

Unveiling the Untold Story: 'The Arabs at War in Afghanistan' Explores the Hidden Conflict Within

In the annals of war-torn Afghanistan, where foreign powers and local factions have clashed for decades, a lesser-known yet pivotal chapter remains largely unexplored: the involvement of Arab fighters.

Arab Fighters in the Shadow of the Soviet-Afghan War

As the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979, Arab volunteers from across the Middle East and North Africa flocked to the Afghan countryside to join the resistance. Inspired by the call to jihad against foreign occupation, these men arrived with a mix of motivations, from religious zeal to political ideals.



The Arabs at War in Afghanistan by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Screen Reader : Supported

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Among them were veterans of the 1973 Yom Kippur War, Palestinian refugees seeking a new home, and devout Muslims driven by the desire to establish an Islamic state in Afghanistan.

The Mujahideen and the Rise of Al-Qaeda

Within the Afghan resistance, the Arab fighters formed their own units, often distinguishable by their long beards, traditional garb, and proficiency in guerrilla warfare. They played a significant role in the fight against the Soviet occupation, earning the respect of the Afghan mujahideen.

However, as the war progressed, tensions emerged between the Arab and Afghan factions. Cultural differences, differing goals, and the influence of external powers led to friction within the resistance.



After the Soviet withdrawal in 1989, Afghanistan descended into civil war. Arab fighters, disillusioned by the failure to establish an Islamic state, began to withdraw from the country. However, a small number remained, including the young Saudi Osama bin Laden.

In the aftermath of the war, bin Laden and his followers established the terrorist organization al-Qaeda, which would later carry out the infamous 9/11 attacks.

The Evolving Role of Arab Fighters

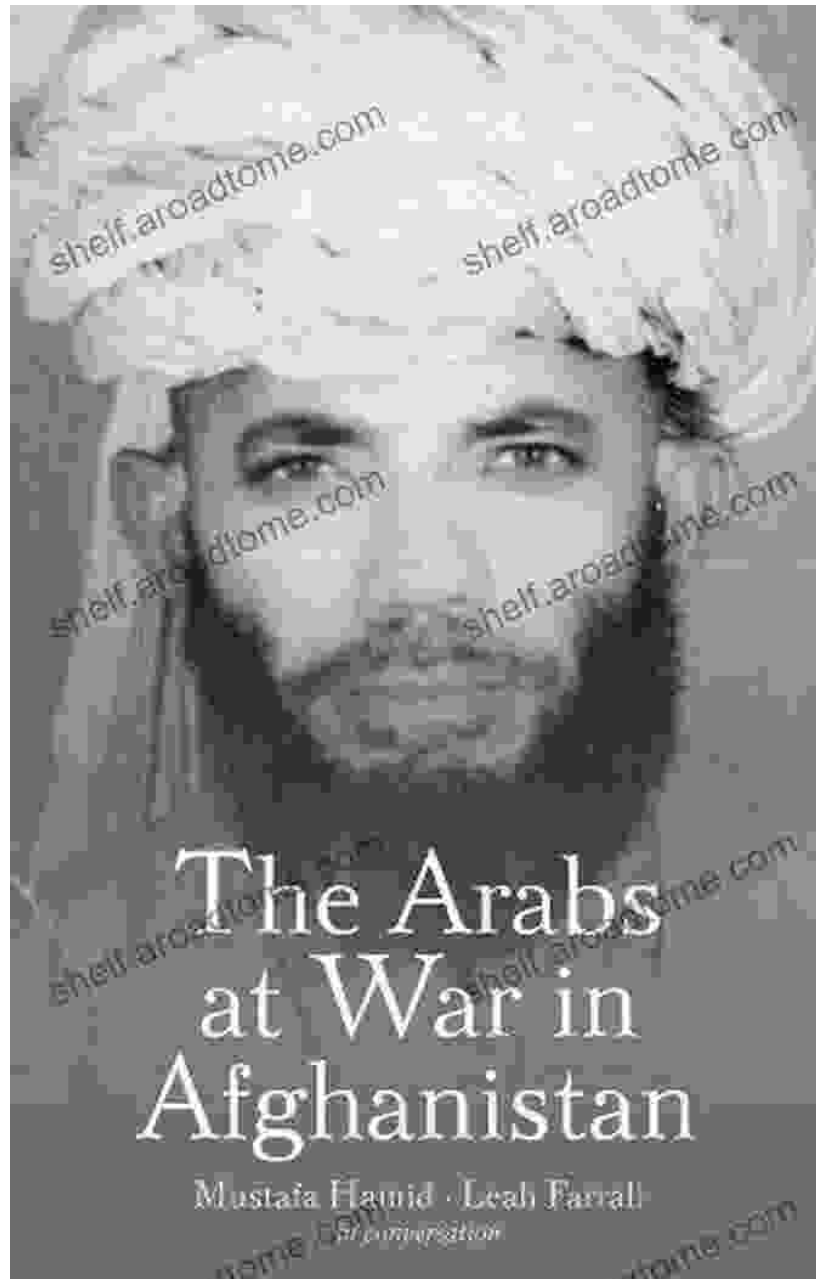
Following the US-led invasion of Afghanistan in 2001, Arab fighters once again returned to the country. This time, they were primarily from Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Pakistan, and their motivations ranged from religious extremism to financial gain.

In recent years, the involvement of Arab fighters in Afghanistan has declined significantly. However, a small number continue to operate in the country, providing support to the Taliban and other insurgent groups.

Unveiling the Hidden Truths

The story of the Arabs at war in Afghanistan is a complex and multifaceted one. It involves religious fervor, political ambitions, and the interplay of national and international interests.

In his groundbreaking book, "The Arabs at War in Afghanistan," renowned author Gregory Feifer meticulously reconstructs this hidden chapter of history. Drawing on extensive research and interviews with participants from all sides, Feifer provides an in-depth account of the motivations, experiences, and impact of Arab fighters.



Through vivid storytelling and meticulous analysis, Feifer reveals the pivotal role played by Arab fighters in the Soviet-Afghan War and its aftermath. He explores the tensions between Arab and Afghan factions, the rise of al-Qaeda, and the evolving nature of Arab involvement in the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan.

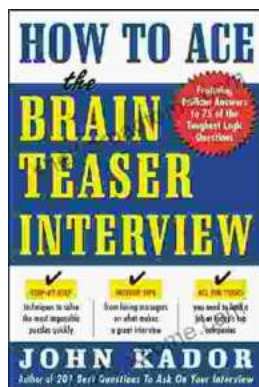
'The Arabs at War in Afghanistan' is an essential read for anyone seeking to understand the complexities of the war-torn nation and the global implications of extremism. Feifer's masterful work sheds light on a hidden aspect of history, providing invaluable insights into the motivations, experiences, and enduring legacy of Arab fighters in Afghanistan.



The Arabs at War in Afghanistan by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

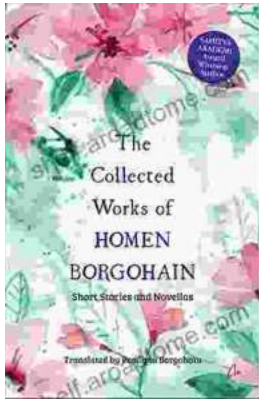
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