

Special Issue

Polemics and Conversion: Setting and Crossing Boundaries in Medieval Jewish–Christian Relations

Message from the Guest Editor

Medieval Jewish–Christian relations navigated complex dynamics of coexistence and separation. Polemical discourse reinforced religious boundaries through rhetorical and literary means, serving to strengthen group identity. Conversely, conversion represented boundary-crossing that posed significant theological and social challenges for both communities.

This special issue of *Religions* seeks interdisciplinary contributions examining how polemics and conversion collectively shaped interfaith dynamics in the medieval world. We welcome research from diverse fields including history, theology, art history, and literary studies. Suggested themes encompass: Christian and Jewish polemical literature; the intersection of polemics and violence; ecclesiastical and rabbinic responses to conversion; legal dimensions of religious change; forced baptism; social integration of converts; and cases of reversion.

By exploring these interconnected phenomena, this issue aims to advance scholarly understanding of how religious boundaries were constructed, contested, and transcended in medieval society.

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Message from the Editorial Board

Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

Religions is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider Religions as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

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