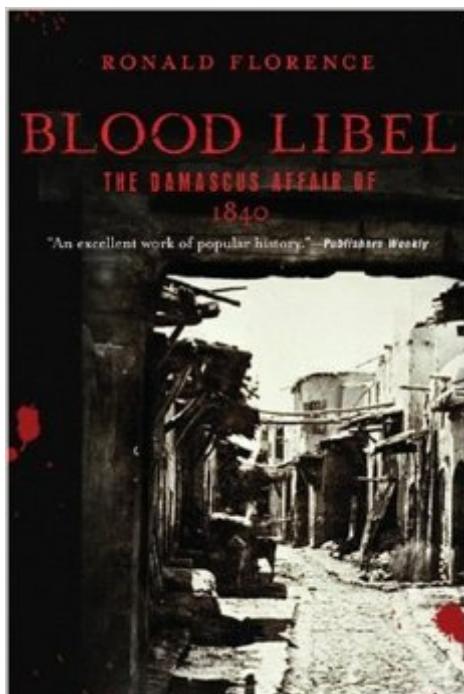


The book was found

Blood Libel: The Damascus Affair Of 1840



Synopsis

"This is great material, and Florence handles it with dramatic flair. An excellent work of popular history."—Publishers Weekly

Damascus, February 1840. A Capuchin monk and his servant disappear without a trace. By the end of the day, rumors point to the Jewish community, a tiny minority in the city's rich but delicate balance of religions and ethnicities. Within weeks, the rumors turn to accusations of ritual murder, the infamous "blood libel." Fiendish tortures in the pasha's dungeons, coerced confessions, manufactured evidence, and the fury of the crowds are enough to convict the accused Jews. By the time the rest of the world learns of the events in Damascus, the entire leadership of the Jewish community is awaiting execution. Narrating with a novelist's skill, Ronald Florence recounts the unexpected twists of the story and the strange alliances forged by mutual fears and misperceptions as the Damascus affair became a worldwide cause. The Moslem majority were not the accusers of the Jews; the French consul, representative of the nation that had first recognized Jews as citizens, was the chief prosecutor; the Sultan defended the accused Jews; the liberal London Times considered whether the accusations might be true. The legacies of the growing rift among the minorities, the dominant Arab society, and the outside world are the divisions in the Middle East today and the myths that continue to feed and sustain anti-Semitism. *Blood Libel* is a gripping historical narrative that explores the fragile social fabric of a society as it stretches and ultimately rips into shreds of hatred and fear.

Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Other Press (October 17, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1590512391

ISBN-13: 978-1590512395

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,953,679 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #261 in Books > History > Middle East > Syria #2433 in Books > History > World > Religious > Judaism #6650 in Books > History > World > Jewish

Customer Reviews

On Thursday, February 6, 1840, Capuchin Father Thomas and his servant were reported missing to

the French consulate in Damascus, Syria. Immediate rumor was that Father Thomas was last seen in the Jewish quarter. Crowds chanted "The Jews sacrificed the Father." Within two days, the Chief of Police and a detachment of soldiers and police informed the Jews they were under suspicion, searched and ransacked the Jewish quarter, and dug-up graves. A Muslim prisoner, Sa'id-Muhammad-al-Talli was released on condition he help the authorities find the missing monk. The next day, al-Talli, with soldiers and police, arrested four Jews. Sherif Pasha, Governor of Syria, and adopted son of Muhammad Ali, Viceroy of Egypt, summoned the chief Rabbi, telling him "It is obvious to me that you killed him [Father Thomas] to take his blood and that's your custom." To the contrary, a Jewish witness, Isaac Yavo, claimed he saw the Father and his servant exit the city at the same time he was alleged to have disappeared in the Jewish section. The French consul Ratti-Menton took special interest in the case because Father Thomas was a French protégé. When Jewish leaders came to the Consulate to negotiate, Ratti-Menton decided to interrogate one of the delegates, Solomon al-Hollag. After three days without a "confession," Ratti-Menton turned al-Hollag over to local authorities "who undoubtedly can employ more numerous and decisive methods of investigation than any foreign agent." After being tortured, al-Hollag "confessed" he saw the Father killed and his blood collected, at the house of David Harari. More arrests were made. Isaac Yavo, the witness who saw the monk leave the city, was next interrogated. When he didn't confess after three days, he was flogged until he did.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

His Forge Burns Hot for Mosaic Damascus: Knife Patterns & Techniques: Damascus pattern making & techniques. Learn how to make mosaic Damascus patterns ... techniques for making Damascus patterns. Blood Libel: The Damascus Affair of 1840 Blood Type Diet: An Essential Guide For Eating Based On Your Blood Type (blood type, blood type diet, blood type a, blood type o, blood type ab, blood type b, blood type diet success,) High Blood Pressure Cure: How To Lower Blood Pressure Naturally in 30 Days (Alternative Medicine, Natural Cures, Natural Remedies, High Blood Pressure ... Cures for High Blood Pressure, High Bl) The Copyright Permission and Libel Handbook: A Step-by-Step Guide for Writers, Editors, and Publishers An Occasion for War: Civil Conflict in Lebanon and Damascus in 1860 Never Can I Write of Damascus: When Syria Became Our Home The Damascus Way, (Acts of Faith Book 3) Blood Pressure Box set: Blood Pressure Solution - How To Lower Your Blood Pressure & Cholesterol Without Medication, Just By Using Natural Remedies and Diet! Blood Pressure Solutions: Blood Pressure: 28 Super-foods that will naturally lower your blood pressure (super foods, Dash diet, low salt, healthy eating) Eat Right For Your Blood Type: A Guide to Healthy Blood Type Diet, Understand What to Eat According to Your

Blood Type Mediterranean Diet: Mediterranean Diet For Diabetes-A Beginners Guide On Weight Loss While Lowering Your Blood Sugar To Reverse Type 2 Diabetes(Mediterranean ... blood sugar diet,the blood sugar solution,) Meals by Blood Type: Getting Your Life Back on Track With 35 Recipes That Fit Your Blood Type (Blood Type Diet & Low Cholesterol) Lower Your Blood Sugar For Diabetes: An Essential Treatment Guide For Diabetes(Beginners Guide to Reverse Type 2 Diabetes,insulin Resistance,Inflammation) ... blood sugar diet,the blood sugar solution,) All Blood Counts: A Manual for Blood Conservation and Patient Blood Management Texas Furniture, Volume Two: The Cabinetmakers and Their Work, 1840-1880 (Focus on American History Series) Texas Furniture, Volume One: The Cabinetmakers and Their Work, 1840-1880, Revised edition (Focus on American History) White Ironstone China: Plate Identification Guide 1840-1890 (Schiffer Book for Collectors) Answers to Questions About Old Jewelry, 1840-1950: Identification and Value Guide Fishing Lure Collectibles: An Encyclopedia of the Early Years, 1840 to 1940.

[Dmca](#)