Politics, Gender, And The Islamic Past
Synopsis

In this extraordinary study, D. A. Spellberg examines the life of 'A'isha bint Abi Bakr, Muhammad's most beloved and controversial wife, and a central figure in Islamic cultural history. Instead of employing the traditional chronological technique of the biographer, however, Spellberg uses 'A'isha as a lens through which to examine the place of women in Islamic societies.

Book Information

Series: Legacy of 'A'isha Bint ABI Bakr
Paperback: 243 pages
Publisher: Columbia University Press (April 15, 1996)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0231079990
Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches
Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #44,885 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Islam > Women in Islam #18 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Religious Studies > Islam #27 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Middle East

Customer Reviews

The book is a rare treat. Well researched and well written, it approaches the issue of Islamic biography from a fresh and engaging perspective.... An exciting contribution to the developing body of literature identified under the general but changing rubric of feminist. (International Journal of Middle East Studies)

D. A. Spellberg is associate professor of history and Middle Eastern studies at the University of Texas at Austin.

In my experience, this is one of the few good books on the market that thoroughly examines the place that women held during the tenure of the Prophet and dispels the belief that women in Islam are merely second class citizens, as evidenced by the importance of Aisha in both political and cultural terms.

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