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Ancient Egyptian Rituals Against Enemies

Edited by Carina Kühne-Wespi and Joachim Friedrich Quack

2024. Approx. 220 pages.
forthcoming in May

ISBN 9783161625435
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The contributors to this volume discuss several aspects of ancient Egyptian rituals against enemies (»execration rituals«). Various kinds of sources – figurines, textual descriptions, iconographical depictions – make it possible to trace this phenomenon from the 6th Dynasty to the Ptolemaic-Roman period. A special focus lies on Middle Kingdom and Late Period/Ptolemaic-Roman execration figures, the methods that were applied to produce them, the ritual acts performed with these figures, and the personnel involved in the rituals. Other chapters deal with possible connections between execration and female figurines, or the question of how killings of human beings can be assumed to have formed part of these rituals. The volume thus demonstrates how different approaches and perspectives can contribute to increasing and improving our understanding of Egyptian rituals against enemies.

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Vera Michel : Commonalities of and Differences Between the 'Execration' and 'Fertility' Figures

Tsumura, David Toshio

Was There a Cult of El in Ancient Canaan?

Essays on Ugaritic Religion and Language

Volume 55
2024. XXII, 287 pages.

ISBN 9783161612787
cloth 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161612794
eBook PDF 129,00 €

Since their discovery in 1929, Ugaritic documents have shed light on the Canaanite background of the ancient Israelite religion. But to use them properly, it is crucial first to interpret the texts philologically in their historical and cultural context. In particular, we must grasp the characteristics of polytheism from within, without imposing a Western understanding of deity. David Toshio Tsumura examines a number of mythological and liturgical texts in detail for how they interpret deity, and especially deals with the different meanings of the Ugaritic term *il*, a cognate of the Hebrew *ʾēl*, »god.« This can be a generic noun, »god,« proper name »El,« or a term for the collective godhead »The Deity.« Thus, the author sheds light on ancient Canaanite religious practices and social customs essential for a better understanding of Old Testament literature.

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Lambert, W.G. / Winters, Ryan D.

An = Anum and Related Lists

God Lists of Ancient Mesopotamia, Volume I

Edited by Andrew George and Manfred Krebernik

Volume 54
2023. XIII, 755 pages.

ISBN 9783161613821
cloth 199,00 €

ISBN 9783161613838
eBook PDF 199,00 €

This volume is the first in a planned edition of the complete corpus of ancient Mesopotamian god lists. It contains the lists »An = Anum« (including its forerunners) and »An = Anu ša amēli« along with several similar, more-or-less fragmentary lists. The god list An = Anum was, with its ca. 2000 entries, the most comprehensive list of its kind. It is systematically organized and contains explanations both of individual deities and of certain groups of deities. The textual witnesses also provide, to a varying degree, pronunciation and translation glosses. In this edition each list is presented as a composite reconstructed text with translation, critical apparatus, and synoptic table of the textual witnesses, followed in each case by a philological commentary. In addition, the textual witnesses are transliterated individually. Names, words, and glosses are made accessible through detailed indexes. Hand copies and photographs of previously unpublished sources conclude the volume.

Hagemeyer, Felix

Ashdod und Jerusalem

Eine archäologische und exegetische Untersuchung zu den Beziehungen von südpalästinischer Küstenebene und jüdischem Bergland

Volume 53
2023. XVII, 394 pages.

ISBN 9783161623325
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Using Ashdod and Jerusalem as examples, Felix Hagemeyer examines the relations between Judah and the Mediterranean coast of Israel/Palestine based on archaeological finds, extrabiblical and biblical sources. According to the archaeological evidence, cooperative relations predominated, yet the Ashdod texts of the Hebrew Bible mostly oppose the growing entanglements.

This work was awarded the Young Talent Award of the Friends of the Saxon Academy of Sciences 2023 and the Wolfgang Scheuffler Research Award.

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van Dijk-Coombes, Renate Marian

The Standards of Mesopotamia in the Third and Fourth Millennium BCE

An Iconographic Study

Volume 52
2023. XV, 429 pages.

ISBN 9783161614651
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Depictions of standards form a fundamental part of the visual repertoire of ancient Mesopotamia. These depictions can offer great insight into the thought world of the peoples with which they are associated, because different standards were associated with different deities, and could be found in multiple contexts. In this book, Renate Marian van Dijk-Coombes examines the standards which are represented in the visual culture of the third and fourth millennia BCE, covering the Uruk, Early Dynastic, Akkadian and Neo-Sumerian periods. She analyses each of the different standards, how they looked, what they symbolised and the context(s) in which they were found. In addition, developments and changes in the representation of these standards are traced across the periods under discussion.

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Funke, Tobias

Der Priester Pinhas in Jerusalem und auf dem Berg Garizim

Eine intertextuelle Untersuchung und literar-, sozial- und religionsgeschichtliche Einordnung

Volume 51
2023. X, 550 pages.

ISBN 9783161607714
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Tobias Funke takes an intertextual look at the construction and reception of the figure of the priest Phineas in texts of the Hebrew Bible as well as the intertestamental literature of the Second Temple period in Jerusalem and classifies his results in terms of literary, social, and religious history.

Wigand, Ann-Kristin

Achikar in Elephantine

Die aramäische Achikarkomposition im Kontext des perserzeitlichen Elephantine

Volume 50
2022. XII, 268 pages.

ISBN 9783161610219
cloth 119,00 €

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Ann-Kristin Wigand interprets the Aramaic Achikar composition against the background of Persian Egypt. She combines historical-critical methods with an intertextual approach in order to work out under which conditions the text can be read and understood in its Egyptian setting and which function the text assumes in its multi-ethnic context.

Kleiman, Assaf

Beyond Israel and Aram

The Archaeology and History of Iron Age Communities in the Central Levant. Research on Israel and Aram in Biblical Times VI

Volume 49
2022. XV, 309 pages.

ISBN 9783161615436
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In this study, Assaf Kleiman discusses the settlement history and material culture of complex communities that flourished in the shadow of Israel and Aram-Damascus. A detailed examination of the finds from the Lebanese Beqaa, through the Sea of Galilee, to the Irbid Plateau, offers an exceptional portrayal of the developments experienced by these communities, before and after the emergence of the territorial kingdoms; these advances include the rise and fall of local polities, the adoption and rejection of certain cultural traits, and even the background for the dissemination of writing. The study provides, therefore, a new and exciting way to look at the political relations and cultural exchange between the indigenous communities and the elites that ruled over them. Rather than interpreting the local populations simply as »Israelites« or »Aramaeans,« the archaeological record reveals their diversity and highlights the discrete historical trajectories they followed from the 12th to 8th centuries BCE.

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Tel 'En Gev

Report of the Keio Archaeological Mission, 2009–2011. Research on Israel and Aram in Biblical Times V

Edited by David T. Sugimoto

Volume 48
2022. IX, 403 pages.

ISBN 9783161619946
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This book is the final report of the archaeological excavation conducted by a team from Keio University, Japan, from 2009 to 2011 at Tel 'En Gev, Israel. Tel 'En Gev is located on the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee and is a key site in understanding the Aram-Israel relationship during the Iron Age. The aim of the Keio Mission was to establish a coherent stratigraphic sequence of the site with the findings from two previous missions and to clarify the history of the region. The Keio Mission uncovered four separate strata. Stratum KIV, the lowest, is dated to Iron Age IB and likely belonged to the Aramean kingdom of Geshur. In Stratum KIII, late Iron Age IIA, a large tripartite building was uncovered that was probably a part of the expansion of Aram Damascus. The city was weakened during Stratum KII, Iron Age IIB. The occupation, Stratum KI, lasted until the Hellenistic period, although it was no longer a major city.

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Rituale und Magie in Ugarit

Praxis, Kontexte und Bedeutung

Herausgegeben von Reinhard Müller, Hans Neumann, Reettakaisa Sofia Salo unter Mitarbeit von Clemens Steinberger

Volume 47
2022. XV, 341 pages.

ISBN 9783161567247
cloth 139,00 €

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Rituals and magical practices were a central aspect of the everyday life in the Ancient Near East and played a decisive role in all areas of life. They also influenced the history and culture of the Bronze-Age Ugarit, which can be seen through the textual and material evidence. The volume takes the diversity of these phenomena into account and surveys their social and cultural historical contexts.

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Jerusalem and the Coastal Plain in the Iron Age and Persian Periods

New Studies on Jerusalem's Relations with the Southern Coastal Plain of Israel/Palestine (c. 1200–300 BCE). Research on Israel and Aram in Biblical Times IV

Edited by Felix Hagemeyer

Volume 46
2022. XII, 247 pages.

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cloth 119,00 €

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This volume contains the proceedings of an international interdisciplinary workshop held in December 2019 by the Minerva Center for the Relations between Israel and Aram in Biblical Times at Leipzig University. The authors present a variety of studies from the fields of archaeology, history, and biblical studies that focus on the multifaceted relations between Jerusalem and the Mediterranean coast of Israel/Palestine in the period from c. 1200 to 300 BCE. It becomes clear that both regions were connected by a constantly changing economic, cultural, and social exchange.

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Writing and Re-Writing History by Destruction

Proceedings of the Annual Minerva Center RIAB Conference, Leipzig, 2018. Research on Israel and Aram in Biblical Times III

Edited by Angelika Berlejung, Aren M. Maeir, and Takayoshi M. Oshima

Volume 45
2022. VII, 342 pages.

ISBN 9783161612480
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This volume combines the papers held at the Minerva Center's »Research on Israel and Aram in Biblical Times« conference (Leipzig 2018) on the subject of writing and re-writing history by deliberate destruction in the regions of Syria, Palestine, and Mesopotamia. An international group of scholars studies the subject using a multi-perspective and interdisciplinary approach. Archeological studies, ancient Near Eastern studies, and biblical studies focused on the destruction of ancient sites in Israel and Judah in the 1st millennium BC. The perspective of the defeated Israelites, Jerusalemites, and Judeans is described in detail in the Old Testament and in postbiblical literature and shows that the destructions in the past were a cultural and identity creator of the first magnitude. The *longue durée* of the practice of reshaping the past through the deliberate destruction of a cultural heritage in order to shape the present according to current interests becomes evident based on the Neo-Assyrian Empire's practice up to the modern era and is demonstrated by the example of the Arabian-Muslim conquest of Aram as well as current Turkish politics.

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Édité par Giuseppina Lenzo, Christophe Nihan et Matthieu Pellet

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Ce volume porte sur l'évolution à l'époque hellénistique, et dans une perspective comparatiste, des cultes rendus aux rois et aux héros dans trois aires culturelles de l'Antiquité, soit l'Égypte, le Proche Orient (Mésopotamie et Levant) et la Grèce. Durant cette période, le culte royal, dans le cas de l'Égypte et de la Mésopotamie, ainsi que le culte héroïque, dans le cas de la Grèce, ont connu des transformations importantes, transformations qui sont à mettre en relation avec l'émergence et le développement d'une culture «hellénistique» dans le bassin méditerranéen. Le volume réunit une introduction en anglais évoquant la pertinence d'une approche comparatiste dans le cadre de cette thématique, ainsi que treize articles en français et en anglais.

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Végh, Zsuzsanna

»Feste der Ewigkeit«

Untersuchungen zu den abydenischen Kulturen während des Alten und Mittleren Reiches

Volume 43
2021. XV, 497 pages.

ISBN 9783161596384
cloth 179,00 €

ISBN 9783161596391
eBook PDF 179,00 €

Zsuzsanna Végh offers a comprehensive study of the origin and early development of one of the most important religious festivals in ancient Egypt that was celebrated in the Upper Egyptian city of Abydos from the late third millennium BC onwards to honour the god Osiris, ruler of the underworld.

Berlejung, Angelika

Divine Secrets and Human Imaginations

Studies on the History of Religion and Anthropology of the Ancient Near East and the Old Testament

Volume 42
2021. XVI, 678 pages.

ISBN 9783161600340
cloth 194,00 €

ISBN 9783161600982
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The articles in this volume of collected essays, written over the last two decades and all revised, updated, and supplemented with unpublished material, are grouped around two themes: Divine Secrets and Human Imaginations. The first essays deal with the production, initiation, use and function, the abduction, repatriation, and the replacement of divine images, their outer appearance, and the many facets of the divine presence theology in Ancient Mesopotamia. The essays on the second topic deal with human imaginations, human constructs, and constructed memories, which assign meaning to the past or to things or experiences that are beyond human control. Thematically, several aspects of the human condition are examined, such as the ideas associated in the Old Testament and the Ancient Near East with death, corporeality, enemies, disasters, utopias, and passionate love.

»Berlejung's book is a gift to biblical scholarship, particularly to those of us outside the circle of continental scholarship. Its blend of deep erudition and broad intellectual horizons is simply inspiring, providing a feast for the scholarly imagination.«
Ronald Hendel in *RBL* 06/2022

Schrift und Material

Praktische Verwendung religiöser Text- und Bildträger als Artefakte im Alten Ägypten

Hrsg. v. Joachim F. Quack u. Daniela C. Luft

Volume 41
2021. XII, 333 pages.

ISBN 9783161551291
cloth 144,00 €

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eBook PDF 144,00 €

Texts and images do not exist independently of their carrier objects: they facilitate their distribution and use. However, the characteristics of carriers were adapted to the use, as was the selection of texts and images. This interplay of interdependencies is considered theoretically and on the basis of ancient Egyptian sources, offering up fresh approaches to two old questions. The consequences for the possible scope and limits of archaeological reconstruction of past contexts lead on to methodological self-reflection in the field of Egyptology. In addition, opportunities to describe complex action-patterns in former times relationships are unveiled. The relativity of addressing objects in different contexts and a meaning-orientated pluralism rapidly emerges, which in turn leads to more individualism of the individual object.

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Vorwort – *Daniela C. Luft*: Einleitung: Schrift – Objekte. Religiöse Text- und Bildträger des Alten Ägypten als materielle Objekte betrachtet – *Ulrich Veit*: Zur Identifizierung und Deutung »religiöser Artefakte« in der Ur- und Frühgeschichtlichen Archäologie – *Martin Fitzenreiter*: Kultgeräte als Aktanten und das Artefakt Gott – *Daniel Arpagaus*: Mikrokosmos – Makrokosmos. Zur Rolle der Graphie innerhalb der 'grammaire du temple' griechisch-römischer Tempel – *Ladislav Bareš/Jiří Janák/Renata Landgráfová*: The iconography of the Late Period shaft tombs at Abusir – *Antonio J. Morales*: Pyramid Texts as ritual icons: Mechanisms of monumentalization and adaptation in the chambers of the Old Kingdom queens – *Federico Contardi*: Der Zusammenhang zwischen Schriftträger und eingeschriebenem Text am Beispiel des Täglichen Kultrituals für einen Gott – *Laurent Coulon*: Objets, textes et contextes. Réflexion sur la reconstruction des rites osiriennes à Karnak – *Burkhard Backes*: Der Text und seine Gegenwart. Zur Korrelation zwischen Anbringungsformen und Funktionen funéraires Texte – *Paul F. O'Rourke*: A Brooklyn Naophoros and an Edfu Architrave: a Case of Textual Interconnections – *Giuseppina Lenzo*: Les papyrus funéraires des 21ème-22ème dynasties et les liens avec les textes gravés sur les parois des tombes et des temples – *Sandrine Vuilleumier*: Deux sections du P. Princeton Pharaonic Roll 10 attestées aussi dans les temples ou ailleurs – *Alexandra von Lieven*: Die Ostraka des »Ungerecht Verfolgten« im Kontext

New Perspectives on Aramaic Epigraphy in Mesopotamia, Qumran, Egypt and Idumea

Proceedings of the Joint RIAB Minerva Center and the Jeselsohn Epigraphic Center of Jewish History Conference. Research on Israel and Aram in Biblical Times II

Edited by Aren M. Maeir, Angelika Berlejung, Esther Eshel, and Takayoshi M. Oshima

Volume 40
2021. VI, 348 pages.

ISBN 9783161598944
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eBook PDF 144,00 €

This volume contains the proceedings of two international meetings held by the Minerva Center for the Relations between Israel and Aram in Biblical Times (RIAB) in Ramat-Gan/Jerusalem (March 2017) and Leipzig (May 2018). Most of the papers relate to various aspects of the Aramaic epigraphy in different contexts with a second part of the volume dealing with Idumean ostraca. The papers will be of interest to ancient historians, archaeologists of the ancient Near East, scholars of Semitic and Biblical studies and the ancient Near East.

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Angelika Berlejung/Aren Maeir: Introduction

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Pfitzmann, Fabian

Un YHWH venant du Sud?

De la réception vétérotestamentaire des traditions méridionales et du lien entre Madian, le Néguev et l'exode (Ex-Nb ; Jg 5 ; Ps 68 ; Ha 3 ; Dt 33)

Volume 39
2020. XIV, 536 pages.

ISBN 9783161591228
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Dans cette enquête, Fabian Pfitzmann tente de déplacer le débat sur les origines de YHWH. Son but n'est pas de travailler sur l'origine historique de YHWH mais de comprendre comment les traditions qui parlent d'un YHWH qui vient du sud, s'articulent aux autres traditions vétérotestamentaires. En effet, son travail part du constat peu relevé par la recherche jusqu'ici, que les textes poétiques qui déclarent que YHWH est venu du Néguev (Jg 5,4–5 ; Ps 68,8–9 ; Ha 3 ; Dt 33,2) ne parlent pas ou peu de l'exode. De même, les textes théophaniques du Pentateuque n'évoquent pas un YHWH venant d'Edom ou de Séir (Ex 2–4 ; 18 ; Nb 10,29–36). Ces traditions s'ignoraient-elles ? Prenant comme point de départ ce questionnement, l'auteur tente de comprendre les textes théophaniques méridionaux comme des traces de multiples discours sur les origines de YHWH, probablement liés à un polyahwisme originel.

Kotzé, Gideon R.

Images and Ideas of Debated Readings in the Book of Lamentations

Volume 38
2020. XVI, 142 pages.

ISBN 9783161595035
cloth 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161595042
eBook PDF 99,00 €

The Hebrew versions of the five poems in the book of Lamentations are riddled with debated readings. Debated readings are words, phrases, or sentences whose forms and meanings modern readers find difficult or objectionable. In this book, Gideon R. Kotzé adopts a text-critical approach to the interpretation of such readings and suggests that some of them make sense as expressions of images and ideas that circulated widely in the cultural and intellectual environment of Lamentations. After surveying examples of passages in Lamentations where the Hebrew wordings show remarkable resemblances to the images and ideas exhibited by cultural products from all over the ancient Near East, the author discusses five case studies of debated readings that can be explained along similar lines. On this interpretation, the readings in question are not corrupt and do not have to be emended for that reason.

Ayali-Darshan, Noga

The Storm-God and the Sea

The Origin, Versions, and Diffusion of a Myth throughout the Ancient Near East

Transl. by Liat Keren

Volume 37
2020. XXI, 282 pages.

ISBN 9783161559549
cloth 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161559556
eBook PDF 129,00 €

The tale of the combat between the Storm-god and the Sea that began circulating in the early second millennium BCE was one of the most well-known ancient Near Eastern myths. Its widespread dissemination in distinct versions across disparate locations and time periods – Syria, Egypt, Anatolia, Ugarit, Mesopotamia, and Israel – calls for analysis of all the textual variants in order to determine its earliest form, geo-cultural origin, and transmission history. In undertaking this task, Noga Ayali-Darshan examines works such as the Astarte Papyrus, the Pišaiša Myth, the Songs of Hedammu and Ullikummi, the Baal Cycle, Enūma eliš, and pertinent biblical texts. She interprets these and other related writings philologically according to their provenance and comparatively in the light of parallel texts. The examination of this story appearing in all the ancient Near Eastern cultures also calls for a discussion of the theology, literature, and history of these societies and the way they shaped the local versions of the myth.

Filitz, Judith E.

Gott unterwegs

Die traditions- und religionsgeschichtlichen Hintergründe des Habakukliedes

Volume 36
2020. XIV, 571 pages.

ISBN 9783161592652
cloth 169,00 €

ISBN 9783161592669
eBook PDF 169,00 €

Habakkuk's prayer is one of the most mysterious texts in the Old Testament. To understand its theology, a closer look at its background as well as its formation is necessary. Judith E. Filitz shows how the text reveals a theology of the divine presence that describes a God able to stay close by being on the move.

Foreign Women – Women in Foreign Lands

Studies on Foreignness and Gender in the Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East in the First Millennium BCE

Ed. by Angelika Berlejung and Marianne Grohmann

Volume 35
2019. X, 289 pages.

ISBN 9783161575907
cloth 134,00 €

ISBN 9783161575914
eBook PDF 134,00 €

The volume presents a collection of papers read during three workshops held in Leipzig (2016), Jerusalem (2017), and Vienna (2018). International scholars from different disciplines and methodological approaches explored gender-specific constructions of foreignness/strangeness in the Old Testament, Egypt, and Mesopotamia from their particular perspectives. They showed that when combined, strangeness/foreignness and gender can take on very different forms. Various processes of the »othering« of women are of importance, which differ from the »othering« of men. The contributions investigate specific questions, individual female figures and individual phenomena as model cases. The basic question was when, where, how and for what purpose the categories of foreignness and gender were connected and activated in literary tradition. The collection is a preliminary and basic work for further study of gender-specific concepts of foreignness/strangeness in the ancient Mediterranean cultures of the first millennium BCE.

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Research on Israel and Aram

Autonomy, Independence and Related Issues. Proceedings of the First Annual RIAB Center Conference, Leipzig, June 2016. Research on Israel and Aram in Biblical Times I

Ed. by Angelika Berlejung and Aren M. Maeir

Volume 34
2019. XVII, 501 pages.

ISBN 9783161577192
cloth 139,00 €

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eBook PDF 139,00 €

This congress volume of the Minerva Center for the Relations between Israel and Aram in Biblical Times combines theoretical approaches to historical research on autonomy or independence in ancient cultures and then presents articles which study the subject using Aram and Israel in antiquity as examples. These articles show clearly how strongly Syria and Palestine were linked to one another and how they constituted one single cultural region which was connected by its economy, politics, language, religion, and culture.

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Schaper, Joachim

Media and Monotheism

Presence, Representation, and Abstraction in Ancient Judah

Volume 33
2019. XVII, 297 pages.

ISBN 9783161575105
cloth 139,00 €

ISBN 9783161575112
eBook PDF 139,00 €

'Symbolising' – i.e., representing through the use of media – is a more elementary, more foundational activity than the self-conscious use of the intellect. Its exploration is central to this investigation of the transformation of the pre-exilic Yahweh religion into the monotheism of the post-exilic period. That transformation was triggered by *a new constellation of key media* in the pre-exilic and exilic periods: writing, images, and money. The central objective is to understand how their use contributed to a decisive increase in *abstraction* in representation and led to changes in the conceptualisation of divine presence and its representation that ultimately resulted in the transition from monolatry to monotheism. In this study, Joachim Schaper explores neglected areas of Judahite material culture and contributes to an in-depth reconstruction of Judah's religious history in its most important epoch, and thus of one of the key developments in the religious history of humanity.

Cultural Plurality in Ancient Magical Texts and Practices

Graeco-Egyptian Handbooks and Related Traditions

Ed. by Ljuba Merlina Bortolani, William Furley, Svenja Nagel, and Joachim Friedrich Quack

Volume 32
2019. IX, 374 pages.

ISBN 9783161564789
cloth 149,00 €

ISBN 9783161564796
eBook PDF 149,00 €

A conference held in Heidelberg in 2014 resulted in this collection of essays, which explore the multifaceted aspects of magical texts and practices in antiquity, focusing especially on the Graeco-Egyptian magical papyri. The volume concentrates on questions of cultural plurality and fusion, ranging from earlier Egyptian, Mesopotamian and Greek magico-religious traditions, through the original developments of Graeco-Roman Egypt, up to and including their integration into Jewish and Byzantine magical lore. In particular, phenomena such as simple borrowing, advanced adaptation, complete assimilation or even distortion of origin and meaning stress the importance of disentangling different cultural elements and understanding their interaction. Going beyond the borders of academic fields, this book aims at giving to the transcultural perspective the importance it deserves in the study of ancient magic.

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Quack, Joachim Friedrich

Altägyptische Amulette und ihre Handhabung

Volume 31
2022. XII, 516 pages.

ISBN 9783161563850
cloth 159,00 €

ISBN 9783161563867
eBook PDF 159,00 €

Joachim Friedrich Quack's study is the first of its kind to fully examine actual finds of ancient Egyptian amulets along with texts on their use. The whole of ancient Egyptian history is covered from prehistoric cultures up to the Roman Empire.

Luft, Daniela C.

Osiris-Hymnen

Wechselnde Materialisierungen und Kontexte. Untersuchungen anhand der Texte »C 30« / Tb 181, Tb 183, »BM 447« / Tb 128 und der »Athribis«-Hymne

Volume 30
2019. XXIV, 1044 pages.

ISBN 9783161535741
cloth 159,00 €

ISBN 9783161561467
eBook PDF 159,00 €

Osiris – a god of the dead and a dead god, whom the Ancient Egyptians praised and described in numerous hymns. These hymns however are always functional texts, created with the intention of usage, preserved due to intentional records. In this study, Daniela C. Luft traces the original usages and contexts of four groups of hymns and describes their checkered history in the form of text biographies. In doing so, she shows how the content of the texts and their application to various materials depends on the designated uses and functions. She presents the hymns with their textual variants in text editions and synopses. The evidence of how these hymns were moreover recreated from text material which already existed makes them fascinating case studies for the mechanisms of the religious text production of the Ancient Egyptians.

Teaching Morality in Antiquity

Wisdom Texts, Oral Traditions, and Images

Ed. by T.M. Oshima with Susanne Kohlhaas

Volume 29
2018. X, 304 pages.

ISBN 9783161564802
cloth 139,00 €

ISBN 9783161564819
eBook PDF 139,00 €

The eighteen articles collected in this volume are the results of the international workshop, »Teaching Morality in Antiquity: Wisdom Texts, Oral Traditions, and Images,« held at the Bibliotheca Albertina of the University of Leipzig between November 29th and December 1st, 2016 with the financial support of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. During the workshop, fruitful discussions on diverse issues related to the theme »wisdom texts and morality« developed regarding biblical wisdom texts and their parallels from the ancient Egypt, ancient Mesopotamia, and the ancient Levant – more specifically: moral messages and rhetoric in wisdom texts; the dissemination of wisdom teachings; teachings about the divine realm as the core of moral principles or human social order; visualization of divine authority; questions of theodicy; and modern analyses of ancient morality through the eyes of cognitive science.

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Gerstenberger, Erhard S.

Theologie des Lobens in sumerischen Hymnen

Zur Ideengeschichte der Eulogie

Volume 28
2018. XIII, 344 pages.

ISBN 9783161556586
cloth 139,00 €

ISBN 9783161559259
eBook PDF 139,00 €

Sumerian literature of the third and second millennia BC presents, among other genres, a large number of hymnic texts. They mostly originated in cultic worship, celebrating power, prestige, benevolence of deities, kings, temples etc. Erhard S. Gerstenberger starts out with that archaic formulaic shout: »[name] be praised!« = »[dDN] zà-mí (cf. biblical allelujah). Thereafter he analyzes various laudatory expressions containing the keyword zà-mí. He shows that Sumerian praise is not simply a dutiful expression of awe in the face of supreme authorities. Rather, it signifies an effective transfer of power towards the recipients of eulogy. Enhancing and enlivening laudations thus cannot only be emitted from high to low, they can also proceed from the depths empowering the mighty. The human creature thus partakes in the formation and preservation of earthly affairs assuming his and her full responsibilities in all the mysterious interactions of personal and impersonal forces constantly taking place in nature and history.

The Physicality of the Other

Masks from the Ancient Near East and the Eastern Mediterranean

Ed. by Angelika Berlejung and Judith E. Filitz

Volume 27
2018. X, 570 pages.

ISBN 9783161555138
cloth 174,00 €

ISBN 9783161606052
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This volume comprises the conference proceedings of the international and interdisciplinary meeting held in Leipzig from November 9 to 11, 2015. Scholars from different research areas present masks from Egypt, Israel/Palestine, Syria, Mesopotamia, Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Greece, mainly from the third to the first millennium BCE. The masks are analyzed from archaeological, iconographical, anthropological, philological, and theological perspectives. In many cases, the masks refer to gods, ancestors, spirits, and are used as a means to communicate between human beings and supernatural powers. Masks belong to the human condition and seem to be the international and intercultural answer to one of the most existential questions of human life. In addition, the volume includes an archaeological catalogue of the masks from Israel/Palestine of the Neolithic Age until the Persian Period.

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de Hulster, Izaak J.

Figurines in Achaemenid Period Yehud

Jerusalem's History of Religion and Coroplastics in the Monotheism Debate



Volume 26
2017. XV, 225 pages.

ISBN 9783161555503
cloth 134,00 €

ISBN 9783161555510
eBook PDF 134,00 €

Were there figurines in Yehud during the Achaemenid period, and in particular in Jerusalem? A positive answer to this question disproves the general consensus about the absence of figurines in Yehud, which is built on the assumption that the figurines excavated in Judah/Yehud are chronologically indicative for Iron Age II in this area (aside from a few typological exceptions). Ephraim Stern and others have taken this alleged absence of figurines as indicative of Jewish monotheism's rise. Izaak J. de Hulster refutes this 'no figurines → monotheism' paradigm by detailed study of the figurines from Yigal Shiloh's excavation in the 'City of David' (especially their contexts in Stratum 9), providing ample evidence for the presence of figurines in post-587/586 Jerusalem. The author further reflects on the paradigm's premises in archaeology, history, the history of religion, theology, and biblical studies, and particularly in coroplastics (figurine studies).

Salo, Reettakaisa Sofia

Die jüdische Königsideologie im Kontext der Nachbarkulturen

Untersuchungen zu den Königpsalmen 2, 18, 20, 21, 45 und 72

Volume 25
2017. XV, 389 pages.

ISBN 9783161553387
cloth 149,00 €

ISBN 9783161553394
eBook PDF 149,00 €

Judean royal ideology is deeply rooted in the ancient Near Eastern cultural koine and shares its main ideas with the neighbouring kingdoms. Because of the king's special relationship to the divine world, he is able to care for his subjects: he goes into battle armed with divine weapons, fights for law and justice, and carries diverse insignia as symbols of his power. The king is portrayed as cultic protagonist, the mediator of divine blessing, and as being of divine parentage. Reettakaisa Sofia Salo examines the Old Testament Royal Psalms 2, 18, 20, 21, 45 and 72 from the perspective of the history of religion. In light of the neighbouring cultures, the pre-exilic royal ideology proves itself as an integral component of the ancient Near East. The redaction-critical analysis shows that the Old Testament specifics of these psalms first emerged in the kingless time.

Mastrocinque, Attilio

The Mysteries of Mithras

A Different Account

Volume 24
2017. XXI, 363 pages.

ISBN 9783161551123
cloth 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161551185
eBook PDF 114,00 €

In this work, Attilio Mastrocinque cautions against an approach to Mithraism based on the belief that this mystic cult resembles Christianity. While both Christian and pagan authors testified that Mithraic elements were indeed borrowed, according to Attilio Mastrocinque this was only done by some gnostic Christians. He counters that Roman Empire ideology and religion provide better clues on how to approach the matter, contending too that Virgil proves to be more important than the Avesta in understanding Mithraic iconography. The meaning of the central scene – the Tauroctony – thus becomes clear when the Roman triumph's central act of bull sacrifice is thought of as just that, with Mithras playing the role of victor as author of this success. The episodes depicted on many reliefs relate to a prophecy known to Firmicus Maternus and other Christian polemicists, and which foretold the coming of a saviour, i.e. the first emperor, when Saturn returns and Apollo-Mithras will rule.

Lux, Rüdiger

Ein Baum des Lebens

Studien zur Weisheit und Theologie im Alten Testament

Hrsg. v. Angelika Berlejung u. Raik Heckl

Volume 23
2017. VIII, 377 pages.

ISBN 9783161553776
cloth 149,00 €

ISBN 9783161554377
eBook PDF 149,00 €

The twenty-one essays collected in this volume were written by Rüdiger Lux throughout a long career dedicated to the study of Old Testament wisdom and theology. Re-edited and updated to mark his 70th birthday, the contributions centre on diverse aspects of Old Testament wisdom, theology, and sapiential literature, illuminating from different perspectives to reveal fresh insights into ethics, matters of education, and how the world is viewed in the Old Testament. Practical-theological aspects are also pursued in a bid to draw together various sections of theology's individual disciplines.

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I. Zur Weisheit im Alten Testament

Die ungepredigte Bibel. Überlegungen zum theologischen Ort der Weisheit Israels in der christlichen Verkündigung – Der leidende Gerechte als Opfer und Opferherr in der Hiobnovelle – Narratio – Disputatio – Acclamatio. Sprachformen des Leidens und seiner Überwindung im Hiobbuch – Hat auch der Satan seine Zeit? Zur Niederlage des Widersachers JHWHs in Sacharja 3 und Hiob 1–2 – »Ich, Kohelet, bin König...«. Die Fiktion als Schlüssel zur Wirklichkeit in Kohelet 1,12–2,26 – Der »Lebenskompromiß« – ein Wesenszug im Denken Kohelets? Zur Auslegung von Koh 7,15–18 – »Ein jegliches hat seine Zeit...« Des Menschen Zeit im Buch Kohelet – »Denn es ist kein Mensch so gerecht auf Erden, daß er nur Gutes tue...« Recht und Gerechtigkeit aus der Sicht des Predigers Salomo – Tod und Gerechtigkeit im Buch Kohelet – Alter und Weisheit. Reflexionen über die Lebenskunst des Alters in den biblischen Weisheitsschriften – Geschichte als Erfahrung, Erinnerung und Erzählung in der priesterschriftlichen Rezeption der Josefsvorlesung – Die Erfahrung des Guten im Bösen. Zur impliziten Theologie der Josefserzählung (Gen 37–50) – Die Kindheit Samuels. Aspekte religiöser Erziehung in 1 Sam 1–3

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Entangled Worlds: Religious Confluences between East and West in the Roman Empire

The Cults of Isis, Mithras, and Jupiter Dolichenus

Ed. by Svenja Nagel, Joachim Friedrich Quack, and Christian Witschel

Volume 22
2017. X, 564 pages.

ISBN 9783161547300
cloth 184,00 €

ISBN 9783161547317
eBook PDF 184,00 €

This collective volume, originating from an interdisciplinary conference at Heidelberg University, deals with the expansion of the so-called oriental cults in the Roman Empire. The concept of 'oriental cults' itself has come under discussion in recent years because it has been questioned whether the cults in question really formed a coherent group and to what degree they might be called 'oriental' at all. This discussion is reflected throughout the papers of the volume which focus on the three cults of Isis (and Osiris), Mithras and Jupiter Dolichenus. Of special interest are the (alleged) origins of these cults in Egypt, Persia and Northern Syria, their expansion and adaptation within the Roman Empire (through some sort of 'religious flows'), their linguistic and visual expressions as well as the architecture and decoration of sanctuaries and the rituals connected with them.

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Herrschaftslegitimation in vorderorientalischen Reichen der Eisenzeit

Hrsg. v. Christoph Levin u. Reinhard Müller

Volume 21
2017. XI, 315 pages.

ISBN 9783161548581
cloth 139,00 €

ISBN 9783161550287
eBook PDF 139,00 €

This volume deals with the forms and strategies of rulership legitimation that were developed in the Iron Age kingdoms of the Levant as well as in Mesopotamia and Egypt. Based on iconographic, textual and archaeological evidence, the patterns used for sovereign legitimation in these regions are presented in detail. Particular attention is paid to the cultural interactions that took place between the regions as well as the peculiarities characterizing the individual kingdoms.

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Joachim Friedrich Quack: Ägyptische Einflüsse auf nordwestsemitische Königspräsentationen? – *Claus Ambos:* Rituale der Herrschaftslegitimation babylonischer und assyrischer Könige – *Karen Radner:* Assur's »Second Temple Period«. The restoration of the cult of Aššur, c. 538 BC – *Paolo Xella:* Self-depiction and Legitimation: Aspects of Phoenician Royal Ideology – *William Morrow:* Famine as the Curse of Kings: Royal Ideology in Old Aramaic Futility Curse Series – *Bob Becking:* A Voice from Across the Jordan: Royal Ideology as Implied in the Moabite Stela – *Angelika Berlejung:* Dimensionen der Herrschaftslegitimität: Ikonographische Aspekte königlicher Selbstdarstellung in den Kulturen der südlichen Levante der



Mohr Siebeck

Eisenzeit anhand der Bildwerke von Balu'a, Yarih-'ezer und Askalon – *Reinhard Müller*: Herrschaftslegitimation im israelitisch-judäischen Königtum. Eine Spurensuche im Alten Testament – *Christoph Levin*: Das Königsritual in Israel und Juda – *Udo Rüterswörden*: Das Königtum im Hohenlied – *Timothy Harrison*: Royal self-depiction and legitimation of authority in the Levantine monarchies of the Iron Age in light of newly excavated royal sculptures at Tell Tayinat

In Search for Aram and Israel

Politics, Culture, and Identity

Ed. by Omer Sergi, Manfred Oeming, and Izaak J. de Hulster

Volume 20
2016. XVII, 429 pages.

ISBN 9783161538032
cloth 149,00 €

ISBN 9783161550591
eBook PDF 149,00 €

Throughout its history, the Kingdom of Israel had strong connections with the Aramaean world. Constantly changing relations, from rivalry and military conflicts to alliances and military cooperation, affected the history of the whole Levant and left their marks on both Biblical and extra-Biblical sources. New studies demonstrate that Israelite state formation was contemporaneous with the formation of the Aramaean polities (11th-9th centuries BCE). Consequently, the Jordan Valley (and especially its northern parts and its extension to the valley of Lebanon) was a constantly changing border zone between different Iron Age polities. In light of that, there is a need to study the history of Ancient Israel not only from the »Canaanite« point of view but also within the political and cultural context of the Aramaean world. This volume brings together experts working in different fields to address the relations and interactions between Aram and Israel during the Early Iron Age (12th to 8th centuries BCE) through three main aspects: the first aspect, relates to the archaeology and the material culture of Aram and Israel, with a special focus on the Jordan valley as a political and cultural border zone. The material culture of the region is examined in its spatial as well as chronological context in order to discuss cultural traits as against political affiliation. The second aspect relates to the history of the Aramaean kingdoms highlighting the formation of territorial kingdoms in the Levant and the history of Israel in its Aramaean context. The third aspect relates to the question of historical memory especially as it was preserved in the biblical traditions. The place of the Aramaeans in the Biblical literature is discussed as a mean to clarify the construction of Israelite and Aramaic identity in a fluid cultural region.

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Omer Sergi/Izaak J. de Hulster: Some Historical and Methodological Considerations Regarding the Question of Political, Social and Cultural Interaction between Aram and Israel in the Early Iron Age

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Dietrich, Jan

Der Tod von eigener Hand

Studien zum Suizid im Alten Testament, Alten Ägypten und Alten Orient

Volume 19
2016. XVI, 381 pages.

ISBN 9783161540554
cloth 149,00 €

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eBook PDF 149,00 €

Suicide raises questions about the meaning and purpose of human life, and the definition of man as being capable of committing suicide is perhaps one of the most eerie, philosophically sophisticated and theologically inconvenient. Furthermore, suicide and the different ways society deals with suicide are currently being debated not only in society but in different fields of research too. Until now however, there has been no extensive study of suicide in ancient Israel and its neighbouring cultures of ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia and Syria, and it is the aim of this book to close this research gap. Jan Dietrich does not view suicide from medical or dogmatic-theological perspectives, which regard suicide as an act of mental illness or sinful deed. Instead, it is viewed from a historico-cultural and sociological perspective and focuses on the motives and meanings behind suicidal acts. By examining suicide from this angle, it is interpreted as an attempt to solve basic problems of life, and the historical material available is categorised into three basic forms: escapist suicides, aggressive suicides, and suicides of passage and sacrifice.

Hillmann, Reinhard

Brautpreis und Mitgift

Gedanken zum Eherecht in Ugarit und seiner Umwelt mit einer Rekonstruktion des im Ritual verankerten »Schlangentext«-Mythos

Volume 18
2016. XXX, 272 pages.

ISBN 9783161535611
cloth 134,00 €

ISBN 9783161550607
eBook PDF 134,00 €

Based on the matrimonial stipulations in Old Babylonian and Middle Assyrian law and examining the texts of Alalakh and Emar and the Amarna letters, Reinhard Hillmann explores the matrimonial law of Ugarit. He demonstrates that in the Old Testament of the Iron Age there was a connection between matrimonial law and the previous Babylonian and Assyrian tradition. Genesis 34:11b-12 is dealt with in a new manner. The author refutes the belief that the bride price was returned to the family of the husband by the father of the bride in Ugarit. He discovers different aspects of marital customs by analyzing the Nikkal text (CAT 1.24) and CAT 1.100. Hillmann interprets CAT 1.100 as a libretto for a mythological play in which there is acute danger due to snakes, which is then eliminated by the marriage of Horon and the protectress of the cattle.

Religion in the Achaemenid Persian Empire

Emerging Judaisms and Trends

Ed. by Diana Edelman, Anne Fitzpatrick-McKinley, and Philippe Guillaume

Volume 17
2016. VII, 390 pages.

ISBN 9783161539602
cloth 144,00 €

ISBN 9783161546907
eBook PDF 144,00 €

The Achaemenid Persian imperial rulers have long been held to have exercised a policy of religious tolerance within their widespread provinces and among their dependencies. The fourteen articles in this volume explore aspects of the dynamic interaction between the imperial and the local levels that impacted primarily on local religious practices. Some of the articles deal with emerging forms of Judaism under Achaemenid hegemony, others with Achaemenid religion, royal ideology, and political policy toward religion. Others discuss aspects of Phoenician religion and changes to Egyptian religious practice while another addresses the presence of mixed religious practices in Phrygia, as indicated by seal imagery. Together, they indicate that tolerance was part of political expediency rather than a universal policy derived from religious conviction.

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Ceccarelli, Manuel

Enki und Ninmah

Eine mythische Erzählung in sumerischer Sprache

Volume 16
2016. XVIII, 251 pages.

ISBN 9783161542787
cloth 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161546921
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Enki und Ninmah is the modern name for a mythical story in the Sumerian language featuring the two main characters Enki, the god of crafts and wisdom, and Ninmah, the mother goddess. The text firstly tells of humankind's creation as a workforce for the gods and then relates how Enki and Ninmah compete to be able to determine the fate of humans. Ninmah creates seven invalids, whom Enki, however, is able to find suitable work for. The text hereby explains the existence of sick people and Enki's superiority is confirmed. In this new critical edition, Manuel Ceccarelli concentrates on philological analysis and religio-historical interpretation of the narrative, with particular attention paid to the humorous and satirical aspects of the contest.



Mohr Siebeck

Orientalische Religionen in der Antike
Last updated: 13/03/2024

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Lambert, W.G.

Ancient Mesopotamian Religion and Mythology

Selected Essays

Ed. by A.R. George and T.M. Oshima

Volume 15
2016. XVI, 279 pages.

ISBN 9783161536748
cloth 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161606045
eBook PDF 114,00 €

The late W.G. Lambert (1926–2011) was one of the foremost Assyriologists of the latter part of the twentieth century. His principle legacy is a large number of superb critical editions of Babylonian literary compositions. Many of the texts he edited were on religious and mythological subjects. He will always be remembered as the editor of the Babylonian Job (*Ludlul bel nemeqi*), also known as the Poem of the Righteous Sufferer, the Babylonian Flood Story (*Atra-hasis*) and the Babylonian Creation Epic (*Enuma elish*). Decades of deep engagement with these and other ancient Mesopotamian texts gave direction to much of his research and led him to acquire a deep knowledge of ancient Mesopotamian religion and mythology. The present book is a collection of twenty-three essays published by the scholar between the years 1958 and 2004. These endure not only as the legacy of one of the greatest authorities in this specialist field, but also because each makes statements of considerable validity and importance. As such, many are milestones in the fields of Mesopotamian religion and mythology.

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Old Testament Mythology in its Ancient Near Eastern Context – Destiny and Divine Intervention in Babylon and Israel – The Flood in Sumerian, Babylonian and Biblical Sources

Oshima, Takayoshi M.

Babylonian Poems of Pious Sufferers

Ludlul Bel Nemeqi and the Babylonian Theodicy

Volume 14
unrevised e-book edition 2021;
Original edition 2014 2014.
XX, 572 pages.

ISBN 9783161606038
eBook PDF 179,00 €

Takayoshi Oshima analyses the two most important Babylonian wisdom texts: *Ludlul Bēl Nēmeqi* (also known as the *Babylonian Job* or the *Babylonian Righteous Sufferer*) and the so-called *Babylonian Theodicy*. On the basis of the hitherto published as well as newly available, unpublished cuneiform manuscripts, the author establishes a new critical text for each poem and gives an English translation. He offers detailed philological and critical notes to the texts, discussing both the textual and the interpretive issues evoked by individual words and passages. In addition, however, each poem is preceded by a lengthy discussion of its origins, intention, and plot, as well as by more general considerations of its cultural and historical background, including short but important observations on the relationship to Old Testament wisdom literature.

Theis, Christoffer

Magie und Raum

Der magische Schutz ausgewählter Räume im Alten Ägypten nebst einem Vergleich zu angrenzenden Kulturbereichen

Volume 13
2014. XV, 1032 pages.

ISBN 9783161535567
cloth 179,00 €

ISBN 9783161606021
eBook PDF 179,00 €

Was the individual in Ancient Egypt completely at the mercy of demons, illnesses or other threats? Or could various practices be called upon to keep the likes of these at bay? Christoffer Theis examines written and archaeological sources, which verify the magical protection of various rooms and spaces in Ancient Egypt. He presents a detailed analysis and commentary of evidence available for the protection of the land of Egypt, its temples, houses, sleeping chambers, and graves. Legacies from other contemporary cultures, such as Mesopotamia, Anatolia and the Syria-Palestine region are also dealt with. Going a step further, the author compares these with Greek, Coptic, Arab and Hebrew material. The currently available sources show clearly inter- as well as trans-cultural homogeneity and identification characteristics through the local and temporal spaces.

Gabriel, Gösta

enūma eliš – Weg zu einer globalen Weltordnung

Pragmatik, Struktur und Semantik des babylonischen »Lieds auf Marduk«

Volume 12
2014. XXII, 524 pages.

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The *Song to Marduk* (*enūma eliš*) is probably the most important mythical text of the ancient Babylonian culture. It tells of the rise of the young god Marduk who becomes the absolute ruler of all gods and of the world. This study by Gösta Gabriel is the first overall interpretation of the work which focuses on this single text and analyses its external effective dimension (pragmatics), its internal constitution (structure) and meaning (semantics). The concepts of *fixspeech* (*šimtu*) and naming are crucial for the deeper understanding of the work and are, therefore, examined according to their text-internal function. Finally, the different perspectives on the text are put together, revealing that the work is internally and externally a way and a key to an eternal peaceful world order that is established by and deeply rooted in Marduk – the *Pax Mardukiana*.

Münnich, Maciej M.

The God Resheph in the Ancient Near East

Volume 11
2013. XIV, 320 pages.

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Resheph was quite a popular god in the 3rd and 2nd millennia BC – especially in Syria – but during the 1st millennium his cult became extinct. Finally it was only maintained in several peripheral and isolated sites, such as in the Palmyra desert and in Cyprus. Maciej M. Münnich presents the written sources which mentioned Resheph and analyzes the features of Resheph's cult. He emphasizes that there is no confirmation for the theory that Resheph was a lord of the netherworld. Resheph was a belligerent, aggressive god who used diseases to attack people, but who could also heal. In Egypt, Resheph was originally venerated as the deity who supported the Pharaoh in battles, but then he was summoned mainly because of illness and everyday needs. In ancient Israel, Resheph was at first reduced to the level of a demonic assistant of Yahweh, but his name then became a common term, always however in reference to the character of the deity. Among the Hurrites, Resheph appeared as a divine guardian of trade. He was not treated as a solely harmful, dangerous god, as has been suggested in numerous previous studies.

Gut und Böse in Mensch und Welt

Philosophische und religiöse Konzeptionen vom Alten Orient bis zum frühen Islam

Hrsg. v. Heinz-Günther Nesselrath u. Florian Wilk

Volume 10
2013. VIII, 237 pages.

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Questions about the origins and reality of good and evil and about their mutual relationship play a central part in the history of philosophy and religion from their very beginning. Giving answers to these questions had a decisive influence on how the world and its civilization(s) as well as human beings and their ethics were perceived in their relations to higher beings (god or gods). The contributions within this conference volume illustrate which concepts regarding these questions were developed in ancient civilizations around the Mediterranean, from the early literatures of Egypt and Mesopotamia, Iran and Greece to biblical, Qumranic and ancient Christian texts as well as the writings of the Manichaeans and the Quran. Thus this volume gives a representative overview of the responses of the ancient world to one of the fundamental questions of mankind.

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Heinz-Günther Nesselrath / Florian Wilk : Einleitung – Bernd Schipper : 'Gut und Böse' im Alten Ägypten – Catherine Mittermayer : Gut und Böse – Anforderungen an menschliches Handeln im Beziehungsgefüge zwischen Göttern und Menschen in den mesopotamischen Mythen – Philip Kreyenbroek : Good and Evil in Zoroastrianism – Wilhelm Blümer : Gutes und Böses aus Götterhand? Zum Verhältnis von Selbstbestimmung und Fremdbestimmung des Menschen in der frühgriechischen Dichtung – Konrad Schmid : Genealogien der Moral – Prozesse fortschreitender ethischer Qualifizierung von Mensch und Welt im Alten Testament – Devorah Dimant : The Demonic Realm in Qumran Sectarian Literature – Jan Doehorn : Das Böse und Gott im Römerbrief – eine Skizze – Ulrich Volp : Der Schöpfergott und die Ambivalenzen seiner Welt – Das Bild vom Schöpfergott als ethisches Leitbild im frühen Christentum in seiner Auseinandersetzung mit der philosophischen Kritik – Markus Stein : Der Dualismus bei den Manichäern und der freie Wille – Therese Fuhrer : Kann der Mensch ohne Fehler sein? Augustin über die 'Sünde' – Angelika Neuwirth : Die Entdeckung des Bösen im Koran – Überlegungen zu den koranischen Versionen des Dekalogs – Martin Tamcke : 'Das reine Leben des Glaubens will ich nach deinem Vorbild erwerben' – Der Kampf um das Gute und wider das Böse nach einer ostsyrischen Heiligenlegende

Menschenbilder und Körperkonzepte im Alten Israel, in Ägypten und im Alten Orient

Hrsg. v. Angelika Berlejung, Jan Dietrich u. Joachim F. Quack

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2012. XI, 695 pages.

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Ideas of man and concepts of the body are closely linked, and are a key factor in defining anthropological theories and problems. In addition, they are closely connected to the social structure of each cultural region, which itself has a continuous influence on human actions and attitudes, but which at the same time is also the result of human actions and attitudes. Scholars from various disciplines used this as their basis to explore the subject in their own cultural field (Old Testament/Palestine, Egypt and the Ancient Near East), each of them taking the perspective of their own methodological approach. The studies incorporate both, text and image sources. It is the authors' common goal to provide a precise description of specific anthropological developments which are dependent on time and culture and to include a discussion of basic issues of the *conditio humana*.

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Iuppiter Dolichenus

Vom Lokalkult zur Reichsreligion

Hrsg. v. Michael Blömer u. Engelbert Winter

Volume 8
2012. VII, 306 pages.

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Jupiter Dolichenus was the local god of the town of Doliche in Southeastern Turkey, and during the 2nd century AD his cult spread over large parts of the Roman Empire. The recent debate on oriental religions in the Roman Empire as well as the results of the ongoing excavations in the god's main sanctuary in Doliche have prompted a fresh look at Jupiter Dolichenus. In this book, eight contributions by historians and archaeologists examine various aspects of his religion. The topics range from the connection between Doliche and the Western cult, the ways in which the religion spread, the god's role in the Roman army and his female worshippers to a close examination of the architecture of his shrines, a presentation of the recently excavated Vindolanda Dolichenum and a description of the evidence from the Danube region.

Oshima, Takayoshi M.

Babylonian Prayers to Marduk



Mohr Siebeck

Orientalische Religionen in der Antike
Last updated: 13/03/2024

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Volume 7
2011. XVIII, 483 pages.

ISBN 9783161508318
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ISBN 9783161605963
eBook PDF 149,00 €

This is the first comprehensive study of Babylonian prayers dedicated to Marduk, the god of Babylon, since J. Hehn's essay »Hymnen und Gebete an Marduk« (1905). Marduk was the god of the city of Babylon and was the most important god in Babylonia from the time of Hammurabi (the 18th century BCE) onwards. In this book, Takayoshi Oshima presents an up-to-date catalog of all known Babylonian prayers dedicated to Marduk from different historical periods and offers critical editions of 31 ancient texts based on newly identified manuscripts and a collation of the previously published manuscripts. The author also discusses various aspects of Akkadian prayers to different deities and the ancient belief in the mechanism of punishment and redemption by Marduk.

Ägyptische Rituale der griechisch-römischen Zeit

Hrsg. v. Joachim F. Quack

Volume 6
2014. VI, 377 pages.

ISBN 9783161504181
cloth 134,00 €

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eBook PDF 134,00 €

Evidence of rituals has a prominent place among the legacies of the Egyptian culture. This evidence can be immortalized monumentally on the walls of temples and tombs, or it can appear on papyri and ostraca as an indication of its actual use. There is an abundance of preserved Egyptian rituals which are characterized as much by their variety (temple cult, private use for the living and the dead) as they are by the wide range of levels of language development and writing systems which originated in Egypt during the Greco-Roman Period (approximately 330 BC to 200 AD). At the same time, there were special conditions during this Period due to the fact that the king, as the official supreme master of rituals, was a stranger. The articles in this volume deal with various aspects of this subject and are enhanced by a study of simultaneous phenomena in Mesopotamia.

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Joachim Friedrich Quack: Einleitung – *Ivan Guermeur:* À propos d'un nouvel exemplaire du rituel journalier pour Soknebtynis. (phiéraTeb SCA 2979 et autres variantes) – *Alexandra von Lieven:* Two Ritual Papyri for Sobek of Krokodilopolis. A Preliminary Report – *Holger Kockelmann:* Götter als Ritualisten. Zu einem speziellen Typ der Opfer- und Verehrungsszenen in ägyptischen Tempeln – *Frank Feder:* Das Ritual »Errichten des Ka-Symbols der Sehneth-Kapelle« in der griechisch-römischen Zeit Ägyptens – *Laetitia Martzoff:* Images du rituel de la confirmation du pouvoir royal: le lâcher des oiseaux vivants – *Joachim Friedrich Quack:* Eine Götterinvokation mit Fürbitte für Pharao und den Apisstier (Ostrakon Hor 18) – *Friedhelm Hoffmann:* Der demotische Papyrus Wien D 6951 – *Ghislaine Widmer:* Words and Writing in Demotic Ritual Texts from Soknopaiou Nesos – *Mark Smith:* Bodl. MS. Egypt. a. 3(P) and the Interface Between Temple Cult and Cult of the Dead – *Sandrine Vuilleumier:* La mise en écrit du rituel dans le P. Princeton Pharaonic Roll 10 – *Jacco Dieleman:* The Artemis Liturgical Papyrus – *Andrea Kucharek:* Frauen im Tempel. Zur Frage der Ritualakteure in den »Klageliedern von Isis und Nephthys« – *Susanne Töpfer:* Bemerkungen zum Balsamierungsritual nach den Papyri Boulaq III und Louvre 5.158 – *Andreas H. Pries:* Zur Aussagekraft von Verklärungssprüchen der Totenliteratur über den Vollzug konkreter Bestattungsriten in griechisch-römischer Zeit – *Pierre Meyrat:* Topography-related Problems in the Apis Embalming Ritual – *Pierre Meyrat:* The First Column of the Apis Embalming Ritual. Papyrus Zagreb 597-2 – *Claus Ambos:* »Opfer nach griechischer Art führten sie in Esangila aus.« – Kult und Ritual im hellenistischen Mesopotamien zwischen Tradition und Wandel

Weltkonstruktionen

Religiöse Weltdeutung zwischen Chaos und Kosmos vom Alten Orient bis zum Islam

Hrsg. v. Peter Gemeinhardt u. Annette Zgoll

Volume 5
2010. XVI, 242 pages.

ISBN 9783161505829
cloth 104,00 €

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eBook PDF 104,00 €

Religion has to do with God and the world. This volume contains an interdisciplinary discussion on the interpretation of the world by religions in the Ancient Near East, Greco-Roman antiquity, the Old and New Testament, and by late ancient Christianity and Islam. The basic categories for interpreting the world are chaos and cosmos, creation and eschatology, heaven and earth or the world of the living and the netherworld. The ten case studies in this book examine the topography of such world structures, and in doing so show the differences as well as the similarities between patterns of religious hermeneutics. The authors make it clear that whoever asked about the world and the powers that ruled it between the second millennium BC and the first millennium AD was also asking about the power of God – and thus about the purpose and meaning of the world.

Dietrich, Jan

Kollektive Schuld und Haftung

Religions- und rechtsgeschichtliche Studien zum Sündenkuhritus des Deuteronomiums und zu verwandten Texten



Mohr Siebeck

Orientalische Religionen in der Antike
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Volume 4
2010. XIX, 462 pages.

ISBN 9783161503535
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The 'scapecow' ritual in Deuteronomy 21:1–9 is a central but almost unknown type of scapegoat ritual of the Hebrew Bible. In the case of a homicide caused by an unknown perpetrator, the parallels from ancient Near Eastern legal texts demand collective legal liability, while in the Deuteronomy passage a young cow is ritually killed as a substitute for the liability of the community. This is, according to Girard's and Burkert's perspectives, the genuine form of a scapegoat ritual, since the heifer is ritually killed, not merely sent into the wilderness. Thus the question arises: Is the violence of this ritual meant to resolve the violence of the homicide to unburden Israel from the demands of its collective guilt? To answer this question, the author provides a comprehensive history and analysis of this text, comparing it to its religious and judicial parallels from both the ancient Near East and the Bible, using historical methods from exegesis, cultural anthropology and comparative law.

Naether, Franziska

Die Sortes Astrampsychi

Problemlösungsstrategien durch Orakel im römischen Ägypten

Volume 3
2010. XVIII, 491 pages.

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»You will marry your girlfriend, but you will be sorry.« »You will inherit from your wife, but you will not be the sole heir.« These are the words of an oracle attributed to Pythagoras which supposedly also helped Alexander gain world supremacy. The »Sortes Astrampsychi« were transmitted on papyri from the Roman period and medieval manuscripts in Greek. Consisting of 92 pre-formulated questions and 1030 matching answers from nearly all areas of daily life, the oracle represents an important source for the social history of Egypt, for example its demography, economy and jurisdiction. In this commentary on the »Sortes Astrampsychi«, the author focuses on the background of its use in antiquity and the contextualization among the religious, divinatory and magical practices of Egypt, in particular the »ticket« oracles in Demotic, Greek and Coptic.

Reformen im Alten Orient und der Antike

Programme, Darstellungen und Deutungen

Hrsg. v. Ernst-Joachim Waschke u. Mitw. v. Johannes Thon

Volume 2
2009. XI, 200 pages.

ISBN 9783161498695
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The contributors to this volume provide a critical analysis of historical events and processes for which scholars use the term »reform.«. This is done by problematizing the term itself and by describing the backgrounds of selected reforms in antiquity, their stylization and the history of their reception. Beginning with Tutankhamen's restoration as a counter-reaction to Echnaton's reform, the authors deal with reform processes in Greek and Roman antiquity and the processes of transformation in Middle Eastern Oriental societies, using Uruk and Jehud in the Persian era as examples. Those articles related specifically to the Old Testament range from the question of Deuteronomy as a reform program to the description of the reforms of Ezekiel, Esdras and Nehemiah. In conclusion, the authors deal with the figure of Esdras as a reformer in classical Jewish literature.

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Stadler, Martin A.

Weiser und Wesir

Studien zu Vorkommen, Rolle und Wesen des Gottes Thot im ägyptischen Totenbuch

Volume 1
2009. XVI, 541 pages.

ISBN 9783161498541
cloth 129,00 €

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In Egyptology, monographs on deities are an important genre, since they collect crucial information on individual deities. Yet those studies – particularly on more significant deities – are also difficult to write, because an analysis can be buried under the vast evidence if it is just catalogued. A god as prominent as Thoth, who is generally and simplistically characterized as a scribal god and a god of wisdom, has not yet been studied in detail. Martin A. Stadler explores new methodologies in combining Thoth with an exegesis of a substantial part of the Egyptian Book of the Dead. He aims at explaining the relevant spells of this central religious corpus as coherent compositions. This is the first approach of this nature, in which an author points out the non-European logic in Egyptian religious thinking. The specific position of the Book of the Dead within Egyptian written sources also allows it to study Thoth throughout Egyptian history.

