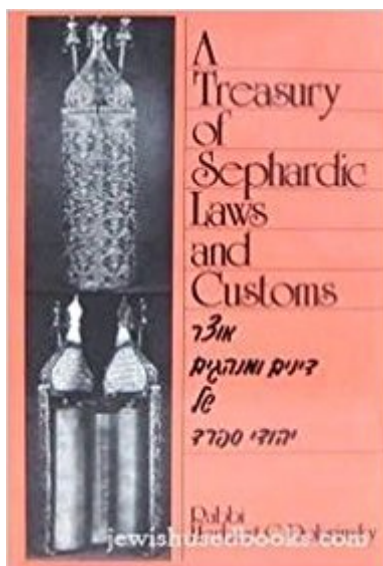


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A Treasury Of Sephardic Laws And Customs



Synopsis

North America's growing Sephardic Jewry includes four major separate and distinct communities: Syrian, Moroccan, Judeo-Spanish and Spanish and Portuguese, each with its own unique history and vibrant body of traditions. Although Sephardic Jewry on this continent is steadily increasing in numbers and importance, its practices and customs are still virtually unknown to most American Jews of Ashkenazic (European) background, including many of those who are charged with the responsibility for the religious education of both children and adults. This volume, the first of its kind, provides a comprehensive compendium of the laws and customs of these four main communities of Sephardic Jewry in such areas as holiday observances, worship services, birth, Bar Mitzvah, marriage and divorce, death and mourning, dietary laws, family relations, and many other vital areas of personal, family, and communal life. Based upon extensive research, it serves as a fascinating opportunity to experience the full variety and scope of Jewish life as it evolved in diverse historical periods and cultural regions. Educators especially will find this volume to be a pedagogical tool with a wide range of applications.

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Customer Reviews

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This is not the kind of book you just sit down and read cover to cover. It's more of a reference guide to Sephardic customs and minhagim. As such, it's an invaluable tool for anyone with any interest in the subject. It's well organized, clearly written, and exhaustively researched. If you're looking for a veritable encyclopedia of Sephardic knowledge, this is the place.

nice clean copy

This book is a tremendous asset to anyone wishing to add Sephardic practice to his/her ritual or liturgical life. Dobrinsky has researched the practice of several communities and presents them logically by classification (Family Occasions, Daily Practice, Synagogue Worship, etc.). It is easy to check all of the citations for a certain Sephardic community or for a certain area of Jewish life. Highly recommended for researchers or Sephardic Jews looking to integrate new traditions into their lives.

The last I heard countries where the Sephardim also lived such as Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy, England, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Netherlands and even Turkey were considered European countries so Sephardic Jews are considered European also not just Ashkenazim.

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