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# THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER [SHHIMO] OF THE SYRIAN CHURCH BY B. GRIFFITHS PDF

In The Book of Common Prayer of the Syrian Church, Bede Griffiths, a monk of the Kurisumala Ashram in Kerala, India, presents a rich tradition of biblically based theology articulated through "a wealth of poetic beauty which has never been equaled." Providing an English translation of the daily prayers based on the West Syrian liturgy and approved for use in the Syrian Orthodox and the Catholic Syro-Malankara Churches of South India, Griffiths carefully attends to the rich complexity of the Syriac liturgical tradition. The result is unparalleled access to a distinctively Asian tradition of Christian prayer and theology, prayer and practice, suffused with awe and wonder before the divine mysteries. Originally printed in India, and available only in very limited circulation, Gorgias Press is pleased to introduce Western and worldwide audiences to this rare treasure of the Christian East, presenting Bede Griffiths' The Book of Common Prayer of the Syrian Church to a wide English-language readership of students, scholars, clergy, and laity.

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very good

By Marcos

very good the book and the prayers. good translation by Fr Bede and the book is a good for prayers in every hours in the day.

I like the book for prayer in my home and the best for all christians.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Really really good, But FREE elsewhere (wish I would have known).

By David

I purchased this book some time ago when it was a little (but not much) less expensive. Gorgias Press makes available a wide variety of scholarly texts on Eastern Christianity. As other reviewers have written, the book is quite valuable and contains many beautiful prayers of unique quality. I would certainly recommend buying the book if you can afford it and are interested in a physical copy. BUT you should understand several things before you make a decision, because scholarly books can be expensive and if you are a devoted Eastern Christian or interested in the DEVOTIONAL side of this book, I caution these things:

1) This is a reprint. This is a facsimile. This is a reprint of a rough translation of the Syriac Orthodox

"Sh'himo" published by Bede Griffiths in the 1960's. This explains the cost, but you should be aware that the typeface in this book looks like it was written on a typewriter (because it probably originally was). There are several typos due to its off the typewriter feel and this does at times make reading aloud from it awkward.

2) This book is a paperback. Though I think you can buy a hard cover copy directly from Gorgias Press (at a much steeper price) you will most likely get a paperback. Just keep in mind that you're paying almost \$50 for a paperback.

3) The translations in this book are good, but lack a certain luster. Sometimes it is awkward. Also, I am not sure if this book was translated directly from Syriac or from Malayam since Bede Griffiths translated it in the Indian counterpart of that church.

4) Most importantly this book/liturgy is FREE elsewhere! The Syrian Orthodox Church in America has made it available as a free and easy to use app on the Play Store. (Look up "Sh'himo") The same group also **MUSICALLY PERFORMS** the liturgies that you can download for \$5 and listen to!

I know how many Orthodox Christians and Orthodox seekers are also big book buyers and that you can feel pressure to buy a book full of extravagant liturgical prayers that will bring you close to God. But **HONESTLY**, as an underpaid college student, I know that **YOU DON'T HAVE TO!** If you want to pray with quality translations of these prayers, just get the free app so you don't have to flip around a cheap paperback with no bookmarks. If you are a Griffiths scholar, go ahead and buy the book! It's worth it if you deem it so!

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... translation is exceedingly awkward (although exquisite by the very poor standards of English translation of Syriac Orthodox

By Amazon Customer

Bede Griffith's translation is exceedingly awkward (although exquisite by the very poor standards of English translation of Syriac Orthodox liturgical material), but I have to give this book four stars, as it is the only complete English translation of the Syriac Orthodox Divine Office, which is one of the most beautiful divine offices available, arranged over the course of a week.

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