

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910783890003321
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Titolo	Jihad and its interpretations in pre-colonial Morocco : state-society relations during the French conquest of Algeria // Amira K. Bennison
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : RoutledgeCurzon, , 2002
ISBN	1-135-78814-6 1-138-86991-0 1-135-78815-4 1-280-02155-1 0-203-22057-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (217 p.)
Classificazione	15.80
Disciplina	964/.03
Soggetti	Islam and state Jihad Islam and politics - Morocco - History Islam and politics - Algeria - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 190-198) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; JIHAD AND ITS INTERPRETATIONS IN PRE-COLONIAL MOROCCO; Title Page; Copyright Page; Table of Contents; Acknowledgements; List of abbreviations; Note on transliteration; 1 Introduction; 2 The evolution of the sharifian jihad state of Morocco; Historical antecedents; Sharifism and jihad in the early cAlawi sultanate; The sharifian jihad state on the eve of colonialism; 3 French colonialism and sharifian jihad in Algeria, 1830-2; The French conquest of Algiers; The cAlawi occupation of Tlemsen; The revolt of the Udaya; 4 An ambivalent alliance: Morocco and cAbd al-Qadir's jihad, 1832-9 Muhyi al-Din, cAbd al-Qadir and the Qadiri bid for powerThe Qadiri-cAlawi alliance; 5 The cAlawi jihad during the French war to conquer Algeria, 1839-45; The first mobilisations; The collapse of consensus and the rise of 'fasad'; The Franco-cAlawi war of 1844; Peace with the infidel and jihad against 'fasad'; 6 The cAlawi jihad against cAbd al-Qadir, 1845-7; The cAlawi 'nizam-i cendid'; The sultan's 'siyasa'; The sultan's 'jihad of the tongue' against cAbd al-Qadir; The Makhzan's

jihad of the sword against cAbd al-Qadir; 7 Islamic statehood and jihad in nineteenth century Morocco  
Glossary of foreign termsNotes; Selected bibliography; Index

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**Sommario/riassunto**

This book investigates the importance of waging jihad for legitimacy in pre-colonial Morocco. It counters colonial interpretations of the pre-colonial Moroccan sultanate as hopelessly divided into territories of 'obedience' and 'dissidence' by suggesting that state-society warfare was one aspect of a constant process of political negotiation. Detailed analysis of state and society interpretations of jihad during the critical period of the French conquest of Algeria clearly shows this process at play and its steady evolution in the context of increasing European pressure, which culminated in th

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