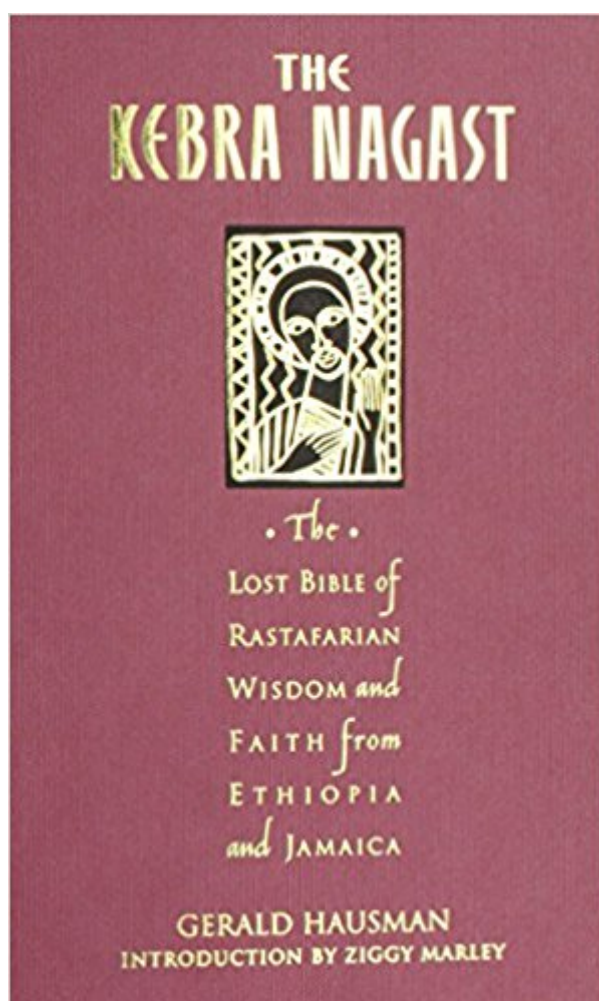


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The Kebra Nagast: The Lost Bible Of Rastafarian Wisdom And Faith From Ethiopia And Jamaica



Synopsis

A sacred text to Ethiopian Christians and Jamaican Rastafarians, The Kebra Nagast tells of the relationship between King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba and their son Menyelik, who hid the Ark of the Covenant in Ethiopia. This edition of the Ethiopian text is edited by Gerald Hausman, with an introduction by Ziggy Marley.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

What did Jamaican reggae singer Bob Marley and Emperor Haile Selassie I of Ethiopia have in common? A love for the Kebra Negast, holy book of Ethiopian Christians and Jamaican Rastafarians. Contemporary scholars date the Kebra Negast to the 14th century, but it retells the stories of much earlier Biblical times, one very important story in particular. According to the Kebra Negast, the Israelites' Ark of the Covenant was spirited away to the ancient kingdom of Ethiopia by wise King Solomon's own son, offspring of the union between Solomon and the exotic Queen Makeda of Ethiopia (a.k.a. the Queen of Sheba). Gerald Hausman, a consummate storyteller of native traditions, presents the core narrative of the Kebra Negast, from Adam to the rise of the Ethiopian Solomonid dynasty. On top of this, he injects his own encounters with Rastafarians during his travels in Jamaica--dreadlocked Rastas as modern-day Samsons, their unwavering faith in Jah, and a rare outsider's glimpse at the Nyabinghi ceremony. The combination of ancient tale and modern belief give Hausman's Kebra Negast the rich flavor of enduring truth. --Brian Bruya

Folklorist and author Hausman has combined ten years of informal study in Jamaica, the 1922 version of "The Queen of Sheba and Her Only Son Menyelek" (translated by E.A. Wallis Budge), the Koran, the King James Bible, and the words of reggae great Bob Marley into a new version of the Kebra Negast ("the glory of the Kings"). This "lost bible," the core of Rastafarian wisdom and faith, has survived through oral tradition in many Caribbean nations, even though it has been banned because of its African glory themes. Hausman effectively puts the Kebra Negast into the words of the Rastafarian community, presenting the core that "we must learn to live by the laws of compassion rather than judgment" through anecdotes from the author's travels in the Rasta community. A recommended introduction to the Kebra Negast. L. Kriz, West Des Moines Lib., Iowa Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Great book, Rasta or not, great stories from the bible and life on the island, well written, hard to put down once you get started

very interesting book good read AADeL

Great books. My daughter's name is Kebra and this was a holiday present for her since she lost her copy years ago. She was very happy to have it in her collection again.

this was a good read but it seems like a lot of the actual Kebra Nagast has been left out or replaced with stories from Jamaica. It seems to me that the actual Kebra Nagast is longer so I guess I still need to find a better copy....

worth every penny...

No review, the information was what I expected based on discussions with other who had already read the book.

I have not finished reading this but its a very interesting read so far. I'm learning so much of the Rastafarians perspective on religion.

I expected more of a bible format and it is not that at all, but I do love it!

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