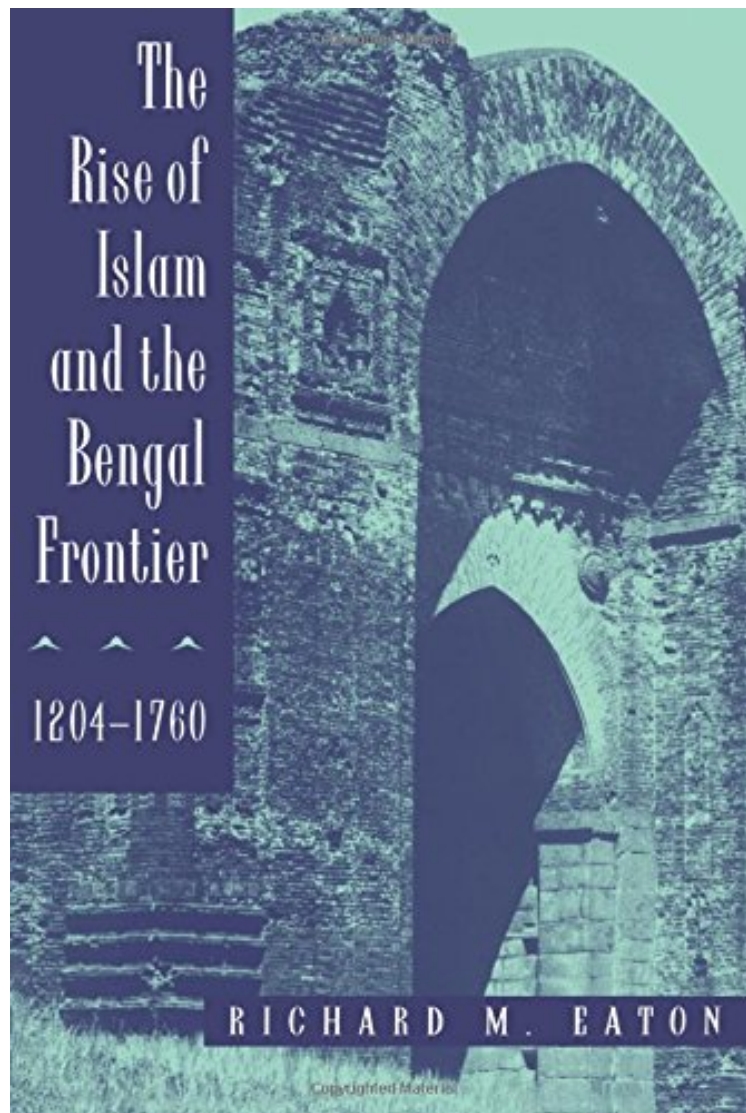


[Download free pdf] The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier, 1204-1760 (Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies)

The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier, 1204-1760 (Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies)

Richard M. Eaton

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Richard M. Eaton : The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier, 1204-1760 (Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier, 1204-1760 (Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Detailed historical book!By TamzidyIf you are looking for straight

history of Islam in the Bengal area, this book will definitely not let you down. It is very detail oriented, as the author uses primary and secondary source material. Most of it is pretty dry, but if you're a history lover, you will devour it up. 18 of 20 people found the following review helpful. Pretty exhaustive...By python_guy At first, I had thought Eaton will only cover the spread of Islam in the Bengal as a religious process but obviously 300+ pages isn't for all that. Not only does he start from the B.C. periods and provide an overview of the political, religious and agrarian developments in this part of the world but he also goes on to describe much of the political history of the Turkish invasion and later Mughal dynasty. Obviously, I realized that giving such a comprehensive background helps the reader form a broader picture of the frame of mind of the receivers of the Islamic faith at that time in Bengal and does a better job explaining exactly why Islam blossomed so rapidly there. Eaton expounds the already existing theories of mass conversion and then goes on to partially reject them. Then he carefully elaborates on his view (which I, being a Bangladeshi, find agreeable) on how Islam ACTUALLY spread in this region. For those looking for a book on the spread of Islam around the world, go for *The Spread of Islam* by Thomas W. Arnold but this book by Eaton is much more micro in perspective and hence serves the purpose of exploring the conditions conducive to the spread of Islam more thoroughly, bearing in mind of course that what induced Bengali people to embrace Islam is not necessarily the same that encouraged people in other times and places to become Muslim. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Dense Reading; engaging for scholars By Will Jerom Recommended for experts, not for general overview. As an academic book, this will be received better by scholars than by a popular audience. It is fairly dense, often dry, but well researched and fairly well argued. If you are interested primarily in Bangladesh and the roots of Islam there, then this specific focus will engage you. If you are interested in a more general review of Bangladesh history or Islamic culture, then you would be advised to look elsewhere. Eaton does a fairly good job looking at the arguments advanced for how Islam came to Bangladesh, and he suggests Islam was not brought all-at-once or by the sword, but by creative adaptation to, and in the process of developing the land.

In all of the South Asian subcontinent, Bengal was the region most receptive to the Islamic faith. This area today is home to the world's second-largest Muslim ethnic population. How and why did such a large Muslim population emerge there? And how does such a religious conversion take place? Richard Eaton uses archaeological evidence, monuments, narrative histories, poetry, and Mughal administrative documents to trace the long historical encounter between Islamic and Indic civilizations. Moving from the year 1204, when Persianized Turks from North India annexed the former Hindu states of the lower Ganges delta, to 1760, when the British East India Company rose to political dominance there, Eaton explores these moving frontiers, focusing especially on agrarian growth and religious change.

From the Back Cover Eaton ranges over all the important aspects of that community's history, whether political and social, or cultural and religious... This study must rank among the finest contributions to South Asian scholarship to appear for some while. About the Author Richard M. Eaton is Professor of History at the University of Arizona, Tucson, and the author of *The Sufis of Bijapur* (1978).