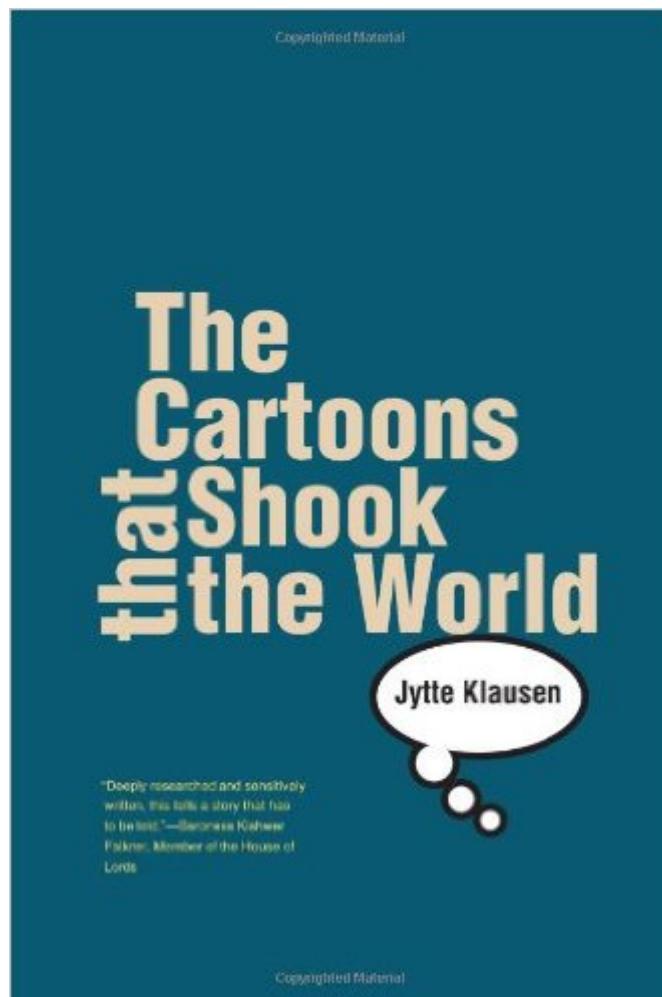


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# The Cartoons That Shook The World



## Synopsis

On September 30, 2005, the Danish newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* published twelve cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad. Five months later, thousands of Muslims inundated the newspaper with outpourings of anger and grief by phone, email, and fax; from Asia to Europe Muslims took to the streets in protest. This book is the first comprehensive investigation of the conflict that aroused impassioned debates around the world on freedom of expression, blasphemy, and the nature of modern Islam. Jytte Klausen interviewed politicians in the Middle East, Muslim leaders in Europe, the Danish editors and cartoonists, and the Danish imam who started the controversy. Following the winding trail of protests across the world, she deconstructs the arguments and motives that drove the escalation of the increasingly globalized conflict. She concludes that the Muslim reaction to the cartoons was not as was commonly assumed; a spontaneous emotional reaction arising out of the clash of Western and Islamic civilizations. Rather it was orchestrated, first by those with vested interests in elections in Denmark and Egypt, and later by Islamic extremists seeking to destabilize governments in Pakistan, Lebanon, Libya, and Nigeria. Klausen shows how the cartoon crisis was, therefore, ultimately a political conflict rather than a colossal cultural misunderstanding.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Yale University Press (October 13, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0300124724

ISBN-13: 978-0300124729

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 0.8 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 2.6 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #968,021 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in Books > History > Europe > Scandinavia > Denmark #387 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Censorship #975 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Political Freedom

## Customer Reviews

One might think that a book titled "The Cartoons that Shook the World," especially a scholarly one published by an academic press, would contain reproductions of the cartoons that are the subject of the entire book. In fact, the original manuscript did, but the cartoons were removed by the publisher,

Yale University Press. The publisher censored its own book because it did not want to offend anyone. The book was thus "bowdlerized," robbing the reader of the most interesting and relevant parts. The banned cartoons apparently can be found in a new book titled "Muhammad: The Banned Images" by Gary Hull. deserves credit for selling "The Banned Images" and for having more spine than Yale University Press.

The entire point of the book, I would have thought, is to show us the 'offensive cartoons' and thereby allow readers to understand the controversy. How can this be done without the cartoons? (Actually, they were there originally, by the publisher didn't want the controversy. So much for academic freedom, 'Freedom of the Press,' and facing the truth.)

The fact that the cartoons were censored is asinine, I hope they never sell another copy. One star because it wasn't the author's fault and the book's uncensored content is very important.

If Yale was selling cowardice, they could resolve the national debt. How can you put together a book on cartoons that shook the world and NOT include the cartoons?? I refer specifically to the Danish cartoons that Islamofascists used as a pretext for trying to murder cartoonists. Apparently the ROP (Religion of Peace) has a very short fuse when it comes to depictions of terrorism - so naturally when you see a cartoon of Mohammad with a sizzling bomb as a turban, you prove you are the true ROP by murdering people. Yeah, that works. For Yale Press, at any rate. Yale Press, embracing its dhimmitude stature, actually tried to explain why they were too cowardly to do so. So why publish the book at all? Maybe Yale is trying to show us how the future will be navigated for those of the Yellow Stripe on the back and the yellow stain on the pant leg. That might work for them, but I'd love for some other publisher - maybe one that has men of character, courage, and cajones - to do the job and publish the cartoons as they were printed. Yale Press should simply fold and sell prayer rugs like good dhimmis, and stop pretending they have anything to do with free, scholarly inquiry. What an absurd farce!

The positive part is that Klausen offers a rich and precise account of the facts and people involved in the Danish Cartoon-affair. On the other hand, she seems to offer all the evidence against the point she tries to make: that although rioting and killing all over the world, burning embassies, and issuing death threats is wrong, the West is somehow responsible for "offending" Muslims and thus partially to blame for the despicable savagery that was the result of the publication of a few satirical cartoons.

in a small Scandinavian liberal democracy.

and this book does. i recommend it and its complimentary "muhammed: the banned images." you should be free to choose what you see, and not have big brother tell you what it will let you see. thought provoking and very entertaining.

While the written content is interesting, overall this book falls short for one obvious reason: It does not contain the cartoons that are the subject of the book. It was like reading Moby Dick, but because of political correctness and/or sheer cowardice, all of the whale hunting passages were edited out. If you happen to see this book at your local library, leaf through it if you have nothing better to do, but don't buy it.

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