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JUDAISM AND ENLIGHTENMENT

This study investigates the philosophical and political significance of Judaism in the intellectual life of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Europe. Adam Sutcliffe shows how the widespread and enthusiastic fascination with Judaism prevalent around 1650 was largely eclipsed a century later by attitudes of dismissal and disdain. He argues that Judaism was uniquely difficult for Enlightenment thinkers to account for, and that their intense responses, both negative and positive, to Jewish topics are central to an understanding of the underlying ambiguities of the Enlightenment itself. Judaism and the Jews were a limit case, a destabilising challenge and a constant test for Enlightenment rationalism. Erudite and highly broad-ranging in its sources, and yet extremely accessible in its argument, *Judaism and Enlightenment* is a major contribution to the history of European ideas, of interest to scholars of Jewish history and to those working on the Enlightenment, toleration and the emergence of modernity itself.

ADAM SUTCLIFFE is Assistant Professor of European Jewish History at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This is his first book.

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Contents

<i>List of illustrations</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xiv
Introduction: disentangling Judaism and Enlightenment	I
PART I: THE CRUMBLING OF OLD CERTAINTIES: JUDAISM, THE BIBLE AND THE MEANING OF HISTORY	
1 The crisis and decline of Christian Hebraism	23
2 Hebraic politics: <i>Respublica Mosaica</i>	42
3 Meaning and method: Jewish history, world history	58
4 The limits of erudition: Jacques Basnage and Pierre Bayle	79
PART II: JUDAISM AND THE FORMATION OF ENLIGHTENMENT RADICALISM	
5 Religious dissent and debate in Sephardi Amsterdam	103
6 Judaism in Spinoza and his circle	118
7 Spinoza: Messiah of the Enlightenment?	133
8 Enlightenment and Kabbalah	148
9 Judaism, reason and the critique of religion	165

Cambridge University Press
0521820154 - Judaism and Enlightenment
Adam Sutcliffe
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

viii	<i>List of contents</i>	
	PART III: JUDAISM, NATIONHOOD AND THE POLITICS OF ENLIGHTENMENT	
10	Utopianism, republicanism, cosmopolitanism	193
11	Judaism and the invention of toleration	213
12	The ambiguities of Enlightenment: Voltaire and the Jews	231
	Conclusion: reason versus myth?	247
	<i>Bibliography</i>	262
	<i>Index</i>	307

Illustrations

- | | | |
|---|--|----------------|
| 1 | Johannes Buxtorf, <i>Synagoga Judaica</i> , Basel, 1680, frontispiece. Courtesy of the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. | <i>page 29</i> |
| 2 | Giulio Bartolucci, <i>Bibliotheca Magna Rabbinica</i> , volume 1, Rome, 1675, title page. Courtesy of the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. | 39 |
| 3 | Pierre Bayle, <i>Dictionnaire Historique et Critique</i> , Rotterdam, 1720, article on 'Spinoza'. Courtesy of the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. | 92 |
| 4 | Saul Levi Morteira, <i>Providencia de Dios con Ysrael</i> , Amsterdam, 1664, page 1. Courtesy of the Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana, Amsterdam University Library. | 108 |
| 5 | Adriaan Koerbagh, <i>Een Ligt schijnende in duystere plaatsen</i> , 1669, pp. 176 v.–177 r. Courtesy of the Museum Meermanno-Westreenianum, The Hague. | 129 |
| 6 | <i>La Vie et l'Esprit de Mr Benoit de Spinosa</i> , The Hague, 1719, frontispiece and title page. Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles. | 144 |
| 7 | Christian Knorr von Rosenroth, <i>Kabbala Denudata</i> , volume 1, Sulzbach, 1677, frontispiece. Courtesy of the Center for Judaic Studies Library, University of Pennsylvania. | 152 |
| 8 | Bernard Picart, <i>The Ceremonies and Religious Customs of the various Nations of the known world</i> , London, 1733–9. Engraving | |

- x *List of illustrations*
- of a Sephardi Passover Seder. Courtesy of the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. 179
- 9 Bernard Picart, *The Ceremonies and Religious Customs of the various Nations of the known world*, London, 1733–9. Engraving of the circling of the coffin before a Sephardi burial. Courtesy of the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. 180
- 10 Bernard Picart, *The Ceremonies and Religious Customs of the various Nations of the known world*, London, 1733–9. Engraving of a funeral ceremony of the natives of Guinea. Courtesy of the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. 181

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Cambridge University Press
0521820154 - Judaism and Enlightenment
Adam Sutcliffe
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Acknowledgements

xiii

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Abbreviations

BL MS	British Library, Department of Manuscripts
BMBGN	<i>Bijdragen en Mededelingen Betreffende de Geschiedenis der Nederlanden</i>
BN FF	Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, Fonds Français
BN NAF	Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, Nouvelle Acquisitions Françaises
BUH	<i>Bibliothèque Universelle et Historique</i> (1686–1718)
HOS	<i>Histoire des Ouvrages des Savans</i> (1687–1709)
HS Ros.	Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana, Amsterdam, Manuscripts Collection
JHI	<i>Journal of the History of Ideas</i>
LIAS	<i>LIAS: Sources and Documents relating to the Early Modern History of Ideas</i>
MS Aix	Bibliothèque Méjanes, Aix-en-Provence, Manuscripts Collection
MS Ars.	Bibliothèque de l’Arsenal, Paris, Manuscripts Collection
MS Clark	William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, University of California, Los Angeles, Manuscripts Collection
MS Maz.	Bibliothèque Mazarine, Paris, Manuscripts Collection
NRL	<i>Nouvelles de la République des Lettres</i> (1684–9)
SVEC	<i>Studies in Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century</i>
TTP	Benedict de Spinoza, <i>Tractatus Theologico-Politicus</i> (1670), trans. R. H. M. Elwes, <i>A Theologico-Political Treatise</i> , New York, Dover Publications, 1951

Most primary texts have been consulted and cited in their original language, wherever possible from first editions. However, in some cases I have used reliable translations into English or other major European

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Adam Sutcliffe
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

List of abbreviations

xv

languages, both contemporary and modern. Apart from the correction of clear typographical errors and some potentially confusing idiosyncrasies, spelling and capitalisation of all quotations have been left as in the original, and all emphases – whether in the form of italicisation, capitalisation, underlining or bold print – are also from the original sources.