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Medieval Iberia: Readings From Christian, Muslim, And Jewish Sources (The Middle Ages Series)



Synopsis

For some historians, medieval Iberian society was one marked by peaceful coexistence and cross-cultural fertilization; others have sketched a harsher picture of Muslims and Christians engaged in an ongoing contest for political, religious, and economic advantage culminating in the fall of Muslim Granada and the expulsion of the Jews in the late fifteenth century. The reality that emerges in Medieval Iberia is more nuanced than either of these scenarios can comprehend. Now in an expanded, second edition, this monumental collection offers unparalleled access to the multicultural complexity of the lands that would become modern Portugal and Spain. The documents collected in Medieval Iberia date mostly from the eighth through the fifteenth centuries and have been translated from Latin, Arabic, Hebrew, Judeo-Arabic, Castilian, Catalan, and Portuguese by many of the most eminent scholars in the field of Iberian studies. Nearly one quarter of this edition is new, including visual materials and increased coverage of Jewish and Muslim affairs, as well as more sources pertaining to women, social and economic history, and domestic life. This primary source material ranges widely across historical chronicles, poetry, and legal and religious sources, and each is accompanied by a brief introduction placing the text in its historical and cultural setting. Arranged chronologically, the documents are also keyed so as to be accessible to readers interested in specific topics such as urban life, the politics of the royal courts, interfaith relations, or women, marriage, and the family.

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Customer Reviews

This is an excellent source of primary historical data covering medieval Iberia, with documents and poems translated by some of the best (Nirenberg, O'Callaghan, Bisson, etc.). If studying medieval Iberian history, this is a must for references unless you are fluent in Arabic, Catalan, Latin, Hebrew, Castilian, Galician-Portuguese, Portuguese, Aljamiado, and Italian. The surrender treaties contained here are very important, and when combined with the information that Dr. Brian Catlos provides in his work, "Muslims of Latin Christendom, ca. 1050â “ 1614", and that of Dr. Isabel O'Connor's "The Forgotten Community - The Mudejar Aljama of Xativa, 1240-1327", provide insight in the aftermath as to why - though not themselves entirely faultless - the Mudejar rebelled in the late thirteenth and fifteenth centuries when under Christian control. Highly recommended.

A must for anyone studying the history of Islamic occupation in Spain. Loaded with documentation from Latin, Hebrew, Arabic and other sources.

<http://youtu.be/uTiJKJARzz4?list=UUpvpku8O928l6bRiqbGvzeg>

History by those who lived it and those who were close to it. Want to have an understanding of peaceful Islam then read the relevant portions of this book and you will understand that Islam was anything but peaceful to those it conquered. It negates the "we are terrible because of the crusades" straw man argument even verbalized by our president. Violence of this caliber by anyone should never be excusable for any reason.

Interesting but would have been better if more chronological and would have appreciated more Jewish input from the time period

I love history and so why not study about history of my father's place of origin and this book is super informative, its a must read for history lovers

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