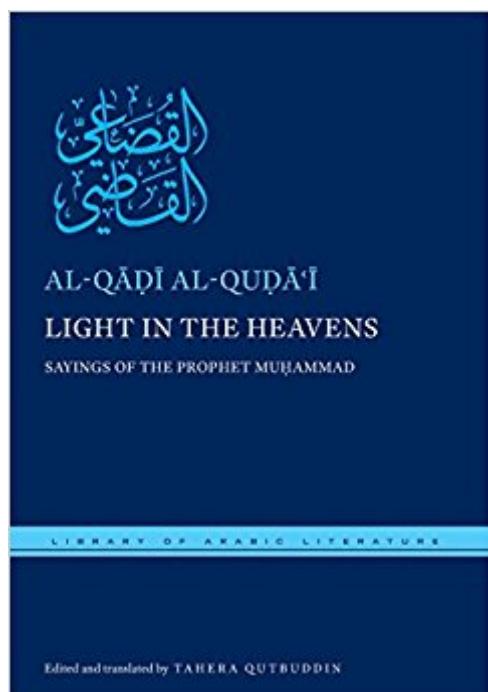


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Light In The Heavens: Sayings Of The Prophet Muhammad (Library Of Arabic Literature)



Synopsis

Sayings of the Prophet Muhammad, wielding an authority second only to the Qur'an, including law, theology, metaphysics, poetry, grammar, history, and medicine. Assembling Muhammad's words has been a major preoccupation for scholars throughout the fourteen centuries since his death, resulting in an abundance of compilations. Among the legally-grounded collections, which aimed to guide the community in its practice of religious law and ritual worship, one which stands out in particular is Light in the Heavens (Kitab al-Shihab) by al-Qadi al-Quda'i (d. 454 H/1062 AD), a Shafi'i judge in the Fatimid court in Egypt. The collection's overall conceptualization is distinctively ethical and pragmatic, and offers humanitarian lessons and practical insights with universal appeal.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Easily readable and accessible! Highly recommended and beneficial for the expert, the scholar, and the student of Islamic Studies, while equally expedient for general readers."-Reading Religion

Tahera Qutbuddin is Associate Professor of Arabic Literature at the University of Chicago. She is the author of Al-Muāyyad al-Shirazi and Fatimid Da‘wa Poetry: A Case of Commitment in Classical Arabic Literature. Al-Qadi al-Quda'i (d. 454 H/1062 AD) was a Sunni jurist, a scholar of hadith and history, and a senior government official of the Fatimid dynasty in Cairo.

The first thing I noticed is that the word "lord" for God is not capitalized, yet, the "Hallowed Spirit" is. Subtle things such as this have a profound, yet subliminal effect. This is characteristic of Christian books where titles such as "Son of Man" are capitalized, but pronouns referring to God Himself, such as "he, him" etc, are not. Culturally, it is just a different style of writing, but you will notice. Also, the restriction on using "Allah," instead of God, seems to remove in some ways the Muslim character of these writings, I'm not sure this was the author's choice. However, I have not finished reading the book to offer further critiques...

Finally a great translation of this book. The wise saying had become part of parcel of traditional muslim culture and etiquette. The translation is not to literal and is a great companion to the translation of saying so Ali. The introduction is also useful. Highly recommended.

Very true in todays world as well!

Superb translation of Qadi al-Qudai's compendium of aphorisms and maxims attributed to the Prophet Muhammad. This book offers sage advice and general knowledge suitable for all, Sunni, Shi'a and non-Muslim. Highly recommended along with Dr Qutbuddin's translation of "A Treasury of Virtues: Sayings, Sermons, and Teachings of Ali" by the same author.

Excellent compendium to introduce the gamut of Islamic thought. Noble, kind, generous, universal values are translated from the originals by an outstanding Islamic scholar, Professor, Doctor Tahera Qutbuddin.

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