SZENT HELYEK A TÉRKÉPEKEN – SACRED PLACES ON MAPS

ZSOLT **TÖRÖK** (ED.): **SZENT HELYEK A TÉRKÉPEKEN – SACRED PLACES ON MAPS.** Essays by *Catherine Delano-Smith, Alessandro Scafi, Paul Harvey, Ron Hassner* and *Zsolt Török* and catalogue to the *Sacred Places on Maps* Exhibition.

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The Sacred Places on Maps exhibition's catalogue is also a collection of original essays, which provides a broad overview of the subject, at the same time each one investigates significant issues regarding religion and cartography. Contributed by internationally recognized authorities in this highly specialized field and often blazing new trails of scholarly research, these introductory essays center on the theme of holy sites and maps. The essay co-authored by Catherine Delano-Smith (London) and Alessandro Scafi (Rome) offers a Christian approach in proposing a sacred geography, and provides useful orientation by classifying holy sites. The notion of the sacred place, initially rather nebulous and self-contradictory during the early days of Christianity under the Roman Empire, became more firmly

established and recognized after the 4th century. we would expect medieval maps to regularly feature them, but the conclusion of Paul Harvey (Durham) is that it was not the map but the text that had the power to appropriately convey piety. How do holy sites come into being? This is the question examined by Ron Hassner (Berkeley, USA) he process whereby pilgrims and cartographers have located holy sites that had already been named. Editor of the volume and curator of the Sacred Places on Maps exhibition, Zsolt Török (Budapest) has contributed an essay examining the significance of movement in sacred space as evidenced by pilgrim itineraries from one holy site to the next, and placing them in the context of the evolution of modern European cartography.

The volume serves as a catalogue as well, it includes the bibliographic descriptions of the the material displayed, the explanatory notes and the color reproduction of each item of the exhibition.

