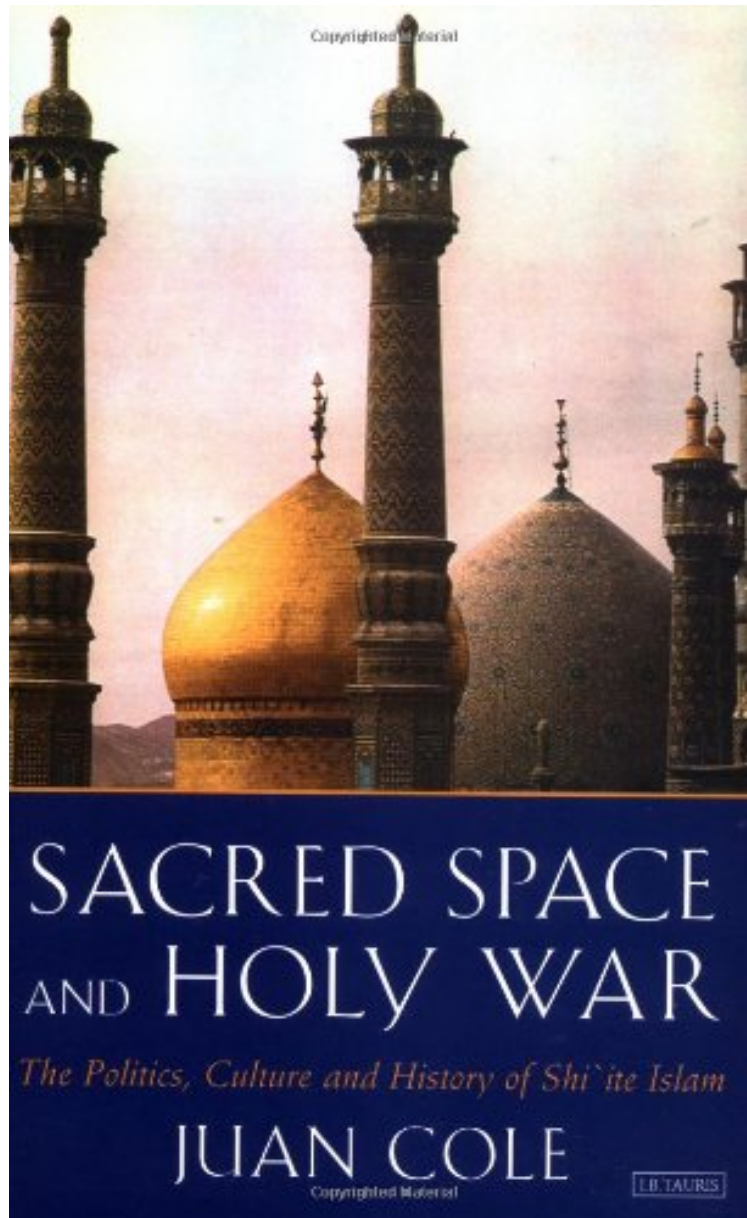


[PDF] Sacred Space And Holy War: The Politics, Culture and History of Shi'ite Islam

Sacred Space And Holy War: The Politics, Culture and History of Shi'ite Islam

Juan Cole

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Juan Cole : Sacred Space And Holy War: The Politics, Culture and History of Shi'ite Islam before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sacred Space And Holy War: The Politics, Culture and History of Shi'ite Islam:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Insights based on History of Shia---20% of Muslims By jack mFact-based; comprehensive---gives great understanding of why SHIA always on defensive---and why greater internal control by IMAMs required to avoid triggering pogroms by Sunnis, sep Ottoman Empire, and Europeans "colonizing/tradind across Middle East to India, Excellent case studies of geographic concentrations of SHIAs. Excellent sourcebook, historical, definitely a "must read"; esp with Syria/Lebanon and Iran on such a world focus. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great By zach Fascinating collection of essays viewing Shi'ism through a transnational lens 38 of 46 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book but not a primer on Shia By A Customer This book is an excellent exploration of a subject not well studied by Western scholars. While this book is well written, I would suggest reading a primer on middle-eastern or Islamic history first. The book is aimed at people who have a general understanding of the subject but are looking to add real depth to what they know. You will find few people who know the subject better than Cole. I suggesting listening to his recent interview on NPR ("Fresh Air with Terry Gross") which can be heard on-line. I can only hope that people in government who have to make critical choice based on their knowledge of the Middle-East will read books like this.

Juan Cole examines Shi'i Islam as a world religion that has faced modernity on its own terms. He explores the little known history of Shi'i communities as far afield as Bahrain and India, giving attention as well to important centers such as Lebanon, Iraq, and Iran. He demonstrates the way in which the Shi'is have sought to define space and time as sacred, and to defend those spaces from encroachment by the Other, whether that other be Sunni Arab, Hindu, or European Christian.

"...succeeds in drawing significant conclusions that benefit specialists of Islamic studies and students...."--El-Sayed el-Aswad, Digest of Middle East Studies