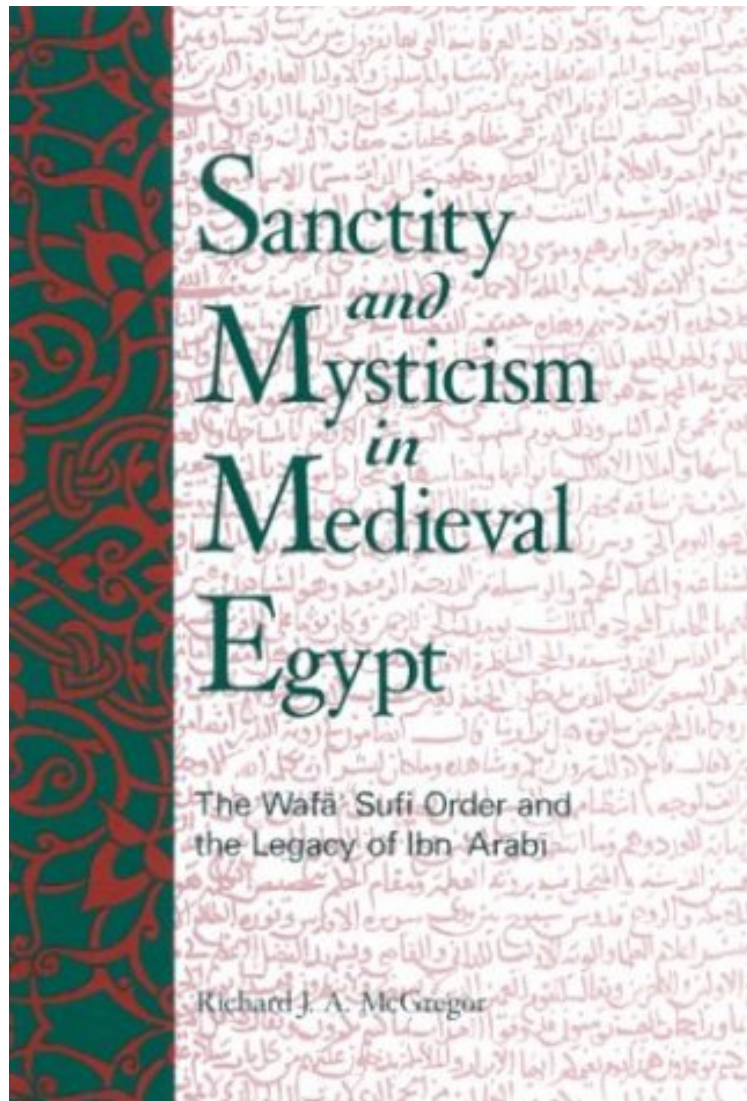


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## Sanctity and Mysticism in Medieval Egypt: The Wafa Sufi Order and the Legacy of Ibn 'Arabi (Sunny Series in Islam) (Multilingual Edition)

Richard J a McGregor

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Richard J a McGregor : Sanctity and Mysticism in Medieval Egypt: The Wafa Sufi Order and the Legacy of Ibn 'Arabi (Sunny Series in Islam) (Multilingual Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sanctity and Mysticism in Medieval Egypt: The Wafa Sufi Order and the Legacy of Ibn 'Arabi (Sunny Series in Islam) (Multilingual Edition):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Finally! By Nora R. Hope This is a brilliant study of a rich and controversial aspect of Islam and Islamic mysticism. Every course on comparative mysticism, Islamic Studies, and Sufism in society should assign this as a textbook. Bravo, McGregor! I was lucky enough to read the book before it "hit the market" and I recommend it very highly indeed. Comments from a sincere seeker after truth in academia and the world.

Using the original writings of two Egyptian Sufis, Muhammad Wafa' and his son 'Ali, this book shows how the Islamic idea of sainthood developed in the medieval period. Although without a church to canonize its "saints," the Islamic tradition nevertheless debated and developed a variety of ideas concerning miracles, sanctity, saintly intermediaries, and pious role models. In the writings of the Wafa's, a complete mystical worldview unfolds, one with a distinct doctrine of sainthood and a novel understanding of the apocalypse. Using almost entirely unedited manuscript sources, author Richard J. A. McGregor shows in detail how Muhammad and 'Ali Wafa' drew on earlier philosophical and gnostic currents to construct their own mystical theories and notes their debt to the Sufi order of the Shadhiliyya, the mystic al-Tirmidhi, and the great Sufi thinker Ibn 'Arabi. Notably, although located firmly within the Sunni tradition, the Wafa's felt free to draw on Shi'ite ideas for the construction of their own theory of the final great saint.

"An excellent book. With care and insight Richard J. A. McGregor illuminates the personalities, cultural context, and intellectual currents surrounding the Wafa' Sufis, revealing a remarkable chapter in the history of Sufism and in the development of mystical philosophy and cosmology in Islam." From the Back Cover Using the original writings of two Egyptian Sufis, Muhammad Wafa' and his son 'Ali, this book shows how the Islamic idea of sainthood developed in the medieval period. Although without a church to canonize its "saints," the Islamic tradition nevertheless debated and developed a variety of ideas concerning miracles, sanctity, saintly intermediaries, and pious role models. In the writings of the Wafa's, a complete mystical worldview unfolds, one with a distinct doctrine of sainthood and a novel understanding of the apocalypse. Using almost entirely unedited manuscript sources, author Richard J. A. McGregor shows in detail how Muhammad and 'Ali Wafa' drew on earlier philosophical and gnostic currents to construct their own mystical theories and notes their debt to the Sufi order of the Shadhiliyya, the mystic al-Tirmidhi, and the great Sufi thinker Ibn Arabi. Notably, although located firmly within the Sunni tradition, the Wafa's felt free to draw on Shi'ite ideas for the construction of their own theory of the final great saint. About the Author Richard J. A. McGregor is Assistant Professor of Religion at Vanderbilt University.