

# Contents

Preface	VII
List of Illustrations	IX
Original Publications	X

## PART 1 *Introduction*

- 1 What Exactly Are *Spielregeln*? 3
- 2 *Spielregeln* and Rituals 9
- 3 *Spielregeln*, Order of Rank and Conflicts 16

## PART 2 *Rules*

- 4 Authority and Violence of Kings in Tenth and Eleventh Century Germany 25
- 5 Rules of Conflict among the Warrior Aristocracy of the High Middle Ages 42
- 6 Openness and Secrecy: Two Fundamental Categories of Medieval Communication 61
- 7 Saxon Bishops in the Tenth and Eleventh Centuries: Strategies and Rules of Their Political Activities 74
- 8 The Perspective of an Expert: Gislebert of Mons 89

**PART 3***Rituals*

9 Rituals and Their “Spielregeln” in the Middle Ages 109

10 The Variability of Rituals 128

11 Rituals as Lingua Franca? Joint Cultural Practises at the Eastern Borders of the Realm 143

12 Symbolic Communication and Medieval Order: Strengths and Weaknesses of Ambiguous Signs 159

**PART 4***Gregorian Revolution*

13 Papal Authority in the High Middle Ages 173

14 Communicating Papal Primacy: the Impact of Gregory VII’s Ideas (11th–13th Century) 189

15 Examples of Justifying and Rejecting Churchly Violence at the Time of the Gregorian Revolution 203

**PART 5***History in Literature*

16 Do Poets Play with the Rules of Society? 217

17 Heroes Who Break the Mould: Duke Ernst and the Emperor Otto 234

Conclusion 247

Works Cited 255

Index 278