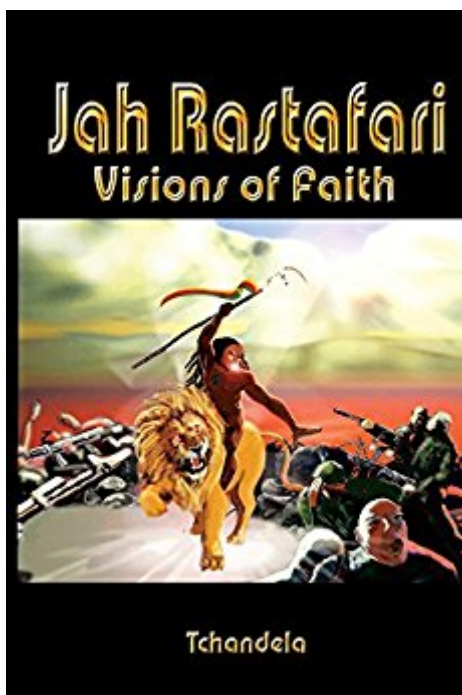


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Jah Rastafari - Visions Of Faith



Synopsis

The spiritual creed of the Rastafarians of Jamaica has, over the past fifty years, become a very visible symbol of Black cultural struggle and identity internationally by virtue of world renown Rasta Reggae musicians such as Burning Spear, Culture, Bob Marley & the Wailers and many others. Jah Rastafari - Visions of Faith is an analysis of the phenomenon of the Rastafarian faith by a Jamaican Rastaman, its birth as a reaction to Black racial oppression and the search for a viable avenue for its adherents to reconnect back to an African spiritual perspective. Taking into account the widely held misconceptions about Rastafarian faith and the sometimes negative connotations associated with it, the author dissects the rationale for accepting the emperor Haile Selassie I of Ethiopia as God incarnate and the prevailing ideology of Judeo/Christian biblical philosophy as a means to solidify faith. The emphasis here is to see the dynamics of Rastafari as an offshoot of much older Jamaican spiritual systems directly fuelled by an original African spiritual heritage stemming back many thousands of years into the ancient African past. The argument is aimed at an imperative shift towards a more holistic vision of Rasta faith that is a powerful, positive evolutionary force designed to liberate the minds of human beings from the shackles of ignorance and illusion and to elevate the soul towards its highest goal - the sublime communion with Jah Rastafari, the Supreme and Eternally Formless Potentiality of All Being.

Book Information

File Size: 2360 KB

Print Length: 239 pages

Publication Date: July 31, 2015

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0137EJ0JC

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #1,497,358 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #89

inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Religions, Practices & Sacred Texts > Tribal & Ethnic > Rastafari Movement #17399 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Politics & Social

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