

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777388403321
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Titolo	Commanding right and forbidding wrong in Islamic thought // Michael Cook
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2000
ISBN	0-511-08247-9 1-107-11826-3 1-280-16233-3 0-511-11809-0 0-511-01868-1 0-511-15589-1 0-511-30401-3 0-511-49745-8 0-511-04880-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xvii, 702 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	297.5
Soggetti	Islamic ethics Religious life - Islam Islam - Doctrines
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [604]-[660]) and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. Introductory -- pt. 2. The Hanbalites -- pt. 3. The Mu'tazilites and Shi'lites -- pt. 4. Other sects and schools -- pt. 5. Beyond classical Islam.
Sommario/riassunto	What kind of duty do we have to try to stop other people doing wrong? The question is intelligible in just about any culture, but few of them seek to answer it in a rigorous fashion. The most striking exception is found in the Islamic tradition, where 'commanding right' and 'forbidding wrong' is a central moral tenet already mentioned in the Koran. As an historian of Islam whose research has ranged widely over space and time, Michael Cook is well placed to interpret this complex subject. His book represents the first sustained attempt to map the history of Islamic reflection on this obligation. It covers the origins of

Muslim thinking about 'forbidding wrong', the relevant doctrinal developments over the centuries, and its significance in Sunni and Shi'ite thought today. In this way the book contributes to the understanding of Islamic thought, its relevance to contemporary Islamic politics and ideology, and raises fundamental questions for the comparative study of ethics.
