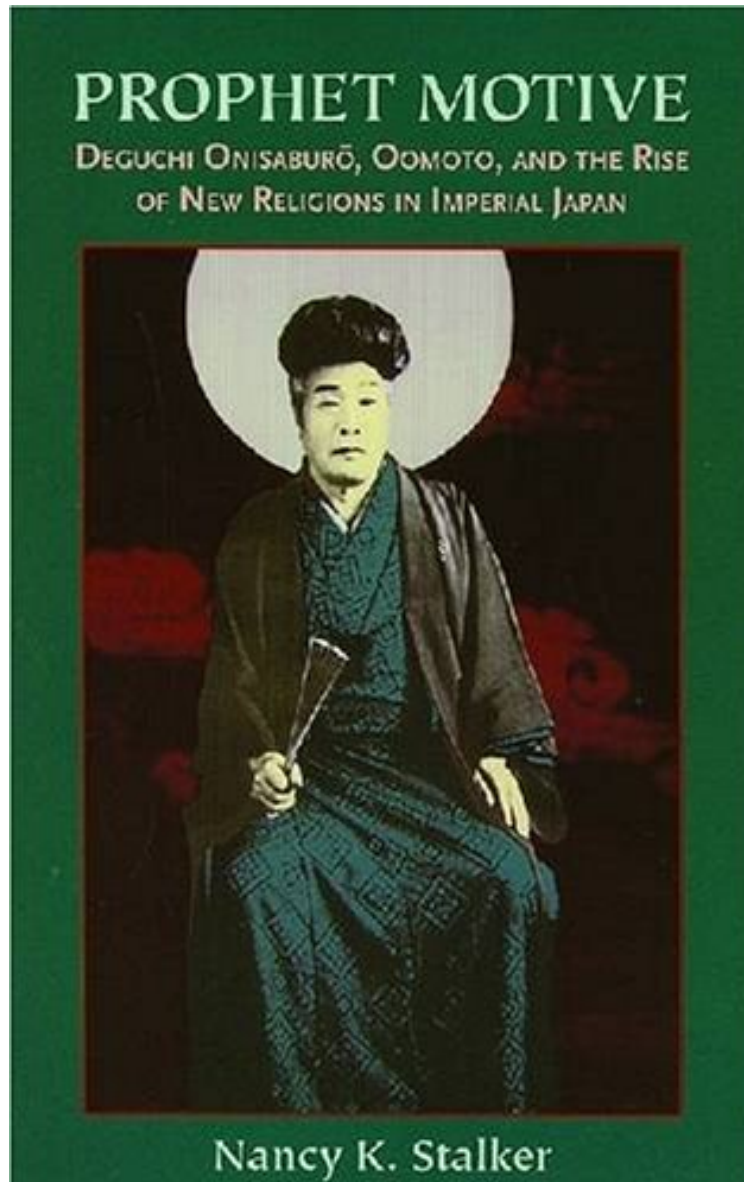


[Read free] Prophet Motive: Deguchi Onisabur, Oomoto, and the Rise of New Religions in Imperial Japan

## Prophet Motive: Deguchi Onisabur, Oomoto, and the Rise of New Religions in Imperial Japan

*Nancy K. Stalker*

*audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#3127630 in Books Univ of Hawaii Pr 2007-10-31 2007-10-31 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.90 x .80 x 5.90l, .90 #File Name: 0824832264280 pages | File size: 35.Mb

**Nancy K. Stalker : Prophet Motive: Deguchi Onisabur, Oomoto, and the Rise of New Religions in Imperial Japan** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Prophet Motive: Deguchi Onisabur, Oomoto, and the Rise of New Religions in Imperial Japan:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Riveting account  
By Robert Stanley  
Dr. Stalker has written a fascinating history that opens the curtains on how vibrant and esoteric Japanese mysticism was at this time, and juxtaposes this with a telling relevance to the world we live in today. Like the golden dawn in Europe at the same time, Onisaburo reminds me of an Asian equivalent of Aleister Crowley, the wickedest man in the world - combining charisma and twisted mysticism for his own benefit and "Prophet"  
Recommend it to everyone!

From the 1910s to the mid-1930s, the flamboyant and gifted spiritualist Deguchi Onisabur (1871-1948) transformed his mother-in-law's small, rural religious following into a massive movement, eclectic in content and international in scope. Through a potent blend of traditional folk beliefs and practices like divination, exorcism, and millenarianism, an ambitious political agenda, and skillful use of new forms of visual and mass media, he attracted millions to Oomoto, his Shintoist new religion. Despite its condemnation as a heterodox sect by state authorities and the mainstream media, Oomoto quickly became the fastest-growing religion in Japan of the time. In telling the story of Onisabur and Oomoto, Nancy Stalker not only gives us the first full account in English of the rise of a heterodox movement in imperial Japan, but also provides new perspectives on the importance of "charismatic entrepreneurship" in the success of new religions around the world. She makes the case that these religions often respond to global developments and tensions (imperialism, urbanization, consumerism, the diffusion of mass media) in similar ways. They require entrepreneurial marketing and management skills alongside their spiritual authority if their groups are to survive encroachments by the state and achieve national/international stature. Their drive to realize and extend their religious view of the world ideally stems from a "prophet" rather than "profit" motive, but their activity nevertheless relies on success in the modern capitalist, commercial world. Unlike many studies of Japanese religion during this period, *Prophet Motive* works to dispel the notion that prewar Shinto was monolithically supportive of state initiatives and ideology.

"A tour de force of scholarship, this compelling work raises the bar for works on religion, history, and modernity and should be standard reading for years to come." -- James Ketelaar  
"Sheds new light on issues of religious leadership, charisma, and entrepreneurship. [Stalker] contributes significantly to the study of new religions by demonstrating the importance of entrepreneurial leadership and the close and essential links between religion and economics." -- Ian Reader  
"In this multi-faceted study of one of the most colorful characters in twentieth-century Japan, Nancy Stalker shows how a fledgling religious movement can grow through the media-savvy skills of a charismatic leader. Deftly situating Onisabur's flamboyant promotional efforts in both domestic and international contexts, Stalker bridges common historiographical divides between religion and politics, state orthodoxy and populist opposition, Meiji history and Taisho culture. A provocative study of one man's strategies for proselytizing in the global marketplace of religion, *Prophet Motive* highlights the fluid boundaries between 'tradition' and 'modernity' in Japan and throughout the world." -- Sarah Thal  
About the Author  
Nancy K. Stalker is assistant professor in the departments of Asian studies and history at the University of Texas at Austin.