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Bestsellers on the Middle East

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the grounds and see many exhibits including the new baby panda bear. Zoo employees brought some animals out of their habitats so that attendees could have a close encounter with them and even touch some of them. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience.

During the breaks, several general trends were noted: Many libraries seem to have librarians with multiple responsibilities, often with assignments that span public services, technical services, and collection management. It seems almost every library is reorganizing some aspect of its organization structure. Many libraries are migrating to new ILS systems or upgrading their current system. The growth of electronic resources has led to the examination of workflow, staffing, and organizational matrices. Access to electronics is through multiple paths such as catalogs, Web pages, links, etc. — no standard path has yet emerged.

Each night concluded with a late night social (from 10 p.m. to 12 midnight) allowing NASIG night owls to visit, play games, listen to music, dance, have a cool drink, and get to know each other in a relaxing, social setting.

NASIG returns to Trinity University in San Antonio Texas, for its 16th annual conference, May 23-26, 2001. NASIG had its annual conference at Trinity University in 1991 and now returns ten years later. The theme of the conference is “NASIG 2001: A Serials Odyssey.” Note that this conference is not only being held slightly earlier than usual, but it is held Wednesday-Saturday which is a departure from NASIG’s usual Thursday-Sunday schedule. Bea Caraway and Carol Gill, Conference Planning Committee Co-Chairs are planning an especially memorable and valuable conference. Watch for information about the conference at: http://www.nasig.org. See you in San Antonio in 2001!


Cohen, Asher, 1936-. Israel and the Politics of Jewish Identity: The Secular-religious Impasse. Johns Hopkins Univ 2000 $36.00 Cloth 0801863647


Moin, Baqer. Khomeni: Life of the Ayatollah. St. Martin's/Trade 2000 $27.95 Cloth 0312266409

Water in the Middle East: A Geography of Peace, Ed. By Hussein A. Amery, Univ of Texas Press 2000 $45.00 Cloth 0292704941

Berberenga, Berch. Turmoil in the Middle East: Imperialism, War, and Political Instability. State Univ of New York 1999 $49.50 Cloth 0791444112


Zahedi, Darush. Iranian Revolution Then and Now: Indicators of Regime Instability. Westview 2000 $60.00 Cloth 0813337488

Understanding the Contemporary Middle East; Ed. By Deborah J. Gerner. Lynne Rienner 2000 $55.00 Cloth 1555877060


Halliday, Fred. Nation and Religion in the Middle East. Lynne Rienner 2000 $49.95 Cloth 1555871010

War, Institutions, and Social Change in the Middle East, Ed. By Steven Heydemann. Univ of California Press 2001 $52.00 Cloth 0520224213

Netanyahu, Binyamin. Durable Peace: Israel and Its Place Among the Nations. Warner 2000 $30.00 Cloth 0446623602

Islam and Secularism in the Middle East, Ed. By Azzam Tamimi. New York Univ Press 2000 $55.00 Cloth 0814782604

Garfinkle, Adam M., 1951-. Politics and Society in Modern Israel: Myths and Realities. M.E. Sharpe 2000 $72.95 Cloth 0765605147

Israel’s First Fifty Years; Ed. By Robert O. Freedman. Univ Pr of Florida 2000 $29.95 Paper 0813018196

Bregman, Ahron. Israel’s Wars, 1947-93. Routledge 2000 $90.00 Cloth 041521467X


Held, Colbert C. Middle East Patterns: Places, Peoples, and Politics. Westview 2000 $35.00 Paper 0813334888


Masalha, Nuri, 1957-. Imperial Israel and the Palestinians: The Politics of Expansion. Pluto 2000 $69.95 Cloth 0745316204


Anderson, Ewan M. Middle East: Geography and Geopolitics. Routledge 2000 $110.00 Cloth 0415876576

Owen, Roger. State, Power and Politics in the Making of the Modern Middle East. Routledge 2000 $90.00 Cloth 0415196736

Economic and Political Impediments to Middle East Peace: Critical Questions and Alternative Scenarios; Ed. By J.W. Wright. St. Martin’s/Scholarly 2000 $75.00 Cloth 031225776


Gawrych, George W. Albatross of Democratic Victory: War and Policy between Egypt and Israel in the 1967 and 1973 Arab-Israeli Wars. Greenwood 2000 $65.00 Cloth 0313311302

Muslih, Muhammad. Golan: The Road to Occupation. Inst For Palestine Stud. 1999 $4.95 Paper 0887282717

Lohrey, Neill. Difficult Road to Peace: Netanyahou, Israel and the Middle East Peace Process. Ithaca Press 1999 $56.00 Cloth 0863722482

Middle East. Congressional 2000 $49.95 Cloth 1568021011

Persona Non Grata: The Expulsion of Lebanese Civilians from Israeli-Occupied Lebanon. Human Rights Watch 1999 $7.00 Paper 1564322377

Serials Pricing Update—The Real Cost and Price of EJournals

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by Marilyn Geller, MSLS <marilyn.geller@mindspring.com>

In the past several years, libraries have seen a significant growth in electronic resources and have worked hard to rise to the challenge of understanding and incorporating these materials into our collections. When we have a chance to catch our breath and to reflect on all the developments of these times, one might ask, “If an electronic version of a printed journal is ‘free’, how much does it really cost?” In fact, this is the question that prompted a presentation for the ALCTS Serials Section Journal Costs in Libraries Discussion Group at the ALA 2001 Midwinter Conference.

As every good reference librarian knows, a simple question is almost never just a simple question, and this one is no different. A small sample of the underlying questions here might include: How much do ejournals cost the publisher to produce? How much do ejournals cost the library to access? What is the difference between cost and price? What is the publisher’s pricing strategy? And what does all this mean for the future of ejournal pricing?

In economic terms, cost is the outlay or expenditure of money, time and labor needed continued on page 83

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