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The Koren Sacks Siddur: Hebrew/English Translation And Commentary, Compact Ashkenaz (Hebrew Edition)



Synopsis

The Koren Sacks Siddur is the first new Orthodox Hebrew/English siddur in a generation. The siddur exemplifies Koren's traditions of textual accuracy and intuitive graphic design, and offers an illuminating translation, introduction and commentary by one of the world's leading Jewish thinkers, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks. It is the only Orthodox siddur that includes: prayers for the state of Israel, its soldiers and national holidays, and a halakhic guide for visitors; prayers following childbirth and upon the birth of a daughter; a modern translation, and citations of modern authorities. Published in cooperation with the Orthodox Union.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have davened with the Artscroll siddur since I became religious almost 9 years ago, and I was looking for a change. The Artscroll is a classic for many good reasons, but I've read most of the commentary already. In the last year or so, I've started to look into more Religious Zionist type works, and they really resonate with me. As I see it, Religious Zionism can be mostly distilled to the following idea: the establishment of the State of Israel was an event that has extremely important implications for Judaism. More generally, we see from this that Judaism (at least in some respects) must tailor itself to the current day. If we only look back at a static Judaism, we lose the significance of what Hashem has done for us in our era and negate the fact that we serve to offer any contribution at all. Why am I saying all of this? Well, I believe that the Koren Sacks Siddur is a siddur for those who believe what I have said above. There is a great importance in Judaism in looking to previous generations for guidance in what to do today, but that doesn't mean we need to live as if

we were in those generations. We need to be authentically Jewish, but in today's world. The wonderful translation from Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks is an example of this. The way he translates the davening is quite poetic and gives new and fresh meaning to the words we say every day. His commentary draws on classic sources, but they also draw from more contemporary sources and events as well. I've found the commentary to be quite uplifting and to give insights that I've never seen before. For those of you who have used Artscroll, Koren siddurs have the Hebrew on the left page and English on the right (opposite of Artscroll), so that takes some getting used to. After a couple of days, I was fine. I gave the siddur 4/5 stars because there are a few places where the siddur's nusach is different from the Artscroll, and it really confused me. For example, I was at a bris yesterday, and the last couple of paragraphs simply aren't in the Koren siddur. I'm not sure why that is the case, but it bothered me. In the reviews for the paperback version, some people complained about the font size on the compact size being too small, but I haven't found that to be a problem. The hardcover version actually lays somewhat flat, so you don't always need something to hold the pages down (which is great). All in all, if you're looking to try a new siddur, go for it!

Has great introductory material, notes, and guides on what to do. For those wondering this Siddur isn't transliterated like the Artscroll Seif edition. Not a big deal for me I can read Hebrew. The layout is nice and easy on the eyes. The only feature I don't particularly care for (although not enough to give it a lower rating) is the Koren font. A lot of people say they like it but I actually think it's distracting. I'll get used to it as time goes on.

Excellent

15 year old son loves!

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