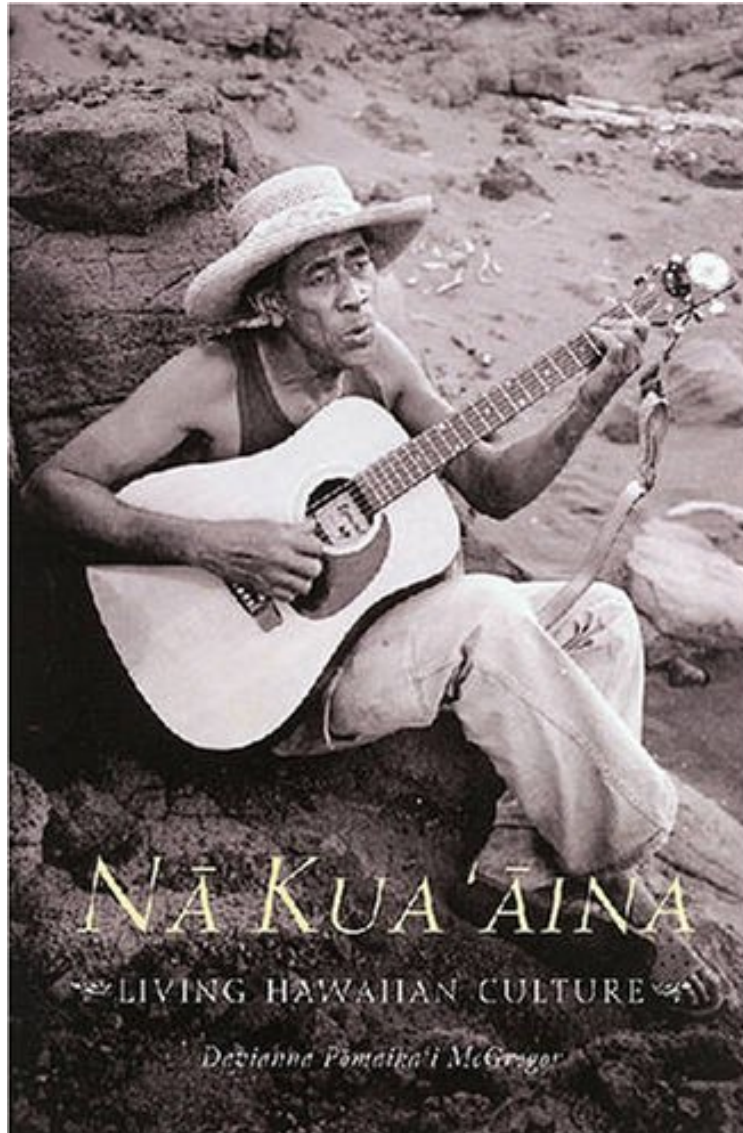


(Read free ebook) N Kua`ina: Living Hawaiian Culture

N Kua`ina: Living Hawaiian Culture

Davianna Pomaika'i McGregor
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Davianna Pomaika'i McGregor : N Kua`ina: Living Hawaiian Culture before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised N Kua`ina: Living Hawaiian Culture:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent source of information By Thomas Tunsch The book provides very interesting information about Hawaiian culture including references to other treasures of cultural heritage. Details about daily life in Hawaiian history are connected with historical events and records. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful information by a knowledgeable author By Audrey Wonderful

information by a knowledgeable author. It reads like a text, and can be a touch dry, but overall, a wonderful read.

The word *kuaina* translates literally as "back land" or "back country." Davianna Pmaikai McGregor grew up hearing it as a reference to an awkward or unsophisticated person from the country. However, in the context of the Native Hawaiian cultural renaissance of the late twentieth century, *kuaina* came to refer to those who actively lived Hawaiian culture and kept the spirit of the land alive. The *mooelo* (oral traditions) recounted in this book reveal how *kuaina* have enabled Native Hawaiians to endure as a unique and dignified people after more than a century of American subjugation and control. The stories are set in rural communities or cultural *kpukaoases* from which traditional Native Hawaiian culture can be regenerated and revitalized. By focusing in turn on an island (Molokai), *moku* (the districts of Hana, Maui, and Puna, Hawaii), and an *ahupuaa* (Waipiio, Hawaii), McGregor examines *kuaina* life ways within distinct traditional land use regimes. The *lelo noeau* (descriptive proverbs and poetical sayings) for which each area is famous are interpreted, offering valuable insights into the place and its overall role in the cultural practices of Native Hawaiians. Discussion of the landscape and its settlement, the deities who dwelt there, and its rulers is followed by a review of the effects of westernization on *kuaina* in the nineteenth century. McGregor then provides an overview of social and economic changes through the end of the twentieth century and of the elements of continuity still evident in the lives of *kuaina*. The final chapter on Kahoolawe demonstrates how *kuaina* from the cultural *kpuka* under study have been instrumental in restoring the natural and cultural resources of the island.

"A bold intervention in modern Hawaiian politics, a summoning to the barricades that by its end will have you cheering. *Na Kua'aina* is the inspiring story of a culture that refuses to die, of a resurgent nation poised to reclaim its embattled heritage. ... This is no dry-as-dust tome destined for library basements, but a solidly grounded set of political demands cast in historical mode. It is good research leading to intellectually honest conclusions with real-world applications." *Indispensable*-- "The Nation" This work . . . is a beautiful and recuperative act of love consummated over the last several decades by [McGregor's] study of four cultural *kipuka*. . . . [She] credits generations of *kua'aina* with keeping love and respect for the land alive by holding it in their hands, heads, language, and souls. With her extensively documented book, McGregor becomes one of them.-- "The Contemporary Pacific" A bold intervention in modern Hawaiian politics, a summoning to the barricades that by its end will have you cheering. *Na Kua'aina* is the inspiring story of a culture that refuses to die, of a resurgent nation poised to reclaim its embattled heritage. . . . This is no dry-as-dust tome destined for library basements, but a solidly grounded set of political demands cast in historical mode. It is good research leading to intellectually honest conclusions with real-world applications.-- "Honolulu Star-Bulletin" This work . . . is a beautiful and recuperative act of love consummated over the last several decades by [McGregor's] study of four cultural *kipuka*. . . . [She] credits generations of *kuaina* with keeping love and respect for the land alive by holding it in their hands, heads, language, and souls. With her extensively documented book, McGregor becomes one of them. (*The Contemporary Pacific*) *Indispensable* (*The Nation*) A bold intervention in modern Hawaiian politics, a summoning to the barricades that by its end will have you cheering. *Na Kua'aina* is the inspiring story of a culture that refuses to die, of a resurgent nation poised to reclaim its embattled heritage. . . . This is no dry-as-dust tome destined for library basements, but a solidly grounded set of political demands cast in historical mode. It is good research leading to intellectually honest conclusions with real-world applications. (*Honolulu Star-Bulletin*) About the Author Davianna Pmaikai McGregor is professor of ethnic studies at the University of Hawaii and a historian of Hawaii and the Pacific.