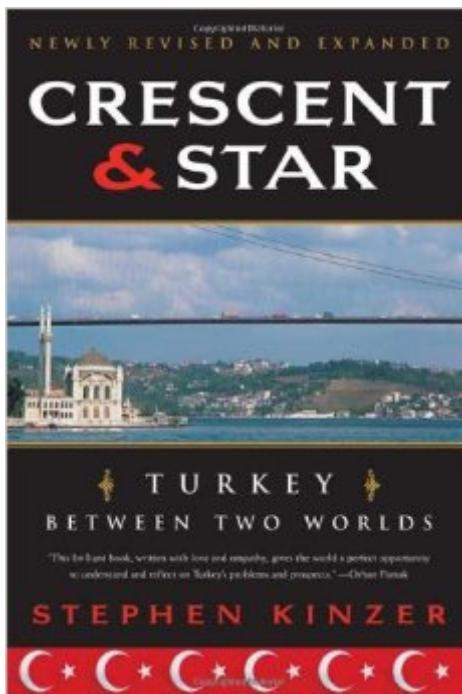


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Crescent And Star: Turkey Between Two Worlds



Synopsis

"A sharp, spirited appreciation of where Turkey stands now, and where it may head." •Carlin Romano, The Philadelphia InquirerIn the first edition of this widely praised book, Stephen Kinzer made the convincing claim that Turkey was the country to watch -- poised between Europe and Asia, between the glories of its Ottoman past and its hopes for a democratic future, between the dominance of its army and the needs of its civilian citizens, between its secular expectations and its Muslim traditions. In this newly revised edition of *Crescent and Star*, he adds much important new information on the many exciting transformations in Turkey's government and politics that have kept it in the headlines, and also shows how recent developments in both American and European policies (and not only the war in Iraq) have affected this unique and perplexing nation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A truly modern Turkey governed by the rule of law would raise the Turkish people to levels of prosperity and self-confidence they have never known before. Despite the country's political and psychological underdevelopment, it has the resources to become a towering power. If it can liberate itself from its paralyzing fears and embrace true democracy, it will also serve as a magnetic example of how the ideals of liberty can triumph over enormous obstacles. By adding moral strength to its military strength, Turkey could become a dominant force in the Middle East, encouraging peace and pulling Arab countries away from the social backwardness and feudal dictatorship under which most of them now suffer. It could exert a mighty and stabilizing influence westward to the Balkans and eastward to the Caucasus and Central Asia, becoming the key power in a region that

is strategically vital, overwhelmingly rich in oil and other resources, and now ruled mostly by tyrants who are dragging it toward chaos. -Stephen Kinzer, *Crescent & Star* Though we pay obscenely little attention, Turkey is an extraordinarily important nation and its future may go a long way to determining whether Islam and democracy can ultimately co-exist in one nation. Geographically and politically, Turkey occupies a unique position, squeezed between Europe to the West and the Islamic world to the East. Though traditionally Muslim, its great revolutionary leader Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, upon taking power in 1922 and establishing a Republic, reoriented the nation towards the West, toward the values of the Enlightenment and the institutions of secular democracy.

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