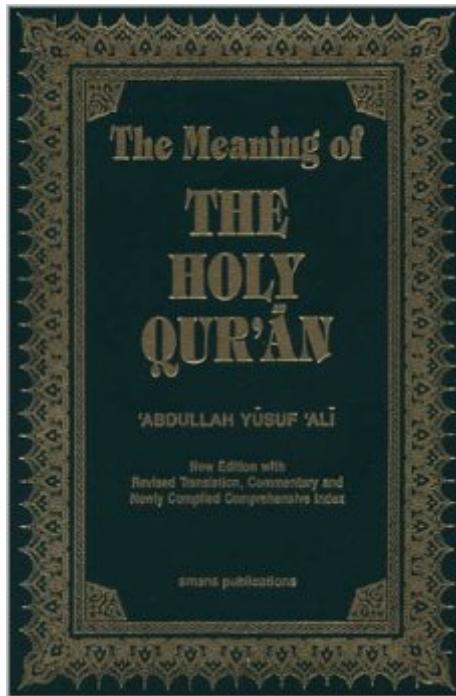


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The Meaning Of The Holy Qur'an (English And Arabic Edition)



Synopsis

"New ed. with Quraaanic text (Arabic), rev. translation, commentary, and newly compiled comprehensive index."

Book Information

Imitation Leather: 1824 pages

Publisher: Amana Publications; 10th edition (1997)

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (196 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Don't get impressed with the publicity and advertisement of Amana version of revised Quran. I have purchased other versions of Abdullah Yusuf Ali's work by other publishers including Amana USA, IPCI UK & the original publisher Sh Muhammad Ashraf of Lahore Pakistan. I have earlier printed copies of Abdullah Yusuf Ali's Quran text translation and commentary published by the original publisher Sh Muhammad Ashraf of Lahore. One copy is published in 1937, second printed before 9/11 and I bought another one recently. I am extremely disappointed that all recent versions published after 9/11 have many changes in the translation and commentary, all made in the name of modernization and revision. But unfortunately these changes are in such key topics e.g. women dress code and usury that do not do justice with the open mindedness of the Quranic Arabic text. Abdullah Yusuf Ali's commentary was already very modern, comprehensive and open minded and hence there was no reason for his commentaries to be revised or modernized by any publisher. There was no reason to add the cultural and Muslim native land's influence into these revised editions by the publishers after 9/11. Abdullah Yusuf Ali had benefited from the Muslim historians and Quran commentators belonging to the 8th till 14th century CE and written an exceptionally versatile translation and commentary that tries to match the Superior Quranic Arabic text and its wider meaning. Unfortunately new publishers have revised and deleted the portions in the commentary where Abdullah Yusuf Ali had mentioned key facts of the historical background for

better understanding of the context of verses. These versions misguide the new generation by brain washing them into cultural influence and neglecting the original historical background.

"The Meaning of the Holy Qur'an" includes the Arabic text of this revered book side-by-side with an English version by 'Abdullah Yusuf 'Ali; this bilingual text is accompanied by a running commentary in the form of footnotes. This is a new edition with revised translation; the introductory material notes that the revision occurred after the death of 'Ali. Not knowing Arabic myself, I can't comment on the accuracy of the translation. But 'Ali's version has a stately, classic quality. There are passages of real majesty and poetic grace. The translator uses archaic terms like "thou" and "verily," but I think they have a poetic effect and don't hurt this version's readability. 'Ali's footnotes are admittedly one-sided; they are written from an explicitly Muslim perspective, rather than a neutral or interfaith standpoint. Still, the footnotes are often very informative, even fascinating, as he puts passages in context and discusses theological and linguistic points. Regarding the Qur'an itself: because it is a sacred text to over a billion people and has had such a profound impact on world history, I assert that it is essential reading for any person, regardless of religious belief, who wants to be an educated citizen of the world. The Qur'an has an epic quality. It is an intriguing mix of poetic ecstasy and down-to-earth concerns. The Qur'an is an intensely self-conscious text; it constantly refers to itself, asserting its claim of divine origin and claiming a relationship to older divine revelation. Those familiar with Jewish and Christian scriptures will find the stories of familiar figures (Abraham, Moses, Jesus, etc.) retold in the Qur'an, but often with a twist.

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