

Female Asceticism and Piety in Medieval Armenia

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The purpose of this paper is to explore the types of female asceticism in medieval Armenia considering the almost complete absence of female monasteries. Because of this, it appears that women who chose to live an ascetic life-style practiced it alone either in their homes or in some sort of seclusion. The paper will present the source evidence for this type of life-style, as well as bring examples from extreme types of ascetic practices ascribed to women.