

An Introduction To Modern Jewish Thinkers Levenson

Alan T

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An Introduction to Modern Jewish Philosophy
History of Jewish Philosophy
Choices in Modern Jewish Thought
An Introduction to Modern Jewish Thinkers
Judaism in Contemporary Thought
Contemporary Jewish Philosophy
The Cambridge Companion to Modern Jewish Philosophy
How Judaism Became a Religion
Jewish Philosophy and the Crisis of Modernity
On Jewish Learning
Spinoza's Challenge to Jewish Thought
Modern Jewish Thinkers
What Can a Modern Jew Believe?
An Introduction to Modern Jewish Philosophy
A History of Modern Jewish Religious Philosophy
A History of Modern Jewish Religious Philosophy
Hermann Cohen
Dilemmas in Modern Jewish Thought
The Cambridge Companion to Modern Jewish Philosophy
Alan T. Levenson
Norbert M. Samuelson
Daniel Frank
Eugene B. Borowitz
Alan T. Levenson
Agata Bielik-Robson
Irene Kajon
Michael L. Morgan
Leora Batnitzky
Leo Strauss
Franz Rosenzweig
Daniel B. Schwartz
Alan Levenson
Gilbert S. Rosenthal
Claire Elise Katz
Eliezer Schweid
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Samuel Moyn
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highlighting well known jewish thinkers from a very wide spectrum of opinion the author addresses a range of issues including what makes a thinker jewish what makes modern jewish thought modern how have secular jews integrated jewish traditional thought with agnosticism what do orthodox thinkers have to teach non orthodox jews and vice versa each chapter includes a short judiciously chosen selection from the given author along with questions to guide the reader through the material short biographical essays at the end of each chapter offer the reader recommendations for further readings and provide the low down on which books are worth the reader s while introduction to modern jewish thinkers represents a decade of the author s experience teaching students ranging from undergraduate age to their seventies this is an ideal textbook for undergraduate classes

the book is divided into three sections the first provides a general historical overview for the jewish thought that follows the second summarizes the variety of basic kinds of popular positive jewish commitment in the twentieth century the third and major section summarizes the basic thought of those modern jewish philosophers whose thought is technically the best and or the most influential in jewish intellectual circles the jewish philosophers covered include spinoza mendelssohn hermann cohen martin buber franz rosenzweig mordecai kaplan and emil fackenheim the text includes

summaries and a selected bibliography of primary and secondary sources

jewish philosophy is often presented as an addendum to jewish religion rather than as a rich and varied tradition in its own right but the history of jewish philosophy explores the entire scope and variety of jewish philosophy from philosophical interpretations of the bible right up to contemporary jewish feminist and postmodernist thought the links between jewish philosophy and its wider cultural context are stressed building up a comprehensive and historically sensitive view of jewish philosophy and its place in the development of philosophy as a whole includes detailed discussions of the most important jewish philosophers and philosophical movements descriptions of the social and cultural contexts in which jewish philosophical thought developed throughout the centuries contributions by 35 leading scholars in the field from britain canada israel and the us detailed and extensive bibliographies

jewish philosophy responds to the challenges of today s world by studying the ideas of great contemporary thinkers readers will achieve a rich understanding of our contemporary spiritual needs

highlighting well known jewish thinkers from a very wide spectrum of opinion the author addresses a range of issues including what makes a thinker jewish what makes modern jewish thought modern how have secular jews integrated jewish traditional thought with agnosticism what do orthodox thinkers have to teach non orthodox jews and vice versa each chapter includes a short judiciously chosen selection from the given author along with questions to guide the reader through the material short biographical essays at the end of each chapter offer the reader recommendations for further readings and provide the low down on which books are worth the reader s while introduction to modern jewish thinkers represents a decade of the author s experience teaching students ranging from undergraduate age to their seventies this is an ideal textbook for undergraduate classes

the central aim of this collection is to trace the presence of jewish tradition in contemporary philosophy this presence is on the one hand undeniable manifesting itself in manifold allusions and influences on the other hand difficult to define rarely referring to openly revealed judaic sources following the recent tradition of lévinas and derrida this book tentatively refers to this mode of presence in terms of traces of judaism and the contributors grapple with the following questions what are these traces and how can we track them down is there such a thing as jewish difference that truly makes a difference in philosophy and if so how can we define it the additional working hypothesis accepted by some and challenged by other contributors is that jewish thought draws explicitly or implicitly on three main concepts of jewish theology creation revelation and redemption if this is the case then the specificity of the jewish contribution to modern philosophy and the theoretical humanities should be found in sometimes open sometimes hidden fidelity to these three categories offering a new understanding of the relationship between philosophy and theology this book is an important contribution to the fields of theology philosophy and jewish studies

contemporary jewish philosophy offers a comprehensive survey of jewish philosophy in the twentieth century

modern jewish philosophy emerged in the seventeenth century with the impact of the new science and modern philosophy on thinkers who were reflecting upon the nature of judaism and jewish life this collection of essays examines the work of several of the most important of these figures from the seventeenth to the late twentieth centuries and addresses themes central to the tradition of modern jewish philosophy language and revelation autonomy and authority the problem of evil messianism the influence of kant and feminism included are essays on spinoza mendelssohn cohen buber rosenzweig fackenheim soloveitchik strauss and levinas other thinkers discussed include maimon

benjamin derrida scholem and arendt the sixteen original essays are written by a world renowned group of scholars especially for this volume and give a broad and rich picture of the tradition of modern jewish philosophy over a period of four centuries

a new approach to understanding jewish thought since the eighteenth century is judaism a religion a culture a nationality or a mixture of all of these in how judaism became a religion leora batnitzky boldly argues that this question more than any other has driven modern jewish thought since the eighteenth century this wide ranging and lucid introduction tells the story of how judaism came to be defined as a religion in the modern period and why jewish thinkers have fought as well as championed this idea ever since the enlightenment jewish thinkers have debated whether and how judaism largely a religion of practice and public adherence to law can fit into a modern protestant conception of religion as an individual and private matter of belief or faith batnitzky makes the novel argument that it is this clash between the modern category of religion and judaism that is responsible for much of the creative tension in modern jewish thought tracing how the idea of jewish religion has been defended and resisted from the eighteenth century to today the book discusses many of the major jewish thinkers of the past three centuries including moises mendelssohn abraham geiger hermann cohen martin buber zvi yehuda kook theodor herzl and mordecai kaplan at the same time it tells the story of modern orthodoxy the german jewish renaissance jewish religion after the holocaust the emergence of the jewish individual the birth of jewish nationalism and jewish religion in america more than an introduction how judaism became a religion presents a compelling new perspective on the history of modern jewish thought

explores the impact on jews and judaism of the crisis of modernity analyzing modern jewish dilemmas and providing a prescription for their resolution

franz rosenzweig is one of the greatest contributors to jewish philosophy in the twentieth century and is with martin buber and abraham heschel one of the jewish thinkers most widely read by christians on jewish learning collects essays speeches and letters that express rosenzweig s desire to reconnect the profound truths of judaism with the lives of ordinary people an assimilated jew and scholar of german philosophy rosenzweig was on the point of conversion to christianity when the experience of a yom kippur service in 1913 brought him back to judaism and he began to study with philosopher hermann cohen seeking how to be an observant jew in the modern world rosenzweig refused to characterize the traditions of jewish law as mere rituals customs and folkways his aim for himself and for others was to find judaism by living it and to live it by knowing it more deeply the wisconsin edition is not for sale in the british commonwealth the republic of ireland or south africa

arguably no historical thinker has had as varied and fractious a reception within modern judaism as baruch benedict spinoza 1632 77 the seventeenth century philosopher pioneering biblical critic and jewish heretic from amsterdam revered in many circles as the patron saint of secular jewishness he has also been branded as the worst traitor to the jewish people in modern times jewish philosophy has cast spinoza as marking a turning point between the old and the new as a radicalizer of the medieval tradition and table setter for the modern he has served as a perennial landmark and point of reference in the construction of modern jewish identity this volume brings together excerpts from central works in the jewish response to spinoza true to the diversity of spinoza s jewish reception it features a mix of genres from philosophical criticism to historical fiction from tributes to diary entries providing the reader with a sense of the overall historical development of spinoza s posthumous legacy

but modern jewish thinkers is more than a survey each chapter includes a short judiciously chosen selection from the given author along with questions to guide the reader through the material short

biographical essays at the end of each chapter offer the reader recommendations for further readings and provide the low down on which books are worth the reader s further consultation and which are not book jacket

what can a modern jew believe is an attempt to present to intelligent contemporary jews a brief summation of basic beliefs and tenets of judaism divided into sixteen chapters and an introduction the book deals with salient principles of faith why religion what can a modern jew believe what can we believe about god can we believe in revelation what is a human being are jews the chosen people halakhah divine or human why ritual why pray why eretz yisrael tolerance pluralism which why evil can we repair the world how can jews relate to other faiths messiah fact or fancy is there an afterlife each chapter analyzes traditional interpretations of the themes citing appropriate biblical rabbinic medieval and modern texts the chapters also include the views of contemporary jewish thinkers as well as the positions of the various modern jewish religious movements the author critiques the diverse opinions and then offers his own insights as to the significance and relevance of these principles for contemporary jews points to ponder follow each chapter and are designed to stimulate discussion and further reading and thinking

how jewish is modern jewish philosophy the question at first appears nonsensical until we consider that the chief issues with which jewish philosophers have engaged from the enlightenment through to the late 20th century are the standard preoccupations of general philosophical inquiry questions about god reality language and knowledge metaphysics and epistemology have been of as much concern to jewish thinkers as they have been to others moises mendelssohn for example was a friend of kant hermann cohen s philosophy is often described as neo kantian franz rosenzweig wrote his dissertation on hegel and the thought of emmanuel levinas is indebted to husserl in this much needed textbook

which surveys the most prominent thinkers of the last three centuries claire katz situates modern jewish philosophy in the wider cultural and intellectual context of its day indicating how broader currents of british french and german thought influenced its practitioners but she also addresses the unique ways in which being jewish coloured their output suggesting that a keen sense of particularity enabled the jewish philosophers to help define the whole modern era intended to be used as a core undergraduate text the book will also appeal to anyone with an interest how some of the greatest minds of the age grappled with some of its most urgent and fascinating philosophical problems

the culmination of eliezer schweid s life work as a jewish intellectual historian this five volume work provides a comprehensive interdisciplinary account of the major thinkers and movements in modern jewish thought in the context of general philosophy and jewish social political historical developments with extensive primary source excerpts volume three the crisis of humanism commences with an important essay on the challenge to the humanist tradition posed in the late 19th century by historical materialism existentialism and positivism this is background for the constructive philosophies which sought at the same time to address the general crisis of moral value and provide a positive basis for jewish existence among the thinkers presented in this volume are moises hess moritz lazarus hermann cohen in impressive depth with a thorough exposition of the ethics and religion of reason ahad ha am i j reines simon dubnow m y berdiczewski the theorists of the bund chaim zhitlovsky nachman syrkin and ber borochov

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studies and the modern jewish religious movements discusses the major jewish thinkers of central and eastern europe before 1881 in connection with the movements they fostered german jewish wissenschaft zunz reform formstecher samuel hirsch geiger neo orthodoxy s d luzzatto steinheim samson raphael hirsch positive historical frankel graetz and neo haredi kalischer malbim hayyim volozhiner salanter in addition extensive attention is given to the thinkers of the east european haskalah both earlier levinsohn rubin schorr mieses abraham krochmal and later proto zionist thinkers zweifel smolenskin pines lilienblum

hermann cohen 1842 1918 was among the most accomplished jewish philosophers of modern times this newly translated collection of his writings illuminates his achievements for student readers and rectifies lapses in his intellectual reception by prior generations

michael morgan has served up an intellectual treat these subtle and carefully reasoned essays explore the dilemmas of the post modern jew who would take history seriously without losing the commanding presence israel heard at sinai it is a pleasure to be nourished by a fresh mind exploring the tension between reason and revelation history and faith Â rabbi samuel karff this is without doubt one of the most significant works in modern jewish thought and a must for a thoughtful student of contemporary jewish philosophy rabbie sheldon zimmerman this may well mark the next stage in the long history of jewish self understanding ethics rigorous history of modern jewish thought choice is judaism a timeless universal set of beliefs or rather is it historical and contingent in its relation to different times and places morgan clarifies the tensions and dilemmas that characterize modern thinking about the nature of judaism and clears the way for jews to appreciate their historical situation yet locate enduring values and principles in a post holocaust world

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