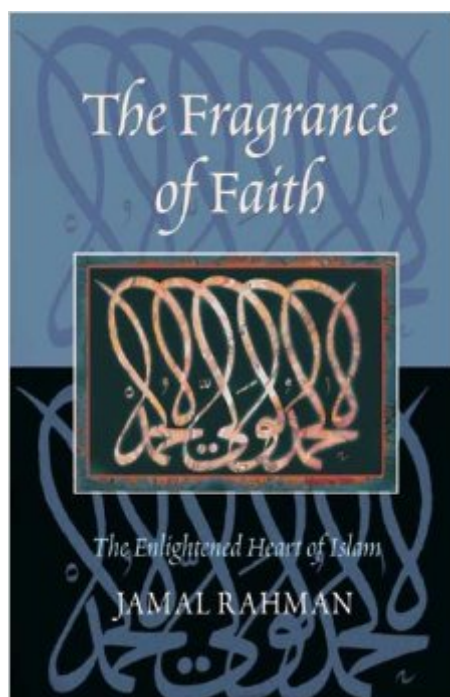


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The Fragrance Of Faith: The Enlightened Heart Of Islam



Synopsis

The essence of Islam is conveyed to spiritual students in this practical and heartwarming introduction to the religion and its practices. The ancient wisdom of the faith is lovingly passed down to readers from a distinguished lineage of teachers, including the author's own parents and grandparents. Each chapter features a series of thought-provoking questions and suggestions concerning Islamic spirituality along with a list of actions that will guide new believers in the simple spirituality of the faith while spreading compassion worldwide.

Book Information

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: The Book Foundation; F First Paperback Edition Used edition (April 1, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1904510086

ISBN-13: 978-1904510086

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #611,157 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #97 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > Rituals & Practice](#)

Customer Reviews

Rahman writes with a very easy style, wrapping philosophy, his own outlook on life and Mysticism around life lessons he learnt from his grandfather who was a spiritual leader in the old country, Bangladesh. An example: "Allah wants us to be compassionate with ourselves". Rahman is himself the son of a Bangladeshi diplomat and a brand-new citizen of the USA, he teaches Sufism and is a counselor in Seattle; a rare and true man of peace and love towards all Mankind. Although the book is worked around Islam, Rahman integrates the Divine philosophy in a manner that will appeal to people of all religions or even non-religions. He peppers the book with liberal quotes from Jallaluddin Rumi, the famous Sufi poet which dive deep into the heart and humor of every person. Some Rumi quotes: On the beneficence of God: "For sixty years, I have been forgetful, every minute; but not for a second has this flowing toward me stopped or slowed". "You know the value of every article of merchandise but if you do not know the value of your own soul, it is all foolishness". "Not only the thirsty seek water, the water as well seeks the thirsty". Quotes from the Prophet Mohammed: "If a man gives up a fight when he is wrong, a house will be built for him in

Paradise. But if a man gives up a fight even when he is in the right, a house will be built for him on the loftiest realm of Paradise. If anything, this book succeeds in transcending religion and presenting the common belief and meditation foundations of all Humanity. It is indeed a great, moving and inspiring book and WELL worth reading.

This book serves as an excellent introduction of the Islamic faith to the average Westerner who may have only been exposed to stereotypical presentations of the religion. It also will deepen the knowledge and understanding for people who are interested in the core ideas and fundamental principles of Islam. It focuses on inner practice, fundamental themes (such as surrender, faith, truthfulness, humility, etc.) and applications to daily living. The chapters are short, the message is direct and lucid, but there is nothing simple (or simplified) about the presentation. It is a book you will want to read more than once.

This book is both an accurate description of Islam and also a wonderful guide to realizing your true Self. Using entertaining Sufi Stories, beautiful quotes from the Qur'an and great Sufi Masters such as Rumi, along with practical exercises, Jamal Rahman provides an easy to read journey into complex spiritual ideas. I recommend "The Fragrance of Faith" to all spiritual seekers no matter what your specific path may be and to others interested in understanding the core beliefs of Islam.

I found this book simply by chance. I was buying some other books, and was searching through the recommended products links and saw it. I don't even think it was on the first page of recommendations, probably the second or third. Yet, something made me click on buy, and I'm so glad I did. I'd never heard of the author before. Yet his book is filled with such wisdom. His grandfather was a well-respected Bangladeshi teacher, and from him and his parents comes a lot of the wisdom in this book. Each chapter contains usually a teaching story (often a Mullah Nasruddin/Goha story), the author's comments/lesson, as well as practical daily exercises to implement. The tone and teaching throughout is of God's absolute love and compassion. Reading a short chapter has become part of my daily spiritual practice. Typically I read some Qur'an, a bit of Rumi, and something from this book. My only complaint? Way too short. I was left wanting more. Highly highly recommended for Muslims, both born and reverts, as well as anybody interested in spirituality or sufism.

I can't tell you how many people I have gifted this book to. It is simply a beautiful introduction to

Islam as it is meant to be practiced. Actually, it helps us see how any faith is meant to be practiced...in the real world, in everyday life, with an emphasis on fundamental human values such as gratitude, humility, patience, and compassion. It takes an honest look at what gets in the way of our practicing what we preach....our fears, patterns, excuses and attachments. This book will open your heart to Islam and help you see that it is truly a religion of compassion and surrender to God.

This is a book meant to be read and reread, savored, and it's spiritual exercises internalized. I would like to offer my most heartfelt thanks to Jamal Rahman for this work. It is deeply spiritual, yet light and humorous at the same time. I am unable to adequately explain to the few friends who are curious to know why, at this stage in my life I have converted to Islam as a basis for my interest in and practices of Sufism. This is the book I intend to give them. I lent it to my daughter and she asked to keep it; I will need a few more copies.

This is the most delightful book I ever read. In every way, it spoke to me. It's funny, thoughtful, profound, and it opened my heart like nothing I've read before. After reading it, I prayed the messages would stay with me forever and comfort and guide me through the rest of my life. That's saying a lot, I realize. I bought this book because I was curious about Islam--why do those people want to kill us? Maybe if 'those people' read this book there would be peace in the world. This is the most amazing book in every way. From the writing style to the stories used to deliver the messages, I feel fortunate to have come across this simple little book.

This book is a must read for those who want to gain an incite into the heart of Islam, a journey into the joy and wisdom of life as one relates to knowing and experiencing the mystery of life, and love as its ultimate source.

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