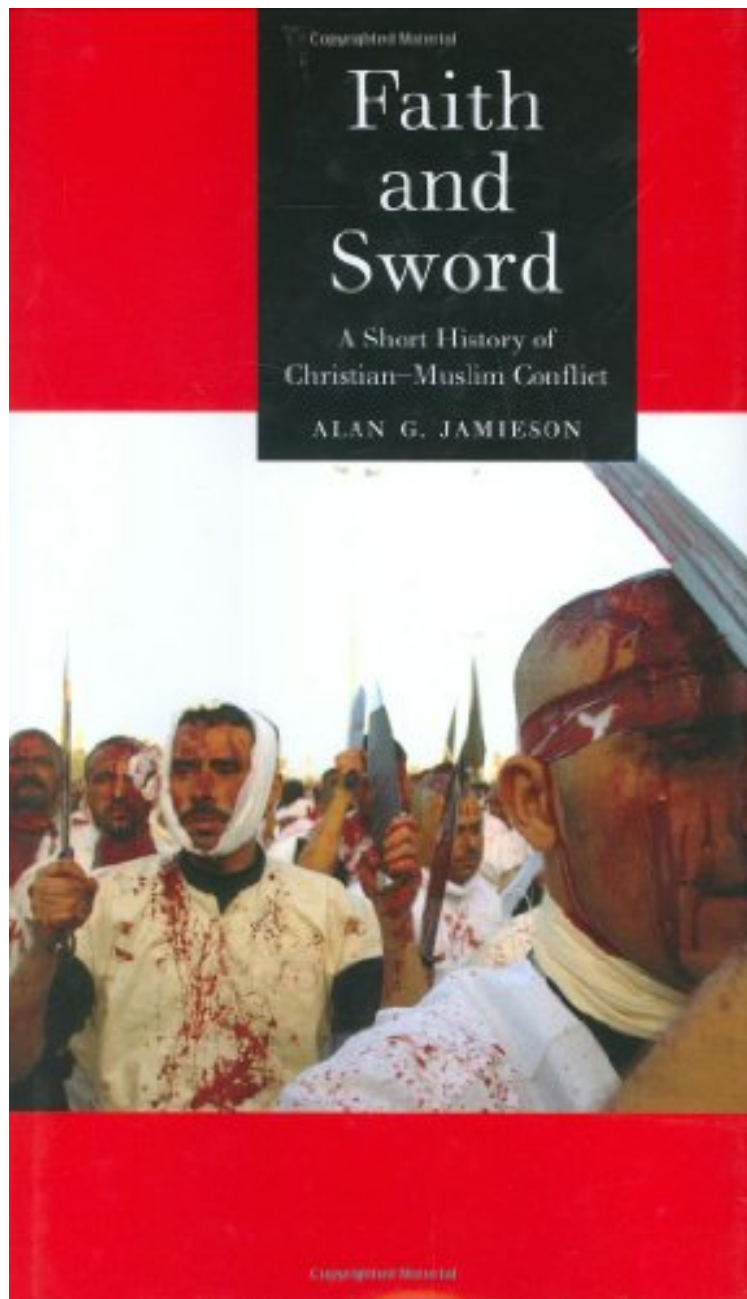


(Online library) Faith and Sword: A Short History of Christian-Muslim Conflict (Globalities)

## Faith and Sword: A Short History of Christian-Muslim Conflict (Globalities)

*Alan G. Jamieson*

*\*Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#3154079 in Books Reaktion Books 2006-06-26 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.40 x 5.50l, 1.03  
#File Name: 1861892721256 pages | File size: 72.Mb

Alan G. Jamieson : Faith and Sword: A Short History of Christian-Muslim Conflict (Globalities) before

purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Faith and Sword: A Short History of Christian-Muslim Conflict* (Globalities):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Islam shall be spread by the Sword, The Prophet Muhammed By Bert An easy read, detailed history of the longest war in history, from before 700 AD until today. The spread of Islam was a movement based on teaching of the Prophet Muhammed. Incorrectly considered a great military leader he preached jihad, his massive hordes of male believers stormed north to Turkey and east to all of N Africa and captured Christian Spain by the mid 700 AD. The desert warriors fought often without even primitive weapons and sheer force of belief in jihad and promises of the Koran. Poorly trained, organized and equipped, millions reached most all of Spain, southern France, and areas including Sicily. They overwhelmed with sheer force European defenders. They had no logistics, food or support and lived off the land. These mobs of followers it is reported often murdering their victims instantly without the offer of conversation to Islam, and took their women as their mates in a tribal form of relationship provided by their leaders. No organized European resistance existed until around 1050 AD and after when leaders of Christian Europe commenced attacks in what is called "The Crusades". This book reveals the strategy used by Muhammed to require total discipline, and assurance of heaven only if warrior, in his jihad event, was killed fighting the infidel. Infidel being anyone other than a muslim. Reveling, shocking, to the point and rather brief, you are unlikely to receive these facts from your church, Bible study, or newspaper. A rather scary but frank look at the basic tactic of promising uneducated masses something they could not receive on earth, unlimited women, rivers of wine and gold, in paradise, but only upon death in battle. Encouraging death, and creating multi wives for the religious leaders and survivors at home. But, enslaving the women and making them subject to strict laws and ownership by their father, or husband A Bit Shocking and unlike what you probably expect. 9 of 13 people found the following review helpful. *The Longest War* By Donald J. Keck A brief, but comprehensive account of the thirteen hundred year conflict between Islam and the Christian civilizations of Byzantium and Western Europe. The book is only 222 pages in length. Yet it is amazingly inclusive. Nothing significant has been left out. At the same time the author's non-judgmental approach eschews the usual anti-western/anti-Christian, or anti Muslim, harangue. The Crusades, for example, are presented as just one episode in the millennia long see-saw struggle for control of the borderlands between the Islamic World and the West - a European push-back that came after four hundred years of Islamic Jihad and conquest of the Christian lands around the Mediterranean from the Levant to Spain and Portugal. This book serves no one's ideological or political agenda. It is an objective historical account of the perennial struggle for dominance between Dar al Islam and the Christian (later secular) West. It is primarily a study of conflict, rather than of peaceful intercourse, between two civilizations. (For that see: Zachary Karabell's *PEACE BE UPON YOU*.) Four centuries of Muslim expansion and Christian defeat were followed by a period of Christian recovery (during the era of the Crusades and the Reconquest of Sicily, Spain and Portugal), which was followed by four more centuries of Muslim advance under the Ottoman Turks. Finally, the tide of Islamic expansion was reversed by a secularized Europe remade and revitalized by the commercial, industrial, technological and military revolutions of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. What we are witnessing today is a renewed Jihad (Holy War) against a predominantly secular Western Civilization led by fanatic Islamists from some of the most remote and primitive reaches of the world, whose proclaimed objective is to topple the most economically and militarily powerful nations on earth. Can they succeed? Only if the west crumbles from within through a loss nerve, a collapse of will and self hatred. Only a loss of faith in its own historical achievements, culture, religious and political beliefs and institutions, and a loss of confidence in the rightness of its cause and the will to defend it, can bring Western Civilization down. It is well to remember, however, that once before (in the seventh and eighth centuries) a horde of backward desert tribesmen inspired by a fanatical faith in Allah overran and destroyed the vastly more advanced Roman Civilization lying around the littoral of the Mediterranean basin.

In today's tense geopolitical climate, terrorist groups avow their allegiance to the Islamic faith in their edicts, while the president of the United States undertakes controversial wars in Islamic nations and openly refers to his Christian faith as a key component of his decision-making. With the recent surge in terrorist acts and military confrontations, as well as ever-strengthening fundamentalist ideologies on both sides, the Christian-Muslim divide is perhaps more visible than ever but it is not new. Alan G. Jamieson explores here the long and bloody history of the Christian-Muslim conflict, revealing in his concise yet comprehensive study how deeply this ancient divide is interwoven with crucial events in world history. *Faith and Sword* opens with the tumultuous first centuries of the conflict, examining the religious precepts that framed clashes between Christians and Muslims and that ultimately fueled the legendary Crusades. Traversing the full breadth of the Arab lands and Christendom, Jamieson chronicles the turbulent saga from the Arab conquests of the seventh century to the rise of the powerful Ottoman Empire and its fall at the end of World War I. *Faith and Sword* then explores the complex dynamics that emerged later in the twentieth century, as Christendom was transformed into the secular West and Islamic nations overthrew European colonialism to establish governments straddling modernity and religiosity. From the 1979 Iranian revolution to the Lebanon hostage crisis to

the present-day war in Iraq, Faith and Sword reveals the essence of this enduring struggle and its consequences.

From Publishers Weekly  
Writer and researcher Jamieson offers a dense but clear abstract of the 1,400-year history of conflict between Christian and Muslim states, from the death of Muhammad to the American occupation of Iraq. For the first millennium, the story follows the expansion of Muslim caliphates at the expense of the Byzantine Empire and the emerging Christian kingdoms of Western Europe. Later, with the Christian conquest of Iberia and the Crusades, the two sides began to establish a balance of power that tipped toward the Christians in the nineteenth century. The book moves quickly to this point, discussing even major developments only long enough to establish basic facts. Jamieson slows down upon reaching the 20th century, when the West's military dominance and secularization alter the relationship between "Christian" and Muslim states. The major division now, Jamieson argues, is not between these countries but between secularists and fundamentalists within Muslim-majority nations. Though the book's brevity leaves little room for analysis, Jamieson sketches characters, incidents, and trends fluidly, producing a fine primer of this long history. 5 halftones.  
Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Sedulous, unapologetic presentation of fact. . . a challenge to Islamic resisters that Muhammad never be criticized. . . . Opens our eyes to an inescapable truth: Christians and Muslims fought wars for more than 1,000 years, with each at times conquering the other's territory by force."