

Download A History Of Shi I Islam Shi I Heritage

Adherents of Shia Islam are called Shias of Ali, Shias or the Shi'a as a collective or Shi'i or Shi'ite individually. Shia Islam is the second largest branch of Islam: in 2009, Shia Muslims constituted 15% of the world's Muslim population. In the beginning of the history of Islam, the term "Shi'a" was used in its original or literal sense for followers of different people. For example, some hadiths speak of the Shi'a of Ali b. Abi Talib and others of the Shi'a of Mu'awiyah b. Abi Sufyan. However, gradually the term acquired a secondary or technical meaning, i.e. the followers of Ali, those who believed in his Imamate (divine leadership). An Introduction to Shi'i Islam Book Description: This book is a general introduction to Shi'i Islam—specifically to Twelver Shi'ism, to which the majority of Shi'is belong today. Shi'a Islam, also known as Shi'ite Islam or Shi'ism, is the second largest branch of Islam after Sunni Islam. Shias adhere to the teachings of Muhammad and the religious guidance of his family (who are referred to as the Ahl al-Bayt) or his descendants known as Shia Imams.