

What Is The Christian Orient

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papers presented at a symposium on syro malabar church theology to mark the silver jubilee of christian orient theological quarterly held at kottayam india on jan 6 2005

this work represents the current and most relevant content on the studies of how christianity has fared in the ancient home of its founder and birth much has been written about christianity and how it has survived since its migration out of its homeland but this comprehensive reference work reassesses the geographic and demographic impact of the dramatic changes in this perennially combustible world region the rowman littlefield handbook of christianity in the middle east also spans the historical socio political and contemporary settings of the region and importantly describes the interactions that christianity has had with other major minor religions in the region

this study of several figures of spiritual authority in early christianity 2nd 8th centuries examines how the struggle for religious power developed with the changing relationships

between church and society

although the origins of christianity lie in the near east europe and christianity have an exceptional relationship since most europeans perceive christianity as a western more precisely as a european religion the region has seen rapid social change in the 21st century set off by factors including energy crisis and environmental awareness poverty and exclusion falling birthrates and increased migration changing attitudes to sexuality gender and family life and challenges to europe's idea of itself and place in the global order amidst all this flux this volume focuses on one particular issue the rapidly changing profile of the christian faith that has shaped the life of the european continent for a millennium and more at a time when patterns of christian life and worship appear to be dying out yet traces of new life are also appearing this volume maps out the current reality of christianity in western and northern europe with all its questions and uncertainties

this book explores nothingness the negative way found in buddhist and christian traditions with a focused and comparative approach it examines the works of nagarjuna c 150 ce a buddhist monk philosopher and one of the greatest thinkers of classical india and those of john of the cross 1542 1591 a carmelite monk outstanding spanish poet and one of the greatest mystical theologians the conception of nothingness in both the thinkers points to a paradox of linguistic transcendence and provides a novel insight into *via negativa* this is the first full length work comparing nothingness emptiness in nagarjuna mahayana buddhism and john of the cross christianity in any language it augments the comparative approach found in buddhist christian comparative philosophy and theology this book is of especial interest to academics of buddhist and christian studies searching for avenues for intellectual dialogue

list of members in each volume

this book examines the arts and artistic exchanges at the christian oriental fringes of europe especially armenia it starts with the architecture history and inhabitants of the lesser known pilgrim compounds at the vatican in the middle ages and renaissance of hungary germany but namely those of the most ancient of churches the churches of the christian orient ethiopia and armenia without taking an eurocentric view this book explores the role of missionaries merchants artists for example momik giotto minas domenico veneziano duerer and artefacts such as fabrics inscriptions and symbols travelling into both directions along the western stretch of the silk road between ayas cilicia ancient armenia and north western iran this area was truly global before globalization was a site of intense cultural exchanges and east west cultural transmissions this book opens a new research window into the culturally mixed landscapes in the christian orient the middle east and north eastern africa by taking into consideration their many indigenous and foreign artistic components and embeds armenian arts into today's wider art historical discourse this book will be of interest to scholars in art history architectural history missions trade middle eastern arts and the arts of the southern caucasus

the history of western notions about islam is of obvious scholarly as well as popular interest today this book investigates christian images of the muslim middle east focusing on the period from the renaissance to the enlightenment when the nature of divine as well as human power

was under particularly intense debate in the west ivan kalmar explores how the controversial notion of submission to ultimate authority has in the western world been discussed with reference to islam s alleged recommendation to obey unquestioningly a merciless allah in heaven and a despotic government on earth he discusses how abrahamic faiths christianity and judaism as much as islam demand devotion to a sublime power with the faith that this power loves and cares for us a concept that brings with it the fear that on the contrary this power only toys with us for its own enjoyment for such a power kalmar borrows slavoj zizek s term obscene father he discusses how this describes exactly the western image of the oriental despot allah in heaven and the various sultans emirs and ayatollahs on earth and how these despotic personalities of imagined muslim society function as a projection from the west on to the muslim orient of an existential anxiety about sublime power making accessible academic debates on the history of christian perceptions of islam and on islam and the west this book is an important addition to the existing literature in the areas of islamic studies religious history and philosophy

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