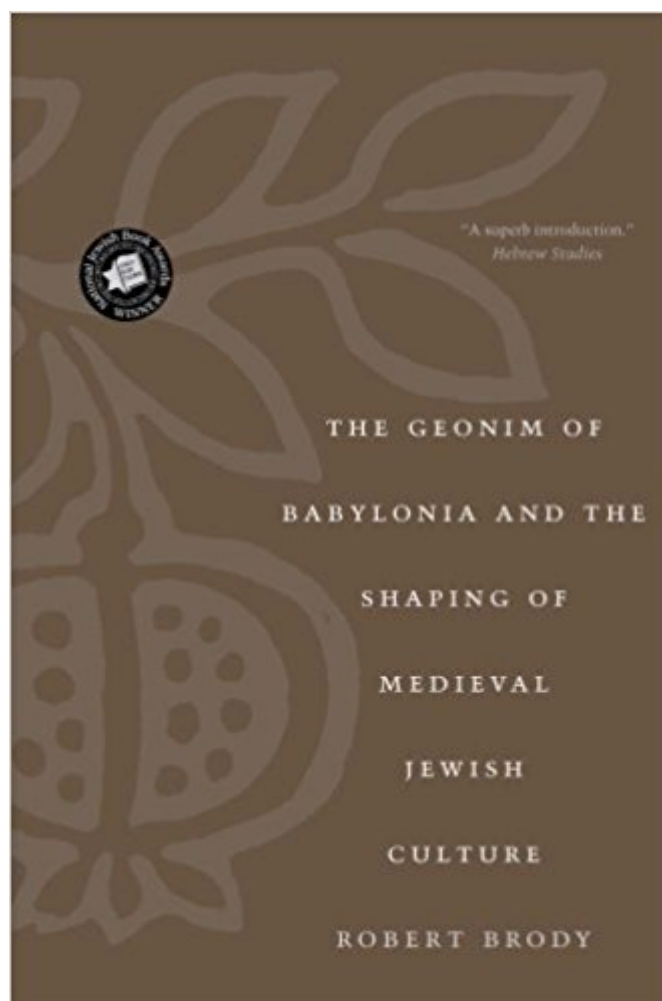


The book was found

The Geonim Of Babylonia And The Shaping Of Medieval Jewish Culture



Synopsis

The Geonic period from about the late sixth to mid-eleventh centuries is of crucial importance in the history of Judaism. The Geonim, for whom this era is named, were the heads of the ancient talmudic academies of Babylonia. They gained ascendancy over the older Palestinian center of Judaism and were recognized as the leading religious and spiritual authorities by most of the world's Jewish population. The Geonim and their circles enshrined the Babylonian Talmud as the central canonical work of rabbinic literature and the leading guide to religious practice, and it was a predominantly Babylonian version of Judaism that was transplanted to newer centers of Judaism in North Africa and Europe. Robert Brody's book is the first survey in English of the Geonic period in almost a century and focuses on the cultural milieu of the Geonim and on their intellectual and literary creativity. Brody describes the cultural spheres in which the Geonim were active and the historical and cultural settings within which they functioned. He emphasizes the challenges presented by other Jewish institutions and individuals, ranging from those within the Babylonian Jewish setting—especially the political leadership represented by the Exilarch—to the competing Palestinian Jewish center and to sectarian movements and freethinkers who rejected rabbinic authority altogether. He also describes the variety of ways in which the development of Geonic tradition was affected by the surrounding non-Jewish cultures, both Muslim and Christian.

Book Information

Paperback: 416 pages

Publisher: Yale University Press; Revised ed. edition (April 9, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 030018932X

ISBN-13: 978-0300189322

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.9 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #774,631 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #167 in [Books > History > Ancient Civilizations > Mesopotamia](#) #167 in [Books > History > Ancient Civilizations > Assyria, Babylonia & Sumer](#) #711 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > History](#)

Customer Reviews

"This book offers a superb introduction to the study of the Geonic period, long-awaited especially in

the Anglo-phone world. . . . Brody's book . . . provides an important survey of the current status of scholarship concerning the Geonim. . . . For students both of rabbinic literature and post-rabbinic Jewish culture this book will be indispensable." Charlotte Fonrobert, Hebrew Studies (Charlotte Fonrobert Hebrew Studies)"This detailed and clearly written book is an invaluable window onto a period of Jewish history that has remained largely unknown to all but a handful of specialists. . . . The Geonim of Babylonia is a valuable and much needed introduction to the literature of the geonic period. Its readers will come away with an appreciation of the major works of the period, as well as a solid grasp of the principal areas of scholarly debate. Brody has an important book that is both accessible to the non-specialist and informative for scholars in the field." Arnold Franklin, International Journal of Middle East Studies (Arnold Franklin International Journal of Middle East Studies)

Having gained ascendancy over the Palestinian center of Judaism, the Geonim who headed the ancient talmudic academies of Babylonia came to be recognized by most of the world's Jews as the leading religious and spiritual authorities from the late sixth to mid-eleventh centuries. This book is the only survey in English of the crucial Geonic period and focuses on the cultural and historical milieu of the Geonim as well as their intellectual and literary creativity.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Geonim of Babylonia and the Shaping of Medieval Jewish Culture Shaping the Lotus Sutra: Buddhist Visual Culture in Medieval China 50 Jewish Messiahs: The Untold Life Stories of 50 Jewish Messiahs Since Jesus and How They Changed the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Worlds Jewish Philosophy and the Crisis of Modernity: Essays and Lectures in Modern Jewish Thought (Sunny Series, Jewish Writings of Strauss) Zakhor: Jewish History and Jewish Memory (The Samuel and Althea Stroum Lectures in Jewish Studies) The Worship Of The Dead Or The Origin And Nature Of Pagan Idolatry And Its Bearing Upon The Early History Of Egypt And Babylonia Palestine and Syria, with routes through Mesopotamia and Babylonia and the island of Cyprus, handbook for travellers The Ultimate Guide to Jewish Holidays Recipes: The Ultimate Jewish Holidays Cookbook and Guide to Jewish Cooking Hands-On History Mesopotamia: All about ancient Assyria and Babylonia, with 15 step-by-step projects and more than 300 exciting pictures Palestine and Syria with the chief routes through Mesopotamia and Babylonia; handbook for travellers; (1906) Jewish People, Jewish Thought : The Jewish Experience in History The Excavations in Assyria and Babylonia Babylonian Star-Lore. an Illustrated Guide to the Star-Lore and Constellations of Ancient Babylonia The Religions of Ancient Egypt and Babylonia Sunday: A History of the First Day from

Babylonia to the Super Bowl Forged in Freedom: Shaping the Jewish-American Experience Funny, It Doesn't Sound Jewish: How Yiddish Songs and Synagogue Melodies Influenced Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, and Hollywood (SUNY Series in Modern Jewish Literature and Culture) Marriage and Divorce in the Jewish State: Israel's Civil War (Brandeis Series on Gender, Culture, Religion, and Law & HBI Series on Jewish Women) Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court: From Brandeis to Kagan (Brandeis Series in American Jewish History, Culture, and Life) The Merchants of Oran: A Jewish Port at the Dawn of Empire (Stanford Studies in Jewish History and Culture)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)