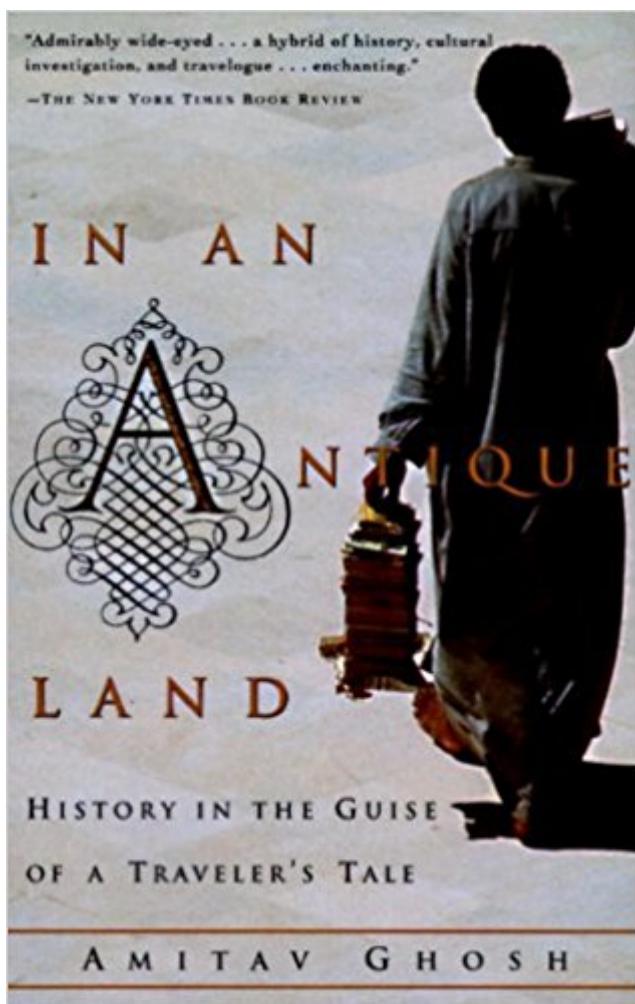


The book was found

In An Antique Land: History In The Guise Of A Traveler's Tale



Synopsis

Once upon a time, an Indian writer named Amitav Ghosh set out as an Indian slave, name unknown, who some seven hundred years before had traveled to the Middle East. The journey took him to a small village in Egypt, where medieval customs coexist with twentieth-century desires and discontents. But even as Ghosh sought to re-create the life of his Indian predecessor, he found himself immersed in those of his modern Egyptian neighbors. Combining shrewd observations with painstaking historical research, Ghosh serves up skeptics and holy men, merchants and sorcerers. Some of these figures are real, some only imagine, but all emerge as vividly as the characters in a great novel. *In an Antique Land* is an inspired work that transcends genres as deftly as it does eras, weaving an entrancing and intoxicating spell.

Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Vintage; Reprint edition (March 29, 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679727833

ISBN-13: 978-0679727835

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 53 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #41,347 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > History > Africa > Egypt #4 in Books > Travel > Africa > Egypt > General #6 in Books > Travel > Middle East > General

Customer Reviews

In a leisurely blend of travelogue, history and cross-cultural analysis, Indian writer Ghosh reconstructs a 12th-century master-slave relationship that confounds modern concepts of slavery. Abraham Ben Yiju, a prosperous Tunisian Jewish merchant based in medieval Cairo, resettled in Aden, then spent two decades on India's Malabar Coast, where he hired a slave or servant, probably of Indian origin, named Bomma. Bomma acted as Ben Yiju's business agent and made overseas trips for him. In medieval India and the Middle East, Ghosh points out, servitude was often a career opportunity, the principal means of recruitment into privileged strata of the army and bureaucracy. Researching in letters and documents in Egypt, where he lived for several years, Ghosh (The Shadow Lines) evokes a world of mud-walled houses and class warfare between

Egyptian laborers and landowners. He also writes vividly of southern India, a tapestry of castes, cults and worship of spirit-deities. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Ghosh, an Indian Hindu, first read about a medieval (12th century) Jew and his Indian slave while a student at Oxford. He became fascinated almost to the point of obsession. After studying Arabic, he enrolled at a university in Alexandria, Egypt to perform further research. A professor found him lodgings in a nearby village. This book recounts his attempt to merge the two stories: life in modern Egyptian villages (not dissimilar to that of 5000 years ago), and his search for the Indian slave. The merger doesn't quite work. Individually, both subjects are fascinating; together they are less so. In addition, Ghosh's language and writing style are both stilted. Still, Ghosh's subject is exotic yet intimate, and academic and public libraries should consider purchasing his account.- Paula M. Zieselman, Fulbright & Jaworski, New YorkCopyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Great condition

Very informative on Egyptian rural life before and after Naser. Rather slow and long winded on the Indian and Egyptian diaspora.

The author carries 3 themes simultaneously across the book. Excellent book, especially for those interested in history.

A fascinating, well-written and informative book.

A great scholarly read!

Loved it.

The book In the Antique Land: History in the Guise of A Traveler's tale was received in the condition advertised. Very pleased with the prompt service.

A WONDERFUL HONEST NARRATIVE OF A TRUE EXPERIENCE. GIVES DEEP INSIGHT INTO

THE EVERYDAY LIVES OF A PEOPLE IN AN ANTIQUE LAND.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

In an Antique Land: History in the Guise of a Traveler's Tale In an Antique Land: History in the Guise of a Traveler's Tale (Vintage Departures) The Guise of Another Guise And Dolls (A Gretchen Birch Murder Mystery Book 4) World History, Ancient History, Asian History, United States History, European History, Russian History, Indian History, African History. (world history) Antique Trader Limoges Price Guide (Antique Trader's Limoges Price Guide) Experience Antique Booth Success: A Step-by-Step Guide on How to Run an Antique Booth Efficiently Antique Trader Bottles Identification & Price Guide (Antique Trader Bottles Identification and Price Guide) A Masterclass in Antique Furniture: How to find and identify American, English, Dutch and French antique furniture, clocks and musical instruments Antique Trader Clocks Price Guide: Including All Types of Clocks-17th Through 20th Century (Antique Trader's Clocks Price Guide) Antique Trader Pottery & Porcelain Ceramics Price Guide (Antique Trader Pottery and Porcelain Ceramics Price Guide) Field Guide to American Antique Furniture: A Unique Visual System for Identifying the Style of Virtually Any Piece of American Antique Furniture Japan: The Ultimate Japan Travel Guide By A Traveler For A Traveler: The Best Travel Tips; Where To Go, What To See And Much More (Japan Travel Guide, ... Guide, Japan Tour, History, Kyoto Guide,) Chile: A Traveler's Literary Companion (Traveler's Literary Companions) Peru: The Ultimate Peru Travel Guide By A Traveler For A Traveler: The Best Travel Tips; Where To Go, What To See And Much More Traveler's Guide to Alaskan Camping: Alaska and Yukon Camping with RV or Tent (Traveler's Guide series) Traveler's Guide to Alaskan Camping: Explore Alaska and the Yukon with RV or Tent (Traveler's Guide series) Virginia Civil War Traveler Day Trip U.S. Route 1, Fredericksburg to Richmond (Civil War Traveler Day Trips) Prague: A Traveler's Literary Companion (Traveler's Literary Companions) Modern Rome: 4 Great Walks for the Curious Traveler (Curious Traveler Series Book 2)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)