



India's Islamic Traditions: 711-1750 (Oxford in India Readings: Themes in Indian History)

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This volume, part of the 'Themes in Indian History' series, contains 17 essays on various aspects of Islamic traditions in South Asia, spanning the course of 800 years, plus an Introduction by the editor, a well-known expert in this field. The essays cover a wide range of topics and provides a comprehensive summary of the rich diversity and cultural syncretism which are the hallmarks of the Islamic traditions in India. It will become a standard text on the subject of Indian Islam.

For a thousand years before the advent of British power, a great variety of Islamic traditions appeared in India letters and conversations of Sufis, vernacular epics, visual arts, qawwali music, commentaries on the Quran, historical chronicles, romance literature, folk ballads, and much more. The essays in this book some of them classics, some written especially for inclusion hereplace such traditions in their historical contexts, and address some basic questions in relation to Islam. The first part of the volume explores the different ways in which Muslims and non-Muslims represented each other across ten centuries of Indias history, and the historical circumstances that shaped these various representations.

The second part examines how Islamic traditions were related to the exercise of power, during the long period of Muslim rule over much of India. The third and fourth parts focus on particular genres of Islamic traditions history, romance literature, law, and Sufi and Shi traditions.

The final part looks at how Islamic traditions moulded, and were moulded by, the unique cultures of particular regions in South Asia. Part of the prestigious Themes in Indian History series, this reader will benefit students and teachers of medieval Indian history and religious studies, as well as informed general readers interested in the Islamic heritage of the subcontinent.

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