



# The Holy Quran

By Abdullah Yusuf Ali, Abdul Haleem Eliyasee

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**The Holy Quran** By Abdullah Yusuf Ali, Abdul Haleem Eliyasee

Muslims believe that the Qur'an represents the words of God as revealed by the Angel Gabriel to Muhammad over a period of approximately twenty-three years, beginning in 610 AD, when he was forty, and concluding in 632 AD, the year of his death. All of it came from the mouth of one man. More people read the Quran than any other book ever written. This new edition of the book has been published to help Muslims not fluent in Arabic to understand the meaning of the words. It includes an English translation by Abdullah Yusuf Ali and a transliteration into Roman text by Abdul Haleem Eliyasee. However, it is important to remember at all times that the authoritative text is the Quran itself. These translations and transliterations are only intended to be helpful guides. They are not substitutes for the original. Every Muslim is required to read and understand the Quran to the extent of his ability. The words "To The Extent of his ability" is key. Obviously, a man who cannot speak Arabic and who is poorly educated will not be able to achieve the same level of understanding that a highly literate and educated native speaker of Arabic can. Nevertheless, even the poorly educated man must try to read and understand the actual words of the Quran. There is no Pope or supreme authority in Islam. Every man is his own authority. This is what Muslims believe.

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## **The Holy Quran By Abdullah Yusuf Ali, Abdul Haleem Eliyasee Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1419888 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Ishi Press
- Published on: 2011-01-13
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.00" h x 1.48" w x 7.00" l, 2.47 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 654 pages

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## **Editorial Review**

### **About the Author**

Abdullah Yusuf Ali (1872 – 1953) was an Indian Islamic scholar who translated the Qur-an into English. His translation of the Qur-an is one of the most widely known and used in the English-speaking world. Ali was born in Bombay, British India to a wealthy merchant family with a Dawoodi Bohra father. As a child, Ali received a religious education and, eventually, could recite the entire Qur-an from memory. He spoke both Arabic and English fluently. He studied English literature and studied at several European universities, including the University of Leeds. He concentrated his efforts on the Qur-an and studied the Qur-anic commentaries beginning with those written in the early days of Islamic history. Yusuf Ali's best-known work is this book *The Holy Qur-an: Text, Translation and Commentary*, begun in 1934 and published in 1938 by Sh. Muhammad Ashraf Publishers in Lahore, British India (that was liberated as Pakistan in 1947). While on tour to promote his translation, Ali helped to open the Al-Rashid Mosque, the third mosque in North America, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, in December 1938.

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