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Muhammad: A Biography of the Prophet

Karen Armstrong

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Karen Armstrong : Muhammad: A Biography of the Prophet before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Muhammad: A Biography of the Prophet:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great insight on the founding father of Islam, wonderful read. By Vanessa Gray Excellent! Broadview of this most important prophet, his suffering, courage, inspirational life. Very helpful in understanding the impact of this man's life on billions of persons throughout the world. It is unfortunate that some followers corrupt the meaning of his message but it will help non-Muslims to better understand the founder of such a major religion. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Amazing book about The Prophet. By RKI really enjoyed this book. It had a much more positive take on the life and political situation of Muhammad. Really interesting. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Text required for a college course. This edition was perfect. By Steve Vigus This book was required for a college course. It's well written, but it was, frankly, a required purchase. Thanks to for making it easy and affordable to purchase.

A life of the prophet Muhammad by bestselling religious writer Karen Armstrong. Most people in the West know very little about the prophet Muhammad. The acclaimed religious writer Karen Armstrong has written a biography which will give us a more accurate and profound understanding of Islam and the people who adhere to it so strongly. Muhammad also offers challenging comparisons with the two religions most closely related to it - Judaism and Christianity.

From Publishers Weekly In a meticulous quest for the historical Muhammad, Armstrong first traces the West's long history of hostility toward Islam, which it has stigmatized as a "religion of the sword." This sympathetic, engrossing biography portrays Muhammad (ca. 570-632) as a passionate, complex, fallible human being--a charismatic leader possessed of political as well as spiritual gifts, and a prophet whose monotheistic vision intuitively answered the deepest longings of his people. Armstrong (*The Gospel According to Woman*) refutes the Western image of Muhammad as an impostor who used religion as a means to power, an attitude encapsulated in a psychotic dream episode in Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*. Denying that Islam preaches total intransigence, she finds in the Prophet's teachings a theology of peace and tolerance. The "holy war" urged by the Koran, in Armstrong's reading, alludes to each Muslim's duty to fight for a just, decent society. She draws significant parallels between the spiritual aspirations of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal This portrayal of the prophet of Islam and the setting from which he emerged will captivate and enlighten general readers with a newfound understanding of modern events in the Middle East. Armstrong, a former Roman Catholic nun, has shown much insight and sensitivity in her well-researched biography. She interweaves sections on the Western response to Islam and the controversy over Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses* (LJ 12/88) within her detailed account of Muhammad and the monumental, unifying religion that he introduced to the backward tribal Arabia of the seventh century. The book was first published in Great Britain in 1991 under the title *Muhammad: A Western Attempt To Understand Islam* . Highly recommended.- Paula I. Nielson, Loyola Marymount Univ. Lib., Los Angeles Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. Respectful, knowledgeable, and, above all, readable. It succeeds because [Armstrong] brings Muhammad to life as a fully rounded human being.--The Economist Karen Armstrong's sympathetic profile paints a portrait of a very human prophet--Wall Street Journal Karen Armstrong's sympathetic profile paints a portrait of a very human prophet--Wall Street Journal A good glimpse of how the vast majority of the world's Muslims understand their prophet.--New York Times