

JUDAICA

R.R.296.123/M678d. Danby, Herbert, trans. Mishnah. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1933. Body of traditional laws codified by Judah the Patriarch at the beginning of third century. Date usually assigned for the completion is A.D. 220. Six orders or sedarim. Each order divided into treatises or tractates. Jacob Neusner has completed (1988) a new translation, which is as close to a literal translation as possible. - R.R.296.123/M678n

R.R.296.12/T151e. Epstein, Isidore, ed. The Babylonian Talmud. 35v. London: Soncino, 1935-48.

The Babylonian Talmud dates from the early 6th century and is the most frequently cited of the two versions of the Talmud. The Mishnah and Gemara (discussion of the rabbinic scholars on the Mishnah) constitute the Talmud. Arrangement is according to the tractates of the Mishnah. This Soncino Talmud can be purchased on CD-ROM. The full text of 16 tractates of this translation is available and searchable online at: HYPERLINK "http://www.come-and-hear.com/tcontents.html" <http://www.come-and-hear.com/tcontents.html>.

R.R.296.12505/T151n. Neusner, Jacob. The Babylonian Talmud: A Translation and Commentary. 22v. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2005. A reprint of Neusner's "American Translation" published 1984-96 (296.12505/T151n). The Mishnah passages are in bold print and the translation from Aramaic is in italics. The accompanying CD-ROM contains the full text of all 37 tractates plus introductions and commentary in searchable PDF format.

Strack cautions that as a rule one should cite, "R. So and So says" rather than "The Talmud teaches."

R.R.296.14/M629f. Freedman, Harry, and Maurice Simon, eds. Midrash Rabbah. 10v. London: Soncino Press, 1939.

Consists of ten separate books, covering each of the five books of Moses, Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and Esther. When the Midrash is of a legal nature, it is known as halakah. When the Midrash is of a non-legal nature, with emphasis on moral lessons and ethical teachings, it is known as hagadah. Jacob Neusner began an English translation in 1985. Eight volumes have been published to date.

R.R.296.03/J59. Jewish Encyclopedia. 12v. New York: Funk & Wagnalls, 1901-06. Signed articles by over 400 contributors covering the areas in the subtitle: "A Descriptive Record of the History, Religion, Literature, and Customs of the Jewish People from the Earliest Times to the Present Day." Bibliographies with each article. The old standard work still useful for historical and biographical information. Full text available on the Internet at HYPERLINK "http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/index.jsp" <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/index.jsp>.

R.R.296.03/E56/2007. Skolnik, Fred, ed. Encyclopaedia Judaica. 2nd ed. 22v. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2007.

"A comprehensive examination of all aspects of Jewish life, history and culture." About ½ of the over 25,000 signed entries from the 1st ed. were revised and 2,650 new ones were added. Provides expanded coverage of biblical studies, the Holocaust, and women's studies. Contains cross-references and bibliographies, with a preference for English language sources. List of abbreviations is in the front of v. 1 and the back of v. 2-21. Vol. 22 is a thematic outline and index.

R.R. 296.03/O98. Werblowsky, R. J. Zwi, and Geoffrey Wigoder. Oxford Dictionary of the Jewish Religion. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.

Contains almost 2,400 signed articles (with bibliographies) by 156 contributors on "the concepts, beliefs, and practices of historical and contemporary Jewish religious practice."

R.R.296.03/D554. Neusner, Jacob, and William Scott Green. Dictionary of Judaism in the Biblical Period: 450 B.C.E. to 600 C.E. 2v. New York: Macmillan Library Reference, 1996. Contains concise definitions of people, places, concepts, religious rites and theological categories found in the biblical and rabbinic literature of this period.

R.R.296.03/E56n/2005. Neusner, Jacob, Alan J. Avery-Peck, and William Scott Green, eds. The Encyclopedia of Judaism. 2nd ed. 4v. Leiden: Brill, 2005. Contains over 225 long, signed essays with bibliographies that "provide systematic coverage of all aspects of Judaism: the religion and its history, literature, beliefs past and present, observances, practices, worldviews, and its place in the context of society and culture from ancient Israelite times to our day." Includes 52 previously unpublished entries and updated bibliographies for all entries in the 1st ed., including those in the supplement volumes. Vol. 4 contains an extensive index.

R.R.296.03/S689/2006. Solomon, Norman. Historical Dictionary of Judaism. 2nd ed. Historical Dictionaries of Religions, Philosophies, and Movements, 69. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2006. Looks at Judaism as a religion and focuses "on the spiritual life and creativity of Jews from the rabbinic period to the present day." Includes articles on personalities and movements. There are numerous cross-references and a classified bibliography (475-535).

INDEX.016.296/I38. Index to Jewish Periodicals. 1963- . Author and subject index to selected American and Anglo-Jewish journals of general and scholarly interest.

296/H354. Hebrew Union College Annual. Analytical Subject Index, v. 1-37, 1924-1966.

Tanna (pl. Tannaim): Sages whose opinions form the Mishnah.

Targum: Aramaic translation of the O.T. Frequently amounted to an expanded paraphrase. Martin McNamara is editing an English translation under the title The Aramaic Bible (221.52/B582ar). Twenty-one volumes have been published to date.

Amora (pl. Amoraim): Sages whose discussion of the Mishnah constitute the Gemara of the Talmud.

Sofer (pl. Soferim or Sopherim): Sages; all post-biblical legal authorities. May also refer to writer of Torah scrolls.

R.R.016.296/S933. Townsend, John T. "Rabbinic sources," in The Study of Judaism, pp. 37-80. Lists critical editions and translations of Rabbinic literature.

R.R.296/C178. Davies, W. D., and Louis Finkelstein, eds. Cambridge History of Judaism. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1984- . (4v are projected) Deals with formative period from Babylonian exile to the codification of the Mishnah. Each chapter written by a specialist, with full bibliographies at the end of each volume. Vol. I: Introduction; The Persian Period. Vol. 2: The Hellenistic Age. Vol. 3: The Early Roman Period. Vol. 4: The Late Roman-Rabbinic Period.

A parallel Hebrew and English (Jewish Publication Society, 1917) O.T. is available at the Mechon Mamre Web site (HYPERLINK "http://www.mechon-mamre.org" <http://www.mechon-mamre.org>).

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