Record Nr. UNINA9911008462003321 Autore Pelis Kim <1963-> Titolo Charles Nicolle, Pasteur's imperial missionary: typhus and Tunisia // Kim Pelis Pubbl/distr/stampa Rochester, NY,: University of Rochester Press, 2006 **ISBN** 1-58046-465-3 1-281-38299-X 9786611382995 1-58046-656-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xix, 384 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Collana Rochester studies in medical history Disciplina 579.3092 В Soggetti Bacteriologists - France Typhus fever - Tunisia - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 17 Mar 2023). Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 351-371) and index. Nota di contenuto Prelude: the substance of shadows -- Introduction: the door of the sadiki -- Thesis: embracing missions -- Staring at the sea: Nicolle and the Pasteur Institute of Tunis -- The threshold of civilization: typhus in Tunisia -- Rupture: things fall apart -- Light & shadow: lousy war and fractured peace -- Antithesis: mosaics of pieces -- Alliances: "Emperor of the Mediterranean"? -- Invisible forces: or, action at a distance --Synthesis: mosaics of power -- Reservoir docs: birth, life, and death of infectious disease -- Mosaics of power: confronting paris --Denouement -- At home with my shadows: patrie de nomade. Sommario/riassunto Kim Pelis uses a wide range of French and Tunisian archival materials and a close reading of Nobel Prize-winning bacteriologist Charles Nicolle's scientific papers and philosophical treatises to explore the relationship of scienceand medicine to society and culture in the first third of the twentieth century. This book examines the biomedical research of Nobel Prize-winning bacteriologist Charles Nicolle during his tenure as director of the Pasteur Institute of Tunis. Using typhus as its lens, it demonstrates how the complexities of early twentieth

century bacteriology, French imperial ideology, the "Pastorian mission,"

and conditions in colonial Tunisia blended to inform the triumphs and disappointments of Nicolle's fascinating career. It illuminates how thesediverse elements shaped Nicolle's personal identity, the identity of his institute, and his innovative conception of the "birth, life, and death" -- or, the emergence and eradication -- of infectious disease. Kim Pelis blends exhaustive archival research with a close reading of Nicolle's written work -- scientific papers, philosophical treatises, and literary contributions -- to explore the complex relations between biomedical ideas and socioculturalcontext. The result is a study that will be of interest not only to students of French history, colonial medicine, and the history of the biomedical sciences but also to anyone seeking to understand how individuals have attempted deal creatively with complex times and ambiguous knowledge. Kim Pelis, a medical historian by training, is a writer for the director of the National Institutes of Health.

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