1. Record Nr. UNINA9910450751003321

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Titolo Language in Jewish society [[electronic resource]]: towards a new

understanding / / John Myhill

Pubbl/distr/stampa Clevedon, [England];; Buffalo, NY,: Multilingual Matters, c2004

9786610828432 9781853597624 1-85359-762-7

1-280-82843-9

Edizione [1st ed.]

ISBN

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (249 p.)

Collana Multilingual Matters

Disciplina 306.44/089/924

Soggetti Jews - Languages

Sociolinguistics
Jews - Identity

Hebrew language - History

Electronic books.

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Description based upon print version of record.

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 223-235) and index.

Nota di contenuto

Language and Jewish identity -- Jewish language and identity in

comparative and historical perspective -- Language and Jewish identity in modern times -- Hebrew as language of ancient Israel -- The death of Hebrew as a spoken language -- Hebrew as a sacred language -- Diaspora Hebrew and the modern European ideology of language and identity -- The revival of Hebrew -- Diaspora Hebrew today -- Aramaic -- Judeo-Arabic -- Judeo-Spanish -- Yiddish -- Are 'Jewish languages' a unique phenomenon? -- Why are there no new 'Jewish languages'? -- Flowering and death -- Catastrophe and emotional attachment -- Prestige of languages -- Is Yiddish qualitatively different from other diaspora languages? -- Conflicts with everyday-language-and-identity groups -- Sociolinguistics in Israel today.

Sommario/riassunto

This book argues that the usage of language in Jewish societies can be understood as following from certain specific principles, particularly regarding the relationship between language and identity. Phenomena discussed include the revival of Hebrew, Hebrew in the Diaspora, the

survival and 'sanctification' of Yiddish, the idea of 'Jewish languages', and the role of sociolinguistic phenomena in the Holocaust and the Arab-Israeli conflict.