

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910824556803321
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Titolo	Elite Byzantine kinship, ca. 950-1204 : blood, reputation, and the genos // by Nathan Leidholm [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leeds : , : Arc Humanities Press, , 2019
ISBN	1-64189-029-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (x, 186 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Beyond medieval Europe
Disciplina	949.502
Soggetti	Aristocracy (Social class) - Byzantine Empire Kinship - Byzantine Empire Elite (Social sciences) - Byzantine Empire History Byzantine Empire History 527-1081 Byzantine Empire History Comneni dynasty, 1081-1185 Byzantine Empire History Angeli, 1185-1204 Byzantine Empire Social conditions
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 20 Nov 2020).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Defining 'the family' in Byzantine sources and the modern historiography -- The language of kinship -- Marriage impediments and the concept of family -- Interrogating consanguinity in a Byzantine context -- Family names and the politics of reputation -- Kinship and political developments of the eleventh and twelfth centuries.
Sommario/riassunto	By the end of the twelfth century, the Byzantine 'genos' was a politically effective social group based upon ties of consanguineous kinship, but, importantly, it was also a cultural construct, an idea that held very real power, yet defies easy categorization. This study explores the role and function of the Byzantine aristocratic family group, or 'genos', as a distinct social entity, particularly its political and cultural role, as it appears in a variety of sources in the tenth through twelfth centuries.