

- Introduction
- 1 the successor of the Messenger of God and the caliphate of Quraysh Abu Bakr
- 2 Commander of the Faithful, Islamic meritocracy, consultation and Arab empire æUmar
- 3 the Viceregent of God and the reign of æAbd Shams æUthman
- 4 the counter-caliphate of Hashim æAli
- Conclusion: Restoration of the community and despotic kingship