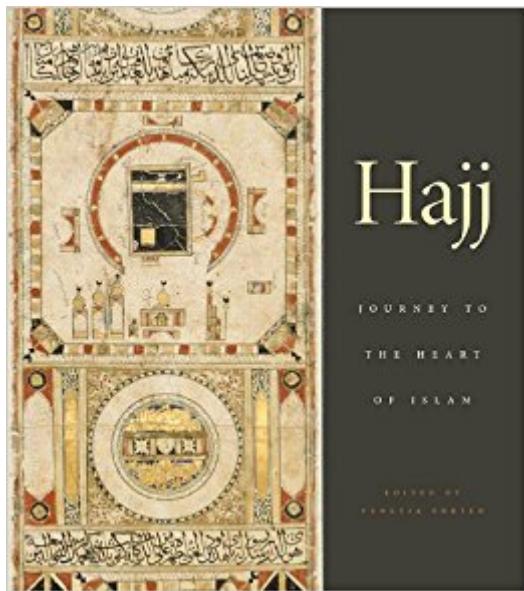


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Hajj: Journey To The Heart Of Islam



Synopsis

The Hajj, one of the five pillars of Islam, is the largest pilgrimage in the world today and a sacred duty for all Muslims. Each year, millions of the faithful from around the world make the pilgrimage to Makkah, the birthplace of Islam where the Prophet Muhammad received his revelation. With contributions from renowned experts Muhammad Abdel Haleem, Hugh Kennedy, Robert Irwin, and Ziauddin Sardar, this fascinating book pulls together many strands of Hajj, its rituals, history, and modern manifestations. Travel was once a hazardous gamble, yet devoted Muslims undertook the journey to Makkah, documenting their experiences in manuscripts, wall paintings, and early photographs, many of which are presented here. Through a wealth of illustrations including pilgrims' personal objects, souvenirs, and maps, Hajj provides a glimpse into this important holy rite for Muslim readers already grounded in the tradition and non-Muslims who cannot otherwise participate. Hajj does not, however, merely trace pilgrimages of the past. The Hajj is a living tradition, influenced by new conveniences and obstacles. Graffiti, consumerism, and state lotteries all now play a role in this time-honored practice. This book opens out onto the full sweep of the Hajj: a sacred path walked by early Islamic devotees and pre-Islamic Arabians; a sumptuous site of worship under the care of sultans; and an expression of faith in the modern world.

Book Information

Hardcover: 288 pages

Publisher: Harvard University Press (March 30, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0674062183

ISBN-13: 978-0674062184

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 10 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,122,863 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > Mecca #148 inÂ Books > History > Middle East > Saudi Arabia #238 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Islam > Rituals & Practice

Customer Reviews

What a treasure!Look what I found at a Periplus bookshop here in Bali! This beautiful book was only 100,000 rp (that's less than \$10 US). . . what a bargain for such a treasure.. . it is a bargain at any price! Wish I could buy a whole stack full and give them away. I have more than a dozen books on

Hajj. . . several coffee table books. . . including Hajj Paintings! . but this is most beautiful offering. . . from the British Museum and in the US from Harvard University Press. . . nearly 300 pages. . each two-page spread is its own related topic. . with extraordinary visuals and excellent commentary.

This is a wonderful exposé into the Hajj and its history although I must caution that it is not intended as a guide for a Hajji, but rather a book intended to show the beauty of Hajj, its rites and the undertakings of those who perform and intend to perform it. Those who are going on Hajj and looking for practical information on how to perform it can also see books like An Easy Step-by-Step Guide on Hajj and Hajj and Umrah at a Glance

This is a very well done book and the pictures and text are wonderful. I recommend it to anyone interested the history of the Hajj and associated photos.

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