



## Medieval Islamic Political Thought. Patricia Crone (New Edinburgh Islamic Surveys)

*By Professor of Islamic History at the Institute for Advanced Study  
Patricia Crone*

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### Review

A volume that is bound both to set a standard and to cause some controversy! Crone's contribution ought to achieve iconic status as a volume of broad scope and, based on her outstanding scholarly reputation will set a standard for all such subsequent works. This rich and wide-ranging book ! is stimulating and provocative ! Crone's lucid style aims to make a complex, ostensibly alien, tradition intelligible to the general reader as well as to the Islamic specialist. The book combines erudition with analytical brilliance. The author knows how to make sense of things, highlight them, and put them in perspective. Readers should come away with a satisfying depth of understanding of the full range of medieval Islamic political thought. -- Professor Michael Cook, Princeton University 'Patrica Crone's wide-ranging study is a substantial achievement, as it succeeds in clarifying the political thought of six centuries ... Written in a lively and unpretentious style, this is an excellent introduction to the subject which deserves to be widely read outside academic circles. -- Abeer Al-Abbasi, University of Leeds British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies A volume that is bound both to set a standard and to cause some controversy! Crone's contribution ought to achieve iconic status as a volume of broad scope and, based on her outstanding scholarly reputation will set a standard for all such subsequent works. This rich and wide-ranging book ! is stimulating and provocative ! Crone's lucid style aims to make a complex, ostensibly alien, tradition intelligible to the general reader as well as to the Islamic specialist. The book combines erudition with analytical brilliance. The author knows how to make sense of things, highlight them, and put them in perspective. Readers should come away with a satisfying depth of understanding of the full range of medieval Islamic political thought. 'Patrica Crone's wide-ranging study is a substantial achievement, as it succeeds in clarifying the political thought of six centuries ... Written in a lively and unpretentious style, this is an excellent introduction to the subject which deserves to be widely read outside academic circles.

### About the Author

Patricia Crone is Mellon Professor of Islamic History at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. She is author of several books including Pre-industrial Societies: Anatomy of the Pre-modern World (2003), Roman, Provincial and Islamic Law (1987), Meccan Trade and the Rise of Islam (1987) and Slaves on Horses: the Evolution of Islamic Polity (1980).

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