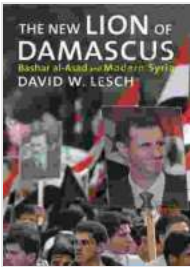


Bashar Al Assad: The Enigma of Modern Syria



The New Lion of Damascus: A Social Transformation: Bashar Al Asad and Modern Syria by David W. Lesch

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1276 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
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Bashar Al Assad, the President of Syria since 2000, is a figure of immense controversy. His presidency has been marked by both progress and turmoil, and his legacy remains uncertain. This article will explore the complex life and multifaceted career of Bashar Al Assad, examining his rise to power, his policies, and the impact he has had on Syria and the wider Middle East.

Early Life and Education

Bashar Hafez Al Assad was born in Damascus, Syria, on September 11, 1965. He is the second son of Hafez Al Assad, who ruled Syria from 1971 to 2000. Bashar grew up in a family of privilege, and he received a privileged education. He studied medicine at Damascus University and then went on to pursue postgraduate studies in ophthalmology in London.



Rise to Power

Bashar Al Assad was not originally intended to succeed his father as President of Syria. His older brother, Bassel, was the heir apparent. However, Bassel was killed in a car accident in 1994, and Bashar was thrust into the spotlight. He quickly rose through the ranks of the Syrian

military and became a general. In 2000, after his father's death, Bashar Al Assad was elected President of Syria.



Bashar Al Assad is sworn in as President of Syria in 2000.

Domestic Policies

As President, Bashar Al Assad has pursued a mixed record of domestic policies. On the one hand, he has introduced some reforms, such as allowing private ownership of land and increasing access to education and healthcare. On the other hand, he has continued to suppress political dissent and has been accused of human rights abuses.

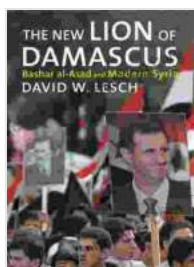
Foreign Policy

In foreign policy, Bashar Al Assad has maintained close ties with Russia and Iran. He has also been a vocal opponent of Israel and the United States.

The Syrian Civil War

In 2011, Syria was engulfed in a civil war that continues to this day. The war began as a peaceful protest movement against the Assad government, but it quickly escalated into a full-scale conflict. The war has resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people and has displaced millions more.

Bashar Al Assad remains a controversial figure. His presidency has been marked by both progress and turmoil, and his legacy remains uncertain. He is a complex and enigmatic figure who has had a profound impact on Syria and the wider Middle East.



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