Numen Book Series / 177 Texts and Sources in the History of Religions

The Archive of the Sacromonte Abbey in Granada preserves a historical treasure: Arabic texts on a sheet of parchment and on numerous small tablets of lead, which were discovered in Granada at the end of the sixteenth century in the tower of the old Friday Mosque and in caves of the "Valparaíso" hillock, from then on called "Sacromonte". They became the object of heated discussions in Europe and were condemned by the Pope in 1682. The texts are among the very last literary productions of the Moriscos, the Andalusi Muslims, many of whom continued to practice Islam in secret until their expulsion from Spain between 1609 and 1614. With the permission of the archbishop of Granada, we offer, for the first time in history, a study, edition, translation, and images of all the tablets and shed new light on the fascinating religious messages of these enigmatic texts and their authors.

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Ph.D. (1976), Leiden University, was until his retirement Professor of Islamic Studies at that university. He published widely on Al-Andalus and the history of Muslim minorities in Europe as well as on modern Islam. He passed away in 2021. His last monograph was entitled *An Arabic Source of Ramon Martí. Al-Saif al-Murhaf fī al-Radd 'alā al-Muṣḥaf ("The Whetted Sword in Refutation of the Koran"). Introductory Study with Text and Translation of its Surviving Fragments* (Leiden: Aurora, 2018).

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The two authors cooperated for many years in the study of the Arabic and Romance writings (often in Arabic script, Aljamiado) of the Muslim minorities in Medieval and Early Modern Christian Iberia. Their publications in this field have appeared in books and international peer-reviewed journals, such as, for example, their article 'The Islamic Statute of the Mudejars in the Light of a New Source' (*Al-Qanţara* XVII, 1996).