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Itations Of Jamaica And I Rastafari



Synopsis

The history, culture, philosophy, and fundamental religious beliefs of the Jamaican Ras Tafari movement are explored in prose and poetry. Rastaman's struggle to survive as an artist in Jamaica. They also reveal the core concept of Rastafarianism itself; the idea that one is born with Rasta inside them, and a true Rasta lives every second of every day in spiritual contact with Jah, Rastafari. One cannot be a Sunday worshiper of Rastafarianism. For the Rastafarian artist, every stroke of every painting or each chip of wood from the sculpture is inspired by Jah. The birth of Rastafarianism created an important outlet for African-rooted artistic creativity, and the Rastafarian artists became the first ones to appear from a grassroots community. During the 1960's, there was a rise in political awareness of the Rastafarians, along with an effort to aid them in the routinization of their movement with the rest of Jamaican society. One of the results of this awareness was the participation of Rastafarians in the Jamaica National Festivals; in which many Rastas received medals for exceptional pieces of wood work. The one symbolization that is seen in almost every piece of Rastafarian art is simply the recurring use of four colors: red, green, gold, and black. Red, green, and black were the three colors related with the Marcus Garvey Movement, and the gold was adopted from the Jamaican flag. In fact, almost every country in Africa has two out of these four colors in their flags (shown on the following page) they also seem to share a theme of horizontal or vertical stripes of each color, with gold usually in-between red and green. Each of these colors has symbolic meaning: red stands for the blood of martyrs who died as a result of the African diaspora; green represents the lush vegetation of Africa; gold symbolizes the wealth of Africa that was stolen by European invaders; and black represents the Black African race.

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Customer Reviews

The history, culture, philosophy, and fundamental religious beliefs of the Jamaican Ras Tafari movement are explored in prose and poetry. Rastaman's struggle to survive as an artist in Jamaica. They also reveal the core concept of Rastafarianism itself; the idea that one is born with Rasta inside them, and a true Rasta lives every second of every day in spiritual contact with Jah, Rastafari. One cannot be a Sunday worshiper of Rastafarianism. For the Rastafarian artist, every stroke of every painting or each chip of wood from the sculpture is inspired by Jah. The birth of Rastafarianism created an important outlet for African-rooted artistic creativity, and the Rastafarian artists became the first ones to appear from a grassroots community. During the 1960's, there was a rise in political awareness of the Rastafarians, along with an effort to aid them in the routinization of their movement with the rest of Jamaican society. One of the results of this awareness was the participation of Rastafarians in the Jamaica National Festivals; in which many Rastas received medals for exceptional pieces of wood work. The one symbolization that is seen in almost every piece of Rastafarian art is simply the recurring use of four colors: red, green, gold, and black. Red, green, and black were the three colors related with the Marcus Garvey Movement, and the gold was adopted from the Jamaican flag. In fact, almost every country in Africa has two out of these four colors in their flags (shown on the following page) they also seem to share a theme of horizontal or vertical stripes of each color, with gold usually in-between red and green. Each of these colors has symbolic meaning: red stands for the blood of martyrs who died as a result of the African diaspora; green represents the lush vegetation of Africa; gold symbolizes the wealth of Africa that was stolen by European invaders; and black represents the Black African race.

Worth it for the illustrations alone! Buy all three volumes!

Crucial book for Rastafari!!! A must have!! Has Patois dictionary included Has amazing pictures and crucial quotes included , Jah live

This is truly a magical book. In the late 80s I met a Rastafarian who was a DJ at a local station. The day we met he had this book and we used to look at it and partake of the sacrament while listening to tapes of his show containing tons of heavy dub music. Eventually we lost touch and I moved away and one day I was sitting around thinking of my Rasta friend. Naively I tried to send out a message to him psychically, hoping that if he could hear me to send me a sign. The very next day a friend of mine came over to my house and he goes "Hey, have you ever seen this book before?"

Totally blown away by the synchronicity. I love the truly spiritual nature of this book, Artistically it is striking, colorful, and most certainly conveys a number of deep insights into the Rastafarian faith. It is not as much a historical book as it is an expression of the truly unique nature of Rastafarianism from the perspective of a very dedicated adherent. A truly wonderful book.

this book is truly living. the first time i saw it i realized i had to own a copy. beautiful photographs printed on quality paper; pictures that actually live and breathe, and words that sing themselves off the pages. after "stumbling" upon this book twice in my travels and actually having an opportunity to read it once through before i obtained my own copy, i began to feel dreadlocks growing from the top of my head. since i purchased mine from .com i've read it several times and use it as a reference and meditation guide. i am never without it in my journeys. i recommend itations to any one interested in rastafarianism, one love, world peace and unity; to anyone with dreadlocks or even thinking of cultivating them this book will begin to show you what it is all about. from the heart- Jah Rastafari!

although a book that is rarely ever seen other than at a ROOTS REGGAE shop or maybe even a DEAD HEAD store, this is DEFINATELY the most beautiful, picturesque, and inspiring book on the life of rasta. the photo's, essay's, poetry, biblical passages all contribute to the magic within the two covers of this book. be forewarned, this book is not necessarily meant to be an introductory book into the rasta culture...this book is DOCUMENTING the rasta. although, granted, this book is not for everyone (yet), if you have any interest in the ways of island culture and the place of the rasta movement in our world, please pick up this beautiful book. i feel that the second itation wasn't as strong as this, the first. the third is also fairly interesting but this first and original itation is THE ONE.

This is the 2nd book in a 3 part series exploring Rastafari philosophy, art, reasoning, and images. This is an important book for anyone interested in Rastafari.

THIS BOOK IS FULL OF PRETTY PICTURES THAT GIVE YOU THE FEELING THAT YOUR RIGHT THERE IN JAMAICA. ONE THING I DIDNT LIKE ABOUT THE BOOK IS HOW LITTLE INFORMATION IT HAD IN IT. THERE WERE SECTIONS IN THERE THAT WERE VERY INFORMATIVE BUT IT WAS PREDOMINATELY A PICTURE BOOK. ANOTHER THING IS THE LAYOUT AND OVERALL SIZE OF THE BOOK, ITS KIND OF SMALL I WAS EXPECTING SOMETHING A LITTLE BIT BIGGER. BUT STILL A GOOD BOOK OVERALL! READ IT AND LIVE

IT!ONE LOVEJAH BLESS

This is the 2nd book in a 3 part series. The second Itation includes Rastafari poetry, art, reasoning, and philosophy. This is an important book for anyone interested in Rastafari.

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