



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Babylonian imperial practices in Edom: the Sela inscription of Nabonidus

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Abstract

Ancient Near Eastern empires in the first millennium BCE spread over vast areas, and produced a huge number of written sources that reflect the interplay between the core and the periphery. However, territories on the margins have yielded few texts that can illustrate their impressions of this relationship, and scholars have mostly examined the phenomenon from the perspective of the domineering core. The situation of ancient Edom (in southern Jordan) at the time of Neo-Babylonian domination is no exception. Such an unbalanced perspective hinders our understanding of the relations that were established between the central power and the regions under its control. In this paper, I will adopt a 'bottom-up' approach and I will focus on the analysis of the Nabonidus inscription at Sela.

Keywords

Jordan, Edom, Babylon, Empire, Inscriptions

Session

1. Advances in Near Eastern Archaeology

Workshop

A15573AA - The 6th Century BCE: The Demise of the Iron Age Kingdoms in Transjordan

Type of paper

Oral presentation