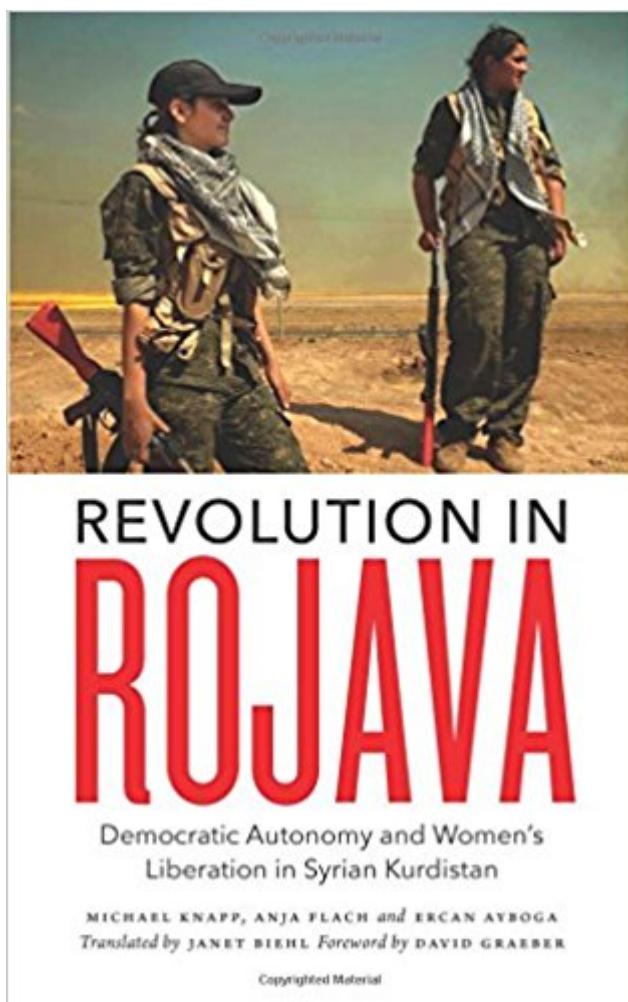


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Revolution In Rojava: Democratic Autonomy And Women's Liberation In The Syrian Kurdistan



Synopsis

A new kind of society is being built in Syria, but it's not one you would expect. Surrounded by deadly bands of ISIS and hostile Turkish forces, the people living in Syria's Rojava cantons are carving out one of the most radically progressive societies on the planet today. Western visitors have been astounded by the success of their project, a communally organised democracy which considers women's equality indispensable and rejects reactionary nationalist ideology whilst being fiercely anti-capitalist. The people of Rojava call their new system democratic confederalism. An implementation of the recent ideology of the imprisoned Kurdish leader Abdullah Öcalan, it boasts gender quotas of 40 percent, bottom-up democratic structures, deep-reaching ecological policies and a militancy which is keeping ISIS from the gates. Revolution in Rojava is the first full-length study of this ongoing social and political transformation in Syrian Kurdistan. It is the first authentic insight into the complex dimensions of the revolution. Its authors use their own experiences of working and fighting in the region to construct a picture of hope for Middle-Eastern politics and society, and reveal an extraordinary story of a battle against the odds.

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Customer Reviews

"The authors have not just visited Rojava but have worked to build the revolution and have fought to defend it. Their first-hand experiences and active participation in the anti-capitalist society being built in the region make this the first detailed account of the popular revolution. Based on a series of interviews and discussions, along with observation and participation in the complex series of

democratic structures – communes, people's councils, commissions and co-ordinating bodies – the level of detail marks this out as the definitive book so far on Rojava." (Morning Star)"Despite the challenges Rojava faces, it does provide an inspiring alternative. The book is an essential and extremely inspiring look at an alternative conception of revolution that might just work. In the year we celebrate 100 years since the Russian Revolution, new conditions mean that we need to adapt. Revolution in Rojava provides much food for thought in rethinking revolution, the state and a politics that puts deep democracy, ecology and feminism at the centre." (Green Left Weekly)"Essential reading for anyone interested in what's coming next in the Middle East, as it precisely details Rojava's transformation, the new political horizon it presents, and its prospects for the future. Revolution in Rojava is, above all, a testament to humanity's political potential." (Axis of Logic)"; Written by long-time activists of the Kurdish freedom movement, this book is the first authentic insight into the complex dimensions of Rojava's radical revolution. From autonomous women's communes to ecological cooperatives to multiethnic peoples' self-defense, the authors let us enter a world of freedom cries - a deeply human grassroots revolution with the potential to change the course of Middle Eastern civilization. Recommended for all believers in humanity." (Dilar Dirik, journalist and activist of the Kurdish Women's Movement)"; The Kurdish revolution of Democratic Autonomy is of enormous importance for the future of the world. It points a possible way forward out of the tragedy of the Middle East, and more than that: a possible way forward out of the catastrophe that is capitalism. This book is of great help...A careful and detailed account that is filled with personal narrative, it is both easily accessible and very informative." (John Holloway, Autonomous University of Puebla and author of Crack Capitalism)

Michael Knapp is a historian of radical democracy, Cofounder of the Campaign Tatort Kurdistan and member of NavDem Berlin. His research focuses on the Kurdish issue and the construction of alternatives to capitalist modernity. His research has taken him to the Middle East, where he has studied the Kurdish Liberation Struggle and the PKK.

Excellent descriptions on the Syrian Kurds development and how they operate in Northern Syria. It's amazing how they are arranging their society and government, despite all the complications surrounding them. A must read for those interested in this region.

This book is presently the most thorough exploration of the political system of Rojava.

A must read for anyone who cares about the present and wants the brightest possible future.

great info. Should be read by everyone.

A timely and important book, about a revolution that is currently succeeding, despite the fact that the capitalist world-system is trying to set them up to fail. The book carries quite a bit of information on most of the major facets related to the revolution of Rojava. I was pleasantly surprised by this, as most books on the subject (thus far in English) have had only limited and basic amounts of information on what is going on there--due to the hostilities around the region and the fact that the revolution is only a few years old.

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