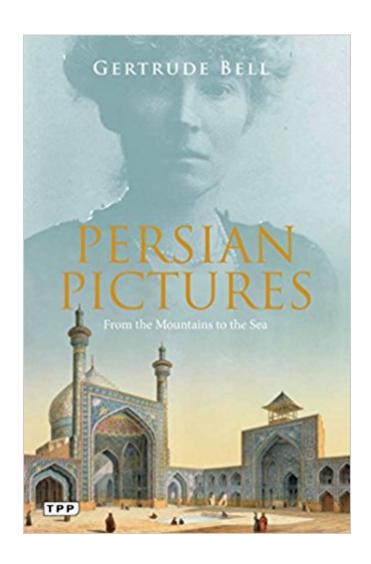


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Persian Pictures: From The Mountains To The Sea (Tauris Parke Paperbacks)





Synopsis

Celebrated writer Gertrude Bell shares her journeys through Persia and its inspiration on her life's work

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Her remarkable intellectual abilities and masculine demeanour make Persian Pictures, her first publication on an Eastern subject, all the more interesting."" $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a}$ $\neg\hat{a}$ œ Geoffrey Nash, author of From Empire to Orient: Travellers to the Middle East

"Here in the dust and the sunshine is an epitome of the living East, and standing unnoticed in a doorway, you will admit that you have not travelled in vain. But as the procession of people flies past you, you will realize what a gulf lies between you. The East looks to itself; it knows nothing of the greater world of which you are a citizen, asks nothing of you and your civilization." This brilliant, vivid and impressionistic series of sketches, formed during her 1892 stay in Persia, is Gertrude Bell's first published work. Infused with a distinctive orientalism, "Persian Pictures" is an evocative, virtuosic meditation, moving sinuously between Persia's heroic, complex, mythical past and its present decline; the public face of Tehran and the otherworldly 'secret, mysterious life of the East', the lives of its women, its enclosed, quasi-medieval gardens; from the bustling cities to the lonely wastelands of Khorasan. Bell's documentation of Muharram - the month of mourning for Imam Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Mohammed - and Ramadan, display a mind finely attuned to

the differences and similarities between Islam and Christianity, East and West." Persian Pictures" is both travelogue and meditation, an elegiac and beautifully observed account of a spellbinding land.

Wonderful writing from an incredibly clever and brave lady.

This is a fascinating insight into gentler times in Iran and Istanbul. It captures the beauty of the culture. and Gertrude Bell's writing style conveys that gentle beauty. Her adventurous spirit is an inspiration

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