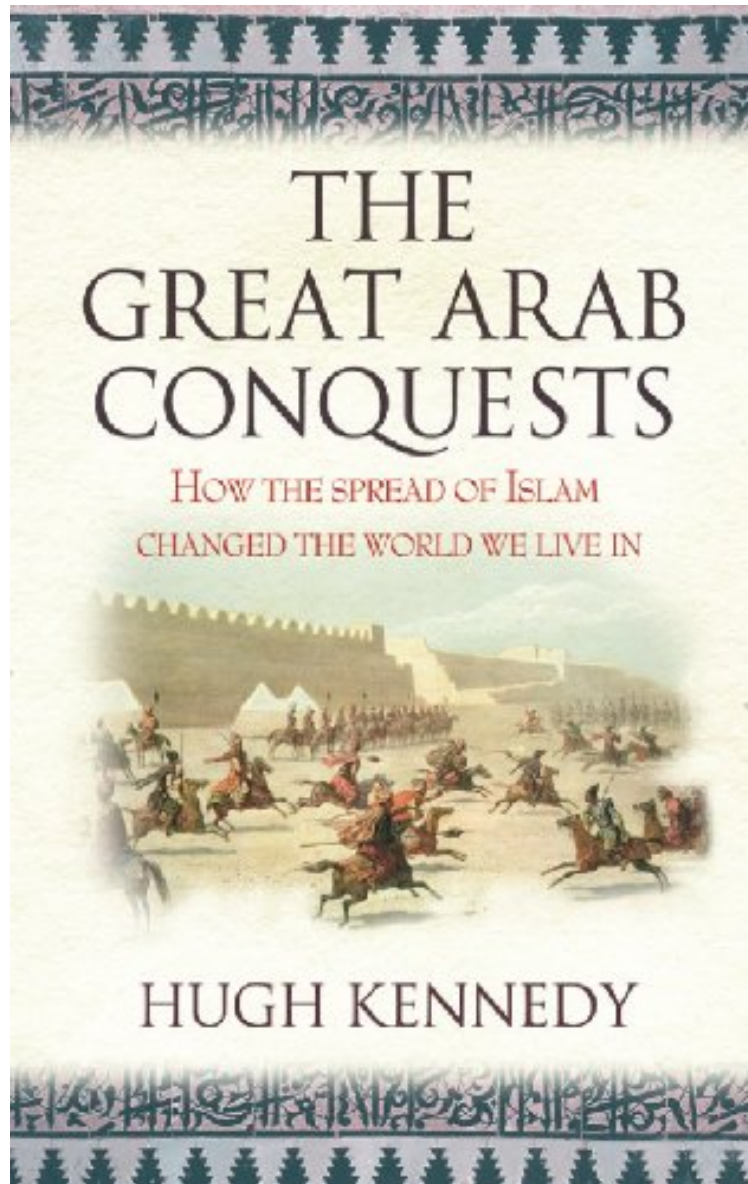


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The Great Arab Conquests: How the Spread of Islam Changed the World We Live In (English Edition)

Von Hugh Kennedy

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Von Hugh Kennedy : The Great Arab Conquests: How the Spread of Islam Changed the World We Live In (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Great Arab Conquests: How the Spread of Islam Changed the World We Live In (English Edition):

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ExcellentVon RicomohI always wanted to get a book like this, retracing the early muslim conquests from a neutral stand point: this book is easy to read, very honest about information shortcomings (missing information about battles, strategies etc.) and retraces with detail and professionalism these amazing times of human history. Don't hesitate!1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. interestingVon .A good overview why the islam spread so fast. i like the book because of its depth and good recherche.

KurzbeschreibungA popular history of the Arab invasions that carved out an empire from Spain to ChinaToday's Arab world was created at breathtaking speed. Whereas the Roman Empire took over 200 years to reach its fullest extent, the Arab armies overran the whole Middle East, North Africa and Spain within a generation. They annihilated the thousand-year-old Persian Empire and reduced the Byzantine Empire to little more than a city-state based around Constantinople. Within a hundred years of the Prophet's death, Muslim armies destroyed the Visigoth kingdom of Spain, and crossed the Pyrenees to occupy southern France. This is the first popular English language account of this astonishing remaking of the political and religious map of the world. Hugh Kennedy's sweeping narrative reveals how the Arab armies conquered almost everything in their path. One of the few academic historians with a genuine talent for story telling, he offers a compelling mix of larger-than-life characters, battles, treachery and the clash of civilizations.From BooklistIn forthrightly popular style, Kennedy fascinatingly chronicles the expansion of Islam from the death of the Prophet Mohammed in 632 to the beginning of the Abbasid Caliphate in 750 (the latter the subject of Kennedy's *When Baghdad Ruled the Muslim World*, 2005). Relating the story, however, requires care since most sources date, as Kennedy cautions, from 150 to 250 years after the conquests they purport to describe. Kennedy's warnings engage interest as he provides the contexts of late antiquity, which lent advantage to the new religion sweeping out of Arabia. Crucially, Near East populations had been devastated by plague and by a war between Islam's political enemies: the Byzantine Empire and the Sasanian Empire of Persia. Kennedy's attention to these factors deepens his interpretations of the Islamic chronicles, which he describes as frustratingly vague on details of battles but strangely attentive to the division of booty. Explaining the lan that propelled Islam so far, so fast, and so permanently, Kennedy vividly introduces the formative establishment of Islam. Taylor, GilbertPressestimmena lucid and enlightening work that is surely to become the standard popular history of early Islam for many years to come (Adam Levitt BIRMINGHAM POST)