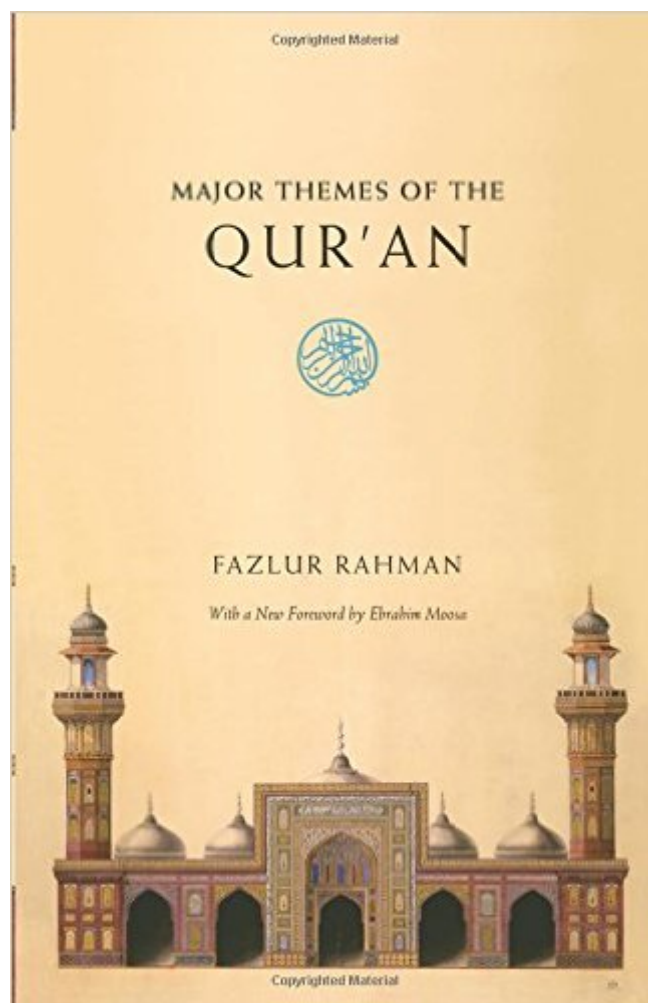


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Major Themes Of The Qur'an: Second Edition



Synopsis

Major Themes of the Qur'an is Fazlur Rahman's introduction to one of the richest texts in the history of religious thought. In this classic work, Rahman unravels the Qur'an's complexities on themes such as God, society, revelation, and prophecy with the deep attachment of a Muslim educated in Islamic schools and the clarity of a scholar who taught for decades in the West. Generations of scholars have profited from [Rahman's] pioneering scholarly work by taking the questions he raised and the directions he outlined to new destinations. --Ebrahim Moosa, from his new foreword The religious future of Islam and the future of interfaith relationship . . . will be livelier and saner for the sort of Quranic centrality which Major Themes of the Qur'an exemplifies and serves. --Kenneth Cragg, Middle East Journal There shines through [a] rare combination of balanced scholarly judgment and profound personal commitment. . . . [Rahman is] eager to open up the mysteries of the Qur'an to a shrinking world sorely in need of both moral regeneration and better mutual understanding. --Patrick D. Gaffney, Journal of Religion I can't think of any book more important, still, than Major Themes of the Qur'an. --Michael Sells, author of Approaching the Qur'an

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is essentially a systematic theology of the Quran. The author covers the topics of man, nature, prophethood, revelation, eschatology, Satan, and evil. In areas of contention, he attempts to present both sides fairly. Most of this book can be read by a newcomer to this subject. The book starts off talking about people and disagreements that one may be unfamiliar with, but the book gets

quickly through this. The author seems willing to look past orthodoxy to see Islam as one community among others. He holds out a hope that Muslims can listen to the Quran rather than tradition. He also believes that Christians can move the doctrine of the trinity to be more compatible with the Quran. This book is useful for those that want to understand the Quran regardless of their religion. While the book is old, it is still the only fair attempt at a systematic approach to the Quran.

This is an excellent scholarly work on the Quran and the themes in it. However, it is not for the novice. Rahman's analysis may not always be welcome by orthodoxy as he attains a semi-secular tone. This book along with Imam Ghazzali's "Jewels of Quran" can be an excellent combination to understand Quran.

Major Themes of the Quran is one of the few works of Fazlur Rahman (perhaps the only) which is not by any means controversial. This book is widely accepted by academics and traditional scholars. This book sets forth to analyze the major themes discussed within the Quran without much of any review or opinion. Excellent read and resource.

Fazlur Rahman, one of the best Muslim thinkers in the 20th century, clearly explains the essence of the Quran in this book. This book can be read on its own. However, the reader will benefit much more if the book is read after reading the Quran. This book is recommended to anyone interested in Islam as it is suitable for beginners and advanced students of Islam.

In many ways, this book is a response to western studies of the Qur'an, particularly those of Watt and Bell. Altogether an excellent piece of work, and obviously the result of a lifetime's study.

Prof. Fazul-ur-Rehman is known to be a scholar who caused quite a stir within the conservative Islamic world of Pakistani Ulema with his ideas regarding Prophecy and Revelation in particular and Quran and Islam in general. This particular text is not an easy read and the author seems to lose his way quite a few times when explaining his take on ideas in the Quran. The language is also sometimes 'archaic'. Overall, it is a good read for people who want to discover a different kind of take on Quranic themes but which are not necessarily anti-Islamic.

Fazlur Rahman is a man that has contributed significantly to the study of Islam both in Pakistan and in the West through his work at the Near Eastern Affairs Dept at University of Chicago. He is not an

orthodox view of Islam, but a truly beautiful explanation of the spirituality of this religion. In chapters titled in a convention similar to philosophers past (Man as an Individual, Man in Society reads similar to a Puffendorf), Rahman espouses a philosophy of Islam. The themes are not controversial in their moral implications - indeed it cultivates a spiritual understanding of Islam that is lost in the popular literature or media these days. However, Rahman's take has unfortunately been challenged by more orthodox camps of Islam. In my opinion, it offers the most telling and comprehensive understanding of Islamic philosophy and is a wonderful, illuminating read.

good overview of what might be called the intellectual/secular viewpoint of Islam but is also worth noting that the author is not that well received within the Muslim community as an authority on what constitutes a "proper" understanding of the Koran/Islam

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