

‘Seek the Welfare of the City’: Contributions of Diaspora Jews (323 BCE – 66 CE)
谋求城市的福祉：公元前 323 年至 公元 66 年间散居的犹太人的贡献

Tan Kim Huat 陈锦发

Abstract 内容摘要

While the revolts against the Roman Empire in 66 and 132 CE did become for many the lens through which to look at the Jews, this must be balanced by a consideration of the Jewish attempts to remain where they were scattered, participating in and seeking the welfare of the cities in which they were found before those unfortunate events took place. This paper is an attempt to assemble and analyse the fragmentary evidence for Jewish contributions to life in their localities before the great revolts. It will be demonstrated that such Jewish contributions were not trivial but are of great significance. This will lead to the conclusion that the Jewish response to the Diaspora was a complex one. Not only this, responses to Jewish presence in the Roman world were also complex. Local conditions and inherited traditions all have a part to play.

尽管公元 66 至 132 年间在罗马帝国所发生的叛变已经被公认为了解犹太人的透镜，但这也应该有个平衡的观点，考虑犹太人如何在不幸的事发生之前，尝试在被分散的地方，为他们居住的城市谋求福祉。

本文尝试收集与分析一些欠缺不全的证据，那是有关犹太人在反叛之前，为他们所在之地的生活所作的贡献。这些都证明这些犹太人的贡献并不是轻微琐碎，而是意义深长的。引申出的结论是、犹太人对散居的回应是复杂的。不仅如此，那些对犹太人在罗马的世界里的回应也都是复杂的。当地的环境和所继承的传统都是要考虑的因素。