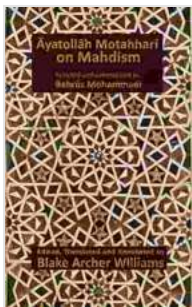


# Ayatollah Motahhari On Mahdism Shi Islam Doctrinal 10

## : Unveiling the Enigma of Mahdism

In the tapestry of Islamic beliefs, Mahdism stands as an intricate and captivating thread, woven into the heart of Shi'a Islam. This enigmatic concept, centering around the belief in a messianic figure known as the Mahdi, has profound historical, theological, and societal implications.



## Ayatollah Motahhari on Mahdism (Shi'a Islam Doctrinal Series Book 10) by Eric Geoffroy

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 96 pages  
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To unravel the complexities of Mahdism, we turn to the invaluable insights of the renowned Islamic scholar Ayatollah Murtada Mutahhari. Through his seminal work, "Shi'a Islam: Doctrinal Beliefs," Motahhari provides an illuminating exposition of this multifaceted phenomenon, shedding light on its origins, significance, and impact on Shi'ite thought and practice.

## Historical Roots and Theological Foundations

The roots of Mahdism can be traced back to the early days of Islam, when Muslims eagerly anticipated the return of their beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). This belief evolved over time, incorporating elements of Jewish and Christian messianism, as well as Shi'a-specific doctrines about the occultation of Imam Ali and his descendants.

In Shi'a Islam, the Mahdi is believed to be the twelfth and final Imam, known as Imam Muhammad al-Mahdi, who disappeared into the Minor Occultation in the year 874 CE. He is said to be residing in a state of "concealment," awaiting the divine command to return and establish justice and peace upon Earth.

### **The Return of the Mahdi: Signs and Expectations**

The return of the Mahdi is a central tenet of Shi'a eschatology, the study of the end times. According to Motahhari, there are numerous signs and omens that will precede the Mahdi's reappearance, including widespread corruption, oppression, and injustice.

The reappearance of the Mahdi is believed to mark the beginning of a new era, a golden age of justice and prosperity. He is expected to establish a universal Islamic government, restore peace and tranquility, and fulfill the unfulfilled promises of previous prophets.

### **Socio-Political Implications of Mahdism**

Beyond its historical and theological significance, Mahdism has had a profound impact on Shi'a society throughout history. It has served as a source of hope and inspiration, motivating individuals and communities to strive for social justice and to resist oppression.

During periods of political and social turmoil, the belief in the Mahdi's return has provided a beacon of hope and guidance. Shi'a communities have often turned to the Mahdi as a symbol of resistance against tyranny and injustice.

## **Ayatollah Motahhari's Unique Perspectives**

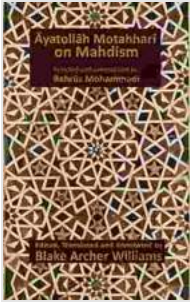
Ayatollah Motahhari's insights on Mahdism are particularly valuable due to his unique blend of theological scholarship and practical wisdom. He emphasized the importance of understanding Mahdism not only as a theological concept but also as a living, dynamic force that shapes the lives of Shi'a Muslims.

Motahhari rejected the notion of an imminent or apocalyptic return of the Mahdi, instead advocating for a more gradual and preparatory approach. He stressed the need for Shi'a Muslims to work actively for the establishment of a just and equitable society, rather than passively waiting for the Mahdi's return.

## **: The Enduring Legacy of Mahdism**

Ayatollah Motahhari's teachings on Mahdism provide a comprehensive and thought-provoking exploration of this multifaceted belief system. His insights help us to appreciate the historical, theological, and societal significance of Mahdism, and to understand its enduring impact on Shi'a Islam.

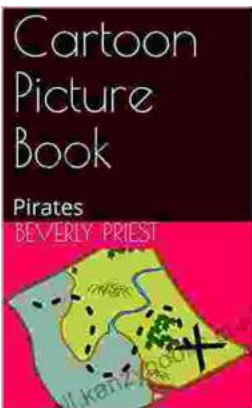
Whether viewed through the lens of history, theology, or sociology, Mahdism remains an integral part of the Shi'a experience. It serves as a source of inspiration, hope, and guidance, reminding us of the promise of a future where justice, peace, and the divine will prevail.



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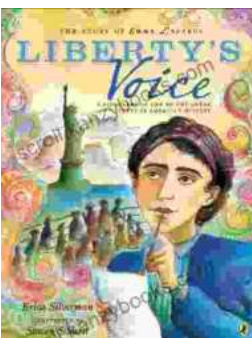
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