



The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam

Robert Spencer

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"The courageous Robert Spencer busts myths and tells truths about jihadists that no one else will tell." —MICHELLE MALKIN

While many choose to simply blame the West for provoking terrorists, Robert Spencer's new book ***The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam (and the Crusades)***™ reveals why it is time to ignore political correctness and identify the enemy - *if we hope to ever defeat them.*

In a fast-paced, politically incorrect tour of Islamic teachings and Crusades history, Spencer reveals the roots of Islamic violence and hatred. Spencer refutes the myths popularized by left-wing academics and Islamic apologists who justify their political agendas with contrived historical "facts."

Exposing myth after myth, ***The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam (and the Crusades)***™ tackles Islam's institutionalized mistreatment of non-Muslims, the stifling effect Islam has on science and free inquiry, the ghastly lure of Islam's X-rated Paradise for suicide bombers and jihad terrorists, the brutal Islamic conquests of the Christian lands of the Middle East and North Africa, and more.

In ***The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam (and the Crusades)***™, you will learn:

How Muhammad did not teach "peace and tolerance"—instead he led armies and ordered the assassination of his enemies Why American Muslim groups and left-wing academics are engaged in a huge cover-up of Islamic doctrine and history How today's jihad terrorists following the Qur'an's command to make war on Jews and Christians have the same motives and goals as the Muslims who fought the Crusaders Why the Crusades were not acts of unprovoked aggression by Europe against the Islamic world, but a delayed response to centuries of Muslim aggression What must be done today—from reading the Qur'an to reclassifying Muslim organizations—in order to defeat jihad terrorists

The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam Details

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From Reader Review The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam for online ebook

murph says

Oh my God, what a stupid book.

It's difficult to know where to begin with a book like this. On the one hand, you cannot dismiss it as the invention of a whackjob. Robert Spencer has clearly done research on his subject and there are a fair number of points that an honest mind would have to concede to him.

Yes, Mr. Spencer, the Crusades were not an example of the Western world colonizing the Middle East.
and

Yes, Saladin's chivalrous reputation glosses over some of his bloodier exploits.

These two facts are used to buttress Mr. Spencer's assault on what he perceives to be the established view of the Crusades.

The way he misuses these facts demonstrates that Mr. Spencer is not engaged in scholarly analysis- he is simply selecting the facts that suit his viewpoint.

Take the point about colonizing. It would be easy to say that the Crusades were a form of colonial conquest - and Mr. Spencer rightly points out that this is mistaken. The Frankish kingdoms in the holy land were not extensions of their motherlands. They were independent conquests, ruled by the very nobles whose armies established them.

That changes nothing about the essential character of the Crusades. Namely: Frankish knights invaded the Holy Land to conquer it for their own gain, at the expense of its inhabitants, with the blessing and encouragement of the pope.

The fact that they didn't rename their conquests New Aquitaine and send money home to the king hardly mattered to the people they subjugated.

Spencer lingers over this meaningless technicality as if it undoes all of established history.

The historical record of the Crusades is eye-deep with barbarous actions by the invading crusaders: slaughtering the populations of surrendered cities (Jerusalem), treacherous knights (Tancred and Reynald de Chatillon) even cannibalism on the part of supposedly holy warriors.

After killing their way into Jerusalem, the system of government chosen by the Franks was pretty much beside the point. To any resident of the area, they were invaders. To any scholar of history, they were unprovoked invaders.

Spencer also takes great pains to point out the bloody deeds of Saladin as if to reveal some great cover up. The truth is, yes - Saladin enjoys a great reputation in the West for chivalry and piety. And yes, as Spencer points out - he did have thousands of his prisoners executed. (It's actually worse than what Spencer describes - Saladin had his prisoners executed by Sufis, -holy men, not soldiers- who botched their executions and caused additional suffering).

Only people who watch period movies will ever accuse Saladin of being a blameless adversary. Spencer is arguing with a myth that exists only in terrible movies like Kingdom of Heaven.

Western history remembers Saladin fondly because of his numerous acts of benevolence - chief among them releasing the residents of Jerusalem (after the Frankish nobles refused to buy their freedom, choosing instead to take their treasures with them). While many of his actions (like providing replacement horses to Richard I in battle) could be seen as shrewd strategy - there is a definite chivalry gap between the Frankish knights and Saladin.

You could spend a long time trying to find a record of Tancred's good deeds in the holy land.

Spencer lingers long on the bloodshed of battle of Hattin, and pointlessly debates whether the 1099 fall of Jerusalem really made blood run leg-deep in the streets. For one thing, Spencer is comparing the end with the beginning.

Hattin was the culmination of the war against the Frankish kingdoms. It came in 1187, after almost a century of Frankish domination and bloodshed. To compare Saladin's extermination of the Frankish army at Hattin with the wholesale slaughter of 30,000-40,000 defenseless Jerusalem residents in 1099 is (to put it mildly) missing a bit of context.

The Franks brought the concept of total war to the Middle East. For many in the region this was their introduction to the West - a heavily armed mass of religious fanatics. When later Arab leaders like Baybars waged total war against the Franks there should be no confusion as to where they got the idea.

Spencer's arguments against Islam as a religion are best described as selective. Pitting one religion's writings against another is hardly an objective exercise - but he tries anyway. Here's a quote from his introduction trying to explain his motivation for doing so:

"...I have placed a "Muhammad vs. Jesus" sidebar in every chapter to emphasize the fallacy of those who claim that Islam and Christianity-and all other religious traditions, for that matter-are basically equal in their ability to inspire good or evil. It is also meant to emphasize that the West, built on Christianity, is worth defending, even if we live in a so-called post Christian era."

These are not the words of a scholar. They are the words of a modern crusader.

♥ Ibrahim ♥ says

There is not a day that goes by without hearing the harrowing news of what fundamentalist Muslims are doing. Fundamentalist Islam has its appeal to young people because they want what is authentic, not the traditional Islam of their grandmothers that is rooted in amulets and folk practices. The closer a Muslim gets to Islam the more saturated he is with the spirit of death, and Allah commands him to go to extremes in devotion by practicing Jihad against the infidels, the enemies of Allah. To say that Allah has a Son makes you automatically an infidel. They try to make Islam more modern, but it always turns out to be a far-fetched dream since Islam is not dynamic and the text of the Quran itself is mechanically dictated. We can confidently say that Muslim fundamentalists have taken over 80 percent of the mosques in the United States. There are more than 3,000 mosques in the United States. This means that the ideology of extremism has been spread to 80 percent of the Muslim population, mostly the youth and the new generation. The church is light

and salt. Talking about things won't change them. Prayer does change things. The Great Commission of going and telling them the Good News is going to change things. I was groomed to be a Muslim fundamentalist myself. Having a modern version of Islam was not the answer to my dilemma, but having a new heart, becoming a new creation was, and will always be the answer to the problem of Islam as a whole.

I love it when people call a spade a spade. Yes, we love Muslims, we genuinely love them and respect them, but as for Islam itself it has to stand on its own merit. We can't sugarcoat Islam: Islam tells me as an Egyptian to beat my wife if she rebels. Read it for yourself in sura Nissa 4: 34. We wish that verse wasn't there, but it is still there and you can just go to Youtube and type "wife-beating in Islam" and what Muslim clerics would have to say as they elaborate on the Quran... Just go to google and google me "Testimony of Ibrahim" and see what I had to go through for giving up Islam! And I wish it was fully safer here: Islam made it much less safe for all of us.

I used to be a preacher of Islam as a little boy on the Muslim brotherhood in Egypt. Reading this book cheered me up considerably; finally somebody tells it as it is and speaking the truth in love. He deals magnificently with the issue of the Crusades that Muslims keep bringing up. If you want the real meat and get to the point without being too much diplomatic and want the truth, the whole truth, this is the book that I highly recommend for you. The entire story of my conversion to Christianity is here:
<http://www.answering-islam.org/author...>

Lisa says

This letter was posted on barenakedislam.com 8/19/13

Heartfelt letter from an Egyptian Physician

Sherif Emil, MD,CM, FRCSC, FACS, FAAP
Associate Professor of Pediatric Surgery, Surgery, and Pediatrics
Director; Division of Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery
Associate Chair for Education & Departmental Citizenship
Department of Pediatric Surgery
McGill University Faculty of Medicine
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Dear friends:

As a human being and a physician, I categorically and unconditionally deplore all killing. As a father, my heart goes out to all those who lost sons and daughters in Egypt's violence today and since the uprising of June 30.

Nevertheless, in the middle of a frenzy of Western politicians and Western media consistently presenting only one side — the Islamists' — I could not let this day pass without sharing some thoughts and some truths. For the last six weeks since the overthrow of Mohammed Morsi, the Western media consistently portrayed the sit-ins that paralyzed Cairo and other parts of Egypt as sit-ins by "peaceful demonstrators". As mayhem broke out throughout Egypt today, they conveniently ignored what was happening in the rest of the country to focus on those "peaceful demonstrators."

Peaceful demonstrators??

Peaceful demonstrators do not have the capacity to kill more than 47 police personnel documented by name, rank, and serial number in a few hours.

Peaceful demonstrators do not attack the Kerdasa (neighborhood close to the pyramids) police station with rocket-propelled grenades, kill the station's police officers, strip them of their clothes, and drag their bodies down the street.

Peaceful demonstrators do not threaten Christians with genocide as was called for by many of their leaders over the last six weeks, and as documented by multiple videos available on YouTube and other outlets.

Peaceful demonstrators do not raise the black flags of Al Qaeda over their sit-ins and marches and take pride in the likes of Bin Laden and Zawahiri.

Peaceful demonstrators do not attack more than 45 Christian installations, burn 19 churches and cathedrals, some several hundred years old, to the ground in less than 12 hours, destroy millions of dollars worth of Christians' homes, businesses, and property, and threaten the entire Egyptian Christian population with annihilation.

Peaceful demonstrators do no call for the return of a fascist president who only days before presided over a 2-hour orgy of hate speech by his imams, calling Shia Muslims filth worthy of extermination, only to see that actually take place 2 days later in the public lynching of 5 Egyptian Shia Muslims in broad daylight.

Peaceful demonstrators do not defend a fascist who purposefully let thousands of terrorists back into Egypt from Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq to establish an Islamic Emirate in the Sinai and kill Egyptian army personnel and civilians on a daily basis.

Peaceful demonstrators do not put their children in the face of danger and brag that they are ready to see them die for the Islamist cause.

How much of that has the Western media reported today??

The Muslim Brotherhood and their jihadist allies have never known and will never know peace. Those who live by the sword will die by the sword. Prior to Morsi's election, they publicly declared that they will burn Egypt down if their man does not win. These terrorists, who have been proven liars at every step in the political process, are finally making good on one promise — destroying the country if they can't subjugate it.

This Muslim Brotherhood is an international terrorist organization. Their masquerade of moderateness has fallen apart with the events in Egypt. You should all be aware that this terrorist organization exists not only in Egypt or the Middle East or the Islamic world, but also right here in Canada and the US. It exists legally, and has managed to gain the sympathy and alliance of the United States Government, as well as many other Western governments, as we have seen in all the statements over the last six weeks.

I implore you to educate yourself about this, and to consider contacting your congressman, senator, or member of parliament. Confront them with the facts, and ask them to declare the Muslim Brotherhood and all other Islamist political movements what they are — FASCISTS and TERRORISTS.

Mike (the Paladin) says

There's very little I can say here that would not be political. In spite of the cover and the title the book isn't offensive. It's simply a statement of historical events and certain facts that don't often get much notice.

Look, try to keep an open mind and try it yourself.

Johnrh says

READ THIS BOOK! It is packed with facts. One can always debate the facts but at least they are there to be debated. There is an extensive recitation and reference to Qur'anic verse. There are a lot of sidebars in the "Guide" format, including "books you're not supposed to read" (great references for further study) and "Jesus vs. Mohammed" quotes (usually brotherly love vs. submission\domination). A lot of the main text addresses about 3 dozen PC MYTHS, logically presented IMO, the first 5 of which are:

PC Myth: We can negotiate with these people

PC Myth: The Qur'an teaches tolerance and peace

PC Myth: The Qur'an teaches believers to take up arms only in self-defense

PC Myth: The Qur'an and the Bible are equally violent

PC Myth: Islam's war teachings are only a tiny element of the religion

Islam, Islamic "extremism", and Islamic "fundamentalism" may well be the most important issue effecting the world today. (It is centered in the Middle East, most oil comes from the Middle East, oil effects global warming and the economy, etc. Catch my drift?) I'll be discussing this in the Issues section at greater length soon. Ya'll REALLY need some facts under your belt on this one. READ ANYTHING ABOUT ISLAM, PLEASE! This is a VERY strange religion, as least to this Westerner. J (And I'm not sure that's something to smile about!)

Kelley says

This is a controversial book; of that there is no doubt. It is difficult to endorse it without appearing to be racist or paranoid. That having been said, let me heartily endorse this book to anyone that does not believe that Western Society, Western Civilization is not threatened by the spread of Islam. Those that believe that Allah as worshipped by Islam is the same God Christians and Jew worship are either ignorant, at best, or diluted, at worst.

This book makes the case, through careful examination of the teachings of Mohammad, the interpretation of the teachings by 1300 years of Islamic clerics, and the continued growth of Islam, that the goal of Islam today is the same as it was 1300 years ago: a world wide theocracy in the Name of Allah where True Moslims will be first class citizens, Moslim converts will be second class citizens, and everyone else will be at the mercy of the first two groups. One only has to exam life in the Middle East and the Far East where Islam dominates to see this being lived out on a local scale.

Today, England, France, and Germany are making concessions to their quickly growing Moslim minorities. In the US, freedom of religion (other than Christianity apparently) allows unchecked growth of the Islamic

community.

There is a crusade in progress and despite the protests of Moslim clerics, it is not a Christian Crusade this time.

Rana Saadullah Khan says

'...Guide to Islam' Wait, so I need a guide to go through the Quran or the Bible? It's a scripture right? A personal journey, no? So why would I need to use an obviously biased guide by the famously Islamophobic Robert Spencer to build my views on Islam? I wouldn't.

Spencer highly downplays Quranic verses throughout the book, makes erroneous assumptions and is totally lacking of any principle of Islam in this so-called guide. He implies Jihad is the center and core of all Islamic belief. It isn't. Instead, Muslims have commendable five pillars: Prayer, Oneness of God, Charity, Fasting and Pilgrimage. Does the Quran ignite Muslims to 'slay non-Muslims'? No. Like any other religious book, individual Quranic verses cannot be focused to produce a conclusion; rather entire chapters and the whole book should be taken harmoniously to give a conclusion on anything. Spencer simply imprints media beliefs onto readers, who already presume that Islam is a violent cult, and Spencer only further tries to prove this. A Muslim reader would instantly catch Spencer's act, though an American reader may foolishly accept his half-explained assumptions.

I also find it stupid that Spencer makes people believe people are sympathetic towards Muslims while 'harsh' towards Christians. There is nothing to say on this except it being a lie. A despicable, cruel and manipulative lie. I mean: the media totally proves that Islam is a very positive religion, right? Either Spencer subscribes to some pro-Islamic Arab provider, or the BBC, CNN and Sky News he watches are different to mine. There is nothing shown in the media of Islam other than one thing: Jihad. Jihad. Jihad. And maybe the veil (which is also stupidly called oppressive).

Then what's more disgusting is how Spencer makes Jihad an even more tyrannical Crusade. Does Jihad mean war in the first place? Nope. Does Spencer use the Hadith to explain the concept? Of course not. Well, guess what? The Hadiths repeatedly signify Jihad to be a spiritual battle to defeat evil passions within one's hearts. That's what is known to be the 'Greater Jihad', with the 'Lesser Jihad' being the more media famous physical Jihad, again, only valid in the name of self-defense. You won't find any example of the Prophet Muhammad fighting other than as a last resort. Unlike the verses of the Old Testament calling for war, the Hadiths signify that women, children and the aged may not be killed in any circumstance.

And finally, Spencer tries to explain that Islam really calls for violence. It's not hard to find Islamic verses condemning violence, or Hadiths doing the same. The name Islam is also derived from the word Salaam, literally peace. Anymore of Spencer's arguments i.e. oppression, pedophilia or lust are totally baseless. Aisha, the Prophet's famously 'child-bride' (who may anywhere from 9-24 during her marriage) was a military commander, a politician, a scholar and a 'blessed companion'. Now that's not something publicized. In the end, the story only appeals to those minds who believe Islam is an incoherently violent religion, their views being seemingly true with today's violence in the Muslim world. It doesn't fool Muslims, at least.

Nandakishore Varma says

Ladies and gentlemen, I am quitting. I can't stomache this diatribe any further.

I do not have any illusion about Islam (or any religion for that matter), and I wouldn't have minded a criticism of the faith from a point of view outside the ambit of political correctness. But this is ridiculous.

The author could have saved a lot of effort and paper by just writing:

Christianity = Good

Islam = Bad.

This is not just politically incorrect: it's totally incorrect.

30/01/2018

Ladies and gentlemen: a Hindu fanatic troll who has been following me about for quite some time has infected this review too. If you want to see what's wrong with India today, you can read his demented ravings below. For further examples, visit my review of Hindutva.

Don't worry, only a miniscule number of Indians are like him. The majority are decent human beings.

taarak says

This is the definitive answer to Karen Armstrong's well known history of Islam. Scary, captivating, and damned blunt, this is a must read book for anyone that hopes to live through the next two decades!

You think you know about Islam. But, did you know that Islam teaches that Muslims must wage war to impose Islamic law on non-Muslim states, or that American Muslim groups are engaged in a huge cover-up of Islamic doctrine? These and other "politically incorrect" facts are revealed by Robert Spencer in The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam (and the Crusades). Spencer traces the history of Islam, the teachings of the Qur'an, and the Crusades, and reveals the myths and realities related to Islamic law, the treatment of women, and the continuing jihad.

Dennis says

Makes broad, sweeping, wrong generalizations. Intolerant.

Slightly says

Definitely well researched.

these books usually have the same problem; they have to spend quite a lot of time appealing to their veracity. It becomes mundane. To combat the over-saturation of the politically correct opinion, they add too many examples of each of their claims.

This book is well worth reading if only for the angle in which it portrays the Crusades and the estimable

aspects of Western Culture. The world view that is found in the western Judeo Christian cultures is at conflict with Islamic teachings. Until the West acknowledges these differences, it seems doubtful that any progress can be made. This book highlighted the political, sexual, social, and scientific ideas presented in the Qu'ran, and does its best to fairly translate and contextualize them.

I liked that PIG Islam made clear distinctions between Islam and its followers. Not every Muslim is a Jihadist just like not every Christian is an Anti-homosexual/Pro Lifer. However, the text of each religion highly affirms these positions.

Amanda says

This book preaches hatred and I am disgusted that something so blatantly discriminatory is regarded as remotely acceptable. Shame on Robert Spencer for spreading hatred.

A 'ishah Al-Tamimi says

people like spencer try to give themselves a rebellious appearance because they know that sells. ask yourself when reading what was politically incorrect or anti-status quo about this book? nothing. if anything it makes its audience support the war on terror even more and the war on terror has been a giant money maker for private contractors, oil companies and weapons manufacturers. the entire anti-islam marketifies western aggression that makes the western powers money. read the quran to get a real picture of what islam is, insha'allah.

miteyepen says

Don't go to anything by Robert Spencer for an objective look at Islam. He definitely has an agenda: he sees Islam as a threat to the West (if not the whole world). Some of his statements and allegations are more than politically incorrect, they are outrageous. The only reason to read this book is to see how narrow-minded bigots think. But don't buy it; get it from the library like I did.

Ebookwormy1 says

This book was recommended to me by an avid reader as "the best summary I have seen of the main tenants of Islam and how they relate to the current socio-political challenges of our world."

The power of this book is its focus. Spencer uses primary sources to illustrate, not ALL the tenets of Islam, but simply those that have bearing on the socio-political interaction of Muslims within Islamic society and with those outside of Islamic society (be they co-located or in outside nations). Throughout the book there are recommendations for primary source research should the reader desire more information.

Spencer also has an agenda to expose the fallacies of the politically correct presentation of both Islam and Christianity in Western society. While I wasn't too interested in the Crusades section when I picked the book

up, Spencer's logic was compelling enough for me to devour these sections when I came to them. His basic point is that both Islam and Christianity are being misrepresented in public discourse. Islam is being presented too favorably, while Christianity is being presented too harshly. The result is a dangerous underestimation of the political threat of Islam combined with an apathy toward Western civilization (and the Christianity it was built upon) which is rendering the West somnolent. This was a compelling argument that made me recognize my apathy and rethink some of actions.

As somewhat of an aside, I should mention that Spencer is intentional about documenting that NOT ALL MUSLIMS agree with ALL the concepts of Islam that he is presenting. But his point is three-fold: 1) We simply don't know a credible way to determine what percentage of Muslims embrace specific doctrines of their faith; 2) The concern remains that if one is truly committed to Islam, this IS what Islam teaches; and 3) While atrocities have certainly been committed by Christians, sometimes even in the name of their faith, an examination of Christianity (via the primary source method Spencer applies to Islam) reveals that Jesus and the Bible neither endorse nor encourage these egregious acts. Which brings me to...

Another theme of Spencer's work, though less developed, is that whether or not you agree with Christianity, its presence was essential to the development of Western Civilization as we know it. The Christian (and in some cases Judeo-Christian) concepts of a natural order, freedom, loving others as yourself, intrinsic law (and therefore the requirement of lawfulness), and compassion for the oppressed, have not only influenced but molded our society into what it is today. Spencer contrasts the Islamic society which was established by Mohammed in rejection of these Judeo-Christian concepts and notes that the two worldviews are drastically different. And not in idea only, for the society created by each is also vastly different, and not many of the West would want to live in the Islamic version. I know I certainly wouldn't.

Of course, the challenge Spencer faces is that telling Westerners this different worldview exists and is threatening their lifestyle is kind of like warning fish that water is drying up. Who can really fathom it? In order to increase my own comprehension, I think this is a book I will need to read again.

2017 update:

This has come to my attention recently, and I've had to look it up a couple of times, so I'm hoping that typing it here will help me remember while also assisting readers evaluating this book. The white supremacist that has come to prominence in the USA recently is RICHARD SPENCER. The author of this book is an entirely different gentleman named ROBERT SPENCER, who is the director of Jihad Watch, a program of the David Horowitz Freedom Center, and the author of seventeen books. His full biography is here:
<https://www.jihadwatch.org/about-robert>
