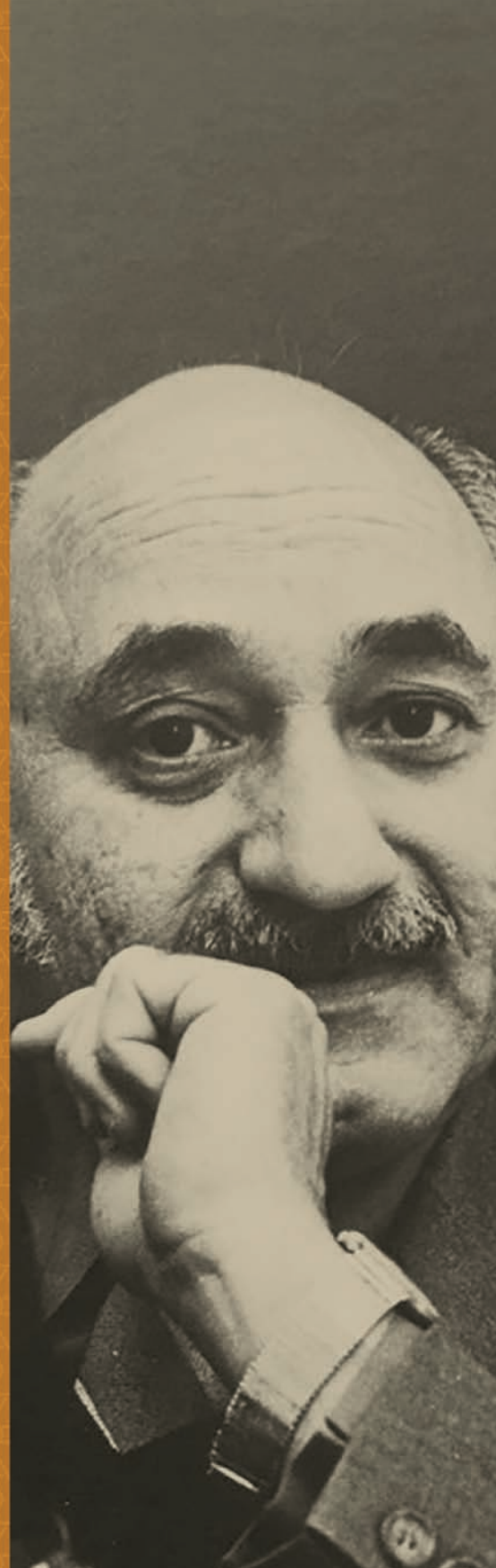
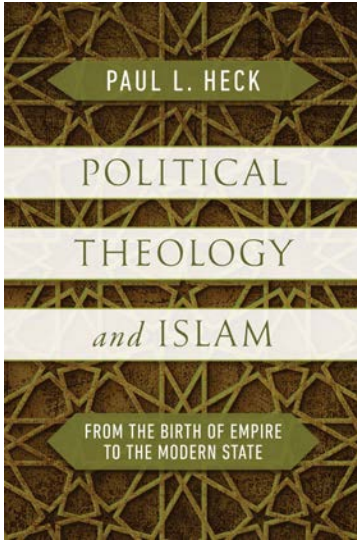


**MIDDLE
EASTERN
STUDIES**

2023



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540 Pages
Religion / Islam
9 in H | 6 in W

Political Theology and Islam

From the Birth of Empire to the Modern State

Paul L. Heck

Summary

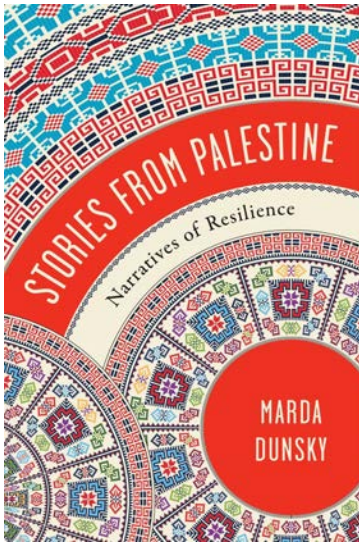
Paul Heck's *Political Theology and Islam* offers a sophisticated and comprehensive analysis of sovereignty in Islamic society, beginning with the origins of Islam and extending to the present.

This wide-ranging study sets out to answer an unassumingly tricky question: What is politics in Islam? Paul Heck's answer takes the form of a close analysis of sovereignty across Islamic history, approaching this concept from the perspective of political theology. As he illustrates, the history of politics in Islam is best understood as an ongoing struggle for a moral order between those who occupy positions of rulership and religious voices that communicate the ethics of Islam and educate the public in their religious and moral devotions. In this sense, sovereignty in Islam is split between ruling powers and pious communities, whose interactions range from close cooperation to outright competition. Heck shows that it is precisely through these interactions that Islamic conceptions of sovereignty are constructed and negotiated.

Political Theology and Islam's first section spells out the concepts and methods for the study of politics in Islam as a struggle for a moral order, one not only involving varied claims to sovereignty but also a general determination to realize the righteousness of Islam that stands at the heart of the message that the Prophet Muhammad conveyed to his society in seventh-century Arabia. The following sections demonstrate, through examples from both the past and today's worldwide Muslim community, the diverse ways in which the umma, the community of Muslims, has struggled for a moral order that recalls its prophetic message. Deftly moving in various political theaters and through a wide range of intellectual traditions, Heck's book will emerge as a touchstone of scholarship in the field of Muslim politics and intellectual thought.

Contributor Bio

Paul L. Heck is professor of Islamic studies at Georgetown University and founding director of the Study of Religions Across Civilizations (SORAC) project. He is author of *Skepticism in Classical Islam and Common Ground*.



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Paperback

268 Pages
History / Middle East
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NEW IN PAPERBACK

Stories from Palestine

Narratives of Resilience

Marda Dunsky

Summary

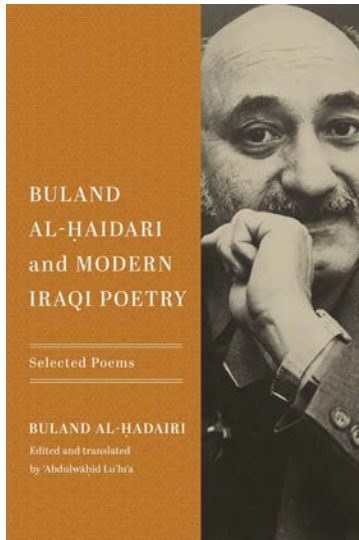
***Stories from Palestine* profiles Palestinians engaged in creative and productive pursuits in their everyday lives in the West Bank, Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. Their narratives amplify perspectives and experiences of Palestinians exercising their own constructive agency.**

In *Stories from Palestine: Narratives of Resilience*, Marda Dunsky presents a vivid overview of contemporary Palestinian society in the venues envisioned for a future Palestinian state. Dunsky has interviewed women and men from cities, towns, villages, and refugee camps who are farmers, scientists, writers, cultural innovators, educators, and entrepreneurs. Using their own words, she illuminates their resourcefulness in navigating agriculture, education, and cultural pursuits in the West Bank; persisting in Jerusalem as a sizable minority in the city; and confronting the challenges and uncertainties of life in the Gaza Strip. Based on her in-depth personal interviews, the narratives weave in quantitative data and historical background from a range of primary and secondary sources that contextualize Palestinian life under occupation.

More than a collection of individual stories, *Stories from Palestine* presents a broad, crosscut view of the tremendous human potential of this particular society. Narratives that emphasize the human dignity of Palestinians pushing forward under extraordinary circumstances include those of an entrepreneur who markets the yields of Palestinian farmers determined to continue cultivating their land, even as the landscape is shrinking; a professor and medical doctor who aims to improve health in local Palestinian communities; and an award-winning primary school teacher who provides her pupils a safe and creative learning environment. In an era of conflict and divisiveness, Palestinian resilience is relatable to people around the world who seek to express themselves, to achieve, to excel, and to be free. *Stories from Palestine* creates a new space from which to consider Palestinians and peace.

Contributor Bio

Marda Dunsky, assistant professor in residence at Northwestern University in Qatar, is a print journalist and journalism scholar. Her research focuses on underreported aspects of the Israel-Palestine conflict. Her teaching focuses on best practices of reporting and writing. She has taught global journalism on the faculty of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and has held editing and reporting positions at the *Chicago Tribune* and *Jerusalem Post*. She is the author of *Pens and Swords: How the American Mainstream Media Report the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, among other works.



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 186 Pages
 Poetry / Middle Eastern
 9 in H | 6 in W

Buland Al-Haidari and Modern Iraqi Poetry

Selected Poems

Buland Al-Haidari, 'Abdulwahid Lu'lu'a

Summary

In this brilliant book, 'Abdulwāḥid Lu'lu'a translates and introduces eighty poems from one of the pioneers of modern Arabic poetry, Buland Al-Ḥaidari.

Buland Al-Ḥaidari might fairly be considered the fourth pillar holding up the dome of modern Arabic poetry. Alongside his famous contemporaries Nāzik al-Malā'ika, Badre Shākir Al-Sayyāb, and 'Abdulwāḥḥāb Al-Bayyāṭi, Al-Ḥaidari likewise made significant contributions to the development of twentieth-century Arabic poetry, including the departure from the traditional use of two-hemistich verses in favor of what has been called the Arabic "free verse" form.

A few of Al-Ḥaidari's poems have been translated into English separately, but no book-length translation of his poetry has been published until now. In *Buland Al-Ḥaidari and Modern Iraqi Poetry*, 'Abdulwāḥid Lu'lu'a translates eighty of Al-Ḥaidari's most important poems, giving English-speaking readers access to this rich corpus. Lu'lu'a's perceptive introduction acquaints readers with the contours of Al-Ḥaidari's life and situates his work in the context of modern Arabic poetry. The translated pieces not only illustrate the depth of Al-Ḥaidari's poetic imagination but also showcase the development of his style, from the youthful romanticism of his first collection *Clay Throb* (1946) to the detached pessimism of his *Songs of the Dead City* (1951). Selections are also included from his later collections *Steps in Exile* (1965), *The Journey of Yellow Letters* (1968), and *Songs of the Tired Guard* (1977). These poems paint a vivid picture of the literary and poetic atmosphere in Baghdad and Iraq from the mid-1940s to the close of the twentieth century.

Contributor Bio

Buland Al-Ḥaidari (1926–1996) was a widely published Iraqi poet and literary critic.

'Abdulwāḥid Lu'lu'a is professor emeritus of English literature at Philadelphia University in Amman, Jordan, and the author and translator of seventy-one books, including *Listen to the Mourners: The Essential Poems of Nāzik Al-Malā'ika* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2021).



Medicine and Shariah

A DIALOGUE IN ISLAMIC BIOETHICS

Edited by Aasim I. Padela

Foreword by Ebrahim Moosa

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266 Pages
Medical / Ethics
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NEW IN PAPERBACK

Medicine and Shariah

A Dialogue in Islamic Bioethics

Aasim I. Padela

Summary

***Medicine and Shariah* brings together experts from various fields, including clinicians, Islamic studies experts, and Muslim theologians, to analyze the interaction of the doctors and jurists who are forging the field of Islamic bioethics.**

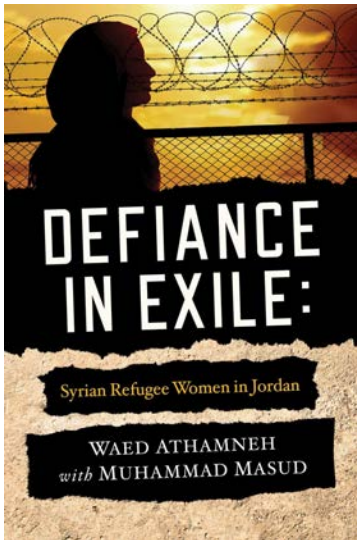
Although much ink has been spilled in generating Islamic responses to bioethical questions and in analyzing fatwas, Islamic bioethics still remains an emerging field. How are Islamic bioethical norms to be generated? Are Islamic bioethical writings to be considered as part of the broader academic discourse in bioethics? What even is the scope of Islamic bioethics? Taking up these and related questions, the essays in *Medicine and Shariah* provide the groundwork for a more robust field. The volume begins by furnishing concepts and terms needed to map out the discourse. It concludes by offering a multidisciplinary model for ethical deliberation that accounts for the various disciplines needed to derive Islamic moral norms and to understand biomedical contexts. In between these bookends, contributors apply various analytic, empirical, and normative lenses to examine the interaction between biomedical knowledge (represented by physicians) and Islamic law (represented by jurists) in Islamic bioethical deliberation.

By providing a multidisciplinary model for generating Islamic bioethics rulings, *Medicine and Shariah* provides the critical foundations for an Islamic bioethics that better attends to specific biomedical contexts and also accurately reflects the moral vision of Islam. The volume will be essential reading for bioethicists and scholars of Islam; for those interested in the dialectics of tradition, modernity, science, and religion; and more broadly for scholarly and professional communities that work at the intersection of the Islamic tradition and contemporary healthcare.

Contributors: Ebrahim Moosa, Aasim I. Padela, Vardit Rispler-Chaim, Abul Fadl Mohsin Ebrahim, Muhammed Volkan Yildiran Stodolsky, Mohammed Amin Kholwadia, Hooman Keshavarzi, and Bilal Ali.

Contributor Bio

Aasim I. Padela is professor of emergency medicine, bioethics, and humanities at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He is also director of the Initiative on Islam and Medicine and co-editor of *Islam and Biomedicine*.



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134 Pages
Political Science / World
9 in H | 6 in W

Defiance in Exile

Syrian Refugee Women in Jordan

Waed Athamneh, Muhammad Masud

Summary

This book offers a glimpse into Syrian refugee women's stories of defiance and triumph in the aftermath of the Syrian uprising.

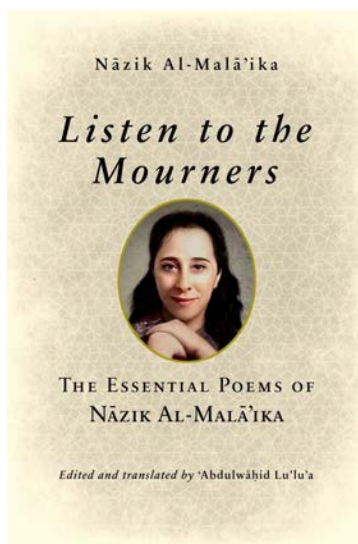
The al-Zaatari Camp in northern Jordan is the largest Syrian refugee camp in the world, home to 80,000 inhabitants. While al-Zaatari has been described by the Western media as an ideal refugee camp, the Syrian women living within its confines offer a very different account of their daily reality. *Defiance in Exile: Syrian Refugee Women in Jordan* presents for the first time in a book-length format the opportunity to hear the refugee women's own words about torment, struggle, and persecution—and of an enduring spirit that defies a difficult reality. Their stories speak of nearly insurmountable social, economic, physical, and emotional challenges, and provide a distinct perspective of the Syrian conflict.

Waed Athamneh and Muhammad Masud began collecting the testimonies of Syrian refugee women in 2015. The authors chronicle the history of Syria's colonial legacy, the torture and cruelty of the Bashar al-Assad regime during which nearly half a million Syrians lost their lives, and the eventual displacement of more than 5.3 million Syrian refugees due to the crisis. The book contains nearly two dozen interviews, which give voice to single mothers, widows, women with disabilities, and those who are victims of physical and psychological abuse. Having lost husbands, children, relatives, and friends to the conflict, they struggle with what it means to be a Syrian refugee—and what it means to be a Syrian woman. *Defiance in Exile* follows their fight for survival during war and the sacrifices they had to make. It depicts their journey, their desperate, chaotic lives as refugees, and their hopes and aspirations for themselves and their children in the future. These oral histories register the women's political outcry against displacement, injustice, and abuse. The book will interest all readers who support refugees and displaced persons as well as students and scholars of Middle East studies, political science, women's studies, and peace studies.

Contributor Bio

Waed Athamneh is associate professor of Arabic studies at Connecticut College. She is the author of *Modern Arabic Poetry: Revolution and Conflict* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2017).

Muhammad Masud is assistant professor of Arabic studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston.



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142 Pages
 Poetry / Middle Eastern
 9 in H | 6 in W

Listen to the Mourners

The Essential Poems of Nazik Al-Mala'ika

Nazik Al-Mala'ika, 'Abdulwahid Lu'lu'a

Summary

This is one of the first book-length English translations of Nāzik Al-Malā'ika's Arabic poetry.

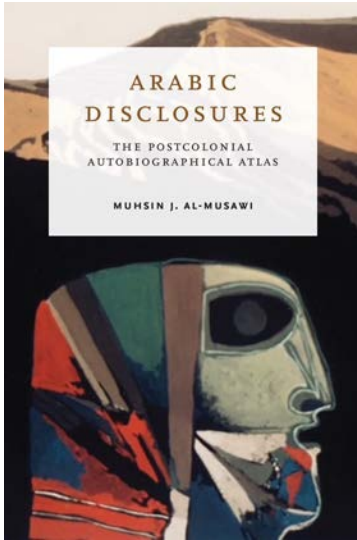
One of the most influential Iraqi poets of the twentieth century, Nāzik Al-Malā'ika pioneered the modern Arabic verse movement when she broke away from the formalistic classical modes of Arabic poetry that had prevailed for more than fifteen centuries. Along with 'Abdulwāḥḥāb Al-Bayyāṭi and Badre Shākir Al-Sayyāb, she paved the way for the birth of a new modernist poetic movement in the Arab world.

Until now, very little of Al-Malā'ika's poetry has been translated into English. *Listen to the Mourners* contains forty of her most significant poems selected from six published volumes, including *Life Tragedy and a Song for Man*, *The Woman in Love with the Night*, *Sparks and Ashes*, *The Wave's Nadir*, *The Moon Tree*, and *The Sea Alters Its Colours*. These poems show the beginning of her development from the late romantic orientation in Arabic poetry toward a more psychological approach. Her poetic form shows a significant liberation from the traditional two-hemistich line in traditional Arabic poetry, which adheres to the traditional Arabic measures of prosody and rhyme. 'Abdulwāḥḥid Lu'lu'a's introduction functions as a critical analysis of the liberated verse movement of the era and situates the poet among her Arab and Western counterparts. This accessible, beautifully rendered, and long overdue translation fills a gap in modern Arabic poetry in translation and will interest students and scholars of Iraqi literature, Middle East studies, women's studies, and comparative literature.

Contributor Bio

Nāzik Al-Malā'ika (1923–2007) was an Iraqi poet and is considered by many to be one of the most influential contemporary Iraqi female poets. She taught at a number of schools and universities, most notably at the University of Baṣrah and Kuwait University.

'Abdulwāḥḥid Lu'lu'a is professor emeritus of English literature at Philadelphia University in Amman, Jordan, and the author and translator of sixty-five books, including selections from Samīḥ al-Qāsim, 'Abdulrazzāq 'Abdulwāḥḥid, Muẓaffar al-Nawwāb, and Badre Shākir Al-Sayyāb.



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520 Pages
 Literary Criticism / Middle Eastern
 9 in H | 6 in W

Arabic Disclosures

The Postcolonial Autobiographical Atlas

Muhsin J. al-Musawi

Summary

***Arabic Disclosures* presents readers with a comparative analysis of Arabic postcolonial autobiographical writing.**

In *Arabic Disclosures* Muhsin J. al-Musawi investigates the genre of autobiography within the modern tradition of Arabic literary writing from the early 1920s to the present. Al-Musawi notes in the introduction that the purpose of this work is not to survey the entirety of autobiographical writing in modern Arabic but rather to apply a rigorously identified set of characteristics and approaches culled from a variety of theoretical studies of the genre to a particular set of autobiographical works in Arabic, selected for their different methodologies, varying historical contexts within which they were conceived and written, and the equally varied lives experienced by the authors involved.

The book begins in the larger context of autobiographical space, where the theories of Bourdieu, Bachelard, Bakhtin, and Lefebvre are laid out, and then considers the multiple ways in which a postcolonial awareness of space has impacted the writings of many of the authors whose works are examined. Organized chronologically, al-Musawi begins with the earliest modern example of autobiographical work in Ṭāhā Ḥusayn's book, translated into English as *The Stream of Days*. Al-Musawi studies some of the major pioneers in the development of modern Arabic thought and literary expression: Jurjī Zaydān, Mīkhāʾīl Nuʿaymah, Aḥmad Amīn, Salāmah Mūsā, Sayyid Quṭb, and untranslated works by the prominent critic and scholar Ḥammādī Ṣammūd, the novelist ʿĀliyah Mamdūh, and others. He also examines the autobiographies of a number of women, including Nawāl al-Saʿdāwī and Fadwā ʿUqān, and fiction writers. The book draws a map of Arab thought and culture in its multiple engagements with other cultures and will be useful for scholars and students of comparative literature, Arabic studies, and Middle Eastern studies, intellectual thought, and history.

Contributor Bio

Muhsin J. al-Musawi is professor of classical and modern Arabic literature, and comparative and cultural studies at Columbia University. He is the author of many books in English and Arabic, including *The Medieval Islamic Republic of Letters: Arabic Knowledge Construction* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2015).



THE HISTORY
AND CULTURE OF
IRAN AND
CENTRAL ASIA

FROM THE PRE-ISLAMIC TO
THE ISLAMIC PERIOD

EDITED BY D. G. TOR AND MINORU INABA

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Hardcover

364 Pages

51 b&w illustrations, 38 maps

History / Middle East

9 in H | 6 in W

The History and Culture of Iran and Central Asia

From the Pre-Islamic to the Islamic Period

D. G. Tor, Minoru Inaba

Summary

This volume examines the major cultural, religious, political, and urban changes that took place in the Iranian world of Inner and Central Asia in the transition from the pre-Islamic to the Islamic periods.

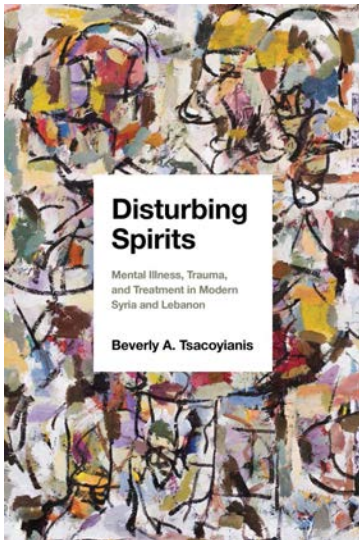
One of the major civilizations of the first millennium was that of the Iranian linguistic and cultural world, which stretched from today's Iraq to what is now the Xinjiang Autonomous Region of China. No other region of the world underwent such radical transformation, which fundamentally altered the course of world history, as this area did during the centuries of transition from the pre-Islamic to the Islamic period. This transformation included the religious victory of Islam over Buddhism, Nestorian Christianity, and the other religions of the area; the military and political wresting of Inner Asia from the Chinese to the Islamic sphere of primary cultural influence; and the shifting of Central Asia from a culturally and demographically Iranian civilization to a Turkic one. This book contains essays by many of the preeminent scholars working in the fields of archeology, history, linguistics, and literature of both the pre-Islamic and the Islamic-era Iranian world, shedding light on some of the most significant aspects of the major changes that this important portion of the Asian continent underwent during this tumultuous era in its history. This collection of cutting-edge research will be read by scholars of Middle Eastern, Central Asian, Iranian, and Islamic studies and archaeology.

Contributors: D. G. Tor, Frantz Grenet, Nicholas Sims-Williams, Etsuko Kageyama, Yutaka Yoshida, Michael Shenkar, Minoru Inaba, Rocco Rante, Arezou Azad, Sören Stark, Louise Marlow, Gabrielle van den Berg, and Dilnoza Duturaeva.

Contributor Bio

D. G. Tor is associate professor of medieval Middle Eastern history at the University of Notre Dame. She is the author and editor of a number of books, including *The 'Abbasid and Carolingian Empires: Comparative Studies in Civilizational Formation*.

Minoru Inaba is professor of history at Kyoto University. He is the author and editor of *Coins, Art and Chronology II: The First Millennium C.E. in the Indo-Iranian Borderlands*.



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370 Pages
History / Middle East
9 in H | 6 in W

Disturbing Spirits

Mental Illness, Trauma, and Treatment in Modern Syria and Lebanon

Beverly A. Tsacoyianis

Summary

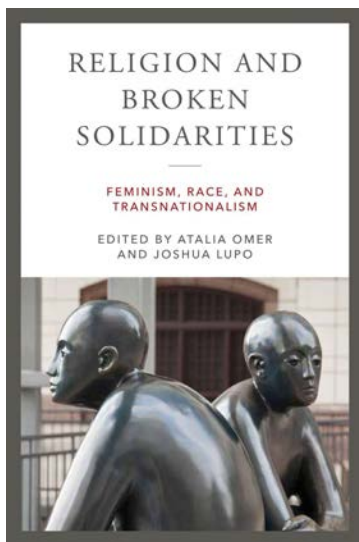
This book investigates the psychological toll of conflict in the Middle East during the twentieth century, including discussion of how spiritual and religious frameworks influence practice and theory.

The concept of mental health treatment in war-torn Middle Eastern nations is painfully understudied. In *Disturbing Spirits*, Beverly A. Tsacoyianis blends social, cultural, and medical history research methods with approaches in disability and trauma studies to demonstrate that the history of mental illness in Syria and Lebanon since the 1890s is embedded in disparate—but not necessarily mutually exclusive—ideas about legitimate healing. Tsacoyianis examines the encounters between “Western” psychiatry and local practices and argues that the attempt to implement “modern” cosmopolitan biomedicine for the last 120 years has largely failed—in part because of political instability and political traumas and in part because of narrow definitions of modern medicine that excluded spirituality and locally meaningful cultural practices.

Analyzing hospital records, ethnographic data, oral history research, historical fiction, and journalistic nonfiction, Tsacoyianis claims that psychiatrists presented mental health treatment to Syrians and Lebanese not only as a way to control or cure mental illness but also as a modernizing worldview to combat popular ideas about jinn-based origins of mental illness and to encourage acceptance of psychiatry. Treatment devoid of spiritual therapies ultimately delegitimized psychiatry among lower classes. Tsacoyianis maintains that tensions between psychiatrists and vernacular healers developed as political transformations devastated collective and individual psyches and disrupted social order. Scholars working on healing in the modern Middle East have largely studied either psychiatric or non-biomedical healing, but rarely their connections to each other or to politics. In this groundbreaking work, Tsacoyianis connects the discussion of global responsibility to scholarly debates about human suffering and the moral call to caregiving. *Disturbing Spirits* will interest students and scholars of the history of medicine and public health, Middle Eastern studies, and postcolonial literature.

Contributor Bio

Beverly A. Tsacoyianis is an associate professor of history at the University of Memphis.



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Paperback

188 Pages

Religion / Religion, Politics & State

Series: Contending Modernities

9 in H | 6 in W

Religion and Broken Solidarities

Feminism, Race, and Transnationalism

Atalia Omer, Joshua Lupo

Summary

The contributors to this original volume provide a new and nuanced approach to studying how discourses of religion shape public domains in sites of political contestation and “broken solidarities.”

Our public discourse is saturated with intractable debates about religion, race, gender, and nationalism. Examples range from Muslim women and headscarves to Palestine/Israel and to global anti-Black racism, along with other pertinent issues. We need fresh thinking to navigate the questions that these debates raise for social justice and solidarity across lines of difference. In *Religion and Broken Solidarities*, the contributors provide powerful reflections and wisdom to guide how we can approach these questions with deep ethical commitments, intersectional sensibilities, and intellectual rigor.

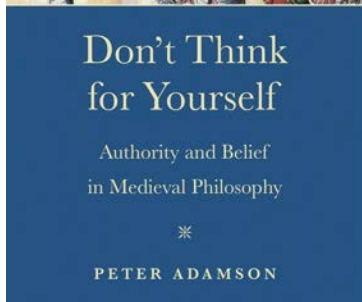
Religion and Broken Solidarities traces the role of religious discourse in unrealized moments of solidarity between marginalized groups who ostensibly share similar aims. Religion, the contributors contend, cannot be separated from national, racial, gendered, and other ways of belonging. These modes of belonging make it difficult for different minoritized groups to see how their struggles might benefit from engagement with one another. The four chapters, which interpret historical and contemporary events with a sharp and critical lens, examine accusations of antisemitism and anti-Muslim racism in the Women’s March in Washington, DC; the failure of feminists in Iran and Turkey to realize a common cause because of nationalist discourse concerning religiosity and secularity; Black Catholics seeking to overcome the problems of modernity in the West; and the disjunction between the Palestinian and Mizrahi cause in Palestine/Israel. Together these analyses show that overcoming constraints to solidarity requires alternative imaginaries to that of the modern nation-state.

Contributors: Atalia Omer, Joshua Lupo, Perin E. Gürel, Juliane Hammer, Ruth Carmi, Brenna Moore, and Melani McAlister.

Contributor Bio

Atalia Omer is professor of religion, conflict, and peace studies at the University of Notre Dame. She is the author of *Days of Awe: Reimagining Jewishness in Solidarity with Palestinians* and *When Peace is Not Enough: How the Israeli Peace Camp Thinks about Religion, Nationalism, and Justice*.

Joshua Lupo is an editor and writer for Contending Modernities at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame.



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Hardcover

194 Pages

Philosophy / Religious

Series: Conway Lectures in
Medieval Studies

9 in H | 6 in W

Don't Think for Yourself

Authority and Belief in Medieval Philosophy

Peter Adamson

Summary

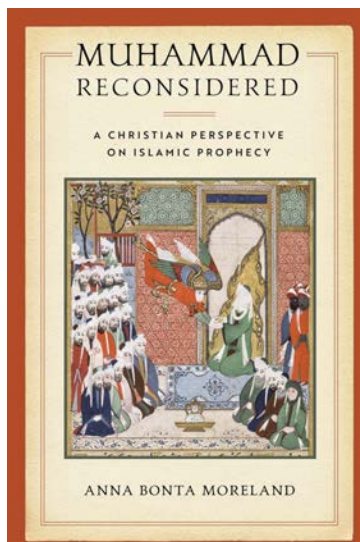
How do we judge whether we should be willing to follow the views of experts or whether we ought to try to come to our own, independent views? This book seeks the answer in medieval philosophical thought.

In this engaging study into the history of philosophy and epistemology, Peter Adamson provides an answer to a question as relevant today as it was in the medieval period: how and when should we turn to the authoritative expertise of other people in forming our own beliefs? He challenges us to reconsider our approach to this question through a constructive recovery of the intellectual and cultural traditions of the Islamic world, the Byzantine Empire, and Latin Christendom.

Adamson begins by foregrounding the distinction in Islamic philosophy between *taqlīd*, or the uncritical acceptance of authority, and *ijtihād*, or judgment based on independent effort, the latter of which was particularly prized in Islamic law, theology, and philosophy during the medieval period. He then demonstrates how the Islamic tradition paves the way for the development of what he calls a "justified *taqlīd*," according to which one develops the skills necessary to critically and selectively follow an authority based on their reliability. The book proceeds to reconfigure our understanding of the relation between authority and independent thought in the medieval world by illuminating how women found spaces to assert their own intellectual authority, how medieval writers evaluated the authoritative status of Plato and Aristotle, and how independent reasoning was deployed to defend one Abrahamic faith against the other. This clear and eloquently written book will interest scholars in and enthusiasts of medieval philosophy, Islamic studies, Byzantine studies, and the history of thought.

Contributor Bio

Peter Adamson is professor of philosophy at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. He is the author and co-author of a number of books, including *A History of Philosophy without Any Gaps: Philosophy in the Islamic World*.



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192 Pages
Religion / Comparative Religion
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Muhammad Reconsidered

A Christian Perspective on Islamic Prophecy

Anna Bonta Moreland

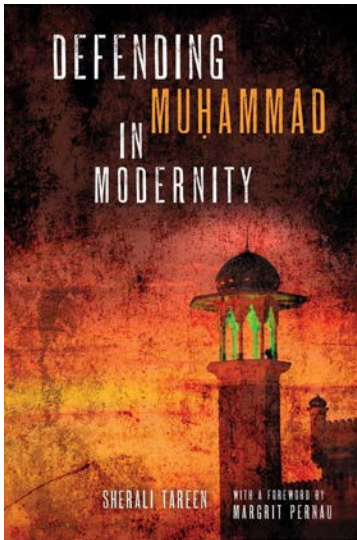
Summary

Muhammad Reconsidered rectifies the failures of scholarly attempts to understand Islam in the West and to take Islamic theology seriously. Engaging Islam from deep within the Christian tradition by addressing the question of the prophethood of Muhammad, Anna Bonta Moreland calls for a retrieval of Thomistic thought on prophecy. Without either appropriating the prophet as an unwitting Christian or reducing both Christianity and Islam to a common denominator, Moreland studies Muhammad within a Christian theology of revelation. This lens leads to a more sophisticated understanding of Islam, one that honors the integrity of the Catholic tradition and argues for the possibility in principle of Muhammad as a religious prophet.

Moreland sets the stage for this inquiry through an intertextual reading of the key Vatican II documents on Islam and on Christian revelation. She then uses Aquinas's treatment of prophecy to address the case of whether Muhammad is a prophet in Christian terms. *Muhammad Reconsidered* examines the work of several Christian theologians, including W. Montgomery Watt, Hans Küng, Kenneth Cragg, David Kerr, and Jacques Jomier, O.P., and then draws upon the practice of analogical reasoning in the theology of religious pluralism to show that a term in one religion—in this case “prophecy”—can have purchase in another religious tradition. *Muhammad Reconsidered* not only is a constructive contribution to Catholic theology but also has enormous potential to help scholars reframe and comprehend Christian-Muslim relations.

Contributor Bio

Anna Bonta Moreland is associate professor of theology at Villanova University. She is the author of *Known by Nature: Thomas Aquinas on Knowledge of God*.



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506 Pages
Religion / Islam
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Wt

Defending Muhammad in Modernity

SherAli Tareen

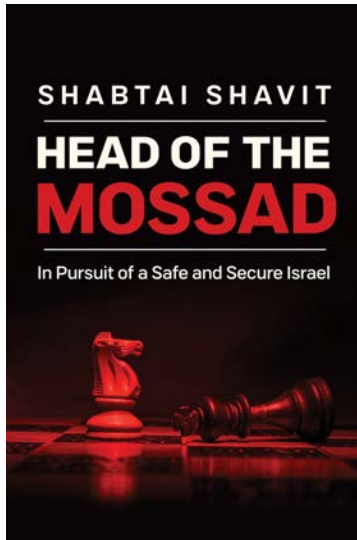
Summary

In this groundbreaking study, SherAli Tareen presents the most comprehensive and theoretically engaged work to date on what is arguably the most long-running, complex, and contentious dispute in modern Islam: the Barelvī-Deobandī polemic. The Barelvī and Deobandī groups are two normative orientations/reform movements with beginnings in colonial South Asia. Almost two hundred years separate the beginnings of this polemic from the present. Its specter, however, continues to haunt the religious sensibilities of postcolonial South Asian Muslims in profound ways, both in the region and in diaspora communities around the world.

Defending Muḥammad in Modernity challenges the commonplace tendency to view such moments of intra-Muslim contest through the prism of problematic yet powerful liberal secular binaries like legal/mystical, moderate/extremist, and reformist/traditionalist. Tareen argues that the Barelvī-Deobandī polemic was instead animated by what he calls “competing political theologies” that articulated—during a moment in Indian Muslim history marked by the loss and crisis of political sovereignty—contrasting visions of the normative relationship between divine sovereignty, prophetic charisma, and the practice of everyday life. Based on the close reading of previously unexplored print and manuscript sources in Arabic, Persian, and Urdu spanning the late eighteenth and the entirety of the nineteenth century, this book intervenes in and integrates the often-disparate fields of religious studies, Islamic studies, South Asian studies, critical secularism studies, and political theology.

Contributor Bio

SherAli Tareen is associate professor of religious studies at Franklin and Marshall College. He is co-editor of *Imagining the Public in Modern South Asia*.



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Hardcover

434 Pages
Political Science / Intelligence &
Espionage
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Head of the Mossad

In Pursuit of a Safe and Secure Israel

Shabtai Shavit

Summary

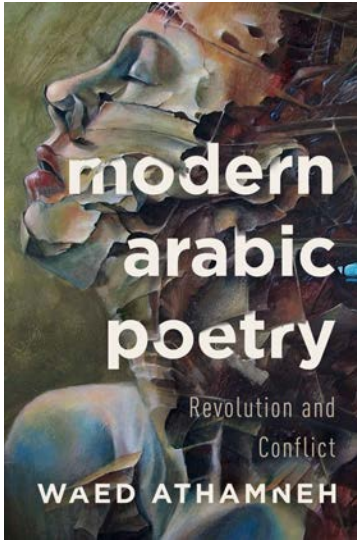
Shabtai Shavit, director of the Mossad from 1989 to 1996, is one of the most influential leaders to shape the recent history of the State of Israel. In this exciting and engaging book, Shavit combines memoir with sober reflection to reveal what happened during the seven years he led what is widely recognized today as one of the most powerful and proficient intelligence agencies in the world. Shavit provides an inside account of his intelligence and geostrategic philosophy, the operations he directed, and anecdotes about his family, colleagues, and time spent in, among other places, the United States as a graduate student and at the CIA.

Shavit's tenure occurred during many crucial junctures in the history of the Middle East, including the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War era; the first Gulf War and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's navigation of the state and the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) during the conflict; the peace agreement with Jordan, in which the Mossad played a central role; and the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Shavit offers a broad sweep of the integral importance of intelligence in these historical settings and reflects on the role that intelligence can and should play in Israel's future against Islamist terrorism and Iran's eschatological vision.

Head of the Mossad is a compelling guide to the reach of and limits facing intelligence practitioners, government officials, and activists throughout Israel and the Middle East. This is an essential book for everyone who cares for Israel's security and future, and everyone who is interested in intelligence gathering and covert action.

Contributor Bio

Shabtai Shavit has over fifty years of experience in international security and counterterrorism and is an internationally recognized authority in the field. He served in the Mossad, Israel's prestigious intelligence agency, for thirty-two years, eventually rising to the position of director. Previously, he served in the IDF, the Israeli Defense Forces, retiring after a distinguished service in "Sayeret Matkal," Israel's elite special forces and SWAT unit.



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Literary Criticism / Middle Eastern
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Wt

Modern Arabic Poetry

Revolution and Conflict

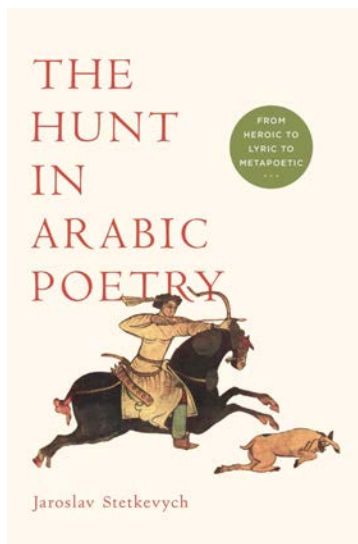
Waed Athamneh

Summary

In *Modern Arabic Poetry*, Waed Athamneh addresses enduring questions raised from the 1950s to the present as she investigates the impact of past and contemporary Middle Eastern politics on its poetry. Focusing on the works of three prominent poets, Iraqi ‘Abd al-Wahhāb al-Bayātī (1926–1999), Egyptian Aḥmad ‘Abd al-Mu‘ī Ḥijāzī (b. 1935), and Palestinian Maḥmūd Darwīsh (1941–2008), Athamneh argues that political changes in the modern Arab world—including the 1967 war and the fall of Nasserism, the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and, in Ḥijāzī’s case, the 2011 Arab Uprising and its aftermath—inspired transitions and new directions in these poets’ works. Enhanced by Athamneh’s original translations of a number of the Arabic texts discussed, as well as translations published previously, *Modern Arabic Poetry* brings these poets fully into the purview of contemporary literary, political, and critical discourse. It argues that their individual responses to political changes proceed in three distinct directions: the metapoetic, in which the poet disengages from the poetry of political commitment to find inspiration in artistic (self-)exploration; the recommitted, in which new political revolutions inspire the poet to resume writing and publishing poetry; and the humanist, in which the poet comes to terms of coexistence with permanent or unresolved conflict.

Contributor Bio

Waed Athamneh is assistant professor of Arabic studies at Connecticut College.



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The Hunt in Arabic Poetry

From Heroic to Lyric to Metapoetic

Jaroslav Stetkevych

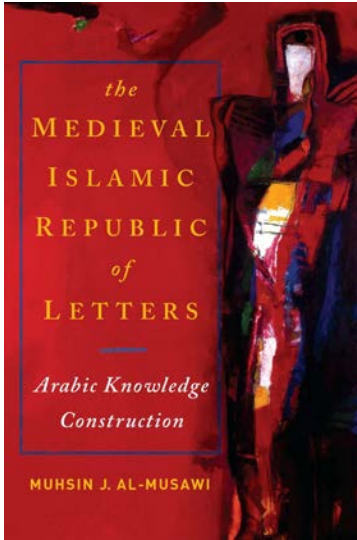
Summary

Among the world's major literary traditions, Arabic poetry is perhaps unique in that the theme of the hunt runs in a continuous, if uneven, current from the pre-Islamic, oral tradition, dating as far back as the fifth century CE, through the coming of Islam in the seventh century and the Umayyad and 'Abbasid caliphates, ultimately serving as a classical substrate for the radical Modernism of the twentieth century. This striking continuity of theme and motif of the pursuer—the hunter, companions, his steed, hounds, or falcon—and the pursued, whether the prey be oryx, onager, gazelle, hare, quail, or fox, is subject to dramatic transformations of poetic genre, structure, and sensibility throughout the arc of Arab cultural history. Through elegant translations and compelling interpretations, Jaroslav Stetkevych brings this dynamic Arabic tradition fully into the purview of contemporary cultural and humanistic studies.

In the chapters of Part I of *The Hunt in Arabic Poetry*, Stetkevych explores the divergent themes of the heroic and the anti-heroic hunter within the grand genre of archaic Arabic odes and its transformation with the transition to Islam to a poetics of sacrifice and redemption. Part II traces the emergent aesthetics of the free-standing hunt lyric within the courtly culture of the Umayyad and 'Abbasid caliphates and the transition from description to imagism, concluding with the appearance of the long narrative hunt poem. Part III moves to the high Modernism of twentieth-century Arab free-verse poets and with it the reemergence of the classical theme of the hunt, now as a metaphor for the Modernist poet's metapoetic pursuit of the poem itself.

Contributor Bio

Jaroslav Stetkevych is professor emeritus of Arabic literature at the University of Chicago.



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The Medieval Islamic Republic of Letters

Arabic Knowledge Construction

Muhsin J. al-Musawi

Summary

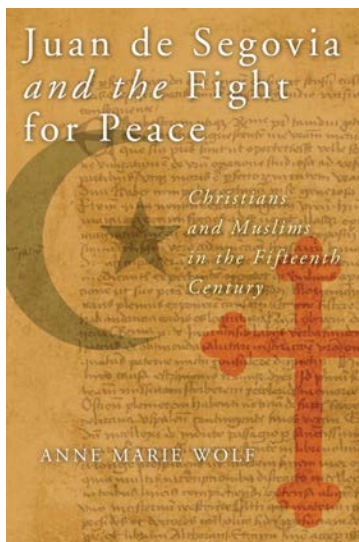
In *The Medieval Islamic Republic of Letters: Arabic Knowledge Construction*, Muhsin J. al-Musawi offers a groundbreaking study of literary heritage in the medieval and premodern Islamic period. Al-Musawi challenges the paradigm that considers the period from the fall of Baghdad in 1258 to the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in 1919 as an "Age of Decay" followed by an "Awakening" (*al-nahdah*). His sweeping synthesis debunks this view by carefully documenting a "republic of letters" in the Islamic Near East and South Asia that was vibrant and dynamic, one varying considerably from the generally accepted image of a centuries-long period of intellectual and literary stagnation.

Al-Musawi argues that the massive cultural production of the period was not a random enterprise: instead, it arose due to an emerging and growing body of readers across Islamic lands who needed compendiums, lexicons, and commentaries to engage with scholars and writers. Scholars, too, developed their own networks to respond to each other and to their readers. Rather than addressing only the elite, this culture industry supported a common readership that enlarged the creative space and audience for prose and poetry in standard and colloquial Arabic. Works by craftsmen, artisans, and women appeared side by side with those by distinguished scholars and poets.

Through careful exploration of these networks, *The Medieval Islamic Republic of Letters* makes use of relevant theoretical frameworks to situate this culture in the ongoing discussion of non-Islamic and European efforts. Thorough, theoretically rigorous, and nuanced, al-Musawi's book is an original contribution to a range of fields in Arabic and Islamic cultural history of the twelfth to eighteenth centuries.

Contributor Bio

Muhsin J. al-Musawi is professor of Arabic and comparative studies at Columbia University.



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Juan de Segovia and the Fight for Peace

Christians and Muslims in the Fifteenth Century

Anne Marie Wolf

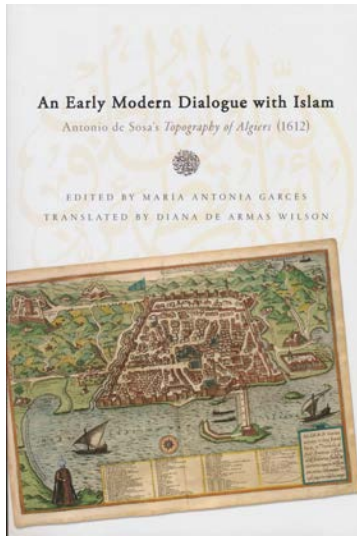
Summary

Juan de Segovia (d. 1458), theologian, translator of the Qur'ān, and lifelong advocate for the forging of peaceful relations between Christians and Muslims, was one of Europe's leading intellectuals. Today, however, few scholars are familiar with this important fifteenth-century figure. In this well-documented study, Anne Marie Wolf presents a clear, chronological narrative that follows the thought and career of Segovia, who taught at the University of Salamanca, represented the university at the Council of Basel (1431–1449), and spent his final years arguing vigorously that Europe should eschew war with the ascendant Ottoman Turks and instead strive to convert them peacefully to Christianity.

What could make a prominent thinker, especially one who moved in circles of power, depart so markedly from the dominant views of his day and advance arguments that he knew would subject him to criticism and even ridicule? Although some historians have suggested that the multifaith heritage of his native Spain accounts for his unconventional belief that peaceful dialogue with Muslims was possible, Wolf argues that other aspects of his life and thought were equally important. For example, his experiences at the Council of Basel, where his defense of conciliarism in the face of opposition contributed to his ability to defend an unpopular position and where his insistence on conversion through peaceful means was bolstered by discussions about the proper way to deal with the Hussites, refined his arguments that peaceful conversion was preferable to war. Ultimately Wolf demonstrates that Segovia's thought on Islam and the proper Christian stance toward the Muslim world was consistent with his approach to other endeavors and with cultural and intellectual movements at play throughout his career.

Contributor Bio

Anne Marie Wolf is associate professor of history at the University of Maine at Farmington.



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Wt

Early Modern Dialogue with Islam

Antonio de Sosa's *Topography of Algiers* (1612)

Dr. Antonio de Sosa, María Antonia Garcés, Diana de Armas Wilson

Summary

An Early Modern Dialogue with Islam: Antonio de Sosa's Topography of Algiers (1612) makes available in translation a riveting sixteenth-century chronicle of European and North African cultural contacts that is virtually unknown to English-speaking readers. The *Topography* was written by a Portuguese cleric, Doctor Antonio de Sosa, who was captured by Algerian corsairs in 1577 and held as a Barbary slave for over four years while awaiting ransom. Sosa's work is a fascinating description of a city at the crossroads of civilizations, with a sophisticated multilingual population of Turks, Arabs, Moriscos, Berbers, Jews, Christian captives, and converts to Islam from across the world.

In the *Topography of Algiers*, Sosa meticulously describes the inhabitants' daily lives; their fashions, pastimes, feasts, and funerals; their government; the landmarks of the city itself; and much more. Readers will be struck by the vibrancy of his narrative, rendered into English with crisp accuracy by Diana de Armas Wilson. The *Topography* is a treasure trove of amazing customs, startling behavior, and historical anecdotes that will enthrall readers. The extensive introduction by María Antonia Garcés is a superb archival study of the Mediterranean world described by the *Topography*, as well as an exposé of the adventurous, even scandalous, life of its author. The introduction also discusses the fraudulent publication of Sosa's *Topography* under another man's name.

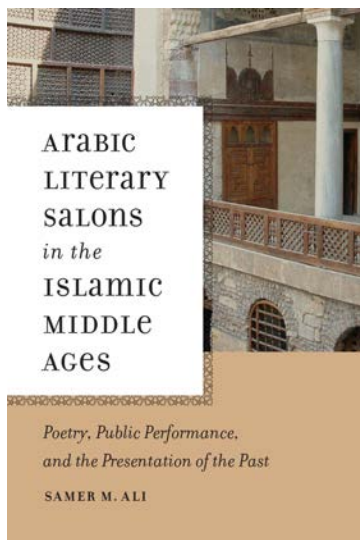
Sosa's chronicle stands out for its complexity, vitality, and the sharpness of the author's ethnographic vision. No other account of captivity in this period offers such a detailed and dynamic tableau of Algerian society at the end of the sixteenth century.

Contributor Bio

Dr. Antonio de Sosa, 1538-1587, was a Spanish priest who after being enslaved in Algiers became the first biographer of Miguel de Cervantes. As a captive he wrote Philip II constantly begging him to pay his ransom and included detailed reports on the ports and ramparts of Algiers—which were included in the *Typografia*.

María Antonia Garcés is professor of Hispanic Studies at Cornell University.

Diana de Armas Wilson is professor emerita of English at the University of Denver.



Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages

Poetry, Public Performance, and the Presentation of the Past

Samer M. Ali

Summary

Arabic literary salons emerged in ninth-century Iraq and, by the tenth, were flourishing in Baghdad and other urban centers. In an age before broadcast media and classroom education, salons were the primary source of entertainment and escape for middle- and upper-rank members of society, serving also as a space and means for educating the young. Although salons relied on a culture of oral performance from memory, scholars of Arabic literature have focused almost exclusively on the written dimensions of the tradition.

That emphasis, argues Samer Ali, has neglected the interplay of oral and written, as well as of religious and secular knowledge in salon society, and the surprising ways in which these seemingly discrete categories blurred in the lived experience of participants. Looking at the period from 500 to 1250, and using methods from European medieval studies, folklore, and cultural anthropology, Ali interprets Arabic manuscripts in order to answer fundamental questions about literary salons as a social institution. He identifies salons not only as sites for socializing and educating, but as loci for performing literature and oral history; for creating and transmitting cultural identity; and for continually reinterpreting the past.

A fascinating recovery of a key element of humanistic culture, Ali's work will encourage a recasting of our understanding of verbal art, cultural memory, and daily life in medieval Arab culture.

Contributor Bio

Samer M. Ali is associate professor of Arabic studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

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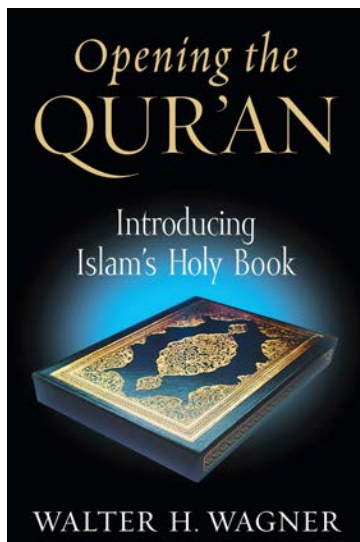
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Opening the Qur'an

Introducing Islam's Holy Book

Walter H. Wagner

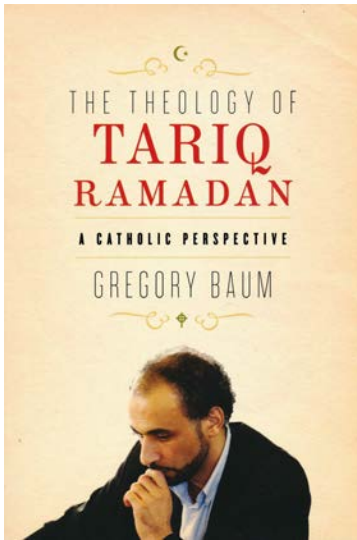
Summary

Opening the Qur'an can be a bewildering experience to non-Muslim, English-speaking readers. Those who expect historical narratives, stories, or essays on morals are perplexed once they pass the beautiful first Surah, often shocked and then bogged down by Surah 2, and even offended by Surah 3's strictures against nonbelievers. Walter H. Wagner "opens" the Qur'an by offering a comprehensive and extraordinarily readable, step-by-step introduction to the text, making it accessible to students, teachers, clergy, and general readers interested in Islam and Islam's holy Book.

Wagner first places the prophet Muhammad, the Qur'an, and the early Muslim community in their historical, geographical, and theological contexts. This background is a basis for interpreting the Qur'an and understanding its role in later Muslim developments as well as for relationships between Muslims, Jews, and Christians. He then looks in detail at specific passages, moving from cherished devotional texts to increasingly difficult and provocative subjects. The selected bibliography serves as a resource for further reading and study. Woven into the discussion are references to Islamic beliefs and practices. Wagner shows great sensitivity toward the risks and opportunities for non-Muslims who attempt to interpret the Qur'an, and sympathy in the long struggle to build bridges of mutual trust and honest appreciation between Muslims and non-Muslims.

Contributor Bio

Walter H. Wagner is adjunct professor of history and biblical studies at Moravian College, Moravian Theological Seminary, and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. He is the author of a number of books, including *After the Apostles: Christianity in the Second Century*.



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The Theology of Tariq Ramadan

A Catholic Perspective

Gregory Baum

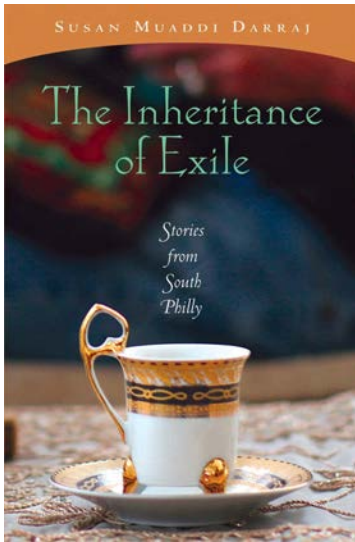
Summary

Tariq Ramadan has emerged as one of the most influential Muslim theologians in the world today. In this important book, Gregory Baum presents for the first time an introduction to several key aspects of Ramadan's theological enterprise. Baum examines Ramadan's work historically within an interfaith perspective, drawing several parallels between Islamic and Catholic encounters with modernity. His comparison of the debates in the two traditions suggests that reform and renewal are compatible with the substance of both Catholic and Muslim traditions.

After a brief account of the evolution of Catholic theology up to the Second Vatican Council, Baum introduces Ramadan's published work and theological orientation, examining both within the historical development of Islam. He outlines Ramadan's theology of God, humanity, and the universe and discusses Ramadan's interpretation of *sharia*, the divinely revealed Islamic way of life. The book then addresses what fidelity to Islam means for Western Muslims and contrasts Ramadan's theology with the theological liberalism advocated by some Muslim authors. Throughout, Baum makes helpful connections between Islam and Vatican II Catholicism. Both belief systems are steeped in ancient traditions, rely on a sacred book, and find themselves confronting a modern context. Reformist Islam shares much with Catholic social thought in showing a regard for the poor and marginalized. Baum concludes by examining points of difference between Muslim and Catholic theology that support further conversation. This readable introduction to Ramadan's work is accessible to non-Muslim students, teachers, clergy, and general readers interested in Islam and interfaith dialogue.

Contributor Bio

Gregory Baum, professor emeritus at McGill University and the founding editor of *The Ecumenist*, is the author of many books, including *Signs of the Times: Religious Pluralism and Economic Injustice* and *Religion and Alienation*.



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The Inheritance of Exile

Stories from South Philly

Susan Muaddi Darraj

Summary

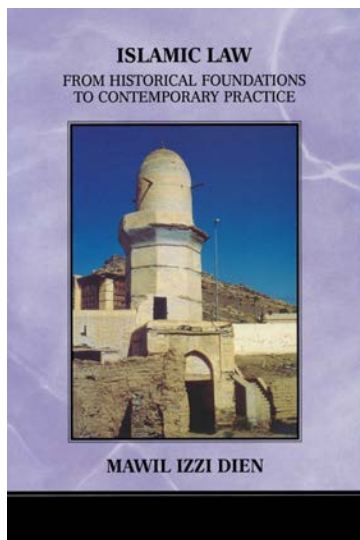
In *The Inheritance of Exile*, Susan Muaddi Darraj expertly weaves a tapestry of the events and struggles in the lives of four Arab-American women. Hanan, Nadia, Reema, and Aliyah search for a meaningful sense of home, caught in the cultural gap that exists between the Middle East and the United States.

Daughters of Palestinian immigrants who have settled into the diverse southern section of Philadelphia, the four friends live among Vietnamese, Italians, Irish, and other ethnic groups. Each struggles to reconcile her Arab identity with her American one. Muaddi Darraj adds the perspectives of the girls' mothers, presented in separate stories, which illuminate the often troubled relationship between first and second generations of immigrants.

Her suite of finely detailed portraits of arresting characters, told in evocative, vivid language, is sure to intrigue those seeking enjoyment and insight.

Contributor Bio

Susan Muaddi Darraj is associate professor of English at Harford Community College in Bel Air, Maryland. She is also a lecturer in the Johns Hopkins University's MA in Writing program. She is the editor of *Scheherazade's Legacy: Arab and Arab American Women on Writing*. Her fiction, essays, and articles have appeared in several publications and anthologies.



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Law / Islamic
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Wt

Islamic Law

From Historical Foundations to Contemporary Practice

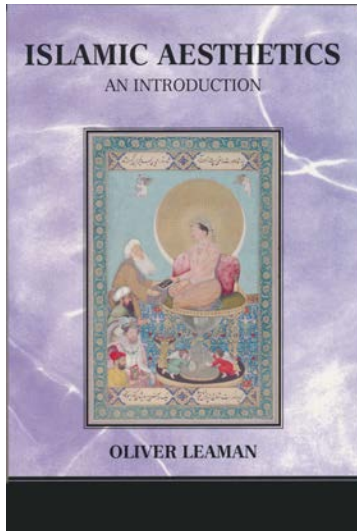
Mawil Izzi Dien

Summary

This survey of Islamic law combines Western and Islamic views and describes the relationship between the original theories of Islamic law and the views of contemporary Islamic writers. Covering the key topics in the area, including the history, sources and formation of Islamic law, the legal mechanisms, and the contemporary context, it is strong in its coverage of the modern perspective, which distinguishes this book from other texts in the field. The aim is to provide the student with a basic understanding of Islamic law and access to the complexity of the Islamic legal system. The language used is non-technical and understanding is aided with a supplementary detailed glossary and analytical indices.

Contributor Bio

Mawil Izzi Dien is a senior lecturer in Islamic Studies at the University of Wales, Lampeter.



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256 Pages

Philosophy / Aesthetics

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Islamic Aesthetics

An Introduction

Oliver Leaman

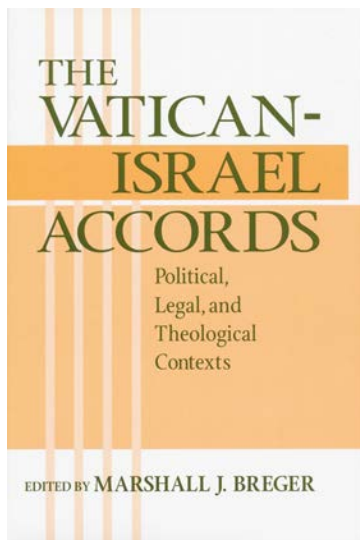
Summary

It is often argued that a very special sort of consciousness went into creating Islamic art, that Islamic art is very different from other forms of art, that Muslims are not allowed to portray human beings in their art, and that calligraphy is the supreme Islamic art form. Oliver Leaman challenges all of these ideas, and argues that they are misguided. Instead, he suggests that the criteria we should apply to Islamic art are identical to the criteria applicable to art in general, and that the attempt to put Islamic art into a special category is a result of orientalism.

Leaman criticizes the influence of Sufism on Islamic aesthetics and contends that it is generally misleading regarding both the nature of Islam and artistic expression. He discusses issues arising in painting, calligraphy, architecture, gardens, literature, films, and music and pays close attention to the teachings of the Qur'an. In particular he asks what it would mean for the Qur'an to be a miraculous literary creation, and he analyzes two passages in the Qur'an—those of Yusuf and Zulaykha (Joseph and Zuleika) and King Sullayman (Solomon) and the Queen of Sheba. His arguments draw on examples from history, art, philosophy, theology, and the artefacts of the Islamic world, and raise a large number of difficulties in the accepted paradigms for analyzing Islamic art.

Contributor Bio

Oliver Leaman is professor of philosophy at the University of Kentucky.



Vatican Israel Accords

Political, Legal, and Theological Contexts

Marshall J. Breger

Summary

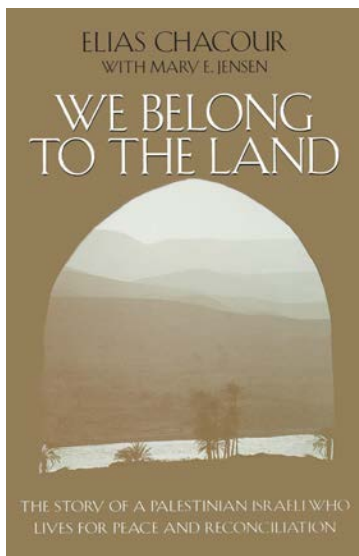
When the agreement between the Holy See and the state of Israel was signed on December 30, 1993, it established diplomatic ties between the Vatican and Israel for the first time. This volume brings together that analyze the legal, historical, theological and political meaning of the Accords.

Contributor Bio

Marshall J. Breger is professor of law at the Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America.

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Religion / Judaism
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We Belong to the Land

The Story of a Palestinian Israeli Who Lives for Peace and Reconciliation

Elias Chacour

Summary

Nominated several times for the Nobel Peace Prize, world-renowned Palestinian priest, Elias Chacour, narrates the gripping story of his life spent working to achieve peace and reconciliation among Israeli Jews, Christians, and Muslims. From the destruction of his boyhood village and his work as a priest in Galilee to his efforts to build school, libraries, and summer camps for children of all religions, this peacemaker's moving story brings hope to one of the most complex struggles of our time.

Contributor Bio

Elias Chacour is the Archbishop of Galilee of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church. He is the author of *Blood Brothers* and recipient of the Niwano Peace Prize.

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