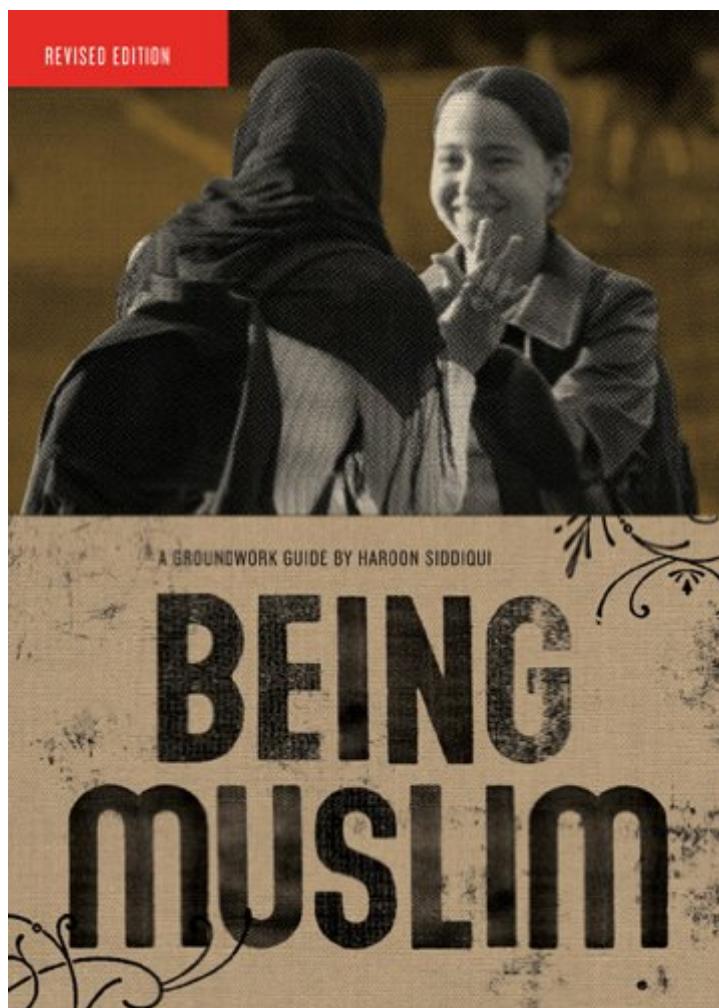


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# Being Muslim: A Groundwork Guide (Groundwork Guides)



## **Synopsis**

"[The Groundwork Guides] are excellent books, mandatory for school libraries and the increasing body of young people prepared to take ownership of the situations and problems previous generations have left them." -- Globe and Mail Being Muslim presents an up-front and readable explanation of the most complex and emotion-laden issues of our troubled times. The varying branches of Islam are analyzed and their history outlined -- but the focus is on the present. In speaking about and crossing political, cultural and religious divisions, this book offers a unique perspective, forged in Canada, a country where people from everywhere on earth have found a way to live in peace. Terrorism. Wars. Jihad. Hijab. Polygamy. Muhammad's many wives. Muslim prayer. Female circumcision. Honor killings. Sharia. Stoning. Status of Muslim women. All these topics and more are tackled in this fascinating and informative book.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Tons of data and numbers and justifications but little or no insights the title suggests. It's pretty

aggressive and defensive. I was hoping for something informative and neutral. It is not. If acceptance comes from understanding... find another book.

A Muslim perspective on Western-Muslim relations during the first 8 or so years of the 21st century. We need to hear more like this, even if we might not agree with all of it.

great

This book is perfect for those who know little about the Muslim world. It is very relevant to today considering the Mosque in New York and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. I hope everyone that reads this book enjoys it as much as I have.

This is an extraordinary frank and honest look at what it means to be Muslims. It does not dodge hard questions that Muslims face about their religion, nor does it flinch from helping non-Muslims feel the sense of threat that Muslims often feel. It is unfortunate that toward the end the author's defensiveness comes through too much.

This is indeed the best book on the subject. I heard the interview of the author on NPR while driving to the airport from a client site! I could not wait to get this book from the library. I just finished reading the book and I will soon be buying it to add to my library. The author takes a very balanced view on the sensitive topic but spares no punches when dealing with the facts. The book deals with post 9/11 issues very directly and at the same time provides a very nice intro to the Islamic culture and traditions. I recommend this book to anyone who really wants to know what it is to be a muslim in this world that is torn apart by religious conflicts.

This book was a good idea. It helps to explain what it really means to be Muslim, especially in America. But its intentions of bringing support and tolerance to Muslim beliefs and behaviors is undermined by the arguments of the author. Too many remarks are hostile or laced with malice. Too often the author criticized Americans and American policy and how it has affected Muslims. I'm not saying the author is wrong, but this approach is not going to breed sympathy. There's surely a better alternative out there.

If it's an easy overview of key issues, topics and social and political concerns you need to serve as

an introduction to Muslim concerns, you can't go wrong with BEING MUSLIM, based on travels in Muslim lands and interviews with experts there and in the West. Here's an analysis of the impact of terrorism on Muslims, explaining how Islam affects daily living and surveying differences between East and West perspectives. A very simple, easy introduction, this lends equally well to middle to high school libraries strong in social and political history. Diane C. Donovan California Bookwatch

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