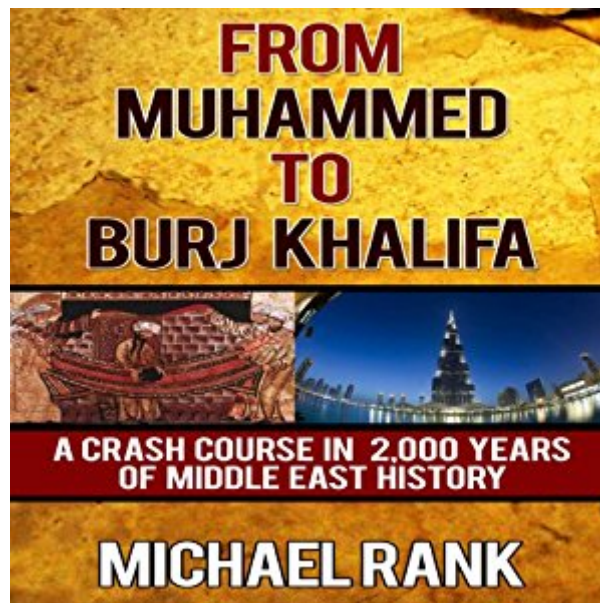




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# **From Muhammed To Burj Khalifa: A Crash Course In 2,000 Years Of Middle East History**



## Synopsis

Veteran journalist and Ottoman historian Michael Rank brings you a concise history of 2,000 years of Middle Eastern war, peace, religious upstarts, and social breakdowns in this exciting new book. To most Westerners the Middle East and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict appear utterly bewildering. Palestinians want to bomb Israelis that force them at gunpoint to live in restricted parts of the country. Arab leaders are furious about this situation and want Israelis, 'wiped off the map' and their land given back to Palestinians, even though the real estate of the Holy Land looks something like rural Utah. And nearly all the world's leaders see fit to chime in on this dispute over the two tiny lands. To untangle the modern Middle East conflict and the 2,000 years behind it, this book is divided into 25 concise chapters. Each one is devoted to a major theme in Middle East history, such as the beginning of Islam, the Crusades, Genghis Khan, and the beginning of Israel in 1948. They can be read in a few minutes, giving you a fast overview of the issues and help you to understand Middle East current events. By the end you will know as much about Middle East history and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as you would after a year-long college course. You will also sound highly knowledgeable about world affairs to your friends and associates. If you want to understand this part of the world completely in as short a time as possible, then *From Muhammed to Burj Khalifa* is for you!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a perfect introduction to the highly complex issue of the middle east conflict. I didn't get lost on a tangle of unnecessary names and events. If you want a basic understanding of the issue with heavy splash of wry humor, it's the best there is.

This book is exactly as described: short, concise, and covers all the ground you need in order to have a solid but basic knowledge of the Middle East. It has whet my appetite to read something more detailed on this topic. My only two minor quibbles was that I found the book to be written at times from a really obviously American perspective (including a (brief) reference to Halliburton), where I would have preferred a more wholly neutral voice. I also found the "Here's why this matters to you" sentence at the start of each chapter to be unnecessary. Otherwise, a well composed, informative tome.

This book provides a well written summary of Middle East. If you don't have time to get into great detail on this subject, this is the book for you. Although I understand the author's reasoning on why he took the point the position he did on the six-day war, I found the chapter to be misleading on what actually happened. The author attributes the success of the six-day war to the excellent training of the Jewish war machine. However, this is not what happened and you don't have to spend a great deal of time in research to figure this out. The truth is the Jews were vastly outnumbered and surrounded expecting to be slaughtered. The Arab armies were closing in for the final kill when suddenly for no apparent reason, the Arab army went into a frenzy and started firing at each other. Then in a bizarre turn of events, turned and fled. U.S. support eventually arrived for assistance but not before an incredible miracle had taken place. This story is well documented and the Arabs will testify they saw a huge army of Israel troops headed for them which they claim is the reason they fled. You cannot tell the story of Jews and neglect the miraculous but in all fairness to the author and today's cynical media, I completely understand the position taken. Hopefully you (the reader) will take the next challenge and dig a little deeper than just the surface understanding of these events. Good book and good read. Thanks to the author for taking the time to write this book.

I thought this book would be perfect to update me on the history of the Middle East. We are reading this for our couples book group. First of all someone failed to do a good editing job. One of the pages started out with a meaningless sentence? There were also repeated words that made no sense? Digging further into my reading (and underlining), I thought this book really needs good maps and a timeline in order for the reader to grasp so much information. I realize it was a quick version of this history, but it would have been so much more meaningful and educational to follow along with maps and a good basic timeline. I actually found a map to print out and also found a timeline of my own to follow as I'm reading. I will "work" the book first and then go back and study

everything again. Good attempt to help those of us who want to understand more about the history of the Middle East. I just think there could have been more included to help really grasp the geography and succession of power and control over the area.

This is a good, short primer to the history of the Middle East. However, the editing of the Kindle version is awful. Most of the chapter names are missing from the main table of contents; but it includes a bunch of links to advertisements for other books. Also, the links on the secondary table of content in the text itself don't work at all. How can publishers be so irresponsible as to release such sloppy work, I fail to understand.

Good Basic Overview Of Critical Political Movement. For one just beginning to study The Muslim movement, this book will provide a helpful frame work for understanding of how the movement went from an almost purely religious movement with positive views/ relationships with Christians and Jews to an essentially political movement wrapped in a veneer of religion with a firm doctrine go hatred for Christians/Jews and any others who do not adhere to the Muslim "faith/politic". Rated it a three primarily because of the very basic non-nuanced explanations. Hard to provide a basic frame work while explaining fully the events/actions which so dramatically changed the teachings of this formerly religious movement.

Thanks to the author and his unbiased perspective, I've learned more about the Middle East than my entire education life. Growing up in a country with a dominant religion heavily influenced by the Middle East, we never learn about the other half of the truth. This book contains the summarized version of the entire history of Middle East to the recent conflicts amongst them and the world. I was never interested in the conflicts happening in the Middle East because I never understood the reasons behind them. After I read this book, I can safely say I am more confident when conversing with my peers regarding these topics.

This is a short concise explanation of the development of Muslim religion and the history of the middle east on how it got to where it is today. Plus some thoughts on where it is going. It helps explain in easy reading the thoughts of all the players in the Middle East and why they believe they are right. If you want to understand the Middle East I highly recommend this book. It is an easy read and you will come away with a much better understanding of the complex players in this area of the world. From Muhammed to Burj Khalifa: A Crash Course in 2,000 Years of Middle East History

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