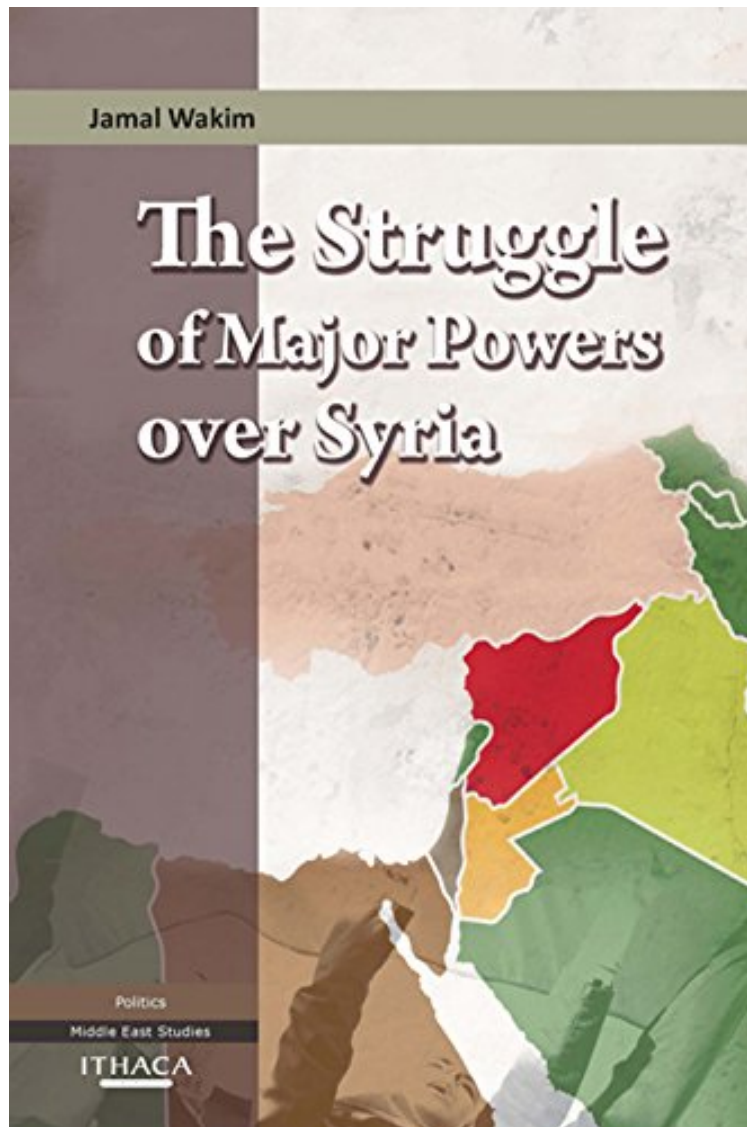


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## The Struggle of Major Powers Over Syria, The

Von Jamal Wakim

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**Von Jamal Wakim : The Struggle of Major Powers Over Syria, The** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Struggle of Major Powers Over Syria, The:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A must read for anyone struggling to understand what's going on in SyriaVon KhilloI read this book for the first time in Arabic, its original language, soon after the protests had started in Syria. The historical background and detailed analysis of the current situation helped me not only understand what was going on in that country but also forecast the outcome and I'm neither a historian nor a political scientist. The book is written in such a way as to make everything

that's happening in that region make sense; no easy feat given that most of the inhabitants themselves don't comprehend the unfolding events around them. In its first chapters, the book methodically covers the history of Syria giving ample evidence for the book's thesis: Syria falls under the influence of three spheres of power and can only prosper once two or all those spheres are in agreement (such as in Roman times or under the Umayyads). The narrative flows naturally and is neither pedantic nor wooden but is written with the layman in mind. The final chapters are dedicated to the modern era since independence thus laying the groundwork for a balanced and objective analysis of current events. A recommended read for anyone interested in knowing what is really going on in Syria these days.

**Kurzbeschreibung** In this book, Dr. Jamal Wakim argues that the success or failure of Syria's policies is directly linked to the degree to which these policies accord with those of Iraq, Turkey, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, and that it has been subject throughout its history to competition between the forces occupying the geostrategic spheres that surround it. He further argues that the influence of these spheres is not restricted to foreign policy, but also extends to interaction with cultural, economic and social groups, thus transforming the geo-political to geo-cultural, geoeconomic and geo-social. Ordered chronologically, the book deals chapter-by-chapter with the different conflicts and struggles that have surrounded Syria throughout history, detailing the constant struggles to control it by Mesopotamia, Anatolia and Egypt. The book attempts to understand the political changes that have taken place during the term of President Bashar Assad, including the role of the 'superpowers' in seeking to achieve control of the region; and concludes that whoever controls Syria can tighten their grip on Iraq, Turkey and Egypt, and thus the whole of the Middle East.

**Pressestimmen** "Wakim's approach is refreshing....the overall narrative offers a fantastic overview of Syria's historical evolution." -- Middle East Media and Books Online, Vol. 2, Issue 3, March 2014

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