

Hekhalot Literature in Context

Between Byzantium and Babylonia

Edited by Ra'anan Boustan, Martha Himmelfarb and Peter Schäfer

Scholars of early Jewish mysticism have, with increasing confidence, located the initial formation of Hekhalot literature in Byzantine Palestine and Sasanian or early Islamic Babylonia (ca. 500–900 C. E.). Yet questions remain regarding the specific cultural contexts and institutional settings out of which the various strands of Hekhalot literature emerged as well as the multiple trajectories they subsequently traveled. In the present volume, an international team of experts explores, from a variety of disciplinary perspective, the literary formation, cultural meanings, religious functions, and textual transmission of Hekhalot literature.

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Hekhalot Literatur im Kontext. Zwischen Byzanz und Babylon.

Die Erforschung der frühen jüdischen

Mystik hat in den letzten 30 Jahren

gewaltige Fortschritte gemacht.

Das byzantinische Palästina und das

sassanidische Babylonien kristallisieren

sich als die beiden entscheidenden

Brennpunkte der Merkavah-Mystik

heraus.

Im vorliegenden Band untersuchen

internationale Wissenschaftler

aus verschiedenen Disziplinen die

literarische Entstehung, kulturelle

Bedeutung, religiöse Funktion und

Überlieferung der Hekhalot Literatur.

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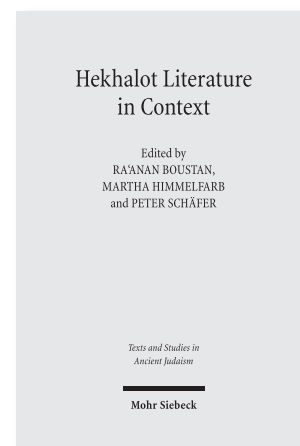
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Scholars and students of theology, religious

studies and Judaism; corresponding

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Hekhalot literature, the earliest expression of Jewish mysticism, emerged in Palestine and Babylonia in late antiquity (ca. 500–900 C. E.).

In the present volume, an international team of experts explores the literary formation, cultural meanings, religious functions, and textual transmission of this literature.