

Synopsis

The Schechter Haggadah: Art, History and Commentary presents a fascinating discussion and analysis of the historical development of each aspect of the Seder, from the development of the Mah Nishtanah to the use of horseradish as maror, to the larger question of how new seder rituals were established and infused with meaning. Along with the traditional Hebrew text and English commentary, The Schechter Haggadah is adorned with over 100 illuminations from Haggadot from the medieval and modern periods. The Schechter Haggadah, written by educator and Talmud instructor Dr. Joshua Kulp, with illuminations edited by Professor David Golinkin, President of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, is a 'must-have' volume for anyone interested in understanding the rich traditions of the Seder.

Book Information

Hardcover: 290 pages

Publisher: The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies; Bilingual Hebrew and English edition (March 20, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9657105595

ISBN-13: 978-9657105597

Product Dimensions: 11.7 x 8.3 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,080,867 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Haggadah #159 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Holidays

Customer Reviews

The modern Seder is a direct descendant of the innovations of the Talmudic era. However, without a trustworthy guide to the Haggadah, that complex world is a closed book. In The Schechter Haggadah, Joshua Kulp facilitates our understanding of the many recent discoveries and hypotheses about the origins of the Haggadah. An excellent resource for any student of Rabbinic creativity. --Noam Zion, author of A Different Night Haggadah The Schechter Haggadah provides an account of the historical development of the seder's liturgy over the past 2000 years. In a clear fashion, Joshua Kulp demonstrates how the seder is likely to have been performed when it first developed, in the talmudic period, and how it evolved into the set of rituals and texts we recognize today. His insightful, scholarly commentary will give readers much new and engaging material to

discuss at their own seders. --Prof. Judith Hauptman
The modern Seder is a direct descendant of the innovations of the Talmudic era. However, without a trustworthy guide to the Haggadah, that complex world is a closed book. In *The Schechter Haggadah*, Joshua Kulp facilitates our understanding of the many recent discoveries and hypotheses about the origins of the Haggadah. An excellent resource for any student of Rabbinic creativity. --Noam Zion, author of *A Different Night Haggadah*

Dr. Joshua Kulp is a co-founder of the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, where he has taught Talmud and Halakhah for over a decade. He is also on the faculty of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies and coordinates the Mishnah Yomit program for the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. He holds a Ph.D. in Talmudic Studies from Bar-Ilan University and has published numerous articles on the Seder and other subjects in leading academic journals. Prof. David Golinkin is President and the Jerome and Miriam Katzin Professor of Jewish Law at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. He has published forty books and almost 200 articles on various aspects of Jewish Studies. The illuminations for *The Schechter Haggadah* are taken from his personal collection of Haggadot as well as from The Frank-Lovell and Morris and Beverly Baker Haggadah Collections in the Schechter Institute Library.

This is one of the rare Haggadot that has something for everyone. In the first section, the Hebrew and English text of the Haggadah is presented in large type that is clear and attractive, with selected illustrations on the page; notes in the margin point to a second section, where nearly one hundred additional images are printed in full color with detailed commentary. From my perspective, however, the most important part of this book lies in the third and final section: Dr. Joshua Kulp's masterful commentary on the Haggadah. I was a student of Dr. Kulp's in 1998, when photocopied sheets of very early drafts circulated around the yeshiva, and the final commentary presented here is one of the best Haggadah commentaries I have ever encountered. The commentary is divided into themed sections, with margin notes on the text of the Haggadah in the first section indicating where to find more detailed commentary later on. The commentary itself strikes a delicate balance, offering deep scholarly insights in a style that is easy to follow for learners at all levels. Significantly, works published between 2002-2006 by Professors Shamma Friedman and Judith Hauptmann, as well as Dr. Kulp himself, have significantly changed our understanding of the historical development of the Haggadah and the Seder, and to my knowledge this book is the first English-language Haggadah to take full advantage of the latest scholarship on the subject.

Beautifully done and very informative. I probably wouldn't use it at the seder--- it's large and elegant and I wouldn't want it to get wine-spattered or filled with matza crumbs--- but it's an excellent resource.

I have not read the whole thing, but it is a beautiful product and the commentary seems promising.

Really valuable addition to my collection and seder table!

Wonderful artistic reference for Passover

No issues

This Haggadah has lots of interesting images and perspectives, and is a great addition to our collection. Provides lots of Seder discussion material.

Ari Beser's "The Nuclear Family" is a must-read. The author is in an absolutely unique position to tell the story of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings from both American and Japanese perspectives because of his own family's intimate connections with those who carried out these missions and the victims. Beser undertook to meet and interview survivors and families of survivors, which sometimes took courage and perseverance, in order to allow them to tell their own stories. He preserves the dignity of each person and touches the reader's emotions deeply. This is history unlike what we "Boomers" were taught in high school because it portrays how war affects individuals and the generations that follow them. The author bridges chasms that divide people by making his book a plea for peace and a commitment by humankind to ensure that such destruction will never be allowed to happen again. G. Lipsitz

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