

A NEW EDITION OF *MIKRAOT GEDOLOT*
(A Book Review)

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In the years 1524–1526 a new edition of *miqra'ot gedolot* was published, including, besides the biblical text, the *targum*, the Masorah rubrics and important commentaries. Since then this edition has been reprinted time and again, without major changes. The book now published is the first of a new scientific edition of *miqra'ot gedolot*, based on ancient manuscripts.

The biblical text is based primarily on the Aleppo Codex (*keter aram zova*), which is recognized as the most authoritative manuscript of the Bible, the work of the known masorete Aaron ben Asher. The Masorah glosses of this *keter* are printed here instead of the usual ones, accompanied with interpretation and references. The version of the *targum* and the commentaries is also based on manuscripts.

Some problems arising from a new modern edition of the Bible are discussed here, e.g. the question of *hatafim* placed under non-guttural letters and the manner of indicating the *qere-ketiv* rubrics. The editor's system is compared to that adopted by Rav M. Breuer in his edition of the Bible (1977–1982). Another issue discussed is the problem of 'reconstruction' of the text and the Masorah in those parts of the Bible that have not survived in the Aleppo Codex.