

Angola Janga: Kingdom of Runaway Slaves



Angola Janga: Kingdom of Runaway Slaves by Jody Houser

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1007787 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 424 pages

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A Hidden Kingdom of Resistance

Deep in the lush forests of colonial Brazil, far from the oppressive grip of enslavement, a refuge emerged—Angola Janga. This extraordinary kingdom, founded by runaway slaves in the 17th century, became a beacon of freedom and a testament to the indomitable spirit of resistance.

Angola Janga, meaning "Little Angola" in the Bantu language, was a thriving community where former captives rekindled their African traditions and established their own laws and governance. Under the leadership of charismatic figures like Ganga Zumba and Zumbi dos Palmares, the kingdom grew in strength and defiance.

A Life of Liberty

Within the sanctuary of Angola Janga, the runaway slaves found refuge from the horrors of enslavement. They established a society based on mutual respect, equality, and communal living. Agriculture and trade flourished, providing sustenance and economic independence.

The people of Angola Janga developed their own unique culture, blending African traditions with Brazilian influences. They practiced their ancestral religions, celebrated vibrant festivals, and created their own music and art. They spoke their own language, an amalgamation of Bantu and Portuguese, fostering a sense of community and belonging.

A Symbol of Resistance

Angola Janga became a symbol of hope and resistance for enslaved Africans throughout Brazil. Its existence challenged the authority of the Portuguese colonial regime and inspired countless others to seek their freedom. The kingdom's warriors, known as jagunços, fought bravely against the relentless attacks of the colonial forces.

For decades, Angola Janga remained a thorn in the side of the Portuguese colonialists. Its existence proved that even under the most oppressive conditions, the desire for freedom could not be extinguished. The kingdom's legacy as a symbol of resistance continues to resonate today, inspiring movements for social justice and liberation.

A Legacy of Freedom and Resilience

Although the colonial forces eventually succeeded in destroying Angola Janga, its spirit lived on. The kingdom's legacy served as a powerful reminder of the indomitable spirit of the African people and their enduring quest for freedom.

Today, the ruins of Angola Janga are a UNESCO World Heritage Site, recognized for their historical and cultural significance. They stand as a testament to the courage and resilience of the runaway slaves who created this extraordinary hidden kingdom.

Uncover the Enthralling Story

In the gripping pages of "Angola Janga: Kingdom of Runaway Slaves," historian Leo van Battum paints a vivid and captivating portrait of this remarkable hidden kingdom. Through meticulous research and engaging storytelling, the book transports readers to the heart of Angola Janga, bringing to life the struggles, triumphs, and enduring legacy of its inhabitants.

"Angola Janga: Kingdom of Runaway Slaves" is an essential read for anyone interested in Afro-Brazilian history, the history of slavery, and the indomitable spirit of freedom that exists within us all. It is a story that will

inspire, educate, and ignite a profound respect for the human capacity for resilience and the pursuit of liberty.

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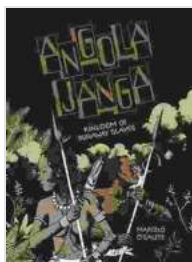
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Let's delve into the extraordinary story of Angola Janga together!



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