

'No book could be more timely. Anyone wishing to understand Syria must understand the long and bitter history of the Muslim Brotherhood's struggle with the Assad regime. Islamic groups are poised to take power in Syria — and the Brotherhood is foremost among them. Westerners and Syrians alike who fail to appreciate the importance and centrality of the Brotherhood to Syria's modern history are foolish.' — Joshua M. Landis, Director, Center for Middle East Studies, University of Oklahoma, and author of *Syria Comment*

'To understand the bloodshed in Syria there is no better guide than Raphaël Lefèvre's brilliant, wonderfully-sourced and timely book. He demonstrates that the current vicious civil war is but the latest phase of a fifty-year struggle between the Muslim Brotherhood and the secular Ba'ath Party, which seized power in Damascus in 1963, overturning Syria's centuries-old socioeconomic and political order.'

— Patrick Seale, author of *The Struggle for Syria and Asad: The Struggle for the Middle East*

'A fascinating study that unravels the complexity of dynamics between radical and more moderate currents within the Syrian Muslim Brotherhood, and its most radical offshoots that were primarily responsible for provoking the Ba'ath regime into the tragic bloodbath of Hama in 1982. Lefèvre explains how today's Syrian Revolution provided the Brotherhood with a golden opportunity to make a comeback to the forefront of Syrian politics, having experienced decades of repression.' — Nikolaos van Dam, author of *The Struggle for Power in Syria: Politics and Society Under Asad and the Ba'th Party*

'This is a truly excellent book, not only because it provides the first detailed account of the Syrian Muslim Brotherhood from its inception to 2012, but also because it situates the movement within the twentieth-century history of Syria, particularly in the context of the movement's arch-adversary, the Alawite-dominated Ba'athist regime. It deserves a place on the bookshelves of every scholar of the contemporary Middle East.' — George Joffé, Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge

'When the Assad regime has fallen and the bloodshed finally ends, the Muslim Brotherhood will likely command centre stage in the new Syria. Yet the movement is little understood and much misrepresented. This highly readable and impressively researched account could not be more welcome — or more timely.' — Alan George, St Antony's College, Oxford University, and author of *Syria: Neither Bread Nor Freedom*

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THE MUSLIM
BROTHERHOOD
IN SYRIA