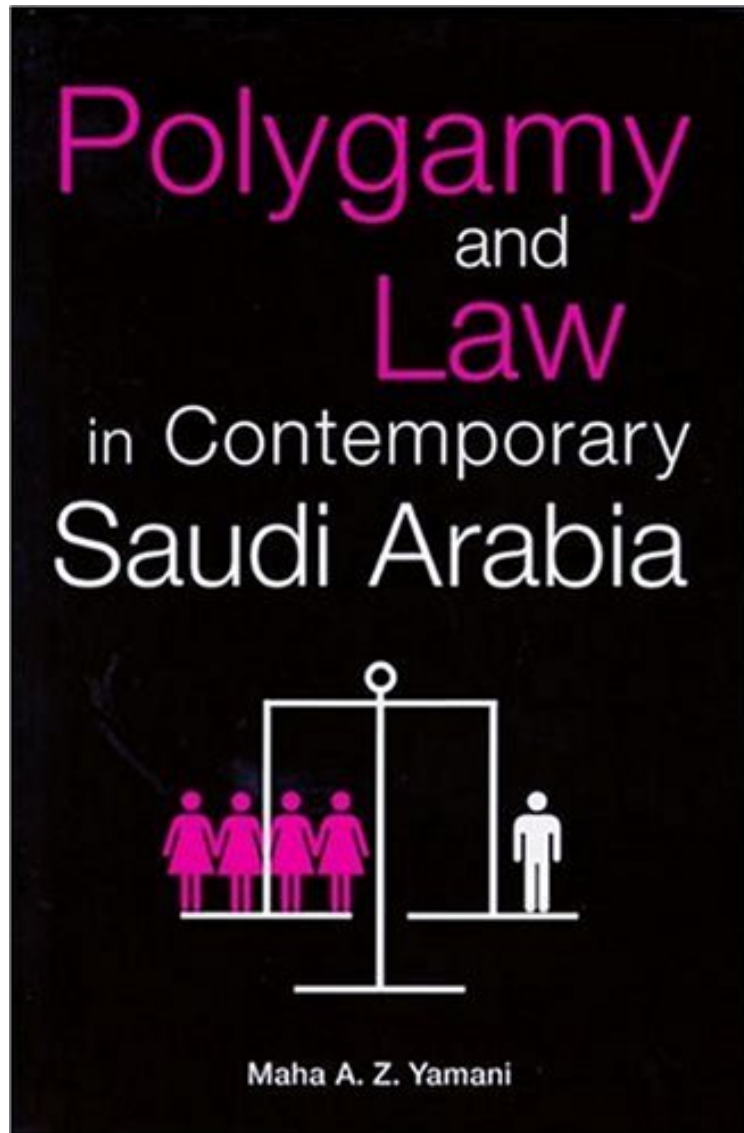


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Polygamy and Law in Contemporary Saudi Arabia (Exeter Arab and Islamic)

Maha A. Z. Yamani

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Maha A. Z. Yamani : Polygamy and Law in Contemporary Saudi Arabia (Exeter Arab and Islamic) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Polygamy and Law in Contemporary Saudi Arabia (Exeter Arab and Islamic):

The topic of polygamy in Islamic countries is generally perceived by outsiders as something linked to harems and Hollywood-style foreign intrigues. The practice is frequently viewed through sexual connotations and male power versus female powerlessness. This book sheds light on the often misunderstood polygamous situation in modern Saudi Arabia. Through a unique series of local interviews with both men and women involved in polygamy, both maritally and professionally, the author invites the reader into the homes and personal lives of the people directly affected. The result is a moving, candid examination of the frame of mind, impulses, incentives, reasons, and circumstances that drive individuals towards polygamy, as well as the social, legal, economic, and emotional consequences that inevitably follow. The book also examines the historical origins of Islamic polygamy in Mecca and Medina, as well as the legal situation in Saudi Arabia today. The author argues that a combination of gender differences created through local laws and public policy decisions, the revival of customary tribal practices, and the pressures created by the sudden materialism of modern life have all led towards a misapplication of the original Islamic legal essence of the practice, and a re-adaptation of the laws regulating it.

"This is an extremely well researched book bringing together various opinions about polygamy in a lucid and articulate way. It gives an insight into the complex and difficult emotional, personal, social, cultural, economic and religious aspects of polygamy." - Dr Thoraya Obaid, Executive Director of UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund
About the Author
Dr Maha A. Z. Yamani is an Honorary Fellow at the University of Exeter and a Saudi lawyer. She is a proud mother of four and has direct personal experience of polygamy in Saudi Arabia.