



Minaret: Symbol of Islam (Oxford Studies in Islamic Art)

Jonathan Bloom

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Using buildings, archaeological reports, medieval histories, geographies and early Arabic poetry, this book reinterprets the origin, development and meanings of the minaret. explaining how the tower became identified with Islam. Bloom shows how the introduction of the tower into the mosque marked a major shift in the iconography of architecture and how the tower, once a sign of political and royal power, became associated with religious architecture. Charting the spread of the minaret throughout the Islamic lands until its universal acceptance as a sign, Bloom concludes with an overview of subsequent developments once the minaret had become the symbol of Islam.

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