The Mahdi Of Sudan And The Death Of General Gordon

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**Synopsis**

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**Customer Reviews**

I always approach a biography or a volume of history written by a Brit with great caution. The Brits always whine about "popularizing history," and then write the most dull, godawful books one can imagine. They seem to have a knack for terribly written history. Gibbon died a long time ago, and it has all been downhill ever since. Added to my worry about the book was the fact that the author worked for the BBC. I cannot think of a greater qualification for disaster, slanted history, and lack of objectivity than working for the BBC. There was a time when it had a serious news department, with serious reporters. But that was long ago. What you get from the BBC today is slanted rubbish, with a strong anti-American and anti-Western bias. Like Reuters, the BBC has become a cruel parody of itself. So with those two worries in mind, I decided to read the book about the Mahdi and
Overall, I got a fairly pleasant surprise. The book is readable. It does not suffer from the British style of history, so you can actually read and enjoy it. A good start. The author also tries to tell the story of the Mahdi, with a certain degree of objectivity. And the Mahdi’s story needs telling. He seems to be the forerunner of what we are facing today--Islamic fanaticism, and a charismatic figure to spur it on. Bin Laden and the Mahdi share many traits--some positive, most not. One can, with a certain degree of imagination, see the appeal of the two. They both put their money where there mouth is--and both show the power of example. I might not like the example, but you have to give them a certain degree of credit. By giving some credit, you see how they developed a following.

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