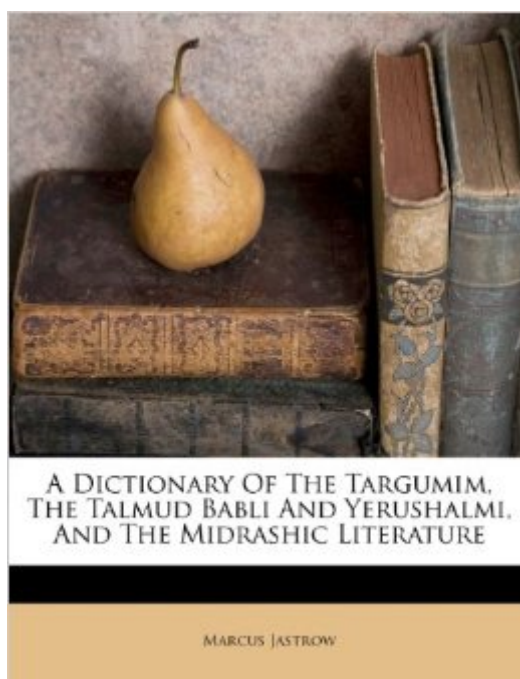


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A Dictionary Of The Targumim, The Talmud Babli And Yerushalmi, And The Midrashic Literature



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Book Information

Paperback: 98 pages

Publisher: Nabu Press (September 10, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1179951670

ISBN-13: 978-1179951676

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.2 x 9.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars     See all reviews   (29 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Impressive work of scholarship, especially when one realizes this was compiled before the advent of computers and word processors. I agree with the previous reviewer: the text needs to be reset, as the type is unreadable in many places. One can also assume that since the 1910's (when the Jastrow first appeared,) new research based on, for example, the Qumran texts has expanded our

knowledge of Aramaic, as well as post-second Temple times. Until that happens, this is the one to get.

This dictionary is an absolute must for anyone learning Gemara or any other Aramaic works. It is simply the best Aramaic dictionary around. Not only is every possible definition given, Jastrow brings down numerous examples of the usage of each word, ensuring a firm grasp of each word's nuances. A dictionary like this does not come around often. This should hold a prominent position on anyone's bookshelf- an easy to reach one; you'll use it often!

Of course all students of Talmud need a Jastrow dictionary, but this CD rom is a scam! It has no search capacity--you have to scroll through 1700+ pages to find what you're looking for. Some con artist must have scanned the book into PDF format and then put it out on the market for nearly 20 dollars a pop. Shameful, shameful, shameful! It is completely unusable.

This dictionary of Talmudic Aramaic is in such wide use that any student of the Talmud knows what is meant when told to "look in Jastrow." Nowadays, there are many additional sources one may turn to. For example, "The Practical Talmud Dictionary," by Frank and "Aiding Talmud Study" by Carmel are valuable at explicating the specialized logical terms in the Talmud, and the Soncino English translation is helpful in understanding difficult textual passages. However, there is still no true substitute for "the Jastrow," and it belongs in the library of every student of the Talmud.

I find Jastrow very helpful when reading literature from the Talmud onward. It is helpful in determining the root of inflected forms, especially for words that are quite "mutated." I find it helpful for researching possible readings for alleged corrupt texts in the Massoretic Text, for example, the supposed corruption in Hos 8:13. Although it is a very good dictionary, at times the Hebrew Letters are hard to read. I have found it quite indispensable, and you can't beat the price.

This dictionary was not at all what I was expecting. It only has a selected number of pages from the original Jastrow. This really made it useless unless you needed something in those 50 or so pages. I ended up returning it and looking for the full edition.

Be cautious when ordering from this company. Although Jastrow makes an excellent dictionary, this version is only nun and Samekh. was understanding and refunded my purchase right away.

"The Jastrow" is a generally helpful source in the study of all Judaic texts. Its combination of Aramaic and Hebrew is helpful; although it is not organized very well, it is an indispensable tool in the translation of texts. The dictionary's best feature is its cross-references, which are especially helpful when searching for an unknown source.

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