

**FLOWERS OF THE  
MIDRASH FOR THE  
SCHOOLS AND HOMES**

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Flowers of the Midrash for the Schools and Homes by Joseph Cohn

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**JOSEPH COHN**

**FLOWERS OF THE  
MIDRASH FOR THE  
SCHOOLS AND HOMES**



# Flowers of the Midrash

FOR THE

## Schools and Homes

Written in a most interesting and attractive style of

Prose and Poetry by

JOSEPH COHN

Hebrew and German Teacher

Yonkers, N. Y.

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The Warrenton House  
March 3rd, 1913  
1913.

TESTIMONIAL.

From the Rev. Dr. Ph. Klein, Rabbi of the F. H. C. Ohab  
Zedek, N. Y.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN.

Mr. Joseph Cohn, who some years ago published a work entitled "Gems from the Midrash," greatly encouraged by the hearty welcome accorded to his first floral collection from the garden of the Midrash, again arose upon the lofty heights of Parnassus, and has gathered a new floral collection of the literature of the Midrash, which he here presents under the name of "Flowers of the Midrash."

The entire work is redolent with the sweet fragrance of religious idealism, which breathes throughout this edifying and instructive Midrashic compilation, and it is sure to please every sensible reader who will not lay this work down without feeling a thorough enjoyment of its contents.

New York 27 Tewes 5672.

REV. DR. PH. KLEIN.

Re d. M. P. 7-21-39

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## TESTIMONIAL.

From Max Cohen, Esq., Assistant Corporation Counsel and  
formerly a member of the Board of Education  
of the City of Yonkers.

The collection of Midrashic stories, made and translated by Mr. Joseph Cohn, is a veritable treasure-house of pleasing anecdotes and vivid historical pictures. It is impossible to over-estimate the value of such collections that open to the English-reading public the resources of one splendid Hebrew literature.

The placing of such a book in the Jewish home and schools must contribute much to the development of a love for Hebrew lore. More particularly is this volume notable for the ethical lessons afforded not alone by the stories, but as well by the mass of precepts that are brought together from the same rich source. A devoted parent or a skillful teacher could do much with such a volume to inspire growing boys and girls with a fine sense of moral quality, and yet, withal, the book so far from being prosy, is a rich fund of entertainment.

MAX COHEN,  
Counselor at Law,  
Yonkers, N. Y.



## TESTIMONIALS.

From the Rev. Dr. F. De Sola Mendes,  
of New York City.

Mr. Joseph Cohn of Yonkers, N. Y., has conceived the excellent idea of bringing together many of the Midrash legends and narratives and preparing them for a "School-Reader" for Jewish youth. If the legends are clothed in a simple and correct English diction, the work will be a valuable aid to the culture of refined Jewish feeling in our rising generation.

F. DE SOLA MENDES,

January 3rd, 1912.

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From the Rev. Dr. George Alexander Kohut, Revising Editor  
of the Hebrew Classics.

This is to testify that I have carefully read several selections, in manuscript, from Mr. Joseph Cohn's forthcoming book, "Flowers of the Midrash," and find it to be a work of considerable originality—ingenius and well-conceived, indeed, quite a unique performance.

To all lovers of Hebrew lore and legend, it will be a welcome gift-book, in the noblest house of the world.

GEORGE ALEXANDER KOHUT,  
Riverdale-on-Hudson, N. Y.

January 15th, 1912.

## PREFACE.

The tendency amongst some Authors in the field of literature is to develop and amplify the flowery language of those geniuses whose creative minds have wrought for higher spheres than they can ever hope to attain; hence they seize but the shadow, for they can not grasp the substance, and neither the learned world, nor the general public, can enjoy aught that is spiritually nourishing in their creation. It is this great defect that I have sought to overcome in the work I have set before me, to be less flowery in language, but richer with the true flowers of nature, whose fragrance shall delight the learned, as well as the general public, to such an ideal have I dedicated this work. The youthful reader, in search of entertainment, will appreciate the work for the high opportunity it affords him to enjoy the interesting and delightful, but the man of mature thought and ripe judgment will find therein the instructive as well as the entertaining, and these will appeal to him as the best material for a text book for the school as well as for the home.

This work is not the mere echo of a dead past; on the contrary it teems with life, in the moral lessons that it supplies, appropriately for every circumstance, person and sex. It inculcates the highest principles, of glorifying the Deity, advances the fundamental essentials of Religion and Morality, and inspires the Reader with the loftiest conception of Creator and Creation. Moreover, this work recommends itself to the Jewish as also to the non-Jewish general public, as a refreshing fountain of the living waters of the Midrash, which is one of the finest gardens in the great world of Hebrew knowledge and literature. It is in the best sense, adapted to attract the youth, to take daily walks in this beautiful garden. The ethics herein taught will recommend themselves to all classes and schools and will prove a blessing to all readers in general.

THE AUTHOR, JOSEPH COHN,  
Yonkers, N. Y.

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