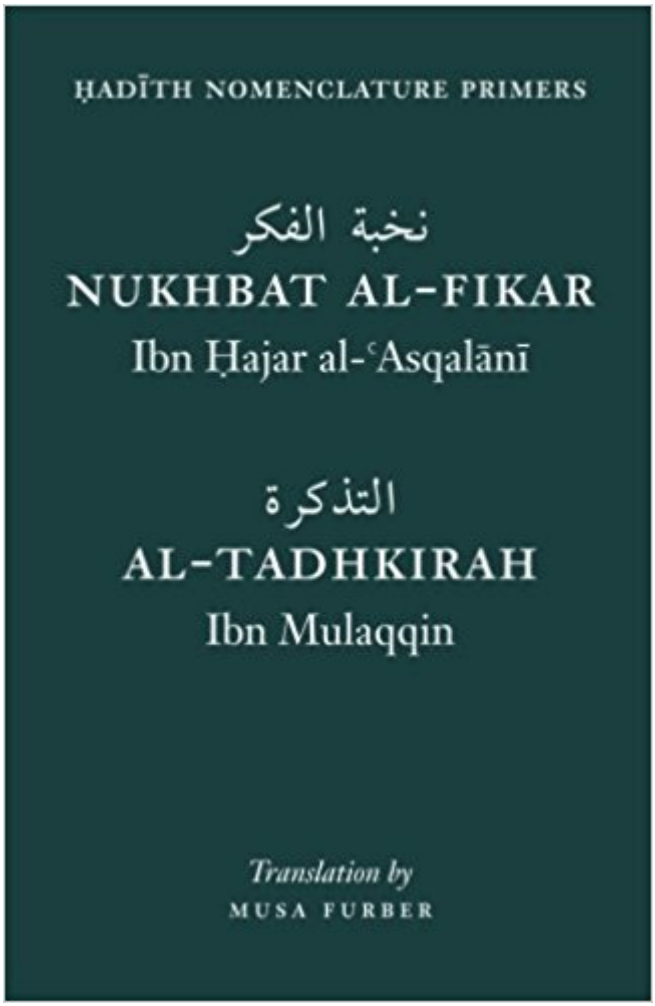
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Hadith Nomenclature Primers



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Synopsis

This volume presents two primers on the discipline of hadith nomenclature (mustalah al-hadith) and the authentication of transmitted reports. They are Nukhbat al-fikar ("Chosen Thoughts on the Nomenclature of Hadith Experts") by Ibn Hajar al-'Asqalani (773-835AH); and Al-Tadhkirah ("The Memorandum") by Ibn al-Mulaqqin (723-804AH). These primers were written to facilitate speedy mastery of the discipline's core material. Although the primers focus on definitions, they also include methods for addressing problems specific to the topic. Students would often commit a primer to memory while studying it with a living master who would explain its content in detail and demonstrate its application. It is through this interaction between students and instructors that Islamic education transmits both knowledge and skills across generations. In translation, these primers are ideal for English-speaking instructors looking for a primary text covering the subject's core concepts. The translations will also benefit students looking to review their lessons or to prepare themselves for more advanced studies.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Musa Furber has studied traditional Islamic sciences with sheikhs in Syria and Egypt since 1994. He received a license to deliver legal edicts (fatwas) from the Grand Mufti of Egypt in 2008. He currently resides and works in Abu Dhabi.

This is a good, short and pithy introductory primer to classical and traditional craft and science of Hadith criticism, its foundational vocabulary, and nomenclature.This is not a modern academic or orientalist work of literary critcism. It's a glimpse at what Arab Hadith scholars 1000 years ago

considered to be vital introductory primers to the study of the topic, how to classify hadith narrations and reports, and the technical language involved. Basically this book is two small and readable classical Arabic texts on Hadith classification and criticism, compiled into one volume.The Arabic text and English translation face each other nicely, so a student of Arabic, whether University, self-taught, or otherwise studying classical Arabic, can easily check compare her or his understanding of the Arabic text with the English translation. The book itself is slim, and full of useful information. Some people judge a book's quality on its weight and complain if it's short. This attitude misses the mark with a book like this, the informational depth is so heavy that the book expresses what would have taken a lesser writer and thinker hundreds of pages to express. This is the epitome of clarity of thought.The English translation is stylistically good, and made for enjoyable reading.My only two small complaints are that sometimes the translation is more to capture a shade of meaning and artistic effect, but where a more strict and literal translation of the passage in question might help an English reader understand the nuances of the point better, I think. It happens rarely, and for the most part the translation is almost word for word with the original text. These things are hard calls for a translator to make. The second thing is that while the book itself is very attractive, from the typeface and fonts, to the cover design itself, and the paper of the interior pages is good-quality, the paperback cover itself is a little flimsy and curls easily.I still give it 5 stars, it's a good translation and valuable for Academic students and instructors, or non-Academic readers whether Muslim or curious non-Muslims. As to the subject, the two texts give a very good introduction to the nomenclature that Classical Hadith scholars used in pursuing their craft and science.

Two excellent primers on Hadith nomenclature in both Arabic and English. A must have for teachers and students of Hadith sciences.

As a complete beginner to the sciences of ÃƒÂ¡Ã Â¸Ã Â¥adÃƒâ Ã Â«th, these two primers serve as an excellent, concise introduction for the English-speaking crowd. It is comprehensive yet clear enough for students of any level to follow, providing that necessary foundational knowledge to build upon. Apart from the obvious discussion on the various ÃƒÂ¡Ã Â¸Ã Â¥adÃƒâ Ã Â«th terminologies, what I found particularly helpful about this work is the Translator's inclusion of the actual Arabic text or matn for those seeking to memorize the text. Classical Arabic students may also find the English translation-Arabic text format beneficial as they begin accessing traditional Islamic texts. As with any translation of classical Islamic text, however, this work should also be read with qualified instructors for additional clarity and commentary.

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