



God's Rule - Government and Islam: Six Centuries of Medieval Islamic Political Thought

By Patricia Crone

Columbia University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, God's Rule - Government and Islam: Six Centuries of Medieval Islamic Political Thought, Patricia Crone, Patricia Crone's God's Rule is a fundamental reconstruction and analysis of Islamic political thought focusing on its intellectual development during the six centuries from the rise of Islam to the Mongol invasions. Based on a wide variety of primary sources—including some not previously considered from the point of view of political thought—this is the first book to examine the medieval Muslim answers to questions crucial to any Western understanding of Middle Eastern politics today, such as why states are necessary, what functions they are meant to fulfill, and whether or why they must be based on religious law. The character of Muslim political thought differs fundamentally from its counterpart in the West. The Christian West started with the conviction that truth (both cognitive and moral) and political power belonged to separate spheres. Ultimately, both power and truth originated with God, but they had distinct historical trajectories and regulated different aspects of life. The Muslims started with the opposite conviction: truth and power appeared at the same time in history and regulated the same aspects of life....

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