinçer ve Gamze Coşkun'un hazırladığı oldu "Mayın Arazide Yürümenin Adı: Suriye'de Değişimi Zorlamak" adlı rapor yayınlandı. Rapor, Türkiye açısından doğru tahlil edilmesi gereken en önemli ülke olan Suriye'yi konu edinmektedir. Zira gelinen noktada Türkiye'yi en yakından ilgilendiren ülke Suriye'dir. Bölgedeki değişimi en doğru okuması gereken ülkelerin başında Türkiye geliyor. Bu anlamda Türkiye, olayları doğru okumanın ötesinde uygulayacağı isabetli politikalarla kimi zaman mücadele zemininin kaymasını engelleme potansiyeline de sahip bir ülkedir. Son yıllarda izleyegeldiğimiz politikaların bir sonucu olarak Suriye'de sağlıklı ve güvenli bir geçiş sağlanabilecek mi, yoksa yapılan onca siyasi, ekonomik ve kültürel yatırımlar heba mı olacak? Suriye üzerine olan tüm tartışmalar son tahlilde bu noktada düğümleniyor. Bu süreçte Türkiye'nin nasıl bir politika izlemesi gerektiği, olayların Türkiye'ye bakan en önemli boyutunu oluşturuyor. Bu sorulara cevap verebilmek ve akıldaki tereddütleri giderebilmek için Suriye'yi kapsamlı bir şekilde ele alan sağlıklı bir okuma yapabilmek büyük öneme sahip. Bu rapor, önceki analiz ve raporlarda olduğu gibi Arap Dünyası'nda yaşanan olaylar meydana gelmeden önce ve devam ederken, USAK araştırmacıları tarafından Türk ve Arap aydınları, entelektüeller ve sıradan halk ile yapılan mülakatlardan elde

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edilen bilgiler ??????nda haz?rland?. USAK uzmanlar?nca daha önceki dönemlerde kaleme al?nan rapor, analiz ve kö?e yaz?lar? da bu çal??mada kullan?ld?. Ayr?ca Suriye çal??an yabanc? uzmanlar?n görü?lerine de yer verildi. Genel itibar?yla görü?ülen Suriyelilerin isimleri, ki?ilerin kendi istekleri do?rultusunda gizli tutuldu. Özellikle Suriye'deki korku kültürü ve yayg?n istihbarat a?? hesaba kat?ld???nda, görü?lerini bizlerle payla?an Suriyelilerin kayg?lar?na hak vermemek mümkün de?il. Ayr?ca Suriye'deki izlenimlerini bizimle payla?arak rapora katkı sa?layan Mustafa Güvenç'e de teşekkür ederiz. Bu çal??man?n hedefi, Türkiye'nin en uzun kara s?n?r?n? payla?t??? kom?usu Suriye'de ya?ananlar?n daha iyi anla??lması ve bu do?rultuda isabetli politikalar?n olu?turulabilmesi için zemin sa?lamasıdır.

Since the dawn of the new millennium, combating terrorism has become a primary focus of security professionals throughout the world. This volume contributes to our understanding of the terrorist threat and how it can be defeated.

First published in 1984. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

This edition brings together analyses, statistics and directory data on the countries and territories of Western Europe.

1. Political Openings and the Transformation of Authoritarian Rule in the Middle East and North Africa;
2. Sustaining Authoritarianism During the Third Wave of Democracy;
3. The Old Authoritarianism;
4. The New Authoritarianism;
5. Political Openings Without

Patronage Based Privatization and Single Party Institutional Legacies; 6. Transitions from the New MENA Authoritarianism to Democracy? Notes; Bibliography; Index. In accordance with Article 102 of the Charter and the relevant General Assembly Resolutions, every treaty and international agreement registered or filed and recorded with the Secretariat since 1946 is published in the United Nations Treaty Series. At present, the collection includes about 30,000 treaties reproduced in their authentic languages, together with translations into English and French, as necessary. The Treaty Series, where treaties are published in the chronological order of registration, also provides details about their subsequent history (i.e., participation in a treaty, reservations, amendments, termination, etc.). Comprehensive Indices covering 50-volume-lots are published separately. A Standing Order service is available for the Series and out-of-print volumes are available on microfiche.

Before the immense changes of the 2011 'Arab Spring', it was Sunni-Shia sectarian rivalry that preoccupied most political analyses of the Middle East. This book presents wide-ranging and up-to-date research that sheds light on the political, sociological and ideological processes that are affecting the dynamics within the Shia and Sunni worlds. Esta obra colectiva no sólo aborda los principales retos de la proyección siria hacia el conflicto palestino israelí, la compleja realidad libanesa, y los dilemas estratégicos presentes en sus equilibrios y desequilibrios frente A Israel, Turquía e Iraq, sino que también se dedica a analizar las relaciones de Siria con algunas de las más

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importantes potencias mundiales, ejemplo de las habilidades del poder para reajustarse pragmáticamente al proceso de recomposición de las relaciones internacionales de las últimas décadas. Asimismo, analiza las relaciones exteriores de Siria en los años previos al desarrollo de la crisis armada en ese país, y se convierte en un antecedente imprescindible para poder comprender y explicar el comportamiento más actual de la comunidad internacional respecto al violento conflicto, y su intervinculación con los factores internos.

Kirkouk, dans le nord de l'Irak, est l'une des provinces les plus touchées par la violence politique. Les conflits s'y superposent depuis plusieurs décennies : mobilisations sociales, guerre entre partis kurdes et État central, lutte d'influence entre les puissances régionales, insurrection arabe sunnite et montée en puissance des milices chiites. Kirkouk constitue donc un point d'observation privilégié des dynamiques politiques qui travaillent la société irakienne. En particulier, les partis – ethno-nationalistes ou religieux – sont à la fois producteurs de violence et intermédiaires obligés entre la population et les institutions étatiques, qui restent l'enjeu majeur des affrontements. Ils mettent en œuvre des politiques d'ingénierie démographique et imposent de nouvelles hiérarchies identitaires. La guerre contre l'État islamique, à partir de juin 2014, radicalisera leurs projets et conduira, paradoxalement, à un retour de l'État par le biais des milices chiites. Fruit de plusieurs années de recherche sur le terrain, ce livre dépasse les lectures communautaristes ou

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géopolitiques du conflit irakien qui tendent aujourd'hui à prévaloir. Il apporte ainsi une contribution originale au débat sur le rôle de la guerre dans la formation de l'État.

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