

## *Thesaurus Of Medieval Hebrew Poetry Complete In 4 Volumes*

*Parallel to the Halakhic laws, the minhagim (customs) are dependent on local practices and the regional schools of sages and rabbis. The minhagim played a decisive role in the history of the Jewish communities and in the formation of traditions of religious rulings. They gave stability, continuity, and authority to the local institutions. The impact of Jewish custom on daily life cannot be overestimated. Evolving spontaneously as an ascending process, it presents undercurrents that emanate from the folk, gradually bringing about changes that eventually become part of the legislative code. It further reflects influences of social, cultural, and mythological tendencies and local historical elements of every-day life of the period. The aim of this volume is to examine the concept of minhag in the broadest sense of the word. Focusing on the relationship between various types of customs and their impact on every aspect of Jewish life, the volume studies the historical, anthropological, religious, and cultural development and function of rites and rituals in establishing the Jewish self-definition*

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and the identity of the local communities that adhered to them. The volume's articles cover the subject of custom from three perspectives: an analysis of the theoretical and legal definition of custom, an analysis of the social and historical aspects of custom, and an anecdotal study of several particular customs. Customs are a wonderful historical prism by which to examine fluctuations and changes in Jewish life. Traces the efforts of two women scholars who recovered what has become the most vital cache of Hebrew manuscripts ever discovered, in an account that explains what the findings reveal about Mediterranean Judaism.

In medieval Ashkenaz piyyut commentary was a popular genre that consisted of 'open texts' that continued to be edited by almost each copyist. Although some early commentators can be identified, it is mainly compilers that are responsible for the transmitted form of text. Based on an ample corpus of Ashkenazic commentaries the study provides a taxonomy of commentary elements, including linguistic explanations, treatment of hypotexts, and medieval elements, and describes their use by different commentators and compilers. It also analyses the main techniques of

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*compilation and the various ways they were employed by compilers. Different types of commentaries are described that target diverse audiences by using varied sets of commentary elements and compilatory techniques. Several commentaries are edited to illustrate the different commentary types.*

*This catalogue lists more than 18,000 individual commentaries on Hebrew liturgical poetry from more than 400 manuscripts composed in various Jewish communities throughout the Medieval and Early Modern periods. As a research tool, it provides unprecedented access to this fascinating genre of Hebrew literature.*

*A History of Prayer*

*The Jewish Mind*

*The Jewish Expression*

*The First to the Fifteenth Century*

*Hebrew Poetry from Muslim and Christian Spain, 950-1492*

*A Biographical Dictionary and Sourcebook*

*A History of the Birkat HaMinim*

In 1989 the University of Groningen celebrated its 375th anniversary. Near Eastern Studies, in one form or another, have been part of the Groningen curriculum almost from the beginning. For this reason the Department of Middle-Eastern Languages and Cultures decided to contribute to the

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anniversary celebrations by organizing an international Symposium and a Workshop on The Literary Debate in Semitic and Related Literatures. The topic of the Symposium and the Workshop was chosen and prepared by the members of the research programme Disclosure of Semitic Texts. Since 1985 the literary debate in the Sumerian, Akkadian, Hebrew, Aramaic/Syriac and Arabic language and literature has been a central theme within this Groningen research programme. Because the research group sees as one of its tasks to place the study of the literary and cultural heritage of the Ancient and Mediaeval Near East also in the wider context of its connection with Classical Antiquity and the European Middle Ages, specialists in Byzantine and Mediaeval Studies were also invited to contribute to the Symposium and Workshop. The present volume contains the contributions presented during the Symposium and Workshop on The Literary Debate in the Semitic and Related Literatures. Some of the more important issues regarding matters of genesis, development and possible interdependence of the dispute poems, dialogues and related texts, which can all be subsumed under the general type of 'debate', are discussed in the introduction, which also reflects a number of points raised in the discussions during the Workshop itself.

This interdisciplinary handbook provides extensive

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information about research in medieval studies and its most important results over the last decades. The handbook is a reference work which enables the readers to quickly and purposely gain insight into the important research discussions and to inform themselves about the current status of research in the field. The handbook consists of four parts. The first, large section offers articles on all of the main disciplines and discussions of the field. The second section presents articles on the key concepts of modern medieval studies and the debates therein. The third section is a lexicon of the most important text genres of the Middle Ages. The fourth section provides an international bio-bibliographical lexicon of the most prominent medievalists in all disciplines. A comprehensive bibliography rounds off the compendium. The result is a reference work which exhaustively documents the current status of research in medieval studies and brings the disciplines and experts of the field together. This volume contains the proceedings of the Italia Judaica Jubilee Conference, held at Tel Aviv University 3-5 January, 2010, on the occasion of the jubilee celebration of outstanding scholarship on the history of Italian Jewry.

Published to mark the 100th anniversary of The Jewish Publication Society, Jonathan Sarna's engaging blend of anecdote and analysis presents the personalities and the controversies, the struggles

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and the achievements behind a century of publishing by the oldest English-language publisher of Jewish books in the world. Includes black and white photographs and extensive listings of JPS officers and editors, governing boards, and authors, translators, and illustrators, up to 1988.

History and Folklore in a Medieval Jewish Chronicle  
The Dream of the Poem

Clavis Commentariorum of Hebrew Liturgical Poetry  
in Manuscript

Bibliographical Essays in Medieval Jewish Studies

The Liturgical Poetry of the Karaite Poet Moses ben  
Abraham Dar . Karaite Texts and Studies

The Lost and Found World of the Cairo Geniza

Regional Identities and Cultures of Medieval Jews

*A collection of seventeen essays on pre-modern Hebrew poetry in honor of Wout van Bekkum. The articles in this volume all seek to examine how the religious, cultural, and social context in which the poet functioned impacted on and is visible, either explicitly or more elliptically, in their poetical oeuvre. For this purposes a broad understanding of "world" has been accepted, including both the natural world and the constructed one (society, culture, language) as well as the spiritual and emotional world. History, a pillar of the man-made constructed world, has been used to determine the boundaries: from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages, and—in instances where the topic connects to older*

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*traditions—to Early Modern Judaism, i.e. pre-modern Hebrew (and Aramaic) poetry. The articles in this volume, in the breadth of their temporal and spatial range and their multiplicity of approaches and methodologies, highlight the richness of contemporary scholarship on Hebrew poetry. The volume invites the reader to engage with this astonishing body of poetry, while providing a glimpse into the world of the payṭanim, and the cultures and societies from which they drew their ininspiration and to which they made such important contributions. Beginning in 1172, Judah ibn Tibbon, who was called the father of Hebrew translators, wrote a letter to his son that was full of personal and professional guidance. The detailed letter, described as an ethical will, was revised through the years and offered a vivid picture of intellectual life among Andalusí elites exiled in the south of France after 1148. S. J. Pearce sets this letter into broader context and reads it as a document of literary practice and intellectual values. She reveals how ibn Tibbon, as a translator of philosophical and religious texts, explains how his son should make his way in the family business and how to operate, textually, within Arabic literary models even when writing for a non-Arabic audience. While the letter is also full of personal criticism and admonitions, Pearce shows ibn Tibbon making a powerful argument in favor of the continuation of Arabic as a prestige*

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*language for Andalusí Jewish readers and writers, even in exile outside of the Islamic world.*

*Each number contains a List of medievalists and their publications, and a List of doctoral dissertations. Nos. 6-10 include also the report of the academy.*

*Offering an edition of secular poems taken from the earliest, fifteenth-century manuscript, this book seeks to evaluate Moses Dar'ī's poetry in the light of the Andalusian-Hebrew poetical tradition and within the context of Hebrew literary activity in the Muslim East.*

*Communings of the Spirit, Volume II*

*The Family Chronicle of Aḥima'az Ben Paltiel*

*The Poet and the World*

*'Are you still my brother?'*

*From Baghdad to Bombay and London*

*Forms and Types of Literary Debates in Semitic and Related Literatures*

*Thesaurus of Medieval hebrew poetry*

A landmark exploration of Jewish history and culture. First published in 1977, *The Jewish Mind* provides a penetrating insight into the complex collective reality of the Jewish people. Raphael Patai examines how six great historical encounters, spanning three millennia, between the Jews and other cultures led to both change and continuity in Jewish communities throughout the global diaspora. A timeless analysis by a prominent scholar. Patai, a

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noted cultural anthropologist and historian, drew on a lifetime of research and personal experience to explore the contemporary Jewish mind in its many manifestations, including an exploration of the notion of Jews as a race, an investigation into Jewish intelligence and talents, as discussion of Jewish self-hate, and a profile of Jewish personality and character. An insightful new foreword by Ari L. Goldman. Bestselling author and journalist Ari L. Goldman places the book in the context of recent turbulent events, especially in the Middle East, and confirms Patai's conclusion that Judaism remains enormous value to humankind. Goldman calls the book "a brilliant and absorbing survey of everything poured into the Jewish mind over the millennia." The Jewish Mind is a towering work of scholarship that remains relevant to anyone trying to understand Jewish culture and society around the world today. Book jacket.

"Jewish and Christian Liturgy and Worship" presents the reworked results of the discussions at an interdisciplinary symposium held in Aachen, Germany, on recent trends in the study of Jewish and Christian liturgies. It introduces diverse subjects pertaining to its topic and shows

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their interrelationship.

Hebrew culture experienced a renewal in medieval Spain that produced what is arguably the most powerful body of Jewish poetry written since the Bible. Fusing elements of East and West, Arabic and Hebrew, and the particular and the universal, this verse embodies an extraordinary sensuality and intense faith that transcend the limits of language, place, and time. Peter Cole's translations reveal this remarkable poetic world to English readers in all of its richness, humor, grace, gravity, and wisdom. *The Dream of the Poem* traces the arc of the entire period, presenting some four hundred poems by fifty-four poets, and including a panoramic historical introduction, short biographies of each poet, and extensive notes. (The original Hebrew texts are available on the Princeton University Press Web site.) By far the most potent and comprehensive gathering of medieval Hebrew poems ever assembled in English, Cole's anthology builds on what poet and translator Richard Howard has described as "the finest labor of poetic translation that I have seen in many years" and "an entire revelation: a body of lyric and didactic verse so intense, so intelligent, and so vivid that

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it appears to identify a whole dimension of historical consciousness previously unavailable to us." The Dream of the Poem is, Howard says, "a crowning achievement." Piyyut and Pesah: Poetry and Passover is an examination of Passover laws found in medieval Hebrew liturgical poetry. While Hebrew liturgical poetry ("Piyyut") serves a variety of functions as a linguistic art form, the genre is not usually thought of as a vehicle for disseminating law ("Halakha"). This study examines five piyyutim, each from a different locale, which contain laws relating to Passover. It compares and contrasts the laws found in each piece and notes that they differ from each other and, in several cases, from normative Halakha. It suggests that such variants are traceable to certain economic, sociological, legal, or other factors unique to a particular time and place and attempts to identify some of those factors.

Conservative Judaism in America

JPS: the Americanization of Jewish

Culture, 1888-1988

Progress of Mediaeval and Renaissance

Studies in the United States and Canada

Sacred Trash

Dispute Poems and Dialogues in the Ancient  
and Mediaeval Near East

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New Insights Into Its History and  
Interaction

Terms – Methods – Trends

Composed in Hebrew in Capua, Italy in 1054, the family chronicle of Ahima'az remains one of the most important historical sources of medieval Jewish life, folklore, culture, and mentalités in Western Europe, especially in the so-called Ashkenazi area. As such, it provides a rich resource to scholars of medieval history, cultural studies, gender studies, and anthropology. In this book Robert Bonfil provides a detailed historical introduction and new English translation of the chronicle. Readers knowledgeable in Hebrew will also greatly benefit from the new, vocalized critical edition of the Hebrew text, skillfully set up in front of the translation.

In *Biblical Women and Jewish Daily Life in the Middle Ages*, Elisheva Baumgarten examines how medieval Jewish engagement with the Bible--especially in the tellings, retellings, and illustrations of stories of women--offers a window onto aspects of the daily lives and cultural mentalités of Ashkenazic Jews

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in the High Middle Ages.

Sara Manasseh brings a significant, but less widely-known, Jewish repertoire and tradition to the attention of both the Jewish community (Ashkenazi, Sephardi, Oriental) and the wider global community. The book showcases thirty-one songs and includes English translations, complete Hebrew texts, transliterations and the music notation for each song. The accompanying downloadable resources include eighteen of the thirty-one songs, sung by Manasseh, accompanied by 'ud and percussion. The remaining thirteen songs are available separately on the album *Treasures*, performed by Rivers of Babylon, directed by Manasseh - : [www.riversofbabylon.com](http://www.riversofbabylon.com). While in the past a book of songs, with Hebrew text only, was sufficient for bearers of the tradition, the present package represents a song collection for the twenty-first century, with greater resources to support the learning and maintenance of the tradition. Manasseh argues that the strong inter-relationship of Jewish and Arab traditions in this repertoire -

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linguistically and musically - is significant and provides an intercultural tool to promote communication, tolerance, understanding, harmony and respect. The singing of the Shbahoht (the Baghdadian Jewish term for 'Songs of Praise') has been a significant aspect of Jewish life in Iraq and continues to be valued by those in the Babylonian Jewish diaspora.

This study focuses on the earliest period of creativity in the life of Judah Halevi (1075-1141), the greatest Hebrew poet since biblical times, and offers a portrait of a unique circle of Hebrew poets centering on the Muslim city-kingdom of Granada.

Late Middle Ages and Era of European Expansion, 1200-1650 - Under Church and Empire

A Social and Religious History of the Jews: High Middle Ages, 500-1200

Apostasy and Jewish identity in High Middle Ages Northern Europe  
Special List of Books in Medieval Hebrew Poetry and Liturgy  
Jewish and Christian Liturgy and

## Worship

### Encyclopedia of Modern Jewish Culture

*Pamela Nadell's biographical dictionary and sourcebook is a landmark contribution to American, Jewish, and religious history. For the first time, a great American Jewish religious movement is portrayed with amplitude, authority, and personality. In the most revolutionary era in two millenia of Jewish history, this surely is an important volumn. "Moses Rischin, Professor of History, San Francisco State University"*

*"Conservative Judaism in America: A Biographical Dictionary and Sourcebook" is the first extensive effort to document the lives and careers of the most important leaders in Conservatism's first century and to provide a brief history of the movement and its central institutions. It includes essays on the history of the movement and on the evolution of its major institutions: The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, The Rabbinical Assembly, and The United Synagogue of America. It also contains 135 biographical entries on the leading figures of Conservative Judaism, appendices, and a complete bibliography on sources of study.*

*In Edited by Poetry and Memory in Karaite Prayer Edited by Joachim Yeshaya offers an edition of liturgical poems composed by the twelfth-century Egyptian Karaite poet Moses Dar??, which are analyzed as early examples of the introduction of poetry and "memory" into Karaite prayer. Ancient prayers exist in a rich variety of often unexamined forms, and so they require a comprehensive study. This volume includes diverse scholars, who reveal the wondrous breadth of prayerful religious traditions from the first to the fifteenth centuries.*

*This electronic version has been made available under a*

## Acces PDF Thesaurus Of Medieval Hebrew Poetry Complete In 4 Volumes

*Creative Commons (BY-NC-ND) open access license. The attitude of Jews living in the medieval Christian world to Jews who converted to Christianity or to Christians seeking to join the Jewish faith reflects the central traits that make up Jewish self-identification. The Jews saw themselves as a unique group chosen by God, who expected them to play a specific and unique role in the world. This study researches fully for the first time the various aspects of the way European Jews regarded members of their own fold in the context of lapses into another religion. It attempts to understand whether they regarded the issue of conversion with self-confidence or with suspicion, and whether their attitude was based on a clear theological position, or on issues of socialisation. The book will primarily interest students and lecturers of Jewish/Christian relations, the Middle Ages, Jews in the Medieval period, and inter-religious research. The Fabric of Religious Life in Medieval Ashkenaz (1000-1300)*

*Piyyut Commentary in Medieval Ashkenaz*

*Custom and Practice in Jewish Life*

*Shbahoht – Songs of Praise in the Babylonian Jewish Tradition*

*Social and Religious History of the Jews*

*Medieval Hebrew Poetry in Muslim Egypt*

*Poetry and Passover*

The Oxford Handbook of Jewish Studies reflects the current state of scholarship in the field as analyzed by an international team of experts in the different and varied areas represented within contemporary Jewish Studies. Unlike recent attempts to encapsulate the current state of

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Jewish Studies, the Oxford Handbook is more than a mere compendium of agreed facts; rather, it is an exhaustive survey of current interests and directions in the field.

Selections from the diary of Mordecai Kaplan, founder of Reconstructionism in America, detailing a provocative firsthand account of Jewish life in America and of the mind of a very challenging thinker.

This book explores the puzzling phenomenon of new veiling practices among lower middle class women in Cairo, Egypt. Although these women are part of a modernizing middle class, they also voluntarily adopt a traditional symbol of female subordination. How can this paradox be explained? An explanation emerges which reconceptualizes what appears to be reactionary behavior as a new style of political struggle--as accommodating protest. These women, most of them clerical workers in the large government bureaucracy, are ambivalent about working outside the home, considering it a change which brings new burdens as well as some important benefits. At the same time they realize that leaving home and family is creating an intolerable situation of the erosion of their social status and the loss of their traditional identity. The new veiling expresses women's protest against this.

MacLeod argues that the symbolism of the new veiling emerges from this tense subcultural dilemma, involving elements of both resistance and acquiescence.

The Encyclopedia of Modern Jewish Culture is an extensively updated revision of the very successful Companion to Jewish Culture published in 1989 and has

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now been updated throughout. Experts from all over the world contribute entries ranging from 200 to 1000 words broadly, covering the humanities, arts, social sciences, sport and popular culture, and 5000-word essays contextualize the shorter entries, and provide overviews to aspects of culture in the Jewish world. Ideal for student and general readers, the articles and biographies have been written by scholars and academics, musicians, artists and writers, and the book now contains up-to-date bibliographies, suggestions for further reading, comprehensive cross referencing, and a full index. This is a resource, no student of Jewish history will want to go without.

Minhagim

The Secular Poetry of the Karaite Poet Moses ben Abraham Darī. Karaite Texts and Studies

Zutot 2002

Poetry and Memory in Karaite Prayer

The Oxford Handbook of Jewish Studies

The Journals of Mordecai M. Kaplan, 1934–1941

Festschrift for Wout van Bekkum on the Occasion of His Sixty-fifth Birthday

*The Fabric of Religious Life in Medieval Ashkenaz presents the first integrated presentation of the ideals out of which the fabric of Medieval Ashkenazic Judaism and communal world view were formed.*

*This book describes how medieval Jewish Bible scholars sought to answer the question of what is meant by the Angel's message from God to Abraham: 'Now I Know', as*

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*written in Genesis 22 verse 12. It examines these scholars' comments on the nineteen verses in Genesis that tell the story of Abraham's readiness to sacrifice his own son Isaac, the Aqedat Yishaq. It explores the answers they found to the question of what, indeed, this story is trying to tell us. Is it a drastic way to condemn the practice of child sacrifice? Does it call for replacing human sacrifices with animal sacrifices? Is it a trial by which the Almighty tests the fidelity of one of His followers? Or is it His way to show the world the nature of true belief? The book starts with an introduction to familiarize readers with the many and varied manifestations of the Aqedah theme in Jewish culture and with the developments of medieval Jewish Bible exegesis in general. Next, it offers translations and analyses of the classical medieval Jewish Bible commentaries that deal with the exegesis of Genesis 22, exploring the many angles from which the Aqedah story has been understood. No less than five centuries of medieval Aqedah exegesis are reviewed, from Saadya (882-942) to Isaac Abrabanel (1437-1508). These texts from the commentaries are combined with hermeneutical key passages by Moses Maimonides, Joseph Ibn Kaspi, Hasdai Crescas, and others, which were familiar to the minds of the exegetes, or which, conversely, reflect the impact of biblical Aqedah exegesis on religious thought. Together, the passages discussed illustrate the growth and development of Jewish Bible exegesis in dialogue with the rabbinic sources and with the various trends of thought and theology of their times. The consistent focus on the Aqedah constitutes a unifying theme, while the insights presented*

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*here greatly advance our understanding of the various developments in medieval Jewish Bible exegesis.*

*Ruth Langer offers an in-depth study of the birkat haminin, a Jewish prayer for the removal of those categories of human being who prevent the messianic redemption and the society envisioned for it. In its earliest form, the prayer cursed Christians, apostates to Christianity, sectarians, and enemies of Israel. Drawing on the shifting liturgical texts, polemics, and apologetics concerning the prayer, Langer traces the transformation of the birkat haminin from what functioned without question in the medieval world as a Jewish curse of Christians, through its early modern censorship by Christians, to its modern transformation within the Jewish world into a general petition that God remove evil from the world. Christian censorship played a crucial role in this transformation of the prayer; however, Langer argues that the truest transformation in meaning resulted from Jewish integration into Western culture. Eventually, the prayer shed its references to any specific category of human being and lost its function as a curse. Reconciliation between Jews and Christians today requires both communities to confront a long history of prejudice. Ruth Langer shows through the birkat haminin how the history of one liturgical text chronicled Jewish thinking about Christians over hundreds of years.*

*The yearbook Zutot serves as a platform for small but incisive contributions, and provides them with a distinct context. The substance of these contributions is derived from*

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*larger perspectives and, though not always presented in an exhaustive way, will have an impact on contemporary discussions.*

*Davidson Library of Judaica*

*Creating Sacred Communities*

*The Italia Judaica Jubilee Conference*

*Bulletin*

*Cursing the Christians?*

*Handbook of Medieval Studies*

*The Role of Arabic in Judah ibn Tibbon's Ethical Will*

### **Thesaurus of Mediaeval Hebrew Poetry**

**This multi-volume work is a reprint of Israel Davidson's classic opus, with a new introduction by piyyut scholar Michael Rand. Originally published in four volumes by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America throughout the 1920s and 30s, and reprinted in 1970 by Ktav with an introduction by Jefim (Hayyim) Schirmann, Thesaurus of Mediaeval Hebrew Poetry catalogues Medieval Hebrew poetry in over 35,000 entries spanning over 2,000 pages. Written at a time when Genizah research was just beginning to flourish, the Thesaurus serves primarily as a catalogue of the Medieval Hebrew poetic corpus as it had been known from printed works predating the publication of Genizah poetry. In addition to constituting an important reference work, the Thesaurus represents a stage in the**

**history of piyyut study, before the publication of thousands of Genizah poems forever altered the course of Medieval Hebrew poetry scholarship.**

**The Reader's Guide to Judaism is a survey of English-language translations of the most important primary texts in the Jewish tradition. The field is assessed in some 470 essays discussing individuals (Martin Buber, Gluckel of Hameln), literature (Genesis, Ladino Literature), thought and beliefs (Holiness, Bioethics), practice (Dietary Laws, Passover), history (Venice, Baghdadi Jews of India), and arts and material culture (Synagogue Architecture, Costume). The emphasis is on Judaism, rather than on Jewish studies more broadly.**

**Though the existence of Jewish regional cultures is widely known, the origins of the most prominent groups, Ashkenaz and Sepharad, are poorly understood, and the rich variety of other regional Jewish identities is often overlooked. Yet all these subcultures emerged in the Middle Ages. Scholars contributing to the present study were invited to consider how such regional identities were fashioned, propagated, reinforced, contested, and reshaped—and to reflect on the developments, events, or**

**encounters that made these identities manifest. They were asked to identify how subcultural identities proved to be useful, and the circumstances in which they were deployed. The resulting volume spans the ninth to the sixteenth centuries, and explores Jewish cultural developments in western Europe, the Balkans, North Africa, and Asia Minor. In its own way, each contribution considers factors—demographic, geographical, historical, economic, political, institutional, legal, intellectual, theological, cultural, and even biological—that led medieval Jews to conceive of themselves, or to be perceived by others, as bearers of a discrete Jewish regional identity.**

**Notwithstanding the singularity of each essay, they collectively attest to the inherent dynamism of Jewish regional identities.**

**‘Now I Know’: Five Centuries of Aqedah**

**Exegesis**

**Piyyut and Pesah**

**Biblical Women and Jewish Daily Life in the Middle Ages**

**The Andalusí Literary and Intellectual Tradition**

**Judah Halevi and His Circle of Hebrew Poets in Granada**

**Thesaurus of Mediaeval Hebrew Poetry**

## **Reader's Guide to Judaism**

In this classic collection, leading modern scholars examine and interpret 3,000 years of Jewish literature and history. The essays study the actions and institutions of the Jewish people as well as their literary tradition. Included are essays on medieval poetry (Shalom Spiegel), Jewish thought and Jewish learning (Harry Austryn Wolfson and Louis Ginzberg); Spinoza (Leo Strauss); the Kaddish (S. Y. Agnon), and many more. Each essay reveals the diverse ways in which the Judaic tradition interacts with contemporary events, so that the Jewish expression remains vital and immediate.