

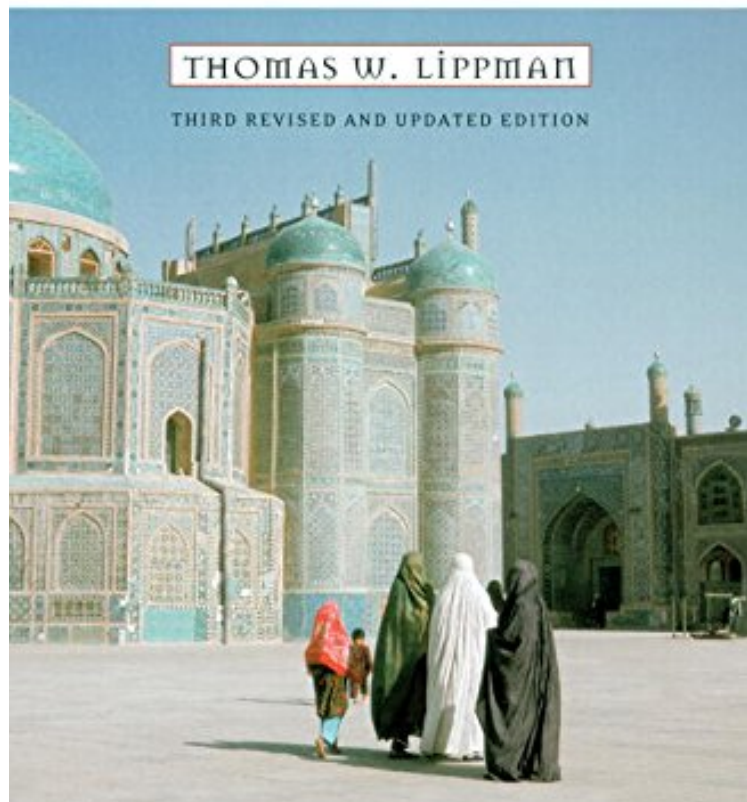
# Understanding Islam: An Introduction to the Muslim World, Third Edition

Thomas W. Lippman

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"An excellent overview of the world's youngest major religion."  
—Los Angeles Times

## UNDERSTANDING ISLAM AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MUSLIM WORLD



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**Thomas W. Lippman : Understanding Islam: An Introduction to the Muslim World, Third Edition** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Understanding Islam: An Introduction to the Muslim World, Third Edition:

71 of 77 people found the following review helpful. An Excellent Introduction To Islam By Brian Pacific "A MUSLIM is one who believes that 'there is no god but God, and Muhammad is the messenger of God.' A Muslim worships one

all-powerful and eternal deity, called Allah in Arabic, who revealed His will and His commandments to the prophet Muhammad of Mecca in the seventh century A.D. Those revelations are recorded in the Koran, the Holy Book of Islam."Thomas Lippman provides an excellent introduction into the Islamic world. Lippman is neither a historian nor a religious expert, but a journalist. As a journalist, he is able to easily explain Islamic Culture, practices, and history to an audience completely unfamiliar to this subject. Lippman spent a great deal of time in various Islamic countries as a journalist, and gives an easy to understand introduction into various aspects of Islam: (1) Basic Beliefs and Practices, (2) The Prophet Muhammad (3) The Koran, (4) Law and Government in Islamic Countries, (5) The Advance of Islam, (6) Schism and Mysticism, and (7) The Islamic Community Today. I highly recommend this book to anyone who is interested in knowing more about Islamic beliefs and or history.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy John PowrieRather dry reading.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy J. BrownOne of the best overviews of Islam that I've read.

A little over thirteen centuries ago, the prophet Muhammad converted a few Arab desert tribes to the belief in a single god, Allah, thus founding the religion of Islam. Within a century, that belief had created one of history's mightiest empires and today Islam continues to shape events around the globe. This comprehensive guide offers an informative and insightful introduction to Islam both as a religion and as a political-economic force. It tells the story of Muhammad and the rise of Islam; outlines the sacred book, the Koran; explains "the five pillars of faith"; explores the interplay between religion and government; describes the differences that divide Islam; and, above all, shows the influence of Islam on world affairs. This second revised edition provides crucial new material on the Islamic community today, including discussion of the Gulf War and the Salman Rushdie affair; the rise and ebb of fundamentalist fervor in Iran, Algeria, and elsewhere; and the relationships among different factions of the Islamic faith. There are also updated descriptions of internal politics in Syria, Egypt, Pakistan, and other Islamic nations. Complete with glossary, bibliography, and index, Understanding Islam is engrossing, essential reading for both students and all who seek a clearer understanding of the world in which we live.

"An excellent overview of the world's youngest major religion." Los Angeles Times From the Back Cover A little over thirteen centuries ago, the prophet Muhammad converted a few Arab desert tribes to the belief in a single god, Allah, thus founding the religion of Islam. Within a century, that belief had created one of history's mightiest empires - and today Islam continues to shape events around the globe. This comprehensive guide offers an informative and insightful introduction to Islam both as a religion and as a political-economic force. It tells the story of Muhammad - and the rise of Islam; outlines the sacred book, the Koran; explains "the five pillars of faith"; explores the interplay between religion and government; describes the differences that divide Islam; and, above all, shows the influence of Islam on world affairs. This second revised edition provides crucial new material on the Islamic community today, including discussion of the Gulf War and the Salman Rushdie affair; the rise and ebb of fundamentalist fervor in Iran, Algeria, and elsewhere; and the relationships among different factions of the Islamic faith. There are also updated descriptions of internal politics in Syria, Egypt, Pakistan, and other Islamic nations. Complete with glossary, bibliography, and index, Understanding Islam is engrossing, essential reading for both students and all who seek a clearer understanding of the world in which we live. About the Author Thomas W. Lippman is a journalist and author who specializes in Middle East affairs, in particular Saudi Arabia United States relations. He worked for more than thirty years at the Washington Post as a reporter and eventually as its Middle East bureau chief. Lippman currently serves as an adjunct scholar at the Middle East Institute. He is the author of seven books on the Middle East, including Understanding Islam: An Introduction to the Muslim World and Arabia on the Edge: The Uncertain Future of an American Ally.