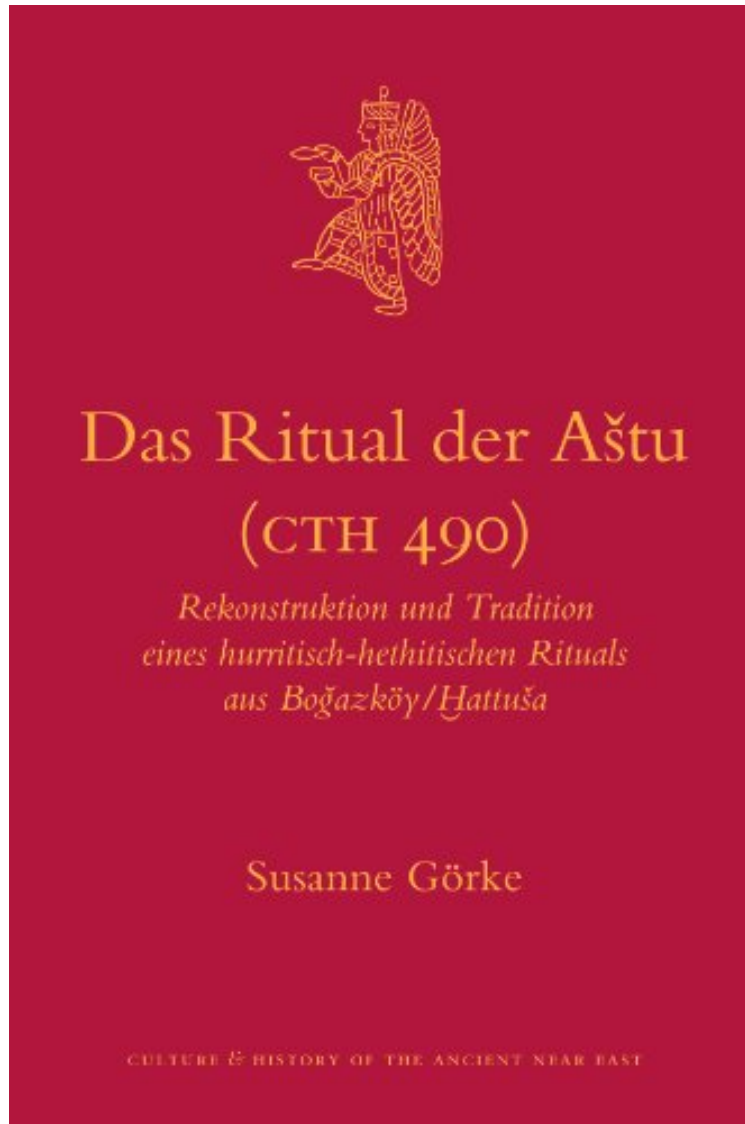


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## Das Ritual der Atu (CTH 490) (Culture and History of the Ancient Near East)

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The Ritual of Astu, a text found at the Hittite Capital of Hattusa, shows strong influence from southern Anatolia and describes a Hurrian-Hittite ritual against witchcraft and sorcery. The following study provides detailed philological treatment of the 13th-century fragments found at Hattusa, from which the ritual is known, including transcription, translation, and commentary of all manuscripts, as well as special emphasis on the Hurrian passages of the ritual. Reconstruction of the more fragmentary sections is undertaken through comparison to other rituals. The study concludes with an analysis of Anatolian, Luwian, and Kizzuwatnaian influences evident in the ritual, and affords, in sum, valuable additions to the study of the nature of Hittite archives, and the development of ritual texts. "I firmly believe that works like this are essential to creating the dialogue that is necessary for the progress of our understanding of Hurrian. Gorke's treatment of the various texts and her discussions of many aspects of the ritual will prove very useful to scholars working on Hurro-Hittite religion." Dennis R.M. Campbell, San Francisco State University

From the Back Cover Das hethitische Ritual der A tu zur Reinigung eines behexten Menschen geht mit seinen hurritischen Rezitationen zu einer Reihe von Texten, die starken südostanatolischen Einfluss in der hethitischen Hauptstadt Hattusa erkennen lassen. Die Studie liefert zunächst eine detaillierte philologische Bearbeitung der zugehörigen Texte unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der hurritischen Partien. Mit Hilfe einer vergleichenden Ritualstrukturanalyse kann in einem zweiten Schritt ein Großteil des stark fragmentarischen Rituals rekonstruiert werden. Der dritte Teil geht der Frage nach, in welcher Tradition das Ritual der A tu steht, die singulär als hurritische Beschwörung tituliert wird, und wie das Verhältnis zu Ritualtexten luwischen oder kizzuwatnaischen Ursprungs zu beurteilen ist. Damit bietet die Untersuchung eine Komponente in der Diskussion um die Entstehungsgeschichte hethitischer Ritualtexte sowie der Bewertung der hethitischen Archive. About the Author Susanne Gorke received her Ph.D. in 2006 from the Department of Ancient Near Eastern Studies at Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz. She is currently a research associate at Mainz University and has published on Hittite festivals, rituals, and religion as well as on the Hurrian language.