

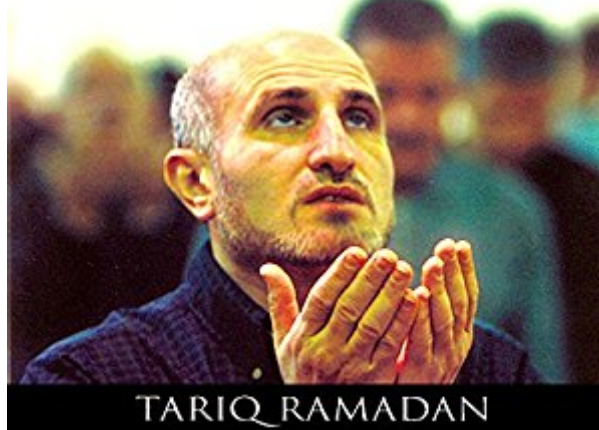


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Western Muslims And The Future Of Islam

WESTERN MUSLIMS
and
THE FUTURE OF ISLAM



Synopsis

In a Western world suddenly acutely interested in Islam, one question has been repeatedly heard above the din: Where are the Muslim reformers? With this ambitious volume, Tariq Ramadan firmly establishes himself as one of Europe's leading thinkers and one of Islam's most innovative and important voices. As the number of Muslims living in the West grows, the question of what it means to be a Western Muslim becomes increasingly important to the futures of both Islam and the West. While the media are focused on radical Islam, Ramadan claims, a silent revolution is sweeping Islamic communities in the West, as Muslims actively seek ways to live in harmony with their faith within a Western context. French, English, German, and American Muslims - women as well as men - are reshaping their religion into one that is faithful to the principles of Islam, dressed in European and American cultures, and definitively rooted in Western societies. Ramadan's goal is to create an independent Western Islam, anchored not in the traditions of Islamic countries but in the cultural reality of the West. He begins by offering a fresh reading of Islamic sources, interpreting them for a Western context and demonstrating how a new understanding of universal Islamic principles can open the door to integration into Western societies. He then shows how these principles can be put to practical use. Ramadan contends that Muslims can-indeed must-be faithful to their principles while participating fully in the civic life of Western secular societies. Grounded in scholarship and bold in its aims, *Western Muslims and the Future of Islam* offers a striking vision of a new Muslim Identity, one which rejects once and for all the idea that Islam must be defined in opposition to the West.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 12 hours 51 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Audible Studios

Audible.com Release Date: October 21, 2014

Language: English

ASIN: B00OPT2LH2

Best Sellers Rank: #82 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Religion & Spirituality > Islam #268 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Calvinist #1609 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam

Customer Reviews

Though Ramadan is lauded by many as a liberal preaching an effective integration of Muslims into European and North American society, others have denounced him as "really" an Islamist and anti-Semite. What does "Western Muslim and the Future of Islam" tell us about the man and his ideas? Addressed to those Muslims living as a minority in the West, Ramadan affirms that Muslims can (and indeed, as proper Muslims, should) become active, loyal citizens of the states where they find themselves. He makes his case working comfortably within the mainstream Islamic theological and juridical tradition. In the spirit of interfaith dialogue, which Ramadan embraces, one might well describe this book as a practical catechism for Muslims in the West. There is much food for thought in it as well for non-Muslim majorities in the West and Muslim majorities in the Middle East.

Just as expected !

The education of Tariq Ramadan shows in his writing in that he is very mainstream in his thoughts. I guess I am looking for a new Islam that fits the individual freedoms of Americans. Tariq reasserts the authority of the ulama and suggests that we are in need of establishing their authority in the west. The west is the hope for the reemergence of ijihad in Islam. Ijihad is the future of Islam in the west and the hope of the revitalization of Islam worldwide. I rate a 4 for effort not for conclusions. The future according to Tariq looks just like the past.

This book provides an excellent review of Islam and several suggestions that have the potential of improving the status of Islam and Muslims in the west. The only point I take against this book being a person who has been in the field of outreach and development of younger generations is that it contains complex phrases and concepts that are hard to grasp by the simple average person. Would recommend this book for people at a college level or above who have a wealth of vocabulary in the English language.

Great Book! A must read for all people wanting to know more about Muslims living in the West.

Great book. This book meets science and religion in one point.

The book is a somewhat heavy read to the average reader (especially to those who are not entirely familiar with Islam or Islamic history/philosophy/science). However, Ramadan does give a detailed

depiction of the Islamic Ethos in Part I of the book, which is accompanied with some diagrams to aid the reader. Coming from a Muslims background, I would highly recommend this book to Muslims and those studying Islam. However, those who may be just learning the basics of Islam may find this text a bit complicated to digest...I would recommend starting with Reza Aslan's "No God but God" for a detailed historical overview of Islamic history as the history is filled with complexities and numerous viewpoints/debates. Overall, this is a great book to add to your library. I will be reading Ramadan's "Radical Reform" book next. Cheers,

Very dry reading.

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