



# Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca

*Paul Auchterlonie*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca

*Paul Auchterlonie*

## **Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca** Paul Auchterlonie

Long before European empires came to dominate the Middle East, Britain was brought face to face with Islam through the activities of the Barbary corsairs. For three centuries after 1500, Muslim ships based in North African ports terrorized European shipping, capturing thousands of vessels and enslaving hundreds of thousands of Christians. Encountering Islam is the fascinating story of one Englishman's experience of life within a Muslim society, as both Christian slave and Muslim soldier. Born in Exeter around 1662, Joseph Pitts was captured by Algerian pirates on his first voyage in 1678. Sold as a slave in Algiers, he underwent forced conversion to Islam. Sold again, he accompanied his kindly third master on pilgrimage to Mecca, so becoming the first Englishman known to have visited the Muslim Holy Places. Granted his freedom, Pitts became a soldier, going on campaign against the Moroccans and Spanish before venturing on a daring escape while serving with the Algiers fleet. Crossing much of Italy and Germany on foot, he finally reached Exeter seventeen years after he had left. Joseph Pitts's *A Faithful Account of the Religion and Manners of the Mahometans*, first published in 1704, is a unique combination of captivity narrative, travel account and description of Islam. It describes his time in Algiers, his life as a slave, his conversion, his pilgrimage to Mecca (the first such detailed description in English), Muslim ritual and practice, and his audacious escape. A Christian for most of his life, Pitts also had the advantage of living as a Muslim within a Muslim society. Nowhere in the literature of the period is there a more intimate and poignant account of identity conflict. Encountering Islam contains a faithful rendering of the definitive 1731 edition of Pitts's book, together with critical historical, religious and linguistic notes. The introduction tells what is known of Pitts's life, and places his work against its historical background, and in the context of current scholarship on captivity narratives and Anglo-Muslim relations of the period. Paul Auchterlonie, an Arabist, worked for forty years as a librarian specializing in Middle Eastern and Islamic studies, and from 1981 to 2011 was librarian in charge of the Middle East collections at the University of Exeter. He is the author and editor of numerous works on Middle Eastern bibliography and library science, and has recently published articles on historical and cultural relations between Britain and the Middle East. He is currently an Honorary Research Fellow at the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies at the University of Exeter.

 [Download Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Sla ...pdf](#)

## **Download and Read Free Online Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca Paul Auchterlonie**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Kenneth Poor:**

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a go walking, shopping, or went to the particular Mall. How about open or read a book entitled Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you agree with it is opinion or you have some other opinion?

#### **Lori Gonzales:**

This book untitled Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, this is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit on it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book retail outlet or you can order it by using online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you easier to read this book, since you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason for you to past this book from your list.

#### **Jean McCallum:**

People live in this new time of lifestyle always try to and must have the extra time or they will get great deal of stress from both everyday life and work. So , when we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People is human not really a robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to you of course your answer can unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading guides. It can be your alternative within spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is definitely Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca.

#### **Carlos Thornton:**

As a college student exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher expected them to go to the library or even make summary for some book, they are complained. Just very little students that has reading's heart and soul or real their pastime. They just do what the trainer want, like asked to go to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading very seriously. Any students feel that reading is not important, boring along with can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is to be complicated. Book is very important for yourself. As we know that on this period of time, many ways to get whatever we wish. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca can make you sense more interested to read.

**Download and Read Online Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca Paul Auchterlonie #D0I73FMGZQ9**

## **Read Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca by Paul Auchterlonie for online ebook**

Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca by Paul Auchterlonie Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca by Paul Auchterlonie books to read online.

### **Online Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca by Paul Auchterlonie ebook PDF download**

**Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca by Paul Auchterlonie Doc**

**Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca by Paul Auchterlonie Mobipocket**

**Encountering Islam: Joseph Pitts: An English Slave in 17th-century Algiers and Mecca by Paul Auchterlonie EPub**