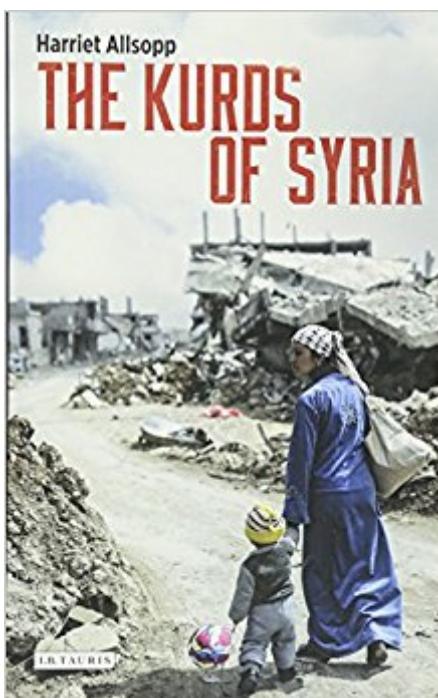


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The Kurds Of Syria: Political Parties And Identity In The Middle East



Synopsis

In September 2014, the Kurdish Syrian city of Kobane was subjected to a massive attack by fighters of the movement Islamic State (IS). As a result, the plight of the Kurds of Syria became known around the world. Less well-known, however, is their struggle before these dramatic and violent events. This struggle was mostly aimed at having their voices heard on the political stage and having equitable access to both economic and political resources. This examination of Kurdish politics in Syria therefore concentrates on the Syrian-Kurdish political parties, which despite state sanctions, have attempted to promote their political agendas and to bring about change for the approximately 3 million Kurds that reside in the country. The Kurds of Syria explores the fundamental issues of minority identity and the concept of being a "stateless" in a turbulent region, making it vital for all those researching the politics of the modern Middle East.

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'Harriet Allsopp brings her close knowledge and meticulous research on Kurdish politics in Syria to bear on the unfolding current situation of momentous transformations in the Kurdish region and the wider Middle East. Sami Zubaida, Emeritus Professor, Birkbeck, University of London 'Harriet Allsopp presents a lucid, engaging and detailed description and analysis of a people and region that remains terra incognita for observers of Middle East politics, yet has become one of the most transformative forces in the cauldron of civil war Syria... Allsopp's book stands out as a resource of unparalleled importance for those wanting to understand where the Kurds came from, and where,

perhaps, they may be going.' Gareth Stansfield, Professor, University of Exeter 'This is a highly compelling book - a joy to read.' Jordi Tejel, Professor, The Graduate Institute of Geneva

Harriet Allsopp holds a PhD in Politics from Birkbeck, University of London. She is an expert on the Kurds of Syria and contributes analysis to private consultancies and governmental departments.

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