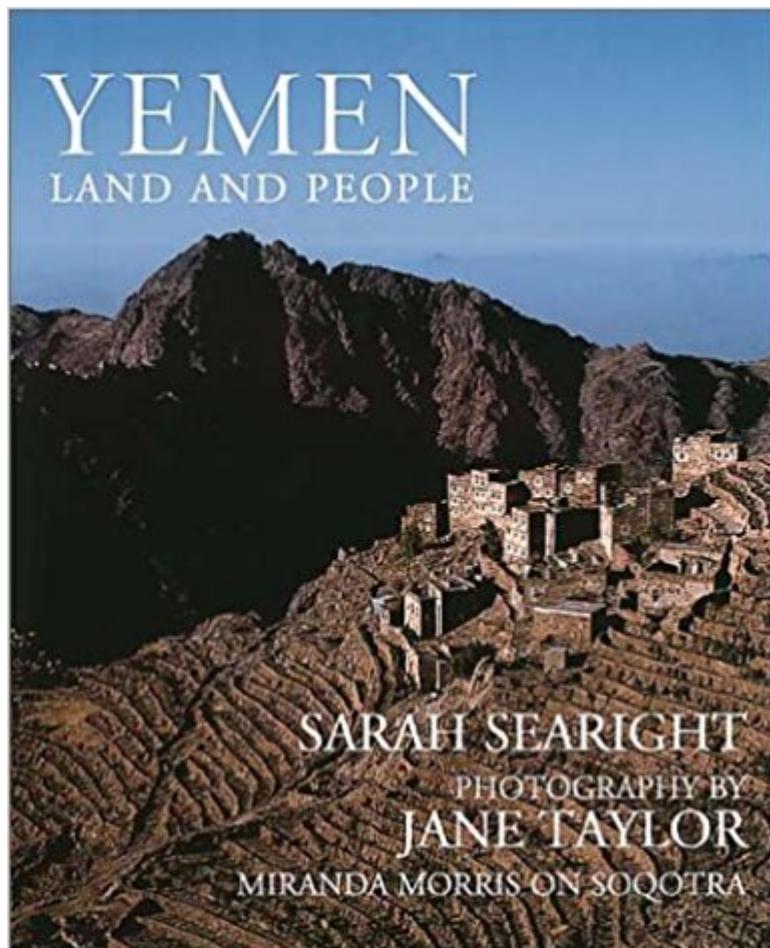


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Yemen: Land And People



Synopsis

Yemen, "that opal land" of the Queen of Sheba, has inspired travelers for thousands of years. Historically, culturally, and scientifically, it lies at the crossroads of the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea, its landscape formed by the upheavals of the Rift Valley, refreshed by the monsoon rains of the Indian Ocean. It is a uniquely rugged yet verdant landscape that encouraged the growth of the ancient incense trade route. As a mountain people, Yemenis are fiercely individualistic, passionate devotees of their history, the beauty of their land, and the rich architectural heritage that grew out of this "glittering, wrinkled country of peaks and plains, towers and surprises." Readers can explore this remarkable land in this enlightening, photo-laden volume. Sarah Searight is the author of *The British in the Middle East* and *Steaming East*; Jane Taylor's previous books include *Imperial Istanbul* and *Testament to the Bushmen*.

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As a Middle East and North Africa geographer and researcher, this is a long-awaited book on an interesting and important country. Informative, interesting and exciting, Sarah Searight's descriptions and narratives come alive. This could be a heavy and technical tome, however it is enjoyable to read and filled with insight, observations, and descriptions rarely found in such a book. Moreover, the photographs by Jane Taylor are stunning and simply gorgeous. Not just pretty pictures, these amazing images not only support the text, but create moods and feelings that are so very Yemeni. This book should be a 'must have' for any serious Middle East, North Africa and/or West Asia library and whether you are a scholar or armchair traveler, you will enjoy and learn from this delightful book!

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