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Keen to learn but short on time? Get to grips with the history of the Islamic State in next to no time with this concise guide. 50Minutes.com provides a clear and engaging analysis of the history of the Islamic State. The brutal terror attacks in Paris in 2015 sent shockwaves across Europe. The group which claimed responsibility for them, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, has been active since 2006 and seeks to impose its radical and distorted version of Islam across the Middle East. The international coalition established to combat the organisation has made some significant advances, but the fight against fundamentalism is still far from over. In just 50 minutes you will:

- Understand

the history of the Islamic State and the events leading up to its foundation, including colonial rule and the regime of Saddam Hussein • Learn about the key figures in the organisation, including current leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi • Evaluate the successes and failures of the coalition fighting against the Islamic State

ABOUT 50MINUTES.COM | History & Culture

50MINUTES.COM will enable you to quickly understand the main events, people, conflicts and discoveries from world history that have shaped the world we live in today. Our publications present the key information on a wide variety of topics in a quick and accessible way that is guaranteed to save you time on your journey of discovery. Describes how a fifteenth-century goldsmith and clockmaker, Filippo Brunelleschi, came up with a unique design for the dome to crown Florence's magnificent new cathedral, Santa Maria del Fiore, in a dramatic study set against the turbulent backdrop of Renaissance Italy. The oldest Islamic biography

of Muhammad, written in the mid-eighth century, relates that the prophet died at Medina in 632, while earlier and more numerous Jewish, Christian, Samaritan, and even Islamic sources indicate that Muhammad survived to lead the conquest of Palestine, beginning in 634-35. Although this discrepancy has been known for several decades, Stephen J. Shoemaker here writes the first systematic study of the various traditions. Using methods and perspectives borrowed from biblical studies, Shoemaker concludes that these reports of Muhammad's leadership during the Palestinian invasion likely preserve an early Islamic tradition that was later revised to meet the needs of a changing Islamic self-identity. Muhammad and his followers appear to have expected the world to end in the immediate future, perhaps even in their own lifetimes, Shoemaker contends. When the eschatological Hour failed to arrive on schedule and continued to be deferred to an ever more distant point, the meaning of Muhammad's

message and the faith that he established needed to be fundamentally rethought by his early followers. The larger purpose of The Death of a Prophet exceeds the mere possibility of adjusting the date of Muhammad's death by a few years; far more important to Shoemaker are questions about the manner in which Islamic origins should be studied. The difference in the early sources affords an important opening through which to explore the nature of primitive Islam more broadly. Arguing for greater methodological unity between the study of Christian and Islamic origins, Shoemaker emphasizes the potential value of non-Islamic sources for reconstructing the history of formative Islam. Coconuts have been around for longer than Homo sapiens; they have been turned into art, taken part in religious rituals and been a sign of wealth and success. They have saved lives, not only by providing nourishment, but also as part of the charcoal filters in First World War gas masks. It was

coconuts that triggered the mutiny on the Bounty, and coconuts that saved the life of the man who went on to become the 35th President of the United States. The coconut has long been the unseen player in the endeavours of industrialists and bomb makers, physicians and silversmiths, smugglers and snake charmers. To this day, coconuts shape the lives of people around the world. At a time when coconut products crowd the shelves of supermarkets, health food shops and beauty salons, Robin Laurance looks beyond the oils and health drinks to uncover the unexpected, often surprising, and vital roles played by the coconut palm and its nut in times past and present. Culture in Israel is dynamic. Like in America or in Europe, pop culture, though rooted in history, is ever-changing and evolving. In many countries, culture is influenced by the neighboring countries, global immigration, and military heritage. But in the pressure cooker of contemporary Israel, culture changes more

quickly than elsewhere. You can see evidence of this ultra-modernity by the country's almost universal cellphone and internet usage, the high percentage of consumers who make purchases online, and the two-thirds of Israelis who traveled outside the country in 2014. Language here reflects this warp-speed change. Welcome to an exploration of one of the world's oldest yet newest cultures, and certainly one of its most vibrant. This work analyses: (1) the discursive terrain of the Muslim community/Ummah of Trinidad and Tobago from the Jihad of the Jamaat al Muslimeen on July 27th, 1990 to 2015 with emphasis on the evolution of militant Islam in this period. (2) It deconstructs the discourse of the Islamic State constructed to motivate Muslims of the world, especially of the West to migrate/to undertake Hijrah to the Islamic State with emphasis on the discursive concepts of the Islamic Apocalypse, the Malahim, Hijrah and Jihad is War. (3) It deconstructs the specific discourse of the Islamic State constituted for the

Muslims of Trinidad and Tobago which reveals the importance of the Trinidad and Tobago contingent to the propaganda machinery of the Islamic State. (4) It deconstructs the discourse of the survivors which reveals the complex motivational structure that drove Muslims of Trinidad and Tobago to journey to the Islamic State. What is revealed is a power relation between the Muslims of Trinidad and Tobago who are a minority group of the population of Trinidad and Tobago, the kufr State of Trinidad and Tobago and the discourse of the Islamic State. The reality that the Trinidad and Tobago contingent to Islamic State was the largest per capita amongst Muslims that undertook Hijrah to the Islamic State speaks volumes to the susceptibility of the Muslim community to the call of the Islamic State. This work deconstructs the underlying reality that ensured the virulence of the discourse of the Islamic State in its impact on Muslims of Trinidad and Tobago. Publisher's Note: Products purchased from Third Party

sellers are not guaranteed by the publisher for quality, authenticity, or access to any online entitlements included with the product. 12,500 entries. 196 countries. 365 days. Find out what's going on any day of the year, anywhere across the globe! If you're looking to tie a promotional event to a special month, travel to a music festival halfway around the world, blog about a historical milestone or do a celebrity birthday round-up on your radio show or Twitter feed, Chase's Calendar of Events is the one resource that has it all. For broadcasters, journalists, event planners, public relations professionals, librarians, editors, writers or simply the curious, this is one reference you can't do without! Chase's Calendar of Events 2015 brings you: Major sporting events such as the FIFA Women's World Cup (June 6), the Pan American Games (July 10) and the 48th Transpacific Yacht Race (July 13). Milestones such as the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, 200th anniversary of Waterloo, 150th anniversary of

Lincoln's assassination, 75th anniversary of Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain, 150th birth anniversary of poet W.B. Yeats and much more. New birthday entries for news makers like the new king of Spain, Felipe VI of Bourbon and Greece (Jan 30), or political activist Nadezhda Tolokonnikova (Nov 7); sports stars such as Meryl Davis (Jan 1) and Johnny Manziel (Dec 6); and entertainers Lupita Nyong'o (Mar 1), Chiwetel Ejiofor (July 10), Jamie Dornan (May 1), Dakota Johnson (Oct 4), Lorde (Nov 7) and Macklemore (June 19). New special days such as Take Your Poet to Work Day (July 15), National Black Women in Jazz and the Arts Day (Mar 1), National Biscotti Day (Sept 29), Runner's Selfie Day (June 23), No Selfies Day (Mar 16) and many more. New! Get exclusive access to the Chase's Calendar of Events companion website with: What's on Today? All the holidays, events, anniversaries, celebrity birthdays, and so on for the current day Advanced Search: customize your search--date ranges, location, key word,

category, attendance--however you want!  
Unique Festivals of the World: a new, interactive map of the world--click on a country and discover its major festivals Tabbed pages for Major Awards, About the Holidays, Spotlight for 2015, Glossary of Calendar Terms and Special Months For information on the url and password of the companion website, please see details inside the book. From the BBC Antiques Roadshow specialist and author who brought you The Antiques Magpie comes the first annual almanac keeping you bang up to date with the vibrant, pacey and often amusingly idiosyncratic global art and antiques market. Find out: \* How much the wedding ring of Lee Harvey Oswald sold for \* What the world's most expensive printed book cost per word \* Which First World War artefacts have enthused collectors amid the centenary commemorations ...and much more Written with Marc's trademark blend of knowledge, enthusiasm, irreverence and wit, Allum's Antiques Almanac 2015 provides a

unique insight into a boundless world fuelled by history, avarice and passion, making it a must-read for the inherent collector in all of us. A complete, detailed guide to modern Islamic banking fundamentals Modern Islamic Banking provides a comprehensive, up-to-the-minute guide to the products, processes and legal doctrines underlying Islamic banking. Written by a pioneering practitioner in the field, this book provides thorough guidance and expert-level perspective on the principles and applications of this alternative-banking model. You'll begin by learning the fundamentals, vocabulary and key concepts of Islamic banking, then explore key products including istisna'a, murabaha, musharaka, ijara, sukuk, and salam. Coverage then moves into practical applications of Islamic products to a variety of contexts including asset management, treasury, risk management, venture capital, SME finance, micro-finance and taxation. Regulatory frameworks are discussed in detail, including



extensive coverage of post-financial crisis Islamic bank valuation. Islamic banking has experienced rapid growth over the past decade, a trend that is set to continue given the sector's successful weathering of the financial crisis. This book brings you up to speed on this alternative way of banking, and shows you how it applies within your own current practices. Understand the principles of Islamic banking and finance Learn the products, vocabulary and key concepts of the field Consider the applications in a variety of financial contexts Explore the regulatory frameworks and valuation of Islamic banks Islamic banking practices differ from Western banking in fundamental ways — it's these differences that shielded the sector during the global crisis, but they also require practitioners to understand a whole new set of rules, products and practices. Modern Islamic Banking gives you a solid understanding of the fundamentals and expert insight into modern practical applications. For as long as humans have

gathered in cities, those cities have had their shining—or shadowy—counterparts. Imaginary cities, potential cities, future cities, perfect cities. It is as if the city itself, its inescapable gritty reality and elbow-to-elbow nature, demands we call into being some alternative, yearned-for better place. This book is about those cities. It's neither a history of grand plans nor a literary exploration of the utopian impulse, but rather something different, hybrid, idiosyncratic. It's a magpie's book, full of characters and incidents and ideas drawn from cities real and imagined around the globe and throughout history. Thomas More's allegorical island shares space with Soviet mega-planning; Marco Polo links up with James Joyce's meticulously imagined Dublin; the medieval land of Cockaigne meets the hopeful future of Star Trek. With Darran Anderson as our guide, we find common themes and recurring dreams, tied to the seemingly ineluctable problems of our actual cities, of poverty and exclusion and waste

and destruction. And that's where Imaginary Cities becomes more than a mere—if ecstatically entertaining—intellectual exercise: for, as Anderson says, “If a city can be imagined into being, it can be re-imagined.” Every architect, philosopher, artist, writer, planner, or citizen who dreams up an imaginary city offers lessons for our real ones; harnessing those flights of hopeful fancy can help us improve the streets where we live. Though it shares DNA with books as disparate as Calvino's *Invisible Cities* and Jane Jacobs's *Death and Life of Great American Cities*, there's no other book quite like *Imaginary Cities*. After reading it, you'll walk the streets of your city—real or imagined—with fresh eyes. A latest edition of a popular guide features updated and expanded entries in nearly 50 categories and incorporates new material for topics ranging from atheism and discoveries to beer and digital media. Cultural heritage is one of the most important tourism resources in the world. This book provides a comprehensive

theoretical overview and applied knowledge of the issues, practices, current debates, concepts and management concerns associated with cultural heritage-based tourism. The second edition has been updated to include timely and emerging topics such as geopolitics, conflict, solidarity tourism, overtourism and climate change. It also expands on important areas such as environmental change, technology, social media, heritage economics, Indigenous knowledge and co-created experiences. This edition includes up-to-date data, statistics, references, case material, figures and pedagogical tools. It remains an important and accessible text for undergraduate and postgraduate students of cultural and heritage tourism, cultural resource management, and museum management. *The New Encyclopedia of Islam* is written by a scholar for the general reader and researcher, without assuming any prior knowledge of the subject. Detailed cross-references lead the reader into deeper

knowledge of Islam, whatever his starting point. Many quotations, and hitherto untranslated prayers, support the religious and philosophical entries. "The narrative is fast paced, bursting with action, and obviously based on an intimate grasp of the region, its peoples, their tradition and age-old ways of life."—John Barkham

Reviews Leon Uris returns to the land of his acclaimed best-seller *Exodus* for an epic story of hate and love, vengeance and forgiveness and forgiveness. The Middle East is the powerful setting for this sweeping tale of a land where revenge is sacred and hatred noble. Where an Arab ruler tries to save his people from destruction but cannot save them from themselves. When violence spreads like a plague across the lands of Palestine—this is the time of The Haj. Contemporary Islamic revivalism is a multi-dimensional and multi-faceted phenomenon. This book explores this phenomenon through an ethnographic study of the world's largest Islamic revivalist movement,

the Tabligh Jama'at ('Convey [message of Islam]' Group). The basic contention of the book is that contemporary Islamic revivalism is a defensive reaction to the crisis of modernity, yet it is neither anti-modernity nor does it seek modernity's destruction. Rather, it highlights that Muslims are in a crisis. They face the threat of losing their faith and identity in modernity, because according to the revivalist Muslims, the "true" Islamic practice no longer constitutes the foundation of everyday Muslim living. To preclude this from reaching a point of no return, Islamic revivalist movements like the Tabligh Jama'at are engaged in encouraging Muslims to return to the "true" teachings of Islam, and restoring the Islamic glory that once was the envy of the world. This volume highlights the veritable 'sectarian' intensity with which Tablighis undertake this restorative work. Includes more than 10,000 holidays, holy days, national and ethnic celebrations, astronomical phenomena, festivals, fairs, anniversaries, and

other events from around the world. In light of recent concern over Shari'ah, such as proposed laws to prohibit it in the United States and conflict over the role it should play in the new Egyptian constitution, many people are confused about the meaning of Shari'ah in Islam and its role in the world today. In *Reasoning with God*, renowned Islamic scholar Khaled Abou El Fadl explains not only what Shari'ah really means, but also the way it can revitalize and reengage contemporary Islam. After a prologue that provides an essential overview of Shari'ah, Abou El Fadl explores the moral trajectory of Islam in today's world. Weaving powerful personal stories with broader global examples, he shows the ways that some interpretations of Islam today have undermined its potential in peace and love. Rather than simply outlining challenges, however, the author provides constructive suggestions about how Muslims can reengage the ethical tradition of their faith through Shari'ah. As the world's second largest

religion, Islam remains an important force on the global stage. *Reasoning with God* takes readers—both Muslim and non-Muslim—beyond superficial understandings of Shari'ah to a deeper understanding of its meaning and potential. Get thousands of facts right at your fingertips with this updated resource. The World Almanac® and Book of Facts is America's top-selling reference book of all time, with more than 82 million copies sold. Published annually since 1868, this compendium of information is the authoritative source for all your entertainment, reference, and learning needs. The 2014 edition of *The World Almanac* reviews the events of 2013 and will be your go-to source for any questions on any topic in the upcoming year. Praised as a “treasure trove of political, economic, scientific and educational statistics and information” by *The Wall Street Journal*, *The World Almanac*® contains thousands of facts that are unavailable publicly elsewhere. *The World Almanac*® and *Book of Facts* will answer

all of your trivia needs—from history and sports to geography, pop culture, and much more. Examining materials from early modern and contemporary North India and Pakistan, *Tellings and Texts* brings together seventeen first-rate papers on the relations between written and oral texts, their performance, and the musical traditions these performances have entailed. The contributions from some of the best scholars in the field cover a wide range of literary genres and social and cultural contexts across the region. The texts and practices are contextualized in relation to the broader social and political background in which they emerged, showing how religious affiliations, caste dynamics and political concerns played a role in shaping social identities as well as aesthetic sensibilities. By doing so this book sheds light into theoretical issues of more general significance, such as textual versus oral norms; the features of oral performance and improvisation; the role of the text in

performance; the aesthetics and social dimension of performance; the significance of space in performance history and important considerations on repertoires of story-telling. The book also contains links to audio files of some of the works discussed in the text. *Tellings and Texts* is essential reading for anyone with an interest in South Asian culture and, more generally, in the theory and practice of oral literature, performance and story-telling. This book examines Modern Iran through an interdisciplinary analysis of its cultural norms, history and institutional environment. The goal is to underline strengths and weaknesses of Iranian society as a whole, and to illustrate less prescriptive explanations for the way Iran is seen through a lens of persistent collective conduct rather than erratic historical occurrences. Throughout its history, Iran has been subject to many studies, all of which have diagnosed the country's problem and prescribed solutions based on certain theoretical grounds.

This book intends to look inward, seeking cultural explanations for Iran's perpetual inability to improve its society. The theme in this book is based on the eloquent words of Nasir Khusrau, a great Iranian poet: "az mast ki bar mast". The words are from a poem describing a self-adoring eagle that sees its life abruptly ended by an arrow winged with its own feathers—the bird is doomed by its own vanity. The closest interpretation of this idiom in Western Christian culture is "you reap what you sow", which conveys a similar message that underlines one's responsibility in the sense that, sooner or later, we must face the choices we make. This would enable us to confront - and live up to - what Iran's history and culture have taught us. A medieval Islam historian's incisive portrait of ISIS, revealing the group's deep ideological and intellectual roots in the earliest days of Islam With tremendous speed, the Islamic State has moved from the margins to the center of life in the Middle East. Despite recent

setbacks, its ability to conquer and retain huge swaths of territory has demonstrated its skillful tactical maneuvering, ambition, and staying power. Yet we still know too little about ISIS, particularly about its deeper ideology. In this eye-opening book, David J. Wasserstein offers a penetrating analysis of the movement, looking closely at the thousand-year-old form of Islamic apocalyptic messianism the group draws upon today. He shows how ISIS is not only a military and political movement but also, and primarily, a religious one with a coherent worldview, a patent strategy, and a clear goal: the re-creation of a medieval caliphate. Connecting the group's day-to-day activities and the writings and sayings of its leaders with the medieval Islamic past, Wasserstein provides an insightful and unprecedented perspective on the origins and aspirations of the Islamic State. Winfried Corduan describes the beliefs and real-life practices of the world's religions, including Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism,

Sikhism, Native American religions and Baha'i. This edition has been thoroughly revised and expanded, with a new chapter on Islam after 9/11 and additional material throughout. In *Islamic Law in Past and Present*, the lawyer and Islamicist Mathias Rohe offers a comprehensive study of Islamic law, law reforms and law in action with a particular focus on modern developments in the Islamic world, India, Canada and Germany. We've always measured the world around us, from how big things are, to how fast they go, how much they're worth and practically everything in between. But who decided how we do it, and why? *The Long and the Short of It* takes us back in time to discover the origins and evolution of a huge variety of different units of measurement. On the way it answers such questions as: Why do we measure time in units of 60? How do you determine the height of a mountain when sea level keeps changing? Why did the length of a mile once depend on where you came from? What's the

width of a horse's backside got to do with NASA's booster rockets? Packed with fascinating stories, this is an intriguing guide to the many systems of measurement that make sense of our daily lives, from pounds and parsecs to bushels and barricades. Written from an American perspective, *Aktuboo: Mastering the Arabic Script* seeks to remove the anxiety of learning not only the Arabic language but its script too. It teaches Modern Standard Arabic, the most ubiquitous dialect in the Middle East. Besides gently guiding you into the Arabic language, it also contains a wealth of cultural information and so it's ideal for Egyptophiles, travelers and Christian missionaries. \* Use mnemonics to help you remember the Arabic alphabet. \* Practice reading Arabic by first reading English words written in Arabic. \* Transition easily from cognates to true Arabic words. \* Develop good grammar by examining generic sentences. \* Learn how to conjugate at least 50 common verbs. The assistance I had from many Arab

people for the translation samples is uncredited. An investor's crucial guide to the changing face of Saudi Arabian business *Business and Entrepreneurship in Saudi Arabia* is an essential reference guide, informing investors on the key issues that define how business will be done as the nation's family-owned businesses change hands. Supported by the U.S.-Saudi Arabian Business Council, this book introduces the reader to the new Saudi entrepreneur and explains why Saudi Arabia's boom deserves more of the world's attention. As the heads of family-owned businesses age and corporate boards are reshaped, business practices will be influenced by the ascension of the country's young leaders. Interviews with young Saudi entrepreneurs describe the challenges, triumphs, failed attempts, and successful endeavors they experience every day as time-tested traditional models bump up against more modern, innovative ideas and methods. The book's companion website features a variety of

useful tools and documents that help readers implement the concepts presented, and the firsthand information provides deep insight into the future of these companies. Saudi Arabia is profoundly influencing the technological advances of multiple industries through increasing collaboration and in-country partnerships with communities around the world. The evolution of the Kingdom's family-owned businesses is becoming more important to investors as young Saudis claim their legacies, and this book provides an insightful understanding of the changing nature of Saudi business. Meet the emerging entrepreneur class of Saudi Arabia Learn how the Saudi boom affects global business Discover what investors need to know about the Saudi economy Examine how time and technology is reshaping the way business is done Gain useful insight into the direction management of the Kingdom's growth will take over the next five years The Saudi economy constitutes thirty percent of the Arab



world's GDP, and sixty percent of the population is under the age of thirty. *Business and Entrepreneurship in Saudi Arabia* provides essential information investors need to navigate the changing tide of doing business in Saudi Arabia. This book represents the first attempt to evaluate the first two decades of the EU counterterrorism policy. It aims to assess the collective securitization process in EU counterterrorism, evaluating this as a process between a construction of security threats and the development of supranational governance through crisification. Compared to the lack of shared perception of the terrorist threat and the virtual absence of counterterrorism cooperation amongst European states in the 1970s and 1980s, the existence of EU-wide debates, legislative instruments and practical cooperation nowadays is particularly remarkable. The chapters in this volume explore this change and seek to explain it by drawing upon the concept of 'collective securitization'. The book posits that

EU counterterrorism needs to be analysed as a process driven by collective securitization as part of an ongoing process of crisification that leads to increased supranational governance. The book is both extremely relevant and timely for readers outside the area of research for several reasons. First of all, EU counterterrorism is often argued to be at the forefront of the EU's response to new security threats. The 'EU *acquis*' on the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ) has grown significantly over the last years. Consequently, it is crucial and very timely to examine EU counterterrorism - exactly 20 years after the first significant measures were adopted in the wake of 9/11. The chapters in this book were originally published in the journal *Global Affairs*. This book is a thorough introduction to climate science and global change. The author is a geologist who has spent much of his life investigating the climate of Earth from a time when it was warm and dinosaurs roamed the land, to today's changing

climate. Bill Hay takes you on a journey to understand how the climate system works. He explores how humans are unintentionally conducting a grand uncontrolled experiment which is leading to unanticipated changes. We follow the twisting path of seemingly unrelated discoveries in physics, chemistry, biology, geology, and even mathematics to learn how they led to our present knowledge of how our planet works. He explains why the weather is becoming increasingly chaotic as our planet warms at a rate far faster than at any time in its geologic past. He speculates on possible future outcomes, and suggests that nature itself may make some unexpected course corrections. Although the book is written for the layman with little knowledge of science or mathematics, it includes information from many diverse fields to provide even those actively working in the field of climatology with a broader view of this developing drama. Experimenting on a Small Planet is a must read for anyone having more

than a casual interest in global warming and climate change - one of the most important and challenging issues of our time. This new edition includes actual data from climate science into 2021. Numerous Powerpoint slides can be downloaded to allow lecturers and teachers to more effectively use the book as a basis for climate change education. Babylon to Voyager and Beyond covers planetary research from the time of the Babylonians and Ancient Greeks through those of Kepler, Galileo and Newton to the modern era of space exploration. It outlines the key observational discoveries and theoretical developments in their historical context, covering not only the numerous successes but also the main failures. Planetary astronomy has come a long way since the Babylonians used their extensive numerical skills to predict the positions of the moon and planets. That progress is the story of this book, ending, as it does, with the considerable discoveries of the space age, and the discoveries of planets around other

stars. This account will appeal to both amateur and professional astronomers, as well as those with an interest in the history of science.

America's Other Muslims: Imam W.D.

Mohammed, Islamic Reform, and the Making of American Islam explores the oldest and perhaps the most important Muslim community in America, whose story has received little attention in the contemporary context.

Muhammad Fraser-Rahim explores American Muslim Revivalist, Imam W.D. Mohammed (1933-2008) and his contribution to the intellectual, spiritual, and philosophical thought of American Muslims as well as the contribution of Islamic thought by indigenous American Muslims. The book details the intersection of the Africana experience and its encounter with race, religion, and Islamic reform. Fraser-Rahim spotlights the emergence of an American school of Islamic thought, which was created and established by the son of the former Nation of Islam leader. Imam W.D. Mohammed rejected

his father's teachings and embraced normative Islam on his own terms while balancing classical Islam and his lived experience of Islam in the diaspora. Likewise his interpretations of Islam were not only American - they were also modern and responded to global trends in Islamic thought. His interpretations of Blackness were not only American, but also diasporic and pan-African. This description of Cabinet issue 61 was written on 1 September 2015. Which also happens to be 17 Dhu al-Qada 1436. And 17 Elul 5775. And 19 Wu 4713. The passage of time may be immutable, but the innumerable systems (Gregorian, Islamic, Hebrew and Chinese, respectively, above) that have been used to order our experience of Earth's transit through the solar system suggest that our methods of measuring it are not. With its roots in the Latin kalendae--meaning "the called," the word refers to the practice of Roman priests "calling" the first day of each Roman month--the calendar has long had a profound relationship to the state's

economic, religious and political power. And the common trajectory of calendars' development during mid- to late antiquity, from empirical, flexible systems to schematic, fixed ones, also has telling parallels with shifts in broader social, scientific and technological attitudes. Cabinet issue 61, with a special section on "Calendars," includes Sebastian Lunefeld on why so many radical political movements have tried to institute calendar reform; Joanna Dopico on 19th-century French sociologist August Comte's positivist calendar; and Gordon Landon on why some cultures developed, and continue to use, lunar calendars. Elsewhere in the issue: David Serlin on the long history of battlefield bandages with instructions printed on them; Tom Levin on early "voicemail," messages recorded on vinyl and mailed to loved ones; and Christopher Turner on the rise and fall of scratch-and-sniff films.

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## Arabia

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