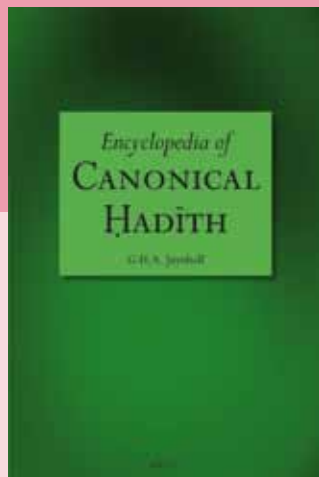
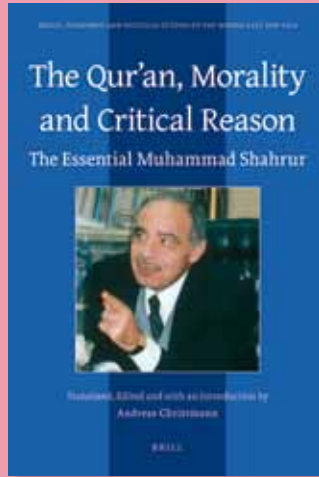
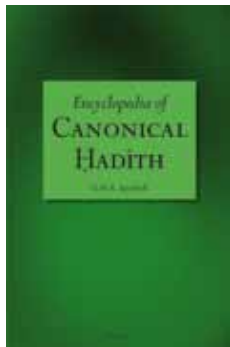


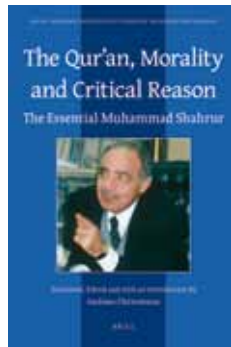
Qur'ānic Studies



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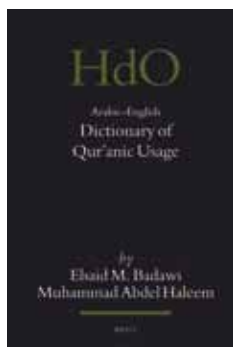
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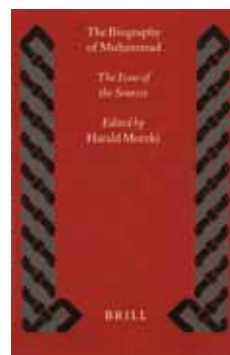
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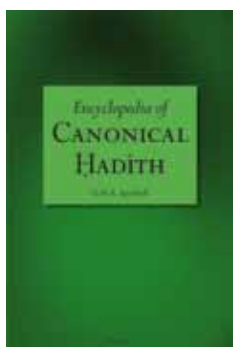


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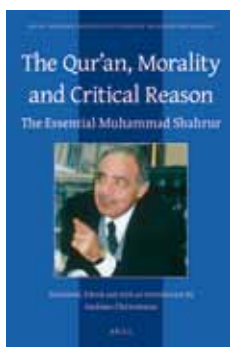
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- Social, Economic and Political Studies of the Middle East and Asia, 106



The Qur'an in Context

Historical and Literary Investigations into the Qur'anic Milieu

Edited by Angelika Neuwirth,

Freie Universität Berlin,

Nicolai Sinai, Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften

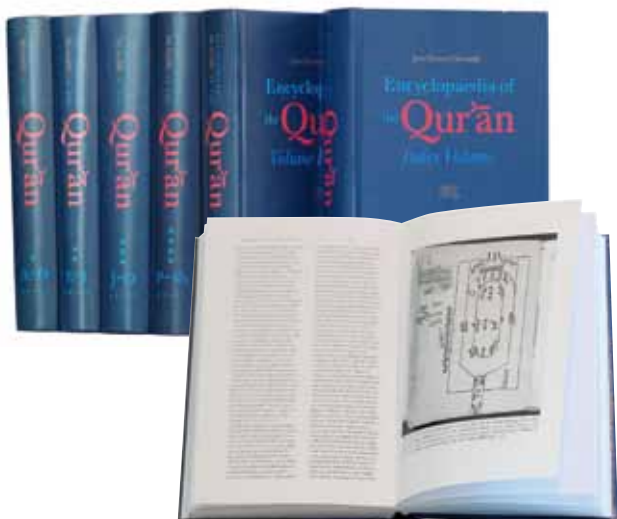
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The History of Christian-Muslim Relations

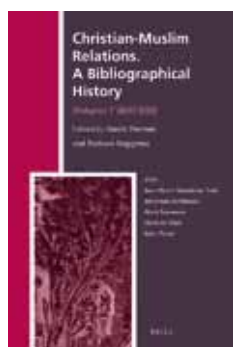
Edited by David Thomas, *University of Birmingham*, Tarif Khalidi, *American University of Beirut*, Gerrit Jan Reinink, *University of Groningen*, Mark Swanson, *Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago*

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ISSN 1570-7350

Christians and Muslims have been involved in exchanges over matters of faith and morality since the founding of Islam. Attitudes between the faiths today are deeply coloured by the legacy of past encounters, and often preserve centuries-old negative views. *The History of Christian-Muslim Relations, Texts and Studies* presents the surviving record of past encounters in authoritative, fully introduced text editions and annotated translations, and also monograph and collected studies. It illustrates the development in mutual perceptions as these are contained in surviving Christian and Muslim writings, and makes available the arguments and rhetorical strategies that, for good or for ill, have left their mark on attitudes today. The series casts light on a history marked by intellectual creativity and occasional breakthroughs in communication, although, on the whole beset by misunderstanding and misrepresentation. By making this history better known, the series seeks to contribute to improved recognition between Christians and Muslims in the future. A number of volumes of the *History of Christian-Muslim Relations* series are published within the subseries *Christian-Muslim Relations. A Bibliographical History*

Christian-Muslim Relations. A Bibliographical History Volume 1 (600-900)

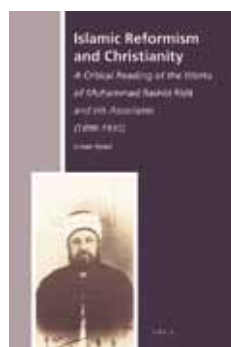


Edited by David Thomas & Barbara Roggema.
With Juan Pedro Monferrer Sala, Johannes Pahlitzsch, Mark Swanson, Herman Teule, John Tolan

- October 2009
- ISBN 978 90 04 16975 3
- *Hardback* (944 pp.)
- List price EUR 219.- / US\$ 324.-
- The History of Christian-Muslim Relations, 11

Christian-Muslim Relations, a Bibliographical History 1 (CMR1) is a history of all the known works on Christian-Muslim relations from 600 to 1500. It comprises introductory essays and over 200 detailed entries containing descriptions, assessments and comprehensive bibliographical details of individual works.

Islamic Reformism and Christianity A Critical Reading of the Works of Muḥammad Rashīd Riḍā and His Associates (1898-1935)



Umar Ryad

- October 2009
- ISBN 978 90 04 17911 0
- *Hardback* (xiv, 390 pp.)
- List price EUR 130.- / US\$ 185.-
- The History of Christian-Muslim Relations, 12

Drawing on newly-discovered archival materials, the study offers a comprehensive and critical reading of the polemics of Sheikh Rashīd Riḍā and his associates on Christianity in al-Manār, and their fascinating encounters with Arab Christians and Christian missionary movements.

Christian-Muslim Relations. A Bibliographical History Online

David Thomas

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- Outright Purchase Price* EUR 980.- / US\$ 1390.-

* An annual Maintenance Fee of € 100.- / \$ 150.- is applicable for all Online publications.
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Christian-Muslim Relations, a Bibliographical History Online is a general online history of relations between the faiths. It covers the period from 600 to 1500, when encounters took place through the extended Mediterranean basin and are recorded in Syriac, Arabic, Greek, Latin and other languages. It comprises introductory essays on the treatment of Christians in the Qurʾān, Qurʾān commentaries, biographies of the Prophet, Hadith and Sunni law, and of Muslims in canon law, and the main body of more than two hundred detailed entries on all the works recorded, whether surviving or lost.

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Texts and Studies on the Qur'ān

Edited by Gerhard Böwering, *Yale University*, Jane Dammen McAuliffe, *Bryn Mawr College*

For more information please visit brill.nl/tsq

ISSN 1567-2808

The Qur'ān, the holy book of Islam proclaimed by Muḥammad, has formed the foundation of Islamic religion and society and provided an important basis for Islamic culture and politics. Texts and Studies on the Qur'ān seeks to publish a series of significant manuscripts, including monographs, textual editions and annotated translations, that address the full range of qur'ānic studies as presently articulated within contemporary research universities and institutes. Modes of inquiry and methodological perspectives may include, but are not limited to: historical-critical and philological studies of early, classical and post-classical works of qur'ānic interpretation; interpretive inquiries of topics grounded in qur'ānic hermeneutics; thematic and structural analyses of specific portions of the qur'ānic text; anthropological and sociological investigations of qur'ānic functionality within specific social groupings; explorations of textual semantics and significance informed by the insights of contemporary literary and critical theory.



Sunnitischer Tafsīr in der modernen islamischen Welt *Akademische Traditionen, Popularisierung und nationalstaatliche Interessen*

Johanna Pink, *Freie Universität Berlin*

Previous scholarship on recent Muslim Qur'anic exegesis has mostly focused on modernising trends, usually remaining within the confines of a single language area. Transcending this hitherto dominating narrow focus, this book offers a comparative analysis of a body of contemporary Sunnite Qur'anic commentaries from the Arab World, Indonesia and Turkey. It takes into account both the influence of specific local conditions and the common intellectual heritage they rely on. By paying special attention not only to new developments, but also to the embeddedness of contemporary Qur'anic exegesis into a more than thousand-year-old intellectual tradition, it provides new insights into the religious, academic, political and social context of exegetical practice in the modern Islamic World.

Die Forschung zur neueren muslimischen Koranexegese hat sich bislang weitgehend auf modernisierende Trends konzentriert und sich dabei zumeist innerhalb der Grenzen eines Sprachraums bewegt. Das vorliegende Buch bricht diesen verengenden Fokus auf, indem es einen Korpus von zeitgenössischen sunnitischen Korankommentaren aus der arabischen Welt, Indonesien und der Türkei vergleichend untersucht und der Frage nach ihrer Prägung durch spezifische lokale Bedingungen ebenso nachgeht wie der Analyse des gemeinsamen geistigen Erbes, auf das sie sich stützen. Indem es neben neueren exegetischen Entwicklungen der Einbettung zeitgenössischer Koranexegese in eine mehr als tausend Jahre alte ideengeschichtliche Tradition besondere Aufmerksamkeit widmet, liefert es neue Erkenntnisse über den religiösen, akademischen, politischen und gesellschaftlichen Kontext exegetischer Tätigkeit in der modernen islamischen Welt.

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- List price EUR 218.- / US\$ 323.-
- Texts and Studies on the Qurʾān, 6

The Qurʾān in Context

Historical and Literary Investigations into the Qurʾānic Milieu

Edited by Angelika Neuwirth, *Freie Universität Berlin*, Nicolai Sinai, *Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften* and Michael Marx, *Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften*

Although recent scholarship has increasingly situated the Qurʾān in the historical context of Late Antiquity, such a perspective is only rarely accompanied by the kind of microstructural literary analysis routinely applied to the Bible. The present volume seeks to redress this lack of contact between literary and historical studies. Contributions to the first part of the volume address various general aspects of the Qurʾān's political, economic, linguistic, and cultural context, while the second part contains a number of close readings of specific Qurʾānic passages in the light of Judeo-Christian tradition and ancient Arabic poetry, as well as discussions of the Qurʾān's internal chronology and transmission history. Throughout, special emphasis is given to methodological questions.



- May 2009
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- *Hardback* (x, 594 pp. in French)
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- Texts and Studies on the Qurʾān, 5

La transmission écrite du Coran dans les débuts de l'islam

Le codex Parisino-petropolitanus

François Déroche, *Ecole pratique des hautes études, Paris*

The codex Parisino-petropolitanus is one of the earliest witnesses of the handwritten transmission of the Qurʾānic text which has survived to this day. The various fragments which were part of the original manuscript are scattered among various collections; once put together, they provide a unique picture of the state of the text during the 7th century (orthography and textual peculiarities) and of the circumstances in which the canonical version as we know it today took shape physically. The present study, first of its kind, paves the way for a more accurate understanding of the beginning of Islam, based on a significant document, and of the evolution of the Qurʾān during that period.

Le codex Parisino-petropolitanus est l'un des plus anciens témoins de la transmission manuscrite du texte du Coran qui aient été conservés. Ses différents fragments sont dispersés entre plusieurs collections; une fois mis ensemble, ils donnent un aperçu unique sur l'état du texte au 7^e siècle (orthographe et particularités textuelles) et sur les conditions dans lesquelles s'est organisée matériellement la constitution de la version canonique telle que nous la connaissons. Cette étude, première de son genre, ouvre la voie à une compréhension plus fine, appuyée sur un document significatif, des premiers temps de l'islam et de l'évolution du Coran au cours de cette période.



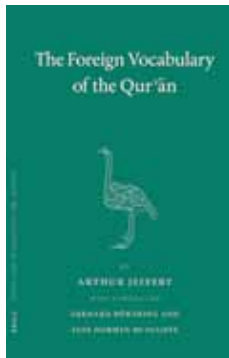
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- Texts and Studies on the Qurʾān, 4

Revelation and Falsification

The Kitāb al-qirāʾāt of Aḥmad b. Muḥammad al-Sayyārī

Critical Edition with an Introduction and Notes by Etan Kohlberg and Mohammad Ali Amir-Moezzi

For all Muslims the Qurʾān is the word of God. In the first centuries of Islam, however, many individuals and groups, and some Shiʿis, believed that the generally accepted text of the Qurʾān is corrupt. The Shiʿis asserted that redactors had altered or deleted among other things all passages that supported the rights of ʿAlī and his successors or that condemned his enemies. One of the fullest lists of these alleged changes and of other variant readings is to be found in the work of al-Sayyārī (3rd/9th century), which is indeed among the earliest Shiʿi books to have survived. In many cases the alternative readings that al-Sayyārī presents substantially contribute to our understanding of early Shiʿi doctrine and of the early and numerous debates about the Qurʾān in general.

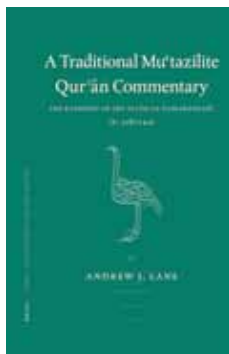


- January 2007
- ISBN 978 90 04 15352 3
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- Texts and Studies on the Qur'an, 3

The Foreign Vocabulary of the Qur'an

Arthur Jeffery with a Preface by Gerhard Böwering and Jane Dammen McAuliffe

Republication of Arthur Jeffery's important study, *The Foreign Vocabulary of the Qur'an*, offers a new generation of scholars and students access to this foundational text. Arranged in Arabic alphabetical order, Jeffery's compendium of philological scholarship remains an indispensable tool for any serious study of Qur'anic semantics. Drawing upon etymological examination of languages such as Greek, Persian, Syriac, Ethiopic, Coptic and Nabataean, Jeffery's work illuminates the rich linguistic texture of Islam's holy book. His lengthy introductory essay explores the exegetical analysis offered by medieval Muslim commentators as well as the insights provided by more recent research.



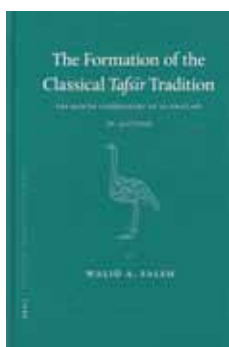
- December 2005
- ISBN 978 90 04 14700 3
- Hardback (xxiv, 424 pp.)
- List price EUR 152.- / US\$ 225.-
- Texts and Studies on the Qur'an, 2

A Traditional Mu'tazilite Qur'an Commentary

The Kashshāf of Jār Allāh al-Zamakhsharī (d.538/1144)

Andrew J. Lane

This book deals with the life and work of Jār Allāh al-Zamakhsharī (d. 538/1144). The greater part of it, however, is devoted to an examination of his Qur'an commentary, *al-Kashshāf*. The book is divided into five chapters, supplemented by nine appendices. After a chapter on the author's life and writings (an annotated list of which is given in an appendix), there follow four chapters that focus on the *Kashshāf* itself. These deal with the history of the text, its structure and method, the traditions it contains and the sources the author relied on for it. Although both al-Zamakhsharī's name and the title of his commentary are well known, very little is actually known about either the author or the work. This book presents a more complete and nuanced picture of each.



- December 2003
- ISBN 978 90 04 12777 7
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- List price EUR 99.- / US\$ 147.-
- Texts and Studies on the Qur'an, 1

The Formation of the Classical Tafsir Tradition

The Qur'an Commentary of al-Tha'labī (d. 427/1035)

Walid A. Saleh

This work is both an introduction to the genre of classical *tafsir* and a detailed study of one of its major architects, al-Tha'labī (d. 427/1035). The book offers a detailed study of the hermeneutical principles that governed al-Tha'labī's approach to the Qur'an, principles which became the norm in later exegetical works. It is divided into three main sections; the first outlines the life and times of the author; the second is a detailed study of his major exegetical work, *al-Kashf*; the third charts a brief history of the genre of *tafsir* through documenting the reactions of later exegetes to *al-Kashf*. This work brings together material never examined before and tries to offer a new way of understanding the history of classical Qur'an exegesis.

'Saleh's thorough analysis of what should now be seen as one of the most important works of *tafsir* is already an extremely valuable contribution.'

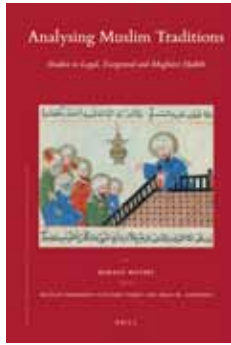
Herbert Berg, *International Journal Middle East. Studies*, 2005.

'...the best traditions of Yale scholarship.'

H. Masud Taj, *The Muslim World Book Review*, 2004.

'His book is a valuable contribution, a much needed step forward in a sadly neglected field.'

Stefan Wild, *Royal Asiatic Society*, 2005.



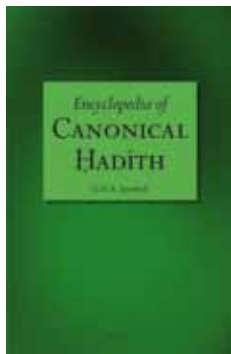
- November 2009
- ISBN 978 90 04 18049 9
- *Hardback* (xvi, 520 pp.)
- List price EUR 174.- / US\$ 258.-
- Islamic History and Civilization, 78

Analysing Muslim Traditions

Studies in Legal, Exegetical and Maghāzī Ḥadīth

Harald Motzki with Nicolet Boekhoff-van der Voort and Sean Anthony

Since its inception, the study of Ḥadīth conducted by scholars trained in the Western academic tradition has been marked by sharp methodological debates. A focal issue is the origin and development of traditions on the advent of Islam. Scholars' verdicts on these traditions have ranged from "late fabrications without any historical value for the time concerning which the narrations purport to give information" to "early, accurately transmitted texts that allow one to reconstruct Islamic origins". Starting from previous contributions to the debate, the studies collected in this volume show that, by careful analysis of their texts and chains of transmission, the history of Muslim traditions can be reconstructed with a high degree of probability and their historicity assessed afresh.



- November 2007
- ISBN 978 90 04 15674 6
- *Hardback* (xxxiv, 806 pp.)
- List price EUR 209.- / US\$ 310.-

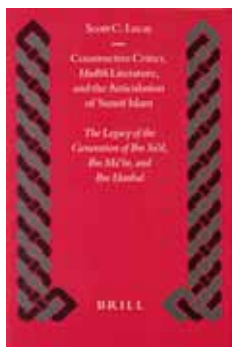
Encyclopedia of Canonical Ḥadīth

G.H.A. Juynboll

This encyclopedic work on Islam comprises English translations of all canonical ḥadīths, complete with their respective chains of transmission (isnāds). By conflating the variant versions of the same ḥadīth, the repetitiveness of its literature has been kept wherever possible to a minimum. The latest methods of isnād analysis, described in the general introduction, have been employed in an attempt to identify the person(s) responsible for each ḥadīth. The book is organized in the alphabetical order of those persons. These are the so-called 'common links'. Each of them is listed with the tradition(s) for the wording of which he can be held accountable, or with which he can at least be associated. Within each article, the traditions are referred to in bold figures in the numerical order as they were distilled from the more than 19,000 isnāds listed in *Tuḥfat al-ashrāf bi ma'rifat al-aṭrāf* by the Syrian ḥadīth scholar Yusuf b. 'Abd ar-Raḥmān al-Mizzī (d. 742/1341). Medieval commentaries as well as assorted biographical lexicons were drawn upon to illustrate the text of each tradition in all theological, social, legal and other noteworthy aspects discernible in it. Thus no details of eschatology, superstitions, miraculous phenomena, Jahili practices etc. were left without the clarifying comments of contemporary and later theologians, historians and ḥadīth experts culled from such works as the *Fatḥ al-bārī*, a major commentary of Bukhārī's *Ṣaḥīḥ* by Ibn Ḥajar al-'Asqalānī (d. 852/1448) or the commentary by Yaḥya b. Sharaf an-Nawawī (d. 676/1277) of the *Ṣaḥīḥ* of Muslim b. al-Ḥajjāj. The encyclopedia concludes with an exhaustive index and glossary of names and concepts, which functions at the same time as a concordance. In short, this work presents an indispensable sourcebook of the development of Islam in all its facets during the first three centuries since its foundation as reflected in canonical ḥadīth.

"I admire the precision and the clearness of this work, which enables the reader to easily find his way in the enormous corpus of material."

Manfred Ullmann



- May 2004
- ISBN 978 90 04 13319 8
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- Islamic History and Civilization, 51

Constructive Critics, Ḥadīth Literature, and the Articulation of Sunnī Islam

The Legacy of the Generation of Ibn Sa'd, Ibn Ma'in, and Ibn Hanbal

Scott C. Lucas

Demonstrating the central role of third/ninth century *ḥadīth* scholars in the articulation of Sunnī Islam, this book bases its findings largely upon the analysis of multiple biographical dictionaries, such as al-Dhahabī's *Tadhkirat al-ḥuffāz*, Ibn Sa'd's *Kitāb al-ṭabaqāt al-kabīr*, and collections of the critical comments of Ibn Ma'in and Ibn Hanbal. Part I establishes conceptual and historical frameworks for the study of Sunnī *ḥadīth* scholarship. Part II examines in detail the three foundational principles of Sunnī Islam: 1) the collective probity of the *ṣaḥāba*, 2) the discipline of *ḥadīth*-transmitter criticism, and 3) a historical vision of the authoritative channels by which *ḥadīth* traversed the two centuries between the life of the Prophet Muḥammad and the first major *ḥadīth* books.

"Lucas writes with clarity and amply demonstrates his mastery and passion for his subject...This indispensable book is essential reading for serious researchers in the area of Ḥadīth scholarship and criticism."

Aftab Ahmad Malik, *The Muslim World Book Review*, 2005.



- July 2001
- ISBN 978 90 04 11805 8
- Cloth with dustjacket (x, 146 pp.)
- List price EUR 83.- / US\$ 123.-
- Islamic History and Civilization, 38

The Development of Early Sunnite ḥadīth Criticism

The Taqdimat of Ibn Abī ḥātim al-Rāzī (240/854-327/938)

Eirik Dickinson

ḥadīth are the documents recording the words and actions of the Prophet Muḥammad. Originally an enormous and amorphous corpus, Muslim scholars of the third/ninth century separated the *ḥadīth* they regarded as true from those they held to be forgeries, producing collection of *ḥadīth* which still command the respect of Muslims today. Ibn Abī ḥātim al-Rāzī (240/854-327/938) was one of the most prominent exponents and practitioners of *ḥadīth* criticism. He left a copious written legacy, including his famous *Taqdimat*, a biographical dictionary of the early *ḥadīth* critics. The *Taqdimat* reveals Ibn Abī ḥātim's vision of the critic and gives insight into the mechanism of *ḥadīth* criticism. It also provides a platform for the examination of the basic intellectual orientation of the *ḥadīth* critics and their conflicts with their opponents.

"...well written and valuable book..."

Journal of Oriental & African Studies, 2003.

"...this work is a valuable contribution to our understanding of early Ḥadīth criticism. It should prove an important tool for any student of Islam who is well-acquainted with biographical sources and who understands the importance of Ḥadīth authentication."

Ashraf Makadam, *The Muslim World Book Reviews*, 2003.



- March 2000
- ISBN 978 90 04 11513 2
- Cloth with dustjacket (xvi, 334 pp.)
- List price EUR 135.- / US\$ 200.-
- Islamic History and Civilization, 32

The Biography of Muḥammad

The Issue of the Sources

Edited by Harald Motzki

This book deals with the controversial value of the sources on which the biography of Muhammad, the founder of Islam, is based. Discussions on this topic have been going on for more than a century but it has become especially debated during the last two decades. This volume contains ten articles which are the outcome of an international colloquium on the issue. Part one of the book examines the development of the Muslim tradition concerning the life of Muhammad while the other part focuses on the historical reliability of the source material. The volume reflects not only the most recent methodological developments in the study of the life of Muhammad but also the improvement of its material-basis due to sources which have only recently become available or which have been neglected.

“An important contribution to the ongoing debate over the quest for the historical Muhammad. Highly recommended to all college and university libraries as well as those public libraries collecting in the history of religion”

M. Swartz, *Choice*, October 2000.

“These ten essays, each authored by an established expert in the field, represent original research based on the Arabic sources and are painstakingly detailed and meticulous...Highly recommended to all college and university libraries.”

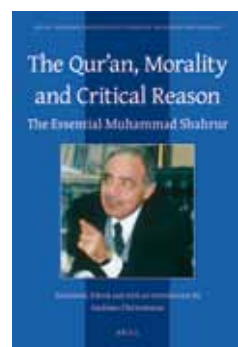
Choice, 2000.

‘This is an important book and deserves careful reading and assessment by scholars of early Islam...’

David Waines, *Journal of Semitic Studies*.

“...editor Motzki and his fellow contributors have charted a trajectory for future scholarly inquiry that promises to be highly rewarding.”

Asma Afsaruddin, *Journal of American Oriental Society*, 2001.



- February 2009
- ISBN 978 90 04 17103 9
- Hardback (xlviii, 588 pp.)
- List price EUR 80.- / US\$ 118.-
- Social, Economic and Political Studies of the Middle East and Asia, 106

The Qur'an, Morality and Critical Reason

The Essential Muhammad Shahrur

Muhammad Shahrur

Translated, Edited, and with an Introduction by
Andreas Christmann, *University of Manchester*

This book presents the work and ideas of the Syrian writer Muhammad Shahrur to the English-speaking world. Shahrur is at the moment the most innovative intellectual thinker in the Arab Middle East. Often described as the ‘Martin Luther of Islam,’ he offers a liberal, progressive reading of Islam that aims to counter the influences of religious fundamentalism and radical politics. Shahrur’s innovative interpretation of the Qur’ān offers groundbreaking new ideas, based on his conviction that centuries of historical Islam, including scholarship in the traditional Islamic religious sciences, have obscured or even obliterated the Qur’ān’s progressive and revolutionary message. That message is one that has endured through each period of human history in which Islam has existed, encouraging Muslims to apply the most contemporary perspective available to interpret the Qur’ān’s meaning.

“Readers of The Qur’an, Morality and Critical Reason: The Essential Muhammad Shahrur will immediately discern Muhammad Shahrur’s elaborate and intriguing effort to recast Qur’ānic interpretation in the light of modern critical reasoning....Shahrur’s view is not simply bold. It is deeply humane. It bespeaks a vision of Islam that retains a universal ambition, yet willingly disposes of all notions of hierarchy among the world’s religious communities in their adherence to the truth of God’s revelation. We must be grateful for the efforts made by Andreas Christmann, whose collaboration with Muhammad Shahrur resulted in this magnificent volume. His translations reflect an admirable command of theology, philosophy and the Arabic language.”
Clifford Chanin, *Project Syndicate*



- January 2009
- ISBN 978 90 04 17105 3
- Hardback (I, 358 pp.)
- List price EUR 109.- / US\$ 174.-

The Expansion of Prophetic Experience

Essays on Historicity, Contingency and Plurality in Religion

Abdulkarim Soroush

Translated by Nilou Mobasser

Edited with Analytical Introduction by Forough Jahanbakhsh

Abdulkarim Soroush is known primarily for his epistemological/hermeneutical theory, the “Contraction and Expansion of Religious Knowledge,” and its application to Islamic political theory and religious pluralism. While his *Reason, Freedom and Democracy in Islam* applies that theory to plurality and the historicity of understanding and interpretation of religion, this book captures some of his original theories about religion itself. *The Expansion of Prophetic Experience* treats the historicity of the Prophet Muhammad’s revelatory experience, including human and contextual influences on the genesis of the sacred Text. It presents substantial aspects of Soroush’s Neo-Rationalist hermeneutical project for an Islamic reformed theology and ethics, systematically leading Islamic reformation beyond conventional projects of piecemeal adjustments to the Shari‘ah or selective re-interpretations of the Qur’ān.

“Dr Soroush is one of the leading Muslim reformers today. A practicing Muslim trained in Islamic thought in Iran and science in London, he bridges two world cultures. The material in this book has proved highly controversial in Muslim circles. But it must represent the way forward for Islam in the modern world. This is an immensely important book which Muslims and non-Muslims alike should read.”

Professor John Hick, Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Research, University of Birmingham UK
“To a Western reader, unfamiliar with the complexity, diversity, and depth of the Muslim tradition, Soroush’s book offers a vista into a radically modern form of Muslim theology, philosophy of religion, and religious studies. What makes Soroush’s position so original and unique is his combination of uncompromising analytical rationalism and deep mysticism.”

Jose Casanova, Professor of Sociology and Senior Fellow, Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs, Georgetown University

Women, the Koran and International Human Rights Law

The Experience of Pakistan

Niaz A. Shah



- September 2006
- ISBN 978 90 04 15237 3
- Hardback (x, 266 pp.)
- List price EUR 108.- / US\$ 147.-
- Studies in Religion, Secular Beliefs and Human Rights, 4

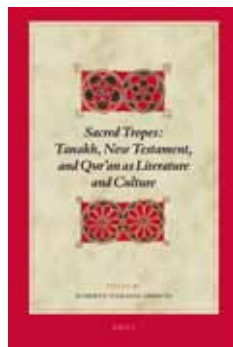
Religion plays a pivotal role in the way women are treated around the world, socially and legally. This book discusses three Islamic human rights approaches: secular, non-compatible, reconciliatory (compatible), and proposes a contextual interpretive approach. It is argued that the current gender discriminatory statutory Islamic laws in Islamic jurisdictions, based on the decontextualised interpretation of the Koran, can be reformed through *Jtihad*: independent individual reasoning. It is claimed that the original intention of the Koran was to protect the rights of women and raise their status in society, not to relegate them to subordination. This Koranic intention and spirit may be recaptured through the proposed contextual interpretation which in fact means using an Islamic (or insider) strategy to achieve gender equality in Muslim states and greater compatibility with international human rights law. It discusses the negative impact of the so-called statutory Islamic laws of Pakistan on the enjoyment of women’s human rights and robustly challenges their Koranic foundation.

“Shah’s work is original, well written and easy to follow. The interpretive approach seems practical and may contribute what Shah wishes, that is greater compatability between Islamic and International Human Rights, norms and values.”

Khurshid Iqbal, *Religion and Human Rights 2* (2007) 189–193.

“Niaz A. Shah’s book is a work of exceptional merit for its thoroughly researched analyses, its balanced views, broad outlook and intellectual integrity. It is a must read for those who wish to have a sound perspective on women’s rights issue in Pakistan.”

Mushir Anwar, *Dawn*, Pakistan, 2007



- September 2009
- ISBN 978 90 04 17752 9
- Hardback (544)
- List price EUR 170.- / US\$ 241.-
- Biblical Interpretation Series, 98

Sacred Tropes: Tanakh, New Testament, and Qur'an as Literature and Culture

Edited by Roberta Sterman Sabbath

Contemporary sacred text scholarship has been stimulated by a number of intersecting trends: a surging interest in religion, sacred texts, and inspirational issues; burgeoning developments in and applications of literary theories; intensifying academic focus on diverse cultures whether for education or scholarship. Although much has been written individually about Tanakh, New Testament, and Qur'an, no collection combines an examination of all three. Sacred Tropes interweaves Tanakh, New Testament, and Qur'an essays. Contributors collectively and also often individually use mixed literary approaches instead of the older single theory strategy. Appropriate for classroom or research, the essays utilize a variety of literary theoretical lenses including environmental, cultural studies, gender, psychoanalytic, ideological, economic, historicism, law, and rhetorical criticisms through which to examine these sacred works.



- March 1996
- ISBN 978 90 04 10344 3
- Cloth with dustjacket (xii, 298 pp.)
- List price EUR 128.- / US\$ 190.-
- Islamic Philosophy, Theology and Science. Texts and Studies, 27

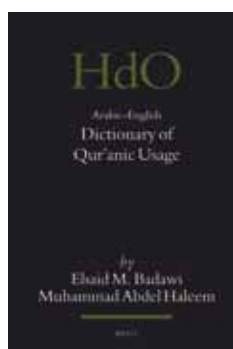
The Qur'an as Text

Edited by Stefan Wild

This book contains the updated papers of an international symposium "The Qur'an as Text" which was held at the University of Bonn in November 1993. This collection intends to break away from the 19th-century paradigm of "influences", which seems largely exhausted but still dominates Qur'anic studies. Instead, this collection focuses on the literary, the intertextual and the receptional aspects of the Qur'anic text. A new approach to the holy book of Islam in the light of modern hermeneutics which is based on modern methods of literary history, text-linguistics, and aesthetics can open the door for a new and more adequate understanding of the Qur'an, its role for Islamic religion, and its unique place in the history of world religions today.

"...the volume certainly makes an impressive contribution to the contemporary scholarly study of the Qur'an and suggests various promising venues for further research."

Wilferd Madelung, *Journal of the Qur'anic Studies*, 1999.



- December 2007
- ISBN 978 90 04 14948 9
- Hardback (xxvi, 1070 pp.)
- List price EUR 229.- / US\$ 339.-
- Handbook of Oriental Studies. Section 1 The Near and Middle East, 85

Arabic-English Dictionary of Qur'anic Usage

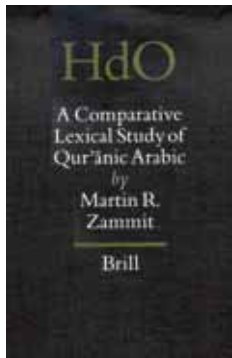
Elsaid M. Badawi and Muhammad Abdel Haleem

The Qur'an is the living source of all Islamic teaching, and is of singular importance to those interested in Islam and the study of religions. Despite this, there exists a long-felt lack of research tools for English first-language speakers who wish to access the Qur'an in the original Arabic. The *Dictionary of Qur'anic Usage* is the first comprehensive, fully-researched and contextualised Arabic-English dictionary of Qur'anic usage, compiled in accordance with modern lexicographical methods by scholars who have a lifelong immersion in Qur'anic Studies. Based on Classical Arabic dictionaries and Qur'an commentaries, this work also emphasises the role of context in determining the meaning-scatter of each vocabulary item. Illustrative examples from Qur'anic verses are provided in support of the definitions given for each context in which a particular word occurs, with cross-references to other usages. Frequently occurring grammatical particles are likewise thoroughly explained, insofar as they are used in conveying various nuances of meaning in the text.

"As a treasure trove of etymological, grammatical, phonological, theological, and historical information relating to the Qur'an, it surpasses the heretofore standard, J. Penrice's Dictionary and Glossary of the Koran (1873)."

Essential. *Choice*, July 2008

World Prize for the Book of the Year of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 2010



A Comparative Lexical Study of Qur'ānic Arabic

Martin R. Zammit

This work does not aim to be an etymological dictionary of Qur'ānic Arabic, nor does it attempt to suggest some new genetic classification of the Semitic languages. Rather, it offers insights into the internal lexical relationships attested in a number of Semitic varieties. The work is based on a quantitative analysis of a substantial corpus of the Arabic lexicon with a view to investigating lexical relationships within a number of Semitic languages. Qur'ānic Arabic is the source of a lexical mass comparison exercise involving Akkadian, Ugaritic, Aramaic, Syriac, Hebrew, Phoenician, Epigraphic South Arabian and Ge'ez. Moreover, the lexical links identified in this study are in themselves linguistic indicators of the various degrees of cultural proximity characterising the various Semitic languages.

- November 2001
- ISBN 978 90 04 11801 0
- Hardback (xiv, 658 pp.)
- List price EUR 207.- / US\$ 307.-
- Handbook of Oriental Studies. Section 1 The Near and Middle East, 61



Arabic Grammar and Qur'ānic Exegesis in Early Islam

C.H.M. Versteegh

In this volume the author examines the origins of Arabic linguistics on the basis of the earliest Qur'ānic commentaries (1st half of the 8th century A.D.). The material used includes both edited texts and manuscript commentaries. Various chapters analyze the exegetical methods of the early commentators (such as Muqātil and Muḥammad al-Kalbī) and their use of grammatical terminology. These data are compared with the earliest grammatical treatises (Such as Sābawayhi and Farrā'). The material presented here constitutes an important source of evidence for the development of linguistic thinking in Islam and the origin of the grammatical schools of Basra and Kufa.

- July 1993
- ISBN 978 90 04 09845 9
- Cloth with dustjacket (xi, 230 pp. 9 diagrams)
- List price EUR 96.- / US\$ 137.-
- Studies in Semitic Languages and Linguistics, 19

"...a fresh dimension...thanks to the newly discovered early Qur'anic commentaries he introduces and analyzes so meticulously."

Raphael Talmon, *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam*, 1996.

"The significance of Versteegh's book lies in throwing light on, and interpreting credibly, some of the data that will have to be reckoned with in any examination of the relationship between two major fields of study in the formative era of Islam."

Mustansir Mir, *Muslim World Book Review*, 1998.

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