



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The Materiality of Phoenician and Punic Archives

BERNARDIN S. 1*

¹ Sorbonne-Universit- UMR 8167 Orient et Miterran, Paris, France

*Corresponding author

Abstract

This paper aims to assess the existence of Phoenician and Punic archives. It questions the meaning of the word "archive" to determine whether it is a useful tool for West Semitic cultures and to clarify its significance.

The study will focus on the evidence of archival practices in the Phoenician kingdoms and the Punic world, by using a wide range of epigraphic, literary and archaeological sources. The study will draw on 1) literary sources in Greek and Latin that mention the existence of archives in the Phoenician and Punic worlds; 2) archaeological remains that indicate the presence of significant archive collections, particularly through the discovery of numerous bullae that sealed inscribed scrolls—while it is challenging to know the content of these scrolls, the origin of this material encourages an investigation into the context of the compilation and storage of these collections; 3) The third point will address the numerous ostraca discovered in Kition and Idalion (Cyprus). The question of whether the latter could be considered as archive or not will be raised.

Keywords

Archive , Phoenician and Punic , Epigraphy , Literary sources , Archaeological evidences

Session

4. The materiality of inscribed and figurative objects

Type of paper

Oral presentation