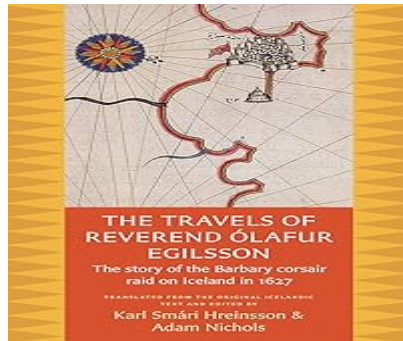


## The Travels of Reverend Ólafur Egilsson (Reisubók Séra Ólafs Egilssonar): The story of the Barbary corsair raid on Iceland in 1627 By Karl Smari Hreinsson

Karl Smari Hreinsson is freelance writer and documentary film maker. Additionally he owns and operates Saga Akademia a language school in Iceland. Adam Nichols is associate professor of English at the University of Maryland. I was pleased at how surprisingly accessible this book was and how incredibly interesting. A Niger This book provides a comprehensive account of the travels of Icelandic pastor Ólafur Egilsson from the moment he was taken captive by Barbary corsairs in 1627 and culminating in his return home to the Westman Islands in 1628. Ólafur's original travel journals have been Niger This is a fascinating book about a rather obscure (unless you are an Icelander) piece of 17th century history - a slave raid on Iceland in 1627 and its aftermath for one captive a Pastor in his 60s the Rev. The core of the book is Niger Good read Niger



In the summer of Barbary corsairs raided Iceland killing dozens of people and abducting close to four hundred to sell into slavery in Algiers. Among those taken was the Lutheran minister Reverend Olafur Egilsson. Reverend Olafur, born in the same year as William Shakespeare and Galileo Galilei, wrote *The Travels* to chronicle his experiences both as a captive and as a traveler across Europe. He journeyed alone from Algiers to Copenhagen in an attempt to raise funds to ransom the Icelandic captives that remained behind. He was a keen observer, and the narrative is filled with a wealth of detail about social, political, economic, and religious life in both the Maghreb and Europe. It is also a moving story on the human level; we witness a man enduring great personal tragedy and struggling to reconcile such calamity with his understanding of God. *The Travels* is the first ever English translation of the Icelandic text. Until now, the corsair raid on Iceland has remained largely unknown in the English-speaking world. To give a clearer sense of the extraordinary events connected with that raid, this edition of *The Travels* includes not only Reverend Olafur's first-person narrative but also a collection of contemporary letters describing both the events of the raid itself and the conditions under which the enslaved Icelanders lived. The book has Appendices containing background information on the cities of Algiers and Salé in the seventeenth century, on Iceland in the seventeenth century, on the manuscripts accessed for the translation, and on the book's early modern European context. The combination of Reverend Olafur's narrative, the letters, and the material in the Appendices provides a first-hand, in-depth view of early seventeenth-century Europe and the Maghreb, equaled by few other works dealing with the period. We are pleased to offer it to the wider audience that an English edition allows. *The Travels of Reverend Ólafur Egilsson (Reisubók Séra Ólafs Egilssonar): The story of the Barbary corsair raid on Iceland in 1627.*

: The book is much more than Reverend Egilsson's account of the raid and his journey. The authors have taken great care to set the scene to the raid in a balanced and factual way. The Niger This book tells a fascinating story, a story that has never been translated into English before. In the summer of 1627, Barbary pirates raided Iceland and captured 400 people and sold them as slaves in Algiers. The English translation is very clear. The story is amazing. Olafur Egilsson of the title