



## Muslim Women Mystics: The Life and Work of Rabia and Other Women Mystics in Islam

By Margaret Smith

Oneworld Publications, United Kingdom, 2002. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 2nd Revised edition. 216 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Offering authoritative coverage of an increasingly popular area, this is a stimulating introduction to both the life and times of the great Sufi thinker, Rabia of Basra, and to the contribution made by other women mystics to the rich heritage of Islam. Drawing on a wide array of sources, from the words of tenth-century thinkers to the works of modern scholars, Margaret Smith provides a clear and accessible guide, not only to Rabia's remarkable life, but also to her asceticism, her miracles, and her teachings and writings. In addition to this, a perceptive survey traces the roles of other female saints in Islam, from Nafsa, who recited the Qur'an six thousand times prior to her death, to the Indian princess Ftima, who renounced her royal duties to become a renowned mystic. With its suggestion that the autonomy of these great female figures could serve as a religious and social model for today's Muslim women, this is a sensitive and readable survey, which balances historical information with an interesting contemporary perspective.

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Focusing on Rabi'a of Basra, a woman of unique personality and a true mystic, Margaret Smith's comprehensive book highlights women's contributions to the rich heritage of Islam. Surveying the female saints of the Muslim world, her authoritative work provides a unique insight into a lesser-known aspect of the development of Islamic mysticism. (more). all members. 3/4Members.