1. Record Nr. UNINA9910741154103321 Autore Birk Joshua C Titolo Norman Kings of Sicily and the Rise of the Anti-Islamic Critique [[electronic resource]]: Baptized Sultans / / by Joshua C. Birk Cham: .: Springer International Publishing: .: Imprint: Palgrave Pubbl/distr/stampa Macmillan, , 2016 **ISBN** 3-319-47042-6 Edizione [1st ed. 2016.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (XVI, 371 p. 3 illus.) 945 Disciplina Soggetti Italy—History Europe—History—476-1492 Religion—History Islam History of Italy History of Medieval Europe History of Religion Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia 1. Introduction -- 2. Saracen Soldiers: Muslim Participation in Norman Nota di contenuto Military Expeditions -- 3. A "Semi-Pagan Tyrant?" -- 4. The Case of Philip of Mahdiyya - A Medieval Murder Mystery -- 5. Liminality as Centrality: The Sicilian Eunuch Tradition -- 6. Community as Collateral -- 7. The End of Muslim Sicily -- 8. Conclusion. This book is an investigative study of Christian and Islamic relations in Sommario/riassunto the kingdom of Sicily during the eleventh and twelfth centuries. It has three objectives. First, it establishes how and why the Norman rulers of Sicily, all of whom were Christians, incorporated Muslim soldiers, farmers, scholars, and bureaucrats into the formation of their own royal identities and came to depend on their Muslim subjects to project and enforce their political power. Second, it examines how the Islamic

influence within the Sicilian court drew little scrutiny, and even less criticism, from intellectuals in the wider world of Latin Christendom during the time period. Finally, it contextualizes and explains the eventual emergence of Christian popular violence against Muslims in

Sicily in the latter half of the twelfth century and the evolution of a wider discourse of anti-Islamic sentiment throughout Western Europe.