

# The Power of Sovereignty: The Political and Ideological Philosophy of Sayyid Qutb (Routledge Studies in Political Islam)

Sayed Khatab

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The Power of Sovereignty explores the religio-political and philosophical concepts of Sayyid Qutb, one of the most influential political thinkers for contemporary Islamists and who has greatly influenced the likes of Osama Bin Laden. Executed by the Egyptian state in 1966, his books continue to be read and his theory of jahiliyya 'ignorance' is still of prime importance for radical Islamic groups.

Providing a detailed perspective of Sayyid Qutb's writings, this book examines:

- the relation between the specifics of the concept of hakimiyyah and that of jahiliyyah
- the force and intent of these two concepts
- how Qutb employs their specifics to critically assess the political establishments like nationalism and capitalism
- the influence of the two concepts on Egypt's radical Islamic movements, where many of al'Qa'ida's lieutenants, officers, ideologues and conspirators were fomented

Shedding light on Islamic radicalism and its intellectual origins *The Power of Sovereignty* presents new analysis on the intellectual legacy of one of the most important thinkers of modern Islamic revival.



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