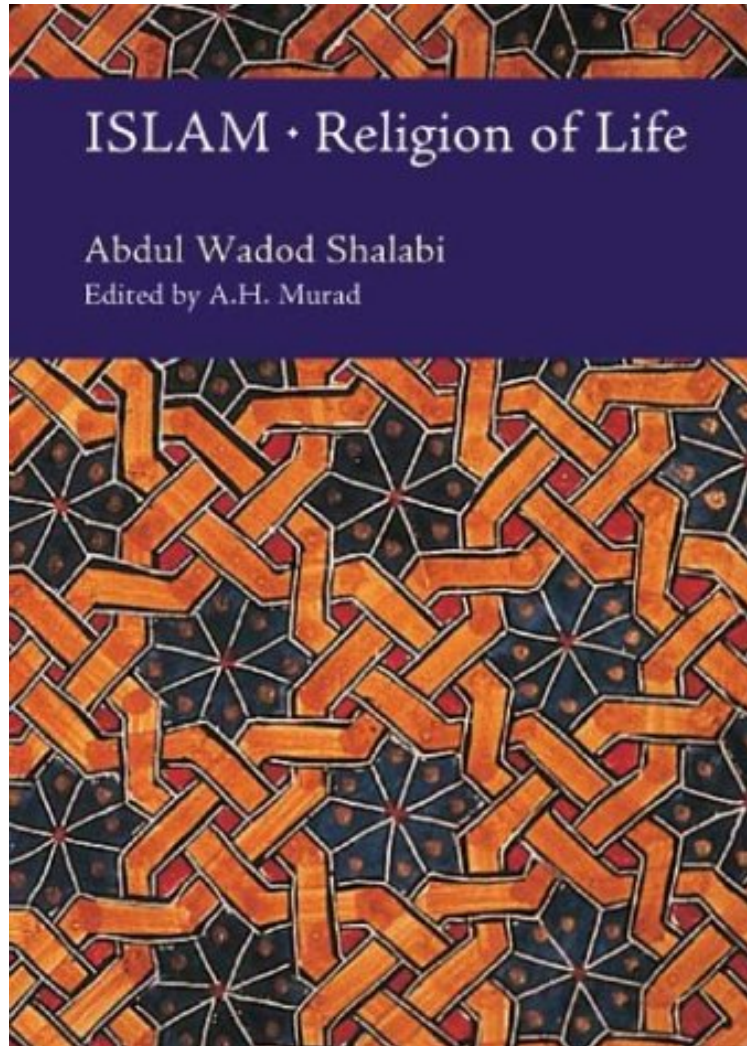


Islam: Religion of Life

Abdul Wadod Shalabi

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Abdul Wadod Shalabi : Islam: Religion of Life before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Islam: Religion of Life:

2 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Idealized but illuminating By V. L. Hasselmann From the beginning of the book, one can tell that Shalabi is a true believer of Islam. This is not a historical analysis of Islam, but rather a description of the faith by someone who is clearly devout. Shalabi offers an interesting insight into the Muslim faith for non-Muslims, but ignores some of the reality of the state of Islam in (sectarian wars, oil-rich autocracies, and the oppression of women). This book helped me understand some of the politics of heavily Muslim countries, but it certainly didn't answer all of my questions or address many salient issues surrounding Islam.

This concise book is among the finest introductions to Islam for an educated readership. Its content is authentic, reliable, and powerfully presented -- written by an Islamic scholar, Dr. Abdul Wadod Shalabi, who combines traditional religious training from al-Azhar University and Western education from the University of Cambridge, where the author received his doctorate. Also, it has been edited by Abd al-Hakim Murad, himself a scholar.

About the Author Abdul Wadod Shalabi is the author of over twenty books on all aspects of Islam. He combines a deep loyalty to his theological training at al-Azhar University in Cairo, while having an acute understanding of the crisis of the modern world. His studies abroad, which earned him a doctorate from the University of Cambridge, and his prominent career in the Azhar hierarchy (he has been editor of its journal and deputy Shaykh of al-Azhar), have placed him in a unique position to distill and introduce Islam to multitudes raised in the West. Excerpt The starting point of any religion is wonderment. The sheer mystery of our lives demands an explanation. From the gas clouds floating in interstellar space to the tiniest subatomic particles, the realm of action into which we have been thrust must be understood if we are to know how to live. The unexamined life is not worth living, said Socrates, and this question is always true, always equally urgent. Religion, as the only means of finding an answer to this question, is thus the most important, indeed, in a sense, the only meaningful activity of man. Philosophy reaches upwards and is frustrated. Religion reaches downwards from Heaven, and, if not corrupted at the hands of men, can bring us to a true understanding of ourselves and our function