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Believing Women in Islam

Asma Barlas 2009-09-15 Does Islam call for the oppression of women? Non-Muslims point to the subjugation of women that occurs in many Muslim countries, especially those that claim to be "Islamic," while many Muslims read the Qur'an in ways that seem to justify sexual oppression, inequality, and patriarchy. Taking a wholly different view, Asma Barlas develops a believer's reading of the Qur'an that demonstrates the radically egalitarian and antipatriarchal nature of its teachings. Beginning with a historical analysis of religious authority and knowledge, Barlas shows how Muslims came to read inequality and patriarchy into the Qur'an to justify existing religious and social structures and demonstrates that the patriarchal meanings ascribed to the Qur'an are a function of who has read it, how, and in what contexts. She goes on to reread the Qur'an's "wife-beating" verse and of men's presumed role as women's guardians, and other discussion of the Qur'an's most sacred scripture, rather than through Muslim cultural practices or Western media stereotypes. For this revised edition of Believing Women in Islam, Asma Barlas has written two new chapters—"Abraham's Sacrifice in the Qur'an" and "Secular/Feminism and the Qur'an"—as well as a new preface, an extended analysis of religious authority and knowledge, Barlas shows how Muslims came to read inequality and patriarchy into the Qur'an to justify existing religious and social structures and demonstrates that the patriarchal meanings ascribed to the Qur'an are a function of who has read it, how, and in what contexts. She goes on to reread the Qur'an's position on a variety of issues in order to argue that its teachings do not support patriarchy. To the contrary, Barlas convincingly asserts that the Qur'an affirms the complete equality of the sexes, thereby offering an opportunity to theorize radical sexual equality from within the framework of its teachings. This new view takes readers into the heart of Islamic teachings on women, gender, and patriarchy, allowing them to understand Islam through its most sacred scripture, rather than through Muslim cultural practices or Western media stereotypes.

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"Believing Women" in Islam

Asma Barlas 2002-06-15 Publisher Fact Sheet Asma Barlas develops a new view of reading the Qur'an which goes straight to the heart of Islamic teachings on women, gender, and patriarchy, and which demonstrates the radically egalitarian and antipatriarchal nature of its teachings. Qur'an and Woman

Amina Wadud 1999-06-10 Fourteen centuries of Islamic thought have produced a legacy of interpretive readings of the Qur'an written almost entirely by men. Now, with Qur'an and Woman, Amina Wadud provides a first interpretive reading by a woman, a reading which validates the female voice in the Qur'an and brings it out of the shadows. Muslim progressives have long argued that it is not the religion but patriarchal interpretation and implementation of the Qur'an that have kept women oppressed. For many, the way to reform is the reexamination and reinterpretation of religious texts. Qur'an and Woman contributes a gender inclusive reading to one of the most fundamental disciplines in Islamic thought, Qur'anic exegesis. Wadud breaks down specific texts and key words which have been used to limit women's public and private role, even to justify violence toward Muslim women, revealing that their original meaning and context defy such interpretations. What her analysis clarifies is the lack of gender bias, precedence, or prejudice in the essential language of the Qur'an. Despite much Qur'anic evidence about the significance of women, gender reform in Muslim society has been stubbornly resisted. Wadud's reading of the Qur'an confirms women's equality and constitutes legitimate grounds for contesting the unequal treatment that women have experienced historically and continue to experience legally in Muslim communities. The Qur'an does not prescribe one timeless and unchanging social structure for men and women, Wadud argues lucidly, affirming that the Qur'an holds greater possibilities for guiding human society to a more fulfilling and productive mutual collaboration between men and women than as yet attained by Muslims or non-Muslims.

Inside the Gender Jihad

Amina Wadud 2013-10-01 A world-renowned professor of Islamic studies, Amina Wadud has long been at the forefront of what she calls the "gender jihad," the struggle for justice for women within the global Islamic community. In 2005, she made international headlines when she helped to promote new traditions by leading the Muslim Friday prayer in New York City, provoking a firestorm of media controversy and kindling charges of blasphemy among conservative Muslims worldwide. In this provocative book, "Inside the Gender Jihad," Wadud brings a wealth of experience from the trenches of the jihad to make a passionate argument for gender inclusiveness in the Muslim world. Knitting together scrupulous scholarship with lessons drawn from her own experiences as a woman, she explores the array of issues facing Muslim women today, including social status, education, sexuality, and leadership. A major contribution to the debate on women and Islam, Amina Wadud's vision for changing the status of women in Islam is both revolutionary and urgent.

Feminist Edges of the Qur'an

Aysha Hidayatullah 2014-04-01 Aysha Hidayatullah presents the first comprehensive analysis of contemporary feminist interpretations of the Qur'an. Synthesizing prominent feminist readings of the Qur'an in the United States since the late twentieth century, she provides an essential introduction to this nascent field of Qur'anic scholarship and engages in a deep investigation as well as a radical critique-of its methods and approaches. With a particular focus on feminist "impasses" in the Qur'anic text, she argues that many feminist interpretations rely on claims about feminist justice that are not fully supported by the text, and she proposes a major revision to their exegetical foundations. A provocative work of Muslim feminist theology, Feminist Edges of the Qur'an is a vital intervention in urgent conversations about women and the Qur'an.

Women in the Qur'an

Asma Lamrabet 2016-07-25 Today, the issue of Muslim women is held hostage between two perceptions: a conservative Islamic approach and a liberal Western approach. At the heart of this debate, Muslim women are seeking to reclaim their right to speak in order to re-appropriate their own destinies, calling for the equality and liberation that is at the heart of the Qur'an. However, with few female commentators on the meaning of the Qur'an and an overreliance on the readings of the Qur'an compiled centuries ago this message is often lost. In this book Asma Lamrabet demands a rereading of the Qur'an by women that focuses on its spiritual
and humanitarian messages in order to alter the lived reality on the ground. By acknowledging the oppression of women, to different degrees, in social systems organized in the name of religion and also rejecting a perspective that seeks to promote Western values as the only means of liberating them, the author is able to define a new way. One in which their refusal to remain silent is an act of devotion and their demand for reform will lead to liberation. Asma Lamarabet is a pathologist in Avicenna Hospital, Rabat, Morocco. She is also an award-winning author of many articles and books tackling Islam and women’s issues. Myriam Francois-Cerrah is a writer and broadcaster whose articles have been published in the Guardian, Salon, and elsewhere.

**Women and Gender in Islam**—Leila Ahmed 2021-03-16 A classic, pioneering account of the lives of women in Islamic history, republished for a new generation This pioneering study of the social and political lives of Muslim women has shaped a whole generation of scholarship. In it, Leila Ahmed explores the historical roots of contemporary debates, ambitiously surveying Islamic discourse on women from Arabia during the period in which Islam was founded to Iraq during the classical age to Egypt during the modern era. The book is now reissued as a Veritas paperback, with a new foreword by Kecia Ali situating the text in its scholarly context and explaining its enduring influence. “Ahmed’s book is a serious and independent-minded analysis of its subject, the best-informed, most sympathetic and reliable one that exists today.”—Edward W. Said “Destined to become a classic. . . . It gives [Muslim women] back our rightful place, at the center of our histories.”—Rana Kabbani, The Guardian

**Men in Charge?**—Ziba Mir-Hosseini 2014-12-10 Both Muslims and non-Muslims see women in most Muslim countries as suffering from social, economic, and political discrimination, treated by law and society as second-class citizens subject to male authority. This discrimination is attributed to Islam and Islamic law, and since the late 19th century there has been a mass of literature tackling this issue. Recently, exciting new feminist research has been challenging gender discrimination and male authority from within Islamic legal tradition: this book presents some important results from that research. The contributors all engage critically with two central juristic concepts; rooted in the Qur’an, they lie at the basis of this discrimination. One refers to a husband’s authority over his wife, his financial responsibility toward her, and his superior status and rights. The other is male family members’ right and duty of guardianship over female members (e.g., fathers over daughters when entering into marriage contracts) and the privileging of fathers over mothers in guardianship rights over their children. The contributors, brought together by the Musawah global movement for equality and justice in the Muslim family, include Omaima Abou-Bakr, Asma Lamarabet, Ayesha Chaudhry, Sa’idiya Shaikh, Lynn Welchman, Marwa Sharefedin, Lena Larsen and Amina Wadud.

**Reconfiguring Islamic Tradition**—Samira Haj 2008-10-02 Samira Haj conceptualizes Islam through a close reading of two Muslim reformers—Muhammad ibn ‘Abdul Wahhab (1703-1787) and Muhammad ‘Abdul (1849-1905)—each representative of a distinct trend, chronological as well as philosophical, in modern Islam. Their works are examined primarily through the prism of two conceptual questions: the idea of the modern and the formation of a Muslim subject. Approaching Islam through the works of these two Muslims, she illuminates aspects of the tradition that have been obscured or problematic, and presents a new conceptual lens through which to view the oppositional dichotomies of modern/traditional, secular/sacred, and liberal/fundamentalist. The book explores the notions of the community-society and the subject’s location within it to demonstrate how Muslims in different historical contexts responded differently to theological and practical questions. This knowledge will help us better understand the conflicts currently unfolding in parts of the Arab world.

**Speaking in God’s Name**—Khaled Abou El Fadl 2014-10-01 Drawing on both religious and secular sources, this challenging book argues that divinely ordained law is frequently misinterpreted by Muslim authorities at the expense of certain groups, including women. Khaled Abou El Fadl cites a series of injustices in Islamic society and ultimately proposes a return to the original ethics at the heart of the Muslim legal system.

**Women in the Qur’an, Traditions, and Interpretation**—Barbara Freyer Stowasser 1996-08-22 Islamic ideas about women and their role in society spark considerable debate both in the Western world and in the Islamic world itself. Despite the popular attention surrounding Middle Eastern attitudes toward women, there has been little systematic study of the statements regarding women in the Qur’an. Stowasser fills the void with this study on the women of Islamic sacred history. By telling their stories in Qur’an and interpretation, she introduces Islamic doctrine and its past and present socio-economic and political applications. Stowasser establishes the link between the female figure as cultural symbol, and Islamic self-perceptions from the beginning to the present time.

**Classical Islam**—Norman Calder 2004-03-01 This sourcebook presents more than fifty new translations of key Islamic texts. Edited and translated by three leading specialists it illustrates the growth of Islamic thought from its seventh-century origins to the end of the medieval period.

**Believing Women In Islam: Unreading Patriarchal Interpretations Of The Qur’an Edition**—Asma Barlas 2004-01-01 Description: A significant contribution to a new genre of scholarship, this book takes readers into the very heart of female Islamic teachings on women, gender and patriarchy, allowing them to understand Islam through its most sacred scripture rather than through cultural practices or Western media stereotypes. Serious and well researched, this is a rich resource book. Barlas develops a believer’s reading of the Qur’an that demonstrates the egalitarian and antipatriarchal nature of its teachings.

**Women as Imams**—Simona Calderini 2020-12-10 There is a long and rich history of opinion centred on female prayer leadership in Islam that has occupied the minds of theologians and jurists alike. It includes outright prohibition, dislike, permissibility under certain conditions and, although rarely, unrestricted sanction, or even endorsement. This book discusses debates drawn from scholars of the formative period of Islam who engaged with the issue of female prayer leadership. Simona Calderini critically analyses their arguments, puts them in their historical context, and, for the first time, tracks down how they have informed current views on female imama (prayer leadership). In presenting the variety of opinions discussed in the past by Sunni and Shi’i scholars, and some of the Sufis among them, the book uncovers how they are, at present, being used selectively, depending on modern agendas and biases. It also reviews the roles and types of authority of current women imams in diverse contexts spanning from Asia, Africa and Europe to America. The research offers readers the opportunity to gain nuanced answers to the question of female imama today that may lead to informed discussions and to change, if not necessarily in practices then at the very least in attitudes. This ground-breaking book interrogates the cases of women who are reported to have led prayer in the past. It then analyses the voices of current women imams, many of whom engage with those women of the past to validate their own roles in the present and so pave the way for the future.

**Marriage and Slavery in Early Islam**—Kecia Ali 2010-10-30 A remarkable research accomplishment. Ali leads us through three strands of early Islamic jurisprudence with careful attention to the nuances and details of the arguments.

**Islamic Interpretive Tradition and Gender Justice**—Nevin Reda 2020-12-10 Since the 1980s, Muslim women reformers have made great strides in critiquing and reinterpreting the Islamic tradition. Yet these achievements have not produced a significant shift in the lived experience of Islam, particularly with respect to equality and justice in Muslim families. A new approach is needed: one that examines the underlying instruments of tradition and explores avenues for effecting change. In Islamic Interpretive Tradition and Gender Justice leading intellectuals and emerging researchers grapple with the problem of entrenched positions within Islam that affect women, investigating the processes by which interpretations become authoritative, the theoretical foundations upon which they stand, and the ways they have been used to inscribe and enforce gender limitations. Together, they argue that the Islamic interpretive tradition displays all the trappings of canonical texts, canonical figures, and canon law - despite the fact that Islam does not ordain religious authorities who could sanction processes of canonization. Through this lens, the essays in this collection offer insights into key issues in Islamic feminist scholarship, ranging from interreligious love, child marriage, polygamy, and divorce to stoning, segregation,
seclusion, and gender hierarchies. Rooting their analysis in the primary texts and historical literature of Islam, contributors to Islamic Interpretive Tradition and Gender Justice contest oppressive interpretative canons, subvert classical methodologies, and provide new directions in the ongoing project of revitalizing Islamic exegesis and its ethical and legal implications.

The Rights of Women in Islam-Asgharali Engineer 2008 Women's issues continue to dominate the Islamic world in particular. This book has been a voice for women in the status of women in the Islamic world as a whole. This book covers various aspects relating to the status of women in the pre-Islamic period -- customs and traditions, marriage, divorce and forms of divorce, dowry, traditions regarding slave-girls, and so on. It then goes on to deal with the status of women in the post-Islamic period -- the Qur'anic concept of women's rights in marriage, divorce, inheritance, custody of children, polygamy, maintenance, property, right to earn, etc. It quotes extensively from the Qur'an and Sunnah. It also deals with the Arab adat, that is, pre-Islamic customs and traditions regarding women. Altogether, it attempts to bridge the gap between Islamic arguments for their empowerment. The author, a renowned scholar, has sought to set the record straight by reinterpretting women's rights in the true Qur'anic spirit. He argues quite convincingly that the Holy Book gives equal rights to both the sexes, and it does not discriminate between them as regards personal, democratic and human rights. The question whether in a secular society Muslim personal law needs any change, and, if so, in which direction the reform should be undertaken is dealt with in detail. This third edition contains a chapter: 'On a Muslim Woman Leading the Congregational Prayer'. This chapter deals with the important aspect of Muslim women's problems and also hopes to further enhance their understanding of the Shari'ah issues.

The Forgotten Queens of Islam-Fatima Mernissi 1993 Mernissi recounts the extraordinary stories of fifteen queens and reflects on the implications for the ways in which politics is practiced in Islam today, a world in which women are largely excluded from the political domain.

Qur'an of the Oppressed-Shadaab Rahemtulla 2017-02-09 This study analyses the commentaries of four Muslim intellectuals who have turned to scripture as a liberating text to confront an array of problems, from patriarchy, racism, and empire to poverty and interreligious communal violence. Shadaab Rahemtulla considers the exegeses of the South African Farid Esack (b. 1956), the Indian Asghar Ali Engineer (1939-2013), the African American Amina Wadud (b. 1952), and the Pakistani American Asma Barlas (b. 1950). Rahemtulla examines how these intellectuals have been able to expound this seventh-century Arabian text in a socially liberating way, addressing their own lived realities of oppression, and thus contexts that are worlds removed from that of the text's immediate audience. Through a close reading of their works, he underlines the importance of both the ethical-social content of the Qur'an and their usage of new and innovative reading practices. This work provides a rich analysis of the thought-ways of specific Muslim intellectuals, thereby substantiating a broadly framed school of thought. Rahemtulla draws out their specific and general importance without displaying an uncritical sympathy. He sheds light on the impact of modern exegetical commentary which is more self-consciously concerned with historical context and present realities. He then goes on to deal with the status of women in the post-Islamic period -- the Qur'anic concept of women's rights in marriage, divorce, inheritance, custody of children, polygamy, maintenance, property, right to earn, etc. It quotes extensively from the Qur'an and Sunnah. It also deals with the Arab adat, that is, pre-Islamic customs and traditions regarding women. Altogether, it attempts to bridge the gap between Islamic arguments for their empowerment. The author, a renowned scholar, has sought to set the record straight by reinterpretting women's rights in the true Qur'anic spirit. He argues quite convincingly that the Holy Book gives equal rights to both the sexes, and it does not discriminate between them as regards personal, democratic and human rights. The question whether in a secular society Muslim personal law needs any change, and, if so, in which direction the reform should be undertaken is dealt with in detail. This third edition contains a chapter: 'On a Muslim Woman Leading the Congregational Prayer'. This chapter deals with the important aspect of Muslim women's problems and also hopes to further enhance their understanding of the Shari'ah issues.


Re-understanding Islam-Asma Barlas 2008 "In these two lectures [delivered in May and June 2008] Barlas offers a double critique: of Muslims for reading sexual inequality and oppression into Islam's scripture, the Qur'an, and a critique of "the West" for failing to develop morally relevant ways of speaking about Islam and Muslims"-Back cover.

Does My Head Look Big in This?-Randa Abdel-Fattah 2014-05-01 Don't panic - I'm Islamic! Amal is a 16-year-old Melbourne teen with all the usual obsessions about boys, chocolate and Cosmo magazine. She's also a Muslim, struggling to honour the Islamic faith in a society that doesn't understand it. The story of her decision to "shave up" is funny, surprising and touching by turns.

The Tao of Islam-Sachiko Murata 1992-01-01 The Tao of Islam is a rich and diverse anthology of Islamic teachings on the nature of the relationships between God and the world, the world and the human being, and the human being and God. Focusing on gender symbolism, Sachiko Murata shows that Muslim authors frequently analyze the divine reality and its connections with the cosmic and human domains with a view toward a complementarity or polarity of principles that is analogous to the Chinese idea of yin/yang. Murata believes that the unity of Islamic thought is found, not so much in the ideas discussed, as in the types of relationships that are set up among realities. She pays particular attention to the views of various figures commonly known as "Sufis" and "philosophers," since they approach these topics with a flexibility and subtlety not found in other schools of thought. She translates several hundred pages, most for the first time, from more than thirty important Muslims including the Ikhwan al-Safa’, Avicenna, and Ibn al’Arabi.

The Story of the Qur’an-Ingrid Mattson 2012-12-07 This popular introduction by a well-known Islamic scholar has been updated and expanded, offering a balanced portrayal of the Qur’an and its place in historic and contemporary Muslim society. Features new sections on the Qur’an and its relationship to democracy, science, human rights, and the role of women Contains expanded sections on the Qur’an in the life cycle of Muslims, and in Islamic ethics and law incorporates additional images and student features, including a glossary. Supported by an accompanying website (available on publication) hosting a range of additional material, including student resources, links to important websites, news stories, and more This title is also available as an eTextbook on the CourseSmart platform, as a Wiley Desktop Edition, or via your preferred eTextbook vendor. eTextbooks offer convenience, enhanced electronic functionality, and flexible pricing options - learn more at www.wiley.com/college/wileyflex.

Sexuality in Islam-Abdelwahab Boughidiba 2013-02-01 Originally published in 1985. Beginning with the Qur’an, Abdelwahab Boughidiba confronts the question of male supremacy in Islam, and the strict separation of the masculine and the feminine. He gives an account of purification practices, of Islamic attitudes towards homosexuality, concubinage, legal marriage and of the sexual taboos laid down by the Qur’an. He assesses present-day sexual practice, including eroticism, misogyny and mysticism and concludes that the sexual alienation - and even oppression - of modern Muslim women is the result not of the Islamic vision of sexuality, but of social and economic pressures.

New Horizons of Muslim Diaspora in Europe and North America-Moha Ennaji 2016-05-30 This book provides insights into some of the social topics related to the homogenization and stereotyping of Muslims. It explores the experiences of Muslims in Western societies, with a particular focus not only on gender, home and belonging, multiculturalism, and ethnicity.

Women's Rebellion and Islamic Memory-Fatima Mernissi 1996 Chronicling ten years of research, this book presents a sustained analysis of the position of women in the world of contemporary Islam. One of our most important feminist thinkers, Mernissi makes a major contribution to the theorization of gender roles and sexual identity in the Islamic world. The first book explores some of the concrete issues fundamental to status of Muslim women, such as the production of statistics which mask women's contribution to the economies of Arab states. Mernissi also looks at a variety of demographics including education and literacy - she shows their importance not
only for empowering women but also for improving their health. She analyses the role of the state in prescribing women’s roles, activities and spheres, and explores the insidious consequences of state-supported inequality - not only for women but also for the creative and spiritual life of a culture. Meenakshi goes on to look at the position of women in Islamic thought and history and the construction of femininity in the Muslim unconscious. She presents a sustained analysis of some of the formulations of gender - such as the conflation of female rationality with unbridled sexuality. She also demonstrates the existence of a more open Islam at its historical origins, from which subsequent constructions emerge as strongly partisan. Throughout, Meenakshi stresses how vital the emancipation of women is for the development of the Arab world. Showing the recent development of thought of one of our foremost intellectuals, this analysis of the position of Islamic women will be essential reading for students and academics in women’s studies, sociology, middle eastern studies and social theory.

Discovering the Qur’an - Neal Robinson 2003 This latest edition of Discovering the Qur’an includes a new foreword by the author. Used by students around the world as a reliable guide to reading a translation of the Qur’an, it shows how the Qur’an is experienced by Muslims, describing the rhythm and rhyme scheme structures, the context in which it is heard, the part played by learning by heart, and the importance of calligraphy. It is also about the Qur’an and its relationship to Muhammad, as well as helping to divine the ordering of the surahs or chapters. In an English-speaking world newly sensitized to Islam and its believers, Discovering the Qur’an will be an invaluable tool to greater understanding.

The Qur’an with Annotated Interpretation in Modern English - Ali Unal 2008-11-01 A timely addition to the literature on the holy book of Islam, this translation provides both the original Arabic verse as well as extensive explanations and interpretations in modern English. Additional commentary is offered on the social and historical aspects of Islam, as well as the existence and unity of God, the concept of resurrection, and other theological complexities. Several special glossaries detailing the names of God and Qur’an vocabulary are also included.

Understanding the Qur’an Today - Mahmoud Hussein 2013-03-11 The prevailing belief among Muslims is that, because the Qur’an is the Word of God and God is eternal, it follows that His Word is also eternal. The belief is based on the postulate that the Word of God must be of the same nature as God Himself. Mahmoud Hussein refutes this by showing that it contradicts the very teachings of the Qur’an. Whereas God transcends time, His Word is inscribed within time. It is not a monologue, but a living exchange, through which God reveals to His Prophet different orders of truth, weaving together the absolute and the relative, the general and the particular, the eternal and the contingent. An international bestseller, Understanding the Qur’an today offers a new perspective on one of the world’s most influential texts and adds an invaluable contribution to the debate on Islam and modernity.

Struggling to Surrender - Jeffrey Lang 1995 In this book Professor Lang gives a very personal account of his search for God when he found out that his inherited religious beliefs could no longer answer his questions. A chance encounter led him to Islam. But now, how does he adapt to his new community, its beliefs and lifestyle?

Sexual Ethics and Islam - Kecia Ali 2016-01-07 Stoning. Slavery. Honour Killings. Homosexuality. In the context of Islam, these topics are frequently discussed but little understood. When debated, such emotive issues often spark heated argument rather than reasoned deliberation. In this lucid and carefully constructed collection of essays, feminist academic Dr Kecia Ali examines classical Islamic texts and tries to evaluate whether a just system of sexual ethics is possible within an Islamic framework. Seeking to avoid polemical argument, Ali inspects key themes such as consent and control, which are crucial to any understanding of either traditional Islamic sexual ethics or the possibilities for progressive transformation in these ideals. Suitable for undergraduates and the interested reader alike, Sexual Ethics and Islam is an essential tool for understanding modern Islam in today’s increasingly sexualised world.

Everyday Life and the Sacred - 2017-10-20 Everyday Life and the Sacred offers gender sensitive interdisciplinary perspectives from the fields of feminist theology and religious studies on the everyday and the sacred. The volume aims to re-configure the current domain of religion and gender studies.

Misquoting Muhammad - Jonathan A.C. Brown 2014-08-07 AN INDEPENDENT BEST BOOKS ON RELIGION 2014 PICK Few things provoke controversy in the modern world like the religion brought by Prophet Muhammad. Modern media are replete with alarm over jihad, underage marriage and the threat of amputation or stoning under Shariah law. Sometimes rumor, sometimes based on fact and often misunderstood, the tenets of Islamic law and dogma were not set in the religion’s founding moments. They were developed, like in other world religions, over centuries by the clerical class of Muslim scholars. Misquoting Muhammad takes the reader back in time through Islamic civilization and traces how and why such controversies developed, offering an inside view into how key and controversial aspects of Islam took shape. From the protests of the Arab Spring to Istanbul at the fall of the Ottoman Empire, and from the ochre red walls of Delhi’s great mosques to the trade routes of the Indian Ocean world, Misquoting Muhammad lays out how Muslim intellectuals have sought to balance reason and revelation, weigbe science and religion, and negotiate the eternal truths of scripture amid shifting values.

But You Don’t Look Like a Muslim - Rakhshanda Jalil 2019-05-02 What does it mean to be Muslim in India? What does it mean to look like one’s religion? Does one’s faith determine how one is perceived? Is there a secular ideal one is supposed to live up to? Can people of different faiths have a shared culture, a shared identity? India has, since time immemorial, been plural, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-lingual, where various streams have fed into and strengthened each other, and where dissimilarities have always been a cause for rejoicing rather than strife. These writings, on and about being Muslim in India, by Rakhshanda Jalil - one of the country’s foremost literary historians and cultural commentators - excavate memories, interrogate dilemmas, and rediscover and celebrate a nation and its syncretic culture. But You Don’t Look Like a Muslim is a book that every thinking Indian must read.

Frauen in Islam Zwischen Unterdrückung und Selbstbestimmung - Jeannette Spelen 2008

Believing - Eugene Kennedy 2014 This candid exploration of belief transcends arguments between atheists and people of faith to show that it is our nature to believe and that the key to understanding our reason for being is not what we believe about but believe in. Kennedy, a renowned psychologist and person of faith, demonstrates that sincere seeking and believing are one, and that authentic faith comes from getting at the truth of what we believe in ourselves. He applies these principles to his own life and that of others, and shares his Christian beliefs in words that make sense for seekers of all faiths and none. The result is a grounded, original formulation of religious faith for those who doubt and those who want to better understand their own spiritual tradition. The reader finishes the book with a sense of assurance, understanding, and desire to keep on learning.

Rethinking the Qur’an - Nasr Hamed Abu Zayd 2004 Since the reign of the Abbasid Caliph at Baghdad al-Mutawakil (847-861) more than eleven centuries ago, the discussion about the nature of the Qur’an has been blocked in favour of the Orthodox view that it is the exclusive verbatim Word of God. The human dimension, which includes the language as well as the recipient, is almost absent. This book aims to reopen the debate by rereading the classical material and addressing the present situation of Muslims in the context of the challenges of modernity. The basic question is whether or not Muslims can modernize their societies without disregarding their own belief. The implicit answer is that this is indeed possible once the human dimension of the Qur’an is regarded. So far, Muslims have only been able to rethink Tradition while the question of the Qur’an is untouched. Those who dared to open the question were condemned as heretics, and some of them were executed. Nasr Abu Zayd, Ibn Rushd Professor at the University for Humanistics (Netherlands), delves into the academic adventure of reopening the debate that has been blocked for so long.