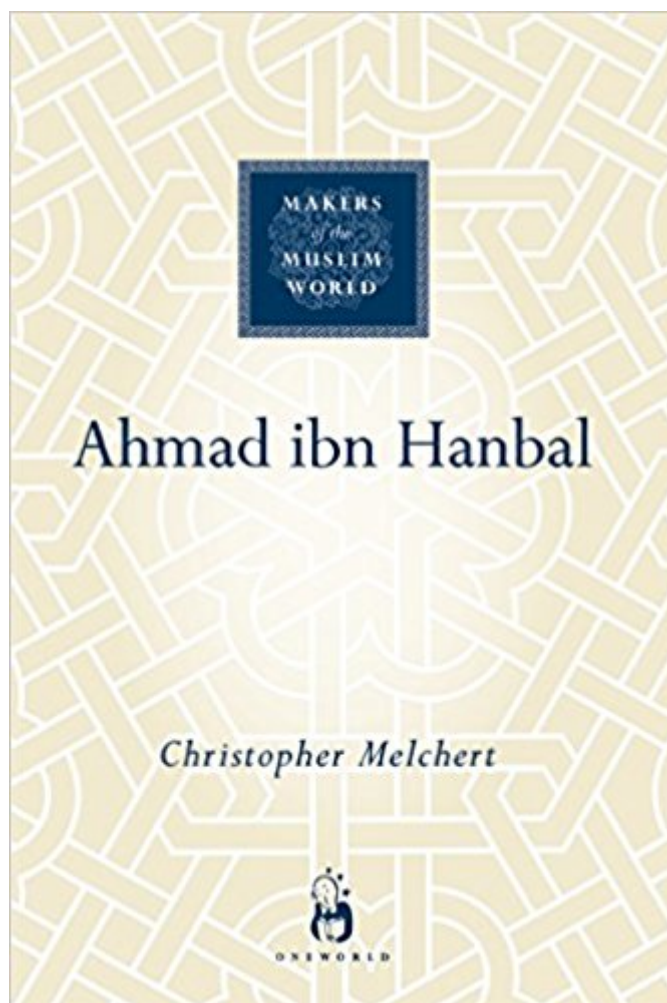


The book was found

Ahmad Ibn Hanbal (Makers Of The Muslim World)



Synopsis

Christopher Melchert examines the forefather of the fourth of the four principal Sunni schools of jurisprudence, the Hanbali. Upholding the view that the Qur'an was uncreated and the direct word of God, Ahmad ibn Hanbal (780-855) thought that the holy text should be read literally, rejecting any possibility for metaphorical or revisionist interpretation. Melchert assesses the importance of ibn Hanbal's teachings and analyses their relevance in modern Sunni Islam.

Book Information

Series: Makers of the Muslim World

Hardcover: 160 pages

Publisher: Oneworld Publications (October 19, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1851684077

ISBN-13: 978-1851684076

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #1,798,330 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #75 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > Sunnism](#) #358 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > Theology](#) #35613 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Theology](#)

Customer Reviews

Dr Christopher Melchert is a lecturer in Arabic and Islam at the Oriental Institute, Oxford University. He has written numerous published articles on Islam and specifically Ahmad ibn Hanbal.

I cannot come away from reading this book without feeling a deep sense of respect for Ahmad ibn Hanbal, and I am not one who subscribes to the rigid proclamations of people who follow the school of thought that eventually took him as its founder. Melchert does a wonderful job of conveying the inner tensions that defined Ahmad's life. Ultimately, Ahmad was a "melancholy figure", one - like any individual - who had his inner contradictions and ambivalences. He led a very austere life, yet did not advocate people to be 'spiritual athletes', testing their endurance with lengthy feats of denial. He advocated for a hadith-based religion, which ultimately triumphed, but he was not above using reason if it suited his ultimate project, although times he did it grudgingly and discreetly. The book is short and a great read, with the last few chapters particularly most meaningful. His occasion

'digressions' that discuss modern analogies and comparisons with Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Protestantism, and modern Islamists were helpful. The chapter on hadith is somewhat technical, but doesn't detract from the overall thrust of the book. Melchert certainly has an affection for his subject, which he acknowledges and explains in his Conclusion. My one major criticism is that there was not enough referencing, for those who would like to explore more on the subject. For those who come to this book to refute the constant assertions that Ahmad was a rigid jurisprudent who is a precursor to modern Islamism, you will be richly rewarded. Fundamentalists, beware.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Ahmad ibn Hanbal (Makers of the Muslim World) Ibn Tufayl's Hayy Ibn Yaqzan: A Philosophical Tale Ibn Battuta: The Greatest Traveler of the Muslim World (Spotlight on Explorers and Colonization) The Adventures of Ibn Battuta: A Muslim Traveler of the Fourteenth Century Sufi Narratives of Intimacy: Ibn 'Arabī, Gender, and Sexuality (Islamic Civilization and Muslim Networks) Shaykh Mufid (Makers of the Muslim World) Muslim Rap, Halal Soaps, and Revolutionary Theater: Artistic Developments in the Muslim World Modern Muslim Societies (Muslim World) Muslim Nursery Rhymes (Muslim Children's Library) Threading My Prayer Rug: One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim Muslim Rulers and Rebels: Everyday Politics and Armed Separatism in the Southern Philippines (Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies) The Calligraphic State: Textual Domination and History in a Muslim Society (Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies) Muslim Names: For Muslim Children Ibn Battuta in Black Africa (World History) Asabiyyah: What Ibn Khaldun, the Islamic Father of Social Science, Can Teach Us About the World Today On Taqlid: Ibn al Qayyim's Critique of Authority in Islamic Law National Geographic Readers: Ibn al-Haytham: The Man Who Discovered How We See (Readers Bios) National Geographic Readers: Ibn al-Haytham: The Man Who Discovered How We See (National Geographic Kids: Level 3 (Library)) Ibn Saud: The Desert Warrior Who Created the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia The Travels of Ibn Battutah

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)