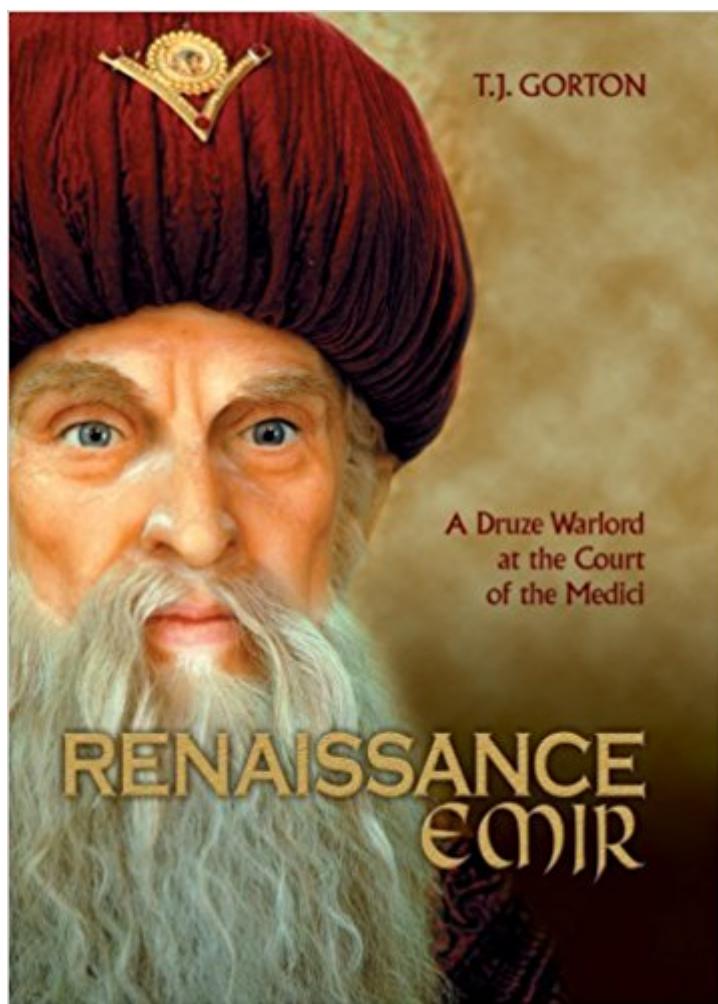


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Renaissance Emir: A Druze Warlord At The Court Of The Medici



Synopsis

A groundbreaking biography of the mysterious Levantine prince Fakr ad-Din. The year is 1613: the Ottoman Empire is at its height, sprawling from Hungary to Iraq, Morocco to Yemen. One man dares to challenge it: the Prince of the mysterious Druze sect in Mount Lebanon, Fakhr ad-Din. Yielding before a mighty army sent to conquer him, he--astonishingly--takes refuge with the Medici in Florence at the height of the Renaissance. Fakhr ad-Din took along with him a diverse party of Moslem, Christian, and Jewish Levantines on their first visit to the "Lands of the Christians." During his five-year stay in Italy, he fights to persuade Popes, Grand-Dukes and Viceroys to support a grand plan: a new Crusade to wrest the Holy Land from the Ottomans, giving Jerusalem back to Christendom and himself a crown. This groundbreaking biography of Fakhr ad-Din, Prince of the Druze, is based on the author's vivid new translations of contemporary sources in Arabic and other languages. It brings to life one remarkable man's beliefs and ambitions, uniquely illuminating the elusive interface between Eastern and Western culture.

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Customer Reviews

Druze prince Fakhr ad-Din fought the Ottoman Empire in 1613 with an army of Muslims, Christians, and Jews. When he was defeated in battle against the Ottomans, Fakhr ad-Din spent five years in Renaissance Italy trying to convince political and religious authorities to launch a new crusade against the Ottomans. He was unique among his contemporaries because he lived in the Christian world for so long and brought European ideas back to the Levant. This biography is based on primary and secondary sources in various languages and includes b&w historical illustrations, plus

photos of locations and buildings. --ProtoView

Ted Gorton taught Arabic at St Andrews University in Scotland and was an adjunct professor at Georgetown University and elsewhere, besides spending twenty-five years in the Middle East. He has published numerous articles in scholarly journals, mostly about Hispano-Arabic poetry, and two volumes of Arabic poetry in translation. His last book was Lebanon: Through Writers' Eyes. He lives in London and Gascony.

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