

## Preface

The present volume is the Sixteenth in this series of the Jerusalem Talmud, the third in a four-volume edition, translation, and Commentary of the Second Order of this Talmud. The principles of the edition regarding text, vocalization, and Commentary have been spelled out in detail in the Introduction to the first volume. The text in this volume is based on the manuscript text of the Yerushalmi edited by J. Sussman for the Academy of the Hebrew Language, Jerusalem 2001. The text essentially represents an outline, to be fleshed out by a teacher's explanation. The translation should mirror this slant; it should not endow the text with literary qualities which the original does not possess. In particular, the translation is not intended to stand separate from the Commentary. In one respect the principles of edition have been changed from the previous volumes. Instead of occasionally remarking about questionable changes of the text by the corrector preparing the Venice *editio princeps*, in all cases where the corrector changed the text, the scribe's version is given in (parentheses), the corrector's in [brackets]. Naturally, the corrector rectifies spelling errors and omissions, mostly sentences left out because of homeoteleuton; but in many cases the corrector's additions are questionable, as indicated in the Commentary. This is most evident in Tractate Šeqalim as noted in the Introduction to this Tractate. The full text will permit every reader to form his own judgment. Translator's additions in the English text are put in {braces}.

As in the preceding volumes, for each paragraph the folio and line numbers of the Krotoschin edition are added. It should be remembered that these numbers may differ from the *editio princeps* by up to three lines. In the Tractates treated in the volume, Mishnah and Halakhah frequently differ widely in numbering. Adapting the headers to both Mishnah and Halakhah would not be satisfactory.

Biblical quotations are given with the masoretic accents, except for words which differ (usually by *plene* spelling) from the masoretic texts. Since the quotes are part of oral tradition, the deviations in spelling are examples of substandard spelling, rather than changes in the text.

Again, I wish to thank my wife, Dr. Eva Guggenheimer, who acted as critic, style editor, proof reader, and expert on the Latin and Greek vocabulary. Her own notes on some possible Latin and Greek etymologies are identified by (E. G.).