

# NEAR EASTERN ARCHAEOLOGY

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## 260 **Gods, Caves, and Scholars: Chalcolithic Cult and Metallurgy in the Judean Desert**

~ Yuval Goren

The origins of southern Levantine Chalcolithic copper metallurgy have been debated for decades. Typological and metallurgical examinations of the copper artifacts from the Nahal Mishmar hoard and elsewhere have indicated a dichotomy between simple tools, made of pure copper by open casting, and elaborate items made by the "lost wax" technique of copper alloys with antimony and arsenic. While the former were considered local production of the northern Negev sites, the latter were prestige objects either considered as imports from the remote sources of arsenic-antimony copper, or local to the southern Levant. In the present paper the results of an ongoing research project are presented based on the analysis of ceramic mold remains that were still attached to a large number of copper implements from Israel. In a previous publication, the Ein Gedi area in the Judean Desert of Israel was suggested as the place of origin of all copper objects produced by this lost wax method. Some new results and simulations of the technique shed more light on the production process and suggest better explanations to the problematic archaeological evidence.

## 267 **Personal Ornaments at the Nahal Mishmar Cave of the Treasure**

~ Daniella E. Bar-Yosef Mayer,  
Naomi Porat, and Uri Davidovich

A renewed study of beads and pendants from the Cave of the Treasure in Nahal Mishmar (Judean Desert, Israel) was carried out in order to enhance our understanding of south Levantine Chalcolithic personal ornaments. The analysis of raw materials,

technology, and style of these items reveal possible connections going as far as Egypt and the Sinai Peninsula to the south and west, and the Indus Valley and Afghanistan to the east. These artifacts complement finds from other Ghassulian Chalcolithic (ca. 4500–3800 B.C.E.) sites and further our understanding of the role of personal ornaments during this timespan.

## 274 **Foundation or Completion? The Status of Pharaoh-Queen Tausret's Temple of Millions of Years**

~ Pearce Paul Creasman, W. Raymond  
Johnson, J. Brett McClain, and  
Richard H. Wilkinson

The temple of millions of years of the Nineteenth Dynasty female pharaoh Tausret has long been thought to consist of little more than its foundations. A decade of excavation by the University of Arizona Egyptian Expedition has challenged that assumption and revealed evidence for far more advanced construction, which is significantly supplemented by the discovery of a block from the temple found and identified by the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute at Medinet Habu. This article presents the archaeological evidence for a functional and nearly complete temple for Tausret prior to its thorough destruction at the beginning of the Twentieth Dynasty.

## 284 **City of Lights: The Lamps of Roman and Byzantine Jerusalem**

~ Gregg E. Gardner

This article examines the ceramic oil lamps of Jerusalem during the Roman and Byzantine eras (63 B.C.E. to 640 C.E.). Following an overview of the importance of lamps to their ancient users and modern archaeologists, it demonstrates how the history of Jerusalem can be illuminated through the development of its

lamps. This paper examines the forms, decorations, and chronology of the most prominent types – the Herodian, Decorated Discus, Beit Nattif, and Slipper Lamps. Bringing the artifacts into conversation with texts demonstrates that early Jewish and Christian writings attribute a number of meanings to lamps due to their function as repositories of light. Jerusalem is included within this matrix of symbols, as the city that both produces and receives a special divine light. This article demonstrates how lamps can shed light on materiality, the use of symbols, and the early histories of Christianity and rabbinic Judaism.

292 **The Archaeology of the Ottoman Empire and Its Aftermath in the Middle East**  
~ Tasha Vorderstrasse

Ottoman and post-Ottoman archaeology represent an important part of the discipline of Islamic archaeology, but they remain largely unstudied. Post-Ottoman archaeology in particular, is often not considered an important part of sites and this material is often discarded or ignored. This article provides an overview of the issues facing the study of the archaeology of this period and focuses on some of the important sites that have been investigated, including WWI battlefields and village sites.

299 **Iron Age Bullae from Officialdom's Periphery: Khirbet Summeily in Broader Context**  
~ James W. Hardin, Christopher A. Rollston, and Jeffrey A. Blakely

Bullae are unexpected finds in an archaeological excavation project, especially when the project is centered on a small site seemingly located in the hinterlands and when they are of a tenth century B.C.E. date. Here we present an initial description of six bullae found at Khirbet Summeily in 2012 and 2014 and provide an overview of how bullae were used. The very existence of our bullae suggest a greater political complexity and integration across the transitional Iron I/IIA landscape than has been acknowledged by many recent scholars who tend to dismiss trends toward political complexity occurring prior to the arrival of the Assyrians in the region in the later eighth century B.C.E.

304 **Books to Dig into**

**Food and Consumption**

Food in Ancient Judah: Domestic Cooking in the Time of the Hebrew Bible

~ Author: Cynthia Schafer-Elliott

~ Reviewer: Peter Altmann

Festive Meals in Ancient Israel: Deuteronomy's Identity Politics in their Ancient Near Eastern Context

~ Author: Peter Altmann

~ Reviewer: Lauren Monroe

**Social Groups in Archaeology and Texts**

Mobile Pastoralism and the Formation of Near Eastern Civilizations: Weaving Together Society

~ Author: Anne Porter

~ Reviewer: Brendon C. Benz

The Foreigner and the Law: Perspectives from the Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East

~ Editors: Reinhard Achenbach, Rainer Albertz, and Jakob Wöhrle

~ Reviewer: Shalom E. Holtz

**Biblical and Egyptian Literature**

Palaeography and Scribal Practices in Syro-Palestine and Anatolia in the Late Bronze Age

~ Editor: Elena Devecchi

~ Reviewer: Pekka Pitkänen

Ancient Egyptian Literature: Theory and Practice

~ Editors: Roland Enmarch and Verena M. Lepper

~ Reviewer: Hussein Bassir

The Old Testament: A Literary History

~ Author: Konrad Schmid

~ Reviewer: Seth L. Sanders

