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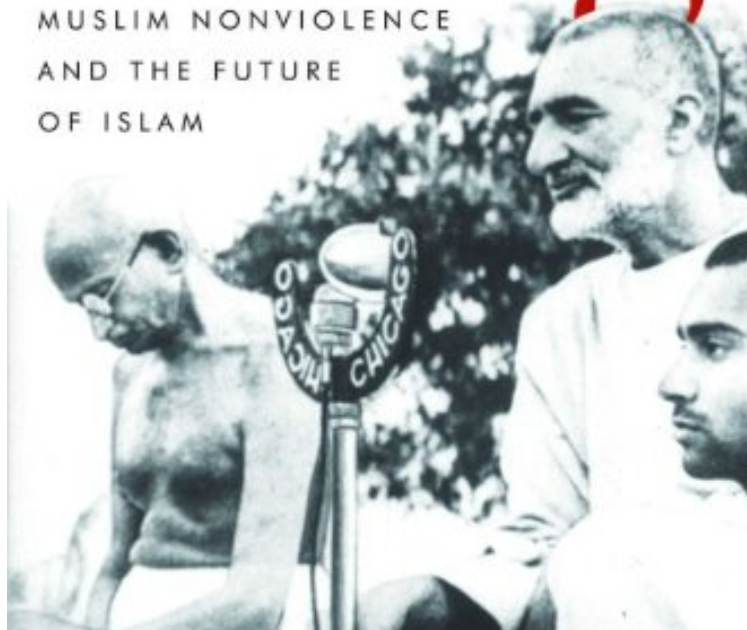
Jeffrey R. Halverson

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JEFFRY R. HALVERSON

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FOR A
King

MUSLIM NONVIOLENCE
AND THE FUTURE
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#2605683 in Books 2012-09 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .90 x 6.101, .95 #File Name:
1612344690188 pages | File size: 63.Mb

Jeffrey R. Halverson : **Searching for a King: Muslim Nonviolence and the Future of Islam** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Searching for a King: Muslim Nonviolence and the Future of Islam:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must-read for worldwide peace!By Daniel PerezThis is exactly what the media doesn't want to show. The side of Islam that would rather fight with words and peace, and not with weapons! As the author explains, a jihad "without swords!" Very powerful and informative book. I recommend it to

anyone that wants to learn how we can make the world a better place, nonviolently, through education and openmindedness. ~ Daniel Perez2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating bookBy Bruce HalversonProvides great insight into the politics of Islam and the faith demonstrated by extraordinary individuals seeking peace. Very well written and an excellent book for both the scholar and the person interested in learning more about future of Islam.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Deeply Relevant to Today's TimesBy Eliza McEvoySearching for a King provides a provocative counter-argument to those who believe Islam is inherently violent. With so much destruction and violence in Northern Africa and the Middle East, it's important that people around the world be reminded that the actions of radical Islamists don't reflect the feelings and attitudes of all Muslims. By spotlighting some of the greatest Muslim champions of nonviolence, Halverson illustrates a surprisingly deep tradition of peaceful resistance. Whereas Ayaan Hirsi Ali's INFIDEL would seem to suggest that Islam cannot adapt to the 21st century, Halverson's book strikes a more hopeful tone, suggesting that Islam can evolve and flourish by adopting a nonviolent interpretation of jihad. Still, as its title would suggest, the book is a call to action for a leader such as Martin Luther King or Mahatma Gandhi to step forward from the Muslim world. Imagine what a difference such a leader could make at this sensitive time.

At a time when violent images of the Muslim world dominate our headlines, Western audiences are growing increasingly interested in a different picture of Islam, specifically the idea of Muslim nonviolence, and what it could mean for the world. But is nonviolence compatible with the teachings of Islam? Is it practical to suggest that Muslim societies must adopt nonviolence to thrive in today's world? Where is the Muslim equivalent of a Mohandas K. Gandhi or Martin Luther King Jr.? Searching for a King offers a comprehensive look into Islamic conceptions of nonviolence, their modern champions, and their readings of Islam's sacred texts, including the Quran and traditions of the Prophet Muhammad. Jeffrey R. Halverson asserts that the foundation for nonviolence in Islam already exists. He points to the exemplary lives and teachings of modern Muslim champions of nonviolence, including Abdul Ghaffar Khan, an ethnic Pashtun from the tribal regions of Pakistan whose 100,000 Muslim followers peacefully resisted British colonial rule in India. Using rich historical narratives and data from leading NGOs and international governmental organizations, Halverson also makes the case that by eliminating the high costs of warfare, nonviolence opens the door to such important complementary initiatives as microfinancing and women's education programs. Ultimately, he endorses Muslim conceptions of nonviolence and argues for the formulation of a nonviolent version of jihad as an active mode of social transformation.

"The inspiring, informative, and well-documented narratives of Muslim champions of nonviolence presented in Searching for a King make a coherent and powerful case for Islamic nonviolence today." Prof. Abdullahi A. An-Naim, Emory Law School Author of Islam and the Secular State (Harvard, 2008) From the Back Cover"Jeffrey Halverson has written a book of extreme importance for our times. Searching for a King is a well-researched, meaningful, and much-needed volume that convincingly rebuts a narrative of violence that has for too long dominated discussions of Islam and Muslims. Offering a glimpse into the lives and works of five champions of peace, he reveals hidden beautiful teachings and unsung courageous acts that tell a different, inspiring story. Anyone who values peace and desires more equality in the world owes it to himself or herself to read this book." Nathan Lean, Editor-In-Chief of Aslan MediaAuthor of The Islamophobia Industry: How the Right Manufactures Fear of MuslimsAbout the AuthorJEFFREY R. HALVERSON is an Islamic studies scholar and historian of religions, specializing in the Middle East and North Africa. He currently serves as an assistant research professor in the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication at Arizona State University. He is the author of Theology and Creed in Sunni Islam (2010) and lead author of Master Narratives of Islamist Extremism (2011). He lives in Phoenix.