

Islamic Civilization in South Asia: A History of Muslim Power and Presence in the Indian Subcontinent

By Burjor Avari



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Muslims have been present in South Asia for 14 centuries. Nearly 40% of the people of this vast land mass follow the religion of Islam, and Muslim contribution to the cultural heritage of the sub-continent has been extensive. This textbook provides both undergraduate and postgraduate students, as well as the general reader, with a comprehensive account of the history of Islam in India, encompassing political, socio-economic, cultural and intellectual aspects.

Using a chronological framework, the book discusses the main events in each period between c. 600 CE and the present day, along with the key social and cultural themes. It discusses a range of topics, including:

- How power was secured, and how was it exercised
- The crisis of confidence caused by the arrival of the West in the sub-continent
- How the Indo-Islamic synthesis in various facets of life and culture came about

Excerpts at the end of each chapter allow for further discussion, and detailed maps alongside the text help visualise the changes through each time period. Introducing the reader to the issues concerning the Islamic past of South Asia, the book is a useful text for students and scholars of South Asian History and Religious Studies.



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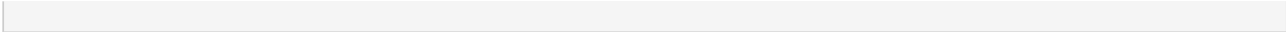
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Islamic Civilization in South Asia: A History of Muslim Power and Presence in the Indian Subcontinent By Burjor Avari Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2023084 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Routledge
- Published on: 2013-01-10
- Released on: 2012-11-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.21" h x .79" w x 6.14" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 336 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

".....the author's story is extremely well-told – This will be a most accessible book, and most pleasingly his exposition, working over some heavily contested areas of history, is very well-balanced".

Francis Robinson, Royal Holloway, University of London, UK

Islamic Civilization in South Asia presents a solid account of Muslim power and presence in the Indian subcontinent. The book's strength lies in its probing analysis of the political and socio-economic aspects of Indo-Muslim history, and will help students of South Asian Islam interrogate the relationship between power and knowledge and the political dimensions of cultural forms.

Ali Altaf Mian Duke University, US

About the Author

Burjor Avari is Honorary Research Fellow at Manchester Metropolitan University, UK. His research interests include Indian and South Asian History, and he is the author of *India: The Ancient Past – The History of the Indian Subcontinent from 7000 BC to AD 1200* (Routledge, 2007).

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