

**LOYALTY AND LEADERSHIP
IN AN EARLY ISLAMIC SOCIETY**

ROY P. MOTTAHEDEH

While contemporary historians of pre-modern Islamic societies have usually sought their models of social structure in Western history, this author contends that Near Eastern social behavior must be understood in its own terms. Studying one early Islamic society and drawing extensively on primary Arabic and Persian sources, Mottahedeh derives the classification of social groups and the variety of social bonds that gave shape to the social and political life of western Iran and southern Iraq during the 10th and 11th centuries A.D.

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