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the goal of the volume is to shed fresh light on modern hebrew from perspectives aimed at readers interested in the domains of general linguistics typology and semitic studies starting with chapters that provide background information on the evolution and sociolinguistic setting of the language the bulk of the book is devoted to usage based studies of the morphology lexicon and syntax of current hebrew based primarily on original analyses of authentic spoken and online materials these studies reflect varied theoretical frames of reference that are largely model neutral in approach to this end the book presents a functionally motivated dynamic approach to actual usage rather than providing strictly structuralist or formal characterizations of particular linguistic systems such a perspective

is particularly important in the case of a language undergoing accelerated processes of change in which the gap between prescriptive dictates of the hebrew language establishment and the actual usage of educated literate but non expert speaker writers of current hebrew is constantly on the rise

this collection of essays treats many aspects of ancient jewish history and modern historiography in this area with an emphasis on the history and literature of the second temple period and especially on the writings of josephus it is dedicated to daniel r schwarz and reflects his central academic interests additional essays deal with historical and ideological aspects of classical rabbinic literature with archeological finds and with perceptions of the jews and judaism on the part of non jews in the second temple period and later

covers a comprehensive range of periodicals well over 165 in all

studies of bactrian legal documents deals with legal texts written in bactrian an eastern middle iranian language between the 4th and 8th centuries ce the work aims to give insight in the bactrian legal formulary as well as its historical context in order to achieve that the author carefully examines the terms and phrases in the legal documents and clarifies their function then he explores the historical background of expressions and wordings to this end he uses documents from other regions of the near east spanning from egypt to turkestan

first published in 1997 routledge is an imprint of taylor francis an informa company

this volume examines new developments in the fields of premodern jewish studies over the last thirty years the essays in this volume written by leading experts are grouped into four overarching temporal areas the first temple second temple rabbinic and medieval periods these time periods are analyzed through four thematic methodological lenses the social scientific history and society the textual texts and literature the material art architecture and archaeology and the philosophical religion and thought some essays offer a comprehensive look at the state of the field while others look at specific examples illustrative of their temporal and thematic areas of inquiry the volume presents a snapshot of the state of the field encompassing new perspectives directions and methodologies as well as the questions that will animate the field as it develops further it will be of interest to scholars and students in the field as well as to educated readers looking to understand the changing face of jewish studies as a discipline advancing human knowledge

this book offers a thorough authoritative account of the branches of semitic among them akkadian aramaic hebrew arabic and ethiopic it describes their history from ancient times to the present geographical distribution writing systems classification linguistic features distinctive characteristics and typological signicance

a free ebook version of this title is available through luminos university of california press s open access publishing program visit luminosoa org to learn more this book investigates rabbinic treatises relating to animals humans and other life forms through an original analysis of creaturely generation and species classification by late ancient palestinian rabbis and other thinkers in the roman empire rafael rachel neis shows how rabbis blurred the lines between humans and other beings even as they were intent on classifying creatures

and tracing the contours of what it means to be human recognizing that life proliferates by mechanisms beyond sexual copulation between two heterosexual male and female individuals of the same species the rabbis proposed intricate alternatives in parsing a variety of creatures they considered overlaps and resemblances across seemingly distinct species upsetting in turn unmitigated claims of human distinctiveness when a human gives birth to a raven enters conversations in animal studies queer theory trans theory and feminist science studies to provincialize sacrosanct ideals of reproduction in favor of a broader range that spans generation kinship and species the book thereby offers powerful historical alternatives to the paradigms associated with so called traditional ideas

this book explains the verbal system of the aramaic of daniel in the context of current research on grammaticalization which though first mentioned by meillet in 1912 did not flourish until the beginning of the 1980 s and has only more recently been applied to the study of ancient near eastern languages although various aspects of the aramaic of daniel have been subject of numerous studies including a few exhaustive studies on the verbal system in the last century it remains among the most difficult to explain the explanation offered here is coherent with the historical development of aramaic as well as the observable tendencies in the development of human languages in general

perspectives on language and language development brings together new perspectives on language discourse and language development in 31 chapters by leading scholars from several countries with diverging backgrounds and disciplines it is a comprehensive overview of language as a rich multifaceted system inspired by the lifework of ruth a berman edited by dorit ravid and hava bat zeev shyldkrot both from tel aviv university israel the book offers state of the art portrayals of linguistic and psycholinguistic phenomena with new insights on the interrelations of language structure discourse theory and the development of language and literacy the volume presents innovative investigations on the interface of language and narrative in a broad range of languages with a section devoted to linguistic studies of modern hebrew it traces the development of language and literacy from early childhood through adolescence to maturity in spoken and written contexts and in monolingual as well as multilingual perspectives linguists psycholinguists discourse scholars cognitive psychologists language teachers education experts and clinicians working in the field of language and discourse will find this book extremely useful both as a textbook and as a source of information

how were narratives composed in the ancient near east what patterns and principles constraints and considerations guided the shaping of cuneiform stories the study of narrative structures has emerged as a promising approach to the textual heritage of the cuneiform world engaging with practically any ancient text whether literary historical or religious requires some understanding of the narrative forms that shaped their content this volume gives researchers the tools to better understand those form illustrating each approach to narrative analysis with a case study from the cultures of the ancient near east sumerian babylonian assyrian and hittite

this volume contains selected refereed papers from the ninth conference of the society for judaeo arabic studies held at emory university atlanta in 1999 the title of this volume esoteric and

exoteric aspects in judeo arabic culture highlights the theme running through many of the conference papers the diversity and vitality of judeo arabic culture the volume represents the interdisciplinary nature of the field there are articles on jewish thought philosophy and mysticism language and linguistics religious studies intellectual and social history law biblical exegesis and more the book is an important contribution to our understanding of judeo arabic society in the middle ages

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