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Πληροφοριακό Δελτίο της Ελληνικής Αρχαιομετρικής Εταιρείας

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ΣΥΝΕΔΡΙΑ - CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

"SPOT TESTS FOR MATERIAL CHARACTERIZATION" WORKSHOP FOR JULY 2010, CONSERVATION LABORATORY, KAMAN-KALEHOYUK EXCAVATION, TURKEY

To be held in the new conservation laboratory at Kaman-Kalehooyuk excavation, Turkey, by Nancy Odegaard and Scott Carlee (formerly Scott Carroll) from July 5 to July 8, 2010 (4 days). Kaman-Kalehooyuk is located approximately 3 hours by automobile southeast from Ankara. The workshop will be hosted by the Japanese Institute of Anatolian Archaeology, sponsored by the Middle Eastern Culture Center in Japan (MECCJ), (Tokyo). A maximum of 12 participants can be accepted.

This four day course provides conservators and other professionals with a "tool kit" of practical tests for materials characterization, useful for research and examination of artifacts. The instructors use their text *Material Characterization Tests for Objects of Art and Archaeology* (2005). The course takes a hands-on approach and most of the course time will be spent by the participants preparing and executing characterization tests in a lab setting. Curriculum will include:

- . micro-sampling techniques such as electrolysis of minute amounts of artifact material onto filter paper
- . testing organic artifact materials such as proteins, cellulose, and plastics
- . testing inorganic artifact materials such as metals and minerals
- . testing of contextual materials such as surface deposits, stains, and soils
- . background in the chemical processes and reaction stages used in each test
- . interpretation of test results

The workshop will be held in the English language and therefore fluency in English is required of the participants. We anticipate that this workshop will be of particular interest to conservators and archaeologists working in Turkey although people who are working in other countries may also attend.

Tuition is 820\$, room and board is included in this cost. Payment in advance will be required in order to hold your place in the workshop that will be carried out by bank draft (wired) to Tokyo. Visas are required of non-Turkish citizens to attend the course and must be applied for in December 2009. Participants will be required to bring a few supplies, including the publication *Material Characterization Tests for Objects of Art and Archaeology*, by Nancy Odegaard, Scott Carroll, and Werner Zimmt, Archetype Publications, 2nd ed., 2005.

Please contact Alice Boccia Paterakis for further information. To register for the course please send your c.v. and a letter of interest to the email address below as soon as

possible. Your place in the workshop will be secured once payment has been received in Tokyo. Further details regarding payment procedure will be provided upon request. Those who are not already planning to be working in Turkey in July 2010 will have to apply for a visa in December 2009 so time is short. The cost of the visa varies according to nationality.

Alice Boccia Paterakis
Director of Conservation
Kaman-Kalehoyuk Excavation
Japanese Institute of Anatolian Archaeology Turkey
Email: alicepaterakis@yahoo.com



INTRODUCTION TO CERAMIC PETROLOGY COURSE, FITCH LABORATORY, 12 – 23 APRIL 2010

The Fitch Laboratory building upon its established reputation on ceramic petrology applications and its extensive reference collections of geological and ceramic thin sections, offers a two-week introductory course on ceramic petrology, sponsored by the Bradford McConnell Trust. The course is for people with no previous experience on petrology although familiarity with archaeological ceramics will be useful. It is an excellent introduction for students already (or hoping to embark) on a Master's or research degree in archaeological materials, as well as for postdoctoral researchers interested in being familiar with ceramic petrology applications. Although the focus is primarily with ceramic materials the skills learnt are applicable to the study of lithics, building materials, pigments and soils.

Dr Evangelia Kiriati
Director
Fitch Laboratory
British School at Athens
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Fax: +30-210 7236560
Email: fldirector@bsa.ac.uk
<http://www.bsa.ac.uk/fitch/index.htm>

Introduction to Ceramic Petrology Course – further details

The course 'Introduction to Ceramic Petrology' will comprise daily lectures and practicals introducing to optical polarizing light microscopy, the identification of main rock-forming minerals, the classification of rock types, the use and interpretation of geological maps and, subsequently, the analysis of ceramic thin sections to reconstruct provenance and technology. Furthermore, a field class to Aegina, including a visit to a traditional pottery workshop, will provide practical experience on prospection for pottery raw materials and sampling, as well as contemporary potting practices. In the second week, each participant will have the opportunity to undertake a case study project. A course manual will be provided for participants covering all aspects of the course and further reading.

The course co-coordinators and instructors will be **Evangelia Kiriati** (Director, Fitch Laboratory) and **Ruth Siddall** (Lecturer, Earth Science, UCL).

Dates: 12 – 23 April 2010.

Course Fee: The course fee includes tuition, accommodation, fieldtrip expenses, all teaching materials, BSA membership for the period of the course and entry pass to museums and archaeological sites. The fee is 860€ for single accommodation and 960€ for shared accommodation in double rooms. Self-catering accommodation (including breakfast) will be provided at the BSA Hostel, next to the Fitch Laboratory building.

Bradford McConnell Bursaries: several 500-1000€ awards (funded by the Bradford McConnell Trust) are available to help those who would otherwise be prevented from attending. Consideration will be given to hardship and academic excellence.

Applications should include: a brief curriculum vitae, two reference letters and a short covering letter stating the interest in ceramic petrology and reasons for wishing to do the course. If applicants would like to apply for one of the Bradford McConnell bursaries, they should add a brief statement of their financial circumstances and also ask their referees to comment on the same issue. Applications should be submitted via e-mail to flsecretary@bsa.ac.uk. Closing date **31 January 2010**. References must also be received by then: it is **the applicant's responsibility** to ensure that references are sent. The successful candidates will hear by 20 February 2010.

For further information, please check the relevant sections on the British School at Athens web pages or contact either of the two course coordinators, Dr Evangelia Kiriati (fldirector@bsa.ac.uk) or Dr Ruth Siddall (r.siddall@ucl.ac.uk).

**TREBUCHET TO CANNON: MILITARY
TECHNOLOGY 1000-1600, A
CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP TO BE
HELD AT THE DANISH MEDIEVAL
CENTRE, NYKØBING, FALSTER,
DENMARK, JULY 26-29 2010**

For the last two decades the Middelaldercentret in Denmark has carried out research into the construction and performance of medieval military technologies. The Ho Group for the study of early gunpowder and gunpowder weapons has met in recent years to experiment with gunpowder recipes and reconstructed artillery. The tenth meeting of the Ho group will be an international conference to discuss all aspects of medieval military technology, including artillery, siege engines, gunpowder and cannon and other weapons. The Organizing Committee extends an invitation to all those interested in this area – textual scholars, experimental archaeologists, curators and historians – to attend and present their work and discuss solutions to, and further problems in, the understanding of military technologies in the Middle Ages. The conference will include a series of workshops and hands-on demonstrations by the Ho Group of medieval technologies, including trebuchets, gunpowder and incendiary weapons, and reconstructions of cannon. The conference will be four days in length, with three days of papers and workshops and one day-long excursion, a medieval banquet and Renaissance fireworks. The venue will be the Middelaldercentret (Danish Medieval Centre) and the adjacent Femern Link Hotel & Conference Centre. The primary language will be English and presented papers will be considered for publication.

The organizers request a brief abstract for a paper proposal or an expression of interest to attend without presenting a paper by 15 November 2009. Full details of the conference and accommodation fee will be finalized by the end of 2009, with a registration deadline of 15 May 2010.

Please visit the website: www.middelaldercentret.dk/Projekter/hox.html for more information.

For more information or to submit your proposal (200 words, along with a brief CV), please contact Robert Smith (HoX@basiliscoe.fsnet.co.uk)

Ruth Brown

CONFERENCE, ALL AT SEA?
SYNERGIES BETWEEN PAST AND
PRESENT COASTAL PROCESSES AND
ECOLOGY, LOUGHBOROUGH
UNIVERSITY, UK, 22ND-23RD APRIL
2010

CALL FOR PAPERS

Organisers: Dr D. B. Ryves, Professor N. J. Anderson & Dr P.J. Wood

Coastal zones are dynamic systems. They are high-energy environments exhibiting rapid spatial and temporal change and are constantly evolving. The complex interaction of physical processes operating on both short (e.g. tides, fluvial input of nutrients and sediment) and longer-term timescales (e.g. climate & sea level change) form the driving force for many of the biological, chemical and sedimentological processes that occur in these systems.

Coastal zones are unique in their steep gradation of conditions (e.g. salinity) which produce distinctive ecological communities.

In recent years human impact has seriously altered many of these coastal systems resulting in issues such as eutrophication, over-exploitation of resources and pollution catching media attention. Such major anthropogenic changes make it increasingly difficult to understand the already complex natural physical processes and ecological changes operating within the coastal zone.

These complex issues must be dealt with before we can begin to use these archives as palaeo-records for understanding the past, for which they offer great potential to integrate the independent terrestrial and marine records of past climatic and environmental change. By understanding the past in these terms we can provide valuable context for investigating recent and future change.

This conference aims to address the following questions:

1. How do physical, biological and chemical processes in the coastal zone impact ecological communities and how do these communities change and evolve over time?
2. Can we successfully isolate natural environmental change from human impact in modern and recent coastal systems?
3. How can we most effectively apply complex contemporary ecological information to improve our interpretation of palaeo-records?

4. How can we integrate complex contemporary ecological data with time-averaged palaeo-data to improve policy and management of coastal ecological systems and future predictions under changing climate?

This conference will be composed of four sessions entitled:

1. The contemporary coastal zone: physical, biological and chemical impacts on ecology.
2. Assessment of the strength of climatic and environmental change inferences from palaeoecological investigations.
3. Formation of the palaeo-record in high-energy environments: chronology, taphonomy and diagenesis
4. Integrating contemporary and palaeo datasets from the coastal zone: synthesis and visions for the future.

Abstract deadline: 31st January 2010

For more information and registration details see:

<http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/gy/allatsea/> or e-mail allatsealboro@gmail.com

**CAA 2010, XXXVIII ANNUAL
CONFERENCE ON COMPUTER
APPLICATIONS AND QUANTITATIVE
METHODS IN ARCHAEOLOGY "FUSION
OF CULTURES", APRIL 6-9, 2010,
GRANADA, SPAIN**

URL: <http://www.caa2010.org>

Upcoming Deadlines:

- Extended abstract of papers submission, up to December 15, 2009

The XXXVIII Annual CAA Conference will be held in Granada, Spain, from April 6 to 9, 2010 and is expected to bring together archaeologist, computer scientist and mathematicians to explore and exchange knowledge in order to enhance our understanding of the past. Classical disciplines like archaeology, anthropology or geography, and more modern ones like computer science, geomatics or museology exchange their most recent advances during the conference.

CAA 2010 is inspired in the concept “Fusion of Cultures” that identifies the scope of the conference and the spirit of the historical city of Granada. The aim of the conference is to create an collaborative atmosphere among all disciplines, by participating via papers, posters, round tables, workshops, short papers and a novel virtual theatre non-stop show.

CALL FOR EXTENDED ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS

Authors are invited to submit innovative projects, methods, algorithms and results as extended abstracts of papers (max. 4 pages) using the CAA style file (<http://www.caa2010.org/index.php/scientific-programme/full-papers/39-caa-style>).

All documents must be written in English.

Extended abstracts should include text and images and include the aims and methods of the presentation. The extended abstracts should contain the name(s) of the author(s), institutional affiliation, email address, the title of the presentation, a few (3-5) meaningful keywords and the text, images and references. Authors can propose the name of the session they would like to join among those already defined (<http://www.caa2010.org/index.php/scientific-programme/sessions>):

3D Information Systems: Documenting the past Agent-Based Social Simulation in Archeology Analysis and Interpretation of Ancient Art Analytical GIS Archaeological Architecture: a challenging fusion of scientific cultures Archaeology-based videogames

Augmented Reality in Archaeology Databases - how to make them attractive for external users and contributors

>From new generations of Web services (Web 2.0; Semantic Web, Web3D) to Archaeological Knowledge ...

Human evolution, a long trip without end: The application of data recovery, data management and computer analysis in Paleolithic sites.

Integrating and comparing technologies for archaeological applications Issues in Least-Cost Analysis New technologies in Archaeological Museums New technologies in Archaeology higher education Open Source in Archaeology Recording, Interpretation and Evaluation of High Definition 3D Surface Data in Arts and Cultural Heritage, Archaeology and Anthropology Reference collections on the Web Refining Remote Sensing for archaeological environments : image processing techniques compared Semantic Infrastructures in Archaeology Taking the long view: putting sustainability at the heart of data creation.

If none of previous sessions matches author's idea, select the "undefined" section, so the organizers can allocate the paper the most appropriate session, or even define a new one.

These extended abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee, and some of them might be redirected to short paper or poster sessions or required for some minor revisions.

During the conference, each paper will be presented and discussed during 20' by their authors.

After the CAA'2010 conference, usually two months later, the final version of the paper (up to 8 pages length) will be required in order to be reviewed by the Scientific Committee and, if accepted, published in the CAA2010 Proceedings.

More over, best papers will be prized with the possibility of publishing a more extended version in several journals about Archeology, Cultural Heritage and New Technology.

Please, visit frequently www.caa2010.org where you can find updated information about this stream and the rest of the conference.

Deadline for extended abstracts of full papers: December 15, 2009 Online submission system:

<http://www.caa2010.org/ocs/index.php/caa2010/fullpapers>

If you have any doubt, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Javier Melero,
Chair CAA2010 "Fusion of cultures"

ROUND TABLE ON BRONZE AGE AEGEAN WARFARE, UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS, 12TH - 13TH OF DECEMBER 2009

Dear friends and colleagues,

This is the provisional programme for our *Round Table on Bronze Age Aegean Warfare* to be held at the University of Athens (12th -13th of December 2009). You are most welcome to attend. There will be no participation fee. You can also visit <http://www.combat-archaeology.org/> for regular updates and for a list of abstracts (forthcoming). Please feel free to email us at warfareworkshop2009@gmail.com for further details.

Best regards,

Angelos Papadopoulos (Ph.D)
Research Associate (Enkomi Project)
Department of Antiquities, Cyprus

Round Table on Bronze Age Aegean Warfare University of Athens, 12-13 December 2009

Provisional Programme

Saturday 12 December 2009

09.00-09.15 Arrival/Registration

09.15-09.30 Opening remarks

09.30-10.00 Keynote lecture

Prof. S. Iakovidis (Academy of Athens)

The West Gate of the Mycenaean Acropolis of Athens

Fortifications and the Use of Space

10.00-10.25 V. Samaras (University of Athens)

Observations on the Defensive Architecture of the Cyclades in the Bronze Age

10.25-10.50 T. Alušík (Czech Centre for Mediterranean Archaeology)

Fortifications of Early Minoan/Prepalatial Crete revisited

10.50-11.15 S. Beckmann (University of Crete)

War or Peace? Middle Bronze Age Cyclopean/Megalithic Structures in the Area of Agios Nikolaos, Crete

11.15-11.40 K. Harrell (University of Sheffield)

In Flanders Fields: Social Space and Violence in Mycenaean Greece

11.45-12.10 Session discussion

12.10-12.40 Coffee break

Iconography

12.40-13.05 A. Papadopoulos (Department of Antiquities, Cyprus)

Mis-interpreting the Evidence? A Contribution to the Hermeneutics of the Iconography of Warfare

13.05-13.30 Ch. Vonhoff (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)

Depictions of Sea Fights in the Bronze Age Aegean and their Pictorial Heritage in Early Greek Art

Naval warfare

13.30-13.55 S. O'Brien (University of Liverpool)

The Naval Capacities of the Mycenaean palaces

13.55-14.20 Session discussion

14.20-16.00 Lunch break

Funerary Practices

16.00-16.25 K. Grigoropoulos (University of Athens)

A Warrior is Dead, a Hero is Born: Burials with Weapons in MH late-LH I Greece

16.25-16.50 L. Alberti (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche)

To Be or Not to Be? Problems of Identity of Knossian Warriors

16.50-17.15 Th. Giannopoulos (University of Heidelberg)

The Dialectic between Warfare and Social Status in the Achaean Warrior Burials of the 12th-11th century B.C.

17.15-17.40 M. Georgiadis (Open University Cyprus)

Warfare in the Mycenaean South-Eastern Aegean: Facts and Fiction

17.40-18.00 Session discussion/General discussion

Sunday 13 December 2009

Weaponry

10.00-10.25 Th. Tselios (University of Peloponnese)

Prepalatial Minoan Daggers: Manufacturing Technology and Use

10.25-10.50 B. Molloy (University College Dublin)

Were the Minoans behind the Mycenae Shaft Graves?

Textual Evidence

10.50-11.15 R. Schon (University of Arizona)

Mycenaean Militarism: A Diachronic Approach

11.15-11.35 Session discussion

11.35-12.00 Coffee break

Human Osteology

12.00-12.25 S. K. Smith-M. A. Liston (Kennesaw State University-University of Waterloo)

Bones and Blades: Skeletal and Bronze Evidence for Warfare in Late Bronze Age Athens, Greece

12.25-12.50 A. Nafplioti (Wiener Laboratory, ASCSA)

Warfare in the Bronze Age Aegean: An Osteoarchaeological Perspective

12.50-13.10 *Session discussion*

13.10-14.00 *Closing remarks and general discussion*

Organising Committee (in alphabetical order)

K. Grigoropoulos (University of Athens)

Dr. A. Papadopoulos (Department of Antiquities, Cyprus)

Prof. N. Polychronakou-Sgouritsa (University of Athens)

Scientific Committee (in alphabetical order)

Prof. F. Blakolmer (University of Vienna)

Dr. I. Kilian (Mainz)

Prof. C. Mee (University of Liverpool)

Prof. N. Polychronakou-Sgouritsa (University of Athens)

Assist. Prof. A. Vlachopoulos (University of Ioannina)

Venue

J. Drakopoulos Theatre, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
(30, Panepistimou Avenue, Athens. Nearest Metro Station: *Panepistimio*)

Funding

With the kind support of The J. F. Costopoulos Foundation and INSTAP (Institute of Aegean Prehistory)



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΠΕΡΙΒΑΛΛΟΝΤΙΚΗΣ
ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΘΑΛΑΣΣΙΑΣ
ΓΕΩΛΟΓΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΦΥΣΙΚΗΣ
ΩΚΕΑΝΟΓΡΑΦΙΑΣ



ΟΛΛΑΝΔΙΚΟ ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

2 η ΗΜΕΡΙΔΑ

ΓΕΩΠΙΣΤΗΜΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑ

ΔΙΑΒΑΖΟΝΤΑΣ ΤΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΤΟΠΙΟ

7 Δεκεμβρίου 2009

Ολλανδικό Ινστιτούτο Αθηνών
Μακρή 11, Πλάκα

Τηλ.: 210-9210760, Φαξ.: 210- 9210770, E-mail: nia@nia.gr

ΑΝΤΙΚΕΙΜΕΝΟ

Το Εργαστήριο Περιβαλλοντικής Αρχαιολογίας του Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών σε συνεργασία με το Εργαστήριο Θαλάσσιας Γεωλογίας και Φυσικής Ωκεανογραφίας του Πανεπιστημίου Πατρών και με το Ολλανδικό Ινστιτούτο, υπό την οργανωτική ευθύνη και συντονισμό της Δρ. Λ. Καραλή, οργανώνουν στις 7 Δεκεμβρίου 2009, ώρες 9.30 – 15.30, τον δεύτερο κύκλο ομιλιών με θέμα :

Διαβάζοντας το αρχαιολογικό τοπίο

Την ημερίδα μπορούν να παρακολουθήσουν όλοι όσοι έχουν ανάλογο επιστημονικό ενδιαφέρον αφού δηλώσουν συμμετοχή εγγράφως στο E-mail : ksaliari @ yahoo.gr και στο Σπουδαστήριο της Αρχαιολογίας και της Ιστορίας της Τέχνης του Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών στον έκτο όροφο.

Σε όσους ενδιαφέρονται μπορεί να παρασχεθεί βεβαίωση συμμετοχής-παρακολούθησης.

ΓΕΝΙΚΟΙ ΣΤΟΧΟΙ

Η Ημερίδα αποβλέπει στην επίτευξη των ακόλουθων στόχων

1. ΝΑ ΚΑΤΑΔΕΙΞΕΙ

α. Τον πλούτο της γεωαρχαιολογικής φύσεως πληροφοριών που είναι δυνατόν να αντληθούν από κατάλληλη αξιοποίηση κάθε ανασκαφικού καταλοίπου

β. Την δυνατότητα προσεγγίσεως και κατανοήσεως του περιβάλλοντος προηγούμενων εποχών με την βοήθεια των σύγχρονων επιστημονικών μεθόδων

γ. την χρησιμοποίηση της διεπιστημονικής προσεγγίσεως των συναφών θεμάτων

2. **ΝΑ ΔΩΣΕΙ ΤΗΝ ΕΥΚΑΙΡΙΑ** παραπέρα γνωριμίας και συνεργασίας μεταξύ επιστημόνων, ομάδων και φορέων που δραστηριοποιούνται σε τομείς σχετικούς με το Αντικείμενο της Γεωαρχαιολογίας.

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ

9.30 – 10.00 **Εγγραφή**

10.00 – 10.20 **Χαιρετισμός: Dr. Tytgat Christiane**, Διευθύντρια του Ολλανδικού Ινστιτούτου Αθηνών

10.20 – 10.30 **Καραλή Λίλιαν**, Καθηγήτρια Προϊστορικής αρχαιολογίας Παν/μιου Αθηνών «*Διαβάζοντας το αρχαιολογικό τοπίο*»

10.30 - 10.50 **Γεραγά Μαρία**, Λέκτωρ του Παν/μιου Πατρών, **Παπαθεοδώρου Γεώργιος**, αναπληρωτής Καθηγητής Γεωλογίας, **Φερεντίνος Γεώργιος**, καθηγητής Γεωλογίας Πατρών: « *Απότομες κλιματικές μεταβολές σύντομης διάρκειας τα τελευταία 15000 χρόνια. (Abrupt and short climatic changes the last 15.000 years B.P.)*»

10.50 – 11.10 **Gonzales Villaescusa Ricardo**, Καθηγητής Αρχαιολογίας Παν/μίου Reims, «*La production textile dans l'Antiquité et les marqueurs paléo-environnementaux*»

11.10 – 11.30 **Μουρτζάς Νικόλαος, Δρ.** Γεωλογίας, «Μεταβολές του επιπέδου της θάλασσας και παλαιογεωγραφική αναπαράσταση παράκτιων αρχαιολογικών χώρων»

11.30 – 11.50 **Δρ. Κατσωνοπούλου Ντόρα,** Δρ. Αρχαιολογίας Πανεπιστημίου Cornell, Διευθύντρια Ερευνητικού Προγράμματος Αρχαίας Ελίκης «*Παρατηρήσεις στο αρχαίο τοπίο της Ελίκης. Από τον Ηρακλείδη στον Πανσανία.*»

11.50- 12.10 **Παπαθεοδώρου Γεώργιος,** αναπληρωτής Καθηγητής Γεωλογίας, **Χάλαρη Αθηνά,** Δρ. Γεωλογίας, **Γεραγά Μαρία,** Λέκτωρ, **Χριστόδουλος Δημήτριος,** υποψήφιος διδάκτωρ Γεωλογίας, **Φερεντίνος Γεώργιος,** καθηγητής Γεωλογίας Πατρών, «*Αλεξάνδρεια Αναδυομένη (Alexandria Underwater)*»

12.00- 12.10 Διάλειμμα-Καφές

12.30- 12.50 **Φερεντίνος Γιώργος,** Καθηγητής Γεωλογίας του Παν/μιου Πατρών , Διευθυντής Εργαστηρίου Θαλάσσιας Γεωλογίας και Φυσικής Ωκεανογραφίας, «*Η ναυμαχία του Ναβαρίνου, 185 χρόνια αργότερα.*»

12.50 -13.10 **Καρκάνας Τάκης ,** Δρ. Γεωλογίας, Εφορεία Σπηλαιολογίας και Ανθρωπολογίας Νοτίου Ελλάδας, «*Μελέτη των διαδικασιών δημιουργίας των αποθέσεων του σπηλαίου Λεοντάρι Αττικής*»

13.10 – 13.30 **Κοντογιώργος Δημήτρης,** Δρ. Γεωαρχαιολογίας Department of Archaeology and Prehistory, University of Sheffield U.K., «*Ανιχνεύοντας ανθρωπογενείς μικρο-υπογραφές: Συνδυάζοντας γραμμικά και μη γραμμικά μοντέλα μικρο-ανθρωπογενών καταλοίπων για την αναγνώριση ανθρωπογενών διεργασιών γένεσης θέσεων*»

13.30 – 13.50 13.50- 14.10 **Wietske Prummel,** Αναπληρώτρια Καθηγήτρια Παν/μίου Gronigen «*Αρχαιοζωολογική έρευνα στις πεδιάδες Αλμυρός και Σουρπί (Μαγνησία, Θεσσαλία) ,με έμφαση στην ταφονομία*»

14.10- 14.30 **Κώστας Παπαγιαννόπουλος** Αρχαιολόγος, MPhil - Εκπαιδευτικός - Πρόεδρος του Ινστιτούτου Τοπικής Ιστορίας : «*Τοπίο στα νερά: Ανιχνεύοντας την παρουσία του ανθρώπου στην πεδιάδα της δυτικής Αχαΐας.*»

14.30- 15.15 **Παπαμαρινόπουλος Σταύρος,** Καθηγητής Πανεπιστημίου Πατρών, «*Από την προϊστορική Αθήνα των Αχαιών στην προϊστορική Ατλαντίδα των Ατλάντων στον Ατλαντικό Ωκεανό*»

15.15 – 15.35 **Καραλή Αίλιαν,** καθηγήτρια Προϊστορικής και Περιβαλλοντικής Αρχαιολογίας του Παν/μιου Αθηνών, «*Σύνοψη- Συζήτηση- Συμπεράσματα*»

One Day Conference:

Geosciences and Archaeology: Reading the archaeological landscape

PROGRAMM

9.30- 10.00 Registration

10.00- 10.20: Welcome by **Dr. Tytgat Christiane**, Director of the Netherlands Institute at Athens

10.20 – 10.30 **Karali Lilian**, Professor of Prehistoric and Environmental Archaeology of the University of Athens, «*Reading the archaeological landscape*»

10.30 - 10.50 **Geraga Maria**, Lecturer, **Papatheodorou George**, associate Professor of Geology, **Ferentinos George**, Professor of Geology, «*Abrupt and short climatic changes the last 15.000 years B.P*»

10.50 – 11.10 **Gonzales Villaescusa Ricardo**, Professor of Archaeology of the University of Reims, «*La production textile dans l'Antiquité et les marqueurs paleo-environnementaux*»

11.10 – 11.30 **Mourtzas Nikolaos**, Dr. of Geology of the University of Athens «*Changes of the sea level and paleogeographical reconstruction of coastal archaeological sites*»

11.30 – 11.50 **Katsonopoulou Dora**, Dr. Of Archaeology of the University of Cornell, Director of the Research Program for Ancient Eliki, «*Observations in the ancient landscape of Eliki. From Iraklidis to Pausanias*».

11.50- 12.10 **Papatheodorou George**, associate Professor of Geology, **Chalari Athina**, Dr. of Geology, , **Christodoulos Demetrios**, PhD. candidate of Geology, **Ferentinos George**, Professor of Geology, «*Alexandria Underwater*»

12.00- 12.10 COFFEE BREAK

12.30- 12.50 **Ferentinos George**, Professor of Geology of Patras University, Director of Marine Geology and Physical Oceanography Lab, «*The naval battle of Navarino, 185 years later*».

12.50 -13.10 **Karkanis Takis**, Dr. of Geology, Εφορεία Speleology and Antropology of South Greece, «*Study on the Procedures of the deposition's creation in Leontari Cave*»

13.10 – 13.30 Dr. **Kondogiorgos Demetrios**, Department of Archaeology and Prehistory, University of Sheffield, Northgate House, Sheffield, U.K., «*Tracing minimal cultural signatures: Combining non-linear and linear micro-artefact patterning for investigating cultural site formation processes*».

13.30 – 13.50 **Wietske Prummel**, associate Professor of the University of Groningen
«*Archaeozoological research in the Almiros and Sourpi plains (Magnesia, Thessaly) with special attention to taphonomy*»

14.10- 14.30 **Papagianopoulos Kostas**, , MPhil - President of the Institute of Local History: «*Investigating human response in the wetlands of western Achaia*»

14.30- 15.15 **Papamarinopoulos Stavros**, Professor of the University of Patras «*From the prehistoric Athens to the prehistoric Atlantis in the Atlantic Ocean*»

15.15 – 15.35 **Karali Lilian**, Professor of Prehistoric and Environmental Archaeology of the University of Athens, «*Synopsis- Discussion- Conclusions*»

ΘΕΣΕΙΣ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑΣ/ΥΠΟΤΡΟΦΙΕΣ –
JOB VACANCIES/FELLOWSHIPS

FITCH LABORATORY SENIOR VISITING
FELLOWSHIPS

The Fitch Laboratory funds established scholars or scientists (normally at least 5 years beyond receipt of the Ph.D.) to spend up to three months at its premises undertaking research in any of the fields of its interest (e.g. inorganic material analysis, geophysical prospection, zooarchaeology, archaeobotany, soil micromorphology, ethnoarchaeology, landscape archaeology, archaeology of technology; normally in the context of Aegean/Mediterranean archaeology). One or two Senior Visiting Fellows will be appointed in each year depending on requests for the Fellowship duration. The Fellowship covers a monthly stipend (ca. 800€), accommodation and airfare (up to 500€), as well as limited research expenses (up to 1000€).

The Senior Visiting Fellowships are intended to enable **scholars in post** to spend a period of research leave at the BSA, for example, during **sabbatical**.

Dr Evangelia Kiriati
Director
Fitch Laboratory
British School at Athens
Soudias 52, 106 76
Athens, Greece.
Tel: 210 7217482
Fax: 210 7236560
Email: fldirector@bsa.ac.uk
<http://www.bsa.ac.uk>

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS, MARGO TYTUS VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The University of Cincinnati Classics Department is pleased to announce the Margo Tytus Visiting Scholars Program. Tytus Fellows, in the fields of philology, history and archaeology will ordinarily be at least 5 years beyond receipt of the Ph. D. Apart from residence in Cincinnati during term, the only obligation of Tytus Fellows is to pursue their own research. Fellowships are tenable during the regular academic year (October 1 to June 10).

There are two categories of Tytus Fellowships, long-term and short-term.

Long Term Fellows will come to Cincinnati for a minimum of one academic quarter (two and a half months) and a maximum of three during the regular academic year. They will receive a monthly stipend of \$1000 plus housing and a transportation allowance.

Short Term Fellows will come to Cincinnati for a minimum of one month and a maximum of two during the regular academic year. They will receive housing and a transportation allowance.

Both Long Term and Short Term Fellows will also receive office space and enjoy the use of the University of Cincinnati and Hebrew Union College Libraries. While at Cincinnati Tytus Fellows will be free to pursue their own research.

The University of Cincinnati Burnam Classics Library is one of the world's premier collections in the field of Classical Studies (<http://www.libraries.uc.edu/libraries/classics/>). Comprising 240,000 volumes, the library covers all aspects of the Classics: the languages and literatures, history, civilization, art, and archaeology. Of special value for scholars is both the richness of the collection and its accessibility -- almost any avenue of research in the classics can be pursued deeply and broadly under a single roof. The unusually comprehensive core collection, which is maintained by three professional classicist librarians, is augmented by several special collections such as 15,000 nineteenth century German Programmschriften, extensive holdings in Palaeography, Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies. At neighboring Hebrew Union College, the Klau Library, with holdings in excess of 450,000 volumes, is rich in Judaica and Near Eastern Studies.

Application Deadline: January 15.

A description of the Tytus Program and an application form is available online at <http://classics.uc.edu/index.php/tytus>. Questions can be directed to program.coordinator@classics.uc.edu.

Getzel M. Cohen
Professor of Classics and History

Director, Tytus Visiting Scholars Program
Phone: 513-556-1951; Fax: 513-631-1715
Dept. of Classics, 410 Blegen Library, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0226



FELLOWSHIPS: PHD GRANTS KIEL

Kiel offers a unique research environment at the interface between Humanities and Natural and Social Sciences with the presence of a Graduate School in the field of “Human Development in Landscapes” and two Excellence Clusters: “Future Ocean” and “Inflammation at Interfaces”, all three funded by the German Excellence Initiative. The Graduate School “Human Development in Landscapes” (www.uni-kiel.de/landscapes) at the Christian Albrechts-University in Kiel, Germany, invites applications for:

30 Doctoral stipends for outstanding young researchers

Grants of 1200 Euro per month will be provided for two years with the option of extension for a third year. Eligible candidates must hold an outstanding university degree in a field relevant to the multidisciplinary theme of “Human Development in Landscapes”. The graduate programme is jointly offered by scholars of Humanities, Mathematics and Natural Sciences, and Social and Life Sciences.

Excellent infrastructure at Kiel University allows the realization of innovative research ideas. An interdisciplinary orientation of PhD projects under the themes “Society and Reflection”, “Social Space and Landscape”, “Mobility, Innovation and Change” is encouraged, and supervision will be provided at an interfaculty level. Candidates are invited to submit proposals for PhD research projects addressing one of the following:

- The general themes of the Graduate School: “Society and Reflection”, “Social Space and Landscapes”, “Mobility, Innovation and Change” (10 open stipends). Please submit a proposal describing the research project (8 pages maximum).

- Identities, boundaries, conflicts, and mobilities in past societies
| Past strategies of land-use management | Energy balances of past societies | Islands: Identities, social space and landscape | Past settlement areas: Population, environment, perception | Landscape change: Human vs. natural processes (10 stipends). Please submit an outline of your intended research project no longer than 4 pages.

- Specific research topics (10 stipends) -Cluster 1: “Society and reflection”: Landscape and space: A theoretical and methodological approach | Mountain people in the Ancient Near East: The case of the Zagros.

- Cluster 2. “Social Space and Landscape”: Impact of weather events on past societies (historical approach) | Society and Environment: Quantifying the archaeological record of past societies | Strategies of land-use management in medieval and early modern society.

- Cluster 3. “Mobility, Innovation, and Change”: Cattle husbandry: Quantitative reconstructions of impact and mobility in past societies | Control mechanisms of settlement systems in Ancient Menorca | Cultural exposure to plagues in Antiquity and Middle Ages.

Please submit an outline of your intended research project no longer than 4 pages.

Applications including a curriculum vitae, copies of credentials, two letters of reference, and an outline of the proposed PhD research project in English should be submitted before January 7th 2010 to the coordinator of the Graduate School:

Prof. Dr. Johannes Müller
Institut für Ur-und Frühgeschichte
Christian–Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel
D-24098 Kiel
<application09@gshdl.uni-kiel.de>

Questions regarding this call for applications should be addressed to Dr. Mara Weinelt, Scientific Coordinator, Graduate School "Human Development in Landscapes": mweinelt@gshdl.uni-kiel.de

Prof. Dr. Josef Wiesehofer
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Universitaet Kiel
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<http://www.uni-kiel.de/kllassalt/personal/homepages/wiesehofer/homepage.htm>

ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΕΙΣ - ANNOUNCEMENTS
GUARDIANS OF WORLD TREASURES
SIGN SALZBURG DECLARATION ON
THE CONSERVATION AND
PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL
HERITAGE

IMLS Press Contacts

202-653-4632

Jeannine Mjoseph, jmjoseph@imls.gov

Mamie Bittner, mbittner@imls.gov

Washington, DC—On October 31, 2009, 59 cultural heritage leaders from 32 countries, including representatives of Africa, the Middle East, South America, and Asia, unanimously passed the Salzburg Declaration on the Conservation and Preservation of Cultural Heritage (PDF, 15KB).

The declaration was the culmination of “Connecting to the World’s Collections: Making the Case for Conservation and Preservation of our Cultural Heritage,” the Salzburg Global Seminar (SGS) held October 28 – November 1, 2009 under the auspices of the U.S. federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and SGS. The declaration will be widely distributed to cultural ministries and other policymaking entities; it has already been translated into Arabic.

The seminar built on the findings of “Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action,” IMLS’s multi-year initiative on collections care, putting them into a global context. It combined presentations by leading experts in conservation and preservation throughout the world with small working groups tasked with making practical recommendations for future action on specific topics. Those guiding topics included emergency preparedness, education and training, public awareness, new preservation approaches, and assessment and planning. One evening was devoted to a fireside chat on “conservation in the developing world,” with a panel of participants representing Benin, Iraq, Mexico, Singapore, and Trinidad and Tobago.

At the opening session, Vinod Daniel, Seminar Co-leader and Head of Culture Heritage & Science Initiatives at the Australia Museum, noted that he had never attended a meeting “as diverse as this, with people from this many parts of the world, as cross-disciplinary as this.” A report summarizing the discussions and outlining the recommendations will be published later this year, sent to key stakeholders around the world, and made available online at www.imls.gov and www.SalzburgGlobal.org.

Additional support for the seminar was provided by the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. For more information about the program contact Nancy Rogers, Senior Project Coordinator, IMLS, nrogers@imls.gov or Susanna Seidl-Fox, Program Director, SGS: sfox@SalzburgGlobal.org.

Daily seminar blog posts by Richard McCoy, Associate Conservator of Objects at the Indianapolis Museum of Art, are available at www.iiconservation.org/wpress.

About the Institute of Museum and Library Services The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums.

The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.imls.gov.

About the Salzburg Global Seminar

The Salzburg Global Seminar is an independent, non-governmental organization with its headquarters at the magnificent Schloss Leopoldskron in Salzburg, Austria. For 62 years, the Seminar has brought together leaders, scholars, practitioners, and students from the fields of politics, economics, law, media, culture and the arts to address issues of global concern. Its faculty, fellows, and staff come from diverse regions, backgrounds, and professional expertise. To learn more about the Seminar, please visit www.SalzburgGlobal.org.

About the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH) bridges the bi-partisan interests of federal agencies and the private sector to support arts and humanities efforts in education, cultural diplomacy, economic revitalization, and special events dedicated to recognizing excellence in these areas. First Lady Michelle Obama is the Honorary Chairman of the PCAH. To learn more about PCAH, please visit www.pcah.gov.

ΝΕΕΣ ΕΚΔΟΣΕΙΣ – NEW PUBLICATIONS

CURRENT ANTHROPOLOGY, VOLUME 50, NUMBER 6, (DECEMBER 2009)

is now available at: <http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/toc/ca/50/6>

Editorial: The First 50 Years

Mark Aldenderfer

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 753.

Citation | Full Text | PDF Version (88 KB)

Anthropological Currents

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 755-756.

Citation | Full Text | PDF Version (92 KB)

Current Applications

M. N. Gemein

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 757.

Citation | Full Text | PDF Version (83 KB)

Articles

Attachment and Cooperation in Religious Groups: An Example of a Mechanism for Cultural Group Selection

Carol Popp Weingarten and James S. Chisholm

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 759-785.

Abstract | Full Text with Enhancements | PDF Version (335 KB)

Color, Race, and Genomic Ancestry in Brazil: Dialogues between Anthropology and Genetics

Ricardo Ventura Santos, Peter H. Fry, Simone Monteiro, Marcos Chor Maio, José Carlos Rodrigues, Luciana Bastos-Rodrigues, and Sérgio D.

J. Pena

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 787-819.

Abstract | Full Text | PDF Version (457 KB)

Toward a Networks and Boundaries Approach to Early Complex Polities:

The Late Shang Case

Roderick B. Campbell

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 821-848.

Abstract | Full Text | PDF Version (1071 KB)

Pristine Aborigines or Victims of Progress? The Western Shoshones in the Anthropological Imagination

Richard O. Clemmer

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 849-881.

Abstract | Full Text | PDF Version (558 KB)

Reports: Integrating Plant and Animal Data

Integrating Plant and Animal Data: Delving Deeper into Subsistence:

Introduction to the Special Section

Alexia Smith and Naomi F. Miller

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 883-884.

Citation | Full Text | PDF Version (100 KB)

Plants and Animals Together: Interpreting Organic Remains from Building 52 at Çatalhöyük

Katheryn C. Twiss, Amy Bogaard, Michael Charles, Jennifer Henecke, Nerissa Russell, Louise Martin, and Glynis Jones

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 885-895.

Abstract | Full Text with Enhancements | PDF Version (625 KB)

Resource Exploitation at Late Neolithic Domuztepe: Faunal and Botanical Evidence

Sarah Witcher Kansa, Amanda Kennedy, Stuart Campbell, and Elizabeth Carter

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 897-914.

Abstract | Full Text with Enhancements | PDF Version (717 KB)

From Food and Fuel to Farms and Flocks: The Integration of Plant and Animal Remains in the Study of the Agropastoral Economy at Gordion, Turkey

Naomi F. Miller, Melinda A. Zeder, and Susan R. Arter

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 915-924.

Abstract | Full Text with Enhancements | PDF Version (638 KB)

A Holistic Approach to Examining Ancient Agriculture: A Case Study from the Bronze and Iron Age Near East

Alexia Smith and Natalie D. Munro

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 925-936.

Abstract | Full Text with Enhancements | PDF Version (762 KB)

Special Section: The First 50 Years

Following Sol Tax

Cyril Belshaw

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 937-938.

Citation | Full Text | PDF Version (97 KB)

An Editor's Tale

Adam Kuper

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 939-940.

Citation | Full Text | PDF Version (97 KB)

How Editing Current Anthropology Set My Goals as Wenner-Gren President

Richard G. Fox

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 941-943.

Citation | Full Text | PDF Version (127 KB)

Covering Anthropology

Ben Orlove

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 945-948.

[Citation](#) | [Full Text](#) | [PDF Version \(273 KB\)](#)

A Social Experiment: Sol Tax, Paul Fejos, and the Origins of Current Anthropology
Sydel Silverman

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 949-954.

[Citation](#) | [Full Text](#) | [PDF Version \(153 KB\)](#)

Current Anthropology as an International Forum

Barbara Metzger

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 955-958.

[Citation](#) | [Full Text](#) | [PDF Version \(137 KB\)](#)

Discussions

The Fission-Fusion Concept

Francisco M. Salzano

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 959.

[Citation](#) | [Full Text](#) | [PDF Version \(91 KB\)](#)

Regarding “Fertility and Agriculture Accentuate Sex Differences in Dental Caries Rates” The Role of Vitamin D

William B. Grant

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 961-962.

[Citation](#) | [Full Text](#) | [PDF Version \(85 KB\)](#)

Books

Of Things That Would Never Be Quite Expressed (Jackson's Excursions)

Vincent Crapanzano

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 963-964.

[Citation](#) | [Full Text](#) | [PDF Version \(101 KB\)](#)

Open and Free (Kelty's Two Bits: The Cultural Significance of Free Software)

Tom Boellstorff

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 964-965.

[Citation](#) | [Full Text](#) | [PDF Version \(76 KB\)](#)

The Politics of Andean Head Taking (Arnold and Hastorf's Heads of State: Icons, Power and Politics in the Ancient and Modern Andes)

Corina M. Kellner

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 965-967.

[Citation](#) | [Full Text](#) | [PDF Version \(83 KB\)](#)

In the Society of Story (Graeber's Lost People: Magic and the Legacy of Slavery in Madagascar)

Yancey Orr

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 967-968.

[Citation](#) | [Full Text](#) | [PDF Version \(92 KB\)](#)

“Forever Foreign”: Made in Germany (Mandel's Cosmopolitan Anxieties: Turkish Challenges to Citizenship and Belonging in Germany)

Refika Sariönder

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 968-970.
Citation | Full Text | PDF Version (119 KB)

Books Received

Current Anthropology December 2009, Vol. 50, No. 6: 970-972.
Citation | PDF Version (59 KB)

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY ONLINE REVIEWS (OCTOBER 2009)

The American Journal of Archaeology publishes quarterly public-access book and museum reviews: <http://www.ajaonline.org/index.php?ptype=oreview>. These reviews are listed in the table of contents of the respective printed issue of the Journal and are available for free download on the Journal's Web site. Below is a list of book reviews published in tandem with our printed October 2009 issue (volume 113, number 4). We hope you enjoy.

The Editors

Book Reviews

Camarina, Maresha Excavations Final Report II, and Tanagréennes d'Alexandrie
By Marcella Pisani, Adit Erlich and Amos Kloner, and Dominique Kassab Tezör
Reviewed by Jaime Pugliese Uhlenbrock

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/01_Uhlenbrock.pdf

Archives, Ancestors, Practices: Archaeology in the Light of Its History
By Nathan Schlanger and Jan Nordbladh

Reviewed by Alicia J.M. Colson

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/02_Colson.pdf

Europe Between the Oceans: 9000 B.C.-A.D. 1000

By Barry Cunliffe

Reviewed by Janet E. Levy

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/03_Levy.pdf

Le ceramica in archeologia: Antiche tecniche di lavorazione e moderni metodi di indagine

By Ninina Cuomo di Caprio

Reviewed by Daniele Malfitana

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/04_Malfitana.pdf

Egyptology Today

By Richard H. Wilkinson

Reviewed by Kei Yamamoto

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/05_Yamamoto.pdf

Israelite Religions: An Archaeological and Biblical Survey

By Richard S. Hess

Reviewed by Carol Meyers

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/06_Meyers.pdf

A Companion to Linear B: Mycenaean Greek Texts and Their World. Vol. 1

By Yves Duhoux and Anna Morpurgo Davies

Reviewed by John G. Younger

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/07_Younger.pdf

La Coroplastie Chypriote Archaique: Identitiés Culturelles at Politique l'έpoque des
Royaumes

By Sabine Fourrier

Reviewed by Jan-Marc Henke

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/08_Henke.pdf

Uplands of Ancient Sicily and Calabria: The Archaeology of Landscape Ritual

By Matthew Fitzjohn

Reviewed by Jeanette M. Cooper

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/09_Cooper.pdf

Images of Ancient Greek Pederasty: Boys Were Their Gods

By Andrew Lear and Eva Cantarella

Reviewed by James Robson

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/10_Robson.pdf

Il Papiro di Artemidoro (P. Artemid.)

By Claudio Gallazzi, Bärbel Kramer, and Salvatore Settis

Reviewed by Arthur Verhoogt

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/11_Verhoogt.pdf

The Coins and the Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine Economy of Palestine

By Jane Derosé Evans

Reviewed by Liane Houghtalin

http://www.ajaonline.org/pdfs/book_reviews/113.4/12_Houghtalin.pdf

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SANTORINI'S TSUNAMI INUNDATION **OF MINOAN CRETE**

Dear All,

This is to announce a new publication on the effects of the tsunami inundation of Minoan Crete's coastlines due to the Bronze Age eruption of Thera (Santorini). It demonstrates just how ill-conceived and utterly improbable the proposition that the eruption's tsunamis were the primary cause for the destruction of Neo-Palatial Crete. The article is available at: "[The Extent of the Santorini Eruption's Tsunami Inundation of Minoan Crete](#)"

It is accompanied by a 3D GIS mapping that highlights a theoretical limit to the tsunami's inundation of the coastal plains of mountainous Crete. The Neo-Palatial archaeological sites listed in the [Aegean Minoan 3D GIS Project](#) are included for reference. The mapping can be previewed or downloaded from the "Attachments" section at the end of the the article's list of archaeological sites. Simply zoom in on the northern or eastern coastlines to view the areas of possible tsunami devastation.

Please make sure you have Google Earth installed on your computer before attempting to open the GIS file. If not, Google Earth is available at: [Download Google Earth 5](#). If anyone has any problem at all I would be happy to send them the 3D GIS mapping file on request at: minoanatlantis@gmail.com. I look forward to your comments.

Best Regards,

W. Sheppard Baird
MinoanAtlantis.com

JOURNAL OF WORLD PREHISTORY - 2 **VOLUME ON EARLY METALS**

Dear All,

The first of two special issues of the Journal of World Prehistory is finally in print! (See table of contents below). Stemming from a session entitled "Modelling Early Metallurgy: Old and New World Perspectives" at the 2008 Society of American Archaeology (put together by Ben Roberts and myself), these papers seek to provide up-to-date syntheses of the beginnings of metallurgy in various regions, but with a view towards anthropological and archaeological models for the integration of this new technology(ies) into various socio-cultural milieux. In other words, the focus is very anthro-archy, but there's a lot of new data (and some comprehensive bibliographies) included as well.

see here: <http://www.springerlink.com/content/0892-7537>

Cheers,

Chris

Volume 22 Number 3 is now available on SpringerLink

In this issue:

Editorial Notes

Introduction: The Beginnings of Metallurgy in Global Perspective

Author(s) Christopher P. Thornton & Benjamin W. Roberts

DOI 10.1007/s10963-009-9026-2

Online since October 15, 2009

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Original Paper

West Mexican Metallurgy: Revisited and Revised

Author(s) Dorothy Hosler

DOI 10.1007/s10963-009-9021-7

Online since October 31, 2009

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Original Paper

Copper Working Technologies, Contexts of Use, and Social Complexity in the Eastern Woodlands of Native North America

Author(s) Kathleen L. Ehrhardt
DOI 10.1007/s10963-009-9020-8
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Original Paper
Production and Consumption of Copper-base Metals in the Indus Civilization
Author(s) Brett C. Hoffman & Heather M.-L. Miller
DOI 10.1007/s10963-009-9024-4
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Original Paper
Metallurgy in Ancient Eastern Asia: Retrospect and Prospects
Author(s) Katheryn M. Linduff & Jianjun Mei
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Original Paper
New Light on the Development of Chalcolithic Metal Technology in the Southern Levant
Author(s) Jonathan Golden
DOI 10.1007/s10963-009-9022-6
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Original Paper
The Emergence of Complex Metallurgy on the Iranian Plateau: Escaping the Levantine Paradigm
Author(s) Christopher Peter Thornton
DOI 10.1007/s10963-009-9019-1
Online since September 30, 2009
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EΙΔΗΣΕΙΣ - NEWS RELEASE

IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, KILLER TSUNAMIS FROM AN ANCIENT ERUPTION, BY WILLIAM J. BROAD

The massive eruption of the Thera volcano in the Aegean Sea more than 3,000 years ago produced killer waves that raced across hundreds of miles of the Eastern Mediterranean to inundate the area that is now Israel and probably other coastal sites, a team of scientists has found.

The team, writing in the October issue of *Geology*, said the new evidence suggested that giant tsunamis from the catastrophic eruption hit “coastal sites across the Eastern Mediterranean littoral.” Tsunamis are giant waves that can crash into shore, rearrange the seabed, inundate vast areas of land and carry terrestrial material out to sea.

The region at the time was home to rising civilizations in Crete, Cyprus, Egypt, Phoenicia and Turkey.

For decades, scholars have suggested that the giant eruption, just 70 miles from Crete, might have brought about the mysterious collapse of Minoan civilization at the peak of its glory. The remnants of Thera’s eruption today make up a circular archipelago of volcanic Greek isles known as Santorini.

Thera is thought to have erupted between 1630 and 1550 B.C., or the Late Bronze Age, a time when many human cultures made tools and weapons of bronze. Scholars say the tsunamis and dense clouds of volcanic ash from the eruption had cultural repercussions that rippled across the Eastern Mediterranean for decades, even centuries. The fall of Minoan civilization is usually dated to around 1450 B.C. Geologists judge the eruption as far more violent than the 1883 eruption of the volcanic island of Krakatoa in Indonesia, which killed more than 36,000.

The five tsunami researchers came from Haifa University, in Israel; Hunter College, in New York City; McMaster University, in Canada; and the University of Hawaii.

The team did its excavations off Caesarea, Israel, a coastal town dating from Roman and Byzantine days. The coastal region was only sparsely settled at the time of the Thera eruption, with no identifiable city.

The team sank a half-dozen tubes into the offshore seabed and pulled up sediment cores for analysis. It looked for standard signs of tsunami upheaval, including pumice (the volcanic rock that solidifies from frothy lava), distinctive patterns of microfossils, cultural materials from human dwellings and well-rounded beach pebbles that seldom appear in deeper waters.

Writing in *Geology*, a journal published by the Geological Society of America, the team reported finding evidence of three tsunamis — two historically documented ones dating to A.D. 115 and 551, and one from the time of the Thera eruption.

The Thera tsunamis, the team wrote, left a signature layer in the seabed of well-rounded pebbles, distinctive patterns of mollusks and characteristic inclusions in rocky fragments all oriented in the same direction.

The disturbed layer, up to 16 inches wide, came from a few feet below the seabed in waters up to 65 feet deep.

“These findings,” the team wrote, “constitute the most comprehensive evidence to date that the tsunami event precipitated by the eruption of Santorini reached the maximum extent of the Eastern Mediterranean.”

The team added that, if the giant waves were big enough to reach Israel, “then presumably other Late Bronze Age coastal sites across the Eastern Mediterranean littoral will likely have been affected as well.”

Please visit the site:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/03/science/03tsunami.html? r=1>

BULGARIAN ARCHAEOLOGISTS FIND SILVER TREASURE IN THRACIAN TOMB ARCHAEOLOGY

Bulgaria: Bulgarian Archaeologists Find Silver Treasure in Thracian Tomb

Some of the vessels uncovered in the new Thracian tomb by the team of archaeologist Veselin Ignatov near Karanovo. Photo by Bulphoto

A team of Bulgarian archaeologists have discovered a new tomb of an aristocrat from Ancient Thrace near the southern town of Nova Zagora.

The team led by archaeologist Veselin Ignatov found a burial tomb of 12 square meters date back to the end of 1st century and beginning of 2nd century AD. It is located outside of the village of Karanovo.

The burial site of the Thracian aristocrat contains a number of interesting items including a silver treasure of vessels and artifacts that were place there to be used by the aristocrat in his afterlife.

Those include two silver cups with images of love god Eros, and a number of other ornate silver and bronze vessels.

The archaeologists have also found a chariot and fragments of a shield. The expedition called Karanovo 2009-2010 has just started to uncover their new find, and Ignatov expects a lot more valuable items to be discovered.

The archaeologists from the Nova Zagora History Museum are going to continue their exploration of the Thracian tomb on the spot even during the coming winter months after a special shelter is built on the site.

Please visit the site: http://www.novinite.com/view_news.php?id=109548

ANCIENT GREEK WORSHIPPERS **SHOWED INCLINATION TOWARDS THE** **SUN**

The Concordia Temple In Sicily, one of many built by the Ancient Greeks to face the east Mark Henderson, Science Editor

The Ancient Greeks deliberately built their temples to face the rising Sun, according to research that promises to shed light on their religious practices and to resolve a longstanding archaeological controversy.

An investigation into temples built by Greek colonists in Sicily has found strong evidence that they were aligned to the East.

The findings, by Alun Salt, of the University of Leicester, suggest that Ancient Greek religion may have included ritual elements inspired by astronomy, as well as illuminating the national culture of settlers who founded communities beyond the mainland. The study could settle a long-running dispute among archaeologists and classicists about temple orientation.

Although it has long been known that most of these shrines face east, some academics have questioned whether this alignment reflected a deliberate plan. Critics of astronomical theories have pointed out that some temples face north, south or west, and argue that their orientation was not important to the Greeks.

Dr Salt's research, however, indicates that the predominant east-west alignment is almost impossible to explain by chance, and probably followed a religious convention founded on astronomy. Temples laid out in accordance with astronomical phenomena could have highlighted the role of gods and goddesses as arbiters of nature, or helped priests to interpret celestial omens. They could also have helped in observations needed to calibrate the religious calendar.

In the study, published in the journal Public Library of Science One, Dr Salt found that 40 of 41 temples that he analysed in Sicily were oriented towards the eastern horizon. A statistical analysis all but eliminated the possibility that this was due to chance. The sole exception was the Temple of Hekate, which he suggests may have been built to honour a Moon goddess.

Dr Salt also examined data for Greece, collected by Gregory Retallack, of the University of Oregon. Though there were more exceptions, he again found a highly significant bias towards east-facing layouts.

He said the idea that orientation was not important may have gathered support because of an ignorance of statistics among classicists. "It shows the value of an interdisciplinary approach," he said.

“There are quite a few temples in Greece which don’t face sunrise, so a few archaeologists have published that there’s nothing significant about the number that do face East. The problem is that no one has ever said what a significant number would be.

“I have quantified this as simply as possible, and it looks clear that something important is going on. There is a very clear preference for solar orientations.”

Dr Salt said that while the reasons for this preferred layout have still to be established, he suspects that astronomical factors played a significant part. “It may have had something to do with the priest looking into the sky for omens,” he said. “There is also evidence that astronomy was important to the religious calendar, and there was probably a practical purpose too. A temple that faces the sunrise would be well-lit at dawn, so the priest would not be working in the shadows.”

In Greece itself, the less consistent orientation of temples could reflect local geographical circumstances, or the way temples were often built on top of older shrines that were laid out according to a different cosmological and religious system.

In Sicily, Greek colonists far from the mainland would have been building their temples from scratch. They may also have been keen to conform very tightly to correct Greek architectural practice as a political statement of their Hellenic nationality.

“If you live in Greece, you don’t need to prove your Greek identity and religion,” Dr Salt said. “If you’re living overseas, you might feel more insecure about your Greekness, and feel the need to do things by the book.”

Many dedications of statues and treasuries at important shrines such as Delphi and Olympia come from Greek communities outside Greece that were keen to advertise their national identity, and strict interpretation of religious architecture could be part of the same phenomenon, he said.

Efrosyni Boutsikas, of the University of Kent, disputed Dr Salt’s conclusions. She said that her own analysis of 107 temples in Greece showed that only 58 per cent faced east.

“Greek religion is much too localised and dependent on local factors for us to be making culturally meaningful arguments about general orientation patterns. There is no general orientation pattern that all Greek temples follow.”

She added that Greek religion was not uniform and had many local manifestations. “Just saying that Greek temples are oriented towards the Sun is not enough,” she said. “We need to say why this would have been important to the Greek cults and what this importance would have been. Any Greek archaeologist or classicists familiar with Greek religion will be able to tell you that there was no such thing as one Greek religion.”

Please visit the site:

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/environment/article6922248.ece>

ARCHAEOLOGISTS DISCOVER UNIQUE ANCIENT RHYTON IN SOUTH-EASTERN BULGARIA

A unique decorated glass rhyton, or ancient drinking vessel, was discovered by archaeologists in a tumulus near the village of Karanovo in south-eastern Bulgaria.

The glass vessel is decorated with the image of an unknown animal, Bulgarian media reported today.

According to experts, such glass artefacts are extremely rare not just for Bulgaria, but for the whole world.

The excavations near Kranovo, according to Bulgarian media, began in 2007, following illegal activity by gold-diggers.

As BalkanTravellers.com reported, archaeologists working in the Karanovo area recently discovered an ancient Thracian aristocrat's tomb, filled with valuable artefacts, such as silver, bronze and clay vessels.

Please visit the site: <http://www.balkantravellers.com/en/read/article/1588>

THE EVOLUTION OF THE GOD GENE, **BY NICHOLAS WADE**

IN the Oaxaca Valley of Mexico, the archaeologists Joyce Marcus and Kent Flannery have gained a remarkable insight into the origin of religion.

During 15 years of excavation they have uncovered not some monumental temple but evidence of a critical transition in religious behavior. The record begins with a simple dancing floor, the arena for the communal religious dances held by hunter-gatherers in about 7,000 B.C. It moves to the ancestor-cult shrines that appeared after the beginning of corn-based agriculture around 1,500 B.C., and ends in A.D. 30 with the sophisticated, astronomically oriented temples of an early archaic state.

This and other research is pointing to a new perspective on religion, one that seeks to explain why religious behavior has occurred in societies at every stage of development and in every region of the world. Religion has the hallmarks of an evolved behavior, meaning that it exists because it was favored by natural selection. It is universal because it was wired into our neural circuitry before the ancestral human population dispersed from its African homeland.

For atheists, it is not a particularly welcome thought that religion evolved because it conferred essential benefits on early human societies and their successors. If religion is a lifebelt, it is hard to portray it as useless.

For believers, it may seem threatening to think that the mind has been shaped to believe in gods, since the actual existence of the divine may then seem less likely.

But the evolutionary perspective on religion does not necessarily threaten the central position of either side. That religious behavior was favored by natural selection neither proves nor disproves the existence of gods. For believers, if one accepts that evolution has shaped the human body, why not the mind too? What evolution has done is to endow people with a genetic predisposition to learn the religion of their community, just as they are predisposed to learn its language. With both religion and language, it is culture, not genetics, that then supplies the content of what is learned.

It is easier to see from hunter-gatherer societies how religion may have conferred compelling advantages in the struggle for survival. Their rituals emphasize not theology but intense communal dancing that may last through the night. The sustained rhythmic movement induces strong feelings of exaltation and emotional commitment to the group. Rituals also resolve quarrels and patch up the social fabric.

The ancestral human population of 50,000 years ago, to judge from living hunter-gatherers, would have lived in small, egalitarian groups without chiefs or headmen. Religion served them as an invisible government. It bound people together, committing them to put their community's needs ahead of their own self-interest. For fear of divine punishment, people followed rules of self-restraint toward members of the community. Religion also emboldened them to give their lives in battle against outsiders. Groups

fortified by religious belief would have prevailed over those that lacked it, and genes that prompted the mind toward ritual would eventually have become universal.

In natural selection, it is genes that enable their owners to leave more surviving progeny that become more common. The idea that natural selection can favor groups, instead of acting directly on individuals, is highly controversial. Though Darwin proposed the idea, the traditional view among biologists is that selection on individuals would stamp out altruistic behavior (the altruists who spent time helping others would leave fewer children of their own) far faster than group-level selection could favor it.

But group selection has recently gained two powerful champions, the biologists David Sloan Wilson and Edward O. Wilson, who argued that two special circumstances in recent human evolution would have given group selection much more of an edge than usual. One is the highly egalitarian nature of hunter-gatherer societies, which makes everyone behave alike and gives individual altruists a better chance of passing on their genes. The other is intense warfare between groups, which enhances group-level selection in favor of community-benefiting behaviors such as altruism and religion.

A propensity to learn the religion of one's community became so firmly implanted in the human neural circuitry, according to this new view, that religion was retained when hunter-gatherers, starting from 15,000 years ago, began to settle in fixed communities. In the larger, hierarchical societies made possible by settled living, rulers co-opted religion as their source of authority. Roman emperors made themselves chief priest or even a living god, though most had the taste to wait till after death for deification. "Drat, I think I'm becoming a god!" Vespasian joked on his deathbed.

Religion was also harnessed to vital practical tasks such as agriculture, which in the first societies to practice it required quite unaccustomed forms of labor and organization. Many religions bear traces of the spring and autumn festivals that helped get crops planted and harvested at the right time. Passover once marked the beginning of the barley festival; Easter, linked to the date of Passover, is a spring festival.

Could the evolutionary perspective on religion become the basis for some kind of detente between religion and science? Biologists and many atheists have a lot of respect for evolution and its workings, and if they regarded religious behavior as an evolved instinct they might see religion more favorably, or at least recognize its constructive roles. Religion is often blamed for its spectacular excesses, whether in promoting persecution or warfare, but gets less credit for its staple function of patching up the moral fabric of society. But perhaps it doesn't deserve either blame or credit. If religion is seen as a means of generating social cohesion, it is a society and its leaders that put that cohesion to good or bad ends.

Nicholas Wade, a science reporter for The New York Times, is the author of "The Faith Instinct: How Religion Evolved and Why It Endures."

Please visit the site:

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/15/weekinreview/12wade.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=God%20gene&st=cse

GREENING OF THE SAHARA DESERT **TRIGGERED EARLY HUMAN** **MIGRATIONS OUT OF AFRICA...**

A team of scientists from the NIOZ Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research and the University of Bremen (Germany) has determined that a major change in the climate of the Sahara and Sahel region of North Africa facilitated early human migrations from the African continent.

The team's findings will be published online in the Nov. 9th installment of Early Edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA. Among the key findings are that the Sahara desert and the Sahel were considerably wetter around 9,000, 50,000 and 120,000 years ago than at present, allowing for the growth of trees instead of grasses.

Dust in marine sediment cores

The researchers studied marine sediments covering nearly 200,000 years collected from the seafloor off the coast of Guinea in West Africa.

Strong off-shore winds transport large volumes of dust from the Sahara and Sahel to the study area. Mixed in with the dust are plant leaf waxes, which are blown long distances across the African continent to the Atlantic Ocean, where they were ultimately deposited on the seafloor at about 3 km depth. Over thousands of years, layers of sediment accumulated on the seafloor, each layer containing evidence of past environmental conditions in Northern Africa. The plant leaf waxes are resistant to degradation and when trapped within layers of sediment, they can be very well-preserved for millions of years.

Vegetation changes in the Sahara

Based on analysis of plant leaf waxes the researchers could determine the relative importance of trees and grasses in the Sahara and Sahel regions. Trees generally require more water to survive than do tropical grasses, and so by analysing the plant leaf waxes to determine if they were produced by trees or grasses, the scientists could examine past precipitation changes in tropical Africa over the last 200,000 years.

During three discrete periods, ca. 120,000-110,000 years, 50,000- 45,000 and 10,000-8,000 years ago, substantially more trees grew in Sahara and the Sahel, indicating significantly wetter conditions than at present. The two oldest periods exactly coincide with times when the earliest humans were migrating out of East Africa to northern Africa, the Middle East, Asia and eventually Europe. At these times, the wetter conditions in central North Africa likely enabled humans to cross this normally inhospitable region, allowing them to migrate into other continents. When climate in the Sahara and Sahel turned dry again, humans were forced out of these areas causing genetic and cultural changes in already inhabited regions such as Northern Africa and the Middle East.

Changes in ocean circulation caused a wetter Sahara.

The researchers also looked for the causes of these major climate shifts to much wetter conditions in the Sahara and found that they were indirectly related to an increase in the strength of the major current system, the Atlantic Overturning Circulation (AOC). The researchers could assess the strength of this current by analysing fossilized tiny shells of

small animals (benthic foraminifera). When the intensity of the AOC changes, this leads to changes in the chemical composition of the deep water masses, which is then reflected in the shells of benthic foraminifera. The researchers found that when the AOC weakened, more grasses were present in central North Africa indicating a drier climate. Likely, the weakening of the AOC was caused by increased freshwater input to the high-latitudes, leading to less saline surface waters. This freshwater input also caused surface cooling in these regions, in turn leading to movement of cold air from the high-latitudes to the tropics, and causing drier conditions in central North Africa. Thus, early human migrations from the African continent were likely triggered by events originating far away in the North Atlantic.

This research project was funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft Research Centre/Excellence Cluster “The Ocean in the Earth System”.

Download the article:

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2009/11/11/0905771106.abstract>

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Please visit the site:

http://www.nioz.nl/nioz_nl/51b09886749314dfda74484736d5bf18.php#b09112009uk

AERA'S MULTINATIONAL RESEARCH TEAM DISCOVERS OLDEST OLIVE WOOD IN EGYPT

BOSTON, MA - Researchers at Ancient Egypt Research Associates, Inc., the premier non-profit organization conducting original archaeological research and educational programs in Egypt, have discovered new evidence suggesting that olive wood was present in ancient Egypt as early as 2551- 2523 BCE, between 500 to 700 years before previously believed, a find that may provide new insights into the life of the pyramid builders.

The discovery, made by AERA charcoal analyst Rainer Gerisch, suggests that olive wood was at least present, if not grown, in Egypt as early as the time of Pharaoh Menkaure (about 2551-2523 BCE), builder of the third Giza pyramid. Until now, the earliest known traces of olive were fruit pits found in 12th Dynasty deposits at Memphis. Even then, there are almost no other archaeological finds of olive until the 18th Dynasty (about 1569-1081 BCE).

The first definitive evidence that Egyptians were growing olives dates from the Graeco-Roman era (305 BCE-337 CE). With AERA's new evidence, scientists can now conclude that the olive wood is genuinely part of the Old Kingdom settlement remains, dating at least 500 years earlier than any other known specimens in Egypt.

Although there is evidence suggesting that the olive wood was imported, two important facts undermine this hypothesis. It is unlikely that a highly prized and heavily pruned olive tree would end up in the timber trade. And, since the specimens found at AERA's excavation are mostly from twigs, the wood was probably not imported and used to carve small objects, leaving scraps as firewood that might have ended up as charcoal.

Perhaps then, the newly discovered olive wood entered Egypt with other products, possibly olive oil or more useful timber. Some archaeologists believe combed ware pottery vessels known to exist in Egypt at the time carried olive oil because they have been found in olive oil factory sites in the Levant, where people have pressed olives since the 4th Millennium BCE.

AERA ceramicist Anna Wodzinska has identified 14 combed ware sherds at the Lost City site. If the imported jars carried olive oil, prunings from the orchard might have come along with the jars as some sort of packing material or shipping crates. It is also possible that Egyptian workers brought in the olive twigs with wood shipments. When crews were dispatched to the Levant to fell trees and transport the logs back, they may also have taken firewood to use on their return voyage or to fill out extra space on their ship. Gerisch found the olive with small pieces of charcoal from other Levantine trees—cedar, pine, and deciduous and evergreen oaks—suggesting that they may have come from the Levant together.

Is it possible that Egyptians were growing olive trees? In the New Kingdom Queen Hatshepsut maintained a botanical garden of exotic plants. Perhaps Menkaure made an

early and undocumented effort to cultivate olive trees in palace gardens. Few Old Kingdom town sites have been excavated extensively and sampled methodically for wood charcoal. AERA's work may inspire others to carry out similar studies and perhaps discover more information about the role of olive trees in ancient Egypt.

AERA is a member-supported non-profit organization dedicated to high-quality original research and educational programs in Egypt. For more information about AERA or to become a member, go to www.aeraweb.org.

Media Contact: Cindy Sebrell
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617-650-1890
csebrell@eraweb.org

Please visit the site: http://www.aeraweb.org/aeranews_olive.asp

THE ENTWINED DESTINIES OF HUMANKIND AND LEPROSY BACTERIA

For thousands of years an undesirable and persistent companion has been travelling with man wherever he goes. *Mycobacterium leprae*, the bacterium that causes leprosy, has only one known natural host -- humankind. And because of man's many travels, this bacillus has colonized the entire earth. Its history is therefore intimately tied to our own, and it is this migratory relationship that Stewart Cole, EPFL professor of Microbial Pathogenesis, and his team have analyzed in a study to be published in *Nature Genetics*.

Geneticists, microbiologists, and even archeologists have followed the bacteria's traces from their lab to the Silk Road and the tombs of Egyptian mummies.

The scientists started with the past history of the disease by investigating the remains of English, Croatian, and Bulgarian medieval cemeteries along with an ancient Egyptian burial site to find traces of the bacteria's DNA. "A person infected with the bacteria shows specific signs of bone deformations, like hands gripped closed in the form of a claw," explains Stewart Cole, "and these clues helped us determine if we were dealing with the bodies of people who died from the disease."

In the wake of commercial ships

Even though Egypt is geographically close to East Africa, where one of the four strains of leprosy comes from, DNA from a 4th century mummy shows traces of the European strain. Not necessarily surprising, for the Pharaonic Empire was economically and culturally tied to the old continent. With humans being the only possible vessel for the bacteria, it naturally navigated along with man throughout the trade routes of the seas.

The four strains of the leprosy bacilli that the scientific team found are: European, East African, West African and Indian. Their current distribution around the world echoes the history of population movements. Other examples in the study include Madagascar where, in spite of its geographic proximity to the African coast, the Indian strain is found on the island, where the majority of the inhabitants are of Indian origin. In Brazil, the West African strain is dominant, a probable consequence of the slave trade, but we also find the European strain -- brought most likely from colonization.

"One of the most interesting surprises is the discovery that the bacteria found in China are of European origin," explains Stewart Cole, "and one would have naturally expected the Indian strain. The most probable explanation is that the strain was carried by traders along the Silk Road."

A stable DNA, more efficient treatments

There is little doubt that the bacillus originated in East Africa -- Stewart Cole will examine this hypothesis in a future study -- and then mutated into the four different strains. "The results of our analysis are surprising," says Cole, "the difference between the different strains is very small. It is one of the most stable organisms ever observed, even if half of its genome is dead." There are only around a hundred different variations

between the DNA of two different strains, whereas with HIV or the flu there may be thousands of difference mutations.

In the case of HIV, mutations are so frequent that it is almost possible to say whether a person was infected in Geneva or in Lausanne," explains Stewart Cole, "but in the case of leprosy, the most we can do is place the infection on a continental scale." But this is not bad news. Frequent mutation by a bacterium often leads to disturbing resistances to antibiotic treatments, such as with tuberculosis. But a more stable bacillus responds more efficiently to treatment regardless of the strain. "Resistant cases are extremely rare for leprosy."

Yet the disease remains a persistent public health issue in certain regions in India and Brazil. Currently, more than 700,000 people are infected world-wide and the length of treatment of at least one year can complicate its application. We have not yet heard the last from Mycobacterium leprae, but public health politics, spurred on by work done by the likes of Stewart Cole and his scientific team, could put an end to the common history between leprosy and its unwilling human host.

Please visit the site:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/11/091102111847.htm>

UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA **COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA** **RELATIONS NOVEMBER 8, 2009**

Remains of a Minoan-style painting discovered during excavations of the Canaanite palace at Tel Kabri

The remains of a Minoan-style wall painting, characterized by a blue background, the first of its kind to be found in Israel, was discovered in the course of the recent excavation season at Tel Kabri. This fresco joins others of Aegean style that have been uncovered during earlier seasons at the Canaanite palace in Kabri. “It was, without doubt, a conscious decision made by the city’s rulers who wished to associate with Mediterranean culture and not adopt Syrian and Mesopotamian styles of art like other cities in Canaan did. The Canaanites were living in the Levant and wanted to feel European,” explains Dr. Assaf Yasur-Landau of the University of Haifa, who directed the excavations.

The remains of a Canaanite city from the Middle Bronze Age (2000-1550 B.C.) have been exposed at Tel Kabri, next to Kibbutz Kabri near Nahariya. A palace for the city’s rulers stands in the center of the city, which was the most important of the cities in the Western Galilee during that period. Excavations began at Tel Kabri in 1986, conducted by the late Prof. Aharon Kempinski, and were halted in 1993. Over the past years, excavations have been renewed by teams directed by Dr. Yasur-Landau of the Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies at the University of Haifa and Prof. Eric Cline of The George Washington University. Tel Kabri is unique in that after the city was deserted, no other city was built over its remains. Therefore, this is the only Canaanite city that can be excavated in its entirety. The palace too, which has been measured with geophysical tools at 1 to 1.5 acres, is the only such palace of this period that can be excavated fully. “The city’s preservation enables us to get a complete picture of political and social life in the Canaanite period. We can reveal whether or not it had a central government, whether taxes were levied, what sort of agriculture there was and how politics were conducted at the time,” Dr. Yasur-Landau explains.

The recent excavation season has enabled researchers to conclude what the rulers’ cultural preferences were. While excavations at Tel Hazor in the northern Galilee, the largest Canaanite city of that period, revealed numerous remains of sculpture works of Syrian and Mesopotamian style, no such evidence of this style of artwork were discovered at Tel Kabri. Until now the remains of a fresco in a style that had been common on the island of Santorini (Thera), discovered during previous seasons at the Tel Kabri site, might have been considered a solitary occurrence. However, the remains of additional works reinforce the conjecture that this was a city that not only had trade relations with Mediterranean kingdoms, but also preferred to be culturally associated with them. “Unlike Hazor, which held trading and cultural ties with Syria and Mesopotamia, the rulers of the city at Tel Kabri consciously chose the Mediterranean alternative, relating to Aegean cultures, which doubtlessly seemed more exotic to the local inhabitants,” Dr. Yasur-Landau explains.

Additional findings during the past season illuminate other angles of day-to-day life in the Canaanite city. The researchers discovered that the rulers confiscated privately owned lands in order to build both the palace and a ceremonial path encircling the palace. The researchers also began digging a corridor that had been discovered last year and found tens of pottery vessels there, such as storage jars, shallow bowls, cups, and jugs. The corridor, which probably served as a storage area, was blocked off by the ancient inhabitants, and therefore remnants of the substances held in these pottery vessels still remains, as did many animal bones. “We sent the bones and substance remains to be examined, so we should soon be able to know more about the standard diet of that time and in this particular area,” Dr. Yasur-Landau added.

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