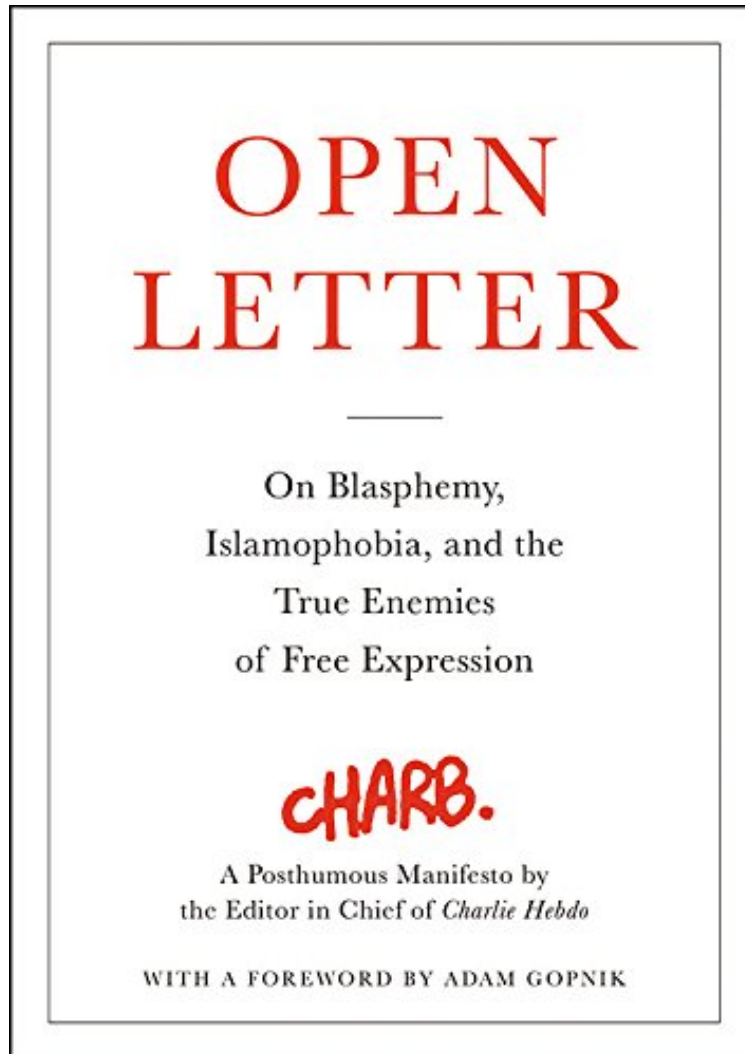


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Open Letter: On Blasphemy, Islamophobia, and the True Enemies of Free Expression

Charb

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#818812 in Books Ingramcontent 2016-01-05 2016-01-05Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 7.25 x .75 x 5.50l, .40 #File Name: 031631133296 pagesOpen Letter On Blasphemy Islamophobia and the True Enemies of Free Expression | File size: 73.Mb

Charb : Open Letter: On Blasphemy, Islamophobia, and the True Enemies of Free Expression before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Open Letter: On Blasphemy, Islamophobia, and the True Enemies of Free Expression:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Religious intoleranceBy William Edward SchenckStephane Charbonnier wrote this book shortly before he was killed by Muslim fundamentalists who not not tolrate Charbonnier's fondness for freedom of speech and for saterical cartoons targeting the absurdity of religious fundamentalism and

intolerance that plague our world. He first wanted to make it clear that the term Islamophobia is not used correctly in the discourse on our relationship with Islam. The term means fear of Islam not hatred of Islam as it is currently misconstrued. He goes on to describe the trap religious dogma puts its adherents in and the advantage the fanatical, homicidal individuals take in controlling their ever increasing number of followers. I felt that the book made some very good observations on the current conditions in the Middle East and Europe but he does not write with eloquence making much of what he has to say a strident diatribe. Thus the four stars. 9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. In defense of freedom of expression. By David Veloz The late editor of the French satirical magazine "Charlie Hebdo" was murdered a year ago by terrorists who were offended by the magazine's constant satirical cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed. Before his murder Charb wrote this short and brilliant manifesto defending the most important right a person has, and that is free speech. The enemies of free expression aren't Muslims but the minority of extremists who appoint themselves (without anyone's consent) to speak for an entire group of people. As Charb beautifully wrote in this manifesto, these extremists do not speak for anyone but themselves and societies that value freedom of expression shouldn't cower in the face of these extremists. It is also important to distinguish the lampooning of religion with expressions of hatred towards the practitioners of religion. The job of liberals is not only to defend freedom of expression, but minorities from discrimination. Lampooning Islam, or any other religion, is not the same as expressing hatred. Charb is gone, but he left behind a gift in this manifesto that expresses the best traditions of leftist freethinkers. Long live Charb! 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Males you think By Debora L. Schum This is a short read but it packs a punch. Charb brings up multiple points that deserve consideration. I did not agree with everything he wrote but it did make me think. I believe in freedom of speech even when it nauseated me. Hearing it reminds me of my own beliefs and makes me more confident. It was sad to read about some of the laws France has implemented around free speech. I totally agree on the role of the media in inciting the lunatic fringe, terrorist attacks drive viewership. The media is complicit. I can only imagine all the folks who behind closed doors celebrated the murder of Charb.

An impassioned defense of the freedom of speech, from Stéphane Charbonnier, a journalist murdered for his convictions On January 7, 2015, two gunmen stormed the offices of the French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo. They took the lives of twelve men and women, but they called for one man by name: "Charb." Known by his pen name, Stéphane Charbonnier was editor in chief of Charlie Hebdo, an outspoken critic of religious fundamentalism, and a renowned political cartoonist in his own right. In the past, he had received death threats and had even earned a place on Al Qaeda's "Most Wanted List." On January 7 it seemed that Charb's enemies had finally succeeded in silencing him. But in a twist of fate befitting Charb's defiant nature, it was soon revealed that he had finished a book just two days before his murder on the very issues at the heart of the attacks: blasphemy, Islamophobia, and the necessary courage of satirists. Here, published for the first time in English, is Charb's final work. A searing criticism of hypocrisy and racism, and a rousing, eloquent defense of free speech, Open Letter shows Charb's words to be as powerful and provocative as his art. This is an essential book about race, religion, the voice of ethnic minorities and majorities in a pluralistic society, and above all, the right to free expression and the surprising challenges being leveled at it in our fraught and dangerous time.

"As the first anniversary of the Charlie Hebdo massacre approaches--fresh off the recent attacks in Paris, new cries of Islamophobia and new debates over Muslim immigration --Charb's final words will have to stand in for him. They do so, ably." Michael Cavanaugh, Washington Post About the Author Charb (Stéphane Charbonnier) (1967-2015) was a French journalist, political cartoonist, and satirist. Born and raised outside of Paris, Charb honed his drawing skills as a teenager and contributed illustrations to his college newspaper and local publications. He joined the staff of Charlie Hebdo in 1992 and held the position of editor in chief from 2009 until his death in 2015. An atheist, pacifist, and staunch advocate of free speech, Charb was known for cartoons that mocked political figures and organized religion.