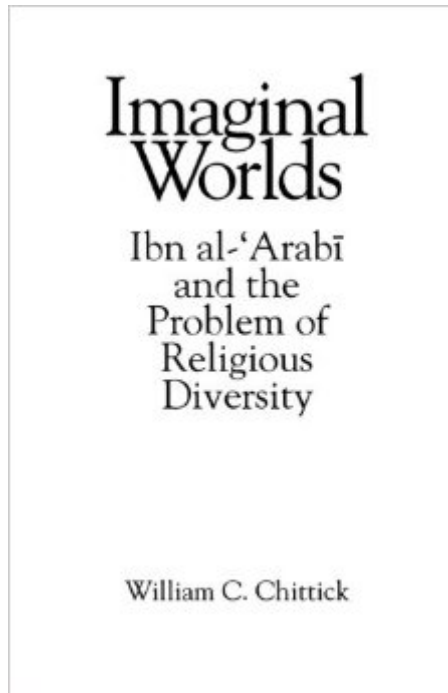


The book was found

Imaginal Worlds: Ibn Al-'Arabi And The Problem Of Religious Diversity (Suny Series, Islam)



Synopsis

In this book Chittick explains Ibn al-Arabi's concept of human perfection, his World of Imagination, and his teachings on why God's wisdom demands diversity of religious expression. He then suggests how these teachings can be employed to conceptualize the study of world religions in a contemporary context. "Imaginal Worlds is an excellent summary and a solid interpretation of Ibn al-Arabi's teachings." -- Gerhard Bowering, Yale University Ibn al-Arabi, known as the "Greatest Master," is the most influential Muslim thinker of the past 600 years. This book is an introduction to his thought concerning the ultimate destiny of human beings, God and the cosmos, and the reasons for religious diversity. It summarizes many of Ibn al-Arabi's teachings in a simple manner. The ideas discussed are explained in detail. The book is divided into three parts. In the first part Chittick explains Ibn al-Arabi's concept of human perfection; in the second part he looks at various implications of the World of Imagination; and in the third part he exposes Ibn al-Arabi's teachings on why God's wisdom demands diversity of religious expression, and he suggests how these teachings can be employed to conceptualize the study of world religions in a contemporary context.

Book Information

Series: Suny Series, Islam

Paperback: 216 pages

Publisher: State University of New York Press (October 6, 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 079142250X

ISBN-13: 978-0791422502

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,030,345 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #408 in Â Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > Sufism #489 in Â Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Religious Studies > Islam

Customer Reviews

The full title of this book is "Imaginal Worlds: Ibn al-`Arabî and the Problem of Religious Diversity". Ibn al-`Arabî was a great Sufi mystic and philosopher who died in the mid thirteenth century. Religious diversity is a problem for all multi-cultural Empires; and it was a problem throughout the medieval world of the Islamicate. Not only was Islam born in the midst of several

long established religious traditions in the Middle East, it encountered still more when the Muslim Conquests spread into India and Southeast Asia. Now, every empire certainly desires internal peace; but one wonders how this peace can be achieved, and also endure, given the fact of religious diversity within their own ever (at least in intent) expanding borders. The thought of Ibn al-'Arabī« regarding religious diversity provided one possible solution for the Islamic world. And it is his unique understanding of religious diversity that I would like to pursue in this review. Unlike modern secularists, whose 'solution' to the problem of religious diversity is based on some form of historicist evolution (basically, 'stupid then - all wised up now') and the eventual elimination of all religion, the Shaykh based his explanation upon a certain understanding of the very nature of Reality. And it turns out, perhaps somewhat surprisingly, that our religious diversity is itself an ontological necessity! What! How? Well, there are several reasons for (and implications of) this, and they involve understanding some of his technical terms too. Okay, let's start with his understanding of the Real. The Shaykh used the term 'Wujūd' for this. Our author, William Chittick, leaves this term untranslated throughout this book. (Usual english translations of this word are either 'being' or 'existence'.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Imaginal Worlds: Ibn al-'Arabi and the Problem of Religious Diversity (Suny Series, Islam) Sanctity and Mysticism in Medieval Egypt: The Wafa Sufi Order and the Legacy of Ibn 'Arabi (Suny Series in Islam) (Multilingual Edition) Religious Therapeutics: Body and Health in Yoga, Ayurveda, and Tantra (SUNY Series in Religious Studies) (Suny Series, Religious Studies) Stations Of Desire: Love Elegies From Ibn 'Arabi And New Poems (Ibis Editions) An Ocean Without Shore: Ibn Arabi, The Book, And The Law Islam: A very short Introduction, Islam: What the west needs to know, Islam for Dummies, Islam: The straight path 2014 The Enlightened Will Shine: Symbolization and Theurgy in the Later Strata of the Zohar (SUNY Series in Judaica) (Suny Series in Judaica, Hermeneutics, Mysticism and Religion) Ritual, Politics, and the City in Fatimid Cairo (Suny Series in Medieval Middle East History) (Suny Series, Medieval Middle East History) Tradition and Fantasy in the Tales of Reb Nahman of Bratslav (SUNY Series in Judaica) (Suny Series, Judaica: Hermeneutics, Mysticism & Religion) Dark Night, Early Dawn: Steps to a Deep Ecology of Mind (Suny Series in Transpersonal and Humanistic Psychology) (Suny Series, Transpersonal & Humanistic Psychology) The Conservative Movement in Judaism: Dilemmas and Opportunities (Suny Series in American Jewish Society in the 1990s) (Suny Series, American Jewish Society in the 1990s) Shankara and Indian Philosophy (Suny Series, Religious Studies) The Hidden Lives of Brahman: Sankara's Vedanta through His Upanisad Commentaries, in Light of Contemporary Practice (SUNY Series in

Religious Studies) Kernel of the Kernel (Sunny Series in Islam) Plant Intelligence and the Imaginal Realm: Beyond the Doors of Perception into the Dreaming of Earth The Physics of Transfigured Light: The Imaginal Realm and the Hermetic Foundations of Science Luminous Darkness: Imaginal Gleanings from Zoharic Literature Books of Breathing and Related Texts -Late Egyptian Religious Texts in the British Museum Vol.1 (Catalogue of the Books of the Dead and Other Religious Texts in the British Museum) Time Travel and Our Parallel Worlds: Part 3 - All New In-Depth Real Life Stories In the News (Time Travel and Parallel Worlds Book 6) About Infinity, Universe and Worlds.: the philosophy of Giordano Bruno, Burned at Vatican 1600 for his belief in many worlds & denial of afterlife

[Dmca](#)