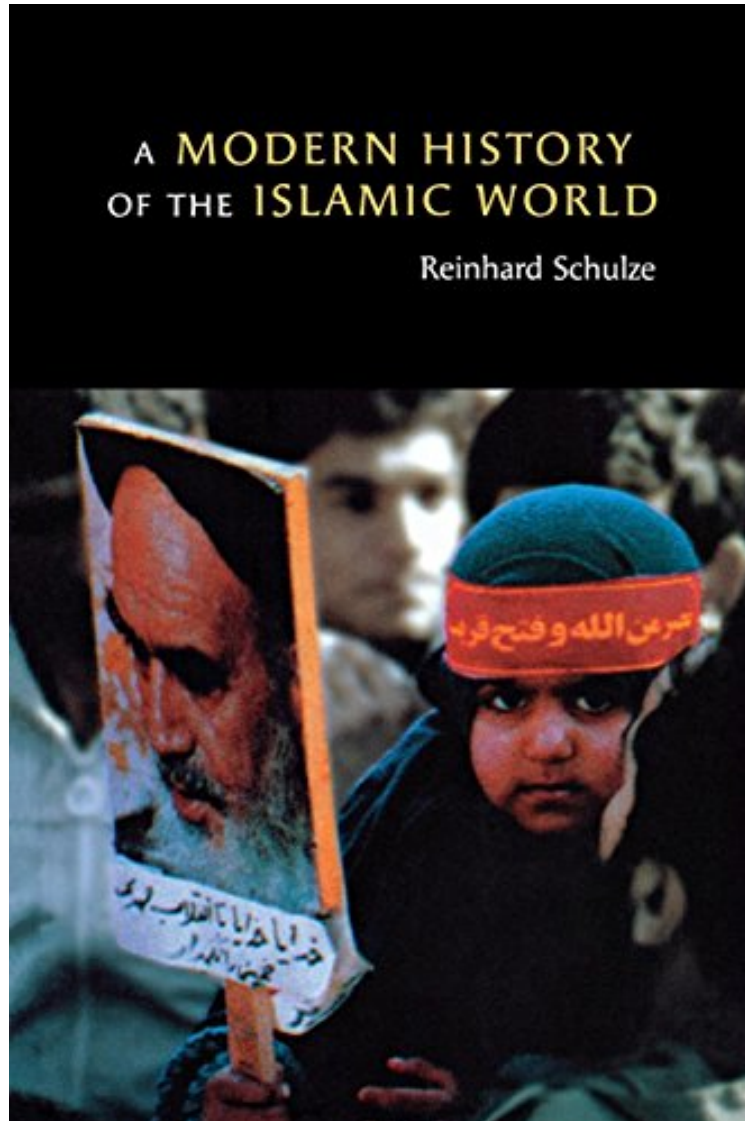


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## A Modern History of the Islamic World

*Reinhard Schulze*

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**Reinhard Schulze : A Modern History of the Islamic World** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Modern History of the Islamic World:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. finally translated By Tron Honto I hope the translation of Schulze's general work on the modern history of Islam will lead to the translation of some of his works, especially on Pan-Islamism. This book has its weaknesses throughout due to the very nature of the enterprise. It's all too easy to point out what such attempts to give comprehensive histories lack. Nonetheless, out of all the books out there, I recommend

Schulze's book more than any other because it avoids sensationalism and the essentialization of Islamic history. Moreover, it presents Islamic history in the idiom of political modernity rather than in mediaeval throwbacks that are not sufficient for explaining the polyvalent nature of modern Islamic history. The translation, however, was poorly edited even after coming out in paperback, which is a shame. Overall, this doesn't detract from the overall quality of the work. 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. History's lessons By Tauseef Tariq I am not quite sure what to make of this book, but here goes. It is a historically rich narrative of the Islamic world over the past century, it is an objective and successful attempt at finding out how the Islamic world has changed and why and its relation to the rest of the world and other cultures. I should warn you, though, that it is not a light read and you may find yourself going back a couple of pages to re-orient yourself. There is a special focus on the different political theories and ideologies and their influence on Muslims as they came into contact with them as a result of integration with the rest of the world, especially after the fall of the Ottoman Empire. It seems to be a fitting addition to the resource materials required for any serious political science/history class and it is a very deep analysis (he is a scholar). A very educating work. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent History By A Customer This very good history of Islamic world of the last 100 years. Unlike most histories of the Islamic world, the author avoids Orientalism and as a result is able to tell a coherent and compelling story. The book provides a historical supplement to Sayyid's *A Fundamental Fear*. I would recommend reading both of these together. Where *Fundamental Fear* provides a theoretical analysis, this book provides a historically rich description.

The Islamic world--defined as those regions in which Islam is the dominant or single most important religion--covers territories as far apart as Morocco and Indonesia, Somalia, and Bosnia and includes an extraordinary range of societies and cultures. In *A Modern History of the Islamic World*, eminent scholar Reinhard Schulze charts the history of these societies in the twentieth century, revealing what they have in common as well as their equally profound differences. Rather than stringing together individual studies of different countries, the book is structured chronologically, tracing political change in the context of culture and society. Schulze opens with a survey of the impact of colonialism and its attendant modernizing effects on the Islamic world. He then moves on to examine the rise of bourgeois nationalism in the 1920s and 1930s, the era of independence movements, the relationship between Islamic cultures and the "republican" political culture of the Third World, the reassertion of Islamic ideologies in the 1970s and 1980s and, finally, the issues surrounding the relationship between Islamic culture and civil society that dominated debate in the 1990s. *A Modern History of the Islamic World* provides a clear overview of the ways in which twentieth century modernism affected the societies of the Islamic world and how modernism was developed from an Islamic perspective.

"Schulze's contribution is important to ongoing global political events. In sum, Schulze's work is interesting and highly relevant...comprehensive and convincing."-*Journal of the International Society for the Study of European Ideas*  
About the Author REINHARD SCHULZE is Professor of Islamic Studies at the University of Berne.