

*Ketzer, Konsuln und Büsser. Die städtischen Eliten von Montauban vor dem Inquisitor Petrus Cellani (1236/1241).* By Jörg Feuchter. (Spätmittelalter, Humanismus, Reformation. Studies in the Late Middle Ages, Humanism and the Reformation. 40.) Pp. xiv + 610. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2007. €119. 978 3 16 149285 3; 1854 2840

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Jörg Feuchter's book may be described briefly as an in-depth micro study (as he himself defines it on p. 5) of the adherents of two heresies, the Cathars and the Waldensians, in the environs of the southern French town of Montauban in the 1230s and 1240s. However, such a description does not do the book justice for it offers readers much more. The main theme of the book is combined with great skill with an analysis of general trends in the history of southern France and of the territory around Montauban in the thirteenth century. Feuchter discusses, with the help of a wide range of source material (ably described and analysed in chapter ii) the administrative system of the town and the people involved in it (chapters iii, vii). A deeper examination is made of related themes. The author discusses in detail both contemporary heretical movements and the attempts of the Catholic Church to deal with them as well as how this challenge was dealt with in the Montauban area (chapter iv). There is a very interesting discussion of the life and significance of the central figure in this book, Petrus Cellani, one of the most famous Dominican inquisitors of the time (chapter v). Detailed analyses of the kind of penances the inquisitor imposed upon those found guilty of heresy as well as how those penances were carried out enables the author to provide a useful corrective to previous interpretations (chapter vi). Feuchter provides edited versions of his main sources in appendices which also include maps and useful tables. This book is a skilful demonstration of how a comparison of accurate micro-historical source with existing historical knowledge can throw valuable light on macro-historical issues.

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*Cross, crescent and conversion. Studies on medieval Spain and Christendom in memory of Richard Fletcher.* Edited by Simon Barton and Peter Linehan. (The Medieval Mediterranean. Peoples, Economics and Cultures, 400–1500, 73.) Pp. xiv + 362 incl. frontispiece and 5 ills. Leiden–Boston: Brill, 2008. €99. 978 90 04 16343 0; 0928 5520

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In his introductory appreciation James Campbell notes that the late Richard Fletcher was best known as an historian of medieval Spain, but retained his early interest in Anglo-Saxon England. Among his last books was a study of an especially intractable feud in eleventh-century Northumbria. *Cross, crescent and conversion* reflects the breadth and especially the comparative focus of the courteous, thought-provoking and generous man it honours. Twelve of the sixteen contributions to this volume concern Spain. In an era of non-*Festschrift Festschriften*, when British and American publishers encourage volumes of essays but will not abide dedication to a particular scholar, Brill deserves praise for the frank acknowledgment of what brought these articles together. As in any such collection, some contributions are rather focused, for example Roger Wright's inquiry into the Andalusian placename 'Cabra', or Emma Falque's discussion of the influence of Isidore of Seville on Lucas