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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- TABLE OF CONTENTS -- LIST OF FIGURES -- LIST OF TABLES -- LIST OF MAPS -- 1. Semitic languages and peoples -- 2. Arameans at the dawn of their history -- 3. The religion of ancient Arameans -- 4. The Aramaic language and its world -- 5. Osrhoene and the Aramean awakening -- 6. The spread of Christianity in Osrhoene -- 7. Syriac Christianity under the rule of Iran -- 8. Syria thought and literature of the first centuries of Christianity -- 9. The One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church and its schisms -- 10. The split of Syriac Christianity: "Nestorians" and "Jacobites" -- 11. Other branches of Syriac Christianity: Melkites and Maronites -- 12. The writing and scribal traditions of the Syriacs -- 13. Translation activity of the Syriacs -- 14. Syriac translations of the Holy Scriptures -- 15. Syriac system of education -- 16. Syriac theology and philosophy -- 17. Worldly sciences and secular literature of the Syriacs -- 18. Syriac historiography -- 19. Syriacs under Arab-Muslim domination -- 20. Commercial and missionary activity of the Syriacs -- 21. Syriac rite Catholic Churches -- 22. The Syriacs between the Ottoman Empire, Iran, and Russia -- 23. The "Assyrian idea" and the issue of self-identitification for Syriac Christians -- 24. Syriacs in the 20th century and on the threshold of the third millennium -- 25. Modern Aramaic dialects -- 26. The current stage of the Classical Syriac Language -- 27. The origins and development of modern Aramean and Syriac studies --

APPENDIX: KLAUS BEYER'S CLASSIFICATION OF ARAMAIC DIALECTS --  
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Sommario/riassunto

Originally published in Armeanian, this comprehensive introduction to Aramean and Syriac studies provides a gateway to the history, language, culture, and religion of the Aramean/Syriac people from ancient times, through to the modern day. Special attention is given to such topics as translation and literary activity of the Syriacs, their missionary zeal and role as an intercultural medium, denominational fragmentation, and identity issues. The book is intended for the students of Oriental and Semitic studies but will be of value to anyone interested in the history and culture heritage of the Christian Orient-- Publisher.

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