Record Nr. UNINA9910818249203321 Autore Amster Ellen J. <1970-> Titolo Medicine and the saints: science, Islam, and the colonial encounter in Morocco, 1877-1956 / / Ellen J. Amster; foreword by Rajae El Aoued Austin, TX,: University of Texas Press, 2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-292-74545-1 Edizione [1st ed.] 1 online resource (351 p.) Descrizione fisica Disciplina 610.964 Soggetti Medicine - Morocco - History Health - Religious aspects - Islam Islam and science - History Morocco Colonization History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: Colonial embodiments -- Healing the body, healing the umma: Sufi saints and God's law in a corporeal city of virtue --Medicine and the mission civilisatrice: a civilizing science and the French sociology of Islam in Algeria and Morocco, 1830-1912 -- The many deaths of Dr. Emile Mauchamp: contested sovereignties and body politics at the court of the sultans, 1877-1912 -- Frederic Le Play in Morocco? the paradoxes of French hygiene and colonial association in the Moroccan city, 1912-1937 -- Harem medicine and the sleeping child: law, traditional pharmacology, and the gender of medical authority -- A midwife to modernity: the biopolitics of colonial welfare and birthing a scientific Moroccan nation, 1936-1956 -- Epilogue. Epistemologies embodied: Islam, France, and the postcolonial. Sommario/riassunto The colonial encounter between France and Morocco took place not only in the political realm but also in the realm of medicine. Because the body politic and the physical body are intimately linked, French efforts to colonize Morocco took place in and through the body. Starting from this original premise, Medicine and the Saints traces a history of colonial embodiment in Morocco through a series of medical

encounters between the Islamic sultanate of Morocco and the Republic of France from 1877 to 1956. Drawing on a wealth of primary sources

in both French and Arabic, Ellen Amster investigates the positivist ambitions of French colonial doctors, sociologists, philologists, and historians; the social history of the encounters and transformations occasioned by French medical interventions; and the ways in which Moroccan nationalists ultimately appropriated a French model of modernity to invent the independent nation-state. Each chapter of the book addresses a different problem in the history of medicine: international espionage and a doctor's murder; disease and revolt in Moroccan cities; a battle for authority between doctors and Muslim midwives; and the search for national identity in the welfare state. This research reveals how Moroccans ingested and digested French science and used it to create a nationalist movement and Islamist politics, and to understand disease and health. In the colonial encounter, the Muslim body became a seat of subjectivity, the place from which individuals contested and redefined the political.