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An Introduction to Islamic Law

By Wael B. Hallaq

Cambridge University Press, New Delhi, India, 2009. Paperback. Book Condition: New. First Edition. The study of Islamic law can be a forbidding prospect for those entering the field for the first time. Wael Hallaq, a leading scholar and practitioner of Islamic law, guides students through the intricacies of the subject in this absorbing introduction. The first half of the book is devoted to a discussion of Islamic law in its pre-modern natural habitat. The second part explains how the law was transformed and ultimately dismantled during the colonial period. In the final chapters, the author charts recent developments and the struggles of the Islamists to negotiate changes which have seen the law emerge as a primarily textual entity focused on fixed punishments and ritual requirements. The book, which includes a chronology, a glossary of key terms, and lists of further reading, will be the first stop for those who wish to understand the fundamentals of Islamic law, its practices and history. Contents Introduction Part I. Tradition and Continuity: 1. Whos who in the Sharia 2. The law: how is it found? 3. The legal schools 4. Jurists, legal education and politics 5. Sharias society 6. Pre-modern governance: the circle of...



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