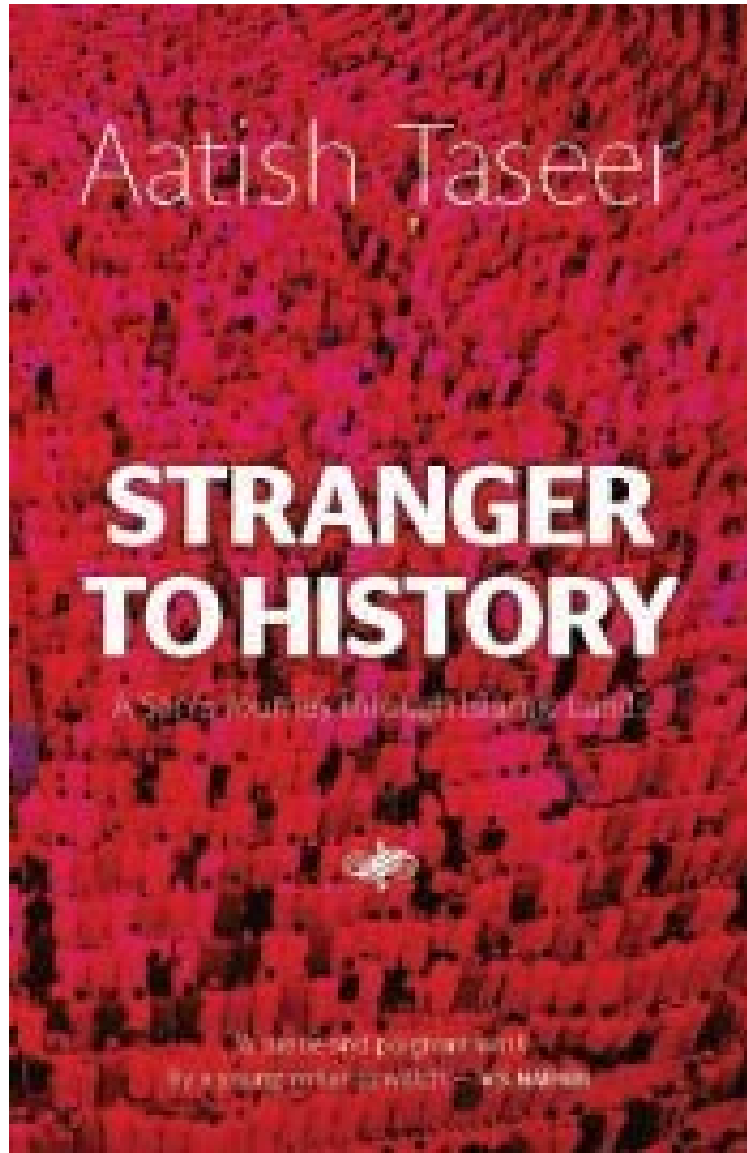


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Stranger to History: A Son's Journey through Islamic Lands

Aatish, Taseer

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As a child, all Aatish Taseer ever had of his father was his photograph in a browning silver frame. Raised by his Sikh

mother in Delhi, his father, a Pakistani Muslim, remained a distant figure. It was a fractured upbringing which left Aatish with many questions about his own identity. *Stranger to History* is the story of the journey Aatish made to answer these questions. Starting from Istanbul, Islam's once greatest city, he travels to Mecca, its most holy, and then home through Iran and Pakistan. Ending in Lahore, at his estranged father's home, on the night Benazir Bhutto was killed, it is also the story of Aatish's own divided family over the past fifty years.

About the Author Aatish Taseer was born in 1980. He is the author of *The Temple-goers* and *Noon*. He has also published a translation of stories by Saadat Manto, *Manto: Selected Stories*.