



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Place for the stamp: Materiality of Palmyrene stamp sealed tesserae and the temple context.

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Abstract

The Palmyrene tesserae, small tokens usually of clay, are the window to the organization of temple life. They record in Palmyrene Aramaic the names of cultic professions and attest the distribution of goods in the Palmyra temples of the Roman period. They are also the bearers of stamp sealings, which have been neglected by the scholars until nowadays.

The materiality of these objects will be analysed by means of a diachronic approach, looking at the Hellenistic material of seals from Uruk or Seleucia. We will analyse the possible use of these objects, which are usually considered by scholars as "tickets to the cultic banquets". The similarities between Palmyra and the Mesopotamian prebendary system are revealed by the preliminary results of the study. The results of this research may have implications for our understanding of temple administration and economy in the Near East during the Parthian and Roman periods.

Keywords

Palmyra, sealings, administration, temple, people

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