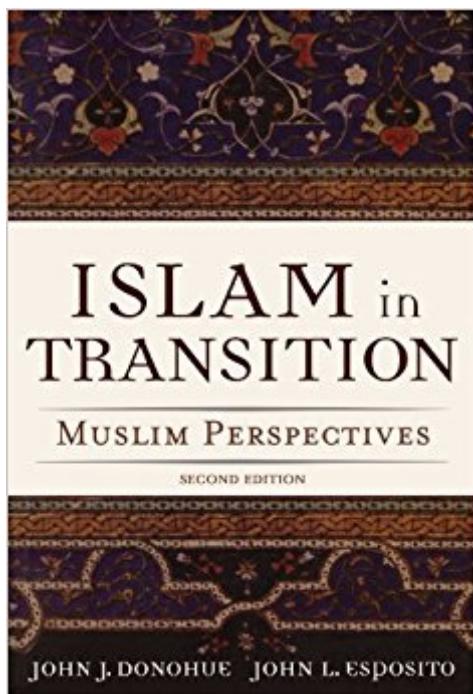


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# Islam In Transition: Muslim Perspectives



## **Synopsis**

9/11 and continued acts of global terrorism have challenged the understanding of academic experts, policymakers, and students, Muslims and non-Muslims alike. Critical questions have been raised about Islam and Muslim politics in the modern world: Are Islam and modernity compatible? Is Islam in need of and capable of reform? What do Islam and what do Muslims have to say about globalization, democracy, human rights, women, jihad, violence, terrorism, and suicide bombing? Thoroughly revised and updated in this second edition, *Islam in Transition: Muslim Perspectives* responds to these and other questions, taking into account the myriad of changes and challenges that Islam and Muslims have experienced over the last twenty years. Featuring numerous contemporary writings, fifty percent of which are new to this edition, it provides a point of entry into the various and changing dynamics of Muslim discourse and politics. This volume also bridges the nineteenth and the twenty-first centuries by retaining relevant classic selections from the first edition--by a diverse group of contributors from the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Europe, and the U.S.--that offer historical background. Ideal for courses on Islam, politics in Islam, and Middle Eastern history, *Islam in Transition: Muslim Perspectives, Second Edition*, presents a wide range of viewpoints from a cross-section of Muslim intellectuals and religious leaders, from secular to devout, traditionalist to reformist, and moderate to extremist. The essays address key issues including Islam and nationalism, socialism, the secular state, economics, modernization, democracy, women, jihad, violence, terrorism, suicide bombing, globalization, and civilizational dialogue.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Advance Praise: "Islam in Transition includes a wide range of opinions written by Muslim

intellectuals over two centuries, undercutting students' stereotypes of Islam as a monolithic religion. The book is both comprehensive and diverse--chronologically, geographically, and intellectually. Islam in Transition . . . fills a void--although there are many primary source readers instructors can use for courses on Islam and Islamic Civilization, there are not many readers in print for courses on the modern Middle East."--Corrine Blake, Rowan University"The best thing about this book is that it covers a wide range of modern Muslim thinkers and allows them to speak for themselves. I know of no other book like it."--Jamal J. Elias, Amherst College

John J. Donohue is at St. Joseph's University, Beirut. John L. Esposito is at Georgetown University.

This book was required for my class, however I must recommend this book to anyone that wants to understand the Middle East and its social, political and economic revolutions. Islam in Transition is a compilation of exerts from a variety of Muslim scholars that map out the changes in ideology throughout the 19th, 20th and 21st century. As someone with little background in history, the exerts were crafted in a way that provoked curiosity to learn more. I would suggest that as you read, to pay attention to the writers of each exert, because they range on the political scale. Not everything in the book should be taken as truth. Also, if you are curious about the Arab Spring and recent revolutions in the Near and Middle East, the exerts will give you a background on several famous Islamic scholars, some whose ideology are the backbone of the reform movements. A great read to compliment one's interests in political science, sociology, geography (human), international studies and religious studies.

Really enjoyed this! Very informative and easy to read!

This book is a wonderful compilation of first person sources regarding Islam in the Modern Era from the 17th century to the present day, focusing on the divergent responses of Muslim thinkers to Western influence. It begins with a selection of articles responding to the challenges of colonization and imperialism and ends with a discussion of contemporary challenges, including the notion of jihad and terrorism. This book's advantage is in letting the reader draw his or her own conclusions instead of relying on interpretations of the opinions. Articles speak on a variety of Muslim responses to post-Enlightenment Western concepts, including socio-economic theory; the nation-state; democratic principles; law; and secularism, to name a few. It also presents a variety of perspectives on distinctly Muslim issues, including the role of Islam in society; Quranic interpretation; religious

law; gender; and jihad. The articles in this book are best read with a good knowledge of the principles of Islam, and a good knowledge of the historical development of Islam and the Muslim world. This book should be required reading for all serious English-speaking students of Islam and the Muslim world in contemporary society, including those focusing on the Middle East, terrorism, conflict studies, politics, culture, etc.

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