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Casting Out Anger: Religion Among the Taita of Kenya

By Grace Gredys Harris

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS, United Kingdom, 2007. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This account of an East African religion as it was during the 1950s discusses a variety of issues in the study of religion, within the context of case materials and other field data. The Taita people of southern Kenya called their religion Butasi after its central act which combined utterance with spraying-out of liquid from the mouth. Taking up the central theme of mystical anger, Dr Harris explores the social and cultural aspects of doctrines and rituals. She shows that the interpretation and shaping of the experience of misfortune occurred in religious interaction: between living humans having mystical attributes, and between them and person-like mystical agencies. Many of the concepts, practices, themes and elements discussed have been reported for other African religions, often with little comment or analysis. Here they are brought together, explored, and related to one another. The result is a many-sided, yet integrated picture of a single religion. Presented in clear and non-technical language, the study serves to illuminate many religions throughout the world.



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