



The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks

By Marc David Baer

Download now

Read Online →

The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks

By Marc David Baer

This book tells the story of the Dönme, the descendants of Jews who resided in the Ottoman Empire and converted to Islam along with their messiah, Rabbi Shabbatai Tzevi, in the seventeenth century. For two centuries following their conversion, the Dönme were accepted as Muslims, and by the end of the nineteenth century rose to the top of Salonikan society. The Dönme helped transform Salonika into a cosmopolitan city, promoting the newest innovation in trade and finance, urban reform, and modern education. They eventually became the driving force behind the 1908 revolution that led to the overthrow of the Ottoman sultan and the establishment of a secular republic. To their proponents, the Dönme are enlightened secularists and Turkish nationalists who fought against the dark forces of superstition and religious obscurantism. To their opponents, they were simply crypto-Jews engaged in a plot to dissolve the Islamic empire. Both points of view assume the Dönme were anti-religious, whether couched as critique or praise. But it is time that we take these religious people seriously on their own terms. In the Ottoman Empire, the Dönme promoted morality, ethics, spirituality, and a syncretistic religion that reflected their origins at the intersection of Jewish Kabbalah and Islamic Sufism. This is the first book to tell their story, from their origins to their near total dissolution as they became secular Turks in the mid-twentieth century.

↓ [Download The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionarie ...pdf](#)

📄 [Read Online The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionar ...pdf](#)

The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks

By Marc David Baer

The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer

This book tells the story of the Dönme, the descendants of Jews who resided in the Ottoman Empire and converted to Islam along with their messiah, Rabbi Shabbatai Tzevi, in the seventeenth century. For two centuries following their conversion, the Dönme were accepted as Muslims, and by the end of the nineteenth century rose to the top of Salonikan society. The Dönme helped transform Salonika into a cosmopolitan city, promoting the newest innovation in trade and finance, urban reform, and modern education. They eventually became the driving force behind the 1908 revolution that led to the overthrow of the Ottoman sultan and the establishment of a secular republic. To their proponents, the Dönme are enlightened secularists and Turkish nationalists who fought against the dark forces of superstition and religious obscurantism. To their opponents, they were simply crypto-Jews engaged in a plot to dissolve the Islamic empire. Both points of view assume the Dönme were anti-religious, whether couched as critique or praise. But it is time that we take these religious people seriously on their own terms. In the Ottoman Empire, the Dönme promoted morality, ethics, spirituality, and a syncretistic religion that reflected their origins at the intersection of Jewish Kabbalah and Islamic Sufism. This is the first book to tell their story, from their origins to their near total dissolution as they became secular Turks in the mid-twentieth century.

The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer
Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #858582 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Stanford University Press
- Published on: 2009-10-16
- Released on: 2009-10-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .90" w x 6.00" l, 1.05 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 358 pages

 [Download The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionarie ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionar ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online **The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks** By Marc David Baer

Editorial Review

Review

"Marc David Baer vividly describes how this ancient, secret sect of Jews, about which little has been written until now, fit into the Islamic world without being found out." (*Jewish Book World*)

"At last, an engaging yet non-sensationalized history of the Dönme that places their history in the broader context of the later Ottoman empire and emergent Turkish Republic, showing how this group?so vital to the Empire's many later gains, its transition to a republic, and its 'cosmopolitan' character?ended up largely erased from the historical record." (K. E. Fleming *author of Greece?a Jewish History*)

"Part detective novel, part historical account, Baer's illuminating study wades through centuries of myth, an ingenious array of sources (archival, oral, architectural, literary, and epigraphic), across the boundaries of nations, and through the life and death of the Ottoman empire in order to reconstruct the history of a misunderstood group-the descendents of the sect of Shabbatai Tzevi, the seventeenth century false messiah and Jewish-to-Muslim apostate. More than the history of a single ethno-religious group, this vivid book meditates on how modern boundaries (those that divide Muslim from Jew, Greek from Turk, secular from pious, nationalist from traitor) are constructed, maintained, and mythologized." (Sarah Abrevaya Stein, University of California *Los Angeles*)

"The book is clearly written and provides much data and analysis on the cultural, social, economic, and political life of the Dönme . . . This is a major study of a community that contributed greatly to the growth of Salonika and to the emergence of modern Turkey."

"Baer is dealing with an extremely important and sensitive topic. That the followers of Rabbi Shabbattai Tzevi did not really convert, but continued to practice their religion in secret, continues to be a widespread belief in Turkey. This unique book is of great relevance and significance to modern Turkey in understanding the fate of the many communities that were caught in between the transition from empire to nation state in the Middle East." (Resat Kasaba *University of Washington, editor of Cambridge History of Modern Turkey, Vol. 4*)

"In Baer's hands, the story of the Dönme becomes . . . a rather familiar modern morality play?a story of strangeness annihilated by the pressure of sameness." (Adam Kirsch)

About the Author

Marc David Baer is Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Irvine. His first book, *Honored by the Glory of Islam: Conversion and Conquest in Ottoman Europe* (2008), won the Albert Hourani Prize from the Middle East Studies Association.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Melissa Parra:

Do you one among people who can't read gratifying if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys

that aren't like that. This *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* book is readable by simply you who hate the perfect word style. You will find the facts here are arranged for enjoyable studying experience without leaving even decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer of *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* content conveys the idea easily to understand by a lot of people. The printed and e-book are not different in the written content but it just different as it. So, do you nevertheless thinking *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* is not loveable to be your top listing reading book?

Jason Norfleet:

The book *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* will bring one to the new experience of reading some sort of book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book you just read, this book very suited to you. The book *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* is much recommended to you you just read. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can more readily to read the book.

Ophelia Ellis:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray anyone, why because this *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* guide written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book which might be understood by anyone who else read the book. Written throughout good manner for you, leaking every ideas and writing skill only for eliminate your own personal hunger then you still doubt *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* as good book not merely by the cover but also by content. This is one reserve that can break don't ascertain book by its handle, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your studying sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to a different sixth sense.

Zandra Woods:

Do you like reading a book? Confuse to looking for your best book? Or your book ended up being rare? Why so many issue for the book? But virtually any people feel that they enjoy with regard to reading. Some people likes studying, not only science book but novel and *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* or even others sources were given know-how for you. After you know how the great a book, you feel wish to read more and more. Science book was created for teacher or students especially. Those ebooks are helping them to increase their knowledge. In additional case, beside science e-book, any other book likes *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* to make your spare time considerably more colorful. Many types of book like this.

Download and Read Online *The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks* By Marc David Baer

#GYB0TI8K3OH

Read The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer for online ebook

The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer books to read online.

Online The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer ebook PDF download

The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer Doc

The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer Mobipocket

The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer EPub

GYB0TI8K3OH: The Dönme: Jewish Converts, Muslim Revolutionaries, and Secular Turks By Marc David Baer