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The Yildiz Albums Of Sultan Abdulhamid: Mecca-Medina



Synopsis

The most exquisite memories of the Ottoman history are brought back to life with an album of photographs from the Yildiz Collection. In the 1880s upon an order of Sultan Abdhamid II, Mecca and Medina, the two sanctuaries of Islam, were photographed and catalogued, together with thousands of other frames that portrayed the Ottoman lands. There are over 80 photographs in the album showing us what these blessed cities looked like in the 19th century and what they have lost over the course of time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mecca and Medina, the two most holiest places in Islam, have gone through several architectural changes throughout history, and especially in the 20th century. If it weren't for historical documents such as the pictures taken in the Yildiz Album under the orders of Sultan Abdul Hamid II, we might never have known what these two places once looked like, especially in regards to the once beautiful graveyard of Muslim saints, known as the Baqi' al-Gharqad which has been devastated by the current Saudi regime. This is a must have for anyone who has an architectural interest in the holy places of Islam.

this is a very interesting pictorial collection of some of the most important historical sites in Mecca and Medina. Those interested in the history of these holy sites must have it as a reference. The sad part is that the current Saudi regime does not care to maintain history and have demolished many historical sites in the name of development. A must read, see and keep book.

The Yildiz Albums of Sultan Abdulhamid: Mecca and Medina, provide an invaluable look at a landscape long gone. The photos represent locations and a cultural landscape that have been destroyed by the need to meet the needs of the millions of pilgrims that make the Hajj every year. The Ottomans controlled the region for four hundred years; these photos and written accounts are some of the only remaining evidence of their presence. Anthropologists, geographers, and historians will benefit greatly from access to even this small portion of the 36,000 photo Yildiz archive. The binding is very evocative of Ottoman style, the whole work is a quality production and yet reasonably priced. I am pleased to have it in my library and I recommend it to any with an interest in historic Islam.

A perfect gift for my father, who has the idea of all these pictures by reading in old books. The book has all imagination coming to pictures. A must book to have for lover of history.

As someone who lived in Saudi Arabia for 12 years, I love this book. It's beautiful, so well done, and I recommend it to anyone who has an interest in Saudi Arabia.

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