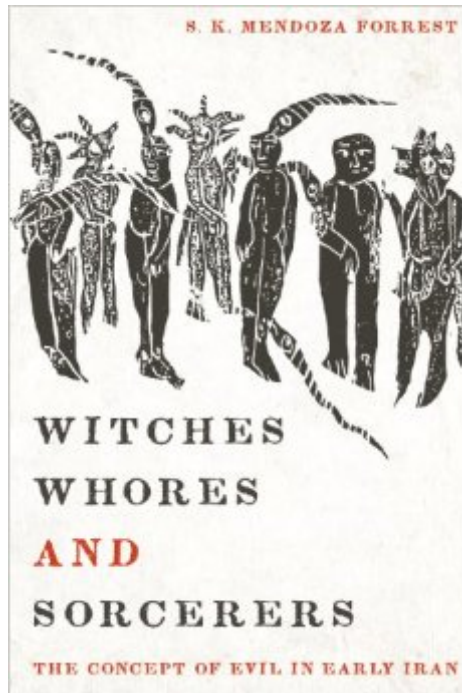


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Witches, Whores, And Sorcerers: The Concept Of Evil In Early Iran



Synopsis

Early Iranians believed evil had to have a source outside of God, which led to the concept of an entity as powerful and utterly evil as God is potent and good. These two forces, good and evil, which have always vied for superiority, needed helpers in this struggle. According to the Zoroastrians, every entity had to take sides, from the cosmic level to the microcosmic self. One of the results of this battle was that certain humans were thought to side with evil. Who were these allies of that great Evil Spirit? Women were inordinately singled out. Male healers were forbidden to deal with female health disorders because of the fear of the polluting power of feminine blood. Female healers, midwives, and shamans were among those who were accused of collaborating with the Evil Spirit, because they healed women. Men who worked to prepare the dead were also suspected of secret evil. Evil even showed up as animals such as frogs, snakes, and bugs of all sorts, which scuttled to the command of their wicked masters. This first comprehensive study of the concept of evil in early Iran uncovers details of the Iranian struggle against witchcraft, sorcery, and other "evils," beginning with their earliest texts.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Perhaps the greatest book about the evil in ancient Iran. There aren't other books especially focused on this theme, but there are informations in parts of other books. Forrest focused on this very important theme and shed light in many questions that employ the contemporary researchers.

Very informative and interesting . I enjoyed reading this book and it helped me to understand

Persian Mythology which is part of Persian traditions and culture and quite ancient . It's amazing how Persians have been so protective of their culture and passed it successfully to the next generations. This book explains very well concept of good & evil in ancient Iran . This concept is integrated into Zoroastrian religion :)

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