



Virgin, Virginitas and Maiden in Old English

By Kenichi Tamoto

VDM Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 692 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.0in. x 1.7in. The present work contains etymological and semasiological researches into the terms for Latin virgo, virginitas and puella which were employed by the glossators of the Lindisfarne Gospels and the Rushworth Gospels, and by the translator of the OE Gospels. The OE words used to express those concepts in those glosses and translation are hehstald, hehstaldhad, hehstaltnisse, fmne, fmnhad, and mden. By a profound study of all the relevant instances registered in the MCOE, and by comparing terminological features in the Anglo-Saxon Gospels with those in other texts, the following conclusions are drawn. It seems that choice of words as the terms for those concepts is a matter of an individual or a school, as well as that of dialect. Aldred, the glossator of the Lindisfarne MS, was responsible for the sense virgin of the word hehstald. He drew a sharp distinction between hehstald (for virgo) and mden (for puella). Farman, one of the glossators of the Rushworth MS, chose fmne for virgo. The translator of the OE Gospels used fmne as the term for virgo, and mden for puella. He is also unique in his terminological...



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