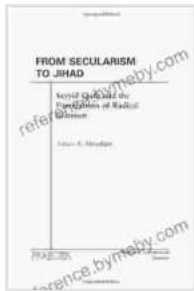


# Sayyid Qutb: The Father of Radical Islamism

Sayyid Qutb was an Egyptian Islamist thinker and author who is considered to be one of the most influential figures in the development of radical Islamism. His writings have had a profound impact on Islamic militant groups around the world, including al-Qaeda and the Taliban.



## From Secularism to Jihad: Sayyid Qutb and the Foundations of Radical Islamism by Adnan Musallam

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2276 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 280 pages



Qutb was born in 1906 in the village of Musha in Upper Egypt. He grew up in a devout Muslim family and studied at the University of Cairo, where he earned a degree in literature. After graduating, he worked as a teacher and journalist. In the 1940s, he became involved in the Muslim Brotherhood, an Islamist political organization. In 1948, he was arrested by the Egyptian government for his involvement in the Muslim Brotherhood and spent several years in prison.

After his release from prison, Qutb went into exile in the United States. He spent several years studying at the University of Colorado and Columbia University. During this time, he became increasingly radicalized and began to develop his own ideology of radical Islamism. In 1959, he returned to

Egypt and was again arrested by the government. He was sentenced to death and executed in 1966.

Qutb's writings have had a profound impact on Islamic militant groups around the world. His most famous work, "Milestones," is a treatise on Islamic law and society. In this work, Qutb argues that Islam is a complete way of life and that it must be implemented in its entirety. He also calls for the overthrow of all non-Islamic governments and the establishment of an Islamic state.

Qutb's ideas have been used to justify violence and terrorism by Islamic militant groups. For example, al-Qaeda's leader, Osama bin Laden, has cited Qutb as a major influence on his thinking. The Taliban, who ruled Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, also implemented Qutb's ideas in their harsh interpretation of Islamic law.

Qutb's legacy is a complex one. He is both revered and reviled by Muslims around the world. His writings have had a profound impact on the development of radical Islamism, but they have also been used to justify violence and terrorism.

## **The Significance of Sayyid Qutb**

Sayyid Qutb is a significant figure in the history of Islam. He was one of the first thinkers to develop a coherent ideology of radical Islamism, and his writings have had a profound impact on Islamic militant groups around the world.

Qutb's significance lies in his ability to articulate a vision of an Islamic state that is based on the principles of sharia law. He argues that Islam is a

complete way of life that encompasses all aspects of human existence, from politics to economics to social relations. In his view, the only legitimate government is one that is based on Islamic principles, and all other forms of government are illegitimate.

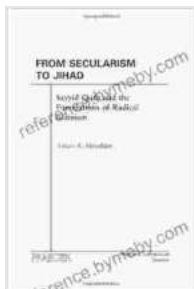
Qutb's ideas have been embraced by many Muslims who are dissatisfied with the current state of affairs in the Muslim world. They see him as a visionary who offers a way to restore Islam to its former glory. However, Qutb's ideas have also been criticized for being too extreme and for justifying violence and terrorism.

## The Legacy of Sayyid Qutb

Sayyid Qutb's legacy is a complex one. He is both revered and reviled by Muslims around the world. His writings have had a profound impact on the development of radical Islamism, but they have also been used to justify violence and terrorism.

Qutb's legacy will continue to be debated for years to come. Some Muslims see him as a martyr who died for his beliefs, while others see him as a dangerous extremist who helped to inspire violence and terrorism.

Ultimately, it is up to each individual to decide what they think of Sayyid Qutb and his legacy.



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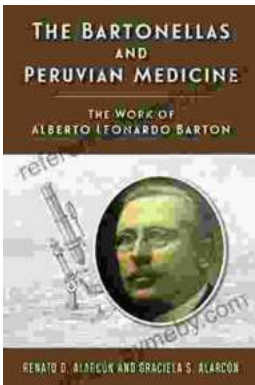
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