



Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam

By Mark LeVine

Download now

Read Online 

Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam

By Mark LeVine

“We play heavy metal because our lives are heavy metal.”

—Reda Zine, one of the founders of the Moroccan heavy-metal scene

“Music is the weapon of the future.”

—Fela Kuti

An eighteen-year-old Moroccan who loves Black Sabbath. A twenty-two-year-old rapper from the Gaza Strip. A young Lebanese singer who quotes Bob Marley’s “Redemption Song.” They are as representative of the world of Islam today as the conservatives and extremists we see every night on the news. Heavy metal, punk, hip-hop, and reggae are each the music of protest, and in many cases considered immoral in the Muslim world. This music may also turn out to be the soundtrack of a revolution unfolding across that world.

Why, despite governmental attempts to control and censor them, do these musicians and fans keep playing and listening? Partly, of course, for the joy of self-expression, but also because, in this region, everything is political. In *Heavy Metal Islam*, Mark LeVine explores the influence of Western music on the Middle East through interviews with musicians and fans, introducing us young Muslims struggling to reconcile their religion with a passion for music and a desire for change. The result is a revealing tour of contemporary Islamic culture through the evolving music scene in the Middle East and Northern Africa. *Heavy Metal Islam* is a surprising, wildly entertaining foray into a historically authoritarian region where music just might be the true democratizing force.

 [Download Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Strug ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Str ...pdf](#)

Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam

By Mark LeVine

Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine

“We play heavy metal because our lives are heavy metal.”

—Reda Zine, one of the founders of the Moroccan heavy-metal scene

“Music is the weapon of the future.”

—Fela Kuti

An eighteen-year-old Moroccan who loves Black Sabbath. A twenty-two-year-old rapper from the Gaza Strip. A young Lebanese singer who quotes Bob Marley’s “Redemption Song.” They are as representative of the world of Islam today as the conservatives and extremists we see every night on the news. Heavy metal, punk, hip-hop, and reggae are each the music of protest, and in many cases considered immoral in the Muslim world. This music may also turn out to be the soundtrack of a revolution unfolding across that world.

Why, despite governmental attempts to control and censor them, do these musicians and fans keep playing and listening? Partly, of course, for the joy of self-expression, but also because, in this region, everything is political. In *Heavy Metal Islam*, Mark LeVine explores the influence of Western music on the Middle East through interviews with musicians and fans, introducing us young Muslims struggling to reconcile their religion with a passion for music and a desire for change. The result is a revealing tour of contemporary Islamic culture through the evolving music scene in the Middle East and Northern Africa. *Heavy Metal Islam* is a surprising, wildly entertaining foray into a historically authoritarian region where music just might be the true democratizing force.

Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine
Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #917653 in Books
- Published on: 2008-07-08
- Released on: 2008-07-08
- Ingredients: Example Ingredients
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .70" w x 5.30" l, .70 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 312 pages

 [Download Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Strug ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Str ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. With a jolting arrangement of images and voices, LeVine powerfully upends received notions about the Middle East by exploring one of the area's least-known subcultures. Interviewing and jamming with musicians from Morocco to Pakistan—including rappers and trip-hop artists as well as metalheads—LeVine (*Why They Don't Hate Us*) presents Muslims, Christians and Jews who, in the face of corruption, repression and violence, use their music to speak truth to power and carve out a space for individual expression and a new form of community. The degree of independence the musicians enjoy varies widely—from Israeli band *Orphaned Land* who are free of restrictions (and widely admired in the Arab metal world) to Egyptian metalheads who fear arrest and possible torture for sporting long hair. Each artist in this book struggles, on some level, for cultural and political reform, and LeVine argues that if these musicians could find a way to cooperate with progressive religious activists and the working class, they could trigger a revolution. This is a tall order, but the author's warm and intelligent examination of a reality few in the West have experienced suggests it may yet be possible. (July 15)

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From School Library Journal

Adult/High School—In the 1970s, heavy metal acts like Black Sabbath and Iron Maiden created dark, violent music that was as much political and social protest as it was adrenaline-laced sound energizing the mosh pit. LeVine looks at the current heavy metal, punk, and hip-hop scenes of the Middle East in this way, presenting the backgrounds of each and exploring the social import of their messages. With lyrics crying for political and social change, this music carries the screams of angry youth, but angry youth who, for the most part, still regard themselves as devout Muslims. Each chapter examines a different nation and its music scene. Although it's not surprising that the most active centers are the more Westernized nations like Morocco and Israel, the most fascinating sections are those that cover places like Iran, where the music is not just looked at with suspicion, but often considered illegal. Many of the musicians are in their late teens and early 20s. Unfortunately, LeVine does a poor job of describing the music itself, throwing out terms like "grindcore" and "black metal" without defining them. Readers already knowledgeable about different forms of heavy metal won't have a problem with this, but those coming from the outside might find all the undefined labels a little confusing. LeVine does, however, provide a useful list of Web sites that provide samples of the music; a companion audio CD is sold separately. It becomes obvious that the author sees these musicians as a force for positive change. Although a journalistic approach might make this work more convincing, it's still a fascinating read about a unique subculture.—*Matthew L. Moffett, Pohick Regional Library, Burke, VA*

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Review

"Offers the hit-and-run pleasures of a lively road trip.... Levine manages to unpack enough cross-cultural incongruities to mount his own mosh pit follow-up to 'You Don't Mess With the Zohan....informative, valuable, and moderately mad."

—*The New York Times Book Review*

"A fascinating social phenomenon....[LeVine's] material is rich, as he mingles scenes of conflict with surprising moments of understanding."

—*Los Angeles Times*

“There’s something irresistible about the idea that LeVine... not only interviewed rock and rap artists from all over the Middle East and North Africa but also put down the notepad and got up onstage to jam with them.”

—*Slate.com*

“A deeply felt, informed volume that’s both hopeful and emotionally honest...LeVine does a remarkable job, sketching not only the surprising realities of the musicians, but also providing excellent historical background and terrific detail...anyone—regardless of musical preference—who wants an eye-level glimpse into the Middle East should pick up *Heavy Metal Islam*.”

—*Paste magazine*

“With a jolting arrangement of images and voices, LeVine powerfully upends received notions about the Middle East by exploring one of the area’s least-known subcultures.... LeVine argues that if these musicians could find a way to cooperate with progressive religious activists and the working class, they could trigger a revolution. This is a tall order, but the author’s warm and intelligent examination of a reality few in the West have experienced suggests it may yet be possible.”

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“Alternately inspiring and disheartening—a solid work of cross-cultural analysis.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Using music as a prism to observe social relations, he expertly describes the political upheaval and social confusion in the Middle East that Westerners ignore or seldom understand. This examination of the changing and evolving cultures in a key global region is highly recommended.”

—*Library Journal*

“*Heavy Metal Islam* is a fun read, and an important one. As an American, Islam has been portrayed as the boogie man. I don’t know much about the culture or musical influences. As a musician I can relate to the struggles [of] trying to write and record songs and the difficulty of finding hard rock records where they don’t exist. So this was a pleasant surprise that these young artists and fans from such a different culture can enjoy the same soundtrack of my youth. I guess Lemmy is God in all languages.”

—Gilby Clarke, former guitarist for Guns N’ Roses and star of the hit TV reality show, *Rock Star Supernova*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kara Corbett:

The book *Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam* can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why then must we leave the great thing like a book *Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam*? Several of you have a different opinion about publication. But one aim this book can give many facts for us. It is absolutely correct. Right now, try to closer together with your book. Knowledge or info that you take for that, you could give for each other; you could share all of these. Book *Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam* has simple shape however, you know: it has great and massive function for you. You can appearance the enormous world by wide open and read a guide. So it is very wonderful.

Josefina Smith:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? May be reading a book might be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the reserve untitled Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam can be good book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

Tom Tucker:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try point that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not experiencing tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition info. Even you love Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Francis Corder:

As we know that book is significant thing to add our information for everything. By a book we can know everything we really wish for. A book is a pair of written, printed, illustrated or maybe blank sheet. Every year has been exactly added. This publication Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam was filled about science. Spend your time to add your knowledge about your technology competence. Some people has several feel when they reading any book. If you know how big benefit from a book, you can sense enjoy to read a book. In the modern era like right now, many ways to get book that you just wanted.

**Download and Read Online Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine
#I6MFR3EACBS**

Read Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine for online ebook

Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine books to read online.

Online Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine ebook PDF download

Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine Doc

Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine Mobipocket

Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine EPub

I6MFR3EACBS: Heavy Metal Islam: Rock, Resistance, and the Struggle for the Soul of Islam By Mark LeVine