

Charles Le Gai Eaton

Especially since the Renaissance, some in Western Christendom have suspected that the deeper dimension of their tradition has somehow been lost, and have therefore sought to discover, or create, an 'esoteric' or 'initiatic' Christianity. In the middle of the nineteenth century two scholars, Gabriele Rossetti and Eugène Aroux, pointed to certain esoteric meanings in the work of Dante Alighieri, notably *The Divine Comedy*. Partly based on their scholarship, Guénon in 1925 published *The Esoterism of Dante*. From the theses of Rossetti and Aroux, Guénon retains only those elements that prove the existence of such hidden meanings; but he also makes clear that esoterism is not 'heresy' and that a doctrine reserved for an elite can be superimposed on the teaching given the faithful without standing in opposition to it. One of René Guénon's lifelong quests was to discover, or revive, the esoteric, initiatory dimension of the Christian tradition. In the present volume, along with its companion volume *Insights into Christian Esoterism* (which includes the separate study *Saint Bernard*), Guénon undertakes to establish that the three parts of *The Divine Comedy* represent the stages of initiatic realization, exploring the parallels between the symbolism of the *Commedia* and that of Freemasonry, Rosicrucianism, and Christian Hermeticism, and illustrating Dante's knowledge of traditional sciences unknown to the moderns: the sciences of numbers, of cosmic cycles, and of sacred astrology. In these works Guénon also touches on the all-important question of medieval esoterism and discusses the role of sacred languages and the principle of initiation in the Christian tradition, as well as such esoteric Christian themes and organizations as the Holy Grail, the Guardians of the Holy Land, the Sacred Heart, the Fedeli d'Amore and the 'Courts of Love', and the Secret Language of Dante. In addition to Dante, various other paths toward a possible Christian esoterism have been explored by many investigators—the legend of the Holy Grail, the Knights Templars, the tradition of Courtly Love, Freemasonry, Rosicrucianism, and Christian Hermeticism—and Guénon deals with all of these in the present volume as well as his *Insights into Christian Esoterism*. In the latter, one chapter in particular, 'Christianity and Initiation', will be of special interest with regard to the history of the Traditionalist School. When first published as an article, it gave rise to some controversy because Guénon here reaffirmed his denial of the efficacy of the Christian sacraments as rites of initiation, a point of divergence between the teachings of Guénon and those of other key perennialist thinkers. Both *The Esoterism of Dante* and *Insights into Christian Esoterism* will be of inestimable value to all who are struggling to come to terms with the fullness of the Christian tradition.

In the wake of the fall / Frithjof Schuon -- Sacred and profane science / René Guénon -- Traditional cosmology and the modern world / Titus Burckhardt -- Religion and science / Lord Northbourne -- Contemporary man, between the rim and the axis / Seyyed Hossein Nasr -- Christianity and the religious thought of C.G. Jung / Philip Sherrard -- On earth as it is in heaven / James S. Cutsinger -- The nature and extent of criticism of evolutionary theory / Osman Bakar -- Knowledge and knowledge / D.M. Matheson -- Knowledge and its counterfeits / Gai Eaton -- Ignorance / Wendell Berry -- The plague of scientific belief / Wolfgang Smith -- Scientism: the bedrock of the modern worldview / Huston Smith -- Life as non-historical reality / Giuseppe Sermonti -- Man, creation and the fossil record / Michael Robert Negus -- The act of creation: bridging transcendence and immanence / William A. Dembski.

Deep in the heart of seventh-century Arabia, a new prophet named Muhammad has arisen. As his message of enlightenment sweeps through Arabia and unifies the warring tribes, his young wife Aisha recounts Muhammad's astonishing transformation from prophet to warrior to statesman. But just after the moment of her husband's greatest triumph -- the conquest of the holy city of Mecca -- Muhammad falls ill and dies in Aisha's arms. A young widow, Aisha finds herself at the center of the new Muslim empire and becomes by turns a teacher, political leader, and warrior. Written in beautiful prose and meticulously researched, *Mother of the Believer* is the story of an extraordinary woman who was destined to help usher Islam into the world.

Table of Contents Preface by Titus Burckhardt Foreword by Huston Smith Introduction to the First Edition Introduction to the New Edition 1. Islam? The Last Religion and the Primordial Religion? Its Universal and Particular Traits 2. The Quran? The Word of God, the Source of Knowledge and Action 3. The Prophet and Prophetic Tradition? The Last Prophet and Universal Man 4. The Shari'ah? Divine Law? Social and Human Norm 5. The Tariqah? The Spiritual Path and its Quranic Roots 6. Sunnism and Shi'ism? Twelve-Imam Shi'ism and Isma'ilism Bibliography Index

Islam in Focus

No Truth Without Beauty

Foundations

The Influence of Islam on Medieval Europe

An Introduction

Science and the Myth of Progress

Ibn al-'Arabi and the Problem of Religious Diversity

*Photographer Peter Sanders offers arresting images of Muslim life around the globe in *In the Shade of the Tree: A Photographic Odyssey Through the Muslim World*. Sanders's use of light and shadow shows him to be a true artist; the simplicity of these photos is glorious. There are exterior (and even some stunning interior) shots of mosques, including Beijing's 1,000-year-old Niujié Mosque and Al-Aksa Mosque in Jerusalem, as well as astonishing portraits of individuals. Sanders includes photos from much of the Muslim world, including West Africa, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Turkey.*

What makes an American Catholic of Irish and Italian descent one of the leading global voices in admiration of Prophet Muhammad? In this overview of Muhammad's life and legacy, prominent scholar Craig Considine provides a sociological analysis of Muhammad's teachings and example. Considine shows how the Prophet embraced religious pluralism, envisioned a civic nation, stood for anti-racism, advocated for seeking knowledge, initiated women's rights, and followed the Golden Rule. Considine sheds light on the side of Prophet Muhammad that is often forgotten in mainstream depictions and media narratives. The Humanity of Muhammad is Considine's contribution to the growing body of literature on one of history's most important human beings.

Mecca the Blessed, Medina the Radiant is an unprecedented photographic exploration of the most holy cities of Islam and the Hajj, or annual pilgrimage during Ramadan, when more than a million faithful journey to Mecca's Great Mosque to commemorate the first revelation of the Qur'an (Koran). This book allows both Muslims and those unfamiliar with the Islamic faith complete access to the holiest sites of one of the world's major religions, practiced by a quarter of the world's population but often misunderstood in the West. Photographer Ali Kazuyoshi Namachi, a Muslim convert from Japan, garnered the full support of Saudi Arabian authorities—rarely given—to shoot in cities where photography is strictly controlled and non-Muslims are not allowed. An expansive work of photojournalism, Mecca the Blessed, Medina the Radiant includes: 140 full-color, never-before-seen photographs Mystical places and scenes of Islam Breathtaking aerial photographs of the Arabian terrain Vistas of teeming crowds of worshippers surrounding the Kacbah, Mecca's sacred center Intense portraits of faithful Muslims in prayer Magnificent architecture reflecting the faith of the believers Archival illustrations Text by Seyyed Hossein Nasr, one of the most highly regarded scholars of Islam, enhances the stunning Islamic holy city photographs to illuminate many aspects of Islamic belief that have remained enigma to non-Muslims—until now.

Defining the meaning and spiritual use of sacred art through its symbolic content and dependence on metaphysical principles, this work is wide in scope, covering Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, Islamic, and Taoist art.

Does My Head Look Big in This?

Its Principles and Methods

Qur'an-Sunnah-History

Mecca the Blessed, Medina the Radiant

The Esoterism of Dante

Eastern Tradition and Modern Thought

God, Life, and the Cosmos

From 1978 to 1996, the late Gai Eaton gave a series of talks on BBC Radio about Islam and its role in contemporary society and this account features 86 of these talks—variously titled “Reflections,” “Words of Faith,” and “Pause for Thought.” Providing a beautifully clear and accessible introduction to Islam's central tenets, principles, and practices, this book utilizes wisdom, humanity, and humor to teach those interested in a spiritual approach to life.

The remarkable story of Kristiane Backer's transformation from MTV Europe media darling to follower of the spiritual path of Islam.

This important and comprehensive work of 18th-century Islamic religious thought written in Arabic by a pre-eminent South Asian scholar provides an extensive and detailed picture of Muslim theology and interpretive strategies on the eve of the modern period. King of the Castle examines closely many of the unquestioned assumptions by which we live our lives, comparing them with the beliefs that have shaped and guided human life in the past. It begins with a consideration of how secular societies attempt to possess their citizens, body and soul and how, as a consequence, the necessity of redefining human responsibility becomes an ever more urgent imperative. The book continues with a presentation of the traditional view of man as 'God's Viceroy on Earth', with an eye to its practical implications in a world that has all but forgotten, under the pressure of mass social persuasion, that man must always be free to choose his own ultimate destiny. The author's thesis is a passionate yet incisive plea for the restoration of the sacred norms of religion, as against the debilitating and falsifying aims of a profane world-view based on no more than recent scientific and technological achievements.

A Primer on Understanding and Studying Hadith

Islamic Spirituality

Christian and Islamic Perspectives

Encyclopedia of Muslim-American History

Lessons from the Life of Muhammad

Quranic Sunnah

Named by Time magazine as one of the 100 most important innovators of the century, Tariq Ramadan is a leading Muslim scholar, with a large following especially among young European and American Muslims. Now, in his first book written for a wide audience, he offers a marvelous biography of the Prophet Muhammad, one that highlights the spiritual and ethical teachings of one of the most influential figures in human history. In the Footsteps of the Prophet is a fresh and perceptive look at Muhammad, capturing a life that was often eventful, gripping, and highly charged. Ramadan provides both an intimate portrait of a man who was shy, kind, but determined, as well as a dramatic chronicle of a leader who launched a great religion and inspired a vast empire. More important, Ramadan presents the main events of the Prophet's life in a way that highlights his spiritual and ethical teachings. The book underscores the significance of the Prophet's example for some of today's most controversial issues, such as the treatment of the poor, the role of women, Islamic criminal punishments, war, racism, and relations with other religions. Selecting those facts and stories from which we can draw a profound and vivid spiritual picture, the author asks how can the Prophet's life remain -- or become again -- an example, a model, and an inspiration? And how can Muslims move from formalism -- a fixation on ritual -- toward a committed spiritual and social presence? In this thoughtful and engaging biography, Ramadan offers Muslims a new understanding of Muhammad's life and he introduces non-Muslims not just to the story of the Prophet, but to the spiritual and ethical riches of Islam.

Ranging across the meaning and importance of Tradition, Art, Science, and Nature, and including comprehensive biographical essays, this volume contains some of the most important writings of the last decade.

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 "shawl up" is funny, surprising and touching by turns.

Now in his 80s, Gai Eaton describes how, after a strange childhood completely isolated from other children, followed by a Cambridge education and life as an actor and later as a diplomat, circumstances led him at the age of 30 to Islam. Fascinated by the vagaries of human behavior and the strangeness of human destinies, he has observed the human scene with a novelist's eye and traced the profound changes in attitudes and tastes which have taken place in a single lifetime. He recounts his youthful adventures with the clear sight and understanding only possible for someone whom age has freed from the passions which once possessed him. What makes this work unique is the juxtaposition of hindsight with diary entries made at the time, which gives a quality of immediacy to a true story that includes reminiscences of the diplomatic life and an outline of the Sufi path.

King of the Castle

A Christian Arab's View of Islam

Islam and the Destiny of Man

Mother of the Believers

Islam

The Making of an Image

Islam Revealed

Islam and the Destiny of Man by Charles Le Gai Eaton is a wide-ranging study of the Muslim religion from a unique point of view. The author, a former member of the British Diplomatic Service, was brought up as an agnostic and embraced Islam at an early age after writing a book (commissioned by T.S. Eliot) on Eastern religions and their influence upon Western thinkers. As a Muslim he has retained his adherence to the perennial philosophy which, he maintains, underlies the teachings of all the great religions. The aim of this book is to explore what it means to be a Muslim, a member of a community which embraces a quarter of the world's population and to describe the forces which have shaped the hearts and the minds of Islamic people. After considering the historic confrontation between Islam and Christendom and analysing the difference between the three monotheistic faiths (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam), the author describes the two poles of Muslim belief in terms of 'Truth' and 'Mercy'—the unitarian truth which is the basis of the Muslim's faith and the mercy inherent in this truth. In the second part of the book he explains the significance of the Qur'an and tells the dramatic story of Muhammad's life and of the early Caliphate. Lastly, the author considers the Muslim view of man's destiny, the social structure of Islam, the role of art and mysticism and the inner meaning of Islamic teaching concerning the hereafter. Throughout this book the author is concerned not with the religion of Islam in isolation, but with the very nature of religious faith, its spiritual and intellectual foundations, and the light it casts upon the mysteries and paradoxes of the human condition.

The Imam, the Divine Guide, is the central point around which the Shi'ite religion turns. The power of Shi'ism comes from the actions of the Imam. This title is reserved exclusively for the successors of the prophets in their mission. The author shows that from the beginning of Shi'ite Islam until the tenth century, the Imam was primarily a master of knowledge with supernatural powers, not a jurist theologian. The Imam is the threshold through which God and the creatures communicate. He is thus a cosmic necessity, the key and the center of the universal economy of the sacred. The author presents Shi'ism as a religion founded on double dimensions where the role of the leader remains constantly central: perpetual initiation into divine secrets and continued confrontation with anti-initiation forces. Without esotericism, exotericism loses its meaning. Early Imamism is an esoteric doctrine. Historically, then, at the beginning of esotericism in Islam, we find an initiatory, mystical, and occultist doctrine. This is the first book to systematically explore the immense literature attributed to the Imams themselves in order to recover the authentic original vision. It restores an essential source of esotericism in the world of Islam.

Originally published 1987. The first part of the volume is concerned with "The Roots of the Islamic Tradition and Spirituality". These are seen to include the Qu'ran as the central theophany of Islam, the Prophet who received the word of God and made it known to mankind and the rites of Islam. The second part examines the divisions of the Islamic community with their distinctive pieties and emphases: Sunnism and Shi'ism and female spirituality. Part III is devoted to Sufism – its nature and origin, its early development, its various spiritual practices and its science of the soul.

Islam and the Destiny of Man SUNY Press

Shah Waliullah of Delhi's Ujwat al-Baligha

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Dialogue in Islam

In the Shade of the Tree

In the Footsteps of the Prophet

Traditionalism and the Secret Intellectual History of the Twentieth Century

Foundation to Hadith Science

God, Life, and the Cosmos: Christian and Islamic Perspectives is the first book in which Christian and Muslim scholars explore the frontiers of science-religion discourse. Leading international scholars present new work on key issues in science and religion from Christian and Islamic perspectives. Following an introduction by the editors, the book is divided into three sections: the first explores the philosophical issues in science-religion discourse; the second examines cosmology; the third analyses the issues surrounding bioethics. One of the first books to explore aspects of science-religion discourse from the perspective of two religious traditions, *God, Life, and the Cosmos* opens up new vistas to all interested in science and religion, and those exploring contemporary issues in Christianity and Islam.

In this book Chittick explains Ibn al-Arabi's concept of human perfection, his *World of Imagination*, and his teachings on why God's wisdom demands diversity of religious expression. He then suggests how these teachings can be employed to conceptualize the study of world religions in a contemporary context. Ibn al-Arabi, known as the "Greatest Master," is the most influential Muslim thinker of the past 600 years. This book is an introduction to his thought concerning the ultimate destiny of human beings, God and the cosmos, and the reasons for religious diversity. It summarizes many of Ibn al-Arabi's teachings in a simple manner. The ideas discussed are explained in detail. The book is divided into three parts. In the first part Chittick explains Ibn al-Arabi's concept of human perfection; in the second part he looks at various implications of the *World of Imagination*; and in the third part he exposes Ibn al-Arabi's teachings on why God's wisdom demands diversity of religious expression, and he suggests how these teachings can be employed to conceptualize the study of world religions in a contemporary context. William C. Chittick is Associate Professor at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He is the author of *Faith and Practice of Islam*; *A Shi'ite Anthology*; *The Sufi Path of Knowledge: Ibn al-Arabi's Metaphysics of Imagination*; and *The Sufi Path of Love: The Spiritual Teachings of Rumi*; all published by SUNY Press.

A two volume encyclopedia set that examines the legacy, impact, and contributions of Muslim Americans to U.S. history.

Thumb through any newspaper, listen to any newscast, and the terms "Islamic Al Jihad" or "Shi'ite Muslims" will inevitably be linked with bombings, hijackings, and other terrorist acts. What do you know about this religion that boasts "the greatest joy is to kill and be killed for Allah"? In *Islam Revealed*, Dr. Anis Shorrosh explains the driving force behind the fanatical, as well as the moderate and conservative sects of Islam. Drawing on his experience as a Palestinian-born Arab Christian and years of research and study, Dr. Shorrosh takes a hard look at an ever-growing religion that currently numbers 900 million members. Through comparisons of Islam's Quran and the Hebrew-Christian Bible, Dr. Shorrosh outlines the contradictions and inaccuracies that form the basis for the Muslims' beliefs, and contrasts the turbulent life of Muhammad with the life of Jesus. In light of recent terrorist activities in America and the continuing tensions in the Middle East, *Islam Revealed* is a timely reference to the belief system of one in five people on earth.

Imaginal Worlds

God, the Qur'an, and Women's Rights

The Islamic Tradition

Against the Modern World

A Novel of the Birth of Islam

Sacred Art in East and West

The Concept of Belief in Islamic Theology

Drawn from the *Miskkat al Masabih*, this collection of the Prophet Muhammed's sayings includes both the English and Arabic text and provides an intelligent introduction to Islam. Among the included topics are purification, prayer, remembering death, pilgrimage, jihad, clothing, visions, and words that soften the heart.

This book is one of the many Islamic publications distributed by Mustafa Organization throughout the world in different languages with the aim of conveying the message of Islam to the people of the world. Mustafa Organization is a registered Organization that operates and is sustained through collaborative efforts of volunteers in many countries around the world, and it welcomes your involvement and support. Its objectives are numerous, yet its main goal is to spread the truth about the Islamic faith in general and the Shi'a School of Thought in particular due to the latter being misrepresented, misunderstood and its tenets often assaulted by many ignorant folks, Muslims and non-Muslims.

Organization's purpose is to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge through a global medium, the Internet, to locations where such resources are not commonly or easily accessible or are resented, resisted and fought!

A leading exponent of Muslim thought focuses on the inner spiritual meaning of the religion of Islam and its ramifications for the modern world, namely, the problems the tradition faces in our contemporary world, including Islam's inner tensions between traditionalists and those who want to bring change-conservatives and modernists. Written for the serious general reader, this volume provides an accessible yet profound initiation into the fundamental spiritual experiences, beliefs, rituals, and historic figures of Islam. The late Professor Victor Danner (1926-1990) taught Arabic, Arabic Literature, Islam, Sufism, Eastern Religions, and Comparative Mysticism in both the Departments of Near Eastern

Languages and Cultures and Religious Studies at Indiana University. He published many articles, and his previous books include *The Book of Wisdom and Sufi Aphorisms*. Dr. Danner's worldwide travels and involvement in inter-religious dialogue made him an exceptional communicator of the deep spiritual message of Islam to those of other religious faiths.

In this comprehensive open access book, written for readers from any or no religious background, Leena El-Ali does something remarkable. Never before has anyone taken on every last claim relating to Islam and women and countered it not just with Qur'anic evidence to the contrary, but with easy-to-use tools available to all. How can a woman's testimony be worth half of a man's? How can men divorce their wives unilaterally by uttering three words? And what's with the obsession with virgins in Paradise? Find the chapter on any of the seventeen topics in this book, and you will quickly learn a) where the myth came from and b) how to bust it. The methodology pursued is simple. First, the Qur'an is given priority over all other literary or "scriptural" sources. Second, the meaning of its verses in the original Arabic is highlighted, in contrast to English translations and/or widespread misunderstanding or misinterpretation.

The Richest Vein

The Book of Hadith

A Christian View

The Vision of Islam

The Humanity of Muhammad

And the Path to Islam

Challenged by the West, Threatened by Fundamentalism, Keeping Faith with Tradition

Against the Modern World is the first history of Traditionalism, an important yet surprisingly little-known twentieth-century anti-modern movement. Comprising a number of often secret but sometimes very influential religious groups in the West and in the Islamic world, it affected mainstream and radical politics in Europe and the development of the field of religious studies in the United States, touching the lives of many individuals. French writer Rene Guenon rejected modernity as a dark age and sought to reconstruct the Perennial Philosophy - the central truths behind all the major world religions. Guenon stressed the urgent need for the West's remaining spiritual and intellectual elite to find personal and collective salvation in the surviving vestiges of ancient religious traditions. A number of disenchanted intellectuals responded to his call. In Europe, America, and the Islamic world, Traditionalists founded institutes, Sufi brotherhoods, Masonic lodges, and secret societies. Some attempted unsuccessfully to guide Fascism and Nazism along Traditionalist lines; others later participated in political terror in Italy. Traditionalist ideas were the ideological cement for the alliance of anti-democratic forces in post-Soviet Russia, and in the Islamic world entered the debate about the relationship between Islam and modernity. Although its appeal in the West was ultimately limited, Traditionalism has wielded enormous influence in religious studies, through the work of such Traditionalists as Ananda Coomaraswamy, Huston Smith, Mircea Eliade, and Seyyed Hossein Nasr.

*The foremost U.S. authority on Islam and, Seyyed Hossein Nasr discusses today's hot button issues—including holy wars, women's rights, the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, and the future of Moslems in the Middle East—in this groundbreaking discussion of the fastest-growing religion in the world. One of the great scholars in the modern Islamic intellectual tradition, and the acclaimed author of books such as *The Garden of Truth* and *The Heart of Islam*, Nasr brings incomparable insight to this exploration of Muslim issues and realities, delivering a landmark publication promoting cross-cultural awareness and world peace.*

A fresh look at Muhammad Asad's classic English translation and explanation of the Qur'an is offered in this redesigned and updated edition of his work. A new typeset and index is complimented with a prologue by the distinguished British Muslim Gai Eaton and original artwork by internationally renowned artist and scholar Dr. Ahmed Moustafa. Asad's translation is widely considered to be the foremost in conveying the meaning and sensibility of the original Arabic text, making this edition a must-have for English readers with a budding interest in Islamic studies and veteran scholars alike.

The Sources of Esotericism in Islam

Divine Guide in Early Shi'ism, The

A Photographic Odyssey Through the Muslim World

The Conclusive Argument from God

The Path of God

Islam and the West

Islam in the Modern World