

# Inventing Byzantine Iconoclasm

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Depicting the Word  
The Graeco-Roman and Oriental Background of the iconoclastic controversy. [Mit Kt. -Skizze.]  
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Proceedings of the 21st International Congress of Byzantine Studies  
Icon and Logos  
The Byzantine Eye  
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Kristine Kolrud  
Jesse W. Torgerson  
Melanie C. Ross  
Krešimir Purgar  
Robin M. Jensen  
Andrew Holt  
Tia M. Kolbaba  
Thomas F. X. Noble  
Mike Humphreys  
Karl Krumbacher  
Kenneth Parry  
Leslie William Barnard  
Leslie Brubaker  
Dagmar Jaunzems  
Elizabeth Jeffreys  
Daniel J. Sahas  
Robin Cormack

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Logos The Byzantine Eye The 17th International Byzantine Congress *Leslie Brubaker Leslie Brubaker Kristine Kolrud Jesse W. Torgerson Melanie C. Ross Krešimir Purgar Robin M. Jensen Andrew Holt Tia M. Kolbaba Thomas F. X. Noble Mike Humphreys Karl Krumbacher Kenneth Parry Leslie William Barnard Leslie Brubaker Dagmar Jaunzems Elizabeth Jeffreys Daniel J. Sahas Robin Cormack*

this title presents an important re examination of the byzantine iconoclasm the widespread phenomenon of destruction of images that took place in the 7th to 9th centuries ad by the leading scholar in the field

byzantine iconoclasm is famous and has influenced iconoclast movements from the english reformation and french revolution to taliban but it has also been woefully misunderstood this book shows how and why the debate about images was more complicated and more interesting than it has been presented in the past it explores how icons came to be so important who opposed them and how the debate about images played itself out over the years between c 680 and 850 many widely accepted assumptions about iconoclasm that it was an imperial initiative that resulted in widespread destruction of images that the major promoters of icon veneration were monks and that the era was one of cultural stagnation are shown to be incorrect instead the years of the image debates saw technological advances and intellectual shifts that coupled with a growing economy concluded with the emergence of medieval byzantium as a strong and stable empire bloomsbury publishing

the phenomenon of iconoclasm expressed through hostile actions towards images has occurred in many different cultures throughout history the destruction and mutilation of images is often motivated by a blend of political and religious ideas and beliefs and the distinction between various kinds of iconoclasms is not absolute in order to explore further the long and varied history of iconoclasm the contributors

to this volume consider iconoclastic reactions to various types of objects both in the very recent and distant past the majority focus on historical periods but also on history as a backdrop for image troubles of our own day development over time is a central question in the volume and cross cultural influences are also taken into consideration this broad approach provides a useful comparative perspective both on earlier controversies over images and relevant issues today in the multimedia era increased awareness of the possible consequences of the use of images is of utmost importance iconoclasm from antiquity to modernity approaches some of the problems related to the display of particular kinds of images in conflicted societies and the power to decide on the use of visual means of expression it provides a deeper understanding of the mechanisms of the phenomenon of iconoclasm of interest to a wide group of scholars the contributors draw upon various sources and disciplines including art history cultural history religion and archaeology as well as making use of recent research from within social and political sciences and contemporary events whilst the texts are addressed primarily to those researching the western world the volume contains material which will also be of interest to students of the middle east

the ninth century chronographia of george the synkellos and theophanes is the most influential historical text ever written in medieval constantinople yet modern historians have never explained its popularity and power this interdisciplinary study draws on new manuscript evidence to finally animate the chronographia s promise to show attentive readers the present meaning of the past begun by one of the roman emperor s most trusted and powerful officials in order to justify a failed revolt the project became a shockingly ambitious re writing of time itself a synthesis of contemporary history philosophy and religious practice into a politicized retelling of the human story even through radical upheavals of the byzantine political landscape the chronographia s unique historical vision again and again compelled new

readers to chase after the elusive ends of time

this volume brings together an ecumenical team of scholars to offer a historical overview of how worship developed the book first orients readers to the common core elements the global church shares in the history and development of worship theology and historical practice it then introduces the major streams of worship practice catholic orthodox and protestant including reformation traditions evangelicalism and pentecostalism the book includes introductions by john witvliet and nicholas wolterstorff a previous volume addressed the theological foundations of worship

this handbook brings together the most current and hotly debated topics in studies about images today in the first part the book gives readers an historical overview and basic diachronical explanation of the term image including the ways it has been used in different periods throughout history in the second part the fundamental concepts that have to be mastered should one wish to enter into the emerging field of image studies are explained in the third part readers will find analysis of the most common subjects and topics pertaining to images in the fourth part the book explains how existing disciplines relate to image studies and how this new scholarly field may be constructed using both old and new approaches and insights the fifth chapter is dedicated to contemporary thinkers and is the first time that theses of the most prominent scholars of image studies are critically analyzed and presented in one place

the cross stirs intense feelings among christians as well as non christians robin jensen takes readers on an intellectual and spiritual journey through the two thousand year evolution of the cross as an idea and an artifact illuminating the controversies along with the forms of devotion this central symbol of christianity inspires jesus s death on the cross posed a dilemma for saint paul and the early

church fathers crucifixion was a humiliating form of execution reserved for slaves and criminals how could their messiah and savior have been subjected to such an ignominious death wrestling with this paradox they reimagined the cross as a triumphant expression of christ's sacrificial love and miraculous resurrection over time the symbol's transformation raised myriad doctrinal questions particularly about the crucifix the cross with the figure of christ and whether it should emphasize jesus's suffering or his glorification how should jesus's body be depicted alive or dead naked or dressed should it be shown at all jensen's wide ranging study focuses on the cross in painting and literature the quest for the true cross in jerusalem and the symbol's role in conflicts from the crusades to wars of colonial conquest the cross also reveals how jews and muslims viewed the most sacred of all christian emblems and explains its role in public life in the west today

looks at how religious belief has influenced 24 distinct societies and cultures spanning from the ancient world to the present day

focusing on the ninth century beginnings of byzantine writings against the latin addition of the filioque to the creed inventing latin heretics illuminates several aspects of byzantine thought their self definition their theology their uniquely constituted state based both on what they had to say for themselves and on modern approaches to the study of group identity religious conflict and sociology of knowledge the book introduces the concept of heresiology in general defining terms summarizing a vast body of secondary scholarship and bringing the history of byzantine antiheretical texts down to the ninth century it discusses relations between latin and greek christians before and into the time of photios as well as his knowledge of latin customs the next chapters examine the transmission form and contents of the three anti filioque texts attributed to photios and other texts that exemplify what ninth century byzantines were saying about latin errors raising textual questions that cannot be ignored and ultimately providing a window onto

byzantine mentalities

in the year 726 c e the byzantine emperor leo iii issued an edict declaring images to be idols forbidden by exodus and ordering all such images in churches to be destroyed thus commenced the first wave of byzantine iconoclasm which ran its violent course until 787 when the underlying issues were temporarily resolved at the second council of nicaea in 815 a second great wave of iconoclasm was set off only to end in 842 when the icons were restored to the churches of the east and the iconoclasts excommunicated the iconoclast controversies have long been understood as marking major fissures between the western and eastern churches thomas f x noble reveals that the lines of division were not so clear it is traditionally maintained that the carolingians in the 790s did not understand the basic issues involved in the byzantine dispute noble contends that there was in fact a significant carolingian controversy about visual art and if its ties to byzantine iconoclasm were tenuous they were also complex and deeply rooted in central concerns of the carolingian court furthermore he asserts that the carolingians made distinctive and original contributions to the whole debate over religious art images iconoclasm and the carolingians is the first book to provide a comprehensive study of the western response to byzantine iconoclasm by comparing art texts with laws letters poems and other sources noble reveals the power and magnitude of the key discourses of the carolingian world during its most dynamic and creative decades

few subjects have generated more argument in early medieval byzantine and orthodox history than iconoclasm supposedly for more than a century the orthodox church and byzantium were wracked by controversy over religious figural imagery culminating in 843 in the establishment of icon veneration as a fundamental orthodox practice in this multidisciplinary companion to byzantine iconoclasm twelve contributors set the controversy in context and critically examine the key debates what was the argument about how much destruction and persecution were there

what caused and fuelled the controversy what links if any were there to events in the islamic caliphate and the latin west and how can we use our contested literary and material sources to offer answers to these questions contributors benjamin anderson marie france auzépy sabine feist mike humphreys robin m jensen dirk krausmüller andrew louth ken parry richard price christian c sahner and jesse w torgerson see inside the book

this study investigates the sources of byzantine iconophile thought as exemplified in the writings of john of damascus theodore the studite and the patriarch nikephoros it provides an extensive analysis of the major themes addressed by these apologists of christian images

iconoclasm the debate about the legitimacy of religious art that began in byzantium around 730 and continued for nearly 120 years has long held a firm grip on the historical imagination byzantium in the iconoclast era is the first book in english to survey the original sources crucial for a modern understanding of this most elusive and fascinating period in medieval history it is also the first book in any language to cover both the written and the visual evidence from this period a combination of particular importance to the iconoclasm debate the authors an art historian and a historian who both specialise in the period have worked together to provide a comprehensive overview of the visual and the written materials that together help clarify the complex issues of iconoclasm in byzantium

the theme of the 2006 international congress of byzantine studies was display this is explored under eight headings which highlight different aspects of the theme and different disciplines within byzantine studies empire works and days infrastructures words texts orthodoxy byzantium as display and the future of the past in the process many of the possible responses to byzantium are examined the most direct response being to ask whether there was a real byzantium or only an imaginary

modern construct but the aim is to make this simple dichotomy more complex and assess first what strategies the people of byzantium used to express their thoughts ideals fears and beliefs and then how these have been interpreted through various modern discourses the first volume presents the texts of the 28 plenary papers delivered at the congress the second and third contain the abstracts of the approximately 700 papers written for the 64 separate panels and the sessions of communications

an annotated translation of the sixth session of the seventh ecumenical council nicea 787 containing the definition of the council of constantinople 754 and its refutation and the definition of the seventh ecumenical council title page

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