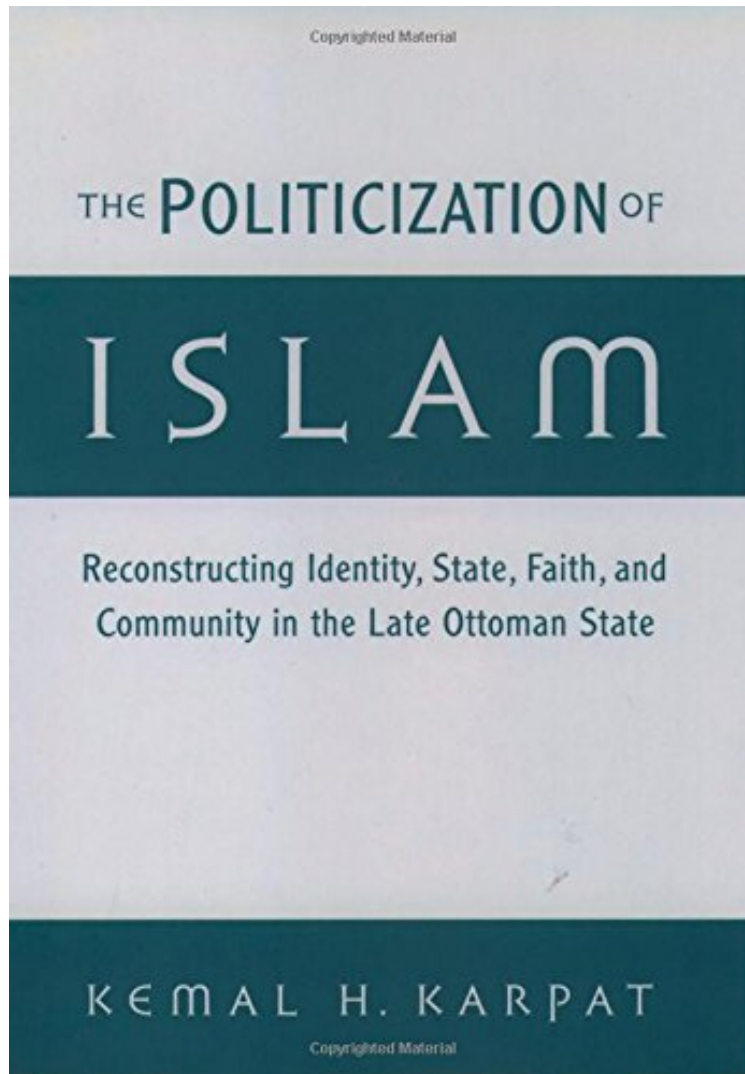


[Free] The Politicization of Islam: Reconstructing Identity, State, Faith, and Community in the Late Ottoman State (Studies in Middle Eastern History)

The Politicization of Islam: Reconstructing Identity, State, Faith, and Community in the Late Ottoman State (Studies in Middle Eastern History)

Kemal H. Karpat

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#6169875 in Books Kemal H Karpat 2001-05-03Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.20 x 1.60 x 6.00l, 1.95
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Kemal H. Karpat : The Politicization of Islam: Reconstructing Identity, State, Faith, and Community in the Late Ottoman State (Studies in Middle Eastern History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Politicization of Islam: Reconstructing Identity, State, Faith, and

Community in the Late Ottoman State (Studies in Middle Eastern History):

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. useful but eccentric work
By tarihci202
This work looks at the development of national identity among Muslims in the late Ottoman Empire and has significant coverage of Muslims in the Russian Empire as well. It is primarily concerned with the ways in which Muslim identity began to take on political content and in the relationship between this trend and Ottoman reform efforts under Abdulhamit II. There are a lot of things to dislike about this work: the writing is poor and the digressions are frequent. Although I am used to academic writing and this is a field that I am familiar with, I found the book difficult to finish. At an intellectual level, one could also criticize Karpap for his poor understanding of theories of nationalism and his use of outdated research, particularly with regard to the Muslims of the Russian Empire. These criticisms should not be overstated, however. Karpap has done a tremendous job of putting together literature from a variety of fields into one work. His research in the Ottoman archives provides us with a wealth of new data. His analysis, while sometimes fuzzy, nevertheless points to important directions for new research in Ottoman studies. From what I have said here, it should be clear: this is an academic work and only the most diligent would read it "for pleasure." Nevertheless, as a contribution to Ottoman Studies, this is an important book that will need to be considered by any student of the field.

Combining international and domestic perspectives, this book analyzes the transformation of the Ottoman Empire over the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It views privatization of state lands and the increase of domestic and foreign trade as key factors in the rise of a Muslim middle class, which, increasingly aware of its economic interests and communal roots, then attempted to reshape the government to reflect its ideals.

"His works of reference are the classical sociologists Karl Marx, Max Weber, Emile Durkheim and Joseph Schumpeter. The author is well versed in this tradition of analytical history and offers penetrating explanations drawn from general sociological categories without compromising the historical details of his empirical material."-- middle East Journal
"A monumental work by one of the most respected scholars of the Ottoman Empire. A valuable effort and contribution in understanding the process of politicization of Islam."--Central Eurasian Studies
"The book is an extended essay recording the author's ruminations on Ottoman history, Turkish politics, and their interconnections."-- American Historical
"This may be Karpap's magnum opus...The result is a book that is destined to become a classic."-- CHOICE
"A thoroughly innovative, ambitious, and entirely successful new foray into Ottoman history."--History: s of New Books
"Professor Karpap's *The Politicization of Islam* is a landmark study. It does not simply refute an outdated approach picturing the entire transformation of the Ottoman Empire as a deadly and everlasting struggle between Islam and modernity, but offers an insightful analysis of how this transformation materialized during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and deftly analyzes the complex processes of state building, politicization of Islam, and invention of tradition."--M. Skr Hanioglu, Princeton University
"This is a painstakingly researched and passionately written account of Ottoman politics, society, and ideology from the mid-nineteenth century to the nation-state period. Professor Karpap analyzes assertions of local power and ethnic identity in an Islamic notion. He posits Islamism as an ideology of reform responding to popular pressures and international factors, and thus provides a corrective to the entrenched notion that Islam (or pan-Islam) served as a repressive, retrogressive, and expansionist ideological instrument. Comprehensive and analytical, yet broad in scope and accessible to both the general reader and the scholar, this book is a significant contribution to Middle Eastern studies."--Hasan Kayali, University of California, San Diego
"Undaunted by the entrenched, simplistic interpretations of Abdulhamid II's reign as Sultan of the Ottoman Empire (1876-1909), Professor Kemal Karpap, in a marvelous synthesis, brings fresh insight into the complex social, cultural, and political forces that influenced Ottoman modernization. He shows how the idea of Islamism (pan-Islam), far from being the backward ideology depicted by the Sultan's critics, was turned into a positive force in mobilizing the Empire's people to accept major changes in their traditional institutions. Professor Karpap brings provocative insight into his analysis of the relationship between ideology and institutional change. His work is of great interest, not only to Ottomanists and students of Middle Eastern history, but also to those interested in the factors that affect the very nature of modernization throughout the world."--Stanford J. Shaw, University of California, Los Angeles and Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey
"Arguably one of the most significant books to appear in the last thirty years on the transformation of the late Ottoman Empire. A first-rate intellectual history grounded in the society and economy of the period, in which he examines the impact of capitalism as the Ottoman Empire was incorporated in the world system during the nineteenth century."--Journal of Islamic Studies
About the Author
Kemal H. Karpap is at University of Wisconsin-Madison.