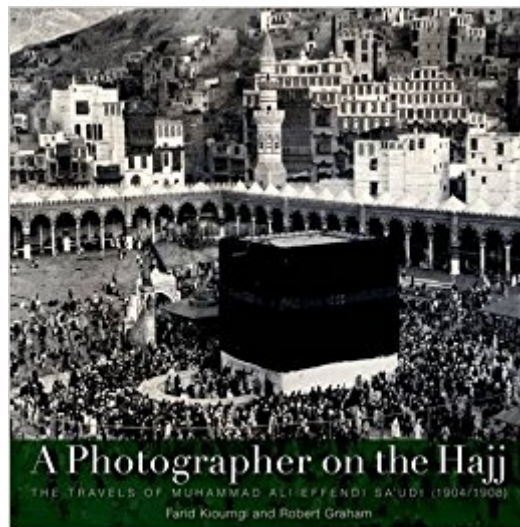




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# **A Photographer On The Hajj: The Travels Of Mohammed Ali Effendi Saoudi 19041908**



## Synopsis

The diaries of Muhammed Ali Effendi Saïdî, a civil servant and accomplished photographer, offer a rare glimpse of the Hajj through Egyptian eyes at the beginning of the twentieth century when the Ottoman Empire was on the wane and the advance of the Hijaz railway threatened to upset vested interests in the old pattern of pilgrimage. Saïdî twice accompanied the Amir al-Hajj, Ibrahim Rifât Pasha, attached to the official Egyptian caravan. His story of these journeys combines the thoughts of a devout Muslim with fine detail on the hardships and health hazards facing pilgrims, the high-level intrigues, and the ever-present dangers of taking photographs. The authors have compressed the diaries into a highly readable narrative with selected quotations, lavishly illustrated with Saïdî's remarkable photographs.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

FARID KIOUMGI is a specialist on literature and travel to the Middle East, including historical documents, lithographs, and nineteenth-century photographs. ROBERT GRAHAM is currently a freelance writer living in Paris and southern Spain. In 2004 he was awarded the OBE for services to journalism.

this book is interesting informative and classic. but the pictures are not as good as I would have liked, I was expecting ansel adams, unrealistically of course, this is a journey not a picture book, but its a good reference and a lovely piece of history

This is one of my most prized books. It is a beautiful collection of photos of the Hijaz and Haramayn from over 100 years ago. After living in the Hijaz (of what is now modern-day Saudi Arabia) for 6 years of my life, this book brings me back to a time and place of another era. The photos are also accompanied by a very nice account of the photographer's journey. If you are interested in the Hajj and the historical Hijaz, this is a gem.

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