

<http://www.blueinkreview.com/book-reviews/2020-the-fall-of-islamic-states-the-rise-of-a-new-political-order-iran-israel-armenia-union/>



## **2020 The Fall of Islamic States and the Rise of a New Political Order**

**Sohrab Chamanara**

Publisher: Ketab Corp. Pages: 198 Price: ISBN: 9781595875009 Reviewed: February, 2015 Author Website: [Visit »](#)

Sohrab Chamanara, a prolific author on the subject of Middle East history, now offers a book attempting to survey nothing less than the entire history of the Middle East over the past 2600 years. Presented in a textbook-style narrative, without citations or bibliography, his book owes a great deal to information easily found on Wikipedia.

While Chamanara omits little in his telling of the story of the Middle East (with an emphasis on Iranian history, the subject of several of his previous books), his workmanlike approach breaks little new ground. The book is replete with typographical errors (for example, he introduces his appendixes as being “mostly coppies [sic] from Wikipedia”), the maps are often poorly reproduced, and an index would have been helpful.

However, Chamanara’s relatively brief prologue deserves attention. In it, he states his fervent hope that Iran, Armenia, and Israel—three cultures more inclined toward conflict than cooperation—will, by the year 2020 (a year the author admits is an arbitrary choice), join together into a “New Political Order.”

Chamanara argues that this can happen only with the direct intervention of the United States, which he hopes will, before the 2016 election, place sanctions on the Iranian leadership, thus provoking a revolution that will force a new constitution to be written in Iran, Israel, and Armenia, allowing this union to form. Chamanara offers little factual underpinning for this argument, a scenario that seems politically unrealistic as presented here. (Chamanara proposes that the U.S. sanctions that would set the revolution in motion be written so that they would have to be renewed by future presidents, apparently unaware that this is, by stature and American case-law, unconstitutional).

Nevertheless, utopian visions by passionate authors will always have a place, if only to begin the argument. While the main body of Chamanara’s text can easily be replaced by other, better researched and presented histories of the area, his provocative prologue deserves a reading.



# Perplexity of Iran

**Sohrab ChamanAra**

Publisher: XlibrisPages: 77Price: (paperback) \$14.00ISBN: 9781469168562Reviewed: August, 2012Author Website: [Visit »](#)

Sohrab ChamanAra would like to see regime change in his native Iran and has proposed a plan to achieve that result in *Perplexity of Iran*. Part of his goal is to bring about better geopolitical relations between Iran and the nation of his current residence, the United States.

ChamanAra, born in Iran in 1947, received his graduate education in England, then returned to Iran to work as an engineer for 19 years before settling in the United States. A busy author when not working on engineering projects for Indian tribes in New Mexico and Oklahoma, ChamanAra has published seven books in the Persian language. *Perplexity of Iran* is his second published in English.

Unfortunately, ChamanAra's command of written English is tenuous and the editing is weak throughout the book. Still, the message emerges that regime change can occur through a collaboration of the U.S. government, some of the approximately 5 million expatriate Iranians and sub rosa reformers who can be reached within Iran. Although ChamanAra's plan seems wildly optimistic, it is difficult to conclude that it is impossible.

The bulk of his book, though, is not about the current situation in the Middle East and Asia. Rather, it is primarily a history of Iran: its religious factions, its conquerors and conquered and its impressive ancient culture. ChamanAra is clearly knowledgeable about his country from first-hand experience, making his reliance on secondary sources such as print encyclopedias and the online Wikipedia unfortunate.

*Perplexity of Iran* shines in places but mostly falls short due to the derivative nature of the information, the weak editing and the awkward English phrasing.