

# Orientalische Religionen in der Antike

Edited by Angelika Berlejung, Joachim F. Quack, and Annette Zgoll

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## Schrift und Material

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

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

2020. Approx. 350 pages.  
forthcoming in February

ISBN 9783161551291  
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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.

#### Survey of contents

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 funärer 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

Ayali-Darshan, Noga

## The Storm-God and the Sea

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

2019. Approx. 320 pages.  
forthcoming in December

ISBN 9783161559549  
cloth 109,00 €

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eBook PDF 109,00 €

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.

## 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.  
forthcoming in November

ISBN 9783161575907  
cloth 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161575914  
eBook PDF 114,00 €

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.

#### Survey of contents

*Lars Allolio-Näcke*: How to Become an Alien (Woman)? – *Sara Japhet*: Marriage with Foreign Women: Yes or No? – *Nili Wazana*: Rahab, the Unlikely Foreign Woman of Jericho (Joshua 2) – *Marianne Grohmann*: The Philistine Woman from Timnah in Judges 14:1–15:8 – *Angelika Berlejung*: Solomon's Soulmate: The Queen of Sheba as Foreign Woman – *Daniel Bodi*: When Yhwh's Wife, Jerusalem, Became a Strange Woman: Inversion of Values in Ezekiel 16 in Light of Ištar Cult – From Spouse to Brothel Boss ('iššā zōnā šallāṭet) – *Stefan Fischer*: Foreign Women in the Book of Proverbs – *Jan Dietrich*: The Image of the Foreign Woman in Proverbs 1–9 – *Hans-Peter Mathys*: Phoenicians and Money Bags. Observations on Prov 7 – *Hans-Peter Mathys*: The Valiant Housewife of Prov 31:10–31: A Phoenician Businesswoman – *Jutta Hausmann*: Pharaoh's



Daughter and Ruth – Cornerstones in the History of Israel – *Agnethé Siquans*: A Moabite Woman as the 'Right Son': Ruth as Naomi's and Boaz's Daughter – *Kristin Joachimsen*: Esther in Shushan: Narrative Constructions of Otherness related to Gender, Ethnicity and Social Status within the Persian Empire – *Franziska Naether*: Ancient Expats? Wise Women and Witches in Egyptian Literary Sources – *Angelika Berlejung*: Forever Foreign? Marriage Rules in Urban Babylonia and their Impact on the Exiles and Returnees

## 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. Maier

Volume 34  
2019. XVII, 501 pages.  
forthcoming in October

ISBN 9783161577192  
cloth 119,00 €

ISBN 9783161577208  
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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.

Survey of contents

### Section III. Archaeological Perspectives on the Arameans in the Northern Levant

*Dominik Bonatz*: The Myth of Aramean Culture – *Daniele Morandi Bonacossi*: Iron Age Mishrifeh: An Aramean Specialized Production Center in the Hamath Kingdom?

### Section IV. Archaeological Perspectives on the Aramean-Israelite Inter-relations in the Southern Levant

*Shuichi Hasegawa*: 'En Gev in the Iron Age II: Material Culture and Political History – *Naama Yahalom-Mack/Nava Panitz-Cohen/Robert A. Mullins*: An Iron Age I Cultic Context at Tel Abel Beth-Maacah – *Adi Eliyahu-Behar/Vanessa Workman/Amit Dagan*: Early Iron Production at Philistine Tell es-Safi/Gath vs. Israelite Tel Megiddo – *Yifat Thareani*: Archaeology of an Imagined Community: Tel Dan in the Iron Age IIa – *Gunnar Lehmann*: Hazael in the South – *Assaf Kleiman*: Invisible Kingdoms? Settlement Oscillations in the Northern Jordan Valley and State Formation in Southwestern Syria

### Section V. Historical Perspectives on Aramean-Israelite Interactions

*Omer Sergi*: The Memory of the Kingdom of Geshur in Biblical Literature – *Karel van der Toorn*: Arameans and Israelites in Papyrus Amherst 63 – *Christian Frevel*: State Formation in the Southern Levant: The Case of the Arameans and the Role of Hazael's Expansion – *Herbert Niehr*: The Relations between the Kingdoms of Hamath and Israel – *Yuval Levavi*: A Peculiar Taxation Practice of Judean Exiles in Rural Babylonia and its Possible Connection to Building Activity in Late Sixth Century Judah

### Section VI. Historical Perspectives on Later Periods

*Leeor Gottlieb*: From Translation to Midrash: On the Role of Aramaic Targum towards the End of the First Millennium CE – *Abraham Tal*: Between Early and Late Samaritan Aramaic – *John Healey*: »Arameans« and Aramaic in Transition: Western Influences and the Roots of Aramean Christianity – *Esther Eshel/Ian Stern*: Divination Texts from Maresha

Schaper, Joachim

## Media and Monotheism

Presence, Representation, and Abstraction in Ancient Judah

Volume 33  
2019. XVII, 297 pages.

ISBN 9783161575105  
cloth 119,00 €

ISBN 9783161575112  
eBook PDF 119,00 €

'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 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161564796  
eBook PDF 129,00 €

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.

Survey of contents

*Ljuba M. Bortolani/Svenja Nagel*: Introduction & Acknowledgements

**Part I: Egyptian, Greek and Mesopotamian Traditions of Magic: Different Genres, Perception of the 'Other' and Possible Transcultural Exchange**

*Franziska Naether*: Magical Practices in Egyptian Literary Texts: in Quest of Cultural Plurality – *William Furley*: Magic and Mystery at Selinus. Another Look at the Getty Hexameters – *Daniel Schwemer*: Beyond Ereškigal? Mesopotamian Magic Traditions in the Papyri Graecae Magicae

**Part II: Cultural Plurality and Fusion in the Graeco-Egyptian Magical Papyri (PGM/PDM)  
Single Handbooks and Magical Techniques**

*Richard Gordon*: Compiling P. Lond I 121 = PGM VII in a Transcultural Context – *Svenja Nagel*: Illuminating Encounters: Reflections on Cultural Plurality in Lamp Divination Rituals – *Ljuba M. Bortolani*: 'We Are Such Stuff as Dream Oracles Are Made on': Greek and Egyptian Traditions and Divine Personas in the Dream Divination Spells of the Magical Papyri – *Christopher A. Faraone*: Cultural Plurality in Greek Magical Recipes for Oracular and Protective Statues

**Specific Spells and Deities**

*Joachim Friedrich Quack*: The Heliopolitan Ennead and Geb as a Scrofulous Boar in the PGM. Two Case Studies on Cultural Interaction in Late-Antique Magic – *Richard Phillips*: Traditions of Transformation and Shape-Shifting in PGM XIII 270–77 – *Adria Haluszka*: Crowns of Hermanubis: Semiotic Fusion and Spells for Better Business in the Magical Papyri – *Marcela Ristorto*: Love Spell and Hymn to Aphrodite in PGM IV (2891–941)

**Part III: Integration and Transformation of Graeco-Egyptian Magic in Jewish and Byzantine Spells**

*Gideon Bohak/Alessia Bellusci*: The Greek Prayer to Helios in *Sefer Ha-Razim*, in Light of New Textual Evidence – *Michael Zellmann-Rohrer*: Incantations in Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Greek: Change and Continuity.

Quack, Joachim Friedrich

## Altägyptische Amulette und ihre Handhabung

Volume 31  
2020. Approx. 490 pages.  
forthcoming in January

ISBN 9783161563850  
cloth approx. 135,00 €

ISBN 9783161563867  
eBook PDF approx. 135,00 €

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 139,00 €

ISBN 9783161561467  
eBook PDF 139,00 €

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 119,00 €

ISBN 9783161564819  
eBook PDF 119,00 €

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.

Survey of contents

#### I: Wisdom and Gods as the Foundation of Morality in Ancient World

*Jan Dietrich:* Wisdom in the Cultures of the Ancient World: A General Introduction and Comparison – *Jan Assmann:* Tugenden und Pflichten nach altägyptischen Morallehren

#### II: Ancient Near Eastern Wisdom Texts

*Yoram Cohen:* Why »Wisdom«? Copying, Studying, and Collecting Wisdom Literature in the Cuneiform World – *Alan Lenzi:* »Counsels of Wisdom« as »White-Collar« Wisdom in First Millennium Ancient Mesopotamia – *Herbert Niehr:* Weisheit in den Königsepen aus Ugarit

#### III: Comparative Studies of Ancient Near Eastern Wisdom Texts

*Noga Ayali-Darshan:* »Do not Open your Heart to Your Wife or Servant« (Khasheshonqy 13:17): A West-Asiatic Antecedent and its Relation to Later Wisdom Instructions – *Daniel Bodi:* Two Animal Proverbs in Ahiqar and in Aesop on Human Relationships: Mercilessness and Sharing – *Enrique Jiménez:* An Almost Irresistible Target: Parodying the Theodicy in Babylonian Literature

#### IV: Moral Teaching in the Book of Job

*Edward L. Greenstein:* Proverbs and Popular Sayings, Real or Invented, in the Book of Job – *Dominick S. Hernández:* The Expression of Moral Judgments through Imagery in Job and Ancient Near Eastern Literature – *Ludger Schwienhorst-Schönberger:* »Jetzt aber hat mein Auge dich geschaut« (Ijob 42,5): Gibt es im Ijobbuch eine Lösung des Problems auf der Ebene des Bewusstseins?

#### V: Questions of Theodicy in the Ancient Near Eastern World

*Alexandra von Lieven:* »Ich habe nicht befohlen, dass sie Unrecht tun«: Das Theodizee-Problem im Alten Ägypten – *Thomas Krüger:* Morality and Religion in Three Babylonian Poems of Pious Sufferers – *T.M. Oshima:* »When the Godless Thrives and a Wolf Grows Fat«: Notions of the Prosperity of the Impious in Ancient Mesopotamian Wisdom Texts

#### VI: Visual Demonstration of Divine Authority

*Izak Cornelius:* Communicating Divine Order and Authority: The Stela of Hammurapi of Babylon – *Judith E. Filitz:* At the Threshold of Ritual and Theater: Another Means on Looking at a Mesopotamian Ritual

#### VII: Ancient Morality through the Perspective of Cognitive Science

*Yitzhaq Feder:* Morality Without Gods? Retribution and the Foundations of the Moral Order in the Ancient Near East – *Karolina Prochownik:* Gods and Goodness by the Rivers of Babylon: A Cognitive Scientific Approach to Ancient Mesopotamian Moral Theology

Gerstenberger, Erhard S.

## Theologie des Lobens in sumerischen Hymnen

### Zur Ideengeschichte der Eulogie

Volume 28  
2018. XIII, 344 pages.

ISBN 9783161556586  
cloth 119,00 €

ISBN 9783161559259  
eBook PDF 119,00 €

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 149,00 €

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.

Survey of contents

#### I: Introductory Considerations

*Judith E. Filitz*: Of Masks and Men. Thoughts on Masks from Different Perspectives – *Alfred Schäfer*: Zwischenwelten. Maskenauftritte im Egungu/Kutito-Geheimbund

#### II: Masks in Egypt

*Renée F. Friedman*: Masking in Early Egypt. A View from Hierakonpolis – *Alexandra von Lieven*: Can Deities Be Impersonated? The Question of Use of Masks in Ancient Egyptian Rituals – *Asja Müller*: Masking the Dead in Roman Egypt

#### III: Masks in the Southern Levant

*Izak Cornelius*: The »Face of Death« and the »Face of Baal«? Masks from the Stone Age and Bronze Age – *Itzhaq Shai*: Two Late Bronze Age Ceramic Masks from Tel Burna, Israel – *Angelika Berlejung*: Masks in the Old Testament? Masks in Ancient Palestine/Israel! – *Ephraim Stern*: Masks and Protomes from Tel Dor

#### IV: Masks in Syria and Mesopotamia

*Juliane Stein*: Spätbronzezeitliche Kultmasken aus Nordsyrien – *Claudia Beuger*: Maskerade im 1. Jt. v. Chr. in Mesopotamien – *Takayoshi Oshima*: The King's Godly Image as the Perfect Physiognomy of the Holder of the Kingship. Royal Ideology in the Neo-Assyrian Period

#### V: Masks on Their Way to Europe

*Adriano Orsingher*: Ritualized Faces. The Masks of the Phoenicians – *Erin Walcek Averett*: Playing the Part. Masks and Ritual Performance in Rural Sanctuaries in Iron Age Cyprus – *Angeliki Varakis*: Encountering the Heroic *prosopeion* in Fifth Century Theatre Performance – *Daniel Dost*: 'Quid sibi personae volunt?' Erkundungen im Schnittfeld von lateinisch *persona* und etruskisch *phersu*

#### VI: Anhang: Katalog/Catalogue

*Angelika Berlejung unter Mitarbeit von Susanne Kohlhaas und Juliane Stein*: Katalog der Masken der südlichen Levante vom Neolithikum bis zum Ende der persischen Zeit

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 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161555510  
eBook PDF 114,00 €

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 Königspsalmen 2, 18, 20, 21, 45 und 72

Volume 25  
2017. XV, 389 pages.

ISBN 9783161553387  
cloth 129,00 €

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eBook PDF 129,00 €

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 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161551185  
eBook PDF 99,00 €

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 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161554377  
eBook PDF 129,00 €

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.

Survey of contents

#### 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 Alterns in den biblischen Weisheitsschriften – Geschichte als Erfahrung, Erinnerung und Erzählung in der priesterschriftlichen Rezeption der Josefsnovelle – Die Erfahrung des Guten im Bösen. Zur impliziten Theologie der Josefszählung (Gen 37–50) – Die Kindheit Samuels. Aspekte religiöser Erziehung in 1 Sam 1–3

#### II. Zur Theologie im Alten Testament

»Die Rache des Mythos«. Überlegungen zur Rezeption des Mythischen im Alten Testament – Die Genealogie als Strukturprinzip des Pluralismus im Alten Testament – Versprechen und Verheißung als Konstruktion von Geschichte. Überlegungen zur Gegenwartsbedeutung der biblischen Geschichtshermeneutik – Die Theologie des Alten Testaments zwischen israelitischer Religionsgeschichte und Israel-Theologie. Eine hermeneutische Skizze – Das Bild Gottes und die Götterbilder im Alten Testament – Und die Erde tat ihren Mund auf...«. Zum »aktuellen Erzählinteresse« Israels am Konflikt zwischen Mose und Daten und Abiram in Numeri 16 – Diaspora – was bedeutet das im Alten Testament? – »Und sie legten das Buch des Gesetzes Gottes klar und verständlich aus.« Überlegungen zur pastoraltheologischen Bedeutung der Schriftgelehrsamkeit Esras

# 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 159,00 €

ISBN 9783161547317  
eBook PDF 159,00 €

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.

### Survey of contents

*Joachim Friedrich Quack/Christian Witschel:* Introduction: Religious Confluences in the Roman Empire; or: Why 'Oriental Cults' Again?

#### I. The Concept of 'Oriental Cults' in Recent Debates

*Jaime Alvar:* The 'Romanisation' of 'Oriental Cults' – *Julietta Steinhauer:* Osiris *mystes* und Isis *orgia* – Gab es 'Mysterien' der ägyptischen Gottheiten?

#### II. Origins and Diffusion of 'Oriental Cults' within the Imperium Romanum: The Case of Iuppiter Dolichenus

*Engelbert Winter:* The Cult of Iuppiter Dolichenus and its Origins. The Sanctuary at Dülük Baba Tepesi near Doliche – *Michael Bloemer:* The Cult of Iuppiter Dolichenus in the East – *Mihály Loránd Dézspa:* Jupiter Optimus Maximus Dolichenus and the Re-Imagination of the Empire: Religious Dynamics, Social Integration, and Imperial Narratives

#### III. Expanding from Egypt into Globality: The Case of Isis and Osiris

*Ian Moyer:* The Hymns of Isidorus at Medinet Madi: Global Currents in a Local Context – *Svenja Nagel:* One for All and All for One? Isis as *una quae es(t) omnia* in the Egyptian Temples of the Graeco-Roman Period – *Martin Andreas Stadler:* New Light on the Universality of Isis (pVienna D. 6297+6329+10101) – *Joachim Friedrich Quack:* Resting in Pieces and Integrating the Oikoumene. On the Mental Expansion of the Religious Landscape by Means of the Body Parts of Osiris

#### IV. The Visual Conceptualization of 'Oriental Gods'

*Miguel John Versluys:* Egypt as Part of the Roman *Koine*: a Study in Mnemohistory – *Dariusz Frackowiak:* Mithräische Bilderwelten. Eine Untersuchung zu ausgewählten ikonographischen Elementen im römischen Mithraskult – *Ralf Krumeich:* Zwischen Orient und Okzident. Bilder des Jupiter Dolichenus und der Juno Regina aus dem Osten und Westen des Römischen Reiches

#### V. Changing Forms of Sacred Space, Sanctuaries and Rituals

*Kathrin Kleibl:* An Audience in Search of a Theatre – The Staging of the Divine in Sanctuaries of Graeco-Egyptian Gods – *Florence Saragoza:* Exploring Walls: On Sacred Space in the Pompeian *Iseum* – *Andreas Hensen:* *Spelaea et templa Mithrae*. Unity and Diversity in Topography, Architecture and Design of Sanctuaries in the Cult of Mithras – *Richard Gordon:* From East to West: Staging Religious Experience in the Mithraic Temple

## Herrschaftslegitimation in vorderorientalischen Reichen der Eisenzeit

Hrsg. v. Christoph Levin u. Reinhard Müller

Volume 21  
2017. XI, 315 pages.

ISBN 9783161548581  
cloth 119,00 €

ISBN 9783161550287  
eBook PDF 119,00 €

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.

### Survey of contents

*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 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 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161550591  
eBook PDF 129,00 €

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.

#### Survey of contents

*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

#### I. Aram and Israel: Political Relations, Political Borders

*Israel Finkelstein*: Israel and Aram: Reflections on their Border – *Erhard Blum*: The Relations between Aram and Israel in the 9th and 8th Centuries BCE: The Textual Evidence – *Assaf Kleiman*: The Damascene Subjugation of the Southern Levant as a Gradual Process (ca. 842–800 BCE)

#### II. In Search of 'Aramaean' Material Culture

*Aren M. Maeir*: The Aramaean Involvement in the Southern Levant: Case Studies for Identifying the Archaeological Evidence – *Amihai Mazar*: Culture, Identity and Politics Relating to Tel Rehov in the 10th-9th Centuries BCE (with an Excursus on the Identification of Tel Rehov) – *Jutta Häser/Katja Soennecken/Dieter Vieweger*: Tall Zirā'a in north-west Jordan between Aram and Israel – *Nava Panitz-Cohen/Robert A. Mullins*: Aram-Maachah? Aramaeans and Israelites on the Border: Excavations at Tell Abil el-Qameh (Abel-beth-maachah) in Northern Israel – *Yifat Thareani*: Enemy at the Gates? The Archaeological Visibility of the Aramaeans at Dan – *Benjamin Sass*: Aram and Israel during the 10th-9th centuries BCE, or Iron Age IIA: The Alphabet – *Izaak J. de Hulster*: Material Aramaeisms? Sphragistic Reflections on the Aram-Israel Border Zone through a Case Study on Hazor

#### III. Aram and Israel: the Question of Identity

*Guy Bunnens*: Confrontation, Emulation and Ethno-genesis of the Aramaeans in Iron Age Syria – *Stefania Mazzoni*: Identity and Multiculturality in the Northern Levant of the 9th-7th century BCE: With a Case Study on Tell Afis – *Herbert Niehr*: The Power of Language: Language Situation and Language Policy in Sam'al – *Omer Sergi*: The Gilead between Aram and Israel: Political Borders, Cultural Interaction, and the Question of Jacob and Israelite Identity – *Angelika Berlejung*: Family Ties: Constructed Memories about Aram and the Aramaeans in the Old Testament – *Nili Wazana*: Ahaz and the Altar from Damascus (2 Kings 16:10–16): Literary, Theological, and Historical-Political Considerations – *Manfred Oeming*: »And the King of Aram was at war with Israel«: History and Theology in the Elisha Cycle 2 Kings 2–13

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 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161545719  
eBook PDF 129,00 €

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 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161550607  
eBook PDF 114,00 €

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 124,00 €

ISBN 9783161546907  
eBook PDF 124,00 €

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.

Survey of contents

### Part I: Trends in Emerging Judaisms

*James Anderson*: Creating Dialectical Tensions: Religious Developments in Persian-Period Yehud Reflected in Biblical Texts – *Philip R. Davies*: Monotheism, Empire, and the Cult(s) of Yehud in the Persian Period – *Russell Hobson*, Were Persian Period 'Israelites' Bound by Ethnicity or Religious Affiliation? The Case of the Southern Transjordan – *Philippe Guillaume*: Non-violent Re-readings of Israel's Foundational Traditions in the Persian Period (the Calendar System in P) – *Lowell Handy*: Josiah as Religious Peg for Persian Period Jews and Judaism – *Christian Frevel / Katharina Pyschny*: A Religious Revolution Devours its Children. The Iconography of the Persian Period Cuboid Incense Burners

### Part II: Other Religious Trends in the Persian

*Anne Fitzpatrick-McKinley*: Continuity between Assyrian and Persian Policies Toward the Cults of their Subjects – *Jason M. Silverman*: Was There an Achaemenid 'Theology' of Kingship? The Intersections of Mythology, Religion, and Imperial Religious Policy – *Yannick Muller*: Religion, Empire and Mutilation: A Cross-Religious Perspective on Achaemenid Mutilation Practices – *Diana Edelman*: Iconography on Double-Shekel Sidonian Coinage in the Persian Period: Is It a God or a King in the Chariot? – *Mark Christian*: Whose Rites and Whose Wrongs? Religious Contributions of Contingents within the Persian Navy – *Damien Agut-Labordère*: Political Piety-for-Predation Policy: Persian and Egyptian Gods during the Achaemenid Period – *Jared Krebsbach*: Achaemenid Persian Patronage of Egyptian Cults and Religious Institutions in the Twenty-seventh Dynasty: A Study of Political Acumen in the Ancient World – *Deniz Kaptan*: Religious Practices and Seal Imagery in Achaemenid Hellespontine Phrygia

Ceccarelli, Manuel

## Enki und Ninmah

Eine mythische Erzählung in sumerischer Sprache

Volume 16  
2016. XVIII, 251 pages.

ISBN 9783161542787  
cloth 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161546921  
eBook PDF 99,00 €

Enki and 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.



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 99,00 €

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.

Survey of contents

Preface and Acknowledgements – Introduction by A.R. George

### I: Introductory Considerations

Morals in Mesopotamia – Ancient Mesopotamian Gods: Superstition, Philosophy, Theology

### II: The Gods of Ancient Mesopotamia

The Historical Development of the Mesopotamian Pantheon: A Study in Sophisticated Polytheism – Goddesses in the Pantheon: A Reflection of Women in Society? – The Mesopotamian Background of the Hurrian Pantheon – The Pantheon of Mari – The God Assur – Ishtar of Nineveh

### III: The Mythology of Ancient Mesopotamia

Der Mythos im Alten Mesopotamien, sein Werden und Vergehen – The Cosmology of Sumer and Babylon – The Theology of Death – The Relationship of Sumerian and Babylonian Myth as Seen in Accounts of Creation – Ninurta Mythology in the Babylonian Epic of Creation – Myth and Ritual as Conceived by the Babylonians

### IV: The Religion of Ancient Mesopotamia

The Reign of Nebuchadnezzar I: A Turning Point in the History of Ancient Mesopotamian Religion – Syncretism and Religious Controversy in Babylonia – Donations of Food and Drink to the Gods in Ancient Mesopotamia – The Cult of Ishtar of Babylon – The Qualifications of Babylonian Diviners – Devotion: The Languages of Religion and Love

### V: Ancient Mesopotamia and Israel

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, T.M.

## Babylonian Poems of Pious Sufferers

*Ludlul Bel Nemeqi* and the Babylonian Theodicy

Volume 14  
2014. XX, 572 pages.

ISBN 9783161533891  
cloth 139,00 €

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 139,00 €

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.

ISBN 9783161528729  
cloth 129,00 €

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.

ISBN 9783161524912  
cloth 114,00 €

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.

ISBN 9783161525742  
cloth 89,00 €

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.

#### Survey of contents

*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 Dochhorn*: 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

Volume 9  
2012. XI, 695 pages.

ISBN 9783161518287  
cloth 119,00 €

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*.

Survey of contents

## Vorwort

**I. Theoretische und übergreifende Beiträge** *Anne Koch*: Reasons for the Boom of Body Discourses in the Humanities and the Social Sciences since the 1980s. A Chapter in European History of Religion – *Bruce J. Malina*: The Idea of Man and Concepts of the »Body« in the Ancient Near East – *John J. Pilch*: The Idea of Man and Concepts of the Body. Anthropological Studies on the Ancient Cultures of Israel, Egypt, and the Near East – *Jan Dietrich*: Individualität im Alten Testament, Alten Ägypten und Alten Orient – *Alexandra Grund*: Homo donans. Kulturanthropologische und exegetische Erkundungen zur Gabe im alten Israel – *Philip F. Esler*: Ancient Mediterranean Monomachia in the Light of Cultural Anthropology. The Case of David and Goliath.

## II. Altes Testament

*Thomas Staubli*: Wieviel ist ein Menschenleben wert? Biblisches und Ikonographisches zu Würde und Wert des Menschen – *Christl M. Maier*: Körper und Geschlecht im Alten Testament. Überlegungen zur Geschlechterdifferenz – *Dorothea Erbele-Küster*: Die Körperbestimmungen in Leviticus 11–15 – *Bernhard Lang*: Die Leviten. Ihre Anthropologie und die Folgen für Ahnenkult und Bilderverehrung im alten Israel – *Silvia Schroer*: Old Testament Resistance against Sport and the Cult of the Body – *Jürgen Van Oorschot*: Beredete Sprachlosigkeit im Ijobbuch. Körpererfahrung an den Grenzen von Weisheit und Wissen – *Ute Neumann-Gorsolke*: »Aber Abraham und Sarah waren alt, hochbetagt ...« (Gen 18:11). Altersdarstellungen und Funktionen von Altersaussagen im Alten Testament – *Martin Leuenberger*: Bestattungskultur und Vorstellungen postmortalen Existenz im Alten Israel – *Annette Krüger*: Salbungsrituale im Begräbniskontext.

## III. Alter Orient und Ägypten

### III.1. Alter Orient

*Angelika Berlejung*: Menschenbilder und Körperkonzepte in altorientalischen Gesellschaften im 2. und 1. Jt. v. Chr. Ein Beitrag zur antiken Körpergeschichte – *Gwendolyn Leick*: Divinely Human and Humanly Divine. Embodiment in Mesopotamian Literature – *Takayoshi Oshima*: When the Gods Made Us from Clay – *Claudia E. Suter*: The Royal Body and Masculinity in Early Mesopotamia – *Joan Goodnick Westenholz*: The Body and the Mind in Mesopotamian Traditions.

### II.2. Ägypten

*Friedhelm Hoffmann*: Zum Körperkonzept in Ägypten (P. Berlin P. 10472 A + 14400) – *Ludwig D. Morenz*: Der Mensch als Zeichen. Vom menschlichen Körper als einem Vor-Bild der Hieroglyphen – *Joachim Friedrich Quack*: Der Weber als Eunuch im Alten Ägypten – *Angelika Lohwasser*: Haut als Medium im antiken Nordostafrika. Temporäre und permanente Modifikationen der Körperoberfläche – *Joachim Friedrich Quack*: Zur Beschneidung im Alten Ägypten.

## Juppiter Dolichenus

### Vom Lokalkult zur Reichsreligion

Hrsg. v. Michael Blömer u. Engelbert Winter

Volume 8  
2012. VII, 306 pages.

ISBN 9783161517976  
cloth 99,00 €

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, T.M.

## Babylonian Prayers to Marduk

Volume 7  
2011. XVIII, 483 pages.

ISBN 9783161508318  
cloth 119,00 €

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 104,00 €

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.

Survey of contents

*Joachim Friedrich Quack*: Einleitung – *Ivan Guerneur*: 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 Sehnet-Kapelle« in der griechisch-römischen Zeit Ägyptens – *Laetitia Martzloff*: 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 Vuielleumier*: 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 79,00 €

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

Volume 4  
2010. XIX, 462 pages.

ISBN 9783161503535  
cloth 99,00 €

The 'scapegoat' 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.

ISBN 9783161502507  
cloth 109,00 €

»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 »tucket« 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  
cloth 69,00 €

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.

Survey of contents

*Ernst-Joachim Waschke:* Einleitung – *Lutz Popko:* Die Restauration des Tutanchamun als Reaktion auf Echnaton – *Burkhard Meißner:* Reformen in der griechisch-römischen Antike? – *Udo Rüterswörden:* Das Deuteronomium als Reformprogramm? – *Angelika Berlejung:* Innovation als Restauration in Uruk und Jehud. Überlegungen zu Transformationsprozessen in vorderorientalischen Gesellschaften – *Thomas Willi:* Reformen in Jehud im 5. Jahrhundert v. Chr. – Esra oder Nehemia? – *Benjamin Ziemer:* Die Reform Hiskias nach der Chronik. Ein Blick in die Arbeitsweise eines antiken Religionsgeschichtlers – *Giuseppa Veltri:* Esra als »Reformator« in der klassischen Literatur des Judentums

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 99,00 €

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.