

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910956696203321
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Titolo	The rhetoric of the Babylonian Talmud : its social meaning and context // Jack N. Lightstone
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Waterloo, Ont., : Published for the Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion = Corporation canadienne des sciences religieuses by Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 1994
ISBN	9786613810526 9781282232785 1282232789 9780889207264 0889207267
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (334 p.)
Collana	Studies in Christianity and Judaism = Etudes sur le christianisme et le judaisme ; ; no. 6
Disciplina	296.1/25066
Soggetti	Rabbinical literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes text in Hebrew-Aramaic.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Charts; Preface; Abbreviations and Editions; 1 Introduction; 2 Bavli's Structural Formularies; 3 Bavli's Structural Formularies in Comparative Relief; 4 Bavli's Dialectical Formularies; 5 Bavli's Dialectical Formularies in Comparative Relief; 6 Summary and Conclusions: The Social Meaning and Context of Bavli's Rhetoric; Appendix A: A Comparative Analysis of the Distribution of Selected Structural Formulae in Nine Tractates of the Bavli; Appendix B: The Hebrew-Aramaic Texts of b. Avodah Zarah 14b-16a and b. Bekorot 2a-5b; References and Selected Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Virtually from its redaction about the sixth century A.D., the Babylonian Talmud became the rabbinic document par excellence. Through its lens almost all previous canonical rabbinic tradition was refracted. Study and mastery of the Talmud marked one as a rabbi, a "master." This book examines the character, use and social meaning of the formalized rhetoric which pervades the Babylonian Talmud. It explores, first, how the editors of the Talmud employ a consistent and highly laconic code of formalized linguistic terms and literary patterns to create the

