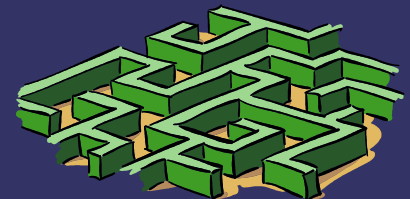


# *What Is The Next Scenario For Syria?*

Minnesota Futurists  
By  
Roger Rydberg

Dec 29, 2012



## Who is Bashar al-Assad?

The President of the Syrian Arab Republic, Regional Secretary of the Baath Party, and the son of former President Hafez al-Assad.

Originally trained as a doctor, Assad attended medical school at the University of Damascus Faculty of Medicine.

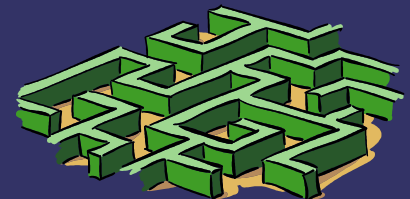


Have you had those surprise moments when you get suckered into a conversation you shouldn't be having and it all turns out wrong?

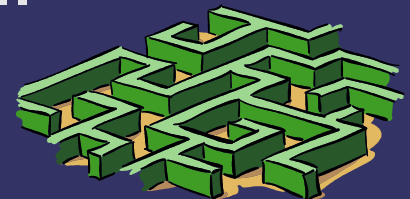
- Why is he President?
- 
- Assad had few political aspirations; his father had been grooming Bashar's older brother, Basil al-Assad, to be the future president. However, Basil's death in an automobile accident in 1994 suddenly made Bashar his father's new heir apparent. When the elder Assad died in 2000, Bashar was elected President unopposed with apparent massive popular support, after Syria's Majlis Al Shaa'b (Parliament) swiftly voted to lower the minimum age for candidates from 40 to 34.



*Upon becoming President, Bashar al-Assad promised economic and political reforms to Syria, but he has so far delivered little change from the status quo. The Baath Party remains in control of the parliament, and is constitutionally the “leading party” of the state.*



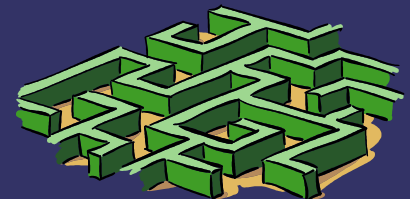
- ➔ With Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's hold on power sufficiently in doubt, the Center for National Policy (CNP) will examine the strategic consequences of his fall from power and what it foretells for the region.
- ➔
- ➔ In a discussion titled "What is in store for a post-Assad Syria," a group of Middle East policy experts will discuss what type of government will emerge in Syria after the Assad regime. They will also talk about the effect on Iran, Assad's closest strategic partner. Other topics will include the stability of neighboring states and the impact on Israel.



➔ Participants will include: CNP Senior Fellow for the Middle East Gregory Aftandilian; Mona Yacoubian, senior advisor on the Middle East and project director for Pathways to Progress at the Henry L. Stimson Center; and Joseph Holliday, senior research analyst at the Institute for the Study of War.



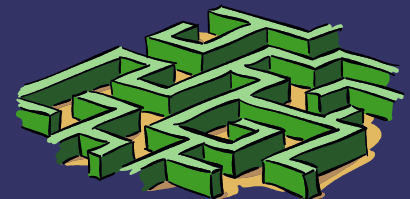
➔ Video is about 40 minutes



# *Discussion*

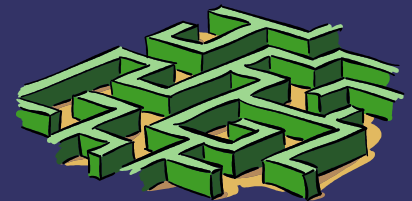
## ➔ Some Key Issues –

- Minorities never been addressed
- History of unstable governments
- Power by force
- Pawn of Russia? Iran?
- Corruption a way of life
- Role of Religion, culture
- Not a good track record
- Is a Democracy possible?



# Chapter 10

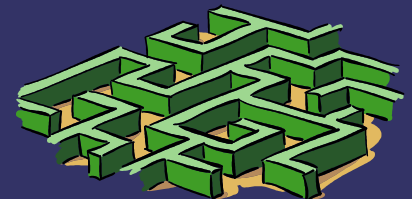
⇒ "Putting It All Together"





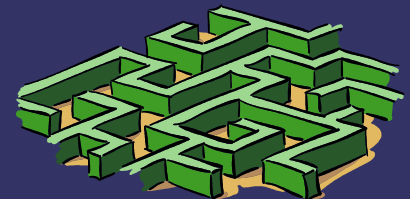
# Chapter 11

- ➔ Provides advice on specific types of hard-cases that defy the techniques in the book.



# Chapter 12

- ⇒ Change Your Life!
- ⇒ "How to Turn Ideas Into Habits."
- ⇒ The intention of this chapter is to give you something so you don't just read the book and continue as before. Basically, it says to study small parts of the book and practice what you learn.



# *Transforming Relationships*

(Nothing Fails Like Success!)

(Not Your way – My way – Our way!)  
(The Middle Way)

(Most Break-thru-s are Break Withs!)

(Speak from the heart!)

