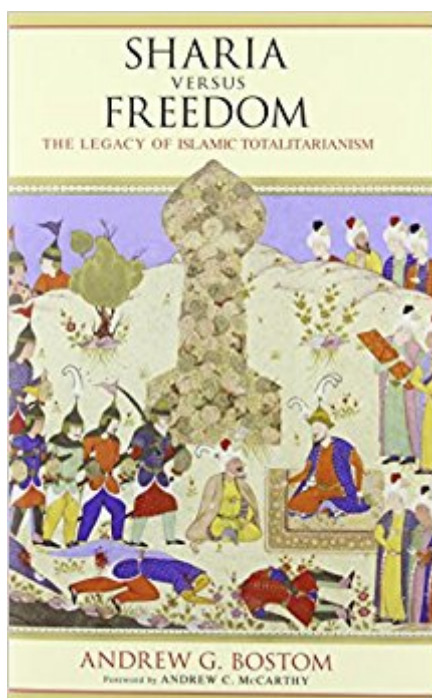


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# Sharia Versus Freedom: The Legacy Of Islamic Totalitarianism



## Synopsis

Shows indisputably the incompatibility of Sharia with universal human rights Author Andrew G. Bostom expands upon his two previous groundbreaking compendia, *The Legacy of Jihad* and *The Legacy of Islamic Antisemitism*, with this collection of his own recent essays on Sharia— Islamic law. The book elucidates, unapologetically, Sharia's defining Islamic religious principles and the consequences of its application across space and time, focusing upon contemporary illustrations. A wealth of unambiguous evidence is marshaled, distilled, and analyzed, including: objective, erudite studies of Sharia by leading scholars of Islam; the acknowledgment of Sharia's global "resurgence," even by contemporary academic apologists for Islam; an abundance of recent polling data from Muslim nations and Muslim immigrant communities in the West confirming the ongoing, widespread adherence to Sharia's tenets; the plaintive warnings and admonitions of contemporary Muslim intellectuals— freethinkers and believers, alike— about the incompatibility of Sharia with modern, Western-derived conceptions of universal human rights; and the overt promulgation by authoritative, mainstream international and North American Islamic religious and political organizations of traditional, Sharia-based Muslim legal systems as an integrated whole (i.e., extending well beyond mere "family-law aspects" of Sharia)

## Book Information

Hardcover: 600 pages

Publisher: Prometheus Books; 1st Edition edition (October 16, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1616146664

ISBN-13: 978-1616146665

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 1.7 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 37 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #915,525 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #102 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > Law](#) #1252 in [Books > Law > Legal History](#) #142138 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences](#)

## Customer Reviews

"No one writes with greater authority about the totalitarian current that is inseparable from Islam than Andrew Bostom. Accommodationists will not like what he says because it violates the liberal narrative according to which Islam is a 'religion of peace.' Would that it were so. That fantasy cannot

survive exposure to the historical record, which Bostom has plumbed with relentless intelligence and unswerving commitment to the truth. This is an uncomfortable but necessary book. The first step in solving a problem is acknowledging that there is a problem. Sharia Versus Freedom is an indispensable aid to that remedial enlightenment." --Roger Kimball, author of *Tenured Radicals: How Politics Has Corrupted Higher Education, and The Fortunes of Permanence: Culture and Anarchy in an Age of Amnesia*"This is damn powerful stuff and needs to be read by anyone who still believes that a rapprochement with religio-political Islam is possible. Readers will be in for a few surprises, too, as some heretofore immaculate scholarly figures come in for their lumps. It is no blurb-like cliché to say that Sharia versus Freedom is a work of critical importance in today's turbulent political climate and goes a long way toward dispelling the myopia with which the Sharia is generally viewed. With this, his third book in an 'encyclopedic' series, Bostom has taken his place beside such major scholars of Islam as Ibn Warraq, Robert Irwin, and Bat Ye'or." --David Solway, poet, literary critic and author of *The Big Lie: On Terror, Antisemitism, and Identity*"Regarding the subject of Islam, apologists frequently vilify and marginalize truth seekers. Yet Dr. Andrew Bostom is fearless and now provides a third scholarly historical compendium of valuable articles on Islam's totalitarian nature and its harsh Sharia -- all of which unfortunately validate my life experience as a Muslim growing up in a Muslim country. With undeniable chronological data, Bostom covers much of what too many Western leaders and journalists willfully ignore: from the dhimmi status of non-Muslims to the combined effects of jihadism, and the Antisemitic Islamic motifs, all distressing realities with which I am, through life experiences, intimately familiar. Those who dodge Islam's intolerable and discriminatory doctrine -- whether for political reasons, professional expediency or naked fear -- also choose, to their own detriment, to facilitate the decline of Western civilization." --Wafa Sultan, author of *A God Who Hates*"It would be a source of great joy if some of the reports on the contemporary application of the Sharia, Islamic law, Dr. Andrew Bostom describes in this book, are inaccurate. His meticulous documentation of this phenomenon, however, will prove sobering to even staunch optimists -- and should be obligatory reading for all who care about Western freedom, and Western understanding of the rule of law." --Johannes J. G. Jansen, Houtsma Professor for Contemporary Islamic Thought Emeritus, Utrecht University, and author of *The Dual Nature of Islamic Fundamentalism*"Indefatigable Andrew Bostom ventures anew into the field of Islam, in which he is supposedly not a specialist, only to accomplish what devoted and committed lifetime professionals did not. After Jihad and Antisemitism in Islam, which have engendered the international terrorism of the past two decades, Bostom now finds that the issue most urgently provocative to deal with is the challenge that Sharia Law has been posing to the

countries in the West where Muslim minorities have taken asylum, and where their demands have been ever pressing to adopt the Sharia on a par with the local legal systems. Everyone understands, perhaps save the Archbishop of Canterbury, what a subversive and destructive effect this might have on the legal traditions of those host societies which have accorded the Muslims shelter out of human compassion, and are now asked pitilessly and arrogantly to forego their own civilization in order to accommodate that of their guest." --Raphael Israeli, professor of Islamic, Middle Eastern, and Chinese Studies Emeritus, and author of *Islamikaze: Manifestations of Islamic Martyrology*, and *Muslim Minorities in Modern States: The Challenge of Assimilation*"In his new book, *Sharia Versus Freedom: The Legacy of Islamic Totalitarianism*, Andrew Bostom has once again given us an impeccably researched, authoritative study of the impact of Islam on the non-Islamic world. Instead of the misleading assurances of Islam's peaceful nature, Bostom has demonstrated how, from its inception, Islam has used both subversion and conquest to achieve its goal of universal global dominion and the humiliating subordination of those non-Muslims who surrendered to it. This book is indispensable reading for all leaders, both public and private, committed to the survival of Western civilization." --Richard Rubenstein, Lawton Distinguished Professor of Religion Emeritus, Florida State University, and author of *The Cunning of History*, and *Jihad and Genocide*"Andrew Bostom has already edited two highly valuable, extended anthologies on Islam. This new monumental collection of his own essays, *Sharia versus Freedom*, boldly addresses the most important topic of the twenty-first century, and should be widely read, and heeded." --Bat Ye'or, author of *The Decline of Eastern Christianity Under Islam*, and *Eurabia: The Euro-Arab Axis*"It is a sine qua non of good medical practice that unpleasant symptoms must first be acknowledged and brought into the light before an effective treatment plan can be developed. In *Sharia Versus Freedom*, Andrew Bostom exposes to the light the condition known as 'sharia,' in all its profuse diversity. This treasure trove is a stirring antidote to the epidemic of ill-founded wishful thinking about Islam that plagues our age. From female genital mutilation to restrictions on freedom of speech, Bostom's relentless forensic analyses will disturb those whose minds are drugged by the mirage of wishful, eyes-closed thinking. To be real, hope must speak the truth: it is for this reason that Bostom's collection of essays makes a major contribution to forging a better future for us all." --Mark Durie, theologian, and author of *The Third Choice: Islam, Dhimmitude and Freedom*"The brave and stalwart Andrew Bostom will change the way you look at our future. Every citizen interested in Western survival should read this book." --Giulio Meotti, journalist with *Il Foglio*, and author of *A New Shoah: The Untold Story of Israel's Victims of Terrorism*"Beltway elites, pseudoscholars, and mainstream media mavens would have us believe that Islamic doctrine and

Islamic terrorism have no correlation. Andrew Bostom knows better. For the better part of a decade, Bostom has shown, through a series of brilliant essays, that the driving force behind Islamic jihad is not poverty or occupation, but core Islamic teachings. In *Sharia versus Freedom*, Bostom, a true 'Watchman on the Wall', fearlessly dissects the end game after all the terror: the totalitarian system known as Islamic sharia law. America, you've been warned." --Erick Stakelbeck, Host, CBN's *Stakelbeck on Terror*, and author of *The Terrorist Next Door: How the Government Is Deceiving You about the Islamist Threat*"In the years since 9/11, while Islamic Studies professors have continued to whitewash the religion of peace, responsible-minded men and women outside of the Islamic Studies racket have taken up the job of truth-telling, publishing a number of substantial, and in some cases encyclopedic, volumes about Islam. One thinks, for example, of Andrew Bostom, a physician and professor of medicine at Brown University, who in the last few years has somehow found the time to produce massive, definitive books about the history of jihad and the legacy of Islamic Antisemitism." --Bruce Bawer, author of *While Europe Slept: How Radical Islam Is Destroying the West from Within*, and *Surrender: Appeasing Islam, Sacrificing Freedom*"This unique collection of essays on Sharia, Islamic Law, contains the most brilliant dissection of exactly what constitutes the meaning and practice of Sharia relative to all previous books written on the same subject. Because of a broad disinformation campaign waged by members of Muslim Brotherhood front groups in the United States and abetted by the collusion of the elite leftwing mainstream media, the public is being subjected to a steady diet of deliberate disinformation that Sharia is democratic and nonauthoritarian. As this book so eloquently demonstrates, nothing could be further from the truth. As Muslim populations continue to burgeon in Europe and North America, there has been a corresponding effort to get judges and magistrates to allow the application of Sharia in intra-Muslim disputes instead of applying Western democratic law. Already in the United Kingdom, there are some 100 Sharia courts. *Sharia versus Freedom* exposes in incontrovertible detail the truth about Sharia, a draconian and authoritarian set of Muslim laws that was created following the death of Mohammed by his followers as Islam began to massively expand its domain throughout the world. The true nature of Sharia's authoritarianism (which allows amputation of limbs, the stoning of women, and the execution of Muslims who convert to another religion) is explained and detailed (with abundant proof) like no other book before. This book is a 'must-read' for American policymakers, Congress, local and regional authorities from coast to coast, as well as for any member of the public who truly seeks the truth behind Sharia. It makes for fascinating reading for anyone interested in expanding their knowledge of the history and unfolding of the Islamic legal system. Once you pick up this book, you won't put it down." --Steven Emerson, journalist, and

author of *American Jihad: The Terrorists Living Among Us*, *Jihad Incorporated: A Guide to Militant Islam in the US*

ANDREW G. BOSTOM is the editor of the highly acclaimed *The Legacy of Jihad: Islamic Holy War and the Fate of Non-Muslims* and of *The Legacy of Islamic Antisemitism: From Sacred Texts to Solemn History*. He has published articles and commentary on Islam in the *Washington Times*, *National Review Online*, *Revue Politique*, *FrontPageMagazine.com*, *American Thinker*, and other print and online publications. More on Andrew Bostom's work can be found at [andrewbostom.org/blog](http://andrewbostom.org/blog).

Dr. Bostom's avocation of exploring Islamic history and writings has eventuated in this portrait of an intractably totalitarian political system masquerading as a religion. (of course, it still may be characterized as a "faith" in the same way, and in this respect indistinguishable from, Nazism and communism, as Dr. Bostom's sources explicitly reflect.) To struggle through page after page of documentation of the single-minded determination of Islam to dominate the globe is as terrifying as it is informative. By assembling documentation from sources over the 1400 years of Islamic history--including thoughtful and scholarly Western sources from relatively recent times, but airbrushed from the ranks of academic respectability by contemporary social relativists--he has provided as much a source of reference, with detailed information regarding primary sources, as a source of education. Worth the price of the book, in and of itself, is Andrew C. McCarthy's "Foreword", which states, in McCarthy's typically trenchant way, the real existential question facing the non-Islamic world--Do we have any core beliefs which justify looking squarely at other beliefs, judging them obnoxious, and choosing to resist without regard to cost? This "Foreword" is a limpid expression of these questions, though the answer, if one might judge from current political obfuscations and from McCarthy's prior book, *"Willful Blindness"*, seems to be a resounding "No." The consequence, sadly, appears to be inexorable compromise until, as the Jews of Europe so recently learned to the world's horror, conditions become either catastrophic or irreversible. McCarthy and Bostom can at least say "Don't say you weren't forewarned." My only concern with the book--perhaps trivial if contrasted with the enormous value it contains--is the editing. One has the feel that it is a collection of note cards, principally from primary sources, which have been stitched together with scant attention to providing internal transition and consistency. In addition, there are essays, self-contained, and on various topics, which seem to have been dropped in. The enormity of the enterprise, the vastness of the resources, and the urgency of getting this bitter medicine in the

hands (if not the heads) of the needy, make the editorial shortcomings a scant price to pay. Caution: if you are an Islamist, and Orientalist, or an American progressive, double up on your mind-altering drugs before reading this book.

Sharia Versus Freedom: The Legacy of Islamic Totalitarianism A review by Jack Kettler  
Publisher: Prometheus Books  
by Andrew G. Bostom  
In addition to the title under review, Andrew G. Bostom is the author of *The Legacy of Jihad* and *The Legacy of Islamic Antisemitism*. He has also published articles and commentary on Islam in numerous on-line publications. Andrew G. Bostom (MD, MS) is Associate Professor of Medicine at Brown University Medical School. More on Dr. Bostom's work can be found at [...]. With the precision of a skilled surgeon, Dr. Bostom meticulously backs up and documents his assertions throughout this highly informative work. Our current CIA chief, John Brennan's naive notion about the meaning of Jihad (p. 271) is thoroughly exposed as folly. Brennan and many others are not alone in this inexcusable foolishness. Much of this nonsense about the so-called glorious religion of peace is perpetuated by John Louis Esposito, professor of International Affairs and Islamic Studies at Georgetown University. On (p. 408) Bostom documents how Saudis lavishly reward and fund Esposito's Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding to the tune of \$20 million in 2005. Karen Armstrong is a British author and another notorious apologist for Islam (p. 33). In an introduction to her work it has been said: No religion in the modern world is as feared and misunderstood as Islam. It haunts the popular Western imagination as an extreme faith that promotes authoritarian government, female oppression, civil war, and terrorism. Karen Armstrong's short history offers a vital corrective to this narrow view. In 1999, she received the Muslim Public Affairs Council Media Award. In this re-viewer's assessment, both Esposito and Armstrong are bought and paid for literary prostitutes for the Muslim faith. They are willing and useful dhimmis. More on dhimmitude later. My thoughts on Islam after reading Dr. Bostom's book: "It is important to note: that the religion of backward depraved Arab culture, if it were not for Western technology and oil money, the adherents of this shocking regressive culture would still be using camels and horses for transportation. This unmodernized Arab culture, like socialism (which fails when running out of other people's money) continually attempts to conquer other cultures in order to cannibalize them into non-existence much like a pestilence of grasshoppers." "Islam is a religious, political, genocidal ideology characterized by centuries of Jihadist warfare and brutal oppressive totalitarianism of those enslaved. This 7th Century malignant ideology provides cover for unfathomable discrimination against non-Muslims, sadistic torture and unthinkable misogyny, even encouraging the rape of non-Muslim women and slavery that is practiced and sanctioned to this present day." The status of

Non-Muslims or Dhimmis who were not slaughtered by the Muhammadans who raided and stole their land:"The vile and ignorant dhimmis (non-Muslims in an Islamic country) must be humiliated, belittled and rendered abominable and able to be distinguished by their appearance." For example, "different colored shoes, one white the other black:" for males badges such as an "ape for a Jew and a pig for a Christian: for women yellow veils." The distinctive dress shows the Muslim that the dhimmi is to be treated as an inferior - not to stand up for her or shake his hand, not to give them Muslim charity. He is to expect respect and deference from the dhimmi who shall not join a group of Muslims or raise his voice in their presence. The non-Muslim is to stand aside if the pathway is narrow. It is haram (unlawful) for him to slaughter animals; reserved for him is the cleaning of lavatories and sewers, and carrying away rubbish and refuse. His house should be painted a dull color and be no larger than that of a Muslim neighbor. (dhimmis, pp. 34, 36, 37, 41-42, 70-72, 73, 74-75, 77, 78, 86, 89-91, 96, 105, 111, 123, 134, 141, 152, 157, 170, 174, 175, 176-177, 178-88, 192, 204, 206, 212, 213, 216-218, 219-220, 223,226, 227, 229, 245, 246, 272, 274-275, 276, 277, 284-285, 287-93, 303, 308, 309, 321, 373-74, 385, 388, 388-89, 422-423, 426, 428, 435, 436, 446-47, 461, 578-79n33, 589n7, 621-22n2, 633-34n12)After reading Dr. Bostom's work on dhimmis in Muslim conquered lands, one may be inclined to agree with the following provocative hyperbole: "We should invade their countries, kill their leaders and convert them to Christianity. We weren't punctilious about locating and punishing only Hitler and his top officers. We carpet-bombed German cities; we killed civilians. That's war. And this is war." - Ann Coulter"The minarets are our bayonets, the domes our helmets, the mosques our barracks and the faithful our army" (p. 488). After reading sayings like this from Muslims, one wonders why Islamic Mosques have tax exempt status. One thing is clear regarding Islam, a religion of peace, it is not!"...tolerance of intolerance is cowardice." Ayaan Hirsi Ali"People that tell you Islam is a religion of peace are only announcing their ignorance." - Brigitte Gabriel"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith." Galatians 5:22In contrast, Islam is political, genocidal ideology responsible for the death and enslavement of millions.It has been said best by Jesus: "You shall know them by their fruits." Matthew 7:16It is beyond dispute, the fruits of Mohammadism are rotten to the core!Dr. Bostom's work is a must read for those concerned about this religious, political, genocidal ideology which has exterminated millions of people over the last 1400 years. The totality of Bostom's book makes the case irrefutably that Sharia law is a complete and total anathema to the American "Bill Of Rights" and more importantly, to freedom of expression for the Judeo-Christian world-view.Anyone who defends this so-called religion of peace, which is characterized by the most vile Jew-hatred ever witnessed, should be ashamed of themselves.Mr. Kettler is the owner of Undergroundnotes.com



where his theological, philosophical and political articles can be read.

Andrew Bostom continues his superb work on defining and exposing the written words and the actual laws of Islam. Detailing the foundational texts and laws - as written and interpreted - puts to the lie the drivel and excuses of non-Muslims on the same subject. We are continuously exposed to "experts" who are not Muslims telling us what the "true religion" of Islam is all about. But these "experts" never use or quote from the texts themselves or the laws of Sharia. What do the major university leaders of al Azhar in Cairo say about the religion they teach and interpret? Are they wrong and the kufar "experts" correct? Is Shiekh Qaradawi a "misunderstander of Islam"? Were al Banna and Mawdudi deluded? Read the volumes edited by - and essays and this book written by - Andrew Bostom to get to the heart of the matter and the actual words that are read and followed. If one wishes to learn about Islam, this work and others are far better sources than editorials in the Economist and the NY Times.

Andrew Bostom's "Sharia versus Freedom" is an excellent and thorough explication of Islam's Sharia Law, and much more. The encroachment into the West by Islam is a dangerous and liberty threatening phenomenon. Many of our leaders are doing nothing to inform America of the dangers, in fact they are deliberately concealing them from us. This book does an excellent job of demonstrating the danger approaching and also gives a broad historical perspective. It is a must read and an excellent reference for anyone who would become better informed about one of the major religious/political forces in the World today. Andrew G. Bostom has done a great service for liberty in writing this excellent and readable work!

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