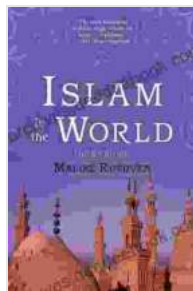


# The History and Spread of Islam: A Comprehensive Overview

Islam is one of the world's major religions, with over 1.8 billion followers. It originated in the Arabian Peninsula in the 7th century CE and has since spread to all corners of the globe. The word "Islam" means "submission" in Arabic, and refers to the submission to the will of God (Allah). Muslims believe that Allah is the one and only God, and that Muhammad is his final prophet.



## Islam in the World by Malise Ruthven

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 18050 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 544 pages

Lending : Enabled



## The History of Islam

Islam began with the teachings of Muhammad, who was born in Mecca in 570 CE. Muhammad received his first revelation from Allah in 610 CE, and began to preach the message of Islam to the people of Mecca. He faced opposition from the leaders of Mecca, who were afraid of the challenge Islam posed to their traditional beliefs and practices. In 622 CE, Muhammad and his followers were forced to flee Mecca for Medina. This

event is known as the Hijra, and marks the beginning of the Islamic calendar.

In Medina, Muhammad established a small community of Muslims. He continued to preach the message of Islam, and gradually converted more and more people. Muhammad also established a number of important Islamic institutions, such as the mosque and the sharia (Islamic law). In 630 CE, Muhammad and his followers returned to Mecca and conquered the city. Muhammad then went on to unite the Arabian Peninsula under Islamic rule. He died in 632 CE, and was succeeded by a series of caliphs (successors).

The caliphs continued to spread the message of Islam beyond the Arabian Peninsula. By the 8th century CE, the Islamic empire had expanded to include all of North Africa, the Middle East, and parts of Europe and Asia. The Islamic empire was a major center of learning and culture, and Muslim scholars made significant contributions to the fields of science, mathematics, and philosophy.

## **The Beliefs and Practices of Islam**

The central beliefs of Islam are based on the Five Pillars of Faith:

1. To believe in one God, Allah.
2. To believe in Muhammad as his final prophet.
3. To pray five times a day.
4. To give charity to the poor.
5. To fast during the month of Ramadan.

Muslims also believe in the Quran, which is the holy book of Islam. The Quran contains the teachings of Muhammad, and is considered to be the word of God. Muslims also follow the Sunnah, which is the collection of Muhammad's sayings and actions. The Sunnah provides guidance on how to live a Muslim life, and is considered to be second only to the Quran in authority.

Islam has a strong emphasis on community. Muslims are expected to be kind and compassionate to one another, and to work together to create a just and equitable society. Muslims also believe in the importance of education, and stress the importance of acquiring knowledge and developing one's intellect.

## **The Impact of Islam on the World**

Islam has had a profound impact on the world. It has shaped the cultures of many countries, and has been a major force in history. Islam has also played a role in the development of science, mathematics, and philosophy. Today, Islam is a major world religion, and its followers are found in all corners of the globe.

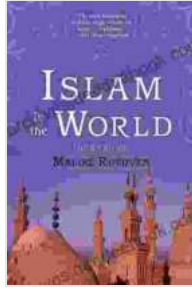
Islam is a rich and complex religion with a long and storied history. It has had a profound impact on the world, and continues to be a major force in the lives of millions of people. The teachings of Islam are based on peace, compassion, and justice, and its followers strive to lead lives that are in accordance with these principles.

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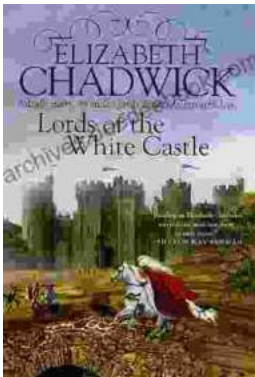
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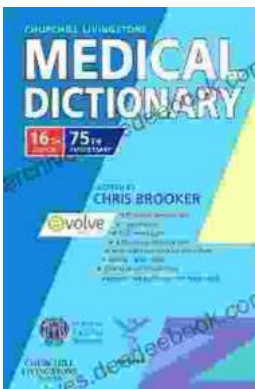


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