

ISLAMIC  
CIVILISATION  
AND  
THE MODERN WORLD  
THEMATIC ESSAYS



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OSMAN BAKAR



This very valuable and timely book brings out clearly some of the most important features of classical Islamic civilisation, especially in the sciences, as well as more specifically the role of Islam in Southeast Asia. Written from the transmittal point of view combined with excellent scholarship, the book does not suffer from that sense of inferiority complex that taint so many works by Muslims on their own religion and culture. Dr. Bakar has made an important contribution to the field of Islamic civilisational studies for which all scholars of Islamic studies should be grateful.

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University Professor of Islamic Studies, George Washington University

*Islamic Civilisation and the Modern World* will be welcome by scholars and students in the Muslim world and in the West. Osman Bakar, an internationally recognised scholar of Islamic thought and civilisation, has written a book that provides a wealth of knowledge and a fresh perspective on Islamic civilisation and its relevance today and its relationship to Western civilisation.

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This book, which is written by a highly qualified expert in the field and an eminent scholar, is indeed a most timely intellectual enrichment and rethinking of an ever relevant discourse in light of the grave civilisational malaise of secular modernity and "progress" and the necessity of a major global paradigm shift in civilisational reform and reconstruction.

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These thematic essays are of critical importance in a time where Muslims are being questioned about their ability to confront the modern world. The knowledgeable scholar, Professor Osman Bakar, provides us with studies in a diversity of scientific and artistic fields, illustrating and analysing the respective foundational principles of Islam. He aptly reminds students and thinkers: It is by acknowledging the universal roots of Islamic civilisation that Muslims will be able to appropriately address challenges of their time. A timely, scholarly and fascinating contribution.

Tariq Ramadan  
Professor of Contemporary Islamic Studies, University of Oxford

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