

sufi definition ap world history

sufi definition ap world history is an essential concept for students and enthusiasts exploring the cultural and religious developments that shaped the medieval and early modern world. This article provides a comprehensive overview of Sufism, its definition, origins, teachings, and historical influence within the context of AP World History. Readers will discover how Sufi mysticism emerged, contributed to the spread of Islam, and influenced societies from North Africa to South Asia. The article will delve into key Sufi figures, philosophical principles, and the impact of Sufism on art, literature, and political movements. Additionally, the role of Sufi orders in facilitating cross-cultural connections and their significance in the broader narrative of world history will be highlighted. By understanding the sufi definition ap world history, readers gain deeper insight into the diverse religious and intellectual currents that shaped global civilizations.

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Sufi Definition in AP World History Context

The sufi definition ap world history refers to Sufism as the mystical branch of Islam that emphasizes personal experience of the divine, spiritual development, and the pursuit of inner purity. Within AP World History, Sufism is studied as a significant religious and cultural movement that shaped societies during the post-classical and early modern periods. Sufi practitioners, known as Sufis, sought direct communion with God through meditation, devotion, and ritual practices, setting themselves apart from formal religious institutions. This spiritual approach influenced the spread of Islam, fostered cultural exchange, and impacted various regions historically covered in the AP curriculum.

Origins and Development of Sufism

Historical Emergence of Sufi Thought

Sufism emerged in the early centuries of Islam, around the 8th and 9th centuries CE, as a response to the perceived materialism and rigidity within the Islamic community. Early Sufis drew inspiration from the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad and the Qur'an, focusing on the inner, spiritual dimensions of faith. Over time, Sufi thought incorporated elements from Christian monasticism, Neoplatonism, and Persian mysticism, leading to the development of distinct spiritual philosophies and practices.

Spread of Sufism Across Regions

Sufism spread rapidly from its origins in the Middle East to North Africa, Central Asia, South Asia, and even parts of Europe. Sufi teachers and missionaries, known as shaykhs or pirs, played a pivotal role in transmitting Islamic values and fostering religious tolerance. Sufi brotherhoods, or tariqas, established networks that transcended ethnic and cultural boundaries, helping Islam gain a foothold in diverse societies. The ability of Sufism to adapt to local traditions made it a driving force in the globalization of Islam.

- Middle East: Birthplace of major Sufi orders and centers of spiritual learning
- South Asia: Integration with Hindu and Buddhist traditions, leading to unique syncretic practices
- North Africa: Influence on Berber and Arab societies, spread along trade routes
- Sub-Saharan Africa: Role in Islamization and cultural transformation

Core Beliefs and Practices of Sufis

Philosophy and Spiritual Goals

The central focus of Sufism is the pursuit of a direct, personal relationship with God. Sufis believe in the purification of the heart, self-discipline, and detachment from worldly desires. The Sufi definition of a world history often highlights concepts such as tawhid (unity of God), fana (annihilation of the self), and dhikr (remembrance of God) as core elements of Sufi philosophy. These ideas encouraged followers to transcend material concerns and seek spiritual enlightenment.

Rituals and Practices

Sufi rituals are designed to facilitate spiritual growth and the experience of divine presence. Common practices include chanting (dhikr), meditation, music, dance (such as the whirling of the Mevlevi order), poetry, and communal gatherings. Sufi shrines, or dargahs, serve as centers for worship and pilgrimage, attracting devotees from various backgrounds. The emphasis on inclusivity and compassion helped Sufism gain widespread appeal.

1. Dhikr: Repetitive remembrance of God's names
2. Samā: Musical and poetic gatherings
3. Meditation and spiritual exercises
4. Pilgrimage to Sufi shrines
5. Service to humanity and charitable works

Major Sufi Figures and Orders

Influential Sufi Saints and Mystics

Throughout history, numerous Sufi saints and mystics have left a profound impact on Islamic society and world history. Figures such as Jalal ad-Din Rumi, Al-Ghazali, Rabia al-Adawiyya, and Ibn Arabi are renowned for their spiritual teachings, poetry, and philosophical writings. These luminaries contributed to the development of Sufi thought and inspired generations of followers.

Prominent Sufi Orders (Tariqas)

Sufism is organized into various orders, each with unique traditions, practices, and spiritual lineages. These brotherhoods provided guidance, structure, and community for adherents. Some of the most prominent Sufi orders include:

- Qadiriyya: One of the oldest and most widespread orders, emphasizing charity and spiritual discipline
- Naqshbandiyya: Known for its silent dhikr and influence in Central Asia and India

- Chishtiyya: Popular in South Asia, noted for its emphasis on love and music
- Mevleviyya: Famous for the whirling dervishes and Rumi's poetry
- Shadhiliyya: Notable for its intellectual and philosophical contributions

Sufism's Influence on Islamic Civilization

Role in the Spread of Islam

Sufi missionaries played a crucial role in propagating Islam, especially in regions where Islamic rule was not firmly established. By adapting their teachings to local cultures and promoting tolerance, Sufis facilitated the integration of diverse peoples into the Islamic world. Their efforts in education, charity, and social reform contributed to the expansion and consolidation of Islamic civilization.

Impact on Art, Literature, and Philosophy

Sufism profoundly influenced Islamic arts and literature, inspiring masterpieces in poetry, calligraphy, music, and architecture. The works of Sufi poets such as Rumi and Hafiz are celebrated worldwide for their spiritual depth and artistic beauty. Sufi philosophical writings enriched debates on metaphysics, ethics, and theology, shaping intellectual trends throughout the Islamic Golden Age and beyond.

Sufism in World History: Cultural and Social Impact

Cross-Cultural Exchange and Syncretism

The Sufi definition of world history includes Sufism's remarkable ability to bridge cultural divides and integrate diverse traditions. Sufi orders often absorbed local customs and beliefs, fostering religious syncretism in regions such as India, Persia, and Africa. This adaptability helped promote harmony and coexistence among different religious communities.

Political and Social Movements

Sufi leaders sometimes played significant roles in political and social movements. They acted as mediators, reformers, and even resisters against colonial rule and oppressive regimes. Sufi brotherhoods provided organizational structures that mobilized communities for social justice, education, and collective action.

Legacy of Sufism in Modern Times

Contemporary Relevance

Sufism remains a vital force in the modern Islamic world, with millions of followers across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. Sufi music, poetry, and festivals continue to inspire spiritual seekers and artists worldwide. The inclusive and compassionate ethos of Sufism attracts individuals seeking alternatives to dogmatic and politicized forms of religion.

Challenges and Revival

Despite its enduring popularity, Sufism has faced challenges from fundamentalist movements and modernization. Some groups criticize Sufi practices as unorthodox, while others celebrate their role in promoting peace and tolerance. In recent decades, there has been a revival of interest in Sufi spirituality, both within Muslim communities and among global audiences, reaffirming its historical significance and contemporary value.

Questions and Answers about sufi definition ap world history

Q: What is the sufi definition ap world history?

A: In AP World History, Sufism is defined as the mystical branch of Islam focused on direct spiritual experience, personal connection with God, and inner purification, influencing the spread and adaptation of Islam across diverse cultures.

Q: How did Sufism contribute to the spread of Islam?

A: Sufi missionaries and orders played a key role in spreading Islam by adapting religious teachings to local cultures, fostering tolerance, and integrating indigenous beliefs, especially in Africa, South Asia, and Central Asia.

Q: Who are some famous Sufi figures studied in AP World History?

A: Notable Sufi figures include Jalal ad-Din Rumi, Al-Ghazali, Rabia al-Adawiyya, and Ibn Arabi, all of whom made significant contributions to spiritual thought, poetry, and philosophy.

Q: What are the main practices of Sufis?

A: Sufis engage in rituals such as dhikr (remembrance of God), meditation, music, dance, poetry, and pilgrimage to shrines, all aimed at deepening their spiritual connection with the divine.

Q: How did Sufism influence art and literature?

A: Sufism inspired renowned works of poetry, music, calligraphy, and architecture, with poets like Rumi and Hafiz producing literature that remains influential worldwide.

Q: What is a Sufi order (tariqa) and why are they important?

A: A Sufi order, or tariqa, is a spiritual brotherhood with distinctive teachings and practices. These orders provided organization, guidance, and community for Sufi followers, facilitating the spread of Sufism.

Q: How did Sufism encourage cross-cultural exchange?

A: Sufi orders often absorbed local traditions and beliefs, promoting religious syncretism and fostering peaceful coexistence between different cultural and religious groups.

Q: Why has Sufism faced criticism in modern times?

A: Sufism has been criticized by some fundamentalist groups for its mystical practices and perceived deviations from orthodox Islamic practices, yet it continues to attract followers due to its message of tolerance and inclusivity.

Q: What is dhikr in Sufi practice?

A: Dhikr is the repetitive remembrance and chanting of God's names, considered a central spiritual practice in Sufism to cultivate mindfulness and connection with the divine.

Q: How is Sufism relevant in contemporary society?

A: Sufism remains relevant today due to its emphasis on peace, compassion, and spiritual fulfillment, attracting both Muslims and non-Muslims seeking deeper meaning in their spiritual lives.

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Sufi Definition AP World History: Understanding Sufism's Impact

The mystical branch of Islam, Sufism, often leaves students of AP World History scratching their heads. Its nuanced practices and diverse expressions make it a challenging yet rewarding topic to grasp. This comprehensive guide provides a clear Sufi definition AP World History context, exploring its origins, core tenets, and significant historical impact. We'll delve into its role in spreading Islam, its influence on art and culture, and its enduring legacy in the world today. By the end, you'll have a solid understanding of Sufism and its place within the broader narrative of world history.

What is Sufism? A Concise Sufi Definition AP World History

At its core, Sufism (also spelled Tasawwuf) is an esoteric mystical tradition within Islam. It's not a separate sect but a path pursued by Muslims seeking a deeper, more personal connection with God (Allah). Unlike the more literal interpretations of Islamic law (Sharia), Sufism emphasizes inner spiritual development through practices like meditation, prayer, and devotion to Allah. A key Sufi definition AP World History understanding is its focus on direct, experiential knowledge of the divine, rather than solely relying on scholarly study of religious texts.

Key Tenets and Practices of Sufism

Several core beliefs and practices distinguish Sufism:

1. The Importance of Tariqahs (Sufi Orders):

Sufi orders, or tariqahs, provide structured paths for spiritual growth. Each tariqah has its own unique practices, rituals, and hierarchy, led by a spiritual guide known as a shaykh or murshid. These orders played a crucial role in spreading Sufism across vast geographical areas.

2. Emphasis on Dhikr (Remembrance) and Muraqaba (Meditation):

Sufis employ various techniques to cultivate a closer relationship with God. Dhikr, the repetitive chanting of God's name or attributes, is a central practice. Muraqaba, a form of meditative contemplation, allows for introspection and a deeper understanding of one's inner self.

3. The Concept of Wajd (Ecstasy):

The experience of wajd, a state of spiritual ecstasy or rapture, is often described in Sufi literature. This intense emotional and spiritual connection with the divine can manifest in various ways, including ecstatic dancing, poetry, and music.

4. The Role of Poetry and Music:

Sufi poetry, particularly in Persian, often utilizes metaphors and symbolism to convey profound spiritual truths. Music also plays a vital role, with sama' (Sufi devotional music) often used in dhikr ceremonies. This aspect is crucial for understanding the cultural impact of Sufism.

Sufism's Historical Impact: A Wider Sufi Definition AP World History

Sufism wasn't simply a contemplative practice; it significantly influenced the course of history:

1. The Spread of Islam:

Sufi missionaries played a critical role in spreading Islam beyond the Arab heartland. Their emphasis on personal piety and tolerance often made them more successful in converting people than strictly orthodox interpretations of Islam. This is a vital element in any Sufi definition AP World History analysis.

2. Influence on Art and Architecture:

Sufi beliefs and practices inspired unique artistic expressions. The intricate designs of mosques, the development of miniature painting, and the rich tradition of Sufi poetry all bear the mark of this mystical tradition.

3. Development of Diverse Sufi Orders:

The evolution of numerous tariqahs across various regions demonstrates Sufism's adaptability and its capacity to integrate with local cultures and traditions. Each order offered a distinct path to spiritual enlightenment, fostering a rich diversity within the broader Sufi movement.

4. Sufism and Social Reform:

Certain Sufi orders actively engaged in social reform, advocating for justice, equality, and the alleviation of suffering. Their teachings often challenged social hierarchies and promoted a more compassionate approach to religious practice.

Conclusion: A Lasting Legacy

Sufism’s enduring legacy extends far beyond its historical impact. Its emphasis on inner spiritual transformation, tolerance, and social justice continues to resonate with people around the world. Understanding Sufism offers a richer and more nuanced understanding of Islamic history and its diverse expressions. A thorough Sufi definition AP World History is critical to a well-rounded understanding of the subject.

FAQs:

1. How does Sufism differ from other branches of Islam? Sufism is not a separate sect but a mystical path within Islam. Unlike stricter interpretations focused on legalistic adherence to Sharia, Sufism emphasizes inner spiritual development and direct experience of the divine.
2. What are some famous Sufi figures in history? Rumi, Al-Ghazali, and Ibn Arabi are among the most influential and well-known Sufi figures. Their writings and teachings continue to inspire and inform Sufi practice today.
3. How did Sufism spread to different parts of the world? Sufi missionaries, often traveling traders and scholars, were instrumental in spreading Sufism across continents. Their adaptability and emphasis on personal piety fostered conversions and integration within diverse cultures.
4. What is the role of women in Sufism? While often overlooked in historical accounts, women have played a significant, albeit sometimes hidden, role in Sufism. Numerous female Sufi poets, scholars, and spiritual leaders have contributed significantly to the tradition.
5. Is Sufism still relevant today? Absolutely. Sufi principles of peace, tolerance, and compassion remain highly relevant in a world grappling with conflict and injustice. Sufi practices continue to offer a path toward inner peace and spiritual growth for many individuals today.

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sufi definition ap world history: *Sufis* Idries Shah, 2020-06-20 The Sufis is the best introduction ever written to the philosophical and mystical school traditionally associated with the Islamic world. Powerful, concise, and intensely thought-provoking, it sums up over a thousand years of Eastern thought - the product of some of the greatest minds humanity has ever produced - into a single work, presenting timeless ideas in a fresh and contemporary style. When the book was originally published in 1964, it launched its author, Idries Shah, on to the international stage, attracting the attention of thinkers and writers such as J. D. Salinger, Doris Lessing, Ted Hughes and Robert Graves. It introduced to the Western world concepts which have subsequently become commonly accepted, varying from the psychological importance of attention and humour, to the use of traditional tales as teaching instruments (what Shah termed 'teaching-stories'), and the historical

debt owed by the West to the Middle East in matters scientific, literary and philosophical. As a primer for the many dozens of Sufi books that Shah later produced, it is unsurpassed, offering a clear window onto a community whose system of thought and action has long concerned itself with the advancement of the whole of humankind, and whose ideas about individuals and society, their purpose and direction, need to be understood now more than ever before.

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sufi definition ap world history: AP® World History Crash Course Book + Online Jay Harmon, 2016-09-28 REA's Crash Course® for the AP® World History Exam - Gets You a Higher Advanced Placement® Score in Less Time 2nd Edition - Updated for the 2017 Exam Crash Course is perfect for the time-crunched student, the last-minute studier, or anyone who wants a refresher on the subject. Are you crunched for time? Have you started studying for your Advanced Placement® World History exam yet? How will you memorize everything you need to know before the test? Do you wish there was a fast and easy way to study for the exam AND boost your score? If this sounds like you, don't panic. REA's Crash Course for AP® World History is just what you need. Our Crash Course gives you: Targeted, Focused Review - Study Only What You Need to Know Written by an AP® World History teacher, the targeted review chapters prepare students for the test by only focusing on the important topics and themes tested on the new 2017 AP® World History exam. The easy-to-read review chapters in outline format cover everything AP® students need to know for the exam: The Ancient Near East, The Middle Ages, Early Modern Europe, Asia, World War I & II, The Cold War, and more. The author also includes must-know key terms all AP® students should know before test day. Expert Test-taking Strategies Our experienced AP® World History teacher shares detailed question-level strategies and explains the best way to answer the multiple-choice and essay questions you'll encounter on test day. By following our expert tips and advice, you can boost your overall point score! Take REA's FREE Practice Exam After studying the material in the Crash Course, go to the online REA Study Center and test what you've learned. Our free practice exam features timed testing, detailed explanations of answers, and automatic scoring analysis. The exam is balanced to include every topic and type of question found on the actual AP® exam, so you know you're studying the smart way. Whether you're cramming for the test at the last minute, looking for extra review, or want to study on your own in preparation for the exams - this is the study guide every AP® World History student must have. When it's crucial crunch time and your Advanced Placement® exam is just around the corner, you need REA's Crash Course for AP® World History!

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trends, themes, and developments in world history. Authors Robert W. Strayer, a pioneer in the world history movement with years of classroom experience, along with new co-author Eric W. Nelson, a popular and skilled teacher, provide a thoughtful and insightful synthesis that helps students see the big picture while teaching students to consider the evidence the way historians do.

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sufi definition ap world history: The Heart of Islam Seyyed Hossein Nasr, 2009-03-17 As the specter of religious extremism has become a fact of life today, the temptation is great to allow the evil actions and perspectives of a minority to represent an entire tradition. In the case of Islam, there has been much recent confusion in the Western world centered on distorted portrayals of its core values. Born of ignorance, such confusion feeds the very problem at hand. In The Heart of Islam one of the great intellectual figures in Islamic history offers a timely presentation of the core spiritual and social values of Islam: peace, compassion, social justice, and respect for the other. Seizing this unique moment in history to reflect on the essence of his tradition, Seyyed Hossein Nasr seeks to open a spiritual and intellectual space for mutual understanding. Exploring Islamic values in scripture, traditional sources, and history, he also shows their clear counterparts in the Jewish and Christian traditions, revealing the common ground of the Abrahamic faiths. Nasr challenges members of the world's civilizations to stop demonizing others while identifying themselves with pure goodness and to turn instead to a deeper understanding of those shared values that can solve the acute problems facing humanity today. Muslims must ask themselves what went wrong within their own societies, he writes, but the West must also pose the same question about itself . . . whether we are Muslims, Jews, Christians, or even secularists, whether we live in the Islamic world or in the West, we are in need of meaning in our lives, of ethical norms to guide our actions, of a vision that would allow us to live at peace with each other and with the rest of God's creation. Such help, he believes, lies at the heart of every religion and can lead the followers of the Abrahamic religions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) as well as other religious and spiritual traditions to a new future of mutual respect and common global purpose. The Heart of Islam is a landmark presentation of enduring value that offers hope to humanity, and a compelling portrait of the beauty and appeal of the faith of 1.2 billion people.

sufi definition ap world history: Striving for Divine Union Qamar-ul Huda, 2005-08-08 In this examination of the Suhraward sufi order from the thirteenth to fifteenth centuries, the book discusses ways of thinking about the sufi hermeneutics of the Qur'an and its contribution to Islamic intellectual and spiritual life.

sufi definition ap world history: Aisha al-Ba'uniyya Th. Emil Homerin, 2019-08-13 Aisha al-Ba'uniyya (c.1456-1517) was one of the greatest women mystics in Islamic history. A Sufi master and an Arab poet, her religious writings were extensive by any standard and extraordinary for her time. In medieval Islam a number of women were respected scholars and teachers, but they rarely

composed works of their own. Aisha al-Ba'uniyya, however, was prolific. She composed over twenty works, and likely wrote more Arabic prose and poetry than any other Muslim woman prior to the twentieth century. The first full-scale biography of al-Ba'uniyya in the English language, this volume provides a rare glimpse into the life and writings of a medieval Muslim woman in her own words. Homerin presents her work in the wider context of late-medieval Islamic spirituality, examining the influence of figures such as Ibn al-'Arabi, al-Busiri and Ibn al-Farid, and emphasising the role of the person of the Prophet Muhammad in her spirituality. Aisha al-Ba'uniyya is a fascinating introduction to a figure described by a sixteenth-century biographer as 'one of the marvels of her age'.

sufi definition ap world history: *The different aspects of islamic culture* UNESCO, 1998-12-31 This volume, the first of six to be published, studies fundamental values of Islam, along with the nature of rights and the responsibilities in a general context. The authors analyse the development of social thought and morality in Islam, and ways in which they are enforced through the family and education. Particular attention is paid to the status of women, children, youth and the socially excluded. Several chapters broach specially Islamic approaches to economics, government and justice. A world religion since its inception in the seventh century A.D., Islam is today seeking vigorous answers to contemporary problems through its multi-faceted history. Issues of poverty and wealth, inequality and demands for political expression, and respect for diversity in a difficult world of conformity are dealt with in this series. The study is organized along thematic rather than chronological lines and thus it is not necessary to read the volumes in order. Volume II is in fact the first to have been published. Volume IV is forthcoming end 2002, volume V mid 2003 and volumes III and VI in 2004. This volume, the first of six to be published, studies fundamental values of Islam, along with the nature of rights and the responsibilities in a general context. The authors analyse the development of social thought and morality in Islam, and ways in which they are enforced through the family and education. Particular attention is paid to the status of women, children, youth and the socially excluded. Several chapters broach specially Islamic approaches to economics, government and justice.

sufi definition ap world history: Muslim Lives in Eastern Europe Kristen Ghodsee, 2009-07-27 Muslim Lives in Eastern Europe examines how gender identities were reconfigured in a Bulgarian Muslim community following the demise of Communism and an influx of international aid from the Islamic world. Kristen Ghodsee conducted extensive ethnographic research among a small population of Pomaks, Slavic Muslims living in the remote mountains of southern Bulgaria. After Communism fell in 1989, Muslim minorities in Bulgaria sought to rediscover their faith after decades of state-imposed atheism. But instead of returning to their traditionally heterodox roots, isolated groups of Pomaks embraced a distinctly foreign type of Islam, which swept into their communities on the back of Saudi-financed international aid to Balkan Muslims, and which these Pomaks believe to be a more correct interpretation of their religion. Ghodsee explores how gender relations among the Pomaks had to be renegotiated after the collapse of both Communism and the region's state-subsidized lead and zinc mines. She shows how mosques have replaced the mines as the primary site for jobless and underemployed men to express their masculinity, and how Muslim women have encouraged this as a way to combat alcoholism and domestic violence. Ghodsee demonstrates how women's embrace of this new form of Islam has led them to adopt more conservative family roles, and how the Pomaks' new religion remains deeply influenced by Bulgaria's Marxist-Leninist legacy, with its calls for morality, social justice, and human solidarity.

sufi definition ap world history: Islamic Thought Abdullah Saeed, 2006-11-22 Islamic Thought is a fresh and contemporary introduction to the philosophies and doctrines of Islam. Abdullah Saeed, a distinguished Muslim scholar, traces the development of religious knowledge in Islam, from the pre-modern to the modern period. The book focuses on Muslim thought, as well as the development, production and transmission of religious knowledge, and the trends, schools and movements that have contributed to the production of this knowledge. Key topics in Islamic culture are explored, including the development of the Islamic intellectual tradition, the two foundation texts, the Qur'an and Hadith, legal thought, theological thought, mystical thought, Islamic Art, philosophical thought,

political thought, and renewal, reform and rethinking today. Through this rich and varied discussion, Saeed presents a fascinating depiction of how Islam was lived in the past and how its adherents practise it in the present. Islamic Thought is essential reading for students beginning the study of Islam but will also interest anyone seeking to learn more about one of the world's great religions.

sufi definition ap world history: *Islam in Malaysia* Syed Muhd. Khairudin Aljunied, 2019 This book surveys the growth and development of Islam in Malaysia from the eleventh to the twenty-first century, investigating how Islam has shaped the social lives, languages, cultures and politics of both Muslims and non-Muslims in one of the most populous Muslim regions in the world. Khairudin Aljunied shows how Muslims in Malaysia built upon the legacy of their pre-Islamic past while benefiting from Islamic ideas, values, and networks to found flourishing states and societies that have played an influential role in a globalizing world. He examines the movement of ideas, peoples, goods, technologies, arts, and cultures across into and out of Malaysia over the centuries. Interactions between Muslims and the local Malay population began as early as the eighth century, sustained by trade and the agency of Sufi as well as Arab, Indian, Persian, and Chinese scholars and missionaries. Aljunied looks at how Malay states and societies survived under colonial regimes that heightened racial and religious divisions, and how Muslims responded through violence as well as reformist movements. Although there have been tensions and skirmishes between Muslims and non-Muslims in Malaysia, they have learned in the main to co-exist harmoniously, creating a society comprising of a variety of distinct populations. This is the first book to provide a seamless account of the millennium-old venture of Islam in Malaysia.

sufi definition ap world history: *Freemasonry and the Orient. Esotericisms Between the East and the West* Barbara De Poli, 2019

sufi definition ap world history: *Sufism in Central Asia* , 2018-08-13 Sufism in Central Asia: New Perspectives on Sufi Traditions, 15th-21st Centuries brings together ten original studies on historical aspects of Sufism in this region. A central question, of ongoing significance, underlies each contribution: what is the relationship between Sufism as it was manifested in this region prior to the Russian conquest and the Soviet era, on the one hand, and the features of Islamic religious life in the region during the Tsarist, Soviet, and post-Soviet eras on the other? The authors address multiple aspects of Central Asian religious life rooted in Sufism, examining interpretative strategies, realignments in Sufi communities and sources from the Russian to the post-Soviet period, and social, political and economic perspectives on Sufi communities. Contributors include: Shahzad Bashir, Devin DeWeese, Allen Frank, Jo-Ann Gross, Kawahara Yayoi, Robert McChesney, Ashirbek Muminov, Maria Subtelny, Eren Tasar, and Waleed Ziad.

sufi definition ap world history: *Global Sufism* Francesco Piraino, Mark Sedgwick, 2019 Sufism is a growing and global phenomenon, far from the declining relic it was once thought to be. This book brings together the work of fourteen leading experts to explore systematically the key themes of Sufism's new global presence, from Yemen to Senegal via Chicago and Sweden. The contributors look at the global spread and stance of such major actors as the Ba 'Alawiyya, the 'Afropolitan' Tijaniyya, and the Gülen Movement. They map global Sufi culture, from Rumi to rap, and ask how global Sufism accommodates different and contradictory gender practices. They examine the contested and shifting relationship between the Islamic and the universal: is Sufism the timeless and universal essence of all religions, the key to tolerance and co-existence between Muslims and non-Muslims? Or is it the purely Islamic heart of traditional and authentic practice and belief? Finally, the book turns to politics. States and political actors in the West and in the Muslim world are using the mantle and language of Sufism to promote their objectives, while Sufis are building alliances with them against common enemies. This raises the difficult question of whether Sufis are defending Islam against extremism, supporting despotism against democracy, or perhaps doing both.

sufi definition ap world history: *Early Islamic Mysticism* Michael Anthony Sells, 1996 This volume makes available and accessible the writings of the crucial early period of Islamic mysticism during which Sufism developed as one of the world's major mystical traditions. The texts are

accompanied by commentary on their historical, literary and philosophical context.

sufi definition ap world history: Reason, Freedom, and Democracy in Islam Abdolkarim Soroush, 2000-04-20 Abdolkarim Soroush has emerged as one of the leading moderate revisionist thinkers of the Muslim world. He and his contemporaries in other Muslim countries are shaping what may become Islam's equivalent of the Christian Reformation: a period of questioning traditional practices and beliefs and, ultimately, of upheaval. Presenting eleven of his essays, this volume makes Soroush's thought readily available in English for the first time. The essays set forth his views on such matters as the freedom of Muslims to interpret the Qur'an, the inevitability of change in religion, the necessity of freedom of belief, and the compatibility of Islam and democracy. Throughout, Soroush emphasizes the rights of individuals in their relationship with both government and God, explaining that the ideal Islamic state can only be defined by the beliefs and will of the majority.

sufi definition ap world history: Shaykh Ahmad Sirhindi Yohanan Friedmann, 2000 A reissue of a classic that has been out of print for many years. Friedmann analyses the significance of Shaykh Ahmad Sirhindi in Islamic thought, through a study of his celebrated collection of letters.

sufi definition ap world history: The Book of Sufi Healing Abu Abdullah Ghulam Moinuddin, 1989

sufi definition ap world history: The Classical Age of Islam Marshall G.S. Hodgson, 2009-05-15 The Venture of Islam has been honored as a magisterial work of the mind since its publication in early 1975. In this three-volume study, illustrated with charts and maps, Hodgson traces and interprets the historical development of Islamic civilization from before the birth of Muhammad to the middle of the twentieth century. This work grew out of the famous course on Islamic civilization that Hodgson created and taught for many years at the University of Chicago. This is a nonpareil work, not only because of its command of its subject but also because it demonstrates how, ideally, history should be written.—The New Yorker Volume 1, The Classical Age of Islam, analyzes the world before Islam, Muhammad's challenge, and the early Muslim state between 625 and 692. Hodgson then discusses the classical civilization of the High Caliphate. The volume also contains a general introduction to the complete work and a foreword by Reuben Smith, who, as Hodgson's colleague and friend, finished the Venture of Islam after the author's death and saw it through to publication.

sufi definition ap world history: The Houghton Shahnameh Martin Bernard Dickson, Stuart Cary Welch, 1981

sufi definition ap world history: Re-centering the Sufi Shrine Irfan Moeen Khan, 2023-01-30 Recentering the Sufi Shrine is a study of ritual, Sufi eschatology, and vernacular theopoetics of pilgrimage to Sufi shrines in the Indus region of Pakistan. The book examines the distinction between two different ritual contestations over pilgrimage to Sufi tombs: (1) an exposition of Ṭariqa-i Muhammadiyya's millenarian Scripturalist reform of Sufism, and (2) Bulleh Shah's (d. 1767) vernacular Sufism, a hard-hitting Sufi-poet of textual (bookish) knowledge of religious scholars. This is the first work examining the legal theology of ritual intervention in using scripture to regulate the resurrected bodies of saints, on the one hand, and the ritual metaphysics of presence in understanding the significance and meaning of Sufi shrines, on the other.

sufi definition ap world history: Sufi Martyrs of Love C. Ernst, B. Lawrence, 2016-04-30 Sufism is a religion which emphasizes direct knowledge of the divine within each person, and meditation, music, song, and dance are seen as crucial spiritual strides toward attaining unity with God. Sufi paths of mysticism and devotion, motivated by Islamic ideals, are still chosen by men and women in countries from Morocco to China, and there are nearly one hundred orders around the world, eighty of which are present and thriving in the United States. The Chishti Sufi order has been the most widespread and popular of all Sufi traditions since the twelfth-century. Sufi Martyrs of Love offers a critical perspective on Western attitudes towards Islam and Sufism, clarifying its contemporary importance, both in the West and in traditional Sufi homelands. Finally, it provides access to the voices of Sufi authorities, through the translation of texts being offered in English for

the first time.

sufi definition ap world history: Shi'ite Lebanon Roschanack Shaery-Eisenlohr, 2011
Annotation By providing a new framework for understanding Shi'ite national politics in Lebanon, Roschanack Shaery-Eisenlohr recasts the relationship between religion and nationalism in the Middle East

sufi definition ap world history: *Ways of the World with Sources for AP, Second Edition** Robert W. Strayer, 2013-06-10 Comparisons, Connections, & Change-contexts for the particulars
Ways of the World is the textbook preferred by AP World History teachers and students across North America. Like the AP course it supports, Ways of the World focuses on significant historical trends, themes, and developments in world history. Author Robert W. Strayer provides a thoughtful and insightful synthesis that helps students see the big picture. Each chapter then culminates with collections of primary sources (written and visual) organized around a particular theme, issue, or question, thus allowing students to consider the evidence the way historians do. The second edition includes a wealth of supporting resources and supplements for the AP course, including an AP Skills Primer and AP Chapter Wrap-Ups, and rolls out Bedford/St. Martin's new digital history tools, including LearningCurve, an adaptive quizzing engine that garners over a 90% student satisfaction rate, and LaunchPad, the all new interactive e-book and course space that puts high quality easy-to-use assessment at your fingertips. Featuring video, additional primary sources, a wealth of adaptive and summative quizzing, and more, LaunchPad cements student understanding of the text while helping them make progress toward learning outcomes. It's the best content joined up with the best technology.

sufi definition ap world history: What is the Sharia? Baudouin Dupret, 2018-05-01 In the West, sharia often calls to mind antiquated laws founded upon gender discrimination and barbaric punishments. In the East, for some it means the ideal standards by which Muslims strive to live; for others, it is the greatest obstacle to modernization of their societies. These clashing views sometimes lead to violence. Clarification of the term has therefore become an urgent necessity. Sharia is all of these things and much more. It is the legal system of Islam, a series of guidelines and prohibitions. But it is also a concept invested with a whole range of meanings, from the virtuous attributes of an 'ideal' society, to the confinement of particular elements to otherness and adversity. Moving through history, society and Islamic thought to explore the sources of sharia law, Baudouin Dupret gets to the heart of its uses and abuses in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. This short, accessible book provides an invaluable guide for those seeking to understand a matter more complex and pressing today than ever before.

sufi definition ap world history: The Teachings of a Sufi Master Seyed Mostafa Azmayesh, 2016-01-27 In this book the reader is exposed to teachings of Sufism, which is branch of Gnosticism (the esoteric path to self-awareness). Each, individual is composed of an existence and an essence. The latter is an evolving reality. At any moment an individual can become a demon or an angel. One radically becomes a demon if the demonic drives of his ego take charge - an angel if the angelic attributes of his spirit occupy the terrain. The person who seeks victory of his spirit over his ego produces waves around his spirit-waves that will be captured by him who will teach the person the techniques of esoteric development. He will appear in the person's life at the opportune moment...

sufi definition ap world history: Sufism East and West Jamal Malik, Saeed Zarrabi-Zadeh, 2019-07-15 In Sufism East and West, the contributors investigate the redirection and dynamics of Sufism in the modern era, specifically from the perspective of global cross-cultural exchange. Edited by Jamal Malik and Saeed Zarrabi-Zadeh, the book explores the role of mystical Islam in the complex interchange and fluidity in the resonance spaces of "East" and "West." The volume challenges the enduring Orientalist binary coding of East-versus-West and argues instead for a more mutual process of cultural plaiting and shared tradition. By highlighting amendments, adaptations and expansions of Sufi semantics during the last centuries, it also questions the persistent perception of Sufism in its post-classical epoch as a corrupt imitation of the legacy of the great Sufis of the past.

sufi definition ap world history: Men in Charge? Ziba Mir-Hosseini, Mulki Al-Sharmani, Jana

Rumminger, 2014-12-10 Both Muslims and non-Muslims see women in most Muslim countries as suffering from social, economic, and political discrimination, treated by law and society as second-class citizens subject to male authority. This discrimination is attributed to Islam and Islamic law, and since the late 19th century there has been a mass of literature tackling this issue. Recently, exciting new feminist research has been challenging gender discrimination and male authority from within Islamic legal tradition: this book presents some important results from that research. The contributors all engage critically with two central juristic concepts; rooted in the Qur'an, they lie at the basis of this discrimination. One refers to a husband's authority over his wife, his financial responsibility toward her, and his superior status and rights. The other is male family members' right and duty of guardianship over female members (e.g., fathers over daughters when entering into marriage contracts) and the privileging of fathers over mothers in guardianship rights over their children. The contributors, brought together by the Musawah global movement for equality and justice in the Muslim family, include Omaira Abou-Bakr, Asma Lamrabet, Ayesha Chaudhry, Sa'diyya Shaikh, Lynn Welchman, Marwa Sharefeldin, Lena Larsen and Amina Wadud.

sufi definition ap world history: *India Under Shah Jahan* , 2000 Shah Jahan Was Third Son Of Emperor Jahangir. Shah Jahan Had The Apology For The Murder Of His Relations; And The Manners Of The People Were For Much Adapted To An Idea Of Necessity In Such A Case, That They Acquiesced Without Murmuring Under His Government. He Mounted The Throne Of The Moguls In Agra, On The First Of February Of The Year 1628 Of The Christian Era; And, According To The Pompous Manner Eastern Princes, Assumed The Titles Of The True Star Of The Faith, The Second Lord Of The Happy Conjunctions, Mohammed, The King Of The World. He Was Born At Lahore On The Fifth Of January 1592, And On The Day Of Accession, He Was Thirty-Six Solar Years And Twenty-Eight Days Old. To Drive Away The Memory Of The Late Assassinations From The Minds Of The People, And To Gratify The Nobles, Who Had Crowded From Every Quarter To Agra, He Ushered In His Reign With A Festival, Which Exceeded Every Thing Of The Kind Known In That Age, In Magnificence And Expense. Shah Jahan S Rule In Pros And Cons Is Faithfully Portrayed In This Volume. The Major Topics Elaborately Dealt Are: Shah Jahan; The Struggle For The Throne; Shah Jahan: The British View; Shah Jahan: Expansion Of The Empire; Shah Jahan: The Magnificent (1628-1658) Etc.

sufi definition ap world history: *The White Castle* Orhan Pamuk, 2010-08-24 From the Nobel Prize winner and the acclaimed author of *My Name is Red* comes a dazzling work of historical fiction and a treatise on the enigma of identity and the relations between East and West. From a Turkish writer who has been compared with Borges, Nabokov, and DeLillo, a young Italian scholar in the 17th century sailing from Venice to Naples is taken prisoner and delivered to Constantinople. There he falls into the custody of a scholar known as Hoja—master—a man who is his exact double. In the years that follow, the slave instructs his master in Western science and technology, from medicine to pyrotechnics. But Hoja wants to know more: why he and his captive are the persons they are and whether, given knowledge of each other's most intimate secrets, they could actually exchange identities. Set in a world of magnificent scholarship and terrifying savagery, *The White Castle* is a colorful and intricately patterned triumph of the imagination. Translated from the Turkish by Victoria Holbrook.

sufi definition ap world history: *The History of al-Ṭabarī Vol. 1* , 2015-06-10 Volume I of the thirty-eight volume translation of Ṭabarī's great History begins with the creation of the world and ends with the time of Noah and the Flood. It not only brings a vast amount of speculation about the early history of mankind into sharp Muslim focus, but it also synchronizes ancient Iranian ideas about the prehistory of mankind with those inspired by the Qur'an and the Bible. The volume is thus an excellent guide to the cosmological views of many of Ṭabarī's contemporaries. The translator, Franz Rosenthal, one of the world's foremost scholars of Arabic, has also written an extensive introduction to the volume that presents all the facts known about Ṭabarī's personal and professional life. Professor Rosenthal's meticulous and original scholarship has yielded a valuable bibliography and chronology of Ṭabarī's writings, both those preserved in manuscript and those alluded to by

other authors. The introduction and first volume of the translation of the History form a ground-breaking contribution to Islamic historiography in English and will prove to be an invaluable source of information for those who are interested in Middle Eastern history but are unable to read the basic works in Arabic.

sufi definition ap world history: The Fall and Rise of the Islamic State Noah Feldman, 2009-01-10 Perhaps no other Western writer has more deeply probed the bitter struggle in the Muslim world between the forces of religion and law and those of violence and lawlessness as Noah Feldman. His scholarship has defined the stakes in the Middle East today. Now, in this incisive book, Feldman tells the story behind the increasingly popular call for the establishment of the shari'a--the law of the traditional Islamic state--in the modern Muslim world. Western powers call it a threat to democracy. Islamist movements are winning elections on it. Terrorists use it to justify their crimes. What, then, is the shari'a? Given the severity of some of its provisions, why is it popular among Muslims? Can the Islamic state succeed--should it? Feldman reveals how the classical Islamic constitution governed through and was legitimated by law. He shows how executive power was balanced by the scholars who interpreted and administered the shari'a, and how this balance of power was finally destroyed by the tragically incomplete reforms of the modern era. The result has been the unchecked executive dominance that now distorts politics in so many Muslim states. Feldman argues that a modern Islamic state could provide political and legal justice to today's Muslims, but only if new institutions emerge that restore this constitutional balance of power. The Fall and Rise of the Islamic State gives us the sweeping history of the traditional Islamic constitution--its noble beginnings, its downfall, and the renewed promise it could hold for Muslims and Westerners alike.

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