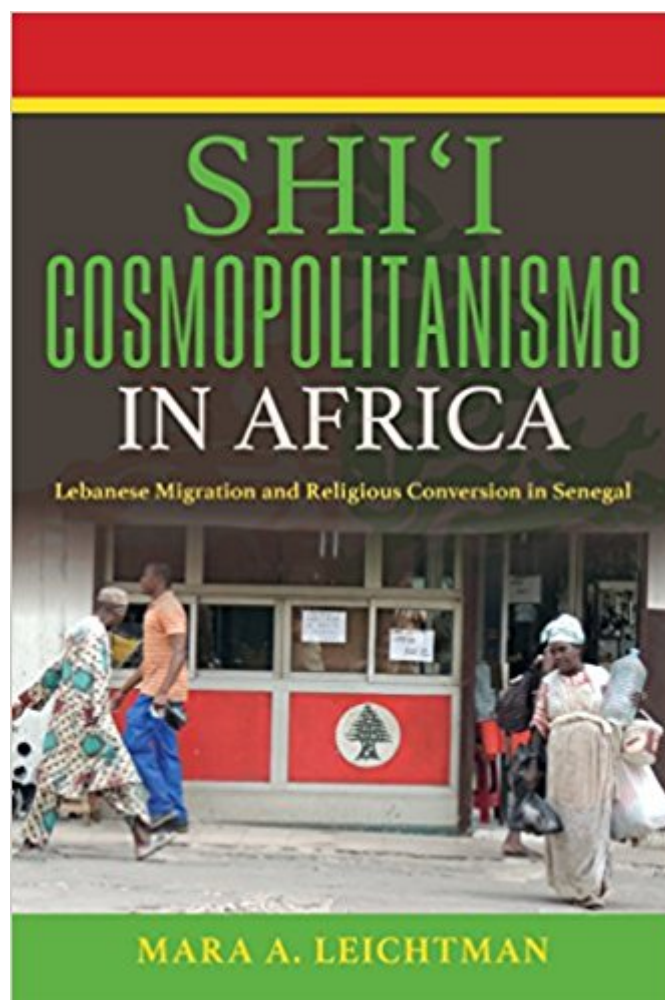




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Shi'i Cosmopolitanisms In Africa: Lebanese Migration And Religious Conversion In Senegal (Public Cultures Of The Middle East And North Africa)





Synopsis

Mara A. Leichtman offers an in-depth study of Shi'ite Islam in two very different communities in Senegal: the well-established Lebanese diaspora and Senegalese "converts" from Sunni to Shi'ite Islam of recent decades. Sharing a minority religious status in a predominantly Sunni Muslim country, each group is cosmopolitan in its own way. Leichtman provides new insights into the everyday lives of Shi'ite Muslims in Africa and the dynamics of local and global Islam. She explores the influence of Hizbullah and Islamic reformist movements, and offers a corrective to prevailing views of Sunni-Shi'ite hostility, demonstrating that religious coexistence is possible in a context such as Senegal.

Book Information

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Mara A. Leichtman is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Muslim Studies at Michigan State University. She is editor (with Mamadou Diouf) of *New Perspectives on Islam in Senegal: Conversion, Migration, Wealth, Power, and Femininity*.

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