

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910796532103321
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Titolo	Foucault's Orient : the conundrum of cultural difference, from Tunisia to Japan // Marnia Lazreg
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Berghahn Books, , 2017
ISBN	1-78920-817-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (292 pages)
Classificazione	CI 5717
Disciplina	128
Soggetti	East and West Philosophical anthropology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The Chinese Encyclopedia and the Challenge of Difference -- Madness and Cultural Difference -- Foucault and Kant's Cosmopolitan Anthropology -- Foucault's Negative Anthropology -- Foucault's Anthropology of the Iranian Revolution -- The Heterotopia of Tunisia -- The Enigma of Japan -- Japan and Foucault's Anthropological Bind -- Epilogue.
Sommario/riassunto	Foucault lived in Tunisia for two years and travelled to Japan and Iran more than once. Yet throughout his critical scholarship, he insisted that the cultures of the "Orient" constitute the "limit" of Western rationality. Using archival research supplemented by interviews with key scholars in Tunisia, Japan and France, this book examines the philosophical sources, evolution as well as contradictions of Foucault's experience with non-Western cultures. Beyond tracing Foucault's journey into the world of otherness, the book reveals the personal, political as well as methodological effects of a radical conception of cultural difference that extolled the local over the cosmopolitan.