

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	vii
<i>Introduction</i>	1
<i>Part 1: The Monistic Outlook</i>	11
<i>Preface</i>	13
1 <i>Halakhah Follows Bet Hillel: The Rejected Option in Monism</i>	17
<i>Why does Halakhah follow Bet Hillel?</i>	17
<i>The rejected option as 'words of God'</i>	18
2 <i>Monism: The 'Valid Decision' Concept</i>	31
<i>Correspondence positions</i>	31
<i>Approximative positions</i>	37
<i>Acceptability as the criterion of the right decision</i>	41
3 <i>Monism: Dispute and the Concept of Revelation</i>	54
<i>The meaning of dispute</i>	54
<i>Halakhic truth and revelation</i>	60
<i>Part 2: The Pluralistic Outlook</i>	67
<i>Preface</i>	69
4 <i>Revelation and Halakhic Pluralism</i>	71
<i>The realistic model</i>	71
<i>The anthropological model</i>	72
<i>The authoritative model</i>	80
5 <i>The Limits of Halakhic Pluralism and the Nature of Halakhic Inference</i>	88
<i>The limits of halakhic pluralism</i>	88
<i>The ontological status of halakhic decisions</i>	90
<i>The validity of halakhic decisions and the minority position</i>	93
6 <i>Halakhah Follows Bet Hillel: The Pluralistic Version</i>	100
<i>Following the quantitative majority</i>	101
<i>Bet Hillel's moral advantage</i>	105
<i>Part 3: The Harmonic Outlook</i>	109
<i>Preface</i>	111
7 <i>The Union of Opposites</i>	113
<i>Zadok ha-Cohen of Lublin</i>	113
<i>Judah Loew ben Bezalel</i>	114
<i>Halakhah follows Bet Hillel: the harmonic version</i>	116
8 <i>'Reality Knows No Opposites'</i>	119

Part 4: These and These Are the Words of the Living God: Halakhic

Values 127

Preface 129

9 *The Religious Value of the Quest for Truth* 131

Isaac Jacob Reines 131

Hayyim Hirschensohn 135

Hayyim Volozhiner 137

Monism and the value of the quest for truth 141

The religious purpose of halakhic discourse 143

10 *'Torah Shall Go Forth Today. . . That Had Not Gone Forth Yesterday':*

The Value of Innovation 146

Yom Tov Lipmann Muelhausen 146

Hayyim b. Bezalel 149

Moses Samuel Glasner 153

The meaning of halakhic innovation 158

Part 5: On Dispute and Authority 163

Preface 165

11 *Dispute in Halakhic Culture: Historical Phenomenon or Constitutive Element* 167

Dispute as a historical phenomenon 167

Dispute as a constitutive element 176

'These and these': between toleration and pluralism 183

12 *On Authority and the Duty of Obedience* 192

The epistemic model of halakhic authority 192

The deontic model of halakhic authority 200

Attempts to reach a balance 205

Authority and the status of dispute 207

Concluding thoughts 210

Bibliography 219

Index 231