

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910963034503321
Autore	Bennison Amira K
Titolo	The great caliphs : the golden age of the 'Abbasid Empire / / Amira K. Bennison
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, : Yale University Press, 2009
ISBN	1-282-35292-X 9786612352928 0-300-15489-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (254 p.)
Disciplina	909.097671
Soggetti	Abbasids Islamic civilization Islamic Empire History 750-1258
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 225-234) and index.
Sommario/riassunto	<p>In this accessibly written history, Amira K. Bennison contradicts the common assumption that Islam somehow interrupted the smooth flow of Western civilization from its Graeco-Roman origins to its more recent European and American manifestations. Instead, she places Islamic civilization in the longer trajectory of Mediterranean civilizations and sees the 'Abbasid Empire (750-1258 CE) as the inheritor and interpreter of Graeco-Roman traditions. At its zenith the 'Abbasid caliphate stretched over the entire Middle East and part of North Africa, and influenced Islamic regimes as far west as Spain. Bennison's examination of the politics, society, and culture of the 'Abbasid period presents a picture of a society that nurtured many of the civilized values that Western civilization claims to represent, albeit in different premodern forms: from urban planning and international trade networks to religious pluralism and academic research. Bennison's argument counters the common Western view of Muslim culture as alien and offers a new perspective on the relationship between Western and Islamic cultures.</p>

