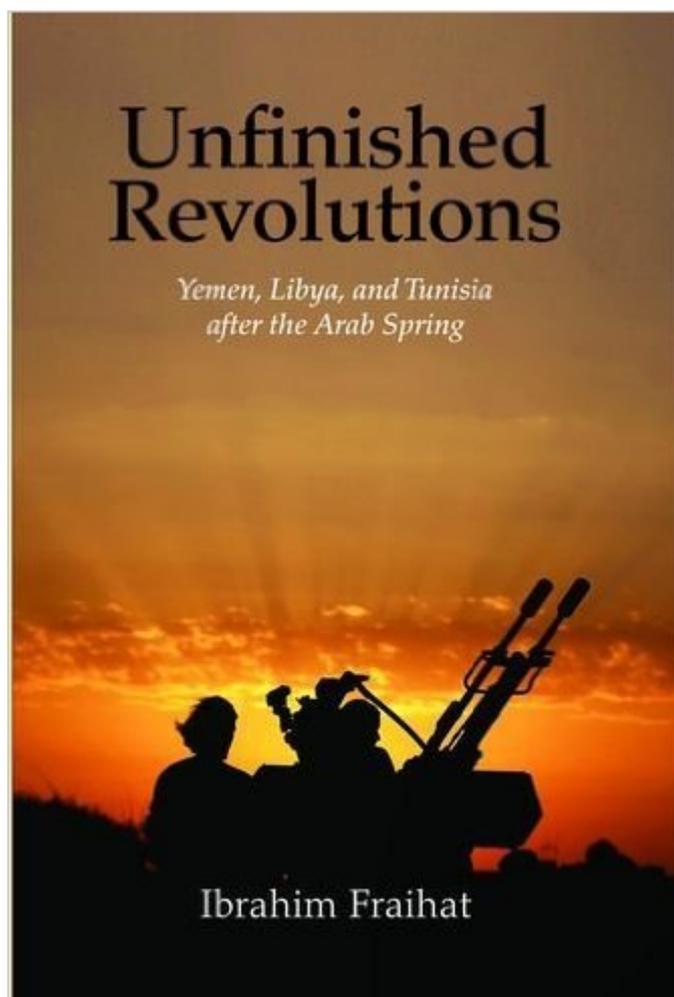# Unfinished Revolutions: Yemen, Libya, And Tunisia After The Arab Spring

Synopsis

Post-revolution states often find that once a transition process begins, challenges can arise, such as political polarization and the threat of civil war. A respected commentator on Middle Eastern politics, Ibrahim Fraihat compares three countries grappling with political transitions in the wake of the Arab Spring: Yemen, Libya, and Tunisia. Â Fraihat argues that to attain enduring peace and stability, post-revolution states must engage in inclusive national reconciliation processes which include a national dialogue, a truth seeking effort, the reparation of victimsâ ™ past injuries, dealing with the former regime, and institutional reform. Women, civil society, and tribes, among other social forces, can support the transition process. Fraihatâ ™s research shows how some aspects of transitions have been politicized and that each country has taken a specific approach, raising or diminishing the chances of civil war or a healthy transition. Â This book is based on the original field research Fraihat conducted over three years in Yemen, Libya, and Tunisia. It is the result of over 200 interviews with key figures including senior government officials, heads of political parties, revolutionary youth activists, former regime loyalists, representatives of womenâ ™s and civil society organizations, military and militia commanders, tribal leaders, and members of displaced communities.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

â œUnfinished Revolutionsâ • provides a long-overdue angle on the aspect of reconciliation after the Arab Spring. Thereby, Fraihatâ ™s book moves away from merely presenting another account of

the empirical causes of the Arab revolutions post 2011. It looks both empirically and conceptually at the triggers of the current socio-political fragmentation of the Arab World. Amid the resulting climate of polarization across a wide spectrum of social, political and religious agents, the problem of stabilization, transition and reconciliation is more fundamental in the conflicts resulting from the Arab Spring than anywhere else.In this book, Ibrahim Fraihat analyzes the problems of transition and reconciliation in detail on basis of three countries that are representative of the revolutions that have swept across the region since 2011. Yemen, Libya and Tunisia are three case studies that exemplify how difficult it is within the current fractured socio-political context to engage in inclusive national reconciliation with the support of all actors in the public sphere â " something that Fraihat argues is essential if any of these countries would ever find peace and stability.Writing this book, Fraihat manages to find a balance between concepts that emerge from the Western-dominated literature of conflict resolution and the empirical reality of the Arab World. His in-depth subject knowledge built through excessive fieldwork in Yemen, Libya and Tunisia make him stand out from his peers who mostly take an outsiderâ ™s view on the regionâ ™s intimate socio-political realities that are not openly accessible to everyone.

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