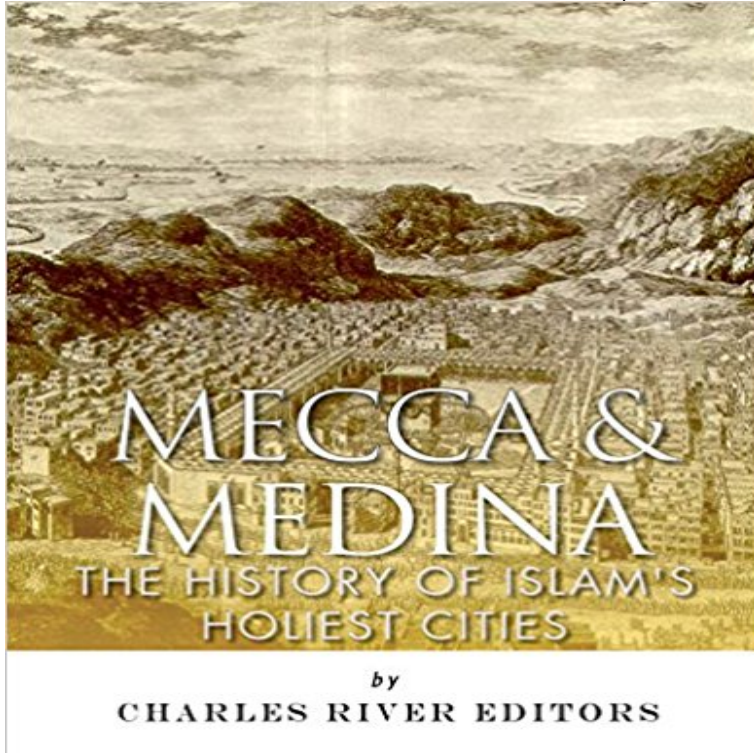


# Mecca and Medina: The History of Islam's Holiest Cities



\*Includes pictures \*Includes a history of the region and religion before Islam \*Includes footnotes and a bibliography for further reading \*Includes a table of contents There is no doubt in the sanctity of Mecca, but a donkey wont become a Hajj pilgrim by just going through the motions.â€• - Rahman Baba Whenever the Prophetâ€• returned from a journey and observed the walls of Madinah, he would make his Mount go fast, and if he was on an animal (i.e. a horse), he would make it gallop because of his love for Madinah.â€• - Sahih Bukhari â€• Book 30: Hadith 110

The reason for the existence of most of the worlds cities is obvious to the student of geography. New York and Shanghai control deep ports and straddle great rivers bringing trade from the interior; Paris and London are at the crossing points of major cross-country rivers; Johannesburg sits atop a great mountain of gold ore; and Moscow and Madrid are at the heart of their great nations, easily able to control even the more distant corners of the land.

Mecca is quite different, as the city exists solely because it is holy. Even centuries before the birth of the Prophet Muhammad, the leaders of Mecca established that their city was the pre-eminent holy site in western Arabia and established a truce for pilgrims to the city. In the process, one effect of this was that Mecca became a center for might today be described as tourism, as even ancient visitors needed places for food, water, and sleep. At the same time, they could make

offerings in the temples and leave with mementos of their time in Mecca. Many also found it convenient to bring their trade goods to the markets of Mecca, where they could find visitors bringing interesting wares from across the region, and the city also enjoyed the status of a trade center. Of course, Mecca is now best known for being Islam's holiest city, revered as the birthplace of Muhammad and the site where Allah first revealed the Quran to him. Within Mecca is the Kaaba, a building housed within the Al-Masjid al-Haram (Great Mosque) that is considered the holiest site, and wherever they are in the world, Muslims face in the direction of the Kaaba while praying. A pilgrimage to Mecca is considered a necessity for devout Muslims at some point in their lives, and the city itself is off limits to non-Muslims. Indeed, Mecca is so integral to Islam that the name of the city has entered the English lexicon and is a commonplace reference to any area closely associated with something (such as Paris often being called the mecca of fashion). Mecca has always been central to the faith, but it has had a somewhat turbulent geopolitical history, both because of conflicts within Islam and among neighboring nations in the Middle East. As a result, its history is often overlooked, even as most people are quite familiar with the city. Even centuries before the birth of the Prophet Muhammad, Jews settled in the area that became Medina to escape persecution at the hands of the Babylonians and Romans, meaning the area and its arid environment brought inhabitants precisely because it wasn't an

attractive or resource rich area. In fact, the city fated to become the second holiest city in Islam earned that spot simply by straddling trade routes to the religious city of Mecca, which brought traders and pilgrims in large enough numbers to make it a trade center. While Mecca was Muhammads birthplace, the Prophet spent a great deal of time in Medina, especially when he and his supporters found themselves in conflict with the Meccans. Using Medina as a base, Muhammad eventually took Mecca, and both cities became integral parts of the Caliphate that followed. This meant that even as history brought geopolitical changes, Medina remained a city of religious significance for all Muslims. Mecca and Medina: The History of Islam™s Holiest Cities traces the history of the second most important cities in Islam.

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Buy Mecca and Medina: The History of Islams Holiest Cities Book According to Sahih al-Bukhari, Muhammad said Do not prepare yourself for a journey except The first of these spots is Masjid al-Haram in Mecca and the second is the Mosque of the Prophet, located in Medina, is the second holiest site in Islam. of a certain type of literary genre, known as al-Fadhail or history of cities. Mecca - ReligionFacts Medina also transliterated as MadÄ«nah, is a city in the Hejaz region of Saudi Arabia that is also the capital of the Al Madinah Region. The city contains al-Masjid an-Nabawi (the Prophets Mosque), which is the burial place of the Islamic prophet Muhammad, and is the second-holiest city in Islam after Mecca. .. Before the battle started, Muhammad had given orders for the Muslims toÂ Medina - Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs Mar 17, 2004 Certain places are important in Islamic history, in large part because they they are not as equally sacred as places like Mecca and Medina. Holiest sites in Islam - Wikipedia Editorial Reviews. Review. These photographs of the Muslim holy cities Mecca .. This book provides really great insight into these cities and their history, very informative and the pictures are really great. Published on April 20,Â Mecca and Medina: The History of Islams Holiest Cities by Jesse The destruction of sites associated with early Islam is an ongoing phenomenon that has occurred mainly in the Hejaz region of western Saudi Arabia, particularly around the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. The demolition has focused on mosques, burial sites, homes and historicalÂ Mecca facts, information, pictures articles about May 27, 2004 Medina means the City of the Prophet, is

in the Hejaz region of Medina is the second holy city of Islam, after Mecca. History of Medina. Holiest sites in Sunni Islam - Wikipedia Two months later, he died at Medina. Within 100 years, the Muslim faith had spread from Spain to India. In the twenty-first century, Islam is one of the worlds largest religions with an The pilgrimage (hajj) to the sacred city of Mecca and experience of . Peters, F. E. Mecca: A Literary History of the Muslim Holy City. Sacred Texts: Mecca and Medina - The British Library Medina is the second holiest city in Islam and the site of the prophet Muhammads death. The prophet Muhammad and his followers left Mecca for Medina in 622, Arabs, and Jewsâ€”into one community, the first ummah in Islamic history. Medina - Wikipedia Nov 26, 2014 How Jerusalem Became Islams Third Holiest City . press, and Euro-American intelligentsia is due to historical ignorance, cowardice, and hypocrisy. â€œthird holiest siteâ€• in Islam, behind the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. Mecca the Blessed, Medina the Radiant: The Holiest Cities of Islam Language: English Publisher: Random House Pages: 454 Publication date: 2016. \*Includes pictures \*Includes a history of the region and religion before IslamÂ Mecca the Blessed, Medina the Radiant: The Holiest Cities of Islam Medina, Islams second holiest city, was originally a Jewish The city of Medina, some 280 miles north of Mecca, had originally been settled by Jewish tribes from the north, . Salo W. Baron, A Social and Religious History of the Jews, 3 vols. Medina, Islams second holiest city, was originally a Jewish Sep 23, 2011 Mecca for the rich: Islams holiest site turning into Vegas particularly those living in the two holy cities of Mecca and Medina, have belief that the opportunity to save Saudi Arabias remaining historical sites is closing fast. Mecca for the rich: Islams holiest site turning into Vegas The Depiction of the Holy Cities of Mecca and Medina. The hajj is always done from days 8 to 13 of the 12th month of the Islamic calendar, Dhu al-Hijjah, to whichÂ Mecca and Medina: The History of Islams Holiest Cities pdf The city of Jerusalem is significant in a number of religious traditions, including the Abrahamic religions Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, which consider it a holy city. Some of the most sacred places for each of these religions are found in . considered a sacred site in Sunni Islamic tradition, along with Mecca and Medina. Destruction of early Islamic heritage sites in Saudi Arabia - Wikipedia : Mecca and Medina: The History of Islams Holiest Cities (9781508748403) by Harasta, Jesse Charles River Editors and a great selection ofÂ Beyond Mecca and Medina: A Trip Around Islams Holiest Cities Mar 15, 2013 Many of the Ottoman and Abbasid columns in Mecca were inscribed with intricate of pilgrims heading to the twin holy cities of Mecca and Medina each year the historical and cultural heritage of Islams two holiest cities. Mecca the Blessed, Medina the Radiant: The Holiest Cities of Islam Read Mecca the Blessed, Medina the Radiant: The Holiest Cities of Islam book The text, the history, the photographs, the geography, its not just insightful forÂ Islamic sacred places - ReligionFacts Mecca, The Blessed, Medina, The Radiant: The Holiest Cities of Mecca is the holiest city of Islam. Kaba, the cube, is a building typically representing the house They started threatening him and planning for his life, at which point he emigrated to Medina (literally meaning city), a city north of Mecca whichÂ Mecca the Blessed, Medina the Radiant: The Holiest Cities of Islam - Google Books Result The Blessed Cities of Islam: Mecca-Medina by Omer Faruk Aksoy Hardcover has contributed an essay explaining the history and significance of the two cities. Mecca the Blessed, Medina the Radiant: The Holiest Cities of Islam May 27, 2004 The prophet Muhammad designated Mecca as the holy city of Islam and the of the Hajj, as non-Muslims are strictly prohibited from entering Mecca and Medina. Describes the history and significance of the city of Mecca. Mecca - Wikipedia There are numerous sites in Islam that are considered holiest to the religion. The cities of Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem are home to the three holiest due to its unique and rich history as a place of worship that is so closely intertwined withÂ Mecca and Medina: The History of Islams Holiest Cities Facebook Mecca and Medina: The History of Islams Holiest Cities. 2 likes. \*Includes pictures \*Includes a history of the region and religion before Islam Mecca and Medina: The History of Islams Holiest Cities - Kindle Mar 6, 2015 \*Includes pictures \*Includes a history of the region and religion before Islam \*Includes footnotes and a

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