

# UNDERSTANDING ISLAMIC LAW (SHARĪ'A)

Second Edition 2016



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## Understanding Islamic Law (Sharī'a), Second Edition

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The demand for a textbook like *Understanding Islamic Law* among law students and legal practitioners in America and throughout the English-speaking world is large and growing. Islamic Law is not merely a “hot topic.” It is a major trend that is an increasingly mainstream fixture in the legal landscape. There is nothing currently on the market for law schools like *Understanding Islamic Law*, that is, a comprehensive text, in English, by a non-Muslim law professor. This thorough, balanced textbook is carefully and thoughtfully written, and can be used without supplementation in a one-semester Islamic Law course.

The first 11 chapters of *Understanding Islamic Law* give the essential foundational materials for the study of Islamic Law. No background or previous study of the religion, history, or law of Islam is presumed, so these interdisciplinary chapters are invaluable in making the subject accessible. The remaining chapters cover several other pertinent fields: banking and finance, contracts, criminal law, family law, and property.

This **Second Edition** also:

- Includes Arabic terms, in English, with diacritical marks to assist in pronunciation;
- Provides a Glossary of Arabic Terms;
- Incorporates recent developments such as the *burkha* bans in several countries; and
- Features expanded coverage of Islamic finance, especially Islamic joint ventures (*mushārakah*), as well as *Shī'ism*.

This textbook is used at law schools around the world, and as a resource for legal practitioners and other officials working in or with Muslim communities, including military personnel. The textbook's first iteration has received international media attention, and was reviewed as a “brilliant and much-needed resource” by Muslim scholar, John Balouziyeh.

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