

An Approach To Understanding Islam The Islamic Renaissance Series

War, Peace and International Relations in Islam
Understanding Jihad
The Essence of Islam
Breaking the Islam Code
Islam Through Western Eyes
Understanding Islam and the West
On Faith, Rationality, and the Other in the Late Middle Ages
Towards Understanding Islam
Understanding Islamic Sciences
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Women and Islam: Womens's movements in Muslim societies
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War, Peace and International Relations in Islam

Despite the West's growing involvement in Muslim societies, conflicts, and cultures, its inability to understand or analyze the Islamic world threatens any prospect for East-West rapprochement. Impelled by one thousand years of anti-Muslim ideas and images, the West has failed to engage in any meaningful or productive way with the world of Islam. Formulated in the medieval halls of the Roman Curia and courts of the European Crusaders and perfected in the newsrooms of Fox News and CNN, this anti-Islamic discourse determines what can and cannot be said about Muslims and their religion, trapping the West in a dangerous, dead-end politics that it cannot afford. In *Islam Through Western Eyes*, Jonathan Lyons unpacks Western habits of thinking and writing about Islam, conducting a careful analysis of the West's grand totalizing narrative across one thousand years of history. He observes the discourse's corrosive effects on the social sciences, including sociology, politics, philosophy, theology, international relations, security studies, and human rights scholarship. He follows its influence on research, speeches, political strategy, and government policy, preventing the West from responding effectively to its most significant twenty-first-century challenges: the rise of Islamic power, the emergence of religious violence, and the growing tension between established social values and multicultural rights among Muslim immigrant populations. Through the intellectual "archaeology" of Michel Foucault, Lyons reveals the workings of this discourse and its underlying impact on our social, intellectual, and political lives. He then addresses issues of deep concern to Western readers—Islam and modernity, Islam and violence, and Islam and women—and proposes new ways of thinking about the Western relationship to the Islamic world.

Understanding Jihad

The Essence of Islam

Breaking the Islam Code

Analyzes Muslim countries' contemporary problems, particularly violence, authoritarianism, and underdevelopment, comparing their historical levels of development with Western Europe.

Islam Through Western Eyes

Taking a thematic approach, Bryan S. Turner draws together his writings which explore the relationship between Islam and the ideas of Western social thinkers. Turner engages with the broad categories of capitalism, orientalism, modernity, gender, and citizenship among others, as he examines how Muslims adapt to changing times and how Islam has come to be managed by those in power.

Understanding Islam and the West

Are Islam and the West on a collision course? From the Ayatollah Khomeini to Saddam Hussein, the image of Islam as a militant, expansionist, and rabidly anti-American religion has gripped the minds of Western governments and media. But these perceptions, John L. Esposito writes, stem from a long history of mutual distrust, criticism, and condemnation, and are far too simplistic to help us understand one of the most important political issues of our time. In this new edition of *The Islamic Threat: Myth or Reality?*, Esposito places the challenge of Islam in critical perspective. Exploring the vitality of this religion as a global force and the history of its relations with the West, Esposito demonstrates the diversity of the Islamic resurgence--and the mistakes our analysts make in assuming a hostile, monolithic Islam. This third edition has been expanded to include new material on current affairs in Turkey, Afghanistan, Palestine, and Southeast Asia, as well as a discussion of international terrorism.

On Faith, Rationality, and the Other in the Late Middle Ages:

Since its founding by Jacques Waardenburg in 1971, *Religion and Reason* has been a leading forum for contributions on theories, theoretical issues and agendas related to the phenomenon and the study of religion. Topics include (among others) category formation, comparison, ethnophilosophy, hermeneutics, methodology, myth, phenomenology, philosophy of science, scientific atheism, structuralism, and theories of religion. From time to time the series publishes volumes that map the state of the art and the history of the discipline.

Towards Understanding Islam

Written by an American Muslim convert who has lived nearly 40 years among the

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Muslims, the author presents an insiders account of Islams true place within the family of religions, what it means to be a Muslim living in the shadow of the modern world, and how to cultivate a life of spirituality through the way of Islam in todays anti-spiritual environment. Within its pages, history unfolds, mysteries are unveiled, and secrets are revealed that shed light on the great human story of spiritual awakening and fulfillment. This rigorous and highly readable introduction to Islam goes a long way to remedy the lack of historical perspective and the narrowing of intellectual and spiritual scope contributing to the outer and inner crisis of the Muslim world, as well as the poor understanding of this religion in the West. Another significant merit of Herlihys book is the way it sets out the universal principles of Islam, shared with other traditional faiths, and its emphasis on the moral and spiritual fruits of the religion. This work is an invaluable resource for Muslims and non-Muslims alike, providing as it does a solid grounding in the traditional spirit of Islam. Patrick Laude, professor at Georgetown University, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Qatar Readers will find that this timely work by John Herlihy offers a sublime contribution to the field of Islamic Studies. Relevant for Muslims and non-Muslims alike, one of the books major themes is that the Islamic tradition converges with the unanimous tradition residing at the heart of each of the worlds religions. The book reminds us that the foundations of the modern and postmodern world were formulated in revolt from the sacred, which is an essential point to be recognized by anyone seeking to understand the crisis that consumes the contemporary epoch. This work provides ultimate answers to ultimate questions. Samuel Bendeck Sotillos, editor of *Psychology and the Perennial Philosophy: Studies in Comparative Religion* Amidst widespread miscomprehensions of Islam generated by Western media, readers who wish to understand the true nature of this noble tradition and its related spirituality will find this volume a trustworthy and illuminating guide. As a Western convert, philosopher, and above all practitioner, John Herlihy is well placed to dispel the fog of misunderstanding which often surrounds the subject of Islam. This book will be warmly welcomed by all those wishing to understand the timeless message of Islam, by seekers looking for practical guidance, and by those concerned with fostering a more harmonious global community of religions. Harry Oldmeadow, author of *Frithjof Schuon and the Perennial Philosophy*.

Understanding Islamic Sciences

For years, international apologist Josh McDowell has been alert to the challenge of Islam—and how Muslims’ objections to Christianity can raise deep doubts in believers’ minds. His recent on-the-ground research with Muslims in the Middle East has crystallized into this practical resource focusing on Jesus and the gospel. Aided by Islam expert Jim Walker, McDowell lays out the evidence on the crucial issues: What kind of prophet was Jesus? Was he the Messiah? “Son of God”? “Son of Man”? What’s that about? How are God and Jesus related? Can they both be God? The gospel—how could God dishonor his Son by letting him die horribly? What good did his death do? Aren’t the Bible’s accounts of Jesus corrupt? With all this, as well as backgrounder appendixes on the basics, believers will have authoritative evidence from Scripture and history to intelligently deal with Muslims’ questions about and challenges to Christianity.

Violence in Between

Appendices contain texts of fatwas in Arabic.

Towards Understanding Islam

Understanding the Koran

Women and Islam: Womens's movements in Muslim societies

A simple, comprehensive introduction to Islam by a noted Muslim of the 20th Century, Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi.

Understanding Islamic Finance

This comprehensive volume brings together a distinguished editorial team, including some of the field's pioneers, to explore the aims, practice, and historical context of interfaith collaboration. Explores in full the background, history, objectives, and discourse between the leaders and practitioners of the world's major religions Examines relations between religions from around the world, moving well beyond the common focus on Christianity, to also cover over 12 major religions Features a wealth of case studies on contemporary interreligious dialogue Charts a long-term shift away from a competitive rivalry between belief systems, and a change in focus towards the more respectful, cooperative approach reflected in institutions such as the World Council of Churches Includes up-to-date commentary on the growing dialogue of recent years, written by some of the leading figures working in the field of interfaith discourse

Understanding Islam and Christianity

For years, international apologist Josh McDowell has been alert to the challenge of Islam—and how Muslims' objections to Christianity can raise deep doubts in believers' minds. His recent on-the-ground research with Muslims in the Middle East has crystallized into this practical resource focusing on Jesus and the gospel. Aided by Islam expert Jim Walker, McDowell lays out the evidence on the crucial issues: What kind of prophet was Jesus? Was he the Messiah? "Son of God"? "Son of Man"? What's that about? How are God and Jesus related? Can they both be God? The gospel—how could God dishonor his Son by letting him die horribly? What good did his death do? Aren't the Bible's accounts of Jesus corrupt? With all this, as well as background appendixes on the basics, believers will have authoritative evidence from Scripture and history to intelligently deal with Muslims' questions about and challenges to Christianity.

Islam for Our Time

This book is one of the many Islamic publications distributed by Ahlulbayt Organization throughout the world in different languages with the aim of conveying the message of Islam to the people of the world. Ahlulbayt Organization is a registered Organisation that operates and is sustained through collaborative

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efforts of volunteers in many countries around the world, and it welcomes your involvement and support. Its objectives are numerous, yet its main goal is to spread the truth about the Islamic faith in general and the Shi`a School of Thought in particular due to the latter being misrepresented, misunderstood and its tenets often assaulted by many ignorant folks, Muslims and non-Muslims.

The Ashgate Research Companion to Islamic Law

This book examines the United States' foreign policies toward the Muslim world?including actions taken against Islamic countries who attempted to challenge the United States' regional dominance; and alliances with Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia. It focuses on how the U.S/ has reconfigured its policy towards the radical and the conservative group of Muslim countries and how its new mission against terrorism has affected international relations, particularly U.S.-Indian relations. Islamic revivalism, the emergence of a highly political Islamic population, the rise of terrorism, and other recent socio-political changes are also discussed.

Passing on the Faith

TOWARDS UNDERSTANDING ISLAM

This book considers a range of security issues that have affected archipelagic Southeast Asia, addressing sites of conflict that correspond to the breadth of the Indonesian claim to its own unity, from Sabang in Aceh to Merauke in West Papua, and including Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines.

The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Inter-Religious Dialogue

Hostility and Prejudice between Muslims and Christians is still a threat to peace. This book shows what Christians can learn from the Qur'an and from the Prophet Muhammad. It makes clear that Muslims highly respect 'Isa' Jesus - but also tries to explain why Muslims have often misunderstood Christian teaching. On subjects such as wealth, poverty, and forgiveness. Muslims and Christians can learn from each other. Instead of a Clash of Civilizations, a 'Partnership of Faiths' is required to promote peace and justice, protection of human rights, an adequate standard of living for all people and care and respect for the natural world. Marcus Braybrooke is a retired Anglican priest and interfaith activist. He is President of the World Congress of Faiths and Co-Founder of the Three Faiths Forum. He is author of over forty books, including 'Beacons of the Light'and 'Widening Vision' and has edited the anthology '1,000 World Prayers.'

On Understanding Islam

On Faith, Rationality, and the Other in the Late Middle Ages is an investigation of Nicholas of Cusa that seeks a deeper understanding of this important medieval intellectual and his importance for us today. One of Gergely Bakos's primary aims in this study is to understand Nicholas of Cusa's important and underexamined

dimensions of his approach to dialogue with Islam. The framework and the methodology that informs this investigation was inspired by the late Professor Jos Decorte (1954-2001), a Flemish philosopher and mediaevalist at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium. Bakos carefully exposit his method of approaching medieval thought (Part One) and then applies and tests this method in practice (Part Two). The most extensive part of this study offers a sketch of the historical background of Nicholas's dialogue with Islam and investigates what possibilities this approach offers. All of this is placed in dialogue with two other mediaeval approaches to Islam (Thomas Aquinas and Ramon Lull). The final chapters discuss Nicholas of Cusa's project from a perspective offered by his mystical theology. The book culminates in an exploration of the possibilities of Nicholas of Cusa's approach by testing the framework of the study. Finally, the author evaluates the application of his own approach (Part Three). The study ultimately has two purposes: to contribute to a better understanding of Nicholas of Cusa's thought, on the one hand, and, on the other, to test a particular methodology and interpretative framework for the understanding of mediaeval culture.

Understanding Islam and Christianity

World events won't let North Americans ignore Muslims anymore. Whether those Muslims are villagers in Iraq or neighbors down the street, *Breaking the Islam Code* offers everyday Christians profound insight into the way Muslims think and feel. J.D. Greear's ability to communicate challenging heart truth, plus his expertise in Christian and Islamic theology and two years' experience in a Muslim-dominated area, make him the perfect author for this empowering, insightful, reader-friendly book. It transcends traditional apologetics, focusing on helping Christians *understand what is deep in Muslims' hearts, behind their theology—which will lead to friendship and effective communication of the gospel *respectfully turn many of the primary objections into opportunities to share the faith *avoid unnecessarily offending Muslims they're interacting with Readers will be excited that sharing Christ with Muslims is something they can do—as everyday Christians in their own cities, campuses, and workplaces. www.breakingtheislamcode.com

The Minaret

Islam, Authoritarianism, and Underdevelopment

This three-volume interdisciplinary collection is of use not only in Middle East studies but also in various other disciplines, including women's studies, political science, religion, cultural studies, sociology of gender and anthropology. The collection offers the most influential writings in the field by both renowned scholars as well as those by the new generation of scholars of Islam and gender and includes a wide variety of cases from Middle Eastern and Islamic societies. By including case-based articles, the collection highlights the clear links between concepts and theories and actual practices. Titles also available in this series include, *Shamanism* (March 2004, 3 volumes, 395) and the forthcoming titles *Childhood* (2005, 4 volumes, c.495), *Gender* (2005, 4 volumes, c.495) and

Knowledge (2005, 4 volumes, c.495).

Understanding the Muslim Malaise

What You Should Know about Islam's Holy Book How is it like the Bible? How is it different? Why is it important? Muslims believe the Koran exists as a literal book in heaven and was dictated to the prophet Muhammad by the angel Gabriel. It is only the length of the New Testament, yet a fifth of the world claims it is the complete revelation of God. To most Americans, though, the Koran remains a mystery. Did you know that the Koran teaches the virgin birth and miracle-filled, prophetic ministry of Jesus? Claims to fully embrace his teachings? Reveres Abraham, Moses, Jonah, and other biblical prophets? Find out how the Koran resembles the Bible—and the drastic ways in which it differs. Understanding the Koran gives you a fascinating essential grasp of Islam's holy book: where it came from, what it teaches, how Muslims view it, and how the Allah of the Koran compares with the God of the Bible. Cherished as the final, perfect revelation of God's will by 1.2 billion Muslims worldwide, the Koran has become a part of American life. Today, those who read and memorize it may work in your town, shop where you shop, or send their children to the same school your kids attend. What do you know about the holy book that shapes the lives and eternal destinies of your neighbors and a fifth of the world's population? While some similarities exist between the Koran and the Bible, the differences are striking. Written by a pastor who was born to a Muslim father and raised in Saudi Arabia, Understanding the Koran gives you a fascinating, easy-to-understand overview that will show you:

- Why the background behind the Koran is important
- How the Koran came into existence
- A summary of the main teachings of the Koran, including what it says about Jesus and the crucifixion
- Similarities and differences between Muslim and Christian views of God
- What the Koran teaches about Jihad and holy war
- What the Koran teaches about heaven and hell

More than furnishing you with an essential grasp of Islam's holy book, Understanding the Koran points you to the one thing that can draw your Muslim friends to Jesus—his love, demonstrated to them through you. Discussion questions enable you to use this book in group studies

The Christian Approach to Islam

Do Muslims promote terrorism? Are all Muslims eager to participate in a holy war? Are Muslim distrust and, in some cases, hatred of America justified? Are the West and Islam doomed to continue their enmity? The conflict between Muslims and the West, particularly America, did not begin with the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. It has been brewing for centuries and is the result of many factors-economic, social, religious, military, national, and personal. Understanding Muslim-West Alienation: Building a Better Future summarizes a complex issue in easy-to-read sections. Having lived in both the Middle East and America, Arshad Khan shares a unique perspective on basic misunderstandings between Muslims and America. He spreads blame equally and recommends specific actions each side must take to resolve this long-standing conflict. Every organization has had members whose actions tarnished the reputation and image of the group and reflected poorly on other innocent members. Khan believes that the extremists who perpetrated the 9-11 attacks have "hijacked Islam." In Understanding Muslim-West Alienation: Building a Better Future, he overturns

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many stereotypes of Muslims that have developed over the years from the actions of adherents who have not followed true Islamic teachings. Learn the truth about the world's fastest growing religion and how America as well as Muslims around the world can dissolve the hatred felt by many followers of Islam towards the world's superpower.

How to Approach and Understand the Quran

This book is an introduction to the classical Islamic sciences of philosophy, kalam (theology), Irfan (mysticism), usul al-fiqh (the principles of jurisprudence), fiqh (jurisprudence), and hikmat al-amali (practical philosophy and morality). Compiled from the works of one of the most prolific and influential Islamic thinkers of the twentieth century, Murtada Mutahhari, it surveys the fundamentals of these branches of the Islamic sciences from the perspective of multiple Islamic sects and ideologies. An excellent guide to the foundational teachings of Islam as well as an effective introduction to further studies in the classical Islamic sciences.

Islamic Feminism in Kuwait

Towards Understanding Islam is one of Mawlana Mawdudi's most popular books. The Urdu original, written in 1932, was intended as a first introduction to Islam for students and laymen and soon became a popular reader. Over a million copies have so far appeared in many of the world's languages, including Arabic, English, Persian, German, French, Italian, Portuguese, Japanese, Swahili, Turkish, Indonesian, Bengali, Hindi, Albanian, Bosnian and Georgian. Towards Understanding Islam is a religious text with a difference. It offers a simple exposition of the essential teachings of Islam: its approach to life, the articles of its faith, its scheme of worship and prayers and the social order which it envisages. Its methodology is steeped in the Qur'an. Towards Understanding Islam is one of those books which have changed the lives of many and set them along the Islamic path.

The US Approach to the Islamic World in Post-9/11 Era

Towards Understanding Islam

The Islamic Threat

An integrated thematic approach to the broader religious implications of Muhammed's life as epitomized in his three paradigmatic journeys. Previously published as In the Footsteps of Muhammed.

Understanding Islam

This unparalleled Companion provides a comprehensive and authoritative guide to Islamic law to all with an interest in this increasingly relevant and developing field. The volume presents classical Islamic law through a historiographical introduction

to and analysis of Western scholarship, while key debates about hot-button issues in modern-day circumstances are also addressed. In twenty-one chapters, distinguished authors offer an overview of their particular specialty, reflect on past and current thinking, and point to directions for future research. The Companion is divided into four parts. The first offers an introduction to the history of Islamic law as well as a discussion of how Western scholarship and historiography have evolved over time. The second part delves into the substance of Islamic law. Legal rules for the areas of legal status, family law, socio-economic justice, penal law, constitutional authority, and the law of war are all discussed in this section. Part three examines the adaptation of Islamic law in light of colonialism and the modern nation state as well as the subsequent re-Islamization of national legal systems. The final section presents contemporary debates on the role of Islamic law in areas such as finance, the diaspora, modern governance, and medical ethics, and the volume concludes by questioning the role of Sharia law as a legal authority in the modern context. By outlining the history of Islamic law through a linear study of research, this collection is unique in its examination of past and present scholarship and the lessons we can draw from this for the future. It introduces scholars and students to the challenges posed in the past, to the magnitude of milestones that were achieved in the reinterpretation and revision of established ideas, and ultimately to a thorough conceptual understanding of Islamic law.

Understanding the Islamic Experience

From the beginning, the Abrahamic faiths—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—have stressed the importance of transmitting religious identity from one generation to the next. Today, that sustaining mission has never been more challenged. Will young people have a faith to guide them? How can faith traditions anchor religious attachments in this secular, skeptical culture? The fruit of a historic gathering of scholars and religious leaders across three faiths and many disciplines, this important book reports on the religious lives of young people in today's world. It's also a unique inventory of creative and thoughtful responses from churches, synagogues, and mosques working to keep religion a significant force in those lives. The essays are grouped thematically. Opening the book, Melchor Sanchez de Toca and Nancy Ammerman explore fundamental issues that have an impact on religion—from the cultural effects of global consumerism and personal technology to pluralism and individualism. In Part Two, leading investigators present three leading studies of religiosity among young people and college students in the United States, illuminating the gap between personal values and organized religion—and the emergence of new, different forms of spirituality and faith. How religious institutions deal with these challenges forms the heart of the book—in portraits of “best practices” developed to revitalize traditional institutions, from a synagogue in New York City and a Muslim youth camp in California to the famed French Catholic community of the late Brother John of Taizé. Finally, Jack Miles and Diane Winston weave the findings into a broader perspective of the future of religious belief, practice, and feeling in a changing world. Filled with real-world wisdom, *Passing the Faith* will be an essential resource for anyone seeking to understand what religions must, and can, do to inspire a vigorous faith in the next generation.

Islam: A Christian Approach

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Drawing on interviews and fieldwork in Kuwait and throughout the Arabian Peninsula, this book explores what cultural elites in the Arab Gulf region have to say about women's political and cultural rights and how their faith is or is not related to their politics.

An Approach to the Understanding of Islam

Introduces students to a new framework for understating the relationship between Islam and “the West”, with an accessible introduction, three comprehensive and easy-to-follow parts, definitions of key terms, chronology, discussion points, and further reading.

Understanding Islam

In Understanding Islamic Finance Muhammad Ayub introduces all the essential elements of this growing market by providing an in-depth background to the subject and clear descriptions of all the major products and processes associated with Islamic finance. Key features include: Discussion of the principles of Islamic finance; Introduction to the key products and procedures that International Financial Institutions are using or may adopt to fund a variety of clients ensuring Sharīah compliance; Discussion of the role Islamic finance can play in the development of the financial system and of economies; Practical and operational examples that cover deposit and fund management by banks involving financing of various sectors of the economy, risk management, accounting treatment, and working of Islamic financial markets and instruments. This book is not only an important text for all banks and financial institutions entering this particular market with a commitment to building Islamic financial solutions, but is also essential reading for undergraduate and postgraduate students of Islamic finance.

Understanding the Uniqueness of the Qur'an

Chapter 1; Islam in perspective -- Chapter 2; The paradigm of submission -- Chapter 3; The intra-personal dimension : Belief and faith -- Chapter 4; The paradigm of worship : Rituals and rites -- Chapter 5; The inter-personal dimension : Ethics and social conduct -- Chapter 6; The dynamics of society : Social order and social institutions -- Chapter 7; Addressing the present mapping.

Understanding Christian-Muslim Relations

A topical investigation into Christian-Muslim relationships, which highlights the important need for improved understanding between the two communities in order to develop universal peace and justice.

The Sociology of Islam

This book is designed to take people on the first steps in understanding Islam and the way that Muslims think and see the world. It grows out of extensive experience of teaching the course on which it is based. The arrangement of material builds a framework to understand Islam on its own terms rather than through an externally

applied structure. Islam is linked to the essential guidance of God to all humankind from the beginning of creation. This is then traced through a series of steps such as a world-view, prophecy, revelation, history, belief and practice. The structure of a whole life based on Islam is explored together with Islam's approach to other faiths and Muslims in contemporary Britain and Europe.

Understanding Muslim-West Alienation

"First published in 2005, *Understanding Jihad* unraveled the tangled historical, intellectual, and political meanings of jihad within the context of Islamic life. In this revised and expanded second edition, author David Cook has included new material in light of pivotal events over of the past ten years, such as the revolutionizing events of the Arab Spring, the death of Osama bin Laden, and the rise of new Islamic factions such as ISIL. Jihad is one of the most loaded and misunderstood terms in the news today. Contrary to popular understanding, the term does not mean "holy war." This judiciously balanced, accessibly written, and highly relevant book looks closely at a range of sources from sacred Islamic texts to modern interpretations of the term, opening a critically important perspective on the role of Islam in the contemporary world. As David Cook traces the practical and theoretical meanings of jihad, he cites from scriptural, legal, and newly translated texts to give readers a taste of the often ambiguous information that is used to construct Islamic doctrine. He looks closely at the life and teaching of the Prophet Muhammad and at the ramifications of the great Islamic conquests in 634 to 732 A.D. He sheds light on legal developments relevant to fighting and warfare, and places the internal, spiritual jihad within the larger context of Islamic religion. He describes some of the conflicts that occur in radical groups and shows how the more mainstream supporters of these groups have come to understand and justify violence. He has also included a special appendix of relevant documents including materials related to the September 11 attacks and published manifestos issued by Osama bin Laden and Palestinian suicide-martyrs"--Provided by publisher.

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