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978-1-107-03266-8 - The City in the Classical and Post-Classical World: Changing Contexts of Power and Identity

Edited by Claudia Rapp and H. A. Drake

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THE CITY IN THE CLASSICAL AND POST-CLASSICAL WORLD

This volume examines the evolving role of the city and citizenship from classical Athens through fifth-century Rome and medieval Byzantium. Beginning in the first century CE, the universal claims of Hellenistic and Roman imperialism began to be challenged by the growing role of Christianity in shaping the primary allegiances and identities of citizens. An international team of scholars considers the extent of urban transformation and, with it, of cultural and civic identity, as practices and institutions associated with the city-state came to be replaced by those of the Christian community. The twelve essays gathered here ask: What was the effect on political ideology and civic identity of the transition from the city culture of the ancient world to the ruralized systems of the Middle Ages? How did perceptions of empire and *oikoumenē* respond to changed political circumstances? How did Christianity redefine the context of citizenship?

Claudia Rapp is Professor at the Institute for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna, and Director of the Division of Byzantine Research, Institute for Medieval Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. She has published widely on hagiography and the cult of saints, episcopal authority and the city, monasticism, and writing culture in late antiquity and Byzantium. She is the author of *Holy Bishops in Late Antiquity: The Nature of Christian Leadership in an Age of Transition* (2005) and the forthcoming *Brother-Making in Late Antiquity and Byzantium: Monks, Laymen and Christian Ritual*.

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CHANGING CONTEXTS OF
POWER AND IDENTITY

Edited by

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In memoriam
Sabine G. MacCormack
(1941–2012)
Wanderer between Worlds
Scholar, Inspiration, Friend

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