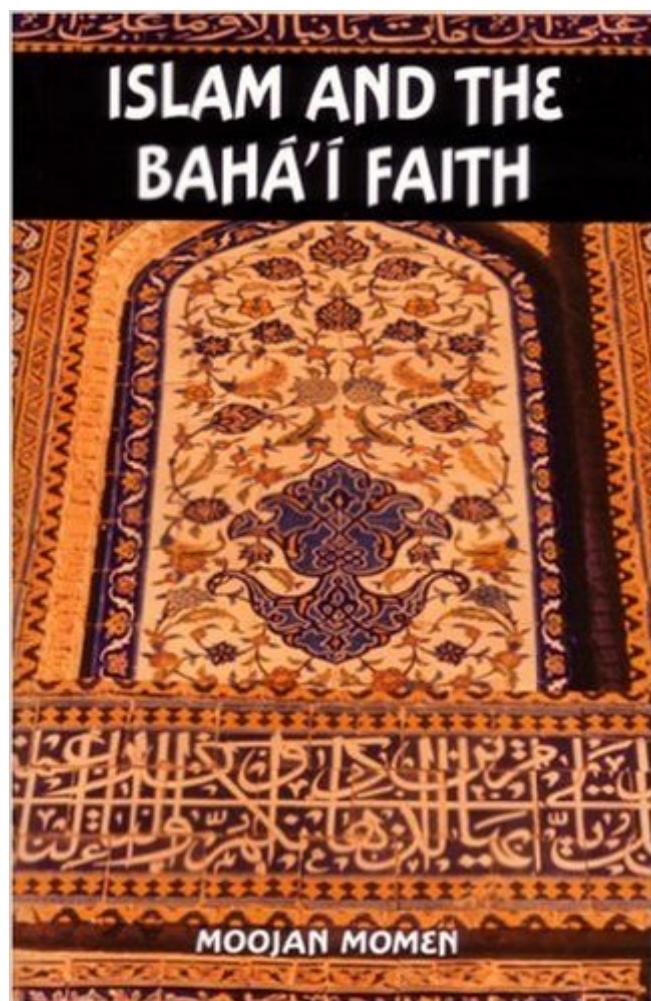


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Islam And The Baha'i Faith



Synopsis

The Bahá'í Faith has its roots in Islam yet many Muslims do not have accurate information about this fast-growing religion. Here Dr Moojan Momen, widely published author in the field of world religions, rectifies this. As well as the Qur'an, Dr Momen uses the authoritative Sunni collections of Traditions and draws on Islamic prophecies to explain the Bahá'í Faith from a Muslim perspective. He describes:^{*} The Bahá'í view of the Prophet Muhammad and of Islam^{*} The spiritual and ethical teachings of the Bahá'í Faith in comparison to Islam^{*} The claim of Bahá'u'lláh^{*} Bahá'í spirituality^{*} Bahá'í law, social teachings and community life and^{*} provides a brief history of the Bahá'í Faith. Easy to read and full of useful information, this book will also be useful to Bahá'í-s who want to see how their religion relates to Islam.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The relationship between the Baha'i faith and Islam has not been an easy one. The former grew out of the latter (in the same way as Christianity did out of Judaism) and as a result Muslims have tended to regard Baha'is as sectaries or heretics. Non-Muslims have been much readier to recognise Baha'i as a religion in its own right. Moojan Momen is a distinguished Baha'i scholar of Iranian background and in this book he sets out to try to bridge the gap, to explain each religion to the other, and in particular to show to Muslims the respect that Baha'i accords their faith and Prophet. The emphasis is on the common ground, what brings people together (or should do) rather than pushing them apart. And Momen - learned and sympathetic - does a good job.

This book is very well written and an excellent source for a clear examination of the Baha'i Faith

and how it relates to Islam. The author has done a tremendous job in writing a book that gives an accurate and clear picture of what the Baha'i Faith is and shows many of the similarities and differences between these two religions. My only complaint is that there are not more books like this one dealing with Islam and the Baha'i Faith. Wonderful job Dr. Momen!

Based on an partial reading of the first three chapters, I recommend this book for its thorough, well reasoned, scholarship. Momen excels at comparison of extracts from the Quran, Hadiths (traditions of sayings of Muhammad), and Baha'i scripture. His chapter on an essential passage of the Quran, regarding 'Seal of the Prophets' illuminates the various interpretations, and makes an astute point that the widespread belief about 'seal' meaning 'last' of the prophets (nabi) was a dogma that developed three centuries later than the passing of Muhammad. Another basic premise is the Baha'i common use of 'manifestation' (zuhur) of God, rather than prophet (nabi) and messenger (rasul) of Allah. Readers need to understand that Momen writes as a Baha'i. His object is to present Islam as supportive of the Baha'i faith. As Momen notes, the primary founder of the Baha'i faith, Mirza Husayn 'Ali Nuri aka Baha'u'llah wrote his own thesis to explain how prior religions, such as Christianity and Islam in their scriptures anticipate his revelation. Life allowing, or inshallah, I may be inspired and able to write more comments once I complete the book

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