[PDF] Islam: The Religion And The People

Buntzie Ellis Churchill, Bernard Ellis Lewis - pdf download free book

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Description:

From School Library Journal Lewis (Near Eastern studies, emeritus, Princeton Univ.; *The Crisis of Islam*) and Churchill (former president, World Affairs Council of Philadelphia) offer an accessible introduction to Muslims and their faith. In clear language, the authors cover the faith's development, its five pillars, Scripture and tradition, law, the mosque, diversity, sectarian divisions, government, economics, women, dress, language, war and peace, and radicalism. There are three particular strengths. First, Lewis and Churchill insist that Islam cannot be reduced to extremes as either a bloodthirsty creed or solely a message of peace. The Qur'an advocates a range of responses according to specific circumstances. Second, the authors humanize Islam by including insets on "Islamic humor" in every chapter. Third, the book replaces dangerous characterizations of Islam as an enemy with an understanding of Islam as a faith intimately connected to Christianity and Judaism. Through understanding Islam, readers may see that the minority who espouse a radicalized

totalitarian version of Islam represent neither the faith nor most of its followers. Highly recommended for all libraries.—William P. Collins, Library of Congress
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About the Author

Bernard Lewis is Cleveland E. Dodge Professor of Near Eastern Studies, Emeritus, at Princeton University. He is the author of the best-sellers *What Went Wrong: Western Impact and Middle Eastern Response* and *The Crisis of Islam: Holy War and Unholy Terror.* He has performed the invaluable service of placing current events in the context of history. Lewis has advised policymakers in the U.S., UK, and the Middle East on the complex relationship between Islam and the West.

A number of his articles have been extraordinarily prescient. *The Return of Islam* was published 3 years before the Iranian revolution, and the award-winning *The Roots of Muslim Rage* anticipated 9/11 by a decade. His two dozen books have been translated into more than two dozen languages, including Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Indonesian.

His contribution to the understanding of history has been recognized by the 15 universities that have awarded him honorary doctorates.

Buntzie Ellis Churchill served for 23 years as President of the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, hosting dozens of world leaders from Mikhail Gorbachev and Margaret Thatcher to Henry Kissinger and Colin Powell. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, she has served as a trustee of many non-profit organizations, including the Pennsylvania Institute of Technology and Drexel University. She has been awarded several honorary doctorates.

For a decade she hosted “WorldViews,” a daily radio show, interviewing experts on international issues

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