

A Hermit's Cookbook: Monks, Food and Fasting in the Middle Ages

By Andrew Jotischky



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How did medieval hermits survive on their self-denying diet? What did they eat, and how did unethical monks get around the rules?



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Editorial Review

Review

This is a sparkling book, hugely informative about monasticism in general and hermits in particular with the addition of some surprisingly appetising recipes. Mortification and nettles turn out to be only one part of the story of how hermits battled with the devil; hospitality and humility were equally important as was a good knowledge of bread-making and a sound digestion. Tree bark is probably not to everyone's taste. (Henrietta Leyser, St Peter's College, Oxford)

Extract Featured (*History Today*)

Extract featured in the *Platelicker* section (The Big Issue)

Full page extract featured (*The Times*)

'What underlies this entertaining, informative account of monastic diet is the unexplored issue of food consumption as a means exercising individual and social control... this is a book that does more than it says on the tin.'

(Times Higher Education Supplement)

Andrew Jotischky's book is a valuable addition to the literature on the monastic life and deserves more than a specialist readership. And it has many appetising monastic recipes. (*BBC History Magazine*)

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Extract Featured (Sanford Lakoff)

Extract featured in the *Platelicker* section (Sanford Lakoff)

Full page extract featured (Sanford Lakoff)

About the Author

Andrew Jotischky is Professor of Medieval History at Lancaster University, UK. He has published widely on

aspects of medieval religious history; his principal publications include *Crusading and the Crusader States* (2004), and *The Penguin Historical Atlas of the Bible Lands*, with Caroline Hull (2009).

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