

Beyond Conflicts

Cultural and Religious Cohabitations in Alexandria and Egypt between the 1st and the 6th Century CE Ed. by Luca Arcari

[Jenseits von Konflikten. Kulturelle und religiöse Lebensgemeinschaften in Alexandria und Ägypten zwischen dem 1. und dem 6. Jahrhundert n.Chr.]

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That there were various ways of interaction between different groups in Graeco-Roman Egypt cannot be doubted, as a number of more or less recent regional studies have further reinforced. And as is well-known, Egypt emerges as a sort of exception in the study of ancient cultures and religions because it provides scholars with the opportunity to draw on a great number and variety of documents. Exploring interactively the diversity of documentary material is the main aim of this book. In socio-cultural terms, such an analysis corroborates the image of Egypt as a pervasive cultural system where for many centuries different elites coagulated themselves around a number of standard modalities to produce »cultural« and »religious« micro-systems. This shows that people, even when different languages and textual practices survive, respond to specific modalities of cohabitation under the umbrella of this hegemonic cultural »field.«

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