



14th International Congress on the Archaeology
of the Ancient Near East

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The 6th Century BCE: The Demise of the Iron Age Kingdoms in Transjordan

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Abstract

The end of the Iron Age in Jordan saw the demise of the kingdoms of Ammon, Moab, and Edom, and with it, significant social, political, and economic transformations. And yet, the nature of these changes is not well understood. After more than a century of historical records during the 6th century BCE the historical record falls mostly silent. Similarly, from the archaeological record, while site abandonment and destructions indicate an overall pattern of decline, the nature of this transformation is not entirely transparent, and appears to vary by site and region into the Achaemenid period.

This workshop seeks to address this period of transformation around the 6th century BCE, namely, the nature of the demise of the kingdoms of Ammon, Moab, and Edom, and the new sociopolitical and economic patterns that followed in the Achaemenid period. The goal is to leverage recent archaeological fieldwork and inscriptional data, integrating it with new interpretations of older data. The presentations focus on recent archaeological findings, or new interpretations of existing data in an effort to draw together, on a wider scale, discussion that will seek to better understand this period.

Keywords

Jordan, Iron Age, Transjordanian Kingdoms, Achaemenid Period, Transition

Program

Preliminary program and confirmed participants

(Abstracts of individual papers to follow after workshop acceptance)

Slot 1:

Andrew Danielson and **Alexander Ahrens (Organizers, University of British Columbia and German Archaeological Institute, Orient Department)** : “The 6th Century BCE: The Demise of the Iron Age Kingdoms in Transjordan. Introduction to the workshop and topic”

Piotr Bienkowski (University of Manchester) — “Edom in the Late Iron Age: what sort of kingdom was it, and what happened next”

Rocio da Riva (University of Barcelona) — “Babylonian imperial practices in Edom: the Sela inscription of Nabonidus”

Andrew Danielson (University of British Columbia) and **Debra Foran (Wilfrid Laurier University)** — “The Madaba Plateau at the end of the Iron Age”

Alexander Ahrens (German Archaeological Institute) — “Destruction and Resettlement: Tell Bleibil in the southern Jordan Valley at the end of the Iron Age and the Achaemenid Period”

Bruce Routledge (University of Liverpool) and **Diederik Halbertsma (University of Liverpool)** — “From Villages to Villas: The transformation of the Jordan Valley at the end of the Iron Age”

Slot 2:

Lucas Petit (Rijksmuseum Leiden) — “Abandoned or eroded? Tell Damiyah in the Central Jordan Valley during the 6th century BCE”

Madadh Richey (Brandeis University) — “Aramaic in Transjordan from the Iron Age to the Persian Period”

Marta Lorenzon (University of Helsinki), Paula Gheorghide (University of Helsinki), and Stanley Klassen (University of Toronto) — “Iron Age transition at Tell al-Assara Jordan: complexity at the margins of Empires”

Type of paper

Workshop