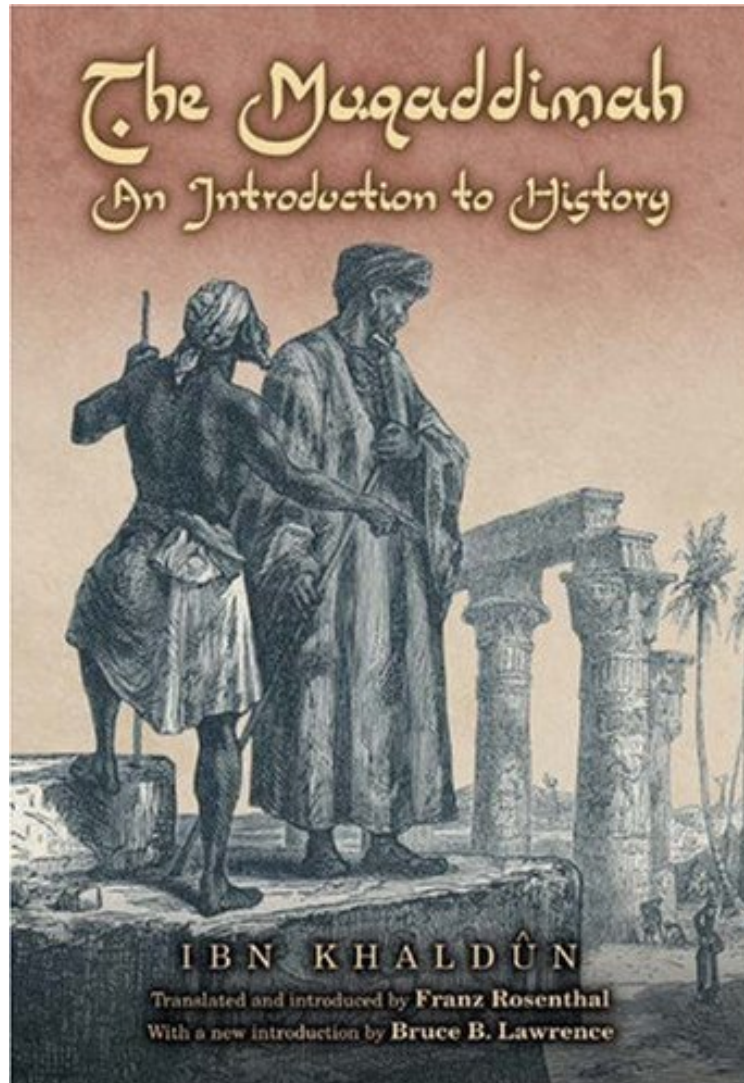


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The Muqaddimah: An Introduction to History (Bollingen Series)

Ibn Khaldun

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Ibn Khaldun : The Muqaddimah: An Introduction to History (Bollingen Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Muqaddimah: An Introduction to History (Bollingen Series):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An economic gemBy Derek ZweigThe early economic observations in this book are impressive. Ibn Khaldun's Muqaddimah represents the origin of modern supply-side economics, especially as it regards taxation. He points out a concept on tax revenues similar to the Laffer curve and also eludes to the capital-destroying nature of excessive taxation. Further, Ibn Khaldun correctly recognizes labor as the true source of wealth, showing a clear understanding of how enhanced efficiency in labor to provide living necessities allows for

labor-time to be shifted to luxuries. He also appeared to have some concept of economies of scale hidden in discussion of basic population growth and prosperity. There are many more tidbits of economic observation, some a bit silly and some astute. There is also a plethora of information pertaining to attempted scientific observation, most of which is amusing though interesting in terms of getting a glimpse into ancient beliefs. The religious portions of the book were expected though so extreme that it was difficult to get through. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Very educational and enlightening!! By Anna What an educational and enlightening historical work. It completely grabbed my attention from the moment I started reading it. I was also completely blown away at the depth of knowledge and philosophical subject matter that was presented. The core principles really make you think and reflect. It definitely gives you a different perspective and outlook about life and what is important. I am a complete history buff and get really excited when I stumble across a great work such as this. If you are at all intellectual or are a fan of historical philosophy... then do yourself a favor and get this book. I give it 5 big stars! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Still Relevant Examination of the life cycles of a state By Shelia B. Cassidy Ibn Kaldun was a Muslim judge in the Medieval times who took the time to study the life cycles of states of all descriptions. And he had most of what we have now, including democracy (Athens) republics (Rome) and all types of governments in between. Certain cycles became apparent to him no matter what the composition of the government was. And as I look at the present state of affairs in the United States, I can see Ibn Kaldun's study borne out in modern times. But he also examines the different functions of the states in greater detail and the societies produced by the different types of governments. Even though this is an abridged version of a longer 3-book set, it is well worth the reading to understand not only history but the present interactions of International Affairs.

The Muqaddimah, often translated as "Introduction" or "Prolegomenon," is the most important Islamic history of the premodern world. Written by the great fourteenth-century Arab scholar Ibn Khaldun (d. 1406), this monumental work laid down the foundations of several fields of knowledge, including philosophy of history, sociology, ethnography, and economics. The first complete English translation, by the eminent Islamicist and interpreter of Arabic literature Franz Rosenthal, was published in three volumes in 1958 as part of the Bollingen Series and received immediate acclaim in America and abroad. A one-volume abridged version of Rosenthal's masterful translation was first published in 1969. This new edition of the abridged version, with the addition of a key section of Rosenthal's own introduction to the three-volume edition, and with a new introduction by Bruce B. Lawrence, will reintroduce this seminal work to twenty-first-century students and scholars of Islam and of medieval and ancient history.

From review of Princeton's original edition: "Undoubtedly the greatest work of its kind that has ever been created by any mind in any time or place . . . the most comprehensive and illuminating analysis of how human affairs work that has been made anywhere. -- Arnold J. Toynbee, Observer

From review of Princeton's original edition: "[N. J. Dawood] has, by skillful abridgement and deft but unobtrusive editing, produced an attractive and manageable volume, which should make the essential ideas of Ibn Khaldun accessible to a wide circle of readers. -- Times Literary Supplement

Language Notes Text: English, Arabic (translation)