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# Encyclopedia of African American Business

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# [reference]

## Islam: A Worldwide Encyclopedia.

4 vols. ABC-CLIO. 2017. 1813p. ed. by Cenap Çakmak. photos. bibliog. index. ISBN 9781610692168. \$415; ebk. ISBN 9781610692175. REL

Aware of the negative stereotypes associated with Islam, Çakmak (emeritus, international law & politics, Eskisehir Osmangazi Univ., Turkey) aims to present the basic tenets of the faith, acknowledging that practices in the past and today might vary. The work doesn't deliver on the subtitle "worldwide," as no articles are devoted to Islam in the United States, Europe, or Asia (except Pakistan). Scholarly contributors, traditional and progressive, provide substantial entries; ethics, doctrines, and individuals dominate. The article on feminism and the general "Islam" entry, among others, are excellent. A chronology (570–2016 CE), captioned color photos, alphabetical and topics lists, a glossary, and "see also" and further reading after entries add utility. However, there are many missteps. "Women's Rights" fails to address the legal value of women's testimony, their financial responsibility, *talaq* divorce, *zina* laws, or child custody. "Homosexuality," absent from the index, is briefly mentioned under "Depravity." The writer on polygamy (i.e., polygyny) claims that the practice is an "ideal solution" to "men's alleged insatiable sexual desire." "Immaculate Conception" misrepresents both the Islamic and Roman Catholic concepts. There are omissions (e.g., *nikah 'urfi* [temporary marriage], inheritance, clergy, honor), and the writing is too often unidiomatic, dense, and unclear. **VERDICT** Postsecondary college students seeking information on specific topics will find useful material in this uneven compendium, which does not supplant Richard Martin's *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*.—Patricia D. Lothrop, formerly of St. George's Sch., Newport, RI

## Encyclopedia of African American Business.

rev. ed. 2 vols. Greenwood. 2017. 928p. ed. by Jessie Carney Smith. illus. bibliog. index. ISBN 9781440850271. \$198; ebk. ISBN 9781440850288. ECON

The first edition of this work was published in 2006 and offered a broad but comprehensive overview on the topic of



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African American business from the last quarter of the 18th century to the early 21st century. This revised edition does likewise, with added information on many of the earlier subjects and about 100 more pages of contemporary entries. Whereas the introduction to the first edition emphasized historical works about African American business and the importance of its study, Smith's (humanities, library dean, Fisk Univ.) overview opening this new work focuses on how businesses have developed and the areas in which they have expanded over the last decade. This edition improves on the earlier material, featuring, for instance, more photographs and an extensive appendix of tables on employment, income, and poverty levels that serious researchers will value. It also skillfully explores the role of women as well as the emergence of African American businesses in global markets. **VERDICT** Cohesive, highly informative, and well written. There is more than enough different and enhanced material for libraries that own the original to justify purchase. A solid starting point for a wide range of

readers interested in the development and spread of African American business.—Rob Tench, Old Dominion Univ. Lib., Norfolk, VA

## The SAGE Encyclopedia of Communication Research Methods. 4 vols. SAGE. 2017.

2064p. ed. by Mike Allen. index. ISBN 9781483381435. \$695; ebk. ISBN 9781483381459. REF

Allen (Univ. of Wisconsin–Milwaukee; *Sage Quantitative Research in Communications*) has brought together in four volumes 1,899 entries by specialists involved in many aspects of research and communications studies, a topic that's rapidly evolving in light of online journals and open access. This encyclopedia thoroughly covers the research process: the development of topics and questions, literature reviews, selection of the best methods (whether quantitative, qualitative, or mixed), analysis of results, and publication of findings. The entries are concise and offer further reading selections. Though entries are signed, they don't list any information on contributors (for that, readers will need to consult a listing at the beginning of each volume). Some may find the material overly complex at times (for instance, bivariate statistics, chi-square, and factor analysis). Those desiring further readings in this area might consult Leonard Shedletsky's *Human Communication on the Internet* and the outstanding appendix that closes out this set, listing related associations, books, and journals. **VERDICT** Suitable for communication collections, this impressive reference work should interest graduate students in communication.—Claude Ury, San Francisco

## ereviews | Reference News Roundup

### ■ By Henrietta Verma & Gary Price

LJ's InfoDocket (InfoDocket.com) regularly highlights news that will be of use to reference staff in academic and public libraries. Below are a few of the news items and resources recently featured on the site.

### LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Undergraduate enrollment has declined in this country in each of the past five years, says a new report (ow.ly/MmHP30i601V) by Martin Kurzweil and Daniel Rossman for nonprofit research organization Ithaka S+R. As schools seek to maintain income while keeping tuition affordable, many have