



'Stringing Coral Beads': The Religious Poetry of Brava (c. 1890-1975), A Source Publication of Chimiini Texts and English Translations

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Monografía

This book presents fifty-one didactic and devotional Sufi poems (with English translations) composed by the ulama of Brava, on Somalia's Benadir coast, in Chimiini, a Bantu language related to Swahili and unique to the town. Because the six ulama-poets, among whom two women, guided local believers towards correct beliefs and behaviours in reference to specific authoritative religious texts, the poems allow insight into their authors' religious education, affiliations, in which the Qādiriyah and Aḥmediyyah took pride of place, and regional connections. Because the poems refer to local people, places, events, and livelihoods, they also bring into view the uniquely local dimension of Islam in this small East African port city in this time-period

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