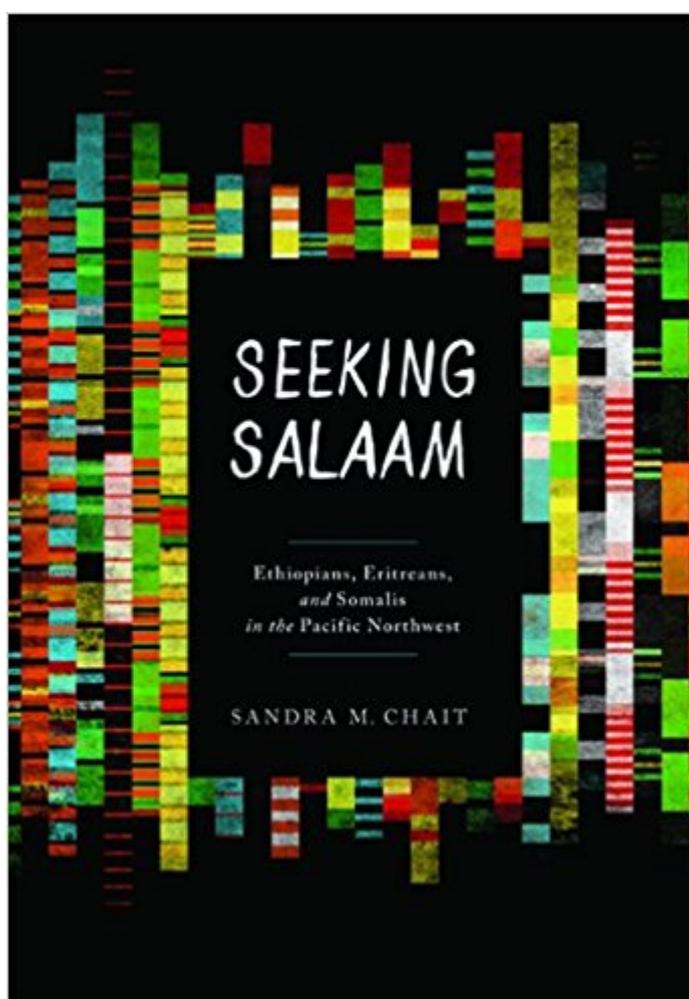


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Seeking Salaam: Ethiopians, Eritreans, And Somalis In The Pacific Northwest (Samuel And Althea Stroum Books)



Synopsis

Prolonged violence in the Horn of Africa, the northeastern corner of the continent, has led growing numbers of Ethiopians, Eritreans, and Somalis to flee to the United States. Despite the enmity created by centuries of conflict, they often find themselves living as neighbors in their adopted cities, with their children as class-mates in school. In many ways, they are successfully navigating life in their new home; however, they continue to struggle to bridge old ethnic divisions and find salaam, or peace, with one another. News from home fuels historical grievances and perpetuates tensions within their communities, delaying acculturation, undermining attempts at reconciliation, and sabotaging the opportunity to reach the American Dream. In conversations with forty East African immigrants living in Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon, Sandra Chait captures the immigrants' struggle for identity in the face of competing stories and documents how some individuals have been able to transcend the ghosts from the past and extend a tentative hand to their former enemies.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,055,670 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #160 in [Books > History > Africa > Ethiopia](#) #1196 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > Immigrants](#) #3000 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Emigration & Immigration](#)

Customer Reviews

An interesting book, but not an easy read by any means. The reader definitely has to think and pay attention with this one. Not a book to devour, but to chew slowly in order to be able to digest all the information contained in its pages. Contains page after page of fair and unbiased information about the immigrants from the Horn of Africa, (the northeastern corner of the continent), and their many struggles: struggles to fit into a new land and not lose their identity, while attempting to live in

'Salaam' or peace with neighbors who were previously enemies in their homeland. Heart-wrenching accounts from these peoples who have already had so many struggles in their lives due to famine and war. The author did her research for this book, and knows of what she writes. Ms. Chait, (herself an immigrant from south Africa), interviewed more than forty East African Immigrants living in Seattle, Washington and Portland, Oregon for this book.

I am grateful for this account of Horn of Africa immigrants. This lovely book contains a vast amount of history and anecdote gracefully woven into a coherent story. The author is fair and objective in her analysis and shows great sympathy and affection for the people she interviewed and for the suffering countries they fled.

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