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India's Women
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this is a study of chinese hui muslim women s historic and unrelenting spiritual educational political and gendered drive for an institutional presence in islamic worship and leadership a mosque of one s own as a unique feature of chinese muslim culture the authors place the historical origin of women s segregated religious institutions in the chinese islamic diaspora s fight for survival and in their

crucial contribution to the cause of ethnic religious minority identity and solidarity against the presentation of complex historical developments of women's own site of worship and learning the authors open out to contemporary problems of sexual politics within the wider society of socialist china and beyond to the history of islam in all its cultural diversity

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in this ethnographic examination of women's mosques in the maldives anthropologist jacqueline h fewkes probes how the existence of these separate buildings where women lead prayers for other women intersect with larger questions about gender space and global muslim communities bringing together ethnographic insight with historical accounts this volume develops an understanding of the particular religious and cultural trends in the maldives that have given rise to these unique socio religious institutions as fewkes considers women's spaces in the maldives as a practice apart from contemporary global islamic customs she interrogates the intersections between local national and transnational communities in the development of islamic spaces linking together the role of nations in the formation of muslim social spaces with transnational conceptualizations of islamic gendered spaces using the maldivian women's mosque as a starting point this book addresses the roles of both the nation and the global muslim ummah in locating gendered spaces within discourses about gender and islam

juxtaposing muslim scholars debates over women's attendance in mosques with historical descriptions of women's activities within middle eastern and north african mosques marion holmes katz shows how over the centuries legal scholars arguments have often reacted to rather than dictated muslim women's behavior tracing sunni legal positions on women in mosques from the second century of the islamic calendar to the modern period katz connects shifts in scholarly terminology and argumentation to changing constructions of gender over time assumptions about women's changing behavior through the lifecycle gave way to a global

preoccupation with sexual temptation which then became the central rationale for limits on women's mosque access at the same time travel narratives biographical dictionaries and religious polemics suggest that women's usage of mosque space often diverged in both timing and content from the ritual models constructed by scholars katz demonstrates both the concrete social and political implications of islamic legal discourse and the autonomy of women's mosque based activities she also examines women's mosque access as a trope in western travelers narratives and the evolving significance of women's mosque attendance among different islamic currents in the twentieth century

focuses on women and the civilizations and societies in which islam has played a historic role surveys all facets of life society economy politics religion the arts popular culture sports health science medicine environment and so forth of women in these societies

there is an ever present demand for mosques in american cities to accommodate the more than 8 percent of the american population that are muslims the majority of which are american born muslims or american converts however muslim american communities have implemented the same architectural vocabulary of mosques seen in the middle east into their american neighborhoods nevertheless this architectural transplantation from the middle east to america does not come without problems the weaving of middle eastern architectural culture with an american application of islam which is prominent within modern american society gives rise to internal tensions felt within the community in particular to the issue of muslim women's place in community mosques through the numerous case studies and investigations of the american mosques that i documented it is clear that the community does not provide adequate spaces for their women members my thesis explores the process of modifying and developing a new architectural vocabulary for the american mosques within the confinements and boundaries in islam in particular creating an adequate space for women a lack of attention to the needs of american muslim women in the states has caused a gender conflict over the adequacy of spaces for muslim women within american mosques for example in the 2006 controversial documentary titled the mosque of morgantown¹ located in west virginia a significant dilemma was created dividing the muslim community residing in the united states the mosque of morgantown set the social precedent for some muslim women to question some of the religious rulings regarding prayers and set the tone for numerous other protests of which the most recent occurred at the islamic center of washington dc in early part of 2010 the islamic center of washington d c² had an outburst of escalating tensions between genders thirty washington d c women united

in protest and refused to pray in the basement of the mosque which was their designated area of worship instead they decided to attend prayers under the same roof as the men during worship this seemingly simple act of protest was frowned upon the imam of the mosque declared that the allocated rows were for men only the presence of women in the rows resulted in the delay of the obligatory friday prayer that is mandatory for men in islam through these incidences it is clear that an investigation of a new architectural expression within the confinement of the religion for women driven spaces needs to be conducted

this book presents a multi voice narrative of the history and significance of current contestations over the increasing prominence of expressive piety in hui muslim women s mosques in central china it will be of considerable interest to students and scholars of chinese society and culture gender studies cultural anthropology and islam

at a time when misogyny and hostile attitudes towards women are plaguing muslim communities throughout the world dr jasser auda presents a timely and vital challenge to the contentious issue of women s access to the mosque expounding an islamic perspective reclaiming the mosque is a crucial response to the current trials facing muslim communities and moreover it offers a clear and cohesive call to action that harks back to the islamic principles of freedom justice and human rights

discusses women in the hindu christian and muslim communities provides details of the functioning of women s movements some chapters provide background including the impact of the west on women s issues in the social reform movement of the 19th century

this book presents a multi voice narrative of the history and significance of current contestations over the increasing prominence of expressive piety in hui muslim women s mosques in central china by drawing on a song book of chants collected from the tradition of women s mosques as context it reveals just how the increasing prominence of female voices has given rise to considerable misgivings among senior religious leaders over the potential destabilization of orthodox islamic gendered practices providing a historical introduction to the place and function of islamic chants jingge and zansheng the book gives a conceptual framing of female silence sound and agency in local translations of confucian and islamic precepts and women s personal accounts of the role played by traditional and modern soundscapes in transmitting and celebrating islamic knowledge and faith as a study of women s soundscapes and the significance of legitimacy ambiguities and implications of female sound this book will be of considerable interest to students and

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in the process of helping women to help themselves female activists have assumed a decisive role in negotiating social and political transformations in chinese society this is the first book that describes and analyzes the new phase of women s organizing in china which started in the 1980s and remains a vital force to the present day the political and social changes taking place in contemporary chinese society have surprisingly received scant attention this volume enriches our understanding of the working of grassroots democracy in china by exploring women s popular organizing activities and their interaction with party state institutions by subjecting these activities to both empirical enquiry and theoretical scrutiny a rigorous analysis of the exchange dialogue negotiation and transformation among and within three groups of political actors popular women s groups religious groups and the all china women s federation is concisely presented to the reader this book will be of tremendous interest to students of chinese studies political science and gender studies alike

in the last decade a number of women led mosques have emerged in europe and north america in the making of a mosque with female imams jesper petersen documents the serendipitous yet predictable emergence of the mariam mosque in copenhagen the study first demonstrates that individuals facing the unpredictable plays a decisive role in social processes this leads to an investigation of how serendipities are erased when narratives are erected retrospectively in the form of commodified products autobiographical narratives and research furthermore petersen conceptualizes non muslims theological productions of islam islam without the worship of allah so to speak and demonstrates how this influences muslim productions of islam

el presente estudio tiene por objetivo situar a la mujer dentro de la sociedad islamica atendiendo al lugar que ocupa en ella a la influencia de la presion religiosa que puede ser tomada a favor o en contra y a las grandes diferencias de un pais a otro a traves de los distintos capitulos se abordan las siguientes tematicas la mujer en la jurisprudencia islamica la situacion de la mujer en esta jurisprudencia segun diferentes paises los casos particulares de bangladesh india pakistan senegal sudan y yemen la mujer musulmana inmigrante en los paises bajos la segunda parte contiene las contribuciones presentadas al seminario mujer islam y desarrollo celebrado en septiembre de 1 993 en la haya

islam has long been part of the fabric of life in eastern indonesia with the early fifteenth century masjid tua wapauwe in northern maluku arguably the oldest

mosque in indonesia mosques and imams offers a rich introduction to the myriad ways of being muslim across this diverse archipelago from sulawesi to maluku and nusa tenggara timor as seen through the role of imams and the institution of the local mosque the book is unique not only in its geographic coverage but also in the way it takes as an organizing principle the individuals and institutions that embody islam in local communities the contributions in this volume complement and contribute to broader discussions of contemporary issues in islam and other contemporary religions including migration proselytisation networks and changing models of religious authority

why do we not see muslim women heading to a mosque for prayers on fridays why don t they participate in funeral prayers in the indian subcontinent men and women pray at al masjid al haram in mecca they pray in al masjid al nabavi in medina why cannot they pray in their neighbourhood mosques in india islam does not discriminate between men and women the quran promises as much reward for a roza fast a hajj or an act of charity for a woman as a man at nearly 60 places it asks both men and women to establish prayer as opposed to merely offering prayer establishing prayer scholars agree is done through congregation men do it by praying in mosques but what about women they are denied the right to enter mosques across the indian subcontinent women in masjid a quest for justice aims to give voice to those women who have been denied their due by our patriarchal society it tells the reader that prophet muhammad clearly permitted women to enter a mosque it is a permission well respected in mosques across west asia europe and america yet in an overwhelming majority of mosques across india women are virtually barred from entry no explicit ban just a tacit one drawing its arguments from the quran and hadiths the book exposes the hypocrisy of men who deny women their right to pray in mosques in the name of religion thus revealing entrenched patriarchal beliefs masquerading as faith it also tells the stories of those brave women who are fighting for their space in mosques across the world from nizamuddin and haji ali dargah to mosques in lanes and bylanes of india the fight is on women in masjid is all about righting a historical wrong

examines the place of muslim women in contemporary law and society their historical roles in cultural and political development their status within nomadic rural and urban societies and the impact of ritual and religion o ther lives

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