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Prepared by
The Sana'a Center for Strategic Studies



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This document aims to guide readers toward substantive and important publications related to Yemen.

Section A

includes suggestions on how to get accurate and up-to-date information on the country.

Section B

lists academics and analysts who have written on Yemen.

Section C

outlines what the Sana'a Center views as must-read publications on Yemen. These include books, reports and articles, broken down by theme.

A. Reports and news on Yemen



Sana'a Center
series





UN reports

Further reports and data

News in Arabic

News in English

Journalists including:

- Ahmed al-Haj
- Mohammed Mukhashaf
- Nasser al-Saqqaf

regularly report on Yemen in English

B. Academics and analysts

Academics and analysts who have worked and published on Yemen – in English – include

- Mohammed al-Basha
- Bernard Haykel
- Andrea Carboni
- Ginny Hill
- Steve Caton
- Casey
- Ahmed Nagi
- Susanne Dahlgren
- Luca Nevola
- Nathalie Peutz
- Paul Dresch
- Samuel Ramani
- Maher Farrukh
- Daniel Schneiderman
- Dana Stroul
- Kristian Ulrichsen

C. Publications by theme

General overview and historical background

Below is a collection of books that shed some light on Yemen's current war and, just as importantly, how the country got to this point. Phillips' and Dresch's monographs remain the decisive overviews of pre-2011 Yemen. Brehony provides a history of South Yemen and the 1990 unification. Hill and Brandt offer important insights into Yemen's more recent history. Johnson provides an excellent window into Yemen and its contemporary history and politics through the lens of Al-Qaeda. Lackner examines how different factors such as international neo-liberalist policies contributed to the disintegration of the Yemeni state and how other important issues, such as an increasing water crisis, might affect Yemen's future. Her monograph includes a concise summary of the 2011 uprising in Yemen and its aftermath.

Paul Dresch,
A History of Modern
Yemen
Cambridge: Cambridge



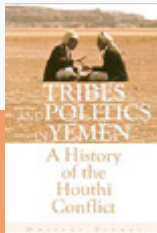
Sarah Phillips
Yemen and the Politics of
Permanent Crisis
Abingdon/New York: Routledge,
2011



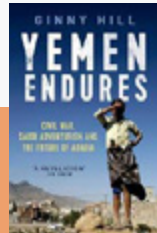
Noel Brehony
Yemen Divided: The Story of a Failed State in South Arabia
London/New York: I.B. Tauris



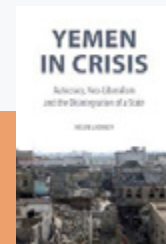
Gregory Johnsen
The Last Refuge: Yemen, Al-Qaeda and America's War in Arabia
W. W. Norton & Company



Marieke Brandt
Tribes and Politics in Yemen: A History of the Houthi Conflict
London: Hurst, 2017

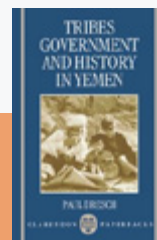


Ginny Hill
Yemen Endures
Oxford University Press, 2017

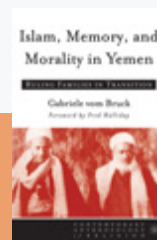


Helen Lackner
Yemen in Crisis: Autocracy, Neo-Liberalism and the Disintegration of a State
Saqi Books, 2017

Other books that offer valuable insight into Yemen



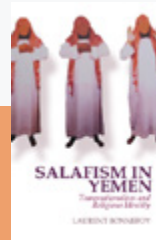
Paul Dresch
Tribes, Government, and History in Yemen
Clarendon Press: Oxford, 1989



Gabrielle von Bruck
Islam, Memory, and Morality in Yemen
Palgrave Macmillan US, 2005



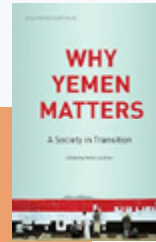
Shelagh Weir
A Tribal Order: Politics and Law in the Mountains of Yemen
University of Texas Press,
January 2007



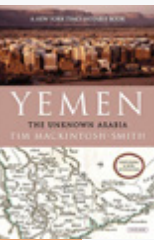
Laurent Bonnefoy
Salafism in Yemen: Transnationalism and Religious Identity
Hurst & Company, 2011



Laura Kasinof
Don't Be Afraid of the Bullets: An Accidental War Correspondent in Yemen
Arcade, 2014



Helen Lackner
Why Yemen Matters: A Society in Transition
SOAS Middle East Issues, Saki Books, 2014



Tim Mackintosh-Smith
Yemen: The Unknown Arabia
Harry N. Abrams, 2014



Sheila Carapico
Arabia Incognita: Dispatches from Yemen and the Gulf
Just World Books, 2016



Noel Brehony
Hadramaut and its Diaspora: Yemeni Politics, Identity and Migration
Tauris, 2017



Askar H. Al-Enazy "The Long Road From Taif to Jeddah: Resolution of a Saudi-Yemeni Boundary Dispute
The Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, 2017



Asher Orkaby
Beyond the Arab Cold War: The International History of the Yemen Civil War, 68–1962,
Oxford University Press, 2017



Franck Mermier
Yémen: écrire la guerre
(Yemen: Writing the War)
Classiques Garnier, 2018



Nathalie Peutz,
Islands of Heritage:
Conservation and
Transformation in Yemen
Stanford University Press 2018



Laurent Bonnefoy,
Yemen and the World:
Beyond Insecurity
Comparative Politics and
International Studies series,

Yemen's Arab Spring-inspired uprising, failed transition and the lead up to war

In 2011, Yemen, like many other countries in the region, experienced an anti-government uprising. The failure of the once-hailed, internationally-backed transition that ostensibly aimed to make Yemen a functioning democracy served as the catalyst to the country's current civil war. Salient texts in this regard include:

War, Politics and Security

While much analysis – and policy – treats Yemen’s conflict as a battle between the internationally recognized government and Houthi rebels, the reality is far more complicated. Over the course of the ongoing war, longstanding tensions among various regions of Yemen – which have different histories and political, social, tribal, religious and economic geographies – have dramatically burst to the fore, rendering them a key factor to be dealt with in any coming peace process.

Daniel Martin Varisco

When the State becomes a Non-State: Yemen between the Huthis, Hirak and al-Qa'ida

In Peter Sluglett, Victor Kattan, eds., *Violent Radical Movements in the Arab World: The Ideology and Politics of Non-State Actors*, 137-160. London: I.B. Tauris, 2019

Q&As with Sana'a Center senior researcher
Abdulghani Al-Iryani

Sana'a Center Governorate Situation Reports 2020:

Regional tensions

Descriptions of Yemen as a regional proxy war pitting Saudi Arabia against Iran are simplistic at best and often employed with malicious intent. Nonetheless, regional politics – and their relationship to Yemen’s internal tensions – have undeniably played a key role in bringing Yemen to its current nadir.

Abdulghani al-Eryani
Serious Risks in Saudi Options for Leaving Yemen
The Sana'a Center for Strategic Studies, June 5, 2020.

The economy, humanitarian situation and human rights

Among the world's most impoverished nations, Yemen is currently home to the Middle East's most severe humanitarian crisis. But while the country's economic woes have been exacerbated by the ongoing conflict, they predate the country's political crisis and subsequent collapse into civil war and are related to a number of endemic issues, including corruption and underdevelopment.

Women and youth

Among the side effects of Yemen's 2011 uprising was the empowerment of Yemen's long-stifled women and youth populations. However, four years of conflict have in many aspects rolled back tentative gains toward women's rights and at the same time simultaneously pushed many women into the workforce, while tens of thousands of Yemeni youths have signed up for the myriad armed groups currently waging war in the country.

The Environment

Environmental issues have increasingly come to the fore in Yemen, including the problems of water scarcity, desertification, and oil and gas related pollution. The lack of resolution to the issue of the FSO Safer also looms as a potential environmental catastrophe on Yemen's Red Sea Coast.

Miscellaneous

Other informative reads on Yemen.

Trevor Marchand,
Architectural Heritage of Yemen: Buildings that Fill My Eye
Gingko Library, 2017

Alan Verskin
A Vision of Yemen: The Travels of a European Orientalist and His
Native Guide
Stanford University Press, 2018

The Sana'a Center for Strategic Studies is an independent think-tank that seeks to foster change through knowledge production with a focus on Yemen and the surrounding region. The Center's publications and programs, offered in both Arabic and English, cover political, social, economic and security related developments, aiming to impact policy locally, regionally, and internationally.