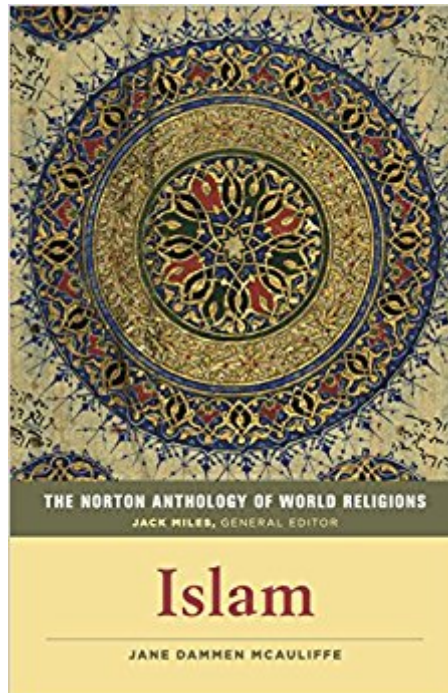




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The Norton Anthology Of World Religions: Islam



Synopsis

This groundbreaking new Norton Anthology enables the six major, living, international world religions to speak to students in their own words. Edited by world-renowned scholars under the direction of Pulitzer Prize winner Jack Miles, *The Norton Anthology of World Religions* provides a flexible library of more than 1,000 primary texts from the world's major religions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—in six portable paperbacks. This anthology unites foundational works—the Bhagavad Gita, the Daode jing, the Bible, the Qur'an—with the writings of scholars, seekers, believers, and skeptics whose voices have kept these religions vital for centuries, allowing instructors to shape a variety of courses. The selections are supported by the meticulously prepared apparatus—in introductions, explanatory annotations, bibliographies, maps, and glossaries—for which Norton Anthologies have set the standard for fifty years. Unprecedented in scope and approach, *The Norton Anthology of World Religions: Islam* brings together over 100 texts from the Qur'an in the seventh century to feminist and pluralist readings of the Qur'an in the twenty-first century. The volume features Jack Miles's illuminating General Introduction—"How the West Learned to Compare Religions"—as well as Jane Dammen McAuliffe's "Submission to God as the Wellspring of a Civilization," a lively primer on the history and core tenets of Islam.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Jane Dammen McAuliffe (Ph.D. University of Toronto), the inaugural director of National and International Outreach at the Library of Congress, is the editor of the six- volume Encyclopaedia of the Quran and the Cambridge Companion to the Quran. She is a former president of Bryn Mawr College and a former dean of arts and sciences at Georgetown University. Jack Miles (Ph.D. Harvard) is Distinguished Professor of English and Religious Studies with the University of California at Irvine and Senior Fellow for Religious Affairs with the Pacific Council on International Policy. He spent 1960–70 as a Jesuit seminarian, studying at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem before enrolling at Harvard University, where he completed a Ph.D. in Near Eastern languages in 1971. His book GOD: A Biography won a Pulitzer Prize in 1996, and Christ: A Crisis in the Life of God led to his being named a MacArthur Fellow for 2003-07.

A great selection of readings on the whole. Minority and majority opinions appear as equals. Very useful biographies before each selection. Some oddities and problems: A bit Arab and Persian-centric. Of course there is no way to avoid that fully as that is where the scholarship is, but still... Most of the selected readings on women were written by men as if there aren't thousands of women scholars who could have been selected. The image on the cover is upside-down and backwards. The means of transliteration changes from selection to selection, which can get a little confusing for students. An unnecessary number of pages are spent on pronunciations. Naturally these are difficult sometimes, but most of them refer to either names that just come up once in passing or words that appear dozens of times across the book.

A comprehensive, insightful, and well-selected anthology of Islam that brings together 66 important texts. The editor introduces the authors of the texts with very helpful short biographies. It covers a broad spectrum from foundational texts to recent debates.

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