



Myth and Politics in Ancient Near Eastern Historiography (Paperback)

By Mario Liverani

Cornell University Press, United States, 2007. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The essays included in this volume analyze important historical texts from various regions of the Ancient Near East. The distinguished Italian historian Mario Liverani suggests that these historiographical texts were of a true historical nature and that their literary forms achieved their intended results. Liverani focuses on two central themes in these texts: myth and politics. There is a close connection, Liverani finds, between the writing of history and the validation of political order and political action. History defines the correct role and behavior of political leaders, especially when they do not possess the validation provided by tradition. Historical texts, he discovers, are more often the tools for supporting change than for supporting stability. Liverani demonstrates that history writing in the Ancient Near East made frequent use of mythical patterns, wisdom motifs, and literary themes in order to fulfill its audience's cultural expectations. The resulting nonhistorical literary forms can mislead interpretation, but an analysis of these forms allows the texts' sociopolitical and communicative frameworks to emerge.



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Reviews

This book is definitely not simple to begin on studying but quite fun to see. I actually have read and that i am sure that i will gonna read through yet again once again in the foreseeable future. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.

-- Brennan Koelpin

Comprehensive guide! Its this type of very good read through. It is actually written in simple words and phrases rather than difficult to understand. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.

-- Bernie Mante PhD