

# Beiträge Zur Lebensgeschichte Und Zu Den Briefen Des Psellos

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the letters of psellos is the first detailed study of the correspondence of michael psellos a leading byzantine intellectual politician and writer of the eleventh century psellos corpus of over 500 letters represents a historical source of great significance for the study of society and culture of the time literary masterpieces in and of themselves yet often complex and difficult to understand in their entirety they not only rebound with subtlety and humour but also offer invaluable information on myriad subjects ranging from the political culture of byzantium and its civil administration to social codes religious beliefs and popular culture this volume consists of two complementary parts designed to make psellos letters as widely accessible as possible both to the specialist academic community and to a wider non specialist audience the first part contains five essays offering detailed historical and literary analyses of a considerable number of the letters across a range of different topics including the financial management of monasteries the friendship of psellos and john maupous and the challenges posed by psellian irony while the essays are supplemented by individual appendices containing the translated text of the pertinent letters the second part of the book presents annotated summaries in english of the entirety of psellos correspondence compiled over many years as part of the prosopography of the byzantine world project and supported by substantial excursuses and notes the result is an engaging and accessible shortcut into these bewildering and fascinating letters and an essential resource for the study of eleventh century byzantine society and culture through the pen of one of its pre eminent figures

a companion to byzantine epistolography offers the first comprehensive introduction and scholarly guide to the cultural practice and literary genre of letter writing in the byzantine empire

in the mid eleventh century secular byzantine poetry attained a hitherto unseen degree of wit vividness and personal involvement chiefly exemplified in the poetry of christophoros mitylenaios ioannes maupous and michael psellos this is the first volume to consider this poetic activity as a whole critically reconsidering modern assumptions about byzantine poetry and focusing on byzantine conceptions of the role of poetry in society by providing a detailed account of the various media through which poetry was presented to its readers and by tracing the initial circulation of poems this volume takes an interest in the byzantine reader and his her reading habits and strategies allowing aspects of performance and visual representation rarely addressed to come to the fore it also examines the social interests that

motivated the composition of poetry establishing a connection with the extraordinary social mobility of the time self representative strategies are analyzed against the background of an unstable elite struggling to find moral justification which allows the study to raise the question of patronage examine the discourse used by poets to secure material rewards and explain the social dynamics of dedicatory epigrams finally gift exchange is explored as a medium that underlines the value of poetry and confirms the exclusive nature of intellectual friendship

the fourth volume of the new cambridge medieval history covers the eleventh and twelfth centuries which comprised perhaps the most dynamic period in the european middle ages this is a history of europe but the continent is interpreted widely to include the near east and north africa the volume is divided into two parts of which this the second deals with the course of events ecclesiastical and secular and major developments in an age marked by the transformation of the position of the papacy in a process fuelled by a radical reformation of the church the decline of the western and eastern empires the rise of western kingdoms and italian elites and the development of governmental structures the beginnings of the recovery of spain from the moors and the establishment of western settlements in the eastern mediterranean region in the wake of the crusades

the history of the decline and fall of the roman empire is edward gibbon s magnum opus written and published over a 13 year period beginning in 1776 it not only chronicles the events of the downfall starting with the end of the rule of marcus aurelius but proposes a theory as to why rome collapsed the populace gibbon theorizes lost its moral fortitude its militaristic will and its sense of civic duty history is considered a classic in world literature and gibbon is sometimes called the first modern historian for his insistence upon using primary sources for his research many scholars today still use his highly regarded work as reference in this fifth of seven volumes readers will find chapter 45 state of italy under the lombards through chapter 51 conquests by the arabs which cover the reign of justin ii the lombards conquest of italy the franks conquest of italy the reign of tiberius ii the life of gregory the great and the rules of phocas and heraclius the development of christianity in the eastern roman empire and the councils of ephesus chalcedon and nice the greek emperors of constantinople the rule of charlemagne of france and the division of his empire upon his death and the clash between the arabs and the eastern roman empire english parliamentarian and historian edward gibbon 1737 1794 attended magdalen college oxford for 14 months before his father sent him to lausanne switzerland where he continued his education he published *essai sur l'étude de la littérature* 1761 and other autobiographical works

including mmoire justificatif pour servir de rponse l expos etc de la cour de france 1779

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