

DEAR READER,

THE 8TH VOLUME OF *ZOHAR* — THE PRITZKER EDITION

Prior to 2003 a new project was started with the aim to provide a new scholarly English translation of the Kabbalistic masterpiece *Zohar* (The Book of Radiance). The whole project is founded by the Pritzker family under the auspices of an academic committee. The first tangible result was the publishing of the first volume in 2003 by the Stanford University Press.

This is the first translation ever made from a critical Aramaic text of the *Zohar*, which has been established by Professor Daniel Matt based on a wide range of original manuscripts. From the start it was established that the work would eventually span twelve volumes (ten volumes covering the bulk of the *Zohar*, which consists of a running commentary on the Torah, from Genesis through Deuteronomy and two subsequent volumes covering other, shorter stories). The extensive commentary, appearing at the bottom of each page, clarifies the Kabbalistic symbolism and terminology, and cites sources and parallels from biblical, rabbinic, and Kabbalistic texts. It is a real treasure house, which greatly enhances the understanding of this great mystic book.

During the years, with an average interval of two years consecutive volumes were released. In February 2014 the 8th volume was released, covering the commentary on the end of Leviticus and the beginning of Numbers. It is a renewed testimony to the scholarly dedication of Professor Matt.

By this I wish all the best to Professor Matt for the coming years to be able to bring this great project to a successful conclusion for the benefit of all of us!

Flórián Farkas

Editor-in-Chief

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