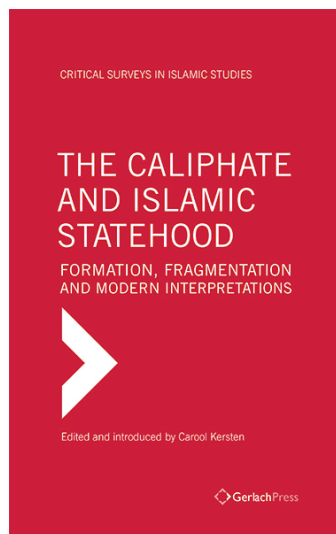
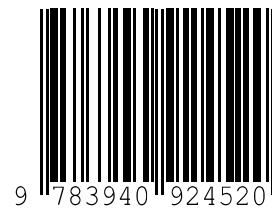


ADVANCE INFORMATION**THE CALIPHATE AND ISLAMIC STATEHOOD**
Formation, Fragmentation and Modern Interpretations*Edited and Introduced by Carool Kersten (King's College, University of London)*

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Although the Islamic Caliphate was formally abolished ninety years ago, it had already ceased to exist as a unitary and effectively administered political institution many centuries earlier. The ever widening gap between political ideal and historical reality is also reflected in the varying conceptualizations and theories of the Caliphate developed by Islamic religious scholars and Muslim intellectuals past and present. However, recent events in the Islamic world show that the idea of a Caliphate still appeals to Muslims of varying persuasions.

This three-volume reference work tracks the history of the Caliphate as what many Muslims believe to be a genuine and authentic Islamic political institution: From its emergence in seventh-century Arabia until highly contested and controversial attempts of its revival at the beginning of the twenty-first century by radical Islamists in Afghanistan and Iraq. No matter how grandiose such interpretations of a seemingly archaic institution may be, they show the Caliphate's longevity as a rallying point – real or symbolic – for Muslims across the world.

Volume I: Origins and Formation
Volume II: Challenges and Fragmentation
Volume III: Modern Interpretations

Key Subjects:

Middle East Studies, Islamic Studies, Politics, Philosophy

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Contents

VOLUME I: ORIGINS AND FORMATION

Introduction: Origins and Formation	1
<i>Carool Kersten</i>	

BACKGROUND

1. The Term “Khalifa” in the Early Exegetical Literature	6
<i>Wadād al-Qādī</i>	
2. Political Ideas in Early Islamic Religious Thought	20
<i>Josef van Ess</i>	
3. The Formation of the Islamic State	34
<i>Fred M. Donner</i>	
4. The Separation of State and Religion in the Development of Early Islamic Society	55
<i>Ira M. Lapidus</i>	
5. Frontiers and the State in Early Islamic History: Jihād Between Caliphs and Volunteers	76
<i>Robert Haug</i>	

THE RIGHTLY-GUIDED CALIPHS (632-661CE)

6. Legal Authority of the <i>Sunnah</i>: Practice of the Rightly-Guided Caliphs and Views of the Early <i>Fuqahā'</i>	87
<i>Muhammad Yusuf Faruqi</i>	
7. Muhammad’s Authority and Leadership Reestablished: The Prophet and ‘Umar ibn al-Khaṭṭāb	101
<i>Avraham Hakim</i>	

- 8. The Murder of the Caliph ‘Uthmân** 114
Martin Hinds

THE UMAYYAD CALIPHATE (661-750CE)

- 9. Some Accounts of Women Delegates to Caliph Mu‘āwiya:
Political Significance** 134
Maya Yazigi
- 10. Was ‘Umar II “a True Umayyad”?** 146
Hasan Qasim Murad
- 11. Reinterpreting al-Walid bin Yazid** 163
Steven Judd
- 12. The Redemption of Umayyad Memory by the ‘Abbasids** 186
Tayeb El-Hibri

THE EARLY ABBASID CALIPHATE (8-9TH CENTURIES)

- 13. The Tribal Factor in the ‘Abbāsīd Revolution:
The Betrayal of the Imam Ibrāhīm bin Muḥammad** 214
Khalid Yahya Blankinship
- 14. The Caliph, the ‘Ulāmā’, and the Law: Defining the Role
and the Function of the Caliph in the Early ‘Abbāsīd Caliphate** 235
Mubammad Qasim Zaman
- 15. A Reexamination of three Current Explanations of
al-Ma‘mun’s Introduction of the *Miḥna*** 265
John A. Nawas
- 16. All in the Family? Al-Mu‘taṣim’s Succession to the Caliphate as
to the Lifelong Feud between al-Ma‘mūn and his ‘Abbāsīd Family** 281
John A. Nawas

- References** 291

Contents

VOLUME II: CHALLENGES AND FRAGMENTATION

Introduction: Challenges and Fragmentation	1
<i>Carool Kersten</i>	
CALIPHATES AND COUNTER-CALIPHATES (9TH-11TH CENTURIES)	
1. Religious Policies of the Caliphs from al-Mutawakkil to al-Muqtadir, AH 232/295/ AD 847-908	6
<i>Christopher Melchert</i>	
2. The Command of the Faithful in Al-Andalus: A Study in the Articulation of Caliphal Legitimacy	28
<i>Janine Safran</i>	
3. The Initial Destination of the Fatimid Caliphate: The Yemen or the Maghrib?	46
<i>Shainool Jiwa</i>	
4. The Fāṭimids and Egypt 301-358/914-969	57
<i>Yaacov Lev</i>	
5. The Realm of the Imām: The Fatimids in the Tenth Century	66
<i>Michael Brett</i>	
6. An Early Fāṭimid Political Document	88
<i>Wadād al-Qāḍī</i>	
7. The Ismaili Daʿwa in the Reign of the Fatimid Caliph Al-Ḥākim	113
<i>Paul E. Walker</i>	

**ARAB CALIPHS AND TURKISH SULTANS
(13TH-17TH CENTURIES)**

8. **The Story of the Death of the Last Abbasid Caliph, from the Vatican MS of Ibn-al-Furāt** 142
G. Le Strange
9. **Studies on the Transfer of the ‘Abbāsid Caliphate from Baġdād to Cairo** 147
David Ayalon
10. **Some Observations on the ‘Abbāsid Caliphate of Cairo** 162
P. M. Holt
11. **Luṭfi Paşa on the Ottoman Caliphate** 171
Hamilton A. R. Gibb
12. **The Idea of the Caliphate between Moroccans and Ottomans: Political and Symbolic Stakes in the 16th and 17th Century-Maghrib** 179
Abderrahmane El Moudden
13. **The Man Who Would be Caliph: A Sixteenth-Century Sultan’s Bid for An African Empire** 188
Stephen Cory

**BETWEEN HISTORICAL REALITY AND POLITICAL IDEAL:
CALIPHS AND ULAMA**

14. **Caliphs, Jurists and the Saljūqs in the Political Thought of Juwaynī** 210
Wael B. Hallaq
15. **Islamic Orthodoxy or Realpolitik? Al-Ghazālī’s Views on Government** 226
Carole Hillenbrand
16. **The Legal Policies of the Almohad Caliphs and Ibn Rushd’s Bidāyat al-Mujtahid** 252
Maribel Fierro
17. **An Eighteenth-Century Theory of the Caliphate** 272
Aziz Ahmad
- References** 279

Contents

VOLUME III: MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY INTERPRETATIONS

- Introduction: Modern and Contemporary Interpretations** 1
Carool Kersten
- OTTOMAN CALIPHATE OR ARAB CALIPHATE?**
1. **Opposition to the Ottoman Caliphate in the Early Years of Abdülhamid II: 1877-1882** 6
Ş. Tufan Buzpinar
2. **The Pan-Islamic Appeal: Afghani and Abdülhamid II** 28
Nikki R. Keddie
3. **“Taking Back” the Caliphate: Sharif H̄usayn Ibn’Ali, Mustafa Kemal and the Ottoman Caliphate** 44
Joshua Teitelbaum
4. **Egypt and the Caliphate 1915-1946** 53
Elie Kedourie
- CALIPHATE OR NO CALIPHATE?**
5. **The Indian Khilāfat Movement (1918-1924)** 84
M. Naeem Qureshi
6. **The Destruction of the Ottoman Caliphate** 97
Facsimile from: Advocate of Peace Through Justice (April 1924)
7. **Muslims of the Dutch East Indies and the Caliphate Question** 100
Martin van Bruinessen

8. Arab Religious Nationalism in the Colonial Era: Rereading Rashīd Riḍā's Ideas on the Caliphate	118
<i>Mahmoud Haddad</i>	
9. The Central Argument (from: <i>A Religion Not a State: Ali 'Abd al-Raziq's Islamic Justification of Political Secularism</i>)	158
<i>Souad T. Ali</i>	
PAN-ISLAMISM REDUX	
10. Pan-Islamic Tendencies and the General Muslim Congress of 1931	175
<i>Uri M. Kupferschmidt</i>	
11. Taqī al-Dīn al-Nabhānī and the Islamic Liberation Party	204
<i>David Commins</i>	
12. Hizbut Tahrir: Islam's Ideological Vanguard	222
<i>Noman Hanif</i>	
THE CALIPHATE TODAY	
13. The Caliphate	250
<i>Vernie Liebl</i>	
14. Legal Evaluation of the Proclamation of the Caliphate	271
<i>Shaykh Abu al-Mundhir al-Shinqiti</i> <i>(translated from the Arabic by Carool Kersten)</i>	
15. <i>Khilafa</i> as the Viceregency of Humankind: Religion and State in the Thought of Nurcholish Madjid	278
<i>Carool Kersten</i>	
References	293