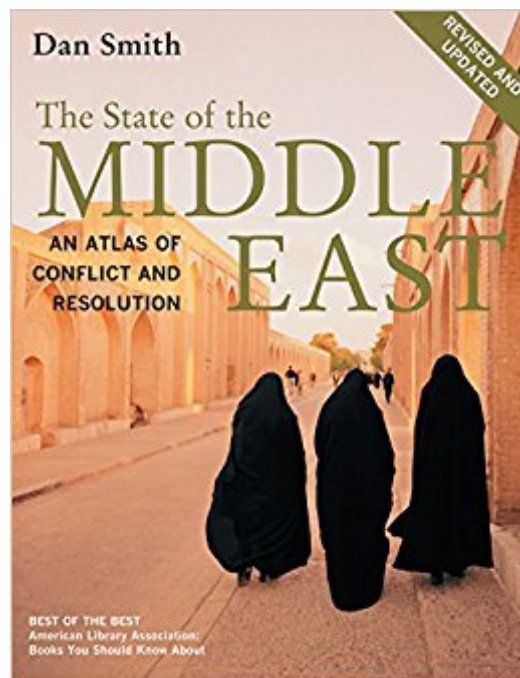




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# **The State Of The Middle East: An Atlas Of Conflict And Resolution**



## Synopsis

As Western powers attempt to redraw the map of the Middle East, Dan Smith uses his forensic skills to unravel this arena of confrontation and instability, from the Ottoman Empire to the present day. With customarily acute analysis, he highlights key issues and maps their global implications to explain why this region has become, and will remain, the focal point for international relations. Updated Topics Include: \* Demographic data \* The Israel-Palestine situation \* The current war in Iraq \* The situation in Lebanon \* Refugees and migration \* Islam in the world Copub: Myriad Editions

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Praise for Dan Smith's other atlases: "The State of the World Atlas is something else; an occasion of wit and an act of subversion. These are the bad dreams of the modern world, given color and shape and submitted to a grid that can be grasped instantaneously." *New York Times*; "A compact, versatile and politically imaginative work of reference." *New Statesman*

Dan Smith is Secretary-General of International Alert and former Director of the International Peace Research Institute, Oslo. He is author of *The State of the World Atlas* and *The Atlas of War and Peace*.

Excellent. To the point. Easy to understand yet full of useful data. The author seems to know what

data is highly useful to the reader and does not dwell too much on information that is nice to know but not particularly necessary for an overview on the middle east.

Wonderful maps of the Middle East at various times in history. Many current maps really help me understand where places in the news are located I. would recommend it as a vital resource if you want to understand the middle east.

Arrived very fast and in perfect condition! This is a great book, it is very useful for international studies. Thank you, I rate five stars.

FIRST: A very important note! As I file this review today, I see 2 other reviews on , both written in 2007. Those comments -- one praise and one criticism -- are NOT referring to this new edition released in late 2008. With this new edition in print, I say: Bravo to Dan Smith and the atlas gurus at the University of California Press. As a journalist specializing in covering religion and culture for leading U.S. newspapers for more than 30 years, I can tell you: It's volumes like this one that people should keep on their personal quick-reference shelves. That's especially true for preachers, teachers, small-group leaders, students -- and, really, anyone who cares about accurately understanding our turbulent world. One sign of how much Smith and the University of California Press care about the accuracy of their work is the fact that this is a new Revised and Updated Second Edition of the book, coming quickly on the heels of the first. Smith is head of a UK-based peacemaking group International Alert. He has created other important reference works, including "The Atlas of War and Peace." The Press is publishing an entire series of innovative atlases. Among my own favorites are "The Atlas of Religion" and "The Atlas of Food: Who Eats What, Where, and Why." Americans have the illusion in the early years of this new century that we carry the world in our pockets 24-7 with our ultra-connected electronic devices. But the truth is that "foreign news" is the most rapidly shrinking area of U.S. news coverage, overall, according to Pew data. What we see, hear and read is really a tiny slice of global news mostly about consumer products and popular culture, occasionally spiced with disconnected splashes of coverage from global hot spots. We wind up with bizarrely skewed impressions of the world -- and most of us sadly fail the basic geography tests that are popularly distributed each year. For example, most of us in America can't correctly place Iran on a global map. In stark contrast to that challenge, this book is not only a source of useful wisdom -- but it's also downright fun! It's colorful. It's intriguing. You can build clever quizzes from this book to engage students. Go on -- get it. And contribute to peacemaking simply by knowing a

little more about our world.

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