

Among The Copts

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this work explores all the important themes of the copts from the earliest moments of christian history to the present day achieving a balance between a critical re examination of coptic history and research it contains small biographies to show the coptic experience as it is lived

in the light of the escalation of sectarian tensions during and after mubarak s reign the predicament of the arab world s largest religious minority the copts has come to the forefront this book poses such questions as why there has been a mass exodus of copts from egypt and how this relates to other religious minorities in the arab region why it is that sectarian violence increased during and after the egyptian revolution which epitomized the highest degree of national unity since 1919 and how the new configuration of power

has influenced the extent to which a vision of a political order is being based on the principles of inclusive democracy the book examines the relations among the state the church coptic citizenry and civil and political societies against the backdrop of the increasing diversification of actors the change of political leadership in the country and the transformations occurring in the region an informative historical background is provided and new fieldwork and statistical data inform a thoughtful exploration of what it takes to build an inclusive democracy in post mubarak egypt

in this book febe armanios explores coptic religious life in ottoman egypt 1517 1798 focusing closely on manuscripts housed in coptic archives ottoman copts frequently turned to religious discourses practices and rituals as they dealt with various transformations in the first centuries of ottoman rule these included the establishment of a new political regime changes within communal leadership structures favoring lay leaders over clergy the economic ascent of the archons lay elites and developments in the copts relationship with other religious communities particularly with catholics coptic christianity in ottoman egypt highlights how copts as a minority living in a dominant islamic culture identified and distinguished themselves from other groups by turning to an impressive array of religious traditions such as the visitation of saints shrines the relocation of major festivals to remote destinations the development of new pilgrimage practices as well as the writing of sermons that articulated a coptic religious ethos in reaction to catholic missionary discourses within this discussion of religious life the copts relationship to local political rulers military elites the muslim religious establishment and to other non muslim communities are also elucidated in all the book aims to document the coptic experience within the ottoman egyptian context while focusing on new documentary sources and on an historical era that has been long neglected

the coptic orthodox church in egypt represents the largest christian community in the middle east today but few works have appeared that discuss the situation of the contemporary church the coptic church has preserved ancient christian traditions in a unique way not only has it survived centuries of living in a predominantly muslim environment but it has also managed to renew itself continuously during its long history this book covers for the first time the most important aspects of the contemporary coptic orthodox church in egypt and in the diaspora bringing together new knowledge which would otherwise remain largely inaccessible except to a small number of specialists

how coptic christian migrants reshape religious identity through the imagination of us empire coptic orthodox christians comprise the largest christian community in the middle east and are among the oldest christian communities in the world while once the objects of american missionary efforts in recent years copts have been in the spotlight for their christianity a spate of isis related bombings and attacks have garnered worldwide attention leading to a series of efforts from us politicians think tanks and ngos to re channel their efforts into saving these middle eastern christians from muslims the increased targeting of copts has also contributed to the moral imaginary of the persecuted church particularly among american evangelicals which embraces the idea that christians around the globe are currently being persecuted more

than any other time in history drawing on years of extensive fieldwork among coptic migrants between egypt and the united states martyrs and migrants examines how american religious imaginaries of global christian persecution have remapped coptic collective memory of martyrdom transnational copts have navigated the sociopolitical conditions in egypt and the global consequences of the us war on terror by translating their suffering into the ambiguous forms of religious and political visibility candace lukasik argues that the commingling of american conservatives and copts has shaped a new kind of christian kinship in blood operating through a double movement between glorification and racialization occupying a position between threat and victim copts from the middle east have been subject to anti terror surveillance in the us even as they have leveraged their roles as persecuted christians through lukasik s careful examination of the everyday processes shaping coptic communal formation martyrs and migrants broadly reveals how ideologies of spiritual kinship are forged through theological histories of martyrdom and of blood demonstrating the global dynamics and imperial politics of contemporary christianity

based on islamist writings political tracts and interviews with islamists this book examines muslim christian relations in egypt from the perspective of islamic conceptions of citizenship and provides non muslim responses to those views

this book explores the political relationship between the muslim majority and coptic minority in egypt between 1918 and 1952 many egyptians hoped to see the collaboration of the 1919 revolution spur the creation of both a new collective egyptian identity and a state without religious bias traditional ways of governing however were not so easily cast aside some egyptians held tenaciously to the traditional arrangements which had both guaranteed muslim primacy and served relatively well to protect the copts and afford them some autonomy differences within the coptic community over the wisdom of trusting the genuineness and durability of muslim support for equality were accentuated by a protracted struggle between reforming laymen and conservative clergy for control of the community the unwillingness of all parties to compromise hampered the ability of the community both to determine and to defend its interests the copts met with modest success in their attempt to become full egyptian citizens their influence in the wafd the pre eminent political party was very strong prior to and in the early years of the constitutional monarchy and their formal representation was generally adequate and in some parliaments better than adequate however this very success produced a backlash which caused many copts to believe by the 1940s that the experiment had failed political activity has become fraught with risk for them at the close of the monarchy equality and shared power seemed motions as distant as in the disheartening years before the 1919 revolution

together with a list of auxiliary and cooperating societies their officers and other data

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