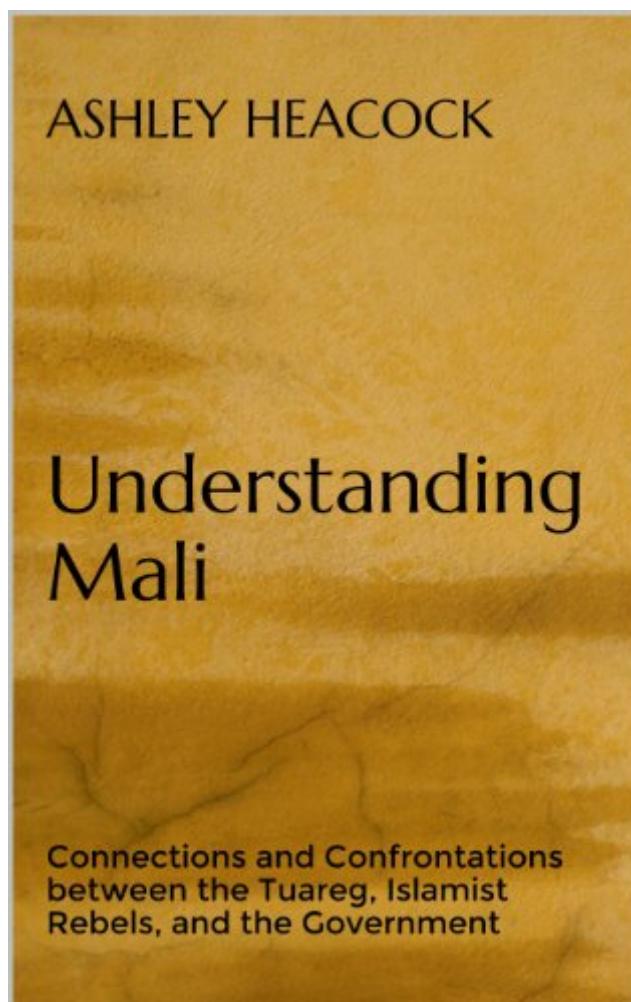


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# Understanding Mali: Connections And Confrontations Between The Tuareg, Islamist Rebels, And The Government



## **Synopsis**

This book is based around the three main players who took part in the 2012/2013 conflict in Mali: the Tuareg, Islamist rebels, and the Malian government. Tuareg rebels wanted their own state, or at least greater autonomy and political and economic opportunities; yet, there were many rivalries in the north between and even among different ethnic groups. Islamist rebels wanted to create an Islamist state in the north based on a brutal form of shariâ€“a law, and they used drug smuggling and hostage taking as financial means. The government in Bamako wanted to keep the country together and limit Tuareg and Islamist influence, but also had complicated and corrupted interests in the conflict itself. What could be done to solve the crisis, and what can stability practitioners use to counter instability and sources of insecurity? What can history and a deeper look at ethnic and racial grievances tell us? From the origins of Al-Qa'ida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), to the reasons for the coup d'etat in 2012, to the underpinnings of colonialism that helped shape Tuareg demands, Understanding Mali takes a holistic view of the 2012/2013 conflict in Mali, explaining all variables and perspectives in a clear and concise manner.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Ashley Heacock's understanding and presentiment of the underlying ethnic histories and cultural realities at play in Mali's recent conflict are rare and welcome additions to the geopolitical discourse revolving around West and Central Africa.

A good précis of a complicated recent history. Succinct and informative, this book sets recent history in context so the novice can understand what is happening.

Well written and very informative. Author does a good job explaining the background to parts of the struggle occurring in Mali.

This appears to be a very fair analysis of the issues in Mali. I have been interested in Mali for several years. This book helps understand the current situation in a quick and concise read.

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