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- Final Abstract

In the frame of the much vexed question of the relationship between ‘religion’ and ‘magic’ (as either opposed or complementary), the analysis of the religious (*sensu stricto*) elements pervading the magical texts can shed some light to clarify the interaction of these two systems of beliefs and practices. The elements or units to be considered are of different kinds: not only deities, but also performative indications, divination rites and other rituals, demonology, specific terminology, prayers and hymns. The research will allow us to determine the nature of the different religious traditions underlying these texts in a double sense: the contemporary trends of this historical period, and the re-elaboration of very ancient traits of Greek and other neighbouring cultures. Moreover, taking into account that some of the ‘religious’ traditions are known through a predominantly literary vehicle, it will be important to discern this aspect by analysing the (more or less hidden) evocations of texts, generic traits and so on. As a whole, this study can contribute to a better understanding of the systems of beliefs of the imperial period, to a clear-cut definition of the interaction between magic and religion, and to the knowledge of the cultural (in a wide sense) background of these fascinating texts and of their anonymous authors and compilers.

- *Some useful works (editions and general works excluded)*

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