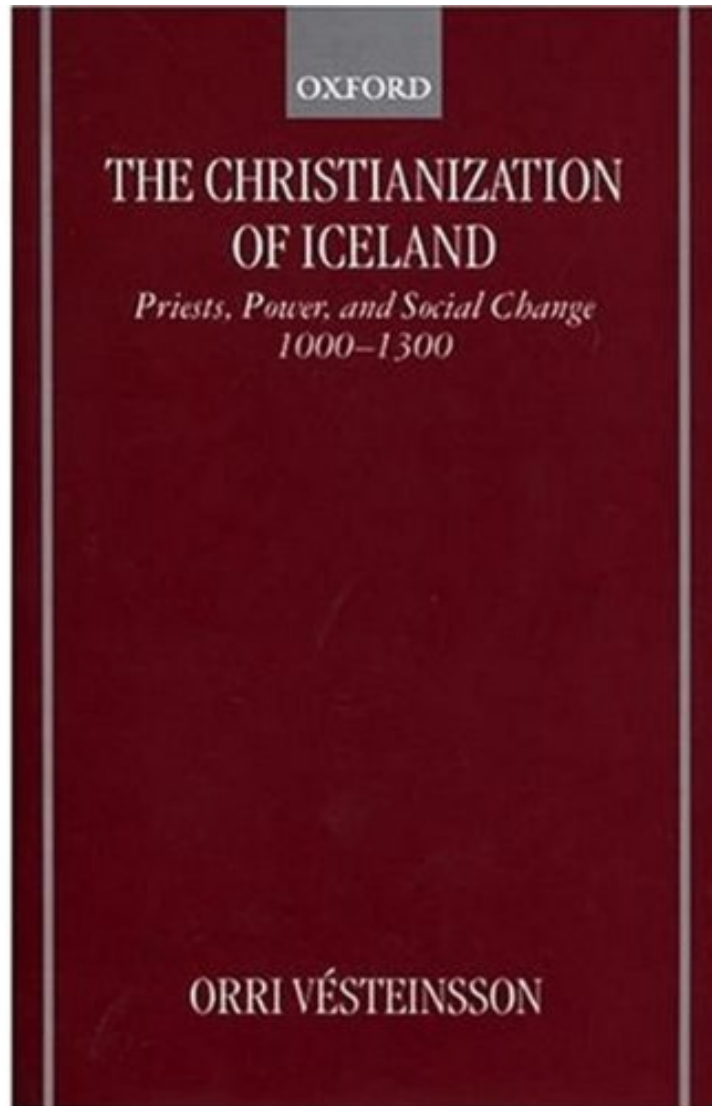


(Mobile ebook) The Christianization of Iceland: Priests, Power, and Social Change 1000-1300

# The Christianization of Iceland: Priests, Power, and Social Change 1000-1300

*Orri Vsteinsson*

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This study investigates the role played by the Christian church in the development of power structures in Iceland, from the conversion in AD 1000 to the end of the thirteenth century. It demonstrates that by the time of the union with the Norwegian kingdom in 1262, fundamental constitutional changes had been brought about as a direct consequence of Christianization.

"Vsteinsson's book skillfully draws on a wide range of historical and archaeological sources in order to challenge and revise traditional assumptions about the development of ecclesiastical institutions in medieval Iceland...a valuable resource for any historian interested both in the development of ecclesiastical institutions and in the relationships between ecclesiastical and socio-political institutions in medieval Europe." -- Lutheran Quarterly "[T]his book is important for anyone who wishes to understand the development of Icelandic society after the Saga Age." -- Europe: Ancient and Medieval "Never before has an English language publication been so ambitious in presenting us with so much detail on Iceland and Christianity in the Middle Ages....(The book) presents Iceland, not isolated and unaware of the world at large, but as an island deeply connected to the international Church of Rome and European civilization....For serious students of Icelandic history, The Christianization of Iceland is indeed a rare book, the kind that comes along once in a century." -- Norway Times "Vsteinsson's thesis is based on a careful reading of the sources, particularly the sagas and the law code Gragas. Many scholars have already studied those sources in detail, but Vsteinsson is very good at extracting useful information without pressing the sources to say what he wants them to say, as many of his predecessors have done....The Christianization of Iceland is an important book that puts the study of Icelandic society during the Commonwealth period on new and securer footing. It will be valuable to scholars studying the medieval history of Iceland or Europe." -- HistoryAbout the Author Orri Vsteinsson is a Head of Research and Training at Institute of Archaeology.