

**Authorship, structure and genre of the commentary
known as B'rēshīth Rabbā ascribed to Yeshu'ah ben
Yehudah**

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This paper revisits the arguably most conspicuous example of a Jewish Mu'tazilite *hexémeron*-commentary in Arabic. Its 11th century Byzantine Hebrew translation bears the title “Bereshit Rabbah” and attributes the work to Yeshu'ah ben Yehudah (fl. 1040-1070) whose authorship has been questioned in recent scholarship. Based on a reconstruction of all extant fragments of the Arabic original and the Hebrew translation, I will reconsider the questions of authorship, textual structure and literary genre.