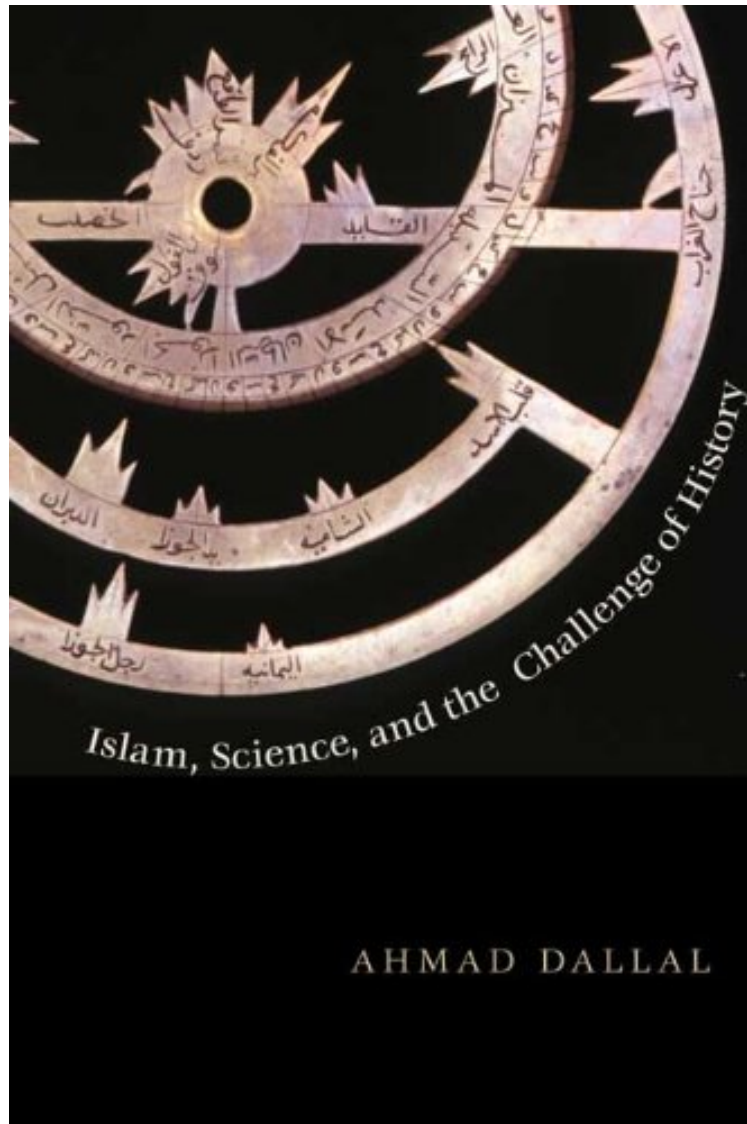


(Download pdf ebook) Islam, Science, and the Challenge of History (The Terry Lectures Series)

## Islam, Science, and the Challenge of History (The Terry Lectures Series)

Ahmad Dallal

audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2353210 in Books 2010-05-18Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 .90 x 5.10 x 9.14l, .91 #File Name: 0300159110256 pages | File size: 52.Mb

**Ahmad Dallal : Islam, Science, and the Challenge of History (The Terry Lectures Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Islam, Science, and the Challenge of History (The Terry Lectures Series):

1 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Author's Technical Background Shows Through . . . Too MuchBy DavidMr. Dallal may have many academic credentials behind his name, but writing clear, concise prose is not one of

his strengths. This is too bad, because it seems that "Islam, Science, and the Challenge of History" has much knowledge to offer. But that knowledge gets lost in Mr. Dallal's penchant for impressing himself with his depth of learning. I read Mr. Dallal's bio, and it seems that before he embarked on his current career in academia, he was an engineer. His engineering background is on display in this work, which reads very much like a technical manual--one with historical names used in an effort to give it more depth. I am 2/3rds the way through this book, and it's taken every ounce of willpower not to quit. I'll slog through to the end, but I wouldn't recommend this work to anybody hoping to understand the history and development of Islamic scientific thought. Unless, of course, the reader is as supposedly well-versed in the subject as is Mr. Dallal.

In this wide-ranging and masterful work, Ahmad Dallal examines the significance of scientific knowledge and situates the culture of science in relation to other cultural forces in Muslim societies. He traces the ways in which the realms of scientific knowledge and religious authority were delineated historically. The realization of a discrepancy between tradition and science often led to demolition and rebuilding and, most important, to questioning whether scientific knowledge should take precedence over religious authority in a matter where their realms clearly overlap. Dallal frames his inquiry around three concerns: What cultural forces provided the conditions for debate over the primacy of religion or science? How did these debates emerge? And how were they sustained? His primary objectives are to study science in Muslim societies within its larger cultural context and to trace the epistemological distinctions between science and philosophy, on the one hand, and science and religion, on the other. He looks at religious and scientific texts and situates them in the contexts of religion, philosophy, and science. Finally, Dallal describes the relationship negotiated in the classical (medieval) period between the religious, scientific, and philosophical systems of knowledge that is central to the Islamic scientific tradition and shows how this relationship has changed radically in modern times.

Dallal masterfully controls the narrative with his encyclopedic approach to Islamic intellectual history and his full acquaintance with the literature. He is up-to-date on all aspects of Islamic intellectual and religious history, and has the superb skill of seeing many fields within that civilization within the shadows of each other. George Saliba, Columbia University