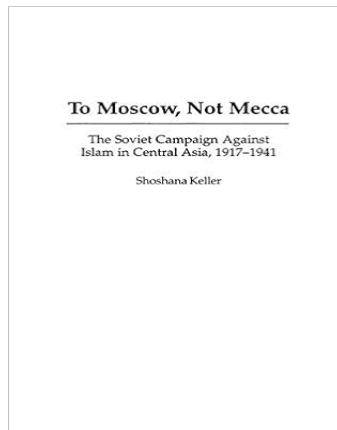


<b>Titel:</b>	To Moscow, Not Mecca
<b>BuchID:</b>	1678
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<b>ISBN-10(13):</b>	978-0275972387
<b>Verlag:</b>	Praeger
<b>Seitenanzahl:</b>	0
<b>Sprache:</b>	English
<b>Bewertung:</b>	
<b>Bild:</b>	



**Beschreibung:**

***The Soviet Campaign Against Islam in Central Asia,  
1917-1941***

The clash between Communism and Islam in the Soviet Union pitted two socio-political systems against one another. This study examines the first decades of the struggle in Central Asia (1917-1941), where an ancient religious tradition faced an aggressive form of secular modernity. The Soviets attempted to break down Muslim culture and remold it on Marxist-Leninist lines. Central Asians played complex roles in this effort, both defending and attacking Islam, but mostly trying to survive. Despite Stalin's totalitarian aims, the Soviet regime in Central Asia was often weak even into the 1930s, and by 1941 the opposing systems had reached a standoff.