

ITAL. QUART. 74

Binding:

Library binding from the beginning of the 20th century, the half-binding type. Covers in marbled paper. Supralibros of the Konigliche Bibliothek stamped in gold on the front cover.

History:

The manuscript might have been made in Italy, which is indicated by the *ALLA BALESTRA* inscription on the watermark. Dating: the first half of 18th century, on the basis of the type of writing, archaisms and manuscript's condition. Used without any binding for a long time. The manuscript was brought to the Konigliche Bibliothek in 1903 (accession number: *acc. ms. 1903.6*), purchased from an antiquarian bookseller called J. Kauffmanna in Frankfurt a/M. No marks of previous owners.

Content:

Theological treaty written by Josef Tamar (probably a pseudonym). He was a chaplain, and a Franciscan called Michele, who later converted into Judaism. In the treaty he is trying to demonstrate faults and falseness of Christianity, he condemns using saints' images and calls their veneration idolatry. He criticises Aristotle's philosophy, especially the elements adopted by the Christian philosophy and cites prophets of the Old Testament. He proves that Israel is still waiting for its Messiah. The treaty is a document of conversions into Judaism which occurred in the 17th century. The text was not published. No information about the text or its author have been found.

With reference to the manuscript, cf. Lemm, p. 83.