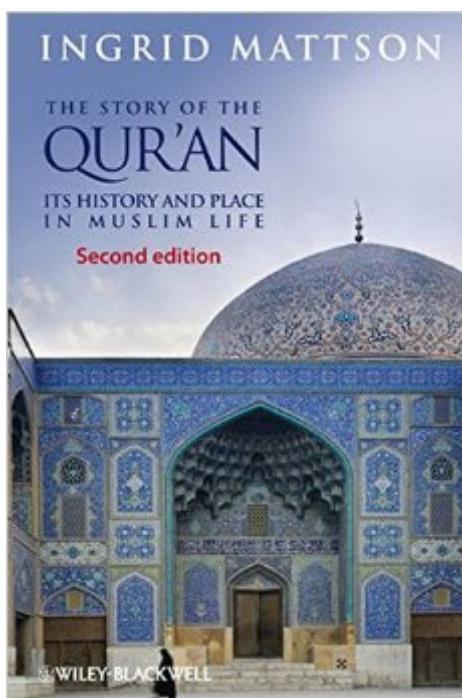


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The Story Of The Qur'an: Its History And Place In Muslim Life



Synopsis

This popular introduction by a well-known Islamic scholar has been updated and expanded, offering a balanced portrayal of the Qurâ™an and its place in historic and contemporary Muslim society. Features new sections on the Qurâ™an and its relationship to democracy, science, human rights, and the role of women. Contains expanded sections on the Qurâ™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
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Customer Reviews

Ingrid Mattson's *The Story of the Qur'an: Its History and Place in Muslim Life* is likely the best book for introducing someone to the both the central teachings of the Quran and to its place in Islamic life and thought. Mattson does a masterful job of weaving in details of Quranic teachings and the relationship that Muslims have with the Quran into a single narrative. The first two chapters are also among the best available literature for understanding the life of the Prophet Muhammad. Chapters three and four are a masterful presentation of the variegated ways in which the Quran penetrates Islamic life. Chapter five provides an excellent account of the manner in which the polyvalent nature of the Quran has led to multiple interpretive strands. The final chapter conveys the majesty of the

relationship between the individual believer and the word of God. More than an introduction to the Quran, this book is an introduction to Islam and an all-important window into the heart of the most widely read book in the world.

Entirely readable and very informative. Dr. Mattson does a good job presenting the spectrum of Muslim experience, especially in the West. I would recommend this book highly, especially for non-Muslims looking for a readable overview of modern-day Islam. (Taking the position that the Qur'an is at the very center of Islamic life, It covers much more than just what the Qur'an says.)

As I worked my way through this book I was getting increasingly irritated by the following three aspects:1. The author does not always clearly distinguish between myth, folklore, and historical facts in the material presented. Also, I would have preferred if the author would have kept a more critical distance to her subject and presented more research and critical views by non-muslim scholars.2. While I understand the central role of the Arabic language with respect to the Qur'an, the author injects countless transliterated Arabic terms that are often not or poorly explained and certainly not all contained in the very limited glossary in the back of the book. To the non-Arabic speaking reader this is hardly helpful but rather annoying.3. In the accolades on the back cover the author is said to "take her readers, effortlessly, through the Qur'an with her eloquent Zen-like writing style". I would rather describe her style as rather verbose and flowery, and I would welcome some stricter editing for the next edition to improve readability and reduce the overabundant prose.

I got this book in order to help me prepare for an Islamic contest I was competing in. I was surprised at how much knowledge I gained about my religion through this book. It is wonderfully written and very informative. Even now, months after my competition, I still enjoy this book. It is very interesting to learn about my history and the story of our ancestors. I would recommend this book to other people out their who are seeking more knowledge about Islam.

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