

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910568186003321
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Titolo	The Religion and Rituals of the Nomads of Pre-Islamic Arabia : A Reconstruction Based on the Safaitic Inscriptions // Ahmad Al-Jallad
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Brill, 2022 Leiden; ; Boston : , : Brill, , 2022
ISBN	9789004504271 9004504273
Edizione	[First edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 electronic resource (164 pages)
Collana	Ancient Languages and Civilizations ; ; 1
Disciplina	210
Soggetti	Religion - Philosophy Religion Religion - Study and teaching
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preface -- List of Illustrations -- Sigla -- 1 Introduction -- 1 Religion and the Inscriptions of the Pre-Islamic Nomads: From Thamudic B to Safaitic -- 2 Scope and Methodology -- 2 Rites -- 1 Animal Sacrifice -- 2 Erection of the nb Stone -- 3 The Ritual Shelter -- 4 The Pilgrimage -- 5 Ritual Purity -- 6 Offerings -- 7 Vows and Oaths -- 8 Sacred Water -- 3 Divinities and Their Roles in the Lives of Humans -- 1 Location of the Deities -- 2 The Gadds -- 3 The Gods and Their Worshipers -- 4 Sin, Obedience, and Repentance? -- 5 Malignant Magic -- 4 Fate -- 5 Afterlife -- 1 Burial Installations -- 2 Invoking the Names of the Dead -- 6 Visual Representation of Deities and the Divine World -- 7 Amplification and Why Write -- 8 Worldview-A Reconstruction -- Appendix 1: Glossary of Divinities -- Appendix 2: Previously Unpublished Inscriptions -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	This book approaches the religion and rituals of the pre-Islamic Arabian nomads using the Safaitic inscriptions. Unlike Islamic-period literary sources, this material was produced by practitioners of traditional Arabian religion; the inscriptions are eyewitnesses to the religious life of Arabian nomads prior to the spread of Judaism and Christianity across Arabia. The author attempts to reconstruct this

world using the original words of its inhabitants, interpreted through comparative philology, pre-Islamic and Islamic-period literary sources, and the archaeological context.
