

So far from Allah, so close to Mexico - Middle Eastern immigrants in modern Mexico

University of Texas Press - So Far from Allah, So Close to Mexico: Middle Eastern Immigrants in Modern Mexico / Edition 1 by Theresa Alfaro



Description: -

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Timber joints

Joints (Engineering)

Hannover (Germany) -- History.

Hannover (Germany) -- Description -- Views.

Arab countries -- Emigration and immigration.

Mexico -- Emigration and immigration.

Immigrants -- Mexico -- History.

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Images Mauricio Assael and wife Rachel Corri upon arrival in Veracruz. In this inquiry, official Mexican sources and Middle Eastern immigrant testimonies were examined for their direct information but also in search of inferences from hidden transcripts. Letters from citizens, chambers of commerce, and state governments demonstrate a nation searching for a way to control its immigrant populations in the midst of economic, social and political change.

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They were still in the Americas, after all. The argument degenerated into riots that led to the looting and destruction of 120 shops, most owned by Arab immigrants.

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As I began studying Mexican history, I wondered how and where my great-grandfather's and grandfather's stories fit into Mexican historiography. My Lebanese and Syrian friends and I went to the home of the local mukhtar, the Muslim administrative leader in the community, explaining that I was looking for information about a family member who had emigrated to Mexico at the turn of the twentieth century. Some were killed in revolutionary conflict or during other moments of chaos.

Mexican Moors?

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So Far from Allah, so Close to Mexico. Middle Eastern Immigrants in Modern Mexico.

Adding an important chapter to studies of the Arab diaspora, Alfaro-Velcamp's study shows that political instability in both Mexico and the Middle East kept many from fulfilling their dreams of returning to their countries of origin after realizing wealth in Mexico, in a few cases drawing on an imagined Phoenician past to create a class of economically powerful Lebanese Mexicans.

So Far from Allah, so Close to Mexico. Middle Eastern Immigrants in Modern Mexico; Alfaro

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