

About the Authors

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Peter Bruns is Professor of Church History and Patrology at the University of Bamberg. He has done extensive research work on Syriac sources for the history of Eastern Christianity. He published a study, as well as an edition and translation of the *Katechetische Homilien* of Theodore of Mopsuestia (1994-95) and a study and translation of the teaching of Aphrahat (1990-91). Among his recent publications is a collection of studies entitled *Vom Schisma zu den Kreuzzügen 1054-1204* (2005).

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Georg Gresser studied history, theology and library sciences in Cologne, Bonn and Bamberg (Germany). In 1998 he completed his Ph.D. thesis on *Das Bistum Speyer bis zum Ende des 11. Jahrhunderts*, and in 2004 his Habilitation thesis *Die Synoden und Konzilien der Zeit des Reformpapsttums in Deutschland und Italien von Leo IX. bis Calixt II. (1049-1123)* was accepted by the Faculty of Catholic Theology at Bamberg University. He is a member of ZIS (Zentrum für Interreligiöse Studien) and has taught since 2002 at the Department of Theology (Church History) at Bamberg University. His research interests focus on papal history and medieval canon law.

Peter Herde is Professor of History Emeritus at the University of Würzburg. He has also taught at the Universities of Munich and Frankfurt; he was Visiting Professor at the University of California in Berkeley, the University of Washington in Seattle, the University of Chicago, and was twice a member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and of Dumbarton Oaks. His main field of research and publications is the history of the Empire, the Papacy and the Mediterranean world from the 12th to the 15th century. But he has also worked and published in the history of the Second World War in the Pacific and in German history of the 19th and 20th centuries

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Stefan Leder is Director of the Orient-Institut Beirut and Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies at Martin-Luther-University at Halle/Germany. He published books and articles covering Arabic literature and historiography; transmission of knowledge in pre-modern Arabic learning; religion and politics in Sunni Islam; the Bedouin legacy in Arab society and literature. Recent publications related to the topic of this book: "Der Kaiser als Freund der Muslime." In: *Friedrich II. von Hohenstaufen. – Die Welt des Sultans von Lucera*. Mainz (Zabern) 2008; „Religion, Gesellschaft, Identität – Ideologie und Subversion in der Mythenbildung des arabischen ‚Volksepos‘.“ In: Christine Schmitz (Hg.): *Mensch – Heros – Gott. Weltentwürfe und Lebensmodelle im Mythos der Vormoderne*. Stuttgart (Steiner) 2009, p. 167-180; „The Arabs of Ibn Khaldûn“, *Al-Abbat* (2009), 176-201.

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Dietrich Lohrmann studied history, Romanic languages and Latin at the University of Freiburg Br. He worked for a long period at the German Historical Institutes in Rome and Paris. Since 1986 he has taught medieval history at the Technical University of Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle). His principal points of interest focus on history of science and technology in the Middle Ages, engineers of the Renaissance and scientific transfer from East to West. Latest book-publication in this field: *Konrad Gruter von Werden, De machinis et rebus mechanicis. Ein Maschinenbuch aus Italien für den König von Dänemark 1393-1424* (2 vol., Vatican City, 2006).

Maria Vittoria Molinari is Professor of German Philology at the University of Udine and Pavia since 1970-71. Until 1991 at the University of Padua (where she coordinated a CNR research project on problems of translation within medieval German texts); since 1991 Professor at the University of Bergamo. Her fields of research are: (1) the poetic language of Old English and Old and Middle High German texts, along with text analysis (heroic lay, courtly poetry); (2) translation and cultural interaction in the medieval Germanic world.

Sara Nur Yıldız received her doctorate from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago (2006). She served as lecturer at the History Department of Istanbul Bilgi University in 2003-2010. Her research interests deal with medieval Anatolia (13th-15th centuries), with a focus on the Seljuk, Mongol, Karamanid and early Ottoman periods. Her study of Persian historical writing in the Ottoman Empire will appear in “A History of Persian Literature”, vol. 10, Persian Historiography, ed. Charles Melville (IB Tauris, 2011). She is completing a monograph on Mongol rule in Seljuk Anatolia (Brill, 2011) as well as writing a general history of Seljuk Anatolia (University of Edinburgh, 2012).

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