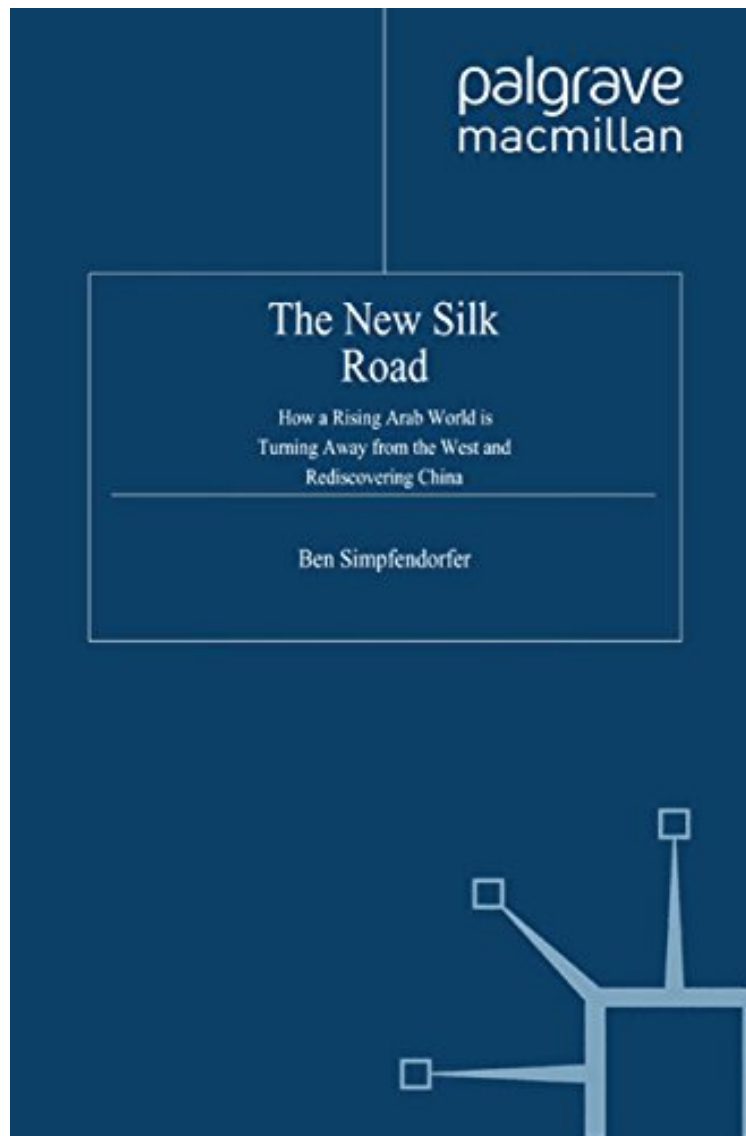


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The New Silk Road: How a Rising Arab World is Turning Away from the West and Rediscovering China

B., Ben Simpfendorfer
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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A seminal essay in the new globalization without the WestBy

ACEMAN This is a seminal essay for the beginning of a new era in 2010. The economic world is shifting its axis and the author makes a clear historical long ago event as the catalyst for the future, namely, the old silk road is also the new silk road. This metaphor is the perfect reference point for the shift that is taking place between the MENA (middle east/north africa) and the east as exemplified by China (and I might add India and the Republics to the West of China as well). What is clear from the essay is that the business of the MENA and China have a lot in common and that there are historical reasons for it. There is also a political context that seems to be always bubbling up to the surface and it is seen not only in trade and business development but also in politics. It is as if two old clans have rediscovered their ancient heritage and feel more comfortable in rediscovering the relationship than the present one with the West. An excellent essay and extremely helpful for investors and historians alike.

ACEMAN 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. unique understanding based on fluency in Chinese and Arabic

By K. Kline The author who is fluent in both Arabic and Chinese, offers a unique perspective of the intersection of both cultures - How the mom and pop vendors in the Middle East are able to purchase items in China due to the translators who belong to an "acceptable" Muslim Chinese minority. His comments on the facility of Chinese leaders to be interviewed by Al Jazeera in Arabic while those in the West cannot, are important warnings of the future. A must read for those interested in the growth of China and its wider influence in the Middle East.

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PHENOMENAL Insight

By Sandra L. Larsen When in Far East several years ago, I observed the eastward posture, which fascinated me as an American citizen whose always been exposed to USA superiority. As a person with passion for Silk Road(s), this was a welcome read. The documented details presented here well incorporated. The downside is 2008 publication when Syria was a different player. Enjoyed personal experiences included, as well as descriptions.

The rise of the Arab world and China are part of the same story, once trading partners via the Silk Road. This is a fully revised and updated account of how China is spurring growth in the Arab world, taking into account new developments that have taken place since the first edition.

About the Author Ben Simpfendorfer currently works for Global Strategic Associates, LLC, (GSA), an international advisory firm. He is focused on assisting a small group of prestigious international clients to explore cross border business opportunities and investments between China and the Middle East. Simpfendorfer was previously the chief China Economist at the Royal Bank of Scotland and the Senior China Economist at JPMorgan. He has lived in Beijing, Beirut, Damascus, and is currently based in Hong Kong. He appears regularly on Bloomberg and CNBC and is quoted in such major publications as the Financial Times and the New York Times. Simpfendorfer speaks Arabic and Chinese and has spent fifteen years reading local newspapers, speaking and working with the everyday person on the streets of Beirut to Beijing, and assessing economic data from the two regions. He has immersed himself in the two cultures and has personally observed many of the watershed events that have unfolded in the Arab world and China during that time.