military pressure and general anxiety, such as the seventh century, provoked the composition of more polemical disputations than did more prosperous times. Nevertheless, it is wide-ranging surveys such as this which reinforce the impression that anti-judaic polemic represented a fundamental and pervasive element in theological texts of all periods.

One looks in a survey of this kind for comprehensive coverage both of primary and secondary sources. In general, the former are well represented in this study: the list of disputations, which represent the author's primary focus in the third and largest section of the book, seems complete, although CPG reference numbers would help to identify these texts. A few notable gaps exist in the notes and bibliography of secondary sources, however, including especially works which have appeared in English in the last ten years. For the early Christian period Judith Lieu's excellent monograph, *Image and Reality* (Edinburgh, 1996), should be cited, along with studies such as William Horbury's *Jews and Christians in Contact and Controversy* (Edinburgh, 1998) and Miriam Taylor's *Anti-Judaism and Early Christian Identity. A Critique of the Scholarly Consensus* (Leiden, 1995). Nevertheless, K. makes full use of recent scholarship in the field of Byzantine attitudes towards the Jews. Overall, this is a useful and comprehensive introduction to the field of Byzantine *Adversus Iudaeos* literature; it is to be hoped that many more focused, interpretative studies will follow.

University of Nottingham MARY B. CUNNINGHAM

THE GREEK LANGUAGE

A. Ph. Christides (ed.): *Ἱστορία τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς Γλώσσας, ἀπὸ τὶς ἀρχὲς ἕως τὴν ὕστερη ἀρχαιότητα*. Pp. 1213. Thessaloniki: Centre for the Greek Language, Institute for Modern Greek Studies (Manoles Triantaphyllides Foundation), 2001. Cased. ISBN: 960-231-094-4.

This is an impressive collection of essays on the history of the Greek language 'from its beginnings through late antiquity', which stands out in its freshness of approach and clarity of presentation. Under the auspices of the Centre for the Greek Language, a team of seventy-five specialists, both Greeks and foreigners, has contributed here a total of 123 articles, which have been organized well in a structure that is both logical and cohesive. The editor himself wrote all of the introductions to the various sections and subsections, which only adds to the volume's usefulness and consistency. This truly interdisciplinary volume will be of interest not only to linguists and classical philologists, but also to historians, comparatists, anthropologists, and translators of any register of the Greek language. Especially laudable is the contributors' joint effort not to put Ancient Greek on a linguistic pedestal but, instead, to present multiple, varying histories of the Greek language, its developments, and its dialects.

This volume comprises nine units, each followed by an extensive bibliography. Unit 1 treats the phenomenon of language from a general perspective. The second unit focuses on Greek and shows how the evolution of Greek history and the Greek language have been interwoven from the early Indo-European roots through the Roman Imperial period. This unit includes sections on script, pre-Hellenic languages, Linear B, the introduction of the alphabet, and on historical changes that affected Archaic, Classical, and Hellenistic Greek. Greek dialects are treated in the third unit.

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Unit 4 concentrates on the structure and evolution of Ancient Greek; it presents the characteristics and problems of Greek phonology/pronunciation, morphology, syntax, and vocabulary, and also outlines changes within these four categories from Ancient Greek to Koine Greek (in its multiple versions). The very interesting fifth unit introduces areas of contact between Greek and other languages, and includes languages as diverse as Semitic, Thracian, Illyrian, Phrygian, Carian, Lycian, Lydian, Iranian, Etruscan, Latin, Coptic, Syrian, Celtic, Indian, and Arabic languages. Translation practices in antiquity are the subject of the sixth unit, which is, again, characterized by the intercultural perspective of its contributors.

Under the main heading of 'Language and Civilization', Unit 7 first focuses on literary uses of the Greek language and its dialects, whether in epic poetry, ancient tragedy, or comedy. It then goes on to present the specialized vocabularies of different professional areas and spheres of knowledge, such as the terminology of democratic practice, religion and Christianity in particular, philosophy and medicine, as well as legal terminology. A third subsection concentrates on cultural meanings and their transformation; it deftly illustrates diverse mechanisms of change, as for the concepts of 'Hellenism' and 'psyche'. A short eighth unit approaches Ancient Greek from the perspective of the ancient Greeks themselves. It presents ancient Greek language education, the practices of the ancient grammarians, and the phenomenon of Atticism. This section could usefully be expanded with, for instance, treatments of Greek parody, paratragedy, and quotation and allusion in general, or with a broader presentation of the movement of the Second Sophistic. In the ninth and last unit, the 'fate' of Ancient Greek has been outlined, again all too briefly. The essays here introduce the reader to the evolution of the Greek language in medieval and modern times, as it underwent the influences of Humanism, and the European and subsequently the Greek Enlightenment. This necessarily short overview could be developed into an entire second volume.

Of special importance are the rich additions in appendix to this volume. Here the reader will find very informative and well-documented essays on accentuation and punctuation; on the Greek language of proverbs, aphorisms, riddles, jokes, puns, and even of binding-spells, curse-tablets, and magical papyri; on Greek letter-writing, prophecies, vulgarities and obscenities, 'barbarian' speech, children's language, non-verbal communication, and ancient Greek music. A last appendix treats analogy and phonetic change in Ancient Greek and provides examples of syntactical and semantic changes. This part should have been integrated in the volume's core, where some of the same issues have been raised.

This rich volume provides various practical tools and aids in addition to its many diagrams, colored maps, and pictures of artifacts: (i) a catalogue of ancient Greek sources and references to their most important editions; (ii) a glossary; (iii) a presentation of the symbols of the International Phonological Alphabet (IPA), followed by diagrams that illustrate the evolution of the Greek phonetic system; and (iv) detailed indices.

This highly accessible collection of essays deserves to become a standard reference for any student and teacher of the Greek language. However, it would serve the reader better if it came in a more user-friendly format and if it were translated into other languages. Currently, all contributions are in Greek, even those submitted by foreigners, whose work has been translated into Greek. It is my hope to see this volume appear in English and in other modern languages. Hopefully, too, it will be followed by a (more compact but equally well readable) volume that will cover the next one-and-a-half to two millennia of the history of the Greek language and that will include,

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in particular, thorough studies of the formal aspects of *Kathareuousa* Greek, which are still lacking. But before that comes about, the Greek-speaking reader will enjoy this rich, beautifully illustrated, and well-structured first volume on the oldest history of the Greek language.

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GREEK DIALECTS

A. C. Cassio (ed.): *Katà Diálekton. Atti del III Colloquio Internazionale di Dialettologia Greca. Napoli—Fiaiano d'Ischia, 25–29 September 1996*. (AION, Dipartimento di Studi del Mondo Classico e del Mediterraneo Antico, Sezione Filologico-Letteraria, 19.) Pp. 617. Naples: Istituto Universitario Orientale, 1999. Paper.

This collection of articles, based on presentations to the Third International Colloquium on Greek Dialectology in Naples (September 1996), consists of a general introduction by the editor, followed by twenty-four original contributions (in five modern European languages) from leading practitioners in the field, and four indexes (of linguistic and dialectological issues, of inscriptions cited, of Greek words and proper names discussed, and of literary texts referred to).

Though there is no overall 'theme' beyond that of Ancient Greek dialectology, the sheer range of the material and issues discussed is impressive. Anyone wishing to know about current developments and controversies in this field will need to look here, not only for the information and analysis provided by individual authors but also for the excellent, up-to-date bibliographic references. A comprehensive account is clearly beyond the scope of a short review, but we have here: (i) analyses of specific inscriptions or collections of inscriptions, both familiar and newly published, from various times and places (Masson, Brixhe, López Eire, Bartoňek, Palumbo Stracca, Cassio, Consani, Dubois, Hodot, Lazzarini); (ii) discussion of a range of issues involving dialect contact and its impact on dialectal development (Morpurgo Davies, Santiago, Minon); (iii) an assessment of a range of phonological issues (the chronology of compensatory lengthening in Attic–Ionic [Crespo Güemes], the validity of the supposed shift of *ai* to *ei* in certain dialects [Striano], and the rationale behind different regional attempts to standardize orthography in the face of sound change [Vottéro]); and (iv) analyses of various aspects of syntactic and morphological structure and of the use of vocabulary (Dettori, Dobias-Lalou, Wachter, Méndez Dosuna, Bile, Meier-Brügger, García Ramón, del Barrio).

The quality of these contributions, in terms of factual content, presentation, and scholarly judgement, is uniformly high, and even where one might hesitate to follow all the way (e.g. is there really the evidence to take the now famous Pella *defixio* as representative of the echt 'Macedonian dialect' in its natural state in the relevant period, as Brixhe would have us believe [pp. 41–71]?), there is always the necessary raw material to hand, both data and bibliography, to assist in the construction of counterarguments.

This collection of articles will be essential reading for all those interested in Ancient Greek dialectology, whether in the 'big picture' or in the details of the usage of specific regions. Progress in this domain can only be made through the meticulous compilation and judicious analysis of the currently available data—by no means a closed set, as

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