



Homage to al-Andalus: The Rise and Fall of Islamic Spain

Michael B. Barry

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The Iberian Peninsula was conquered by Islamic forces in 711 AD and the Islamic presence continued in this part of Europe for 900 years. This presence left an indelible stamp in Spain and Portugal, like the wonders of the Alhambra and the Great Mosque of Córdoba. Its legacy also extends to the rich seam of learning, in science, medicine, literature and philosophy that was later transmitted to the rest of Europe.

How did all this come about? In this engaging book Michael Barry tells the story of al-Andalus, its rise to splendour and sophistication and its decline. Richly illustrated with outstanding photographs, it shows the achievements of this extraordinary time. Written in an accessible form, this book sets out the fascinating events from the conquest up to the final expulsion of the people of al-Andalus from Spain, a tale which has resonance with events happening today.

It is a book which is essential for those interested in history, for those who want to know this absorbing story and for those who wish to travel in Spain and experience the remarkable legacy of al-Andalus.

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