



## From Shamanism to Sufism: Women, Islam and Culture in Central Asia (Paperback)

By Razia Sultanova

I.B.Tauris Co. Ltd., United Kingdom, 2014. Paperback. Condition: New. New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Women have traditionally played a vital part in Islam throughout Central Asia - the vast area from the Caspian Sea to Siberia. With this ground-breaking and original study, Razia Sultanova examines the experiences of Muslim women in the region and the ways in which religion has shaped their daily lives and continues to do so today. From Shamanism to Sufism explores the fundamental interplay between religious belief and the cultural heritage of music and dance and is the first book to focus particularly on the role of women. Based on evidence derived from over fifteen years of field work, From Shamanism to Sufism shows how women kept alive traditional Islamic religious culture in Central Asia, especially through Shamanism and Sufism, even under Soviet rule when all religion was banned. Nowhere was the role of women more important than in the Ferghana Valley in Uzbekistan, the cradle of female Islamic culture and a centre for women's poetry and music. This area is home to the Otin-Oy , a sisterhood of religiously educated women and members of Sufi orders, who take a leading part in...



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