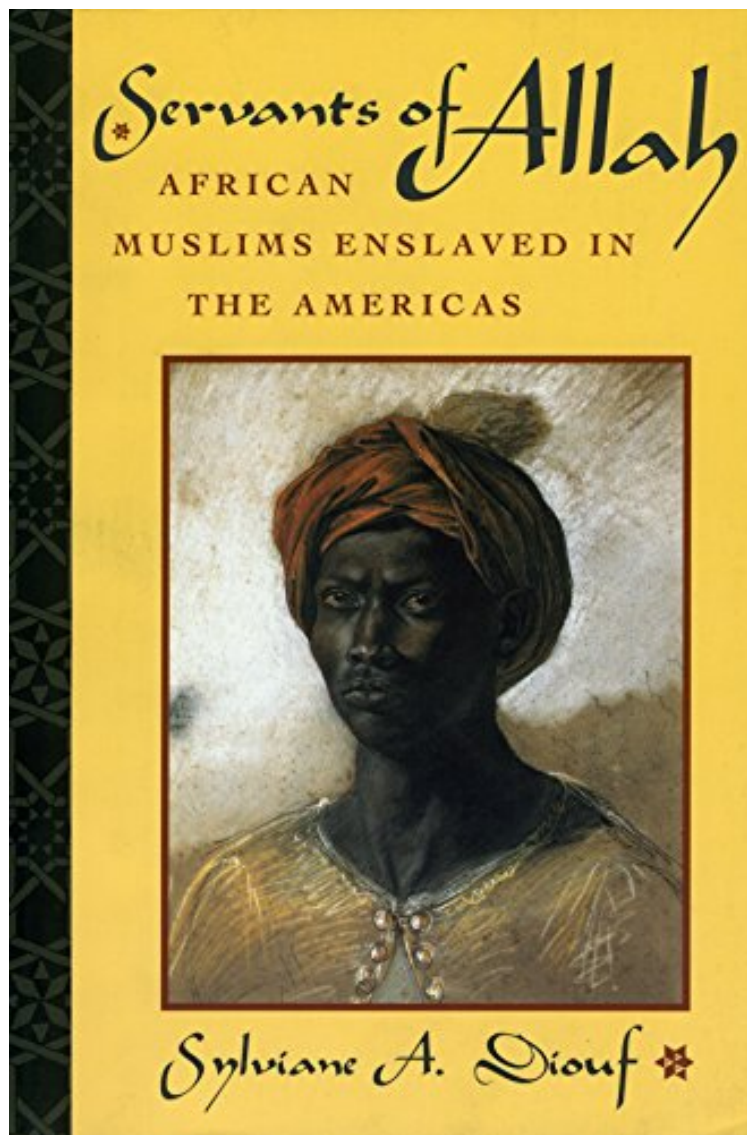


(Free pdf) Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the Americas

## Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the Americas

*Sylviane A. Diouf*

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**Sylviane A. Diouf : Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the Americas** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the Americas:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A must readBy Client d'Un "must read " pas seulement pour les personnes intrresses par l histoire de l esclavage mais pour toutes personnes dsireuses de connatre son histoire tant cet ouvrage rvle quel point l' histoire du monde s'entremele.Sylviane A.Diouf rappelle d emble la difference de perception de ce qu est tre esclave en Afrique de l Ouest en Europe et aux Amriques. Difference perues et relats par des europens

surpris de ne pas distinguer le matre de l esclave.Cette explication est crucial pour comprendre l' attitude des musulmans esclaves aux Amriques mais pas seulement; c'est l identit religieuse et tout ce qu elle implique comme tre lettr qui mon sens est au coeur de cette ouvrage.Ma grande dcouverte reste l hritage de ces africains musulmans encore visible aujourd hui du Prou aux glises noirs des tats unis en passant par la musique blues.Mon seul regret et que ce livre ne soit pas accessible galement en franais.

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. It is one of the best books I have ever read

By Greg Abdull I bought this book when it was new long ago. It is one of the best books I have ever read. Sometimes people use this comment's section to attack people or ideas and I can't say I am innocent of doing this on occasion myself. It is very wrong that it has happened a tad here. Some of us are not very fastidious. This is a book about African American history. Now I must have missed it. Our ancestors did not come from East Africa and so they were not sold to the whites who brought us here through "Arabs." This book takes courage. I am a Muslim and I was Muslim when I read it so it was no big deal for me. But if you are not an African American Muslim, if you have spent your life clapping in church and holding on to the religion given in the slave quarters, then this book will not be a pleasant experience. It's that simple. Some of us, when confronted with the unpleasantness of how we were not free, of how we literally had a religion stolen from us and another forced on us, turn and defend master by using the old red herring. Arabs were not the traders or merchants who shipped black people from West Africa to the New World. Ms Diouf, I never researched her. I just quietly have been in awe of this name for about 20 years. She tells us our history, in a scientific factual manner. Twenty years ago, this book was the only one out there to go into the great depth she did in her research. Today there are quite a few, but I am sentimental and this is still my favorite. When you see someone on this section attacking Arabs, please remember that black American slaves learned from their masters and the main thing white American slave masters taught was racism and lumping people together. As a black man, I am tired. This group this and that group that. See people as individuals. It's what Martin Luther King died for. No, the struggle is not over, but King proved that there are good whites and good Christians...and bad weak minded ones too. When you think outside of the hood, you realize there are even good and bad Arabs. Our ancestors were literate and strong and strong minded...and bad news for the Arab haters....The black people brought here from West Africa were Muslim. Literate and by choice.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent!! A must read for any black American ...

By henry D. WhiteExcellent!! A must read for any black American seeking to reclaim knowledge their lost history.

Despite the explosion in work on African American and religious history, little is known about Black Muslims who came to America as slaves. Most assume that what Muslim faith any Africans did bring with them was quickly absorbed into the new Christian milieu. But, surprisingly, as Sylviane Diouf shows in this new, meticulously researched volume, Islam flourished during slavery on a large scale. *Servants of Allah* presents a history of African Muslim slaves, following them from Africa to the Americas. It details how, even while enslaved many Black Muslims managed to follow most of the precepts of their religion. Literate, urban, and well traveled, Black Muslims drew on their organization and the strength of their beliefs to play a major part in the most well known slave uprisings. Though Islam did not survive in the Americas in its orthodox form, its mark can be found in certain religions, traditions, and artistic creations of people of African descent. But for all their accomplishments and contributions to the cultures of the African Diaspora, the Muslim slaves have been largely ignored. *Servants of Allah* is the first book to examine the role of Islam in the lives of both individual practitioners and in the American slave community as a whole, while also shedding light on the legacy of Islam in today's American and Caribbean cultures. Choice Outstanding Academic Title of 1999.

"A sophisticated and important book. This creative and refreshing interpretation of West African-Islamic spiritual continuities in the African diaspora is fascinating and very readable." --American Historical "The scholarship is innovative in debunking the myth that Christianity quickly absorbed Islam. . . The writing is clear and accessible and the arguments are supported with well-researched facts and statistics." --Religious Studies "Diouf's account of Muslim life in the most horrific of circumstances is a truly moving one and at times an inspiring one." --Middle East Quarterly"Diouf shows a remarkably detailed knowledge of her subject and her work is meticulously researched" -- Journal of the Early Republic"Makes a major contribution.... Diouf's well-written and interesting book opens new avenues of inquiry and research." --The Journal of American History

*Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the Americas* was named 1999 Outstanding Academic Book by the American Library Association, and received Honorable mention for the Outstanding Books Award from the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights.

From the Back CoverFaith and spirituality have always been powerful forces in the histories of people of African descent. Central to that history is Islam. *Servants of Allah* documents the significance of Islam in the development of black societies in the Americas. The connection between West Africa and the Americas was grounded in a religious and cultural continuity that many scholars have previously ignored. *Servants of Allah* makes an important contribution to a critically important dimension of black scholarship. Manning Marable, Director, Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia University. A welcome and timely work on a subject of

great importance. By combining materials in African Islam with New World sources and thereby linking both sides of the Atlantic, the author provides a fresh angle on studies of the Diaspora. Readers will find in the book a great deal of information presented in a clear, lively style. Lamin Sanneh, D. Willis James Professor of Missions and World Christianity, and Professor of History, Yale University. An excellent work on African Muslim slaves in the New World. Diouf has demonstrated what vigorous scholarship and creative imagination can do to reconstruct the lives and times of these men and women of Africa. Sulayman Nyang, Professor of African Studies, Howard University. An accessible, lucid account of an important and complicated aspect of African enslavement in the Americas, and a provocative and effective reading of the interaction of African Muslims with the American slave institution. Diouf explodes myths, establishes the facts, and sustains an argument for the presence of Islamic influences in certain artistic and religious traditions of Africans in the Americas. This will become an important book. Molefi Kete Asante, author of *The Afrocentric Idea*. Everywhere in the Americas, the African Muslims left influential footsteps that Diouf intelligently uncovers. Here are enlightening stories and statistics for anyone attempting to fully understand the settlement and impact of the Old World on the New and on today. Allan D. Austin, author of *African Muslims in Antebellum America*.