A HISTORY OF KABBALAH

This volume offers a narrative history of modern Kabbalah, from the sixteenth century to the present. Covering all subperiods, schools and figures, Jonathan Garb demonstrates how Kabbalah expanded over the last few centuries, and how it became an important player, first in the European then subsequently in global cultural and intellectual domains. Indeed, study of Kabbalah can be found on virtually every continent and in many languages, despite the destruction of many centers in the mid-twentieth century. Garb explores the sociological, psychological, scholastic and ritual dimensions of kabbalistic ways of life in their geographical and cultural contexts. Focusing on several important mystical and literary figures, he shows how modern Kabbalah is deeply embedded in modern Jewish life, yet has become an independent, professionalized subworld. He also traces how Kabbalah was influenced by and contributed to the process of modernization.

Jonathan Garb is the Gershom Scholem Professor of Kabbalah at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In 2014, he received the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities' Gershom Scholem Prize for Kabbalah Research. His latest books include *Shamanic Trance in Modern Kabbalah* (2011) and *Yearnings of the Soul: Psychological Thought in Modern Kabbalah* (2015).

A History of Kabbalah From the Early Modern Period to the Present Day

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For Ronna, who helped me modernize, with old-fashioned love

Contents

List of Figures		page ix
Ac	knowledgments	х
_		
Introduction		1
1	Premodern and Modern Kabbalah: Breaks and Continuities	5
	Introduction	5
	The Autonomy of Modern Kabbalah	6
	Continuities: Exegesis, Gender, Theurgy and Magic	8
	Chains of Textual Continuity	20
	Comparative Reflections	24
	Conclusion: Kabbalah in Transition to Modernity	29
2	The Safedian Revolution of the Sixteenth Century	30
	Earlier Centers	30
	Karo and His Circle	36
	Cordovero and His Circle	41
	Luria and His Circle	48
	Safed in Europe	61
	Conclusion: Safed as a Mystical Culture	64
3	The Kabbalistic Crisis of the Seventeenth Century	67
	Sabbateanism: Theology, Ideology and Sociology	69
	The Finalization and Triumph of the Safedian Canon	75
	Philosophical and Cultural Reception	86
	Critical Responses	94
	The Nationalization of Kabbalah	97
	Conclusion	101

viii

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CONTENTS

4	Canonization: The Eighteenth Century	103
	Messianism and the Residual Presence of Sabbateanism	105
	Hasidism: Theology, Ideology and Sociology	113
	The Near Eastern Hegemony of R. Shalom Shar'abi	123
	R. Eliyahu of Vilna and His School	129
	Lesser-Known Tributaries	133
	Eighteenth-Century Kabbalah as Split Canonization	137
5	Beginnings of Globalization: The Nineteenth Century	141
	Geopolitics and the Kabbalah: An Overview of the Century	141
	The Changing of the Guard in Hasidism	143
	The Moderation of the Vilna Gaon's School	159
	The Eastern European Immigrations to Ottoman Palestine	162
	Continuities and Diversities in the Near East	166
	Kabbalah, Globalization and Culture	173
	Kabbalah at the Turn of the Century	182
6	Destruction and Triumph: The Twentieth Century	188
	Overview	188
	The Kabbalah of the Land of Israel	190
	The Last Days of European Kabbalah	201
	The Modernization of Hasidism	210
	The New Centers of Kabbalah	218
	Kabbalah in Postwar Global Mysticism	229
	Kabbalah in the Early Twenty-First Century	234
	Conclusion	238
7	Recurrent Themes: Gender, Messianism and Experience?	240
	Some Shared Themes	246
	Three Periods of Kabbalistic Modernity	249
	Areas for Future Research	251
	Coda	253
Аţ	pendix: Timeline	255
Glossary		260
Bibliography		262
Index		309

Figures

1	Old Jewish Cemetery in Prague (burial site of Maharal)	page 99
2	House of R. Avraham Itzhaq Kook in Jerusalem (now a museum	
	devoted to his heritage)	191
3	Uri Zvi Greenberg	199
4	Franz Kafka	207

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