



Jacob Frank's 'Book of the Words of the Lord'

Mystical Automythography, Religious Nihilism and the Messianic Vision of Freedom as a Realization of Myth and Metaphor

by R. Elijor

DESCRIPTION:

This book is concerned with the exceptional history and unprecedented thought of Jacob Frank (1726-1791), a Messianic antinomistic Jewish-Moslem-Christian leader, active in the second half of the 18th Century in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Ottoman empire, Moravia and Germany. Frank grew up in the Dönme circles in Salonika (Dönme was the Turkish name of the Moslem-Jews who were followers of the messianic leader Sabbatai Zevi (1626-1676), who was forced to become a Moslem. His followers decided to convert to Islam in 1683 in order to live separate Jewish messianic life). Frank defined himself in his mythical autobiography, known as 'The Words of the Lord' as a chosen messianic Leader and as an anarchist visionary who decided to cross every border and to destroy every book, law and order. His anarchistic behavior as well as his broad social influence caused a persistent rabbinic persecution and excommunication that brought Jacob Frank and his thousands followers to undertake a mass conversion to Christianity in 1759-1760.

ISBN:
9789042936508 (pb)

PRICE:
\$55.00 (pb)

PUBLICATION DATE:
06 June 2018 (pb)

BINDING:
Paperback

PAGES:
120

PUBLISHER:
Peeters Publishers

IMPRINT:
Peeters Publishers

SERIES:
Studies in Spirituality
Supplements

READER INTERESTS:
Early Modern Studies
Religious Studies