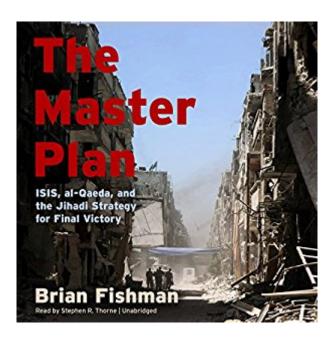


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The Master Plan: ISIS, Al-Qaeda, And The Jihadi Strategy For Final Victory





Synopsis

Given how quickly its operations have achieved global impact, it may seem that the Islamic State materialized suddenly. In fact, al-Qaeda's operations chief, Sayf al-Adl, devised a seven-stage plan for jihadis to conquer the world by 2020 that included reestablishing the Caliphate in Syria between 2013 and 2016. Despite a massive schism between the Islamic State and al-Qaeda, al-Adl's plan has proved remarkably prescient. In summer 2014, ISIS declared itself the Caliphate after capturing Mosul, Iraq - part of stage five in al-Adl's plan. Drawing on large troves of recently declassified documents captured from the Islamic State and its predecessors, counterterrorism expert Brian Fishman tells the story of this organization's complex and largely hidden past - and what the master plan suggests about its future. Only by understanding the Islamic State's full history - and the strategy that drove it - can we understand the contradictions that may ultimately tear it apart.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

One of the most outstanding reads on terrorism I've read in a good long while. It was suggested to me by Dr. Bruce Hoffman, the head of the Georgetown Security Studies Master's Program and considered the world wide dean of terrorism scholarship. An insightful and easily readable analysis that looks not only at the "master plan" laid out by AQ, but how thanks to "Zarqawism" as he calls it, modern jihad had become a populist movement, which helps to explain its appeal as well as the idea that warriors fighting in the name of Islam (or rather their interpretation of it) know what is best as far as the faith. Truly, if you are looking to better understand modern day Jihadism as we know it

now, read this book.

If there is ever a more definitive book on ISIS, it's history, ideology, leadership, goals, and challenges, it will have to be written by the group itself. This book is so well researched and credible that at once it becomes a classic of both historical and foreign policy writing. But then what else would you expect from an analyst whose writings were found in Osama bin Laden's bookshelf? This is a great read and will make you smarter.

Awesome piece. Certainly provides a perspective on what is happening in the Middle East that is critical considering the times we live in. Balances great narrative with fantastic research.

Fishman provides an exhaustive and nuanced accounting of the rise of ISIS. His book dispels the numerous myths and misconceptions about jihadi politics by taking us deep into both the tragic history of sectarian conflict in Iraq and Syria, and the bloody power struggle for the heart of Sunni jihadism. Riveting and informative read fit for both the newcomer and the seasoned foreign affairs professionals.

Highly intelligent look at the origin and future of Islamic State. Accessibly and engagingly crafted. Would highly recommend to anyone looking for clarity on Islamic terrorism.

Excellent! Should be required reading!

thia book is well written and explains the issue at hand with the Islamic state. Once you understand how all of the groups formed and their core beliefs and objectives the news stories we feel everyday make sense. Thank you for sharing your expertise and knowledge! This is a must read for everyone!

Well written. Great insight into the evil characters competing to be the standard bearers of a perverted version of Islam.

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