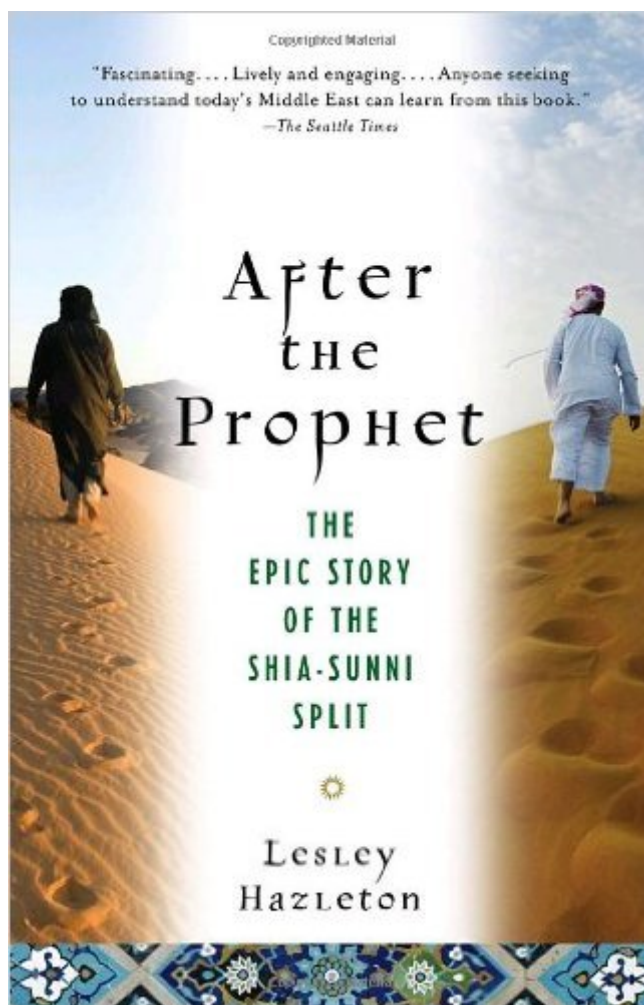


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After The Prophet: The Epic Story Of The Shia-Sunni Split In Islam



Synopsis

In this gripping narrative history, Lesley Hazleton tells the tragic story at the heart of the ongoing rivalry between the Sunni and Shia branches of Islam, a rift that dominates the news now more than ever. Even as Muhammad lay dying, the battle over who would take control of the new Islamic nation had begun, beginning a succession crisis marked by power grabs, assassination, political intrigue, and passionate faith. Soon Islam was embroiled in civil war, pitting its founder's controversial wife Aisha against his son-in-law Ali, and shattering Muhammad's ideal of unity. Combining meticulous research with compelling storytelling, *After the Prophet* explores the volatile intersection of religion and politics, psychology and culture, and history and current events. It is an indispensable guide to the depth and power of the Shia-Sunni split.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

overall, i would give it 4. If there was an option I would have given it a 3.5. What I like: 1. Unlike Martin Ling, she questions things. In majority of instances, she acknowledges that the incidents she is quoting are not unanimous. She questions things. For example, if Ali was known for his depth of character, tolerance and spirituality, how can he give a mean-spirited advice. At many places, she tries to use logic and makes the reader think. 2. She discusses an often overlooked topic - a topic that majority of Sunni Muslims don't want to confront. This is difficult as it makes question so many beliefs and assumption on which an ideal is built about so much of the history. 3. Her background in psychology helps her examine the human dimension in these epoch historical events. 4. The root of sunni extremism - Kharjiis - I found it very interesting and made me think about irony of

self-righteousness and holier than thou attitude. It is so much easier to understand wahab's progenies who are spreading their terror today.5. some people have commented that after talking about all the rifts she says what unites them is much more than what divides muslims. The readers have argued her comments to be unqualified. However, I disagree with those readers. A writer cannot spell out every thing. She mentioned at plenty of places that how the prophet and quran is the common link. she also mentioned constantly how unity was the key factor in making decisions to fight or make peace. I guess she thought these accounts qualify her statement without one last spelling out the reason why she thinks so. What I don't like1. Try as we may, we are humans and our endeavors will never be 100% objective and she picks and choose stuff.

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