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One Day In Mecca (The Mystic Shaykhs Book 1)



Synopsis

MURDER AND CORRUPTION - A DIFFERENT KIND OF HEART DISEASE Murder shatters California Sufi Sakina Wade's spiritual retreat in exotic ritual-laden Mecca, Saudi Arabia when she stumbles on a body in the hotel elevator. Terminally curious and concerned that she has some spiritual responsibility to the unidentified victim, Sakina joins forces with liberal Saudi Police Captain Ahmed Seeni and straight laced African American security consultant Amina Deloatch to catch the killer before he slips away among millions of exiting hajj pilgrims. Eco-crime, government corruption, corporate criminals and diplomatic red tape dog the team at every turn. Guided from the metaphysical sidelines by two mystic Sufi shaykhs, they tackle the difficult case while learning to flow easily between worlds - East and West, material and spiritual, dream and awake. These are stereotype - defying, inspirational sleuths for a multi-cultural world. If sensationalism and stereotypes are not enough for you, read read Volume 1 in the new Mystic Shaykhs series - One Day in Mecca!.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"One Day in Mecca" entertainingly chronicles a murder mystery set in Saudi Arabia during the annual Hajj Pilgrimage. The setting and its religious/cultural components lend themselves to an interesting juxtaposition of what a reader might think or believe, with a reality full of mystique and genuine curiosity. Author Natalie Naima Bayton uses the substance of this novel as a 'gentle' teaching platform, but utilizes a technique that weaves this component seamlessly into the story-line without infringement. I was immediately engaged by the characters who are diverse and believable and range from an African American security professional working for the hajj ministry named Amina Deloatch, to a Saudi police captain named Ahmad who are two of the book's central characters. The author also utilizes a highly visible character, an American Hajjiah named Sakina to tell the story and to serve as a pillar and pivotal source of information on Islamic and Sufi nuances in dialogue and spiritual practice. This novel has broad appeal to those enjoying mysteries and cultural settings that are different and one in which these differences can be savored. Also, this novel would, of course, be of interest to Muslims who may find general literature, especially fiction, is not inclusive or positive about the diverse Islamic cultural lifestyles that exist. I must admit that as an avid reader the novel ended a bit too soon for me. The ending sort of sneaked up on me before I was ready. I am assured, however, by the author that a series of novels including some of these same characters is planned. I will look forward to reconnecting with the characters and their capers as the journey continues in future novels. Linda Brown-Tauhid

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