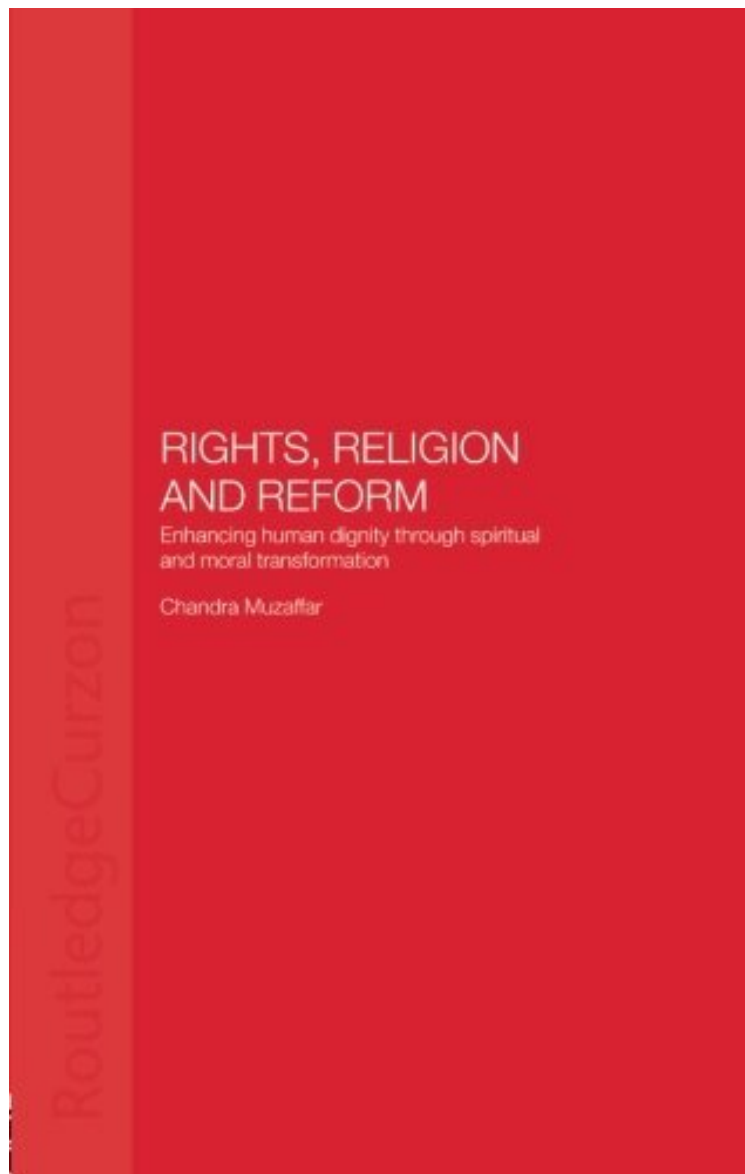


[Download] Rights, Religion and Reform: Enhancing Human Dignity through Spiritual and Moral Transformation

Rights, Religion and Reform: Enhancing Human Dignity through Spiritual and Moral Transformation

Chandra Muzaffar

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Chandra Muzaffar : Rights, Religion and Reform: Enhancing Human Dignity through Spiritual and Moral Transformation before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rights, Religion and Reform: Enhancing Human Dignity through Spiritual and Moral Transformation:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Decisive Moral-Spiritual Critique of Contemporary Human Rights By Tengku Ahmad Hazri Chandra Muzaffar's 'Rights, Religion and Reform' (2002) offers a scathing critique of contemporary human rights, drawn uniquely, not from dissident strands within Western intellectual tradition but from the religious and spiritual traditions of the world. His emphasis on the universal spiritual and moral values that cut across religious, cultural and national boundaries will appeal to the modern believer who wishes to engage in contemporary human rights discourse, not despite his religious belief, but precisely because of it, for it is the moral and spiritual core of religion that Chandra argues should form the foundation of human rights. The imbalance of contemporary human rights can only be rectified by a holistic vision, traditionally integral to religious thought, which melds together rights, responsibilities, roles and relationships (the "four Rs"). But Chandra's critique of contemporary human rights goes beyond censure of the disproportionate primacy attached to rights: what he finds especially problematic is the meaning of "human" in modern human rights, which takes the vision of man as the Promethean rebel against Heaven courtesy of Enlightenment dethronement of the divine and the transcendent. It is when man is again anchored to the transcendent that we may surpass the human rights paradigm towards the loftier aspiration for human dignity.

This book discusses issues concerning human rights and religion. Is a more integrated approach to human rights desirable - an approach that transcends the individual-centred orientation of civil and political liberties of the dominant centres of power in the West? How can religious thought contribute to an integrated notion of human rights and human dignity? What sort of transformation should religion itself undergo in order to enable it to come to grips with contemporary challenges? Related to this is a larger question: How can universal spiritual and moral values help to shape politics, the economy and society as a whole?

'These essays brilliantly support a global call for human rights from an Asian and Islamic perspective. No one is more eloquent, distinctive and illuminating on these crucial issues than Chandra Muzaffar' - Richard Falk, Professor of International Law, Princeton University; 'Chandra Muzaffar has become one of the great voices for social justice and human rights reverberating from Asia. Muzaffar combines a passion for fair play with clarity of spiritual vision. In this book his ethical concerns interplay with policy preferences in the context of moral universalism and global reform. He is eloquent and compelling' - Ali A. Mazrui, Director of Global Cultural Studies, State University of New York; 'Chandra Muzaffar is one of the most influential and admired intellectuals in the Islamic world. His message, articulated by exemplary action as well as the power of the pen, is a source of inspiration for those concerned about the future of democracy and the development of a culture of peace for the global community.' - Tu Weiming, Professor of Chinese History and Philosophy, Harvard University, USA; 'How can the global community be infused with the same ethical responsibility capable of subduing the brute struggle for power and profit? Chandra Muzaffar addresses precisely this question, and does so in an eloquent and inspiring manner.' - Fred Dallmayr, Professor of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, USA 'Rich in detail and insight, this book promises to make an enduring contribution to a debate that will substantially shape our common future.' - Joseph Camilleri, Professor of International Relations, La Trobe University, Australia
About the Author Dr. Chandra Muzaffar is one of Asia's leading public intellectuals, and has written widely on politics, human rights and religion. A former university don, he has been a social activist for 30 years and is President of the International Movement for a Just World.