

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910461421403321
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Titolo	The Quranic Noah and the making of the Islamic prophet : a study of intertextuality and religious identity formation in late antiquity // Carlos A. Segovia
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin, [Germany] ; ; Boston, [Massachusetts] : , : De Gruyter Oldenbourg, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	3-11-040589-X 3-11-040605-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (170 p.)
Collana	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam - Tension, Transmission, Transformation ; ; Volume 4
Disciplina	297.2/46
Soggetti	RELIGION / General 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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Table of Contents -- Abbreviations -- List of Tables -- Foreword and Acknowledgements -- Chapter 1 / Introduction: The Quranic Noah and the Re-mapping of Early Islamic Studies -- Chapter 2 / Tracing the Apocalyptic Noah in Pre-Islamic Jewish and Christian Literature -- Excursus. A Lost Apocalypse of Noah? -- Chapter 3 / Noah in the Qur'n: An Overview -- Excursus A. Full text and translation of the quranic Noah narratives -- Excursus B. Quranic allusions to Noah outside the quranic Noah narratives -- Chapter 4 / The Quranic Noah Narratives: Form, Content, Context, and Primary Meaning -- Excursus. Reworked texts in the quranic Noah narratives -- Chapter 5 / Reading Between the Lines: The Quranic Noah Narratives as Witnesses to the Life of the Quranic Prophet? -- Excursus A. The original story behind the Noah narratives in Q 11 and 71 -- Excursus B. Q 11:35,49 and the redactional scribal background of the Qur'n -- Chapter 6 / Reading Backwards: Sources and Precedents of the Quranic Noah -- Excursus. A Syriac source behind the blessing of Noah in Q 37: 78-81? -- Chapter 7 / Reading Forward: From the Quranic Noah to the Muhammadan Evangelium -- Excursus A. Ibn Isq's original Noah

narrative -- Excursus B. Re-imagining ancient messianic roles: Prophets, messiahs and charismatic leaders in the literature of Second Temple Judaism and earliest Christianity -- Afterword: Reading Otherwise, or Re-imagining Muhammad as a New Messiah -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index of Ancient Writings -- Index of Ancient and Modern Authors

Sommario/riassunto

Still in its infancy because of the overly conservative views and methods assumed by the majority of scholars working in it since the mid-19th century, the field of early Islamic and quranic studies is one in which the very basic questions must nowadays be addressed with decision. Accordingly, this book tries to resituate the Qur'n at the crossroads of the conversations of old, to which its parabiblical narratives witness, and explores how Muhammad's image – which was apparently modelled after that of the anonymous prophet repeatedly alluded to in the Qur'n – originally matched that of other prophets and/or charismatic figures distinctive in the late-antique sectarian milieu out of which Islam gradually emerged. Moreover, it contends that the Quranic Noah narratives provide a first-hand window into the making of Muhammad as an eschatological prophet and further examines their form, content, purpose, and sources as a means of deciphering the scribal and intertextual nature of the Qur'an as well as the Jewish-Christian background of the messianic controversy that gave birth to the new Arab religion. The previously neglected view that Muhammad was once tentatively thought of as a new Messiah challenges our common understanding of Islam's origins.

2. Record Nr.	UNISA996202377403316
Titolo	Natural resource modeling
Pubbl/distr/stampa	[Tempe, AZ], : Rocky Mountain Mathematics Consortium [New York?], : Wiley-Blackwell [Hoboken, N.J.?], : Wiley Periodicals, Inc
ISSN	1939-7445
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource
Disciplina	510
Soggetti	Natural resources - Management - Mathematical models Environmental policy - Mathematical models Ecology - Mathematical models Conservation of natural resources - Mathematical models Periodicals.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Periodico
Note generali	Refereed/Peer-reviewed