Jewish Liturgy: A Comprehensive History

JEWSH
LITURGY
A Comprehensive History
Ismar Elbogen
translated by
Raymond P. Scheindlin

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Synopsis

A joint publication of The Jewish Publication Society and the Jewish Theological Seminary. The definitive work on the subject of Jewish liturgy, Ismar Elbogen's analysis covers the entire range of Jewish liturgical development—beginning with the early cornerstones of the siddur, through the evolution of the medieval piyyut tradition, to modern prayer book reform in Germany and the United States.

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Customer Reviews

This is not a book for beginners. If you want an introduction to Jewish prayer, see "Entering Jewish Prayer" (Reuven Hammer) or "To Pray As a Jew" (Hayim Halevy Donin). This book is, in contrast, is the most thorough academic study of the Jewish liturgy ever written. Originally published in German in 1913, and subsequently updated in a number of Hebrew editions, the latest edition now has been translated into English by Prof. Raymond P. Scheindlin. This study covers the entire range of Jewish liturgical development, beginning with the early cornerstones of the siddur; through the evolution of the medieval piyyut tradition; to modern prayerbook reform in Germany and the United States. The only problem is that it doesn't deal with the liturgy of Conservative Judaism. To learn more about that one should consult the introduction to "Siddur Sim Shalom", edited by Jules Harlow, and the introduction to "Siddur Sim Shalom for Shabbat and festivals", edited by Leonard Cahan, and the section on liturgy in the CD-ROM version of the "Encyclopedia Judaica".

The best, deepest and most thorough and for all intents and purposes, the only.
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