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Autore	Horsch Silvia
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Nota di contenuto	Continuity and transformation : martyrdom in the Baha'i faith. The birth of a monotheistic religion in modernity : on jihad and martyrdom in the Baha'i Faith / Sasha Dehghani. Martyrdom and servanthood in the Babi and Baha'i faiths : a struggle to defend a cosmic order / Per-Olof Akerdahl. Between Karbala' and Tabriz : contested martyrdom narratives / Moojan Momen -- Witnessing and sacrifice : theological and philosophical implications of martyrdom. Sunni and Shiite passion stories revisited : on the superseding of sacrifice and its eventual re-empowerment / Angelika Neuwirth. Martyrium als Zeugnis : zur Frage nach der theologischen und politischen Valenz religioser Zeugenschaft, dargelegt am Beispiel des Martyriums der Trappistenmonche von Tibhirine/Algerien / Joachim Negel. Gandhi and the sovereignty of death / Faisal Devji -- Visual representations : ritual, the arts, and new media. Performing a massacre : murder and martyrdom in taziyih / Maryam Palizban. The mystical notion of the perfect man : discourses of Iranian revolutionary painters and the portrayal of martyrs / Alice Bombardier. Making salvation visible : rhetorical and visual representations of martyrs in Salafi jihadist media / Silvia Horsch -- Political action and ideological discourse. Martyrdom in light of the Arab Spring / Farhad Khosrokhavar. The discursive construction of

Palestinian istishhadiyyat within the frame of martyrdom / Lisa Franke.
Global martyr practices and discourses : entanglements between East and West / Silvia Horsch.

Sommario/riassunto

This volume assembles contributions from different academic perspectives (religious and Islamic studies, literary and theatre studies, theology, sociology and history) on modern manifestations of martyrdom in the diverse Middle Eastern religious traditions, including Islam, Christianity, Judaism and the Baha'i-faith. The latter is considered in more detail since it is often not included in comparative studies on the monotheistic religions. An excursus into the farer East composes the contribution on Mahatma Gandhi. The volume considers central sociological, philosophical and theological problems which lie at the heart of the phenomenon of martyrdom, the significance of martyrdom in different conflicts, the competing martyr figures which develop in the course of these conflicts as well as the accompanying representations in art and ritual. Special attention is directed to the transitions of traditional forms of martyr representation and the emergence of a global discourse on martyrdom, which can be noticed both in the dissemination of martyr practices as in the reactions to certain martyr events on a global scale.
