Position Of Women In Judaism

On Women & JudaismJewish Women in Historical PerspectiveWomen and American JudaismWomen and JudaismWomen and Jewish LawJudaism and the New WomanActive VoicesWomen and JudaismWomen and JudaismJewish Women in Time and TorahWomen of the WallResponsa on Contemporary Jewish Women's IssuesGender and JudaismThe Status of Women in Jewish TraditionWomen as Ritual ExpertsJewish and FemaleThe Sacred CallingWomen in JudaismChapters of the HeartStanding Again at Sinai Blu Greenberg Judith Reesa Baskin Pamela Susan Nadell Frederick E. Greenspahn Rachel Biale Sally Priesand Maurie Sacks Roslyn Lacks Malka Drucker Eliezer Berkovits Phyllis Chesler J. H. Henkin Tamar Rudavsky Isaac Sassoon Susan Starr Sered Susan Weidman Schneider Rebecca Einstein Schorr Leonard J. Swidler Sue Levi Elwell Judith Plaskow

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a classic for nearly 20 years this thought provoking volume explores the role of jewish women in the synagogue in the family and in the secular world greenberg offers ways to change present jewish practices so that they more readily reflect feminine equality

this collection of revised and new essays explores jewish women s history topics include portrayals of women in the hebrew bible the image and status of

women in the diaspora world of late antiquity and jewish women in the middle ages

2

new portrayals of the religious lives of american jewish women from colonial times to the present

although women constitute half of the jewish population and have always played essential roles in ensuring jewish continuity and the preservation of jewish beliefs and values only recently have their contributions and achievements received sustained scholarly attention scholars have begun to investigate jewish women s domestic economic intellectual spiritual and creative roles in jewish life from biblical times to the present yet little of this important work has filtered down beyond specialists in their respective academic fields women and judaism brings the broad new insights they have uncovered to the world women and judaism communicates this research to a wider public of students and educated readers outside of the academy by presenting accessible and engaging chapters written by key senior scholars that introduce the reader to different aspects of women and judaism the contributors discuss feminist approaches to jewish law and torah study the spirituality of eastern european jewish women jewish women in american literature and many other issues contributors nehama aschkenasy judith r baskin sylvia barack fishman harriet pass freidenreich esther fuchs judith hauptman sara r horowitz renée levine pamela s nadell and dvora weisberg

how has a legal tradition determined by men affected the lives of women what are the traditional jewish views of marriage divorce sexuality contraception abortion women and jewish law gives contemporary readers access to the central texts of the jewish religious tradition on issues of special concern to women combining a historical overview with a thoughtful feminist critique this pathbreaking study points the way for informed change in the status of women in jewish life

lacks analyzes the historical cultural and mythological sources for women s status in judaism and western society moving from the earliest pre biblical civilizations to the present she explores the evolution of the roles of jewish women and what they mean today tracing the transformation of woman s image through time lacks examines the shift from polytheism to patriarchal culture in the ancient near east and shows how early jewish views of women derived from older mythologies she reassesses the leading female figures of the bible in light of this influence emphasizing the complex and often

misunderstood dimensions of these key archetypes most important lacks argues that the most confining and unrealistic strictures on the role of women in judaism arose from the subtle and selective misreading of canonical texts throughout the later history of jewish scholarship lacks also reviews the great protagonists in the struggle for female equality in judaism from the learned talmudic scholar beruriah to the heroic women of the present century who have fought for and in some cases won the official right to serve as rabbis in jewish congregations all over the world from publisher description

contributors to women and judaism describe the many ways in which women are claiming a place in and changing the face of this ancient religion women and judaism the editor writes carries an intention to do more than bring the reader new ideas to ponder for jewish women it s a charge to claim and re claim their rightful place in their tradition for non jewish sisters we hope that it encourages you to bring change in your traditions as you learn of our effort to be counted as full members of an ancient spiritual community in this all encompassing exploration of judaism for the modern woman readers attend the first the bat mitzvah 70 years ago hear an imagined response of biblical mothers asked to give up their children and learn how each holiday contains an ecological message readers explore the power of women within a patriarchal tradition including the story of the first woman rabbi readers see demonstrations of how women keep body mind and spirit alive read a new view of biblical women as heroic role models and enter the memory of women holocaust survivors some contributors write about sexuality power and vulnerability while others present the newest women s rituals including rosh hodesh and mikveh

berkowitz examines the status of women in halacha he offers suggestions from the tradition to improve that status particularly in the areas of divorce and ritual practice

an inspiration to all who struggle for religious and gender equality our souls yearn to pray in peace in the sacred place to read from our holy torah together with other jewish women from the in israel today the historic western wall known as the kotel a holy site for jewish people is under the religious authority of the orthodox rabbinate women have only limited rights to practice jewish ritual in its precincts this passionate book documents the legendary grassroots and legal struggle of a determined group of jewish women from israel the united states and other parts of the world known as the women of

Position Of Women In Judaism

3

the wall to win the right to pray out loud together as a group according to jewish law wear ritual objects and read from torah scrolls at the western wall eyewitness accounts of physical violence and intimidation inspiring personal stories and interpretations of legal and classical jewish halakhic texts bring to life the historic and ongoing struggle that the women of the wall face in their everyday fight for religious and gender equality

no one interested in jewish women s issues or contemporary halakhah can afford to forgo this book for the first time twenty four modern responsa have been translated from the hebrew including four never before published from mehitzah in the synagogue to the blessing recited by men shelo asani ishah who has not made me a woman from women s prayer groups to hair covering and from talmud study to limiting family size responsa on contemporary jewish women s issues written by rabbi yehuda henkin treats current and controversial topics with authority and erudition forcefulness and grace

demonstates through different essays jewish womens movement rides the fine line between tradition and transformation

most ancient societies were patriarchal in outlook but not all patriarchies are equally condescending toward women impelled by the gnawing question of whether the inferiority of women is integral to the torah s vision sassoon sets out to determine where the bible the talmud and related literature especially the dead sea scrolls sit on this continuum of patriarchal condescension of course there are multiple voices in both biblical and talmudic literature but more surprising is how divergent these voices are some points of view seem intent on the disenfranchisement and domestication of women whereas others prove to be not far short of egalitarian opinions that downplay the applicability of the biblical commandments to women and that strongly deprecate torah study by women emerge from this study as arguably no more than the views of an especially vocal minority

by analyzing the rituals daily experiences life stories and non verbal gestures of jewish women from kurdistan and yemen now living in jerusalem sered discloses stategies these women have used to circumvent the patriarchal institutions of judaism and to develop their own traditions within torah judaism

see lesbian and gay jews in the index

women have been rabbis for over forty years no longer are women rabbis a unique phenomenon rather they are part of the fabric of jewish life in this anthology rabbis and scholars from across the jewish world reflect back on the historic significance of women in the rabbinate and explore issues related to both the professional and personal lives of women rabbis this collection examines the ways in which the reality of women in the rabbinate has impacted on all aspects of jewish life including congregational culture liturgical development life cycle ritual the jewish healing movement spirituality theology and more published by ccar press a division of the central conference of american rabbis

chapters of the heart jewish women sharing the torah of our lives invites readers into the lives of twenty women for whom jewish language and texts provide a lens for understanding their experiences the authors don't just use religious words texts theologies or liturgies like a cookbook instead they serve readers something closer to a real meal prepared with love and intention each essay shares one piece of its writer's heart one chapter of experience as refracted through the author's particular jewish optic the authors write about being daughters mothers sisters partners lovers and friends they share their experiences of parenting infertility and abortion one describes accompanying her young husband through his life threatening illness another tells of her daughter's struggle with an eating disorder still another reflects on long decline of a parent with alzheimer's all these writers wrestle with jewish texts while growing as rabbis as feminists and as interfaith leaders they open their hearts and minds telling when jewish tradition has helped make meaning and on occasion when it has come up empty the results are sometimes inspiring sometimes provocative readers will find new insights into god into judaism and into themselves

a feminist critique of judaism as a patriarchal tradition and an exploration of the increasing involvement of women in naming and shaping jewish tradition

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5

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