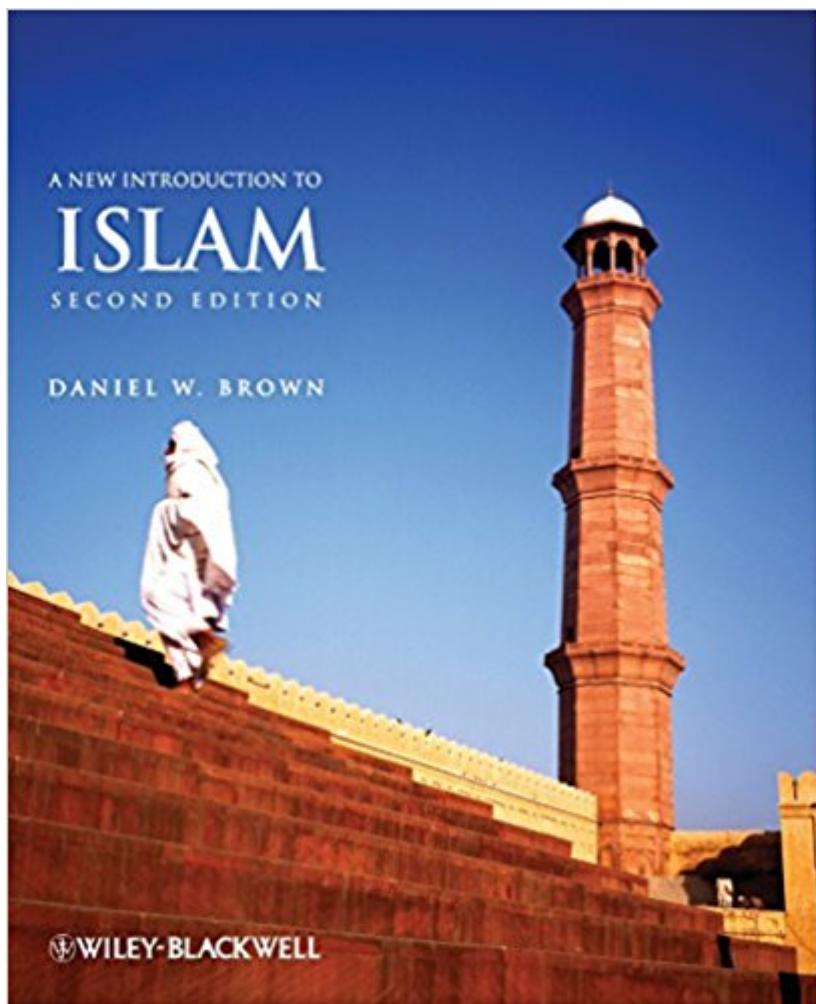


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# A New Introduction To Islam, 2nd Edition



## **Synopsis**

The second edition of this student-friendly textbook explores the origins, major features and lasting influence of the Islamic tradition. Traces the development of Muslim beliefs and practices against the background of social and cultural contexts extending from North Africa to South and Southeast Asia. Fully revised for the second edition, with completely new opening and closing chapters considering key issues facing Islam in the 21st century. Focuses greater attention on everyday practices, the role of women in Muslim societies, and offers additional material on Islam in America. Includes detailed chronologies, tables summarizing key information, useful maps and diagrams, and many more illustrations.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

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## **Customer Reviews**

"The ideal mixture of sympathetic description and critical analysis. Careful not only to present the full range of Muslim interpretations of important events, movements, texts, and doctrines, but also to provide penetrating historical assessments of the key issues, this is the only introductory book that integrates the latest scholarship on Islamic history, the canonization of the Qur'ān, and the development of hadiths. Furthermore, this integrative approach also highlights the interconnectedness of religion, theology, law, and politics of Islam." Herbert Berg, University of North Carolina Wilmington "Designed as a student-friendly textbook, Brown explores Islam's origins, major features, and lasting influence. Brown, who has lived and taught in Egypt and Pakistan, offers both a sympathetic description and a critical analysis." (Islamic Horizons, November 2009)

A New Introduction to Islam offers students a fresh account of the origins, major features and lasting impact of the Islamic tradition. The development of Muslim beliefs and practices is carefully explored against the background of social and . --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

My review is really in response to John Esposito's book which was previously used for the Intro to Islam class at my university. This book is breath of fresh air. I have only read a couple chapters so far, but Brown tells you more explicitly WHERE Muslims get their information about things such as Muhammad's life. This was missing in the equivalent Esposito book for the most part. Also I see Brown as very fair in his analysis, just the right amount of critical. This is a very basic textbook but a good one for an Intro class. Esposito has the tendency to make Islam appear perfect, and is not critical of any areas of it. Brown does a much fairer job.

This book has definitely been an aid to understanding Islam - its culture, history, customs, history, etc. It well-written and easy to consume.

Purchased for college class. Good price

The text itself is very good. It is simultaneously accessible and scholarly. The thing that kept me from giving it five stars is that the Kindle edition doesn't have actual page numbers. This makes it harder to use academically. My professor assigns page numbers--not chapter numbers or names. I have no idea what I'm supposed to be reading each week.

This is an undergraduate college textbook, and it reads like one. I found it interesting, though the style is rather dry. I appreciated the history of Islam being provided in the context of the religious ferment that was going at the time -- particularly the unorthodox Christian sects that had been driven out of the Byzantine empire into the desert regions. Mohammed apparently had contact with several of these groups during his travels, and his views and perspectives on Christianity were influenced by their theology. It was also interesting to read how in the early years, Muslims and Jews found common cause in their opposition to Christianity. All in all, an excellent overview of the history of Islam, the major (and minor) Islamic sects, Islamic theology, interpretations of Islamic law, etc. If you want an objective, non-polemic introduction to this important religion, this is a good one.

It's a good introduction. I bought the kindle version and for study purpose this is not handy:It's very annoying that the index in the back of the kindle version doesn't link to passages in the book.

This provides a good background to the history, thought and development of Islam. A lot of information but the author does a good job of keeping it readable.

A clear description of the basics of Islam. I haven't finished it yet, and it is intended to be a textbook for college courses. It has been helpful to me as I have more contact with Muslims in other countries so that I can understand some of their orientation.

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