PREFACE
The Arab Gulf has loomed large in world affairs in the last few decades. It began with the discovery of oil and expansion of oil activities. The region around the Gulf now accounts for close to sixty per cent of the world's proven reserves of oil which underscores its centrality on the world energy map.

The massive oil income has spurred the pace of political awakening in the region. Since the British withdrawal from the Gulf in 1971, the Gulf countries took a big stride forward. The massive oil-price hikes which followed has enabled the Arab Gulf states to build up a social welfare state apparatus. The Arab Gulf states are witnessing an encompassing change, including political change in varying degrees.

Political modernization is a recent phenomenon in the Arab Gulf. The experience of the Arab Gulf states in state-building is quite recent. Basically, it started after the British intention to withdraw from the area in 1968. However, some elements of modernization are traceable to the early period.

The thesis has been divided into five chapters. The first chapter analyses the concept of political modernization in detail. The literature on the subject of political
modernization has been critically reviewed. In this context, a general survey of literature on the subject has been attempted to. Along with it, the Islamic view on modernization in general and political modernization in particular has been analysed. The Qur'an has been cited wherever needed. References have been made of the scholars who have worked upon the theme. The Third World perspective on political modernization has been presented as well.

The second chapter deals with education and political modernization in the Arab Gulf. In this chapter, the education system in the Arab Gulf states has been analysed. The growth of Kuttaba, primary, secondary and university education have been attempted to. Besides, university education at home and abroad has been discussed. A special effort has been made to analyse the curriculum and enrolment ratios in the educational sector. At the conclusion of the chapter, the effect of education in the context of political modernization with special emphasis on women's role and status have been analysed.

The third chapter covers political participation and political change in the Arab Gulf states. Here an attempt has been made to discuss the nature of the regimes and the legitimacy question as well. The role of national councils in these states have been covered fully. The system of
representation, the deliberations of the councils have been analysed in detail. An effort has been made to assess the role of the national councils in these states. In brief, the nature of political participation has been covered fully with great details.

The fourth chapter is on bureaucracy and development administration in the Arab Gulf states. The concept of development administration has been defined first, followed by its distinction with other related concepts. The growth of bureaucracy in the context of development administration has been traced and elaborated. The nature of bureaucracy in the Arab Gulf states has been analysed in detail along with the causes of its vast expansion. The functions of bureaucracy has been elaborated. Attitudes of people towards bureaucracy and its weaknesses have been discussed. And lastly, the reasons for unsatisfactory progress of development administration have been covered.

The fifth chapter is on regional integration and pan-Arabism. In broader terms, the evolution of Arabian nationalism has been discussed. The debate on pan-Arabism has been taken up followed by the analysis of centripetal and centrifugal forces in the Arab world in general and the Arab Gulf in particular. A special effort has been made to cover the League of Arab states and the Gulf Cooperation Council in
the context of pan-Arabism and regional integration respectively. Due emphasis has been given on the forces favourable as well as unfavourable to the growth of a pan-Arab identity. Efforts have been made to cover regional integration in the broader perspective of Arab identity. And finally, the findings have been summed up and observations made in the conclusions.

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