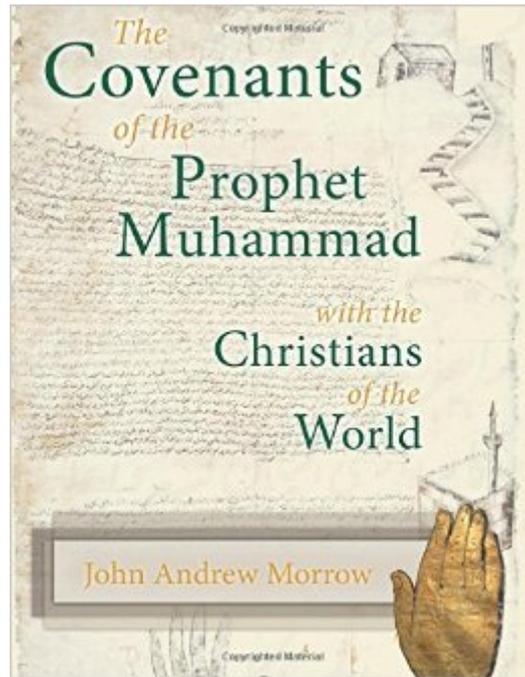


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The Covenants Of The Prophet Muhammad With The Christians Of The World



Synopsis

The Prophet Muhammad's treaties with the Christians of his time, which John Andrew Morrow has rediscovered in obscure collections and often newly translated, uniformly state that Muslims are not to attack peaceful Christian communities, but defend them "until the End of the World." Authored by the Prophet himself, they represent a third foundational pillar for Islam outside of Qur'an and hadith. The "Covenants Initiative" within the book represents a movement by Muslims, both prominent and unknown, in support of Christians under attack. These treaties desperately need to be better known among Christians, Muslims, and the general public. For scholars, this book provides much difficult-to-obtain material: facsimiles of primary sources in Arabic and Persian; corrected versions in modern Arabic typescript; and alternate translations. They now have all they need to study the covenants in depth.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In the book: The Covenants of the Prophet Muhammad with the Christians of the World, author Prof John Andrew Morrow has reproduced the original letters, treaties and other documents regarding the thoughts and the policies of prophet Muhammad-pbuh-in his dealings with people of the Abrahamic faith "Monks of Mount Sinai, Christians of Persia, Christians of Najran, Christians of the World, Assyrian Christians, Armenian Christians. This a seminal and much needed book. Religious tolerance is a vital subject today, affecting everyone in terms of our safety and ability to live along with those persons who are differing religious beliefs. Islam is a religion of peace and of tolerance and inclusiveness. This is borne out in my careful review of original Islamic sources. It is generally

not known that the prophet Muhammad had treaties with Christians, Jews, pagans ensuring them full citizenship, freedom of religious practice, safety of houses of worship and this was implemented in large measure by successive leaders example of Caliph Umar Khattab who in 637 AD when Muslims took control of Jerusalem signed a treaty with Sophronius the representative of the defeated Byzantine empire guaranteeing the Christians full protection and freedom to worship. Caliph Umar was given a tour of the city of Jerusalem, including the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. When the time for prayer came, Sophronius invited Umar to pray inside the Church, but Umar refused. He insisted that if he prayed there, later Muslims would use it as an excuse to convert it into a mosque, thereby depriving Christendom of one of its holiest sites. Instead, Umar prayed outside the Church, where a mosque (called Masjid Umar â “ the Mosque of Umar) was later built.

This timely book is invaluable at the present time. I think it's important for both Muslims and Christians to read this work, both given the rising Islamophobia, as well as ugly, heart-breaking events occurring in Iraq and Syria as we speak. This book will re-enforce or in many, reveal the strong ties between Muslims and Christians that needs to be rekindled for the betterment of society in this country, which is suffering. Even with the natural doubts that come into play with studying old documents and their authenticity, the basic teachings of Islam that are talked about at length in this book will itself go a long way in educating the masses and maybe those who were not aware of this aspect of Islam. While this is a laborious read, I think for those who are truly interested in improving relations between these two faiths and using it as a tool to do their own work within their communities, it is well-worth the read. I myself, have made a small effort to participate in interfaith events in my community and have found it rewarding. Also, I've been able to make a connection with a Christian and change her opinion for the better regarding our beliefs in the light of both overall issues as well as current events regarding persecution of Christians in Iraq, for example, which is addressed in detail in this book. As a Muslim, it was especially sad to read this book and watch the news in the last few weeks with the ugliness of ISIS rearing its head in Iraq and Syria, I realized even further how far from the message of Islam and its treatment of minorities was the complete anti-thesis to what the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) professed during his life and the legacy he left with these covenants.

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