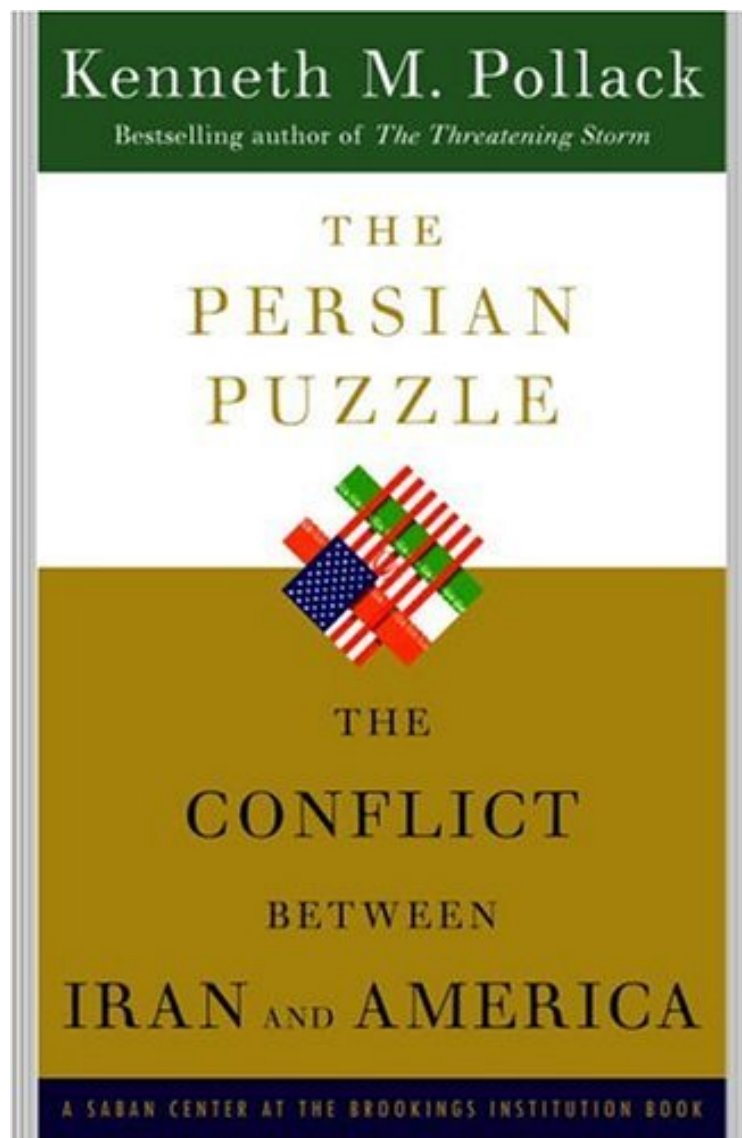


[Read free] The Persian Puzzle: Deciphering the Twenty-five-Year Conflict Between the United States and Iran

The Persian Puzzle: Deciphering the Twenty-five-Year Conflict Between the United States and Iran

Von *Kenneth Pollack*

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Von Kenneth Pollack : The Persian Puzzle: Deciphering the Twenty-five-Year Conflict Between the United States and Iran before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Persian Puzzle: Deciphering the Twenty-five-Year Conflict Between the United States and Iran:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Kompakt und AuftrttelndVon Ein KundeKenneth Pollack versteht es die Beziehungen zwischen den USA und dem Iran so gut darzustellen dass man am Ende des Buches informiert in die Diskussionen um ein potentielles atomares Iran einsteigen kann.Das Buch eignet sich sehr gut als Einstieg in die Thematik und umfasst die Iranisch-Amerikanischen Beziehung seit Anbeginn an.Dabei gelingt es Pollack beide Seiten objektiv auszuleuchten, scheut es nicht Kritik an Amerika auszubenden, aber auch dem Iran wird seine Verantwortung klar gemacht.Ich kann dieses Buch jedem empfehlen der sich einlesen mchte in die wahren geschichtlichen Fakten der traurigen Geschichte der Amerikanisch-Iranischen Beziehungen und nicht Inger oberflächlich und faktenfrei diskutieren will. Dieses Buch ist sicherlich kein Amerika-Bashing Buch, vielmehr ist es der ehrliche Versuch einer Aufarbeitung und objektiver Darstellung.

KurzbeschreibungIn his highly influential book *The Threatening Storm*, bestselling author Kenneth Pollack both informed and defined the national debate about Iraq. Now, in *The Persian Puzzle*, published to coincide with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Iran hostage crisis, he examines the behind-the-scenes story of the tumultuous relationship between Iran and the United States, and weighs options for the future. Here Pollack, a former CIA analyst and National Security Council official, brings his keen analysis and insider perspective to the long and ongoing clash between the United States and Iran, beginning with the fall of the shah and the seizure of the American embassy in Tehran in 1979. Pollack examines all the major events in U.S.-Iran relations including the hostage crisis, the U.S. tilt toward Iraq during the Iran-Iraq war, the Iran-Contra scandal, American-Iranian military tensions in 1987 and 1988, the covert Iranian war against U.S. interests in the Persian Gulf that culminated in the 1996 Khobar Towers terrorist attack in Saudi Arabia, and recent U.S.-Iran skirmishes over Afghanistan and Iraq. He explains the strategies and motives from American and Iranian perspectives and tells how each crisis colored the thinking of both countries leadership as they shaped and reshaped their policies over time. Pollack also describes efforts by moderates of various stripes to try to find some way past animosities to create a new dynamic in Iranian-American relations, only to find that when one side was ready for such a step, the other side fell short. With balanced tone and insight, Pollack explains how the United States and Iran reached this impasse; why this relationship is critical to regional, global, and U.S. interests; and what basic political choices are available as we deal with this important but deeply troubled country. From Booklist The U.S. is understandably fixated on nation building in Afghanistan and Iraq. Meanwhile, Iran, with nearly four times the territory and three times the population of Iraq, continues to sponsor terrorist groups, seeks expanded influence in Iraq, and may be close to obtaining nuclear capability. Although Iranian "moderates" seemed ascendant a few years ago, the conservative, rabidly anti-American mullahs are now firmly in control. Pollack, a director of research at the Brookings Institute, regards Iranian-American relations as complicated, fraught with danger, and unlikely to be improved by so-called decisive actions. Pollack begins with a superbly written summary of several millennia of Persian history, then describes the ups and downs of our relations with Iran since American involvement intensified during World War II. He takes a balanced approach, indicating blunders and missed opportunities by both sides. As for solutions to the puzzle, Pollack suggests possible options while stressing the impossibility of a quick fix. This is a sharp analysis that must be given serious consideration by our foreign-policy establishment. Jay Freeman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Pressestimmen Praise for Kenneth M. Pollack and *The Threatening Storm* It is fair to say that whatever your feelings about the question of Iraq, you owe it to yourself to read Mr. Pollack's book, which is both hawkish and judicious. . . . Mr. Pollack has written a timely book that should be read as the public debate on Iraq continues. RICHARD BERNSTEIN, *The New York Times* Pollack manages to eschew the cant, stupidity, and obfuscation which are the common currency of much of the current public debate over Iraq policy and has produced one of the key books probably the key book for anyone trying to grapple with the Iraq question. JOSHUA MICAH MARSHALL, *The Washington Monthly* *The Threatening Storm* is both a primer on Iraq and a fascinating insiders view of American attempts to meet the threat it poses. ASLA AYDINTASBAS, *The Wall Street Journal* Knowledgeable, convincingly argued, well documented. DOUGLAS PORCH, *The Washington Post Book World* From the Hardcover edition.