The Fatimid period was the golden age of Shi'i Ismaili thought and literature, when Shi'i Ismaili leaders ruled over the vast areas of the Muslim world and made important contributions to Islamic civilization. Heinz Halm investigates from a historical perspective the intellectual traditions that developed among the Ismailis from the rise of the Fatimid state in North Africa to the Fatimid caliphate's collapse. The Fatimid period was the period when the Ismaili community was born and the Ismaili literature and culture moved to the central region of the Muslim world and made important contributions to Islamic civilization. Heinz Halm investigates from a historical perspective the intellectual traditions that developed among the Ismailis from the rise of the Fatimid state in North Africa to the cultural brilliance of what he calls "one of the great eras in Egyptian history and in Islamic history in general." He covers the training of the Ismaili dais or missionaries, the establishment of academic institutions such as al Azhar and the Dar al Ilm (House of Knowledge) through which the Fatimids encouraged learning, and the special "sessions of wisdom" for advanced instruction.

**The Fatimids And Their Traditions Of Learning**

Heinz Halm 1997 In this book, Heinz Halm investigates from a historical perspective the intellectual traditions that developed among the Ismailis from the rise of the Fatimid state in North Africa to the cultural brilliance of what the author calls 'one of the great eras in Egyptian history and in Islamic history in general.'

**The Fatimid Caliphate**

Farhad Daftary 2017-10-30 In association with the Institute of Ismaili Studies, The Fatimids ruled much of the Mediterranean world for over two centuries. From the conquest of Qayrawan in 909 to the defeat of the Fatimid caliphate in 1171, the Fatimid caliphate governed a vast area stretching, at its peak, from the Red Sea in the East to the Atlantic Ocean in the West. Their leaders - the Ismaili Shi'i imam-caliphs - were distinctive in largely pursuing a policy of tolerance towards the religious and ethnic communities of their realm, and they embraced diverse approaches to the practicalities of administering a vast empire. The Fatimid caliphate created a lasting multicultural legacy. The present volume, edited by Farhad Daftary and Shainool Jiwa, brings together a series of original contributions from a number of leading authorities in the field. Based on analyses of primary sources, the chapters shed fresh light on the impact of Fatimid rule. The book presents little explored aspects of state-society relations such as the Fatimid model of the vizierate, Sunni legal responses to Fatimid observance, and the role of women in prayer. Highlighting the distinctive nature of the Fatimid empire and its legacy, this book will be of special interest to researchers in mediaeval Islamic history and thought.

**Building the Caliphate**

Farhad Daftary 2017-10-30 In association with the Institute of Ismaili Studies, The Fatimids ruled much of the Mediterranean world for over two centuries. From the conquest of Qayrawan in 909 to the defeat of the Fatimid caliphate in 1171, the Fatimid caliphate governed a vast area stretching, at its peak, from the Red Sea in the East to the Atlantic Ocean in the West. Their leaders - the Ismaili Shi'i imam-caliphs - were distinctive in largely pursuing a policy of tolerance towards the religious and ethnic communities of their realm, and they embraced diverse approaches to the practicalities of administering a vast empire. The Fatimid caliphate created a lasting multicultural legacy. The present volume, edited by Farhad Daftary and Shainool Jiwa, brings together a series of original contributions from a number of leading authorities in the field. Based on analyses of primary sources, the chapters shed fresh light on the impact of Fatimid rule. The book presents little explored aspects of state-society relations such as the Fatimid model of the vizierate, Sunni legal responses to Fatimid observance, and the role of women in prayer. Highlighting the distinctive nature of the Fatimid empire and its legacy, this book will be of special interest to researchers in mediaeval Islamic history and thought.

**Heresy and the Politics of Community**

Marina Rustow 2014-10-31 In a book with a bold new view of medieval Jewish history, written in a style accessible to nonspecialists and students as well as to scholars in the field, Marina Rustow changes our understanding of the origins and nature of heresy itself. Scholars have long believed that the Rabbantes and Qaraites, the two major Jewish groups under Islamic rule, split decisively in the tenth century and from that time forward the minority Qaraites were deemed a heretical sect. Qaraites affirmed a right to decide matters of Jewish law free from rabbinic interpretation wherein Qaraites claimed to have recovered the original oral tradition of Judaism. Rustow reveals a millennial tradition of state record keeping whose very continuities suggest the strength of Middle Eastern institutions, not their weaknesses. Facing the complex realities by which Arabic documents made their way from Fatimid palace-officials to Jewish scribes, the book provides a rare window onto a robust culture of documentation and archiving not only comparable to that of medieval Europe, but, in many cases, surpassing it. Above all, Rustow argues that the problem of archives in the medieval Middle East lies not with the region's administrative culture, but with our failure to understand preindustrial documentary ecology. Illustrated with stunning examples from the Cairo Geniza, this compelling book advances our understanding of documents as physical artifacts, showing how the records of the Fatimid caliphate, once recovered, deciphered, and studied, can help change our thinking about the medieval Islamicate world and about premodern politics more broadly.

**Wala'ay the Fatimid Isma'iill tradition**

Elizabeth R. Alexandrin 2017-07-19 Explores the relationship between revelation and reason in medieval Islamic intellectual history. In this original study, Elizabeth R. Alexandrin examines the complex relationships that can be inscribed between medieval Isma'ili thought as an intellectual tradition with a devotional practice of reliance on the imam, and as a politico-religious system that redefined governance during the Fatimid caliphate in the eleventh century. Alexandrin's work is a departure from recent Western scholarship that focuses on Islamic political and social history. By tracing the development of heresy from the two key sources, her examin...
history of the Isma'ilis dates back to the second/seventh century when they were separated from other Shi'i groups under the leadership of their own imams. Soon afterwards, the Isma'ilis organised a dynamic, revolutionary movement, known as the da'wa or mission, to promote the Sunni regime of the Abbasids and establish a new Shi'i caliphate headed by the Isma'ilis. By the end of the third/ninth century, the Isma'ili dā'ī, operating secretly on behalf of the movement, were active in almost every region of the Muslim world, from Central Asia and Persia to Yemen, Egypt and the Maghrib. This book brings together a collection of the best works from Farhad Daftary, one of the foremost authorities in the field. The studies cover a range of specialised topics related to Isma'ili history, historiography, institutions, theology, law and philosophy, amongst other intellectual traditions elaborated by the Isma'ilis. The collation of these invaluable studies into one book will be of great interest to the Islamic Studies community as well to anyone studying Islam in general, or Shi'i Islam in particular.

Women And the Fatimids in the World of Islam-Delia Cortese 2006-01-05 This first full-length study of women and the Fatimids is a groundbreaking work investigating an unexplored arena in the field of Islamic and medieval studies. The authors have unearthed a wealth of references to women, thus re-assigning their role in the history of one of the most fascinating Islamic dynasties, the only one to be named after a woman. At last some light is thrown on the erstwhile silent and shadowy figures of women under the Fatimids which gives them a presence in the history of women in medieval and pre-modern dynasties. Basing their research on a variety of sources from historical works to chronicles, official correspondence, documentary sources and archaeological findings, the authors have provided a richly informative analysis of this period in their women's history. Their contribution is first explored within the context of Isma'ili and Fatimid genealogical history, and then within the courts in their roles as mothers, companions, wives and daughters, and as workers and servants. Throughout the book comparison is drawn with the status and powers of women in contemporary, and sometimes in recent Islamic as well as non-Islamic courts.

The World of the Fatimids-Asadollah Sourour Melikian-Chirvani 2018-03-03 This survey in 14 essays of Fatimid art between the 10th and 12th centuries showcases the pottery, rock crystal, metalwork, textile, rock, glass, wood, and calligraphic creations. It provides a detailed account of the Fatimids' history, their art, and their place in Islamic culture, with special attention paid to the art of Christians and Jewish communities under the Fatimids. Between the 10th and 12th centuries CE, the Fatimid caliphate ruled parts of present-day Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Sicily and Syria. Tracing their descent from the Prophet Muhammad’s daughter Fatima, the Fatimids reinvigorated Islamic art, producing splendid pottery, metalwork, rock crystal, wood, textile and calligraphic creations. This art showcased ingenius techniques, superb decorative methods and lively motifs displaying an inventive dynamism in the use of human, animal, vegetal, and abstract forms. Architecture, too, became a hallmark of Fatimid grandeur, resulting in such magnificent structures as Al-Azhar University in Cairo, the Fatimids’ capital.

Islamic Tradition Concerning the Rise of the Fatimids-Wladimir Ivanov 1942 Study on the history of Fatimites; includes Arabic text of the portion of Isma'ili literature concerning Fatimities.

Fatimid Empire-Michael Brett 2017-02-03 A complete history of the Fatimids, showing the significance of the empire to the Islam and the wider world. The Fatimid empire in North Africa, Egypt and Syria was at the centre of the political and religious history of the Islamic world in the Middle Ages, from the breakdown of the Abbasid empire in the tenth century, to the invasions of the Seljuks in the eleventh and the Crusaders in the twelfth, leading up to its extinction by Saladin. As Imam and Caliph, the Fatimid sovereign claimed to inherit the religious and political authority of the Prophet, a claim which inspired the conquest of North Africa and Egypt and a following of believers as far away as Asia. This reaction provoked the creation of the political and religious evolution of medieval Islam. The Fatimid dynasty, North Africa and Syria, was replaced by the Seljuk dynasty. The book presents the Fatimid dynasty into a coherent account. It then relates this account to the wider history of Islam to provide a narrative that establishes the historical significance of the empire. Key features: The first complete history of the Fatimid empire in English, establishing its central contribution to medieval Islamic history; Covers the relationship of tribal to civilian economy and society; the formation and evolution of the dynastic state, and the relationship of that state to economy and society; Explores the question of cultural change, specifically Arabisation and Islamisation; Goes beyond the history of Islam, not only to incorporate the Crusades, but to compare and contrast the dynasty with the counterparts of its in Byzantium and Western Europe.

The Shi'i World-Farhad Daftary 2015-09-25 I.B.Tauris in association with the Institute of Ismaili Studies The world's 200 million Shi'i Muslims express their faith in a multiplicity of ways, united by reverence for the ahl al-bayt, the family of the Prophet. In embracing a pluralistic ethic, fourteen centuries of Shi'i Islam have given rise to diverse traditions and practices across varied geographic and cultural landscapes. The Shi'i World is a comprehensive work authored by leading scholars from assorted disciplines, to provide a better understanding of how Shi'i communities view themselves and articulate their teachings. The topics range from Shi'i Islam’s historical and cultural foundations, sectarianism, its literature, architecture, art, literature, architecture, music and cinema, as well as expressions and experiences of modernity. The book thus provides a panoramic perspective of the richly textured narratives that have shaped the social and moral universe of Shi'i Muslims around the globe. This fourth volume in the Muslim Heritage Series will appeal to specialists and general readers alike, as a timely resource on the prevailing complexities not only of the ‘Muslim world’, but also of the dynamic Shi'is diasporas of Europe and North America.

Tradition and Islamic Learning-Norsaheli Saat 2018-03-19 The Al-Azhar University remains the top destination for Southeast Asian students pursuing an Islamic studies degree. The university, built in the last millennium, has been able to withstand competition from modern universities across the globe and continues to produce influential Islamic studies graduates. What are the motivations of students pursuing a degree at Al-Azhar? What are the challenges they face? Are they certain of their future and career opportunities upon their return to Singapore? This book combines both qualitative and quantitative analysis of former and current students at the Al-Azhar University. It not only hopes to develop more critical analysis of returning Al-Azhar graduates but also attempts to understand the deeper connections between Muslims in Southeast Asia, particularly Singapore, and the Middle East.

Shi'ism-Heinz Halm 2004 A comprehensive survey of all the Shi'ite groups, this book traces the development of all the individual branches from their common origins to their current status in the modern world. The dogmatic and organizational development of each of the various branches of Shi'ism is discussed and explicated in the context of their particular history.

Art, Trade and Culture in the Islamic World and Beyond- Alison Ohta 2016 The essays in this volume bring to light the artistic exchanges that occurred between successive Islamic dynasties and those further afield in China, Armenia, India and Europe from the 12th to the 19th centuries. All the articles present original research, many of them taking advantage of innovative scientific means allowing us to look at familiar objects in a new light. Subjects include the production of the qalam-un-nisa' during the reign of Qaytbay, book bindings associated with Qansuh al-Ghuri, depictions of fish on Mamluk textiles and manuscripts, the Seljuk amirate of Tughrul drug, qalam-un-nisa' produced in the reigns of both the Fatimid and Mamluk dynasties during the 10th century and later periods, the building of the Nusretiye Mosque in Istanbul, the role played by Armenian architects in the reshaping of Ottoman cities in the 19th century, the role of the hammam in Ottoman culture and representations of beauty, the construction of the Mamluk inscription from the Madrasa Qartawiya in Tripoli is replicated in Istanbul during the Ottoman period. The relationship between ceilings of the Cappella Palatina in Palermo and the Moukhroutas Palace in Constantinople is also explored, as is the unacknowledged debt that European lacquer works owes to Persian craftsmen. Other topics covered include the architecture of the Mamluk inscription from the Madrasa Qartawiya in Tripoli is replicated in Istanbul during the Ottoman period. The relationship between ceilings of the Cappella Palatina in Palermo and the Moukhroutas Palace in Constantinople is also explored, as is the unacknowledged debt that European lacquer works owes to Persian craftsmen. Other topics covered include the architecture of the

Intellectual Interactions in the Islamic World-Orhan Mir-Kasimov 2019-11-14 How has the Ismaili branch of Shi'i Islam interacted with other Islamic communities throughout history? The groups and religious traditions that interacted with Isma'ili thought, however, are not well documented yet, while scholarship has analyzed many branches of Islam in isolation, the exchanges and mutual influences between them has not been sufficiently recognised. This book traces the interactions between Isma'ili intellectual thought and the philosophies of other Islamic groups to shed light on the complex and interwoven nature of Islamic civilisation. Based on a broad range of primary sources from the early medieval to the late nineteenth century, the book brings together different disciplines within Islamic Studies to cover political, cultural and intellectual interactions. The chapters include contributions from leading experts in the field shed new light on the close and complex relationships very different Islamic groups and movements have enjoyed throughout the centuries.

Islam in Historical Perspective-Alexander Knysh 2015-09-30 Islam in Historical Perspective integrates history of Islamic societies with discussion of how Muslim scriptures, laws, moral values and myths have shaped the lives and thought of individual Muslims and various Muslim communities from the rise of Islam until today. It provides carefully selected historical and scriptural evidence that enables readers to form a comprehensive balanced vision of Islam's evolution. Author Alexander Knysh shows Muslims have made sense of their life experiences by constantly interpreting and re-interpreting Islamic's foundational ideas in accordance with ever-changing social and political conditions. The author offers a Holistic approach to the study of Islamic history. This book will be of great interest to the Islamic Studies community as well to anyone studying Islam in general, or Shi'i Islam in particular.

-Heinz Halm 2004 A comprehensive survey of all the Shi'ite groups, this book traces the development of all the individual branches from their common origins to their current status in the modern world. The dogmatic and organizational development of each of the various branches of Shi'ism is discussed and explicated in the context of their particular history.
The Fatimids And Their Traditions Of Learning: Volume 2

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The Life and Legend of the Sultan Saladin
Jonathan Phillips 2019-08-20 An engaging biography that offers a new perspective on one of the most influential figures of the Crusades In 1187, Saladin marched triumphantly into Jerusalem, ending decades of struggle against the Christians and reclaiming the holy city for Islam. Four years later he fought off the armies of the Third Crusade, which were commanded by Europe's leading monarchs. A fierce warrior and savvy diplomat, Saladin's unparalleled courtesy, justice, generosity, and mercy were revered by both his fellow Muslims and his Christian rivals such as Richard the Lionheart. Combining thorough research with vivid storytelling, Jonathan Phillips offers a fresh and captivating look at the triumphs, failures, and contradictions of one of the Crusades' most unique figures. Bringing the vibrant world of the twelfth century to life, this book also explores Saladin's complicated legacy, examining the ways Saladin has been invoked in the modern age by Arab and Muslim leaders ranging from Nasser in Egypt, Asad in Syria, and Saddam Hussein in Iraq to Osama bin Laden, as well as his huge appeal across popular culture in books, drama, and music.

Islam: A Worldwide Encyclopedia [4 volumes]
Cenap Cakmak 2017-05-18 This expansive four-volume encyclopedia presents a broad introduction to Islam that enables learning about the fundamental role of Islam in world history and promotes greater respect for cultural diversity. • Comprises concise, jargon-free entries written by experts in their fields, providing readers with accurate viewpoints that cut through the bias and controversies regarding most Islamic concepts • Supplies an authoritative introduction of Islam to Western readers that addresses the subject from historical, geographical, conceptual, and personal perspectives • Provides students with a current bibliography • Features color inserts with 16 pages of compelling images from Islam around the world in each volume

Islamic Historiography
Chase F. Robinson 2003 Table of contents

Administration of Justice in Medieval Egypt
Lev Yaacov Levy 2020-03-02 This book shows how political and administrative forces shaped the way justice was applied in medieval Egypt. It introduces the model that evolved during the 7th to the 9th centuries, which involved four judicial institutions: the cadi, the court of complaint (mazalim), the police/shurta (responsible for criminal justice) and the Islamized market law (hisba) administrated by the market supervisor/muhtasib. Literary and non-literary sources are used to highlight how these institutions worked in real-time situations such as the famine of 1024-1025, which posed tremendous challenges to the market supervisors in Cairo. The inner workings of the court of complaint during the 11th-12th century Fatimid state are revealed through array of documentary sources. Further, non-Muslim communities, their courts and their sphere of responsibilities are treated as integral to how justice was dispensed in medieval Islam. Documentary sources offers significant insights into these issues and illuminate the scope and limits of non-Muslims self-rule/judicial autonomy. In sum, the book shows that the administrative and political history of the judiciary in medieval Egypt implicitly and explicitly illuminates broader questions about religious and social forces that shaped the lives of medieval people in the Middle East, Muslims and non-Muslims alike.

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