## Shalom Sharabi And The Kabbalists Of Beit El

the jerusalem kabbalists of the beit el yeshivah are the most influential school of kabbalah in modernity the school is associated with the writings and personality of a charismatic eighteenth century yemenite rabbi shalom shar abi considered by his acolytes to be divinely inspired by the prophet elijah shar abi initiated what is still the most active school of mysticism in contemporary middle eastern jewry today this meditative tradition is rising in popularity not only in jerusalem but throughout the jewish world pinchas giller examines the characteristic mystical practices of the beit el school the dominant practice is that of ritual prayer with mystical intentions or kavvanot the kavvanot themselves are the product of thousands of years of development and incorporate many traditions and bodies of lore giller examines the archaeology of the kavvanot literature the principle aspect of which is the meditation on god s sacred names while reciting prayers the development of particular rituals and the innovative mystical and devotional practices of the beit el kabbalists

this book endeavors to fill a lacuna in the literature on early twentieth century kabbalah namely the lack of a comprehensive account of the traditional kabbalah seminaries yeshivot in jerusalem from 1896 to 1948 as well as the various manifestations of kabbalah within traditional jewish society the foundations that were laid in the early twentieth century also paved the way for the contemporary

blossoming of kabbalah in many and manifold circles in this sense retracing the pertinent developments in palestine at the outset of the twentieth century is imperative not only for repairing the distorted picture of the past but for understanding the ongoing surge in kabbalah study

this volume brings together leading representatives of the recent debate about the persistence of kabbalah in the modern world it breaks new ground for a better understanding of the role of kabbalah in modern religious intellectual and political discourse

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the persistence of kabbalistic groups in the twentieth century has largely been ignored or underestimated by scholars of religion only recently have scholars began to turn their attention to the many facetted roles that kabbalistic doctrines and schools have played in nineteenth and twentieth century culture often and necessarily this new interest and openness went along with a contextualization and re valuation of earlier scholarly approaches to kabbalah this volume brings together leading representatives of this ongoing debate in order to break new ground for a better understanding and conceptualization of the role of kabbalah in modern religious intellectual and political discourse

catalogue of handicrafts and art of yemen traditional culture and history artistic crafts architecture economy society agriculture apiculture photographs

judaism has always regarded hebrew as a sacred language the medium of divine communication and its letters are no ordinary forms the very word for letter of means sign or wonder reveals the spirituality and power of all 22 letters of the hebrew alphabet from aleph which signifies creative energy to tav symbolizing wholeness and joy each concise historical and poetic letter profile written by judaica scholar edward hoffman is accompanied by a lustrous illustration wrought in hues of olive blue and silver this insightful meditation delves into the rich mystical heritage of the letters offering a modern link to ancient times when contemplating the hebrew alphabet could enlighten the inmost soul publisher's description

designed as a reference work for the student and general reader this kabbalistic dictionary is a concise and handy guide to the history and treasures of the jewish mystical tradition it is the first dictionary of kabbalah to provide an overview of the major themes of jewish kabbalistic thought as it developed over the centuries and also contains brief introductions to its major practitioners in addition to the dictionary itself the book contains a chronology of kabbalah a history of kabbalah from ancient times to the present maps illustrations and an insight into the emergence of the kabbalah centre in california where many celebrities including madonna worship

## publisher description

probably the most important analytical study of the hasidic movement can be read by anyone seriously interested in jewish history jewish historical studies

in describing the career of abraham yagel a jewish physician kabbalist and naturalist who lived in northern italy from 1553 to about 1623 david ruderman observes the remarkable interplay between early modern scientific thought and religious and occult traditions from a wholly new perspective that of jewish intellectual life whether he was writing about astronomical discoveries demons marvelous creatures and prodigies of nature the uses of magic or reincarnation yagel made a consistent effort to integrate empirical study of nature with kabbalistic and rabbinic learning yagel s several interests were united in his belief in the interconnectedness of all thing a belief shared by many renaissance thinkers that turns natural phenomena into signatures of the divine unity of all things ruderman argues that yagel and his coreligionists were predisposed to this prevalent view because of occult strains in traditional jewish thought he also suggests that underlying yagel s passion for integrating and correlating all knowledge was a powerful psychological need to gain cultural respect and acceptance for himself and for his entire community especially in a period of increased anti semitic agitation in italy yagel proposed a bold new agenda for jewish culture that underscored the religious value of the study of nature reformulated kabbalist traditions in the language of scientific discourse so as to promote them as the highest form of human knowledge and advocated the legitimate role of the magical arts as the ultimate expression of human creativity in judaism this portrait of yagel and his intellectual world will well serve all students of late renaissance and early modern europe

jonathan garb s a history of kabbalah from the early modern period to the present day is a lucid and sophisticated account of the multifaceted nature of jewish mysticism focusing on its development from the spiritual revolution that took place in safed in the sixteenth century until the present opening the secrets of the kabbalah to a wider audience garb judiciously argued that how important the mystical and esoteric tradition has been in jewish history and in the cultural and intellectual life of europe more generally one of the more methodologically innovative aspects of garb s book is his contention that kabbalah became a major factor in the religious life of jews in the modern age due to print and others forms of rapid communication a process that has magnified significantly in recent years due to the digital revolution informative and provocative a history of kabbalah will surely be of interest to a wide readership

sefer yetzirah the book of creation one of the earliest kabbalistic works teaches that the letters of the hebrew alphabet are the building blocks of creation each letter has its own significance spiritual energy and reason for existing in this revised version of rabbi ginsburgh s best selling the alef beit jewish thought revealed through the hebrew letters he explains how each letter s name form and numerical value play a role in the creative process of the cosmos he draws on the understandings of the well known mystic the baal shem tov in depicting

how each letter has nine dimensions with impact in three worlds the physical spiritual and divine in every letter there is the true completion of the soul a chance to unite consciousness with the code of creation includes glossary footnotes and index

zeev gries s analysis of what books were being published and where shows the importance of the printed book in disseminating religious and secular ideas creating a new class of jewish intellectuals and making knowledge of the world available to women this unique perspective on jewish intellectual history in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries through the history of book publishing throws light on many of the key jewish cultural issues of the time

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