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The Netherlands Institute in Turkey

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The Netherlands Institute for the Near East

Witte Singel 25, 2311 BG Leiden

P.O.Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden

www.nino-leiden.nl

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey

İstiklal Caddesi, Nur-i Ziya Sk. 5,
Beyoğlu, Istanbul

P.K. 132, Beyoğlu 34431, Istanbul

www.nit-istanbul.org

Front cover:

View of Tophane, Instanbul,
by Jules Laurens (1825-1901)

See the article by
K. Schuitema and G. Önder
on pp. 33-41.

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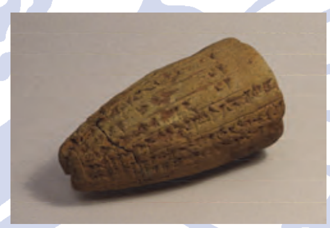
Table of contents

Rania

Barcın Höyük

Cereal cultivation in Egypt

Tophane



NINO collections

NINO library

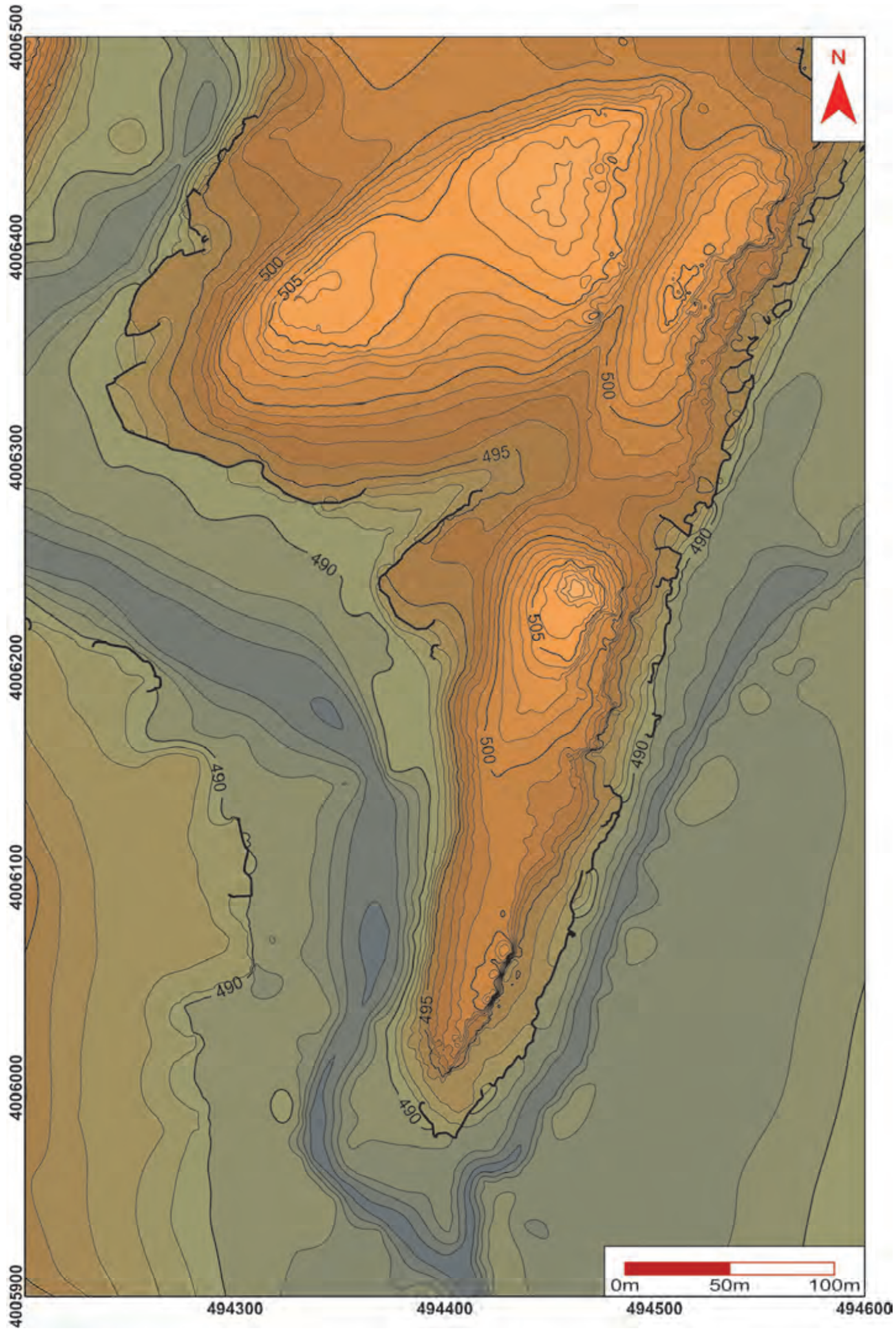


Fig. 1. Map of the Shemshara hills 2012.

Back to Rania

Jesper Eidem

An article in the 2011 NINO-NIT Annual Report set the scene for a new NINO project in the Kurdish Region of Iraq ("Dokan. An archaeological salvage project in Iraq, 1956-60", pp. 13-19). In this issue we briefly summarise the background for the project, and report on results of the first fieldwork in autumn of 2012.

Tell or gird?

Tell is an Arabic word meaning "mound (formed) of ruins" – referring to successive layers of mud-built houses, which through levelling, rebuilding etc. could become an elevated artificial "hill". Such hills, of varying sizes and heights, are the hallmark of ancient settlement all over the Middle East. In the Kurdish areas they are referred to with the Kurdish word *gird*. Thus one of the Shemshara "hills" is locally known as Gird Bardastee – "Mound of flints" – because early flint tools were found on the surface of the hill.

A dream come true

> *"At last we saw Shemshara, a grass-covered tell, whose flat summit rose some 115 feet above the surrounding countryside. It was like having one's dream come true. On the steep sides and on the summit of the tell it was possible to pick up sherds of prehistoric pottery. Here lay the centre of operations of the Dokan expedition."*

The year was 1957, and the place was the Rania plain in northeastern Iraq. At the south edge of the plain, at Dokan, a hydro-electric dam was under construction, and this would flood much of the plain and inundate some 40 ancient *tell*s (see text box). Iraqi archaeologists were already busy conduction salvage excavations, and they were joined by a single foreign expedition from Denmark. This expedition was organised by the Assyriologist Jørgen Læssøe (1924-93), and funded by the Danish state and the Carlsberg Foundation. Læssøe and the field director, Harald Ingholt (1896-1985) had chosen to excavate Tell Shemshara, located close to the strategic pass at Darband-i-Ramkhan, leading into the mountains on the border between Iraq and Iran.

Læssøe continues his account:

> *" ....on that same day – 18 May – we pitched camp. During the night the rain lashed the tents and the thunder rumbled among the mountains. The howl of wolves was heard such a short distance away that on the next day we engaged two Kurds from Boskin armed with rifles to maintain a night-watch in the camp."*

Thus began the adventure. During the next three months the expedition endured scorching heat, scorpions, giant spiders, clouds of sandflies, and weeks on end with strong winds while uncovering the ruins of ancient settlements at Shemshara, but there were compensations:

> *"And yet there was something majestic about this countryside. Eagles swooped down over Shemshara. The full moons we experienced caused the mountain ridges to stand out sharply silhouetted against a silvery night sky; the Zab wound its glittering way south towards the Tigris. To the east one could see flashes of lightning among the mountains beyond the Persian frontier. We were in a world of our own. Who were the people whose buildings and tombs we discovered at Shemshara?"*

Most of the season the expedition worked on the high northern summit of the main hill and

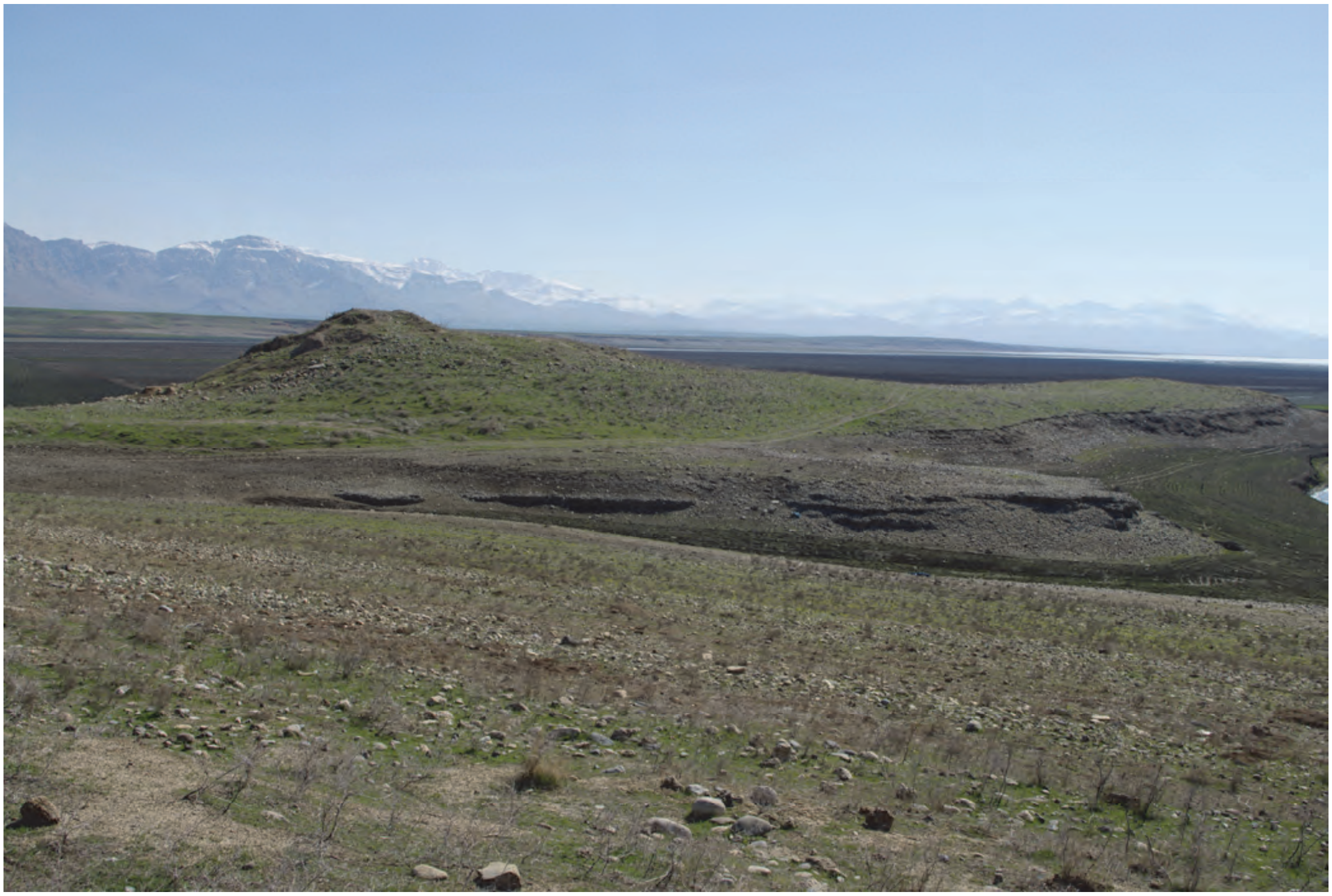


Fig. 2. The “Main Hill” of Tell Shemshara from the west (February 2012).

here reached pre-historic Hassuna levels some 8000 years old. Towards the end of the season a small excavation was opened on the low southern extension of the site, and a few rooms in a building from the Middle Bronze Age (early second millennium BC) uncovered. By a remarkable stroke of luck one room contained an archive of nearly 150 cuneiform tablets, letters and notes left in the buiding when it was burned down ca. 1780 BC. As an expert on the Mesopotamian cuneiform writing Læssøe could read these documents, and thus discover that the archive had belonged to the governor of Shemshara, a certain Kuwari. Shemshara was then an outpost for an ancient kingdom further east, in modern Iran, and Kuwari's archive unveils a fascinating panorama, of wars, treason, rebellion, triumphs and tragedies in an ancient setting nearly 4000 years ago. Apparently the palace and fort of Kuwari was burnt down in a violent rebellion. What happened to Kuwari himself is unknown, and apparently Shemshara was not occupied again until Medieval times, and then but briefly.

The Danes of course wanted to return the following year, but in 1958 there was a revolution in Iraq, and the trip had to be cancelled. Instead Iraqi archaeologist dug at Shemshara in 1958 and 1959. The building where the Danes had found the archive was extensively excavated, and another, smaller archive of tablets, this time only account notes, was found. Otherwise little is known about the results of these seasons, and when the dam was finished in 1959 the large Dokan Lake was formed. Shemshara was partly covered with water and, depending on the level of the lake, either an island or a peninsular. Only the high summit remained dry.

Back to the scene

For decades after also unstable political conditions prevented archaeological work in northeastern Iraq, but in recent year the situation has changed. The Kurdish region of Iraq is now an autonomous part of a federal state, and the most secure and stable part of the country, with an area roughly like the Netherlands. Archaeologists from many countries now work here together with Kurdish colleagues, including the Dutch project at Satu Qala (see NINO-NIT Annual Report 2011). Since it also seemed that the level of the Dokan Lake had become lower in recent years, the idea of returning to the Rania plain and Shemshara was tempting. In February 2012 I therefore went to Iraq, and with the support of the relevant authorities I could easily visit the Rania plain and draft a contract for a new Dutch-Iraqi project there. In early September we returned, and aided by quite extraordinary support from our Kurdish colleagues in Sulaymania and Erbil we were able to start the new investigations at Shemshara.

Of course much has changed on the Rania plain since 1957, but the dramatic pass at Darband still

Fig. 3. Excavations in progress, September 2012. View from south end of Main Hill.

dominates the northern horizon, eagles still swoop down over Shemshara, and wolves can be heard at night. The old expedition camped in tents out on the mound of Shemshara, but we found more comfortable quarters in the nearby village of Boskin where we rented two houses. Local drivers were hired for the transport to Shemshara and shopping in the town of Rania, and workmen mostly from Boskin did the heavy digging. During the short season, from early September to early October, it remained basically hot – some 40 degrees during the middle of the day – but we rose with the sun and returned to our base for lunch and rest during the hottest hours. Afternoons and early evenings were used to document and process finds.

The Plain of Rania is a marginal corner of Ancient Mesopotamia, but important as an area which connects it to the ancient cultures beyond the mountains in Iran. This is just one of the interesting aspects we want to investigate in coming years. Besides excavations at Shemshara and another, earlier settlement further south (see Text Box) we plan surveys in wide areas of the plain to insert our results in regional perspectives. And the area is still under the threat of yearly flooding, and continuous and further destruction. It is important to investigate these ancient settlements before they disappear.

Connected project

The NINO project includes a Danish component from the University of Copenhagen, separately funded, but operating under the same permit, and directed by T.B.B. Skuldbøl. In 2012 his group investigated the site of Bab-w-Kur, a small fourth millennium BC site south of Shemshara. The same common strategy applies: the aim is to "continue", as it were, the old Dokan Dam Salvage Project, which before the formation of the lake only managed to save a small part of the heritage remains in the flood zone. A future Annual Report will feature an account of the work done by the Danish group.

Shemshara 2012

A first task at Shemshara was to make a complete topographic map of the site. The old Danish excavation had been on "Main Hill", and only this had been mapped, but we knew that there were additional adjacent hills, like the one the Danes had pitched their tents on, and dubbed "Camp Hill". A 2010 satellite image (NINO-NIT Annual Report 2011, p. 18, Fig. 5) showed one – possibly two other hills north and northwest of Main Hill. The northernmost proved to be natural, but full of robbed Classical era graves, while a hill just north of Main Hill (which we call "North Hill") seems to belong with the site. A small sounding here revealed a shallow layer dating to the second millennium BC. Across the small stream west of the site is yet another hill, locally known as Bardastee (see Text Box "tell"). This is an intriguing hill. We did not have time to extend our map to all of it, or make any

Fig. 4. Small jar from level 7.

Fig. 5. Front view of tablet from level 8.

Back to Rania

excavation here, but the ceramic sherds found on the surface indicate that it may hide layers from some of the periods when the other hills at Shemshara seem not to have been occupied. In coming seasons we plan to investigate these other hills more and try to understand their relationship to each other better.

The Main Hill, where the Danes and Iraqis had excavated the palace in the 1950s, has clearly suffered from the yearly floodings since the formation of the Dokan Lake. Along the south-eastern slope the water has washed away large sections, leaving only a braid of broken ceramic sherds on top of the natural gravel. Where the palace had stood are now only some lines of stone foundations left and visible on the surface of the hill. Apparently the water has washed away all the mudbrick walls in the old excavation area.

Judging from their location some of the stone foundations are certain to belong to the very room where the Danes found the famous archive in 1957. Further lines of foundations to the south of this we knew belonged to a small court-yard, excavated by Iraqi archaeologists in 1958. One of our test excavations in 2012 was made inside this space, and revealed three earlier levels of occupation. Another test excavation in the same general area of the site yielded similar results.

New palaces?

The palace excavated at Shemshara in the 1950s was found in the fifth occupational level – counting from surface. In the levels above the palace were remains of Medieval villages from the 12th-14th centuries AD. In 2012 we found similar remains in a test excavation on the southern part of the site, beyond the exposures made in the 1950s. This means that we can excavate more of the Shemshara which existed in the time of Kuwari and his archives in future seasons.

Meanwhile the new evidence from the levels under Kuwari's palace is extremely interesting. The first level, numbered 6, seems shallow and poorly preserved. Under that, however, we found two earlier levels, 7 and 8, both with ruins of rooms with fairly thick walls. This indicates public rather than private architecture, and it seems likely that we have a whole sequence of palaces at Shemshara. The ceramics and other finds made in our still very small excavations all belong in the early second millennium BC, the period from ca. 2000 BC to sometime before the palace of Kuwari, burned down ca. 1780, was built. Level 8 is the deepest our excavations in 2012 reached. Below there are even older occupations waiting to be explored.

Back to Rania

Fig. 6. The mountains at Darband mirrored in Lake Ganaw just north of Shemshara.

Further reading

The quotes at the beginning of the article are from

- J. Læssøe, *People of Ancient Assyria. Their Inscriptions and Correspondence*. London, 1963.

An overview of the Dokan project with references to further literature can be found in

- J. Eidem, "The Towers of Shemshara", in G. Barjamovic et al. (eds.), *Akkade is King* (PIHANS 118). Leiden, 2011.

The archive of Kuwari found by the Danish expedition is published in:

- J. Eidem and J. Læssøe, *The Shemshara Archives 1. The Letters*. Copenhagen, 2001.

A very comprehensive and recent overview of the history of northeastern Iraq and adjacent areas, incorporating the period of the Shemshara archive, is available online:

- K.M. Ahmed, *The Beginnings of Ancient Kurdistan*. PhD thesis, Leiden University, 2012. https://openaccess.leidenuniv.nl/handle/1887/19095

Back to Rania

A new tablet

A pleasant surprise was the discovery of a tablet with cuneiform writing, found between two large storage jars in a room in level 8. The tablet is of sun-dried, dark grey clay. It measures 9.5 x 4.3 x 1.9 cm, and it has 22 lines of writing. Both sides of the tablet have a large cross (X) impressed over the writing, and intended to “cancel” the document. This is extremely interesting, since it shows that the tablet functioned in an administrative system regularly using accounts, and later summarising series of documents to other, summary, formats. It is therefore fairly certain that the single stray tablet found in 2012 represents an archive once kept in level 8 – and which might still be there!

The document on the tablet is a list of bread issued to groups of soldiers and some individuals. Unfortunately several entries are damaged and cannot be fully reconstructed, but some entries are readable and provide interesting information. In the first two lines we find issues to “the man from Kakmum”, and “the man from Urbilum”. These men must have been envoys or messengers from the cities of Kakmum and Urbilum, both major political players in the region in the very early second millennium BC, and this is a fairly certain indication that Shemshara, like in the time of Kuwari, played an important role in the Rania Plain and beyond, no doubt a function of its strategic location. The site of ancient Kakmum cannot be located with any precision, but was the capital in a powerful local kingdom. Urbilum is the ancient name of the modern capital of the Kurdish region of Iraq, Erbil, located some 80 kms west of the Rania Plain, and well-known to be a very ancient city.

The first short season at Shemshara was perhaps not a “dream come true”, but a very positive experience. The authorities as well as our local associates, workers, drivers etc., were all extremely helpful and welcoming, and the first results of our work most promising. We sincerely look forward to future seasons on the Rania Plain.

Team members

The small 2012 team included the author as field director, G.R. van Veen and M. Uildriks (surveyors), R. Andersen (registrar), D. Socci (database manager), and M. Merlino and L.E. van de Peut (site supervisors). Future seasons will involve also specialists in geomorphology, conservation, paleobotany, paleozoology, and other experts.

Acknowledgments

The NINO project in Iraqi Kurdistan is funded by NWO, NINO, and a Danish foundation. It operates under a generous permission granted by the Directorate General of Museums and Heritage of the Kurdish Regional Government (Erbil) and the Directorate of Antiquities of Sulaymania Governorate.

Our special thanks go to the director of the latter institution, Dr Kamal Rashid Raheem, and his staff, who guided and aided us at every step, and contributed enormously to the successful results of our work.

Fig. 1. Looking down at trenches M10, M11, L10 and L11 after a day of work.

Fig. 2. Structures 2, 3, 10 and 4 seen from the south at the end of the 2012 season.

NIT Excavations at Barcın Höyük, 2012

Fokke Gerritsen and Rana Özbal

The excavations at Barcın Höyük, a Neolithic site located in the Yenişehir Plain just south of the lake of İznik, are the latest of a series of Dutch projects which have been continuing in the southern Marmara Region now for a quarter of a century. The Barcın Höyük excavations have been especially noteworthy because they have been able to furnish the history of the Neolithic occupation in this region and the greater Marmara Region in general with chronological periods that predate those uncovered by other projects. Some initial results have been presented in earlier editions of the NINO-NIT Annual Report. The excavations in 2012 further contributed towards our understanding of the earliest levels at the site. Radiocarbon samples date the beginning of the site to c. 6600 BC. The Neolithic settlement continued in this location without any notable hiatus in occupation for at least half a millennium, ending at around the beginning of the sixth millennium BC.

The 2012 season was a large season and excavations were conducted in eight trenches simultaneously, sometimes with two independent teams working in a given trench. This brief update will provide background information on a few of areas where field research was conducted. Among the most productive was the work carried out on early levels in trench L14, the documentation and excavation of a domestic structure located in trenches L11 and L12, the investigation of a house structure in trench M13, and, most significantly, the discovery of a series of rooms or structures between trenches M10 and M11 some of which were used for craft production activities (Fig. 1).

2012 Work on the Earliest Phase at Barcın

Following the exploration of the earliest phase of occupation, phase VIe, in 2011 in trench L13, this year, levels of the same occupation phase were reached in the northeast quadrant of trench L14. Overall it nearly doubled our earliest exposure dating to around 6600-6500 BC. Excavations directly above virgin soil yielded an area of occupation deposits with fragments of informal surfaces, a fire pit and remnants of installations of unknown function. Burials of a juvenile and a baby were dug into these layers. In addition, a roughly parallel alignment of circular discolorations was found that we interpreted as postholes.

Study of the pottery and small finds including the beads and the stone tools suggest that some fundamental developments appeared at the end of phase VIe. In last year's report, we already mentioned a change in pottery making traditions and cooking practices. The latter changed from a technique using heated stones (found abundantly in phase VIe) to one using ceramic vessels directly over a fire in VId and after. In terms of

Fig. 3. Excavation of a small cup in a baby burial in structure 4.

Fig. 4. Grooved sandstone object, probably used for making bone implements. The bone awl was found separately.

small finds phase VIe witnessed an abundance of shell beads. Stone becomes the preferred raw material for beads only in the following phase, VId. In terms of stone axes, a change between VIe and VId to harder types of rocks suggests that new stone outcrops in the hills surrounding the Yenişehir Valley began to be exploited for raw material than before.

Work in trenches M10 and M11

Excavations on a series of four adjacent structures in the area straddling the M10 and M11 boundary were a main focus of the 2012 excavation season (Fig. 2). These structures were inhabited during phases VId and VIc. Whereas structure 2 was partially excavated in 2011, adjacent structures 3, 4 and 10 were first investigated during the past season and further work on them will continue in 2013. They are post-wall constructions, following what appears to be the standard house building technique at Barcın. The westernmost of the rooms, structure 2, burnt down. Interesting is the fact that the burning was restricted to this room alone. Excavations in structure 2 in 2011 had uncovered what had first appeared to be burnt floorboards covered with loam mixed with straw. When work continued in 2012 in the southern part of this structure, the absence of floorboards there indicates that the boards and loam actually form a rectangular platform or raised floor in the northeastern corner of the room. The floors in the south were made of trampled earth. Several cattle horns, possibly used as decorative architectural elements, were found here, as well as a concentration of hazelnut shells, pottery, a polishing stone and part of a greenstone axe, all heavily damaged by the fire.

Structure 2 is of further interest because after its destruction by fire, this location became an outdoor area with a series of ovens. Removal of the ovens and associated contexts yielded over a dozen infant burials from this area. They conform to a pattern also observed in other parts of the site, that babies were buried in the rubble of abandoned houses. Only a few of these burials were associated with any grave goods but most notably one excavated in 2010 yielded a complete bone spatula. Structure 4 to the east of the trench was also used for the placement of a baby burial following abandonment. The baby burial excavated here was accompanied by a small ceramic cup placed upside down next to the skeleton (Fig. 3).

In addition to many stone and bone implements typical of this period like axes and spoons adjacent structures, the exposed floors of structure 3 and 10 both yielded a series of craft implements suggesting that these spaces were used for craft production activities. Structure 10, for example, yielded a piece of coarse sandstone

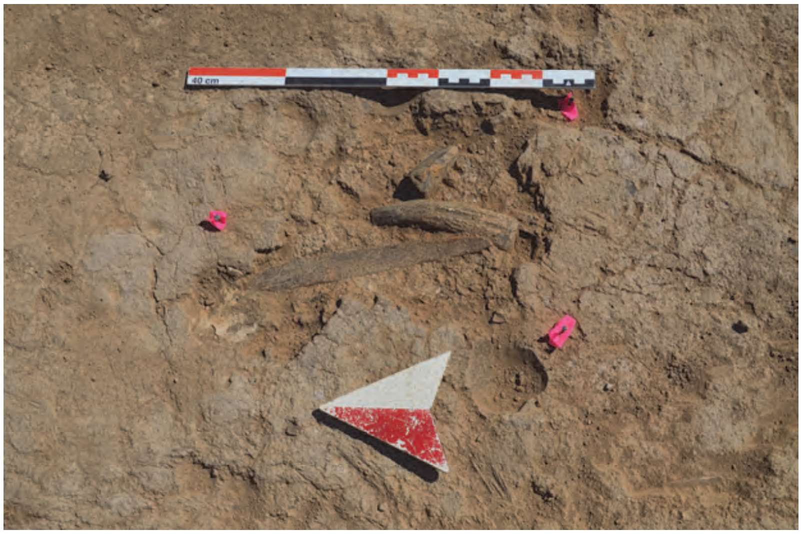


Fig. 5. Flint core, bone spatula and antler punch found together.

Fig. 6. Assorted finds from a floor in structure 10, including bone implements, hammer stones, and a group of red rocks.

with many grooves (Fig. 4); probably a whetstone used for the sharpening and polishing of bone awls. Other implements like an antler punch for producing chipped stone tools (Fig. 5), and many hand-sized pebbles that show traces of intensive rubbing, hammering and polishing were also discovered.

Interestingly, structures 3 and 10 yielded implements and raw materials that can be associated with the production of red pigment. Among the finds are a group of red stones (Fig. 6), and several hammer stones with red discolorations on the worn surfaces. A concentration of red powder was associated with large sherds of a two-handled pot and a long cattle rib also with red stains on its surface (Fig. 7). By way of experiment, a red stone similar to the ones from the group was crushed in a mortar and produced a fine powder that could well have been used as pigment (Fig. 8).

It is interesting to think about what the red paint made with the pigments could have been for. Painted pottery occurs, but is quite rare and would not have required much paint. There are a few other clues regarding the uses of paint in the settlement. Excavations in 2011 in the burnt house (structure 2) recovered a rectangular container which was found lying on the floor of the house (Fig. 9). It was made of dried clay that had been turned into ceramic only by the fire that destroyed the house. The container had been crushed flat by the collapsed roof and was restored during the summer of 2012. It turned out to be a basin c. 60 by c. 40 centimetre in size with roughly vertical sides c. 30 centimetres deep. We do not know the function of this container, but the interior as well as exterior surfaces were covered by a layer of red paint. It is thanks to the fire that the contained was preserved and that we can recognise the use of paint on its surfaces. Traces of red paint were also found on the wall fragments of this burnt house.

We can hypothesize about other uses, but for now without concrete evidence. Paint may well have been used as textile dye or for bodily decorations (to go with the white, blue, red and other colour beads that we find). While we tend to picture prehistoric life in the earth tones of the dirt that we excavate, we should perhaps envisage a much more colourful settlement and community. At the least, it appears that crushing stones to make paints was a frequent and perhaps time consuming activity. In our research, activities related to food production, preparation and consumption have a tendency to take center stage; finds like this group of objects remind us that prehistoric daily life was about much more than the next harvest or the next meal.

Fig. 7. Concentration of red pigment between impressions of pottery sherds (removed), and a large cattle rib. A prehistoric pit cut away the remainder of this floor in the lower right corner of the image.

Fig. 8. Red stone crushed in a mortar as an experiment to produce pigment.

Acknowledgements

The excavations at Barcın Höyük are carried out in collaboration with and through the support of many institutions. It is our pleasure to acknowledge the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), Research Institute CLUE of VU University Amsterdam, Koç University's College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Boğaziçi University's Chemistry Department, Uludağ University's Yenişehir Ibrahim Orhan Vocational School and its Director Prof. Dr. Bahri Yıldız. Permission for the excavations was granted by the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism's General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums.

Further reading

- F.A. Gerritsen, R. Özbal and L.C. Thissen, "The earliest Neolithic levels at Barcın Höyük, Northwestern Turkey", *Anatolica* 39 (2013), 53-92.
- F.A. Gerritsen, R. Özbal and L.C. Thissen, "Barcın Höyük", in: M. Özdoğan, N. Başgelen and P. Kuniholm (eds.) *The Neolithic in Turkey. New excavations and new research. Northwestern Turkey and Istanbul.* Istanbul 2013, 93-112.

The population's burial customs and health aspects are discussed in:

- M.S. Alpaslan Roodenberg, F.A. Gerritsen and R. Özbal, "Neolithic burials from Barcın Höyük: the 2007-2012 excavation seasons", *Anatolica* 39 (2013), 93-111.

Fig. 9. Clay basin showing the red painted interior surfaces.

Fig. 1. Grain harvest, wall painting in the 18th dynasty tomb of Menna (TT 69).
Note the long awns, which are found on barley and emmer, but not on hard wheat and bread wheat (photograph by R.J. Demaree, 1971).

Modelling shifts in cereal cultivation in Egypt from the start of agriculture until modern times

René Cappers

Introduction

Interest in the ancient Egyptian flora has a long tradition. It was initially based on the translation and interpretation of written plant names and representations of plants on reliefs. The first study of subfossil plant remains was carried out by Jomard in 1815-1818 (published in the *Description de l'Égypte* in 1862), whereas the earliest publication of archaeobotanical research is an article by Kunth (1826), in which he enumerates plant remains retrieved from tombs – unfortunately without mentioning their provenance. From the 1880s onwards, archaeobotanical reports were published on a regular basis, though in small numbers. An increase in such reports is observable from the 1980s onwards. In comparison with other countries of the African continent, the archaeobotanical record of Egypt is extremely rich.

Until the 1980s, publications mainly focused on the documentation of obvious concentrations of crop plants, food items used as offerings, and isolated large seeds and fruits. A representative compilation of these samples is brought together in the Agricultural Museum in Dokki, Cairo (Cappers & Hamdy 2007). The systematic sampling of archaeological contexts aimed at answering specific research questions is of more recent date. In these more recent publications, records of wild plants are also well represented.

The extensive archaeobotanical record of ancient Egypt can be used to reconstruct past agricultural practices, including major shifts in crop assemblages. This article deals with shifts in cereal cultivation from the early Neolithic (6000 BCE) to modern times (here defined as the period after 1945). It is aimed at modelling the criteria that may explain the cultivation of particular cereals during specific time periods. Criteria that have been put forward to explain cereal assemblages from the Pharaonic period, for example, relate to the annual agrarian cycle, traditions, religious motives, preference of taste, the use of threshing remains, and wages and taxation (Murray 2000). I would suggest, however, that these criteria do not provide an adequate explanation. Some of these criteria, such as tradition and taste, may have come into play only after a particular selection of cereals became part of the spectrum of crops being cultivated.

A prerequisite for reconstructing the process of crop selection is a critical reconsideration of previous identifications and a standardisation of plant names. As far as cereals are concerned, archaeobotanists are dealing with grain kernels (fruits, also more specifically referred to as caryopsis) and threshing remains. Reliable features that can be used for the identification of these small plant remains have been developed and improved over the years. It is now recognised,

Cereal cultivation in Egypt

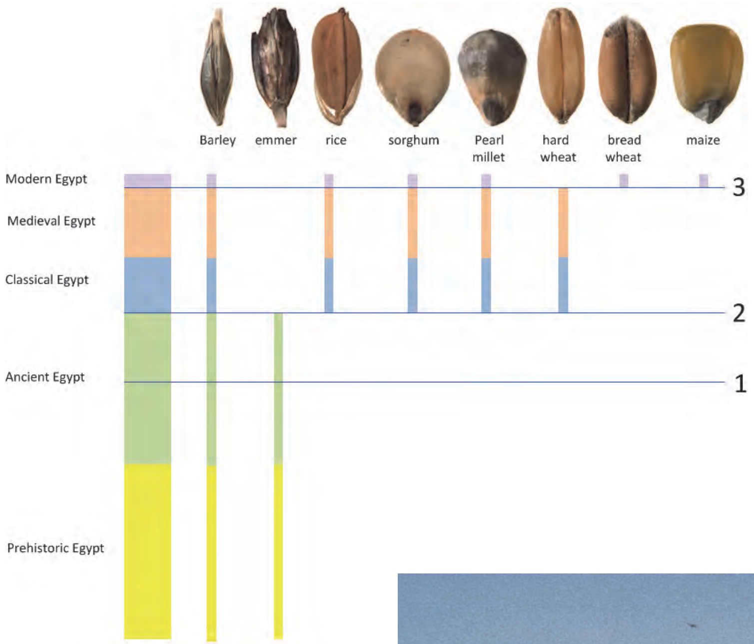


Fig. 2. Introduction and replacement of cereal crops in Egypt, in which three major changes are recognised. The timescale starts with the Neolithic period, at 6000 BCE.

Fig. 3. Field of grain near Tell al-Fara'in (ancient Buto) (photograph by O.E. Kaper, 1996).

for example, that the threshing of spelt (*Triticum aestivum* ssp. *spelta*) results in a combination of barrel-shaped and wedge-shaped spikelets and that the latter may have been misidentified as emmer (Cappers & Neef 2012; Neef et al. 2012). Our ability to identify einkorn and emmer was also improved by the discovery of a new morphological feature. Threshing remains of these hulled cereals are distinguished by differences in the width of the rachis node. This feature is, however, not unequivocal, because rachis fragments can become deformed due to charring. But the presence of the aberrant apical spikelet, characterised by a 90° twist of the rachis node, makes it possible to distinguish between einkorn and emmer (provided that a reasonable number of rachis fragments can be evaluated).

Major shifts in cereal selection

The neolithisation in Egypt, which starts rather late compared with other areas of the Near East, is dated to the sixth millennium BCE. Throughout the agricultural history of Egypt, three major shifts in cereal selection can be discerned. Cereals that have been recorded for the Neolithic period and the Predynastic period (Fig. 2: "Prehistoric Egypt") include hulled 6-row barley (*Hordeum vulgare* ssp. *vulgare*), emmer (*Triticum turgidum* ssp. *dicoccon*), and club wheat (*Triticum aestivum* ssp. *compactum*). Throughout the Neolithic, 6-row barley and emmer seem to be the regular crops, whereas club wheat most probably was cultivated on a limited scale. Club wheat has been recorded only from El-Omari and Merimde, both sites located in Lower Egypt (Cappers in press). Hulled 6-row barley and emmer remain the staple cereals throughout the Pharaonic period (Fig. 2: "Ancient Egypt").

The first shift in cereal production appears to have taken place during the transition from the Second Intermediate Period to the New Kingdom (Murray 2000). The archaeobotanical record seems to indicate that initially barley was the predominant crop, but that emmer replaced it in pre-eminence during the New Kingdom, and especially in the 25th Dynasty. This shift in predominance is mainly based on the evidence of the grain kernels themselves. An alternative method of quantifying cereals is the counting of rachis nodes present in the threshing remains (Cappers et al. 2004). The proportion of barley to wheat based on grain kernels may be misleading due to large quantities that originate from storage facilities. Subsamples that become available for archaeobotanical research cannot be considered to represent the original proportion of the harvest. A more reliable estimate of the proportion can be obtained by a random sampling of the threshing remains that are present as settlement noise (Cappers submitted; Cappers & Neef 2012). Quantifying threshing

A few basic botany terms

Fruit – Plant fruits develop from the lower-most part of the pistel of the flower. A fruit contains one or more seeds. Cereals have one-seeded fruits. The fruits of grasses (Poaceae) are called caryopsis or grain.

Compound fruit – Cluster of fruits, each of which developed from a single flower consisting of many pistels.

Spikelet – One or more florets that are surrounded at their base by one or two glumes. This term is preferably reserved for grasses.

Awn – bristle-like appendage on the glume or the lemma.

Culm – Stem of grasses and sedges.

Node – Thickened part of the rhizome or stem (where one or more leaves arise) and the rachis (where one or more spikelets arise).

Internode – Part of the stem between two nodes.

Texts and illustrations from Neef et al. 2012.

Fig. 4. Fruit of einkorn (*Triticum monococcum*) covered by chaff (left) and without chaff (right).

Fig. 5. Compound fruit of hulled 6-row barley (*Hordeum vulgare* ssp. *vulgare*).

Fig. 6. Spikelet of emmer with designations of its parts.

Fig. 7. Awn attached to the lemma of a hair grass (*Aira elegantissima*).

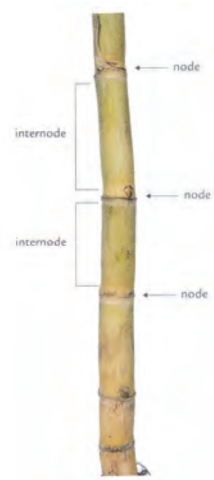


Fig. 8. Stem of sugar cane (*Saccharum officinarum*).

remains in this way is, however, not a standard procedure in archaeobotanical research.

A second major shift takes place at the onset of the Graeco-Roman period (Fig. 2: "Classical Egypt"). This time, the change is not related to a change in proportions, but is instead characterised by the introduction of four newcomers: hard wheat (*Triticum turgidum* ssp. *durum*), pearl millet (*Pennisetum glaucum*), sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor*), and rice (*Oryza sativa*). The free-threshing hard wheat replaced the hulled emmer, a process that took some 200 years to complete (Crawford 1979). Like emmer, hard wheat originates from the Fertile Crescent. The other three newcomers are introductions from more remote areas: pearl millet and sorghum are domesticates from Africa south of the Sahara, whereas rice was imported from India.

A third and last major shift occurred only recently, in the Post-Modern period (Fig. 2: "Modern Egypt"). Again, a replacement occurs between two cereals that originate from the Fertile Crescent: the free-threshing hard wheat is replaced by another free-threshing wheat, namely, bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* ssp. *aestivum*). Although bread wheat was first introduced in 1921 at an experimental level, it was only from the late 1970s onwards that the introduction was intensified. The hard wheat that is cultivated in Egypt today is a new introduced landrace (viz. 'Beni Suef'), and it is only grown on a limited scale. In addition to hard wheat, maize (*Zea mays*) became an import cereal as well in recent times. Together with such crops as tomato (*Solanum lycopersicon*), aubergine (*Solanum melongena*), sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), tobacco (*Nicotiana spp.*; though forbidden by law in 1883), and potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), it clearly reflects a New World crop assemblage.

Explaining cereal shifts

All the cereals that grew in Egypt until the Graeco-Roman period originated from the Fertile Crescent. This area has a Mediterranean climate, receiving most of its rainfall between October and April. The domesticated cereals in this area are winter crops and thus also adapted to the flood cycles of the Nile. This implies that barley and wheat could be cultivated in the oases, using underground springs for irrigation, as well as in the Nile Valley, the Nile Delta, and the Fayum, which, until 1970, were drained by Nile flooding between June and September. Sorghum and pearl millet, on the other hand, have a different photosynthesis pathway and are adapted to summer cropping. Summer crops can be cultivated in oases, because irrigation can be practised there throughout the year. The introduction of such crops in the Nile Valley, the Nile Delta, and the Fayum became possible only after the application of new irrigation techniques

Fig. 9. Shaduf, wall painting in the 19th dynasty tomb of Ipuy (TT 217) (reproduction by N. de Garis Davies, 1924. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York).

in the Graeco-Roman period that facilitated the cultivation of summer crops (Van der Veen 2011).

A positive score on yield, labour, space, and fuel could explain the predominance of hulled 6-row barley until the New Kingdom, even leaving aside the above-mentioned criticism dealing with the quantification of cereals. In fact, barley is the only cereal that seems to represent a substantial part of the cereal assemblages throughout the whole of Egypt's agricultural past. It is possible that the shift to a predominance of emmer is related to improvements in irrigation. The introduction of the *shaduf*, probably during the second half of the 18th dynasty (Amarna period), made it possible to lift water to a height of 2.5 m. But this kind of artificial irrigation might have been more suitable to small-scaled plots, used for horticultural purposes, than to the larger cereal fields (Murray 2000).

The replacement of emmer by hard wheat in the Graeco-Roman period is most probably related to a changing economy, characterised by large-scale storage and transport and a high turnover rate of cereal-based food. The quality of the grain endosperm is rather similar in both these cereals, thus neither labour for grinding nor fuel for preparing food can explain the change to hard wheat. However, there is a big difference in the labour required for dehusking. With emmer, dehusking is a separate, laborious stage in the processing. With naked hard wheat, on the other hand, the grain kernels are separated from the threshing remains during threshing; threshing thus automatically includes dehusking.

Jasny (1944) first recognised the argument of reducing the amount of space required for storage and transport, by suggesting a connection between the transition to naked cereals and the international grain trade in the Graeco-Roman period. Without knowing about this 1944 publication, Cappers & Raemaekers (2008) made the same argument in their comparison of the advantages and disadvantages of hulled and naked cereals with respect to harvesting, threshing, transport, and storage.

It is likely that the availability of huge quantities of threshing remains from naked cereals was of equal importance to the edibility and storage properties of the actual grains, and that it played an equivalent part in the selection of these cereals. The availability of such large quantities at once on the threshing floor generated new economic value of its own, including the use of threshing remains as temper, fuel, and fodder. Their use as temper will have had an impact on the improvement of mud brick production. The analysis of threshing remains in Roman bricks from Karanis (Fayum) shows that the culm fragments are fairly short and must have been fragmented further after threshing to facilitate an easier mixing of organics and clay. Mud bricks are mostly produced in large quantities at once, and the availability of a high-quality type of temper must have been valued. Indicative of its economic value are ostraca which describe the bulk transport of threshing remains in Roman Egypt.

The use of threshing remains from naked wheat as fuel is only possible when they are mixed with other organics, such as dung. Pure threshing remains do not burn easily, probably due to the absence of sufficient oxygen. Large-scale production of dung cakes may have taken advantage of the supply of standardised temper, similar to the production of mud bricks. Its use as fodder is probably of less importance: threshing remains are extremely dry and difficult to swallow. In addition, the nutritious value and the digestibility of culms are low.

The introduction of rice and sorghum in the Graeco-Roman period is related to the long-distance trade with India and improvements in irrigation. Irrigation made it possible to cultivate summer crops as well as winter crops. Rice cultivation puts a high demand on the availability of water, and it is questionable to what extent this crop was grown in Egypt. Sorghum employs is adapted to much lower water availability.

The fact that hard wheat has only recently been replaced by bread wheat can be explained by the luxury status of the latter; in all other respects, these two cereals are very similar. Hard wheat and bread wheat both have a high potential yield and produce some 60-70 grain kernels per spike. They are also both free-threshing, which means that the dispersal unit has changed (from spikelet to grain kernel) and that natural seed dispersal occurs. To minimise seed loss by shattering as a result of this change, the harvesting method had to be adapted: harvesting is preferably done in the morning, taking advantage of the morning dew to minimise grain loss, and the plants are harvested close to the soil. In this way, after-ripening of the grain kernels is possible because water from the grain kernels can still be reallocated to the vegetative parts of the plant. Another advantage of both hard wheat and bread wheat is that grain kernels and threshing remains can be transported and stored separately. A disadvantage of both is that grain kernels are no longer protected by chaff and are more vulnerable to decay in this condition.

Despite these similarities, bread wheat has to be considered as the more luxurious of the two because it needs somewhat more labour for grinding and much more fuel for baking. So in fact it is two disadvantages, linked to the hardness and the composition of the grain endosperm, that make bread wheat a luxury. The availability of natural gas for domestic use and household ovens makes it feasible to increase the frequency of the use of ovens and to bake bread that can only be stored for a short period.

Some further thoughts

Looking at the criteria that determine the selection of cereals, it should be realised that this kind of modelling is only possible if cereals are identified to a low taxonomic level. It is perhaps no accident that common names for cereal crops relate to the level of subspecies rather than species. To improve the modelling of crop selection, it is of importance that the identification of subfossil plant remains be as precise as possible. The modern classification of wheat taxa has the advantage that the husk tightness is fixed in each taxon, thus implicitly related to the yield, availability of threshing remains, storage volume, and protection against insect attacks. The classification of barley, on the other hand, differs among floras: 2-row barley and 6-row barley are either considered to be a single species (*Hordeum vulgare L.*), or distinguished on a subspecies (or variety) level. Therefore, the archaeobotanical documentation of barley should describe not only the subspecies level (viz. ssp. *distichon* and ssp. *vulgare*), but also the kind of husk tightness (viz. hulled and free-threshing).

Contrary to Samuel (2009), I suspect the dehusking of emmer was not a daily task for most people in ancient Egypt. Daily grinding for bread making implies that large amounts of fuel are available. I would suggest instead that, like barley, emmer was used for making flatbread in large quantities. This implies that the amount of threshing remains produced by dehusking in bulk could also have had an economic value, and may have been used, for example, in mud brick production.

Hulled barley seems to be an ideal crop. Its life cycle is shorter than that of wheat, making it less vulnerable tot salinisation. The increase of salt in the topsoil is especially a problem in arid climates that depend on long-term irrigation. In archaeobotanical publications, barley is mostly considered to be a crop cultivated for beer production and fodder. This seems strange, however, if we realise that barley is a staple crop from the start of the Neolithic until the present day. And if this crop was even more dominant than emmer until the New Kingdom, it must have been an important food for people. In Ethiopia, for example, it is made into all kinds of different foods, including bread, porridge, and soup, and roasted unripe grain kernels are eaten as a snack. The analysis of bread from excavations, often exposed as offerings, shows that most of it is made from emmer, although a few examples are known that are made from barley flour (Samuel 2000). Unfortunately, none of these breads are assigned to a particular period, and it may well be that we are dealing with loaves

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of bread dated to the New Kingdom and Late Period, during which emmer became the predominant cereal. These finds therefore do not exclude the possibility that barley bread was also baked, especially in the period preceding the New Kingdom.

It would be of interest to document the frequency of bread ovens in relation to (1) the extent to which ovens are private or communal property and (2) the kinds of cereals and fuels used for bread-making. Ethno-archaeobotanical research in the Moroccan Jebala (Western Rif) documented the kind of fuel that was used in the ovens used for daily bread-making, but unfortunately not the kind of cereal used. Flatbreads have a long tradition in a number of areas (*chapatti* in Hindi; *nan* in Persian, Urdu, and Punjabi; and *pitta* in English).

The traditional sources of fuel in Egypt are fuel wood and dung cakes. In order to maintain a constant availability of fuel, only dead branches of trees are collected. In this way, the carrying capacity of the environment remains stable. Although differences in caloric value explain a preference for acacia wood over that of more soft-wooded trees, such as tamarisk, the latter may have been used more due to availability and price (Belal et al. 2009). Dung cakes, made from animal dung and threshing remains, are a type of fuel that is fully integrated with the agricultural system. Recently, because natural gas has become available for domestic use and household ovens are being replaced by gas ovens and kerosene stoves, dung cakes have become increasingly obsolete. But due to the current unstable political situation in Egypt, fossil fuel may become more scarce again. Although the price of bread has been kept artificially low by governmental regulation, it is plausible that the price for bread will shoot up and cause further political instability. One solution might be to switch back to eating hard bread and firing ovens on dung cakes.

Tasty bread, but difficult to digest

The replacement of hard wheat by bread wheat may have implications for the state of health of the Egyptian population. The high gluten content of bread wheat is not only responsible for making dough rise; it is also responsible for coeliac disease, a disorder that is genetically determined. The genes involved in this disease may be located on the D-genome. If this turns out to be correct, the replacement of hard wheat by bread wheat likely gave rise to an increase in coeliac disease in Egypt over the past forty years.

Fig. 1. Tophane on a postcard from the beginning of the 20th century.

The Tophane Heritage Project, 2012

Karin Schuitema and Gözde Önder

"While going from Tophane to the Bosphorus on the left, at the European side a large number of garden houses are seen, then on both sides of the shore, having the most beautiful view of the world entering the Bosphorus; this view with the magnificent houses and fruit gardens wins in beauty."

Jean Thévenot (1633-1667)

The neighbourhood of Tophane in Istanbul was a place frequented by travellers during Ottoman times, when it used to be an important port and industrial area. These Ottoman period travellers articulated what they saw in words and images. Nowadays Tophane, located close to a large cruise ship harbour, is becoming an area visited by more and more tourists. It is interesting to find out, both for past and present, how the neighbourhood, and its places, buildings and people, are considered and described by inhabitants as well as outsiders. To get an idea of how the neighbourhood is considered nowadays, stories and memories of inhabitants and non-inhabitants, such as tourists, can be documented. For Ottoman times, descriptions of Tophane in traveller accounts enable a look at the neighbourhood through visitors' eyes.

In 2012 the NIT started the Tophane Heritage Project as a new mainstay for interdisciplinary research. One of the aims of the project is to create a biography of the neighbourhood from Ottoman times up till now, in which perspectives on and descriptions of the neighbourhood by both 'insiders' and 'outsiders' are considered. Below a short introduction to the neighbourhood of Tophane is given, then an image of the area through the eyes of travellers and artists during Ottoman times will be sketched, including some attention to the monumental structures of the area.

Tophane as a case-study

From a historical and social perspective, Tophane (Fig. 1) has long been one of the most dynamic areas in Istanbul; adjoining the Beyoğlu-district, the area was renowned for its multi-ethnic and multi-cultural composition: Greeks, Armenians, Jews and Muslims. In the course of the first decades of the Turkish Republic most of the non-Muslim minorities left or were forced to leave the city. The uninhabited houses in Tophane were re-inhabited by migrants, many of them from eastern Anatolia from the 1950s onwards. Currently Tophane is undergoing a process of gentrification: higher-class people with 'cosmopolitan', 'globalizing' lifestyles replacing lower income groups with often more 'traditional' lifestyles. Its many layers of history, as well as physical and social changes nowadays, make Tophane an interesting case-study about Istanbul's heritage.

Fig. 2. *Tophane-i Amire* cannonball foundry
(photograph by K. Schuitema).

The Tophane Heritage Project, 2012

Tophane in Ottoman times

Several monumental structures give shape and continuity to the built environment of the area. The short history of Tophane described below, will use these monuments as a guidance to create an image of the neighbourhood.

The name *'Tophane'* for the district is derived from a monumental structure known as *'Tophane-i Amire'*, cannonball foundry (Fig. 2), which was built during the reign of the Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II after the conquest of Constantinople in 1453. Since the Ottoman Empire was in the process of expansion, cannonballs were needed for various battles and produced in this foundry. This version of the imperial armoury, however, did not survive up till today. The structure of the building that we can still see nowadays is most probably built by Selim III in 1803 and the building is used as an exhibition hall by Mimar Sinan University today. Apart from this foundry, the Tophane area also housed a gunpowder factory and other artillery works (Geçkalan and Sezgin 2011). A large and diverse community of employees was supported by the military, industrial and administrative works: Jewish blacksmiths, German gunsmiths, French, Venetian and Genoese experts, Armenians and Greeks. In the travel accounts of Christian travellers, such as Nicolas de Nicolay, the Christian experts in the military industries located in Tophane are referred to as people 'producing canons, muskets, gunpowder, shots and other military munitions for the Turks, in a way that would greatly harm the Christian world' (Geçkalan and Sezgin 2011). Furthermore, Tophane also functioned as a major harbour, for industry, but also to access Beyoğlu, where during the 19th century the foreign embassies were located. This importance only changed with the construction of the Galata dockyards around the 1890s.

Especially after the construction of the Tophane fountain by Mahmud I in 1732, supplying the area with water, a flourishing, cosmopolitan residential neighbourhood around the military industries came into being. This fountain, decorated in an Ottoman baroque-rococo architectural style, is the first of these types of fountains seen in Istanbul at the beginning of the 18th century, although they already existed in Edirne during the second half of the 17th century when the royal court still resided there. The fountain is decorated with flowers, pots with fruit trees and plants. All painted in green, blue and red (the colours have not survived), and the most important parts of the façade used to be gilded (Theunissen 2011). This fountain also became a focus of travellers' and artists' interest. Guillaume-Antoine Olivier (1756-1814), a French entomologist who travelled the Ottoman Empire at the end of the 18th century, describes the fountain as follows:

Fig. 3. Kılıç Ali Paşa complex
(photograph by K. Schuitema).

> *"A fountain built by a captain pasha a few years ago decorates the area. The large gilded roof on the fountain is full of ornaments, inscriptions and suras (sections of the Qur'an)."*

These new types of fountains were not part of a religious complex anymore during this time, but rather became of a more secular character. Coffeehouses and a market developed around the fountain. In this way the area became a place of entertainment where people from different social classes met each other (Theunissen 2011).

The ethnic-religious variety of the inhabitants of Tophane is expressed in different religious monuments as well, such as various churches and mosques. One of the most important mosques of Tophane is the Kılıç Ali Paşa complex (Fig. 3) built in the name of the grand admiral Kılıç Ali Paşa between 1578-1580. It is one of the masterpieces of the architect Sinan. It exists of a mosque, a medrese (Koran school), a hamam (bath house) and tombs. The appearance of the outside of the mosque architecturally resembled the Hagia Sophia although their scales and inner decorations differ from each other. It is questioned whether the use of this Hagia Sophia model is the decision of Mimar Sinan himself, the demand of Kılıç Ali Paşa or maybe just a practical shape for a domed building, having to house large numbers of sailors during gatherings.

Tophane through travellers' eyes

Interest and curiosity towards Constantinople by, often Western, travellers increased from the 17th century onwards. Such travellers observed and documented the Ottoman monuments, culture and daily life, as outsiders and therefore these documents shed an interesting light on Tophane.

The French traveller, linguist, natural scientist and botanist Jean Thévenot (1633-1667) started a journey when he was eighteen, travelling to England, the Netherlands, Germany and Italy. Later he travelled parts of the Ottoman world: to the Aegean islands, Constantinople, Izmir, different parts of Anatolia and Alexandria During his visit to Istanbul, he came to Tophane and describes the area as follows:

> *"From Pera, you come down to Tophane located on the banks of a stream and across a palace. This area is named Tophane because here cannon balls and parts of guns are cast and this also gives the name to the neighbourhood known as a small town. The houses in Galata, Pera and Tophane were built in such an order that it looked like all of them were exactly above and beneath each other. They rose up like an amphitheatre with a pleasing view on the harbour and the sea."*

As described in the paragraph above, a market was located in Tophane in the area around the fountain. Wooden huts were lined along the square and sailors would buy their supplies at this lively market before sailing off. A description of Tophane's market (Fig. 4) around the fountain

Fig. 4 .Open-air market in front of the Tophane fountain
(*Eskimeyen Istanbul, Dün & Bugün*).

is made by the French writer and traveller Théophile Gautier (1811-1872) during the middle of the 19th century:

> *"Yogurt, cream and candies very much liked by Turks were sold in counters installed outdoors; bells were ringing in front of water shops, small crystal globes were tingling; cold drinks, such as ayran, and ice-cream vendors were lined up at the side of the Square…"*

Apart from descriptions of the neighbourhood, many travellers also produced images, such as engravings and paintings, about Tophane. The English architect and artist Thomas Allom (1804-1872), for instance, painted a Tophane coffee-house (Fig. 5). An engraving of a coffeehouse in Tophane was published by Antoine Ignace Melling (1763-1831) in his travel account 'Voyage Pitto', where it is described as one of the most beautiful in Istanbul.

Furthermore, Tophane is the topic of a few of his ninety-one Istanbul drawings by the French artist Jules Laurens, who travelled to Turkey and Iran in the mid-19th century to sketch landscapes and sites. One of his drawings depicts Tophane, showing the row of domes of the Tophane i-Amire, the Kılıç Ali Paşa mosque, and the (no longer existing) Galata walls in the foreground (Fig. 6).

Tophane's future

Through the above mentioned functions of Tophane and representations by travellers and artists, one gets a rough impression of the different layers of history in Tophane. What about Tophane's contemporary developments and future? Plans for the Galata Port Project are due to be carried out, intending the renewal of the harbour area and the development of the area of Tophane for touristic purposes, including a multi-functional cruise ship harbour housing a museum, shopping mall, hotel, and offices (Geçkalan and Sezgin 2011). These renewal plans speed up the gentrification of the area, bringing higher income classes to the neighbourhood and 'pushing' lower income classes out of the neighbourhood. These developments also bring along physical changes in the neighbourhood and different, sometimes contradictory, notions of which pasts are considered important. Especially in the light of these current changes, it is important to document Tophane's heritage as well as the way it is considered and dealt with nowadays: heritage in a globalizing city. Therefore the stories, memories and descriptions of the neighbourhood by contemporary people, insiders and outsiders, are important as well. In order to be able to document these 'stories', the NIT is planning to carry out a pilot research about memories, heritage and identity in Tophane, involving students from Turkish and Dutch universities, in the summer of 2013.

Fig. 5. Coffeehouse in Tophane (Thomas Allom, *Constantinople and the Scenery of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor*, 1838).

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Fig. 6. Tophane view by Jules Laurens
(*Jules Laurens'ın Türkiye Yolculugu [Le Voyage de Jules Laurens en Turquie]*. Istanbul: Yapı Kredi Yayınları, 1998).

Fig. 1. Funerary cone LB 22.

⸢a-na ma⸣-ti-ma
⸢a-na la-ba⸣-ar u$_4$-*mi*
⸢a-na u$_4$-*mi ṣi-a⸣-tim*
[*a-n*]a ⸢u$_4$-*mi ša úh-h*[*u*]-*rù*
[ki.ma]h *a-ni-a-am*
li-mur-ma la ú-ša-sa-ak
a-⸢na⸣ áš-ri-šu li-te-er-šu
a-wi-lum šu-ú ⸢ša⸣ a-n[*i*]-*⸢i-tam⸣*
i-ma-ru-ma ⸢la i-me-e⸣-šu
ki-⸢a⸣-am i-qá-ab-⸢bu-ú⸣
[ki].⸢mah⸣-*mi a-ni-a-*[*am*]
[*a-na áš*]-⸢*ri*⸣-*šu-mi lu-te-er-šu*
⸢gi-mil⸣ i-pu-šu
li-ir-ti-ib-šu
⸢i-na⸣ e-la-ti šum-šu li-id-mi-iq
i-na ša-ap-la-ti e-ṭe-em-mu-šu
me-e za-ku-ti li-il-tu-ú

From the NINO collections:
A Babylonian funerary cone

Rients de Boer

There are thousands of funerary inscriptions known from Ancient Egypt, but only a few dozen from Mesopotamia. In this contribution one of only a few known Babylonian funerary cones is published.

The Böhl collection in Leiden contains many interesting unpublished texts. Some inscriptions are not published because the text is already known from similar objects. Such is the case with this Babylonian funerary cone: the text on it has been known since 1900, when it was first published – partly – by the eminent French Assyriologist Vincent Scheil. Over the years, similar cones with more or less the same inscription have been published.

Nevertheless, this type of object is little known, even to scholars of the Ancient Near East. Therefore we present the funerary cone from the Böhl collection here, with pictures.

Physical description

The collection number is LB 22. The cone was originally broken in half and it has been glued together. It is 11.3 cm long, 6.3 cm wide at its base and 2.3 cm at its top. It has a hole of 1.8 cm diameter in the bottom. The inscription runs in lines from the top to the bottom along the axis. The text on this particular cone was previously published by Benjamin Foster.

The inscription

The text on the cone calls upon the person finding the grave (with the funerary cone) to restore it, and not to destroy or neglect it. If this person restores the grave (*kimahhum*), the inscription wishes him a number of blessings. The text is in Akkadian written in cuneiform script:

Until forever,
until the end of days,
until the distant days,
until the last days.
This grave,
should one see it, he must not remove it!
Let him restore it to its (original) place!
That man who will see this
must not disregard it!
One must say as follows:
"This grave,
I will restore it to its (original) place!"
Let the favour that he will have done
be repaid to him!
Let his name be good in the realms above!
Let his spirit drink pure water in the realms below!

A Babylonian funerary cone

Fig. 2. Funerary cone LB 22: bottom with hole.

From the NINO collections:
A Babylonian funerary cone

Date

Originally it was thought that this cone and its parallels stem from the Old Babylonian period (ca. 2000-1600 BC). The script is clearly Old Babylonian and some grammatical features also point to this period. However, Foster has made it clear that the cone and its inscription are actually the product of Late Babylonian scholarship (ca. 1000-500 BC), imitating a more archaic style.

Structure and purpose

The inscription consists of three parts:

1) lines 1-4 underline the timelessness of the inscription's message;

2) lines 5-12 spur the person stumbling upon the grave to restore it instead of destroying it;

3) lines 13-17 are benedictions for the one who restores the grave.

Curiously, the cone does not bear the name of the person buried in the grave. This is perhaps due to the fact that the text was standardised and copied as it was.

We do not know where the inscription was originally placed: the cone was bought on the antiquities market more than one hundred years ago. It may have been found in a tomb, a sarcophagus, on top of a grave, next to the dead person, etc.

Because of the hole in the bottom, it seems logical to assume that the cone was placed on a stick as marker of the grave. However, graves were usually not marked in this manner in Mesopotamia. I agree with Lundström (2001, p. 230) that the cone was most likely placed in a subterranean crypt. These crypts were a common feature of the upper class Mesopotamian home: family members were interred in the family crypt underneath the house. This way the family could nourish the dead with regular food offerings (called *kispum* in Akkadian): they would symbolically offer some food and pour beer or water over the family crypt to appease the spirits of their ancestors.

Mesopotamian afterlife

The Mesopotamian afterlife was not a happy place: people believed that the spirits of the dead wandered in a dry and dusty netherworld ruled by harsh infernal gods. The deceased could only have some kind of afterlife if their living family provided them with food. This responsibility fell mainly upon the eldest son of the family's main line, but could also be performed by other family members. This is one of the reasons why having a large family was seen as one of the highest blessings.

Tablet XII of the famous Gilgamesh epic contains some interesting information about the Mesopotamian afterlife. With the help of the Sun god Shamash, Gilgamesh is able to talk to his deceased friend Enkidu about the Netherworld:

Fig. 3. Funerary cone LB 22: lines 4-9.

Fig. 4. Funerary cone LB 22: lines 12-17 (photographs by the author).

From the NINO collections:
A Babylonian funerary cone

"Did you see the man with one son?"

"I saw him. A peg is fixed in his wall and he weeps over it bitterly."

"Did you see the man with two sons?"

"I saw him. He sits on two bricks eating a loaf of bread."

"Did you see the man with three sons?"

"I saw him. He drinks water from a water skin slung on the saddle."

"Did you see the man with four sons?"

"I saw him. Like the owner of a donkey-team his heart rejoices."

"Did you see the man with five sons?"

"I saw him. Like a fine scribe his hand is deft, he enters the palace with ease."

"Did you see the man with six sons?"

"I saw him. Like a ploughman his heart rejoices."

"Did you see the man with seven sons?"

"I saw him. Among the junior deities he sits on a throne and listens to the proceedings."

The message here is clear: the more sons a man had, the better off he was in the afterlife. Or, put differently: more sons equals more chances that his spirit was kept nourished by his offspring.

The place where the ancestral offerings were made was less important than the actual offerings. Even so, a person's remains needed a proper resting place. Gilgamesh asks Enkidu more questions about life after death:

"Did you see the one whose corpse was left lying in the open countryside?"

"I saw him. His ghost does not lie at rest in the Netherworld."

"Did you see the one whose ghost has no provider of funerary offerings?"

"I saw him. He eats scrapings from the pot and crusts of bread that are thrown away in the street."

Conclusion

For a pleasant Mesopotamian afterlife one needed an undisturbed resting place and regular funerary offerings. The inscription on our funerary cone was perhaps a last resort in case the family members or descendants were no longer able to take care of the family crypt or private tomb. The inscription calls upon future inhabitants of his family home to respect and uphold the grave. The person in the grave could only hope that somewhere, somehow his offspring or kin kept providing him and other deceased family members with the regular funerary offerings.

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The translations of the excerpts from the Gilgamesh epic were taken from

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NINO activities

Jesper Eidem

General Director NINO and NIT

Introduction

NINO in Iraq

NINO is now active in Iraq – in the north-eastern corner of the country, where conditions have been stable and secure for some years. As described elsewhere in this report (pp. 2-11) a project team organised by NINO has in 2012 initiated archaeological fieldwork in the Rania Plain in Sulaymania province. Focus for this work is the investigation or re-investigation of sites affected by the formation and fluctuations of the artificial Dokan Lake. The NINO team in a first instance returned to the site of Tell Shemshara, briefly excavated by Danish and Iraqi teams in the 1950s, while a co-investigating Danish group began excavation at a nearby fourth millennium BC site, never investigated before. The first results of these efforts were extremely promising, and we look forward to new discoveries in 2013. Our local colleagues from the Sulaymania Directorate of Antiquities cannot be praised enough for their efficient and warm support, which makes it a real pleasure to work in Iraq.

The NINO archaeological project at Qala'at Halwanji in Northern Syria (cf. NINO-NIT Annual Reports 2009, 2-10, and 2010, 18-25) is still blocked by the crisis in Syria. At the time of writing (early 2013) there seemed no end in sight to the terrible tragedy unfolding in Syria, and we can only hope and pray that things will change for the better as soon as possible.

NINO in Amsterdam

In early 2012 the director of NINO was appointed 'bijzonder hoogleraar' (professor extraordinarius) in the Archaeology of Western Asia at the University of Amsterdam. The title of the chair reflects more generally the history, languages, and archaeology of the Ancient Middle East, but is a welcome revival of a chair last held by the distinguished Dutch archaeologist, Maurits van Loon (1923-2006) between 1973 and 1988. Van Loon directed excavations in several countries in Western Asia and trained a good deal of today's prominent Dutch archaeologists active in the discipline. It is a great honour to be associated with his academic legacy, and even a part-time appointment will hopefully prove fruitful. The director of NIT, F.A. Gerritsen, already teaches part-time in Amsterdam, at the Free University, and NINO/NIT are thus now well represented in the Dutch capital.

Staff

2012 inaugurated a new era in the NINO library. In January Mrs A.M. de Vries-Heeroma, our head librarian, retired, and was followed, a few months later, by her assistant Ms G.H. Bolten. Both Akke and Trudy, as they are known among friends and colleagues, had been with NINO for many years of diligent and dedicated work, and we took leave of them with gratitude and the sincere hope that they will enjoy their well-earned retirement. Our new head librarian (1.0 fte), Mrs A.G.M. Keizers, transferred from the Dutch-Flemish Institute in Cairo, where she had been in charge of the library since 1989. Ms O.T.C. Hoogzaad joined us in April as our new library assistant (1.0 fte). With new staff members come revisions and improvements, and we are thankful for the continued – and slightly extended – presence of Mrs M.W. Keuken (0.5 fte), who has rather suddenly become the link between previous and present configurations.

The secretary and publications officer Ms C.H. van Zoest (1.0 fte) was unable to work during the first half of the year due to illness. From July onwards she gradually returned to the job, building up work hours while recovering from medical treatment. In 2013 she will work fulltime again. Some of her tasks were picked up by Ms L.E. van de Peut, MA student of Assyriology, acting as temporary assistant.

The assignments of Dr J. Eidem, director (0,7 fte general management, 0.3 fte research), Mr R.T. Dickhoff, administrator (1.0 fte), and Mrs C. Hoorn-Janssen, financial administration assistant (0.6 fte), remained unchanged.

Research and publications by staff and fellows

Prof. Dr J. Eidem, Director

In January Eidem was appointed professor (by special appointment) in the Archaeology of Western Asia at the University of Amsterdam, where he gave his first course in November-December. In February he travelled to Sulaymania in the Kurdish Region of Iraq, and concluded an agreement with the Directorate of Antiquities and Heritage concerning fieldwork and survey on the Rania Plain and excavation at Tell Shemshara. In September-October he organised and directed the first field-season in Kurdistan in cooperation with the Erbil and Sulaymania directorates. In spring he assisted the organisation of the 58th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, held in Leiden (July). During the Rencontre he chaired a session.

He delivered lectures at the University of Amsterdam (January), at the Iraqi Embassy in The Hague (March), in the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden (March), at the BANEA meeting in Manchester (June), and at a symposium in Leiden honouring Prof. Wilfred van Soldt (October).

Publications:

- Articles “Shubat-Enlil” and “Shusharra” in *Reallexikon der Assyriologie und Vorderasiatischen*

Archäologie, Vol. 13, 227-229, 360-362.

- "Dokan. An archaeological salvage project in Iraq, 1956-60", NINO-NIT Annual Report 2011, 13-19.

Prof. Dr J.F. Borghouts, Research Fellow

In the year 2012 Borghouts continued supervising PhD work by Viviana Massa (Demotic temple oaths) and Clara ten Hacken (the Arabic legend of St. Aur). However, most of his time has been spent on rewriting, elaborating and updating Hierogram, the title of a reference grammar of Middle Egyptian, to appear in Brill's Handbuch der Orientalistik. The basic setup of the book is similar to volume I of his grammar *Egyptian* (Egyptologische Uitgaven 24).

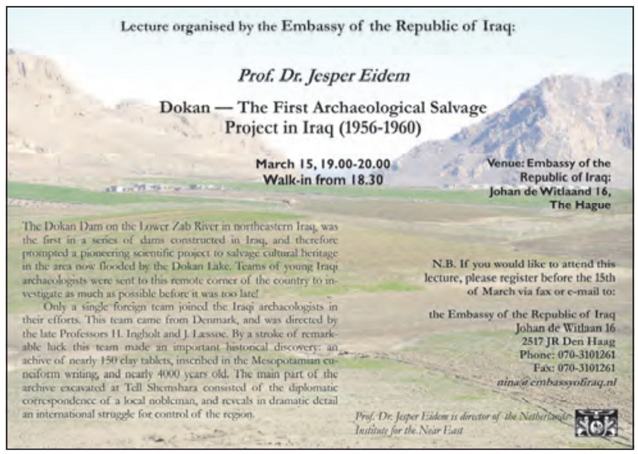
This year's work comprised part of clause constructions – in this case the Situative clause – and part of the verbal system. One of the gains is an entirely new description of the Infinitive, inspired on Controller theory in Government and Binding grammar. However, instead of a Controller function, Agency Referent has been devised as a powerful means to bring to light the various underlying constructions of Middle Egyptian nominalised verb forms, the Infinitive and the Gerunds. Al in all, the size of Hierogram has presently reached some 1500 pages. Regrettably, work on other publications had to be postponed. It cannot be emphasised enough that the support of the NINO – through providing an office room, through its staff, and especially its research library – have been indispensable for this kind of long-time work.

Dr J.C. Fincke, Visiting Research Fellow

As Visiting Research Fellow from September 2012 to 1 April 2013, Fincke was able to focus on the edition of an unpublished cuneiform tablet from the British Museum's cuneiform collection. This tablet, which dates to the second half of the first millennium BC, is unique in the Ancient Near East because it shows images of – mostly divine – statues incised into its surface when the clay was still damp; almost each of the images is identified by a caption. With the edition of this tablet, significant information will be added to our understanding of the religion and cultic procedures of those days.

One of the demons depicted on this tablet, *Šaggāšu* ("The Murderer"), is also attested in an Old Babylonian medical text of the De Liagre Böhl collection. While collating the original tablet at NINO, Fincke was able to find a new reading for the very badly preserved parts of the relevant sequence. Her findings are to be published in an article on this demon: "dŠaggāšu ('Murderer'), the Demon from the Steppe", *BiOr* 70 (2013), 17-24.

Her third focus was on scrutinising the cuneiform tablets for evidence of meteors and



meteorites. The results were presented in the NINO lecture on 25 October, entitled "On Falling Stars, Meteors, Bolides… and Meteorites (?) The perception of meteoroids and meteorites in the Ancient Near East". Prof. J.F. Borghouts, who moderated the well-attended event, added information on the attestations of meteorites in Ancient Egypt to the vivid discussion that followed the lecture. In December, Fincke gave a reworked version of her presentation in Berlin, as part of the *Excellence Cluster TOPOI* lecture series.

Dr W.F.M. Henkelman, Research Fellow

Visiting Research Fellow Dr W.F.M. Henkelman (École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris) continued his work on the so-called Persepolis Fortification Archive. Ca. 3000 tablets inscribed in Elamite have been read preliminarily, and ca. 1500 have been edited definitively. The archive – a treasure trove of information on daily life, religion, the royal court, state roads etc. in Persia – is to be published online at achemenet.com en oi.uchicago.edu.

In addition to working on the Elamite tablets, Henkelman travelled once more to Bīsotūn to study the Elamite text of the grand inscription by king Darius (ca. 520 BCE). The rock face has been badly affected by air pollution and acid rain, making a new edition of the trilingual inscription a pressing matter.

Despite the damage, careful examination allows for improving greatly upon existing text editions. The results of this expedition, a new synoptic edition of the Elamite, Old Persian, Akkadian and Aramaic Bīsotūn text, will be published by NINO in two volumes.

Dr A. Mouton, Visiting Research Fellow

Visiting Research Fellow Dr A. Mouton (CNRS Strasbourg) progressed on the scientific research projects she is currently engaged in:

1) The 4-year international research project she is supervising on individual rites of passage in the Ancient Near East (ViGMA Project) is now completed. This project was funded by the French National Agency for Research (Agence Nationale de la Recherche). The volume resulting both from the 2011 conference and from the 3-year collaborations of the ViGMA members is about to be submitted to the editorial board of the PIHANS series. It deals with birth, adolescence, installation rituals, death, and many other topics. Several NINO affiliates were part of this project;

2) French translations of Hittite religious texts for the "Littératures Anciennes du Proche-Orient" series (LAPO, Le Cerf, Paris). The 450 page-volume of translations and presentations is still in progress. It comprises various rituals from all over Hittite Anatolia, such as foundation or anti-witchcraft rituals.

Working in the NINO library during the full month of February 2012 enabled her to see all the new publications in Hittitology, as well as in adjacent fields. While at the institute, she arranged co-authoring an article with C. van den Hoven, PhD researcher in Egyptology at Leiden University: "Les noms des témoins divins du traité entre le roi hittite Hattušili III et le pharaon Ramsès II: un exemple d'*interpretatio*" (under peer review).

Mouton published articles on the concept of purity among the Hittites (in: P. Rösch and U. Simon, *How Purity is Made*, Wiesbaden, 69-87), on watercourses in religion (with Y. Erbil, *JNES* 71, 53-74), on the roles of the metallurgist in Hittite cultic ceremonies (*Anatolica* 38, 221-235), and on other topics. *Anatolica* 38 published a dossier of articles on ancient Syrian and Anatolian metallurgy supervised by Mouton in the context of a Strasbourg research program. In May 2012, Mouton was elected professor of Hittite (level 3) at the Institut Catholique of Paris, after Prof. R. Lebrun's retirement.

Dr J.J. Roodenberg, Research Fellow

Roodenberg is, since 2011, involved as editor in chief in the publication of results from the excavation project of Yabalkovo near Dimitrovgrad in southeast Bulgaria. Yabalkovo is located on the right bank of the Maritsa in Upper Thrace. Excavations were carried out here between 2000 and 2011 within the framework of an archaeological salvage project preceding the construction of a segment of the Maritsa motorway connecting Plovdiv with the Bulgarian-Turkish border. The site is a *Flachsiedlung* characterised among other things by its considerable size – it occupies a surface of more than two hectares – and by a system of deep ditches surrounding the settlement. Yabalkovo's material culture closely fits with the early Karanavo tradition and has been dated around 6000 BC.

Together with the editorial board Roodenberg is preparing the first volume on the Yabalkovo project. As part of the Maritsa Project Series, which is planned to appear regularly in the coming years, this volume will comprise an overview of the main results arrived at from investigations according to various disciplines, each shedding light on a particular aspect of the Neolithic community that lived at Yabalkovo at the turn of the 7th to the 6th millennium. Subsequent volumes will treat more extensively specific subjects such as stratigraphy and architecture, pottery, and small finds, and will include the final results of divergent interdisciplinary studies.

The yearly issue of *Anatolica* appeared later than usual because of unforeseen circumstances. However, Roodenberg (editor in chief) and Van

Zoest (editorial secretary) were able to issue Vol. 38 in late autumn, with a content that comprises an accurate reflection of the quality and diversity of today's research on Anatolia's past.

Publication:

- "Change in food production and its impact on an early 6th millennium community in north-west Anatolia. The example of Ilıpınar", *Prähistorische Zeitschrift* (Berlin) 2012/2: 223-235.

Prof. Dr J. de Roos, Research Fellow

In the year under review work continued on the long-standing project "Treated Passages of Hittite Texts", which catalogues all Hittite text phrases that have been transliterated, translated and/or commented upon by scholars in works published from 1907 to 1960. The data amounts to ca. 30.000 entries, or ca. 900 pages. The project is at the stage of final checking and correcting. Ms C. Bronkhorst, MA student of Egyptology, provides the necessary computer support. Working with the excellent collection of the NINO library is an essential asset to the project, as are the facilities provided to the NINO Research Fellow.

De Roos took leave of his position in the Editorial Board of *Bibliotheca Orientalis*. After 22 years as editor of the Hittitology section he has turned over this task to Dr W.J.I. Waal.

Prof. Dr M. Stol, Research Fellow

In January, his monograph *Vrouwen van Babylon. Prinsessen, priesteressen, prostituees in de bakermat van de cultuur* (480 pp.) appeared. It gives a complete survey of the lives of women in Mesopotamia. His involvement with the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* continued: he attended a meeting of the editorial board in Leipzig where the authors for the entries beginning with T-Z were selected, wrote entries beginning with S, and reviewed incoming manuscripts. He helped to improve the book manuscript of a young scholar abroad. Stol continued his work as editor of the Assyriology and Varia sections of *Bibliotheca Orientalis*, and prepared a lengthy review of the last volume of the *Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*.

In July he participated in the Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale (Leiden).

Stol continued giving weekly classes on Old Babylonian texts at Leiden University.

Publications:

- "Renting the Divine Weapon as a prebend", in: T. Boiy et al. (eds.), *The Ancient Near East, a life! Festschrift Karel Van Lerberghe* (2012) 561-583.
- "Payment of the Old Babylonian brideprice", in: K. Abraham and J. Fleishman (eds.), *Looking at the Ancient Near East and the Bible through the same eyes. Minha LeAhron: A tribute to Aaron Skaist* (2012) 131-167.

- "Der altbabylonische Beamte rá-gaba", in: C. Mittermayer und S. Ecklin (Hg.), *Altorientalische Studien zu Ehren von Pascal Attinger* (2012) 329-352.
- "Bitumen in Ancient Mesopotamia. The textual evidence", *BiOr* 69 (2012) 48-60.
- "Stock", "Strauß", "Taban", "Teer","Teig", in *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* XIII/3-4 (2012).

Publications

The three yearly fascicles of *Bibliotheca Orientalis* – our journal containing reviews, articles, and bibliographical data on books published on the ancient and modern Near East – appeared on schedule, in print and in digital form with Peeters Online Journals (poj.peeters-leuven.be, access for subscribers and pay-per-view). *BiOr* 69 (2012) contained nine articles, and reviews or short announcements of 153 books on a total of 684 columns.

Anatolica Vol. 38 appeared in late autumn, containing nine articles (261 pp.) on archaeology in Anatolia, pottery from the Jazirah, Hittitology, and metallurgy in the ancient Near East.

Four volumes were published in our PIHANS series; no volumes appeared in the Achaemenid History and Egyptologische Uitgaven series during the year under review. The published volumes are presented below, on pp. 65-67.

Lectures

January 26: **Het Luristan Enigma. Zoektocht naar de oorsprong van de Luristan-bronzen (The Luristan Enigma. Search for the origins of the Luristan bronzes)**. Dr Bruno Overlaet (Royal Museums of Art and History, Brussels) spoke about the enigmatic bronzes that have found their way into many collections of ancient Near Eastern artefacts. They used to be ascribed to a nomadic culture in western Iran. Recently more historical, climatological and archaeological data has become available, making it possible to put the Luristan bronzes in their correct cultural context.

February 23: **Barcın Höyük en de neolithisering van noordwest Anatolië (Barcın Höyük and the Neolithisation of northwestern Anatolia)**. Dr Fokke Gerritsen (NIT Istanbul) discussed the results of his latest excavation season. He focussed on food supply in 7th millennium Barcın Höyük, with new sources of nourishment, notably dairy products, coming in use.

March 22: **Treaties from Ancient Syria**. Drawing upon his recent publication of the Tell Leilan texts (PIHANS 117), Dr Jesper Eidem presented the documents in their archaeological and historical context, and provided some samples of the document contents.

April 27: **Sancisi-Weerdenburg Lecture: Elam, Anšan and the first Persian empire: From segmentary state to international empire**. Dr Daniel Potts (University of Sydney) held the second lecture in memory of Heleen Sancisi-Weerdenburg in the Taffeh Hall of the National Museum of Antiquities, co-hosted by I.F. and G. Sancisi. Recent research has begun to throw light on cultural developments in the highlands between Susa and Anšan, the two capital cities of Elam. Our understanding of the oldest Persian empire is enhanced through insights from political anthropology, and investigations into the religious and political structures of segmentary states.

October 25: **On Falling Stars, Meteors, Bolides... and Meteorites (?) The perception of meteoroids and meteorites in the Ancient Near East**. After presenting an introduction to ancient Near Eastern descriptions of meteoroids, Dr Jeanette Fincke (VRF at NINO) discussed a known omen text that she discovered to be a description of meteorites.

November 16: **Veenhof Lecture: Politics and Diplomacy in Syria, 3500 years ago: Archaeological Excavations in the Kingdom of Qatna**. Spectacular findings at Tell Mishrife, ancient Qatna, notably the Royal Palace with wall paintings in Aegean style, a cuneiform archive in the Akkadian-Hurrian language, and two subterranean tomb chambers containing rich grave inventories, were presented and put into context by their excavator Prof Dr. Peter Pfälzner (University of Tübingen). This lecture was also held in the Taffeh Hall of the National Museum of Antiquities.

December 20: **De vroege bewoners van Iraqi Kurdistan. Leids onderzoek in Noord-Irak (The early inhabitants of Iraqi Kurdistan. Leiden University research in northern Iraq)**. Dr Olivier Nieuwenhuyse spoke about the survey of prehistoric sites in Iraqi Kurdistan carried out by Leiden University and the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut Berlin.

Library

The NINO library is an independent academic research library, open to the public but mostly used by researchers and students from Leiden University and other universities in the Netherlands and abroad. The library is an open shelf library where visitors can consult the books in the collection themselves, except for items from our special collections which may be retrieved by the library staff. Books are not loaned to readers, but copying facilities are available in the library.

The library is open on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In 2012 about 11,000 visitors registered


Reshelving library books.

in the guestbook, mostly from the departments of Assyriology, Egyptology and Ancient Cultures of the Mediterranean World. The library can host a maximum of 65 visitors at once and there are approximately 40-50 visitors daily.

The main event in 2012 was the change in library staff members due to the retirement of Mrs A.M. de Vries-Heeroma and Ms G.H. Bolten who both worked in the library for more than twenty years.

Besides the usual on-going library activities, the staff members have busied themselves the past year mainly with inventory tasks in the library and the storage rooms, clean-up work, conservation of the collection and reorganisation of the library, including reshelving parts of the collection. Several inventory lists were updated, and more detailed signature lists were placed on the bookcases. The objective is to facilitate daily management of the library and its collection and to improve visitor assistance to make the library more user-friendly in a general sense. Regular work meetings are held to keep library staff members informed of on-going developments.

The collection consists of monographs and periodicals, all catalogued except for a small collection of special old printed books. New titles and previously not catalogued titles are digitally recorded by the library staff. The title descriptions of NINO library books are found online at http://catalogue.leidenuniv.nl, under the subcategory “Leiden collections” – integrated into Leiden University Library’s digital catalogue. Visitors may consult the digital catalogue on two computers in the library. The card catalogue is updated until 2010; titles are no longer added, but the existing card catalogue remains available to users.

The main fields of interest and largest categories in the library are Egyptology, closely followed by Assyriology, and the Near East in general. The collection of publications on the Middle East, including Turkey and Iran, Hebraica, and archaeological reports from the Levant (the “Scholten” collection) are important as well. Acquisition is mainly restricted to the fields of Egyptology and Assyriology. The acquisition policy is based on publisher catalogues, reviews of new publications, and advice from NINO fellows and other specialists in Near Eastern studies.

The library further includes special collections on travel literature and country descriptions, and it hosts an impressive collection of periodicals (totally ca. 850 titles) for all categories available in the collection: ca. 190 dynamic titles and ca. 660 static titles. Besides publications in western languages, there are many publications in Hebrew, Arabic, Persian and Turkish and several other non-western languages.

Presently about 41,000 titles are catalogued for the NINO library – but the number of volumes present on the shelves is, understandably, higher. In the year under review 452 new monographs were acquired, as well as 336 issues of periodicals.

Occasional gifts and donations are accepted when fitting in our collections; 75 items were accepted and catalogued in 2012.

Starting from 2012 acquisition lists are published on the NINO website every four months.

Two highlights from the NINO library collections

Champollion's "Précis du système hiéroglyphique"

Mariëtte Keuken

The name of Jean-François Champollion (French historian and linguist, 1790-1832) will always be associated with the decipherment of the Egyptian hieroglyphs. Despite not having received any formal education, he taught himself numerous ancient languages in his teenage years.

Champollion did not publish any of his decipherment works, probably secreting it away since others had the same goal as he, until in 1822 he read his famous "Lettre à M. Dacier", the permanent secretary of the French Académie des Inscriptions, before the Académie.

On 27 September 1822 Champollion presented his paper on phonetic hieroglyphs and their use in the inscriptions on Egyptian monuments to transcribe the names, throne names and titles of Greek and Roman princes. He had been able to read the names of several Greek and Roman rulers, and demonstrated the phonetic value of certain hieroglyphs. In this paper he outlined the hieroglyphic alphabet which he had succeeded in isolating from the Rosetta Stone (found in Egypt by French soldiers in 1799) and the Bankes obelisk (found in Philae in 1815, now in Dorset, England), and stated his belief that such a phonetic system would turn out to be integral to hieroglyphic writing as a whole.

Two highlights from the NINO library collections

Two years later, in 1824, he expanded on his earlier discoveries in his revolutionary book *Précis du système hiéroglyphique des anciens égyptiens ou recherches sur les élémens premiers de cette écriture sacrée, sur leurs diverses combinaisons, et sur les rapports de ce système avec les autres méthodes graphiques égyptiennes* (printed in Paris at l'Imprimerie Royale) in which he stated that "hieroglyphic writing is a complex system, a script at the same time figurative, symbolic and phonetic, in one and the same text, in one and the same sentence, and, if I may put it, almost in one and the same word".

The "Précis" was dedicated to the French king Louis XVIII who graciously received from Champollion the first copy with the personal dedication. Soon after the royal audience, copies of the book were sent to interested scholars and went on sale to the Paris public.

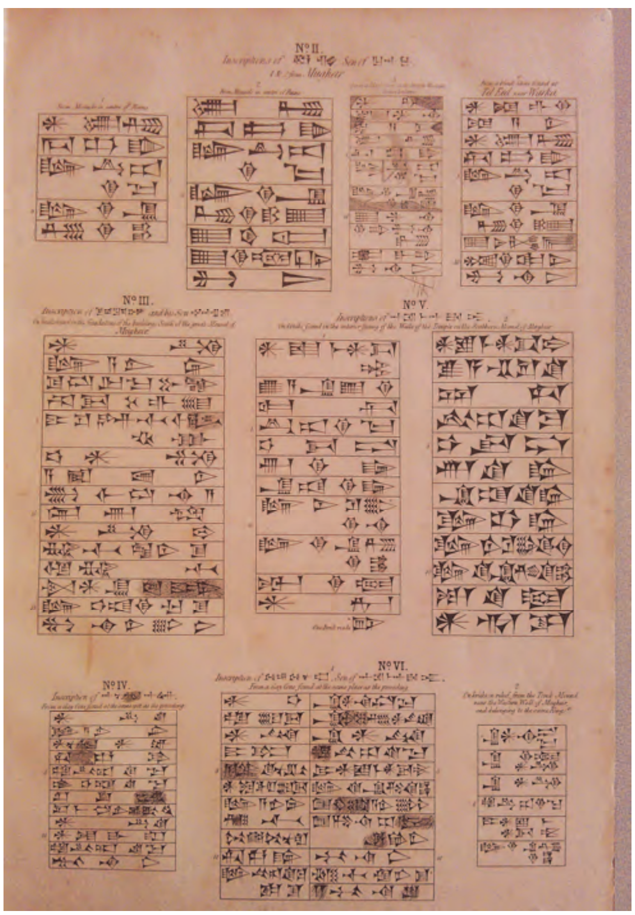
In 1828 a revised second edition was published. On the title page after the title is added:
Seconde édition, Revue par l'auteur, et augmentée de la LETTRE À M. DACIER, relative à l'Alphabet des hiéroglyphes phonétiques employés par les Égyptiens sur leurs monumens de l'époque grecque et de l'époque romaine.

The second edition, incorporating the text of the "Lettre à M. Dacier" (as its second chapter) and the personal dedication to the king, is present in the NINO library.

The work is published in two volumes: text and plates. Both volumes are in good condition.

The NINO library owns a small collection of books from the early years of Egyptology. These special old books are not directly accessible to library visitors. As part of the early Egyptology collection, our copy of the "Précis" is kept under lock, and can be consulted only after permission of the library staff.

Two highlights from the
NINO library collections



The Cuneiform Inscriptions of Western Asia / Sir Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Anita Keizers

British archaeologist and Assyriologist Sir Henry Creswicke Rawlinson (1810-1895) was born in Chadlington, Oxfordshire. He started working in the British East India Company in 1827 and was sent to Persia in 1833 to reorganise the Persian army. In 1843 he was appointed British consul in Baghdad.

Having quickly mastered several oriental languages he played a major role in the decipherment and translation of the cuneiform scripts of Mesopotamia. In 1835 he was the first person to examine and copy the Persian part of the famous, almost inaccessible Behistun rock inscription. This massive inscription in three different languages – Old Persian, Elamite and Babylonian – was written by king Darius I, the Great (550-486 BCE), with sculpted bas-relief figures and incised cuneiform characters in a cliff in the Zagros Mountains in Iran. The translation of the Old Persian part of the inscription was essential for the development of modern Assyriology.

During his employment in Iraq he undertook excavations at Nineveh, as well as other Assyrian

Two highlights from the NINO library collections

and Babylonian sites. Tablets and inscriptions found by Rawlinson and other archaeologists at sites in Iraq were used to further unveil the cuneiform scripts. In 1853 he returned to England and dedicated himself to study and translation.

One of his publications, available in the NINO library, is:

The Cuneiform Inscriptions of Western Asia, I-V / by H. C. Rawlinson ... [et al.]. - London : R.E. Bowler, 1861-1884.

The publication consists of five volumes:

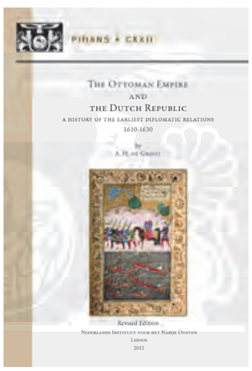
- I: A Selection from the Historical Inscriptions of Chaldæa, Assyria, and Babylonia. London, 1861;
- II: A Selection from the Miscellaneous Inscriptions of Assyria. London, 1866;
- III: A Selection from the Miscellaneous Inscriptions of Assyria. London, 1870;
- IV: A Selection from the Miscellaneous inscriptions of Assyria. London, 1875;
- IV r2: A Selection from the Miscellaneous Inscriptions of Assyria. Second edition. London, 1891 (Republication of the texts with additions, corrections and supplementary matter);
- V: A Selection from the Miscellaneous Inscriptions of Assyria and Babylonia. London, 1884.

This unique publication was printed using monochrome lithography by R.E. Bowler in London from 1861 until 1884. It contains the transcriptions of tablets and cuneiform texts on miscellaneous materials from Assyria and Babylonia, which were in many cases copied from mutilated fragments or semi-obliterated tablets. The publication was prepared under the direction of the Trustees of the British Museum from inscriptions on artefacts mostly kept in the British Museum, and it was published by Sir H.C. Rawlinson assisted by E. Norris (vols. I and II), G. Smith (vols. III and IV) and T.G. Pinches (vol. V). The reason for collecting these inscriptions was to provide material for more extended cuneiform research. At the start of each volumes there is an index or table of contents of plates provided in the volume, though many pages lack numbering.

The large volumes are 53 x 36 cm and are bound in black leather with red spines. The spines are slightly damaged, and joints partly split, but the binding is in a good condition with some loose pages (except for volume V where the binding is loose). The volumes in general are in a good condition, margins and pages occasionally somewhat foxed.

Publications

A.H. de Groot – **The Ottoman Empire and the Dutch Republic.** A History of the Earliest Diplomatic Relations 1610-1630 (second, revised edition; PIHANS 122), 2012. 24.5 cm, hardcover; VII, 276; € 40.00. ISBN: 978-90-6258-333-1.



PIHANS 122

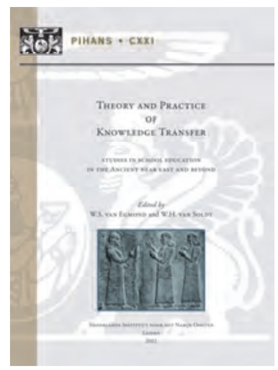
This eminently readable book is the first extensive monograph dealing with the early history of the diplomatic relations between the Ottoman Empire and the Netherlands based on Western as well as Turkish sources and secondary literature. Its aim is to present a balanced bilateral account of both the Turkish and the Dutch viewpoint.

The statesmanship of the Ottoman admiral and grand vizier Khalil Pasha, who took the diplomatic initiative in 1610 is studied in detail as is the diplomatic activity of Cornelis Haga, the first Dutch ambassador to the Porte.

Their successful negotiations led to the grant of capitulations by Sultan Ahmed I in 1612. This document formed the basis of 400 years of political and economic relations of the Netherlands with Turkey. An edition of the text and an integral translation are also given.

Includes 16 colour plates.

W.S. van Egmond and W.H. van Soldt (eds.) – **Theory and Practice of Knowledge transfer.** Studies in School Education in the Ancient Near East and Beyond, Papers read at a Symposium in Leiden, 17-19 December 2008 (PIHANS 121), 2012. 27 cm, softcover; VII, 153; € 34.00. ISBN: 978-90-6258-332-4.



PIHANS 121

The articles collected in this book were read as papers during a symposium held in Leiden in December 2008. This symposium focused on *Theory and Practice of Knowledge Transfer* and the papers discuss many aspects of this subject. Most articles deal with ancient Mesopotamia, but two of them look at Europe (Classical Antiquity and the Middle Ages) and one discusses a case from Mali. Most papers center around past and present relationships between orality and literacy in the societies discussed.

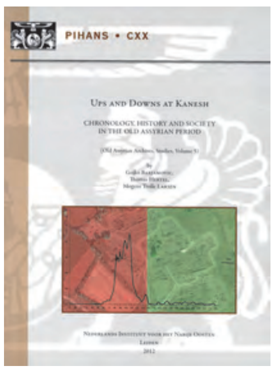
An important aspect is the way knowledge was conveyed from master to student and the supposed transition from an oral tradition to a tradition that was predominantly based on writing. For this, much attention is paid to the many school texts that have been discovered in Mesopotamia and the peripheral areas to the west. Also, not every society made use of writing and at times special conditions seem to have fostered its adoption. Classical antiquity and medieval Europe provide valuable parallels for the data collected for Mesopotamia, as does a modern case from Africa.

Finally, other aspects, such as scribal conventions and what we can learn from mistakes made by scribes, give us a better insight in how the scribes accomplished their task and how students acquired their knowledge.

Publications

Gojko Barjamovic, Thomas Hertel and Mogens Trolle Larsen – **Ups and downs at Kanesh.** Chronology, History and Society in the Old Assyrian Period. (Old Assyrian Archives, Studies, Volume 5; PIHANS 119), 2012. 27 cm, softcover; IX, 161; € 45.00. ISBN: 978-90-6258-331-7.

PIHANS 120



Ups and downs at Kanesh proposes a revised sequence of Old Assyrian eponyms and establishes a relative and an absolute chronology by way of linking textual evidence, dendrochronology and archaeological stratigraphy. This chronological framework is used to trace broader historical and social developments of political and territorial centralisation in Anatolia, as well as to offer new insights in the social and commercial history of the Old Assyrian trade.

A number of economic and social transformations in Assyrian society over the course of two centuries are identified by way of a statistical and prosopographical analysis. It is shown how the economic system that drove the well-known overland trade of the early Colony Period collapsed in a dramatic fashion after only thirty years (c. 1895-1865 BC), and that a series of changes in administrative organisation were created in immediate response. A primary vehicle in financing the trade – the joint-stock enterprise – was abandoned, and exchange came to be organised by way of venture trade. A distinct community of hybrid Assyrian-Anatolian households grew more prominent as mixed families came to be engaged mainly in local Anatolian trade and agriculture. In turn, a small and wealthy Assyrian elite functioned as permanently settled foreign trading agents, and a distinctive group of itinerant merchants continued to engage in the caravan trade and connect the Anatolian colonies to the mother city of Assur.

Bibliotheca Orientalis. *Quadrimonthly journal containing reviews and bibliographical data on books published on the ancient and modern Near East*, Vol. 69 (2012). 30 cm, softcover, 684; € 140.00. ISSN 0006-1913.

BiOr LXIX

Section "Actueel":

T. Bagh, "The Petrie Project at the Ny Carlsberg Glyptothek" (5-12)

V. Boschloos, "Egyptian and Egyptianising Scarab-shaped Seals in Syria and Lebanon" (175-181)

A.R. George, "Nergal and the Babylonian Cyclops" (421-425)

F. Højlund et al., "Altar plates from second millennium BC Falaika, Kuwait" (411-420)

Articles:

K. Kleber, "Aspekte des spätbabylonischen Gerichtsverfahrens (182-196)

Corrigendum "KLEBER, K. – Aspekte des spätbabylonischen Gerichtsverfahrens (*BiOr* LXIX 3/4)" (564)

V. Razanajao, "Vers l'achèvement éditorial du temple d'Horus d'Edfou" (42-47)

W. Schenkel, "Mittelägyptische Grammatik: von den Texten zu den Texten" (13-42)

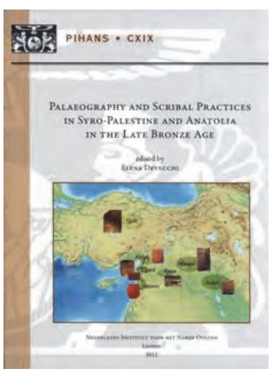
M. Stol, "Bitumen in Ancient Mesopotamia. The Textual Evidence" (48-60)

N. Wasserman, "*Maškadum* and Other Zoonotic Diseases in Medical and Literary Akkadian Sources" (426-436)

Publications

Elena Devecchi (ed.) – **Palaeography and scribal practices in Syro-Palestine and Anatolia in the Late Bronze Age.** Papers read at a symposium in Leiden, 17-18 December 2009 (PIHANS 119), 2012. 27 cm, softcover; XII, 266; € 47.00. ISBN: 978-90-6258-330-0.

PIHANS 119



The fifteen articles published in this volume are the written versions of papers presented during the International Symposium "Palaeography and Scribal Practices in Syro-Palestine and Anatolia in the Late Bronze Age", which was held in Leiden on 17th-18th December 2009. This book provides an up-to-date overview on the scribal traditions current in that region during the 15th-12th centuries BCE and gives new impetus to their study.

ANATOLICA. *Annuaire international pour les civilisations de l'Asie antérieure*, Vol. 38 (2012). 26.5 cm, softcover, 261; € 60.00. ISSN 0066-1554.

ANATOLICA XXXVIII

Guillermo Algaze, Emily Hammer, and Bradley Parker with contributions by Ray Breuninger and James Knudstad, "The Tigris-Euphrates Archaeological Reconnaissance Project: Final report of the Cizre dam and Cizre-Silopi plain survey areas" (1-115)

Jürgen Seeher, "Ilıpınar, Barcın Höyük and Demircihüyük. Some Remarks on the Late Chalcolithic Period in North-western Anatolia" (117-127)

Anna Smogorzewska, "Jazirah Burnished Ware from Tell Arbid and its Northern Affiliations" (129-147)

Silvia Balatti, "Some Remarks on the Dating of the Andaval Stela. Palaeographic and iconographic analysis" (149-168)

Oğuz Soysal, "Joins, Duplicates, and more from the unpublished Bo 9000-Fragments" (169-190)

Ali Dinçol, Belkıs Dinçol and Hasan Peker, "New Hittite Hieroglyphic Seals from the Plain of Antioch in the Hatay Museum" (191-199)

Sylvie Vanséveren, "Noms des métaux dans les textes hittites" (203-219)

Alice Mouton, "Les rôles du métallurgiste dans les cérémonies religieuses de l'Anatolie hittite" (221-235)

Isabelle Weygand, "Les objets en métal d'Emar (aujourd'hui Meskéné), une ville de Syrie du nord sous domination hittite au Bronze récent: quels courants d'influence?" (237-261)

NIT

NIT activities

Fokke Gerritsen

Local Director NIT

Introduction

The Netherlands and Turkey celebrated 400 years of diplomatic contacts in 2012 with a rich and varied program of activities organised in both countries by a wide range of organisations. The Netherlands Institute in Turkey and its predecessor Nederlands Historisch-Archaeologisch Instituut, have been part of this history for the last 54 years, since 1958. Whereas there has been a solid increase during the last couple of years in the number of researchers and students visiting the institute and making use of its facilities and support, the 2012 year of festivities brought even more people through our doors, and gave us the opportunity to highlight our programs and projects. It also brought much additional work, helping individuals and organisations to find their way around, establish contacts, and assisting with the organisation of academic and cultural activities in the framework of 'NL-TR400'.

For the NIT 2012 was special also in another sense, being 25 years after excavations by NIT and NINO archaeologists began in 1987 in north-western Anatolia. Over the course of a quarter century a sustained research program laid the foundations for our current knowledge about the prehistoric cultures of the southeastern Marmara Region, with excavations at Ilıpınar, Menteşe and Barcın Höyük. As a way of celebrating the 400 and 25 year milestones, the NIT organised a photo exhibition about the work being done at Barcın Höyük. It opened at the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden in November and runs until the end of March 2013.

Staff

NIT assistant Mrs Ayşe Dilsiz left the institute in September 2012 and moved to Vienna. In her place Mrs Güher Gürmen joined the NIT staff. The positions of Fokke Gerritsen (director, 0.9 fte), Karin Schuitema (staff member, 0.8 fte), Funda Demir (coordinator Study in Holland Desk in Turkey, 0.5 fte), Charlie Smid (staff member, 0.1 fte) and Gülten Yıldız (librarian, 1.0 fte) remained unchanged. Historian Enno Maessen held a temporary position in November and December for research and work related to the Tophane Heritage project.

Research and publications

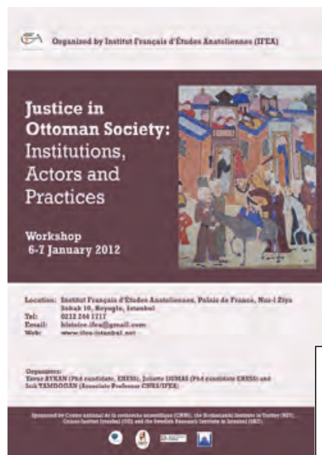
In addition to providing support to the research effort of numerous individuals and research groups, the NIT is the primary organisation behind three multi-year research projects, one each in the fields of archaeology, heritage studies and (architectural) history. Director Fokke Gerritsen is in charge of the excavation project, staff member Karin Schuitema directs the

Tophane heritage project and Research Fellows Machiel Kiel, Max Hartmuth and Grigor Boykov are driving forces – within and outside the NIT – of research on the Ottoman Balkans.

Barcın Höyük Excavations

The excavations of Barcın Höyük continued with a full-scale excavation season in the summer months of 2012. Directed by Fokke Gerritsen of the NIT and Rana Özbal of Koç University, the research project incorporates researchers from many institutions in the Netherlands, Turkey and other countries. Additionally, students from three Dutch universities and ten Turkish universities joined the excavations and trained their fieldwork skills. A first presentation on the findings during the 2012 season can be found elsewhere in this Annual Report.

Outside the field, the on-going analyses of organic residues (especially of animal fats) in the pottery from Barcın Höyük significantly extended the sample size. This project is conducted by Hadi Özbal of Bosporus University in Istanbul. The site was inhabited in the period now generally recognised as the first period during which dairy (butter, cheese, yoghurt) became a common element of the Neolithic diet. The newest results from Barcın Höyük demonstrate that dairy was made and consumed already during the earliest occupation phases of the settlement, during the middle of the seventh millennium BC.



In early February, several members of the Barcın Höyük research team met in Istanbul to share the latest results of their on-going specialist studies and to discuss plans and strategies for the upcoming excavation season. As a result of heavy snowfall, several other colleagues were forced to abandon their travel plans and join through Skype.

As part of the celebrations of 400 years of diplomatic contacts between Turkey and the Netherlands, a photo exhibition opened in November 2012 in the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden. The photos by Rénie van der Putte show the archaeologists at work in the field and in the excavation house. Several objects can be followed in the series of photos from their discovery in the dirt, to cleaning, restoration, documentation and investigation.

In 2012, lectures were presented on the excavations in Leiden, Istanbul, Çorum and Chicago. The following publications appeared in 2012:

- I. Gatsov, M. Kay and P. Nedelcheva, "Lithic assemblages from the prehistoric settlement at Barcın Hoyuk, northwestern Anatolia. New Results", *Eurasian Prehistory* 9.
- F.A. Gerritsen, and R. Özbal, "2010 Yılı Barcın Höyük Kazıları", *33. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı*, vol. 4, 155-166.
- M. Künzel, Multi-Scalar geoarchaeological research at Barcın Hoyuk, NW Turkey. MSc thesis Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.
- R. Özbal, F.A. Gerritsen and H. Özbal, "Barcın Höyük. Neolitik Dönemde Yemeklerde ve Aşçılıkta Yenilikler", *Aktüel Arkeoloji Dergisi* 27, 28-31.
- H. Özbal, A. Türkekul Bıyık, L. Thissen, T. Doğan, F. Gerritsen and R. Özbal, "M. Ö. 7. Binyılda Barcın Höyük Süt Tüketimi Üzerine Yeni Araştırmalar", *27. Arkeometri Sonuçları Toplantısı*, 15-32.
- H. Özbal, L. Thissen, F. Gerritsen, R. Özbal, T. Doğan and A. Türkekul Bıyık, "Dairying and Cooking at Barcın Hoyuk, NW Turkey (6600-6000 BC)", *poster presentation at LeCHE Conference VU University Amsterdam*, 28-29 June 2012.
- J. Seeher, "Ilıpınar, Barcın and Demircihüyük, Some Remarks on the Late Chalcolithic Period in North-western Anatolia", *Anatolica* 38, 117-127.

Tophane Heritage Project

Initiated in 2011 by NIT staff member Karin Schuitema, the Tophane Heritage Project started in earnest in 2012. Contacts and cooperations with several universities, archives and research institutes were established and several workshops and symposiums were organised. The Tophane Urban Heritage Project focuses on the historic neighbourhood of Tophane in Istanbul, and functions as a mainstay for interdisciplinary research on the history and heritage of the city. The project aims to encourage researchers, MA and PhD-students, from a variety of academic backgrounds to shed new light on Tophane's heritage, providing opportunities in history, art history, heritage and cultural studies, Turkish studies, sociology, social geography, urban studies and architecture.

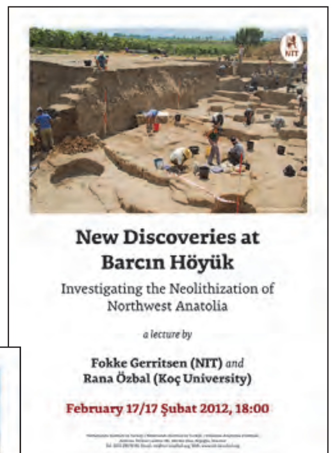
Strong contacts were established with the Urban Studies Research Centre at Şehir University. The research group, led by Murat Güvenç and Eda Yücesoy, has built up a comprehensive set of databases on Istanbul in the late Ottoman Empire and early Turkish Republic, including information from telephone directories, registrations in the *Annuaire Oriental*, registrations of the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce, building inventories, general census registrations and entries of an address-based population registration system. Additionally, the NIT is in contact with the department of sociology at Yıldız Teknik University, which has set up a project on the social dimensions of Tophane, under the direction of Zeynep Enlil. This research, carried out in the context of a course for MA- and PhD-students, is mainly based on interviews and questionnaires. Furthermore, the NIT is cooperating with a group of sociology students from Okan University, under the direction of Güliz Erginsoy. The students are working on different subjects related to Tophane, such as narratives of the past, change and perception, houses, coffee- and food culture, sounds of Tophane, old versus new.

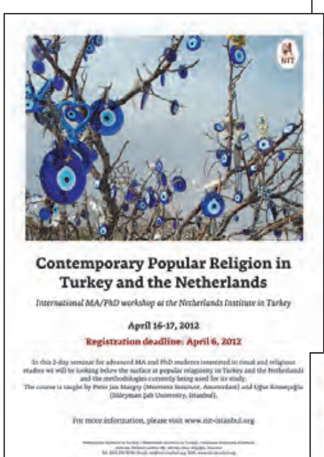
In 2012 several academic meetings related to the Tophane project were organised, in order to bring together scholars and students working on Tophane, or on themes that are relevant for the Tophane project. In May, for example, urban sociologists and heritage specialists discussed the dangers and opportunities for cultural heritage in urban renewal zones, and in November, the NIT organised a two-day international meeting to explore the potential uses of oral history in neighbourhood studies. A complete list of meetings is presented below.

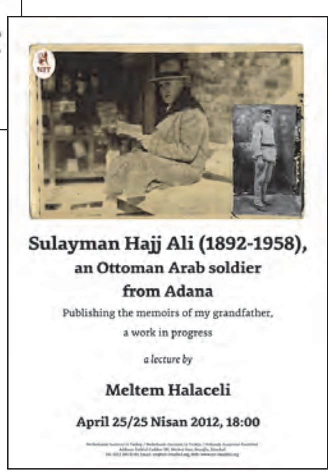
On behalf of the NIT, Enno Maessen assembled a research guide for Tophane, to help researchers quickly find archival materials, databases, institutions and persons of relevance for the history and heritage of Tophane.

As the outcome of a symposium held at the NIT in the autumn of 2011, six articles on Tophane and gentrification in Istanbul appeared in *Geografie*, a Dutch language journal published by the Royal Netherlands Geographical Society:

- E. Ammeraal, "Waterpijpcafés en kunstexposities in Tophane", *Geografie* 21/8, 32-33.
- T. Islam, "Dertig jaar gentrificatie in Istanbul", *Geografie* 21/7, 12-14.
- S. Pekelsma, "Istanbul Palaces: biotoop voor nieuwe middenklasse", *Geografie* 21/9, 35-37.
- H. Renes, "Istanbul. De ruimtelijke structuur







van een wereldstad", *Geografie* 21/7, 6-11.

- B. Sakızlıoğlu, "Tarlabaşı. 'De rijken erin, de armen eruit'", *Geografie* 21/9, 32-34.
- K. Schuitema, "Het Tophane project. Erfgoed en identiteit in een globaliserende stad", *Geografie* 21/8, 28-31.

Ottoman architecture in the Balkans

As part of the NIT historical research focus on the Ottoman Balkans, the NIT began a digitisation project in 2011 of photographs taken by the Dutch architectural historian and former NIT director Machiel Kiel. In May 2012 a first set of about 1200 photographs was made available online, concerning photos of Ottoman architecture in southeastern Europe. Max Hartmuth, who initiated the project, was joined in the autumn of 2012 by Grigor Boykov, to proceed with sorting, identifying and documenting a large number of photos of architectural monuments from the European part of Turkey. These are expected to be placed on the internet in March 2013. A third phase of the project will deal with photographs of non-Ottoman architecture from the Balkans, especially churches and monasteries.

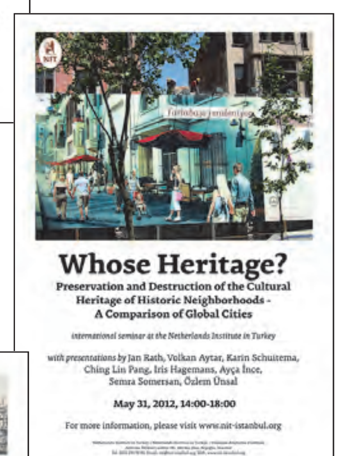
Research fellow Machiel Kiel published a series of encyclopaedia entries and several articles. One of his monographs appeared in Albanian translation:

- M. Kiel, *Arkitektura Osmane në Shqipëri, 1385-1912*. Istanbul, 2012. Translated into Albanian by Holta Vrioni.

Other publications by Kiel in 2012:

- "Balkanlar'da Az Bilinen Birkaç Hamam ve Kaplıcaya Giriş", in: N. Ergin (ed.), *Anadolu Medeniyetlerinde Hamam Kültürü. Mimari, Tarih ve İmgelen*, Istanbul (Koç University Press), 242-267.
- "Die heutige Lage der osmanischen Baudenkmäler auf dem Balkan", *EOTHEN. Münchner Beiträge zur Geschichte der Islamischen Kunst und Kultur* 5, 161-187.
- "Tiran (Tirana)", *T.D.V. İslam Ansiklopedisi*, vol. 41, 193-195.
- "Tırnova (Veliko Tărnovo, BG)", *T.D.V. İslam Ansiklopedisi*, vol. 41, 118-122.
- "Tırnova (Tyrnavos, Gr.)", *T.D.V. İslam Ansiklopedisi*, vol. 41, 117-118.
- "Travnik", *T.D.V. İslam Ansiklopedisi*, vol. 41, 308-311.
- "Trebinye", *T.D.V. İslam Ansiklopedisi*, vol. 41, 311-112.
- "Tuzla (Bosnia)", *T.D.V. İslam Ansiklopedisi*, vol. 41, 453-455.

The curator of Machiel Kiel's digital archive, Max Hartmuth, published the following articles



on architecture and Ottoman cultural heritage in southeast Europe:

- "Le patronage architectural de Koca Sinân Pacha dans les Balkans: Un ensemble de bâtiments inconnus de la fin du XVI[e] siècle à Štip (Macédonie)", *Turcica*, XLIII (2011), 345-362.
- "Cultural heritage policy, civil society, and academia: lessons from three recent projects pertaining to South East Europe", in: D. Ünsal (ed.), *Cultural Policy and Management Yearbook III* (2011) [Dossier: Heritage for society], 102-108.
- "The Habsburg Landesmuseum in Sarajevo in its ideological and architectural contexts: a reinterpretation", *Centropa* XII/2, 194-205.

NIT Fellowships

Fifteen NIT fellowships were awarded in 2012 for research stays at the institute, to junior researchers from universities in the Netherlands. The research topics addressed by these fellows give an impression of the broad range of academic disciplines from the humanities and social sciences that make use the facilities and services of the NIT:

Irena Adjinović of the University of Amsterdam did research for her dissertation on the European literary reception of the murder of sultan Osman II in 1622. While at the NIT, she co-organised a symposium on this topic.

Rosanne Baars of the University of Amsterdam did research for a publication on Jean-Louis Rigo, an 18th century secretary at the Dutch embassy in Constantinople whose unpublished diary is in the National Archives in The Hague.

Max Hermens of Nijmegen University spent time in Istanbul and other parts of Turkey for a discourse analysis of contemporary travel guides and the way they portray Turkish cultural heritage.

Krijn Hoogendorp of Leiden University used the libraries in the city for his research on the early 20th century history of Azerbajian.

Freek Janssens of the University of Amsterdam came to study Istanbul street markets.

Elske Kroondijk of Groningen University came to Istanbul to study the uses of traditional Turkish musical therapy in modern health care practices.

Annelies Kuijpers of the University of Amsterdam collected material for a research proposal to study the social and political context of contemporary mosque building practices.

Elise van der Laan of the University of Amsterdam studied the Turkish fashion magazine market and set up a fieldwork project to collect data for a cross-cultural study of the portrayal of beauty concepts through fashion images.

Andrea Meuzelaar of the University of Amsterdam spent a month in the NIT library to work on her dissertation on the representation of Turks and other minorities on Dutch television.

Joost van den Oever of Nijmegen University worked on his Master's thesis on apocalyptic and eschatological traditions that are related to the Fall of Constantinople in 1453.

Simone Pekelsma and **Sieta Neuerburg**, graduates from Leiden University and the University of Amsterdam, did ethnographic fieldwork together for a project on contemporary Sufi ritual practices and music. During their time at the NIT, they helped organise and participated in a seminar on contemporary ritual practices in Turkey and the Netherlands.

Nicola Verderame of Leiden University used his stay in Istanbul to work on a proposal for research on Late Ottoman fountain building and restoration practices.

Jeroen Vlug of the Vrije Universiteit did research on secularism and post-secularism in contemporary Turkish society.

Marieke Wissink of Maastricht University spent time in Istanbul for ethnographic work among African migrants.

Research fellows and scholar in residence

In 2012, several new Research Fellows were appointed. Research Fellows are (independent) scholars, preferably based in Istanbul, whose research relates to and extends the range of academic fields that the NIT is active in. The 2012 roster consisted of Machiel Kiel (architectural historian), Max Hartmuth (art historian), Tolga Uyar (art historian), Steven Richmond (historian), Efthymios Rizos (archaeologist) and Grigor Boykov (architectural historian). Logan Sparks (anthropology, ritual studies) joined the group at the end of the year. The Research Fellows were of great value to the NIT in taking the lead in the organisation of academic meetings and helping visiting students and scholars find their way to people and resources.

As a Scholar-in-Residence, sociologist Jan Rath of the University of Amsterdam spent two months at the NIT during the spring. In addition to working on a number of publications, he met with Turkish colleagues and advisees, and co-organised a seminar at the NIT, bringing together urban sociologists and heritage specialists.

Academic Meetings

January 6-7: **Justice in Ottoman Society: Institutions, Actors and Practices**. A workshop organised by the Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes (IFEA), co-sponsored by the Netherlands Institute in Turkey (NIT) and other international institutions. This conference was part of an on-going series of meetings on the

plurality of legal institutions and procedures in Ottoman Society, convened by Işık Tamdoğan of the Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes, under the title "La justice dans la société ottomane : institutions, acteurs et pratiques".

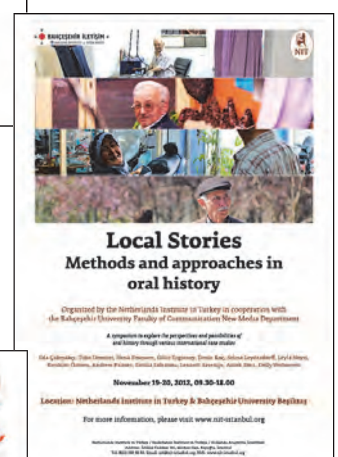
May 11-12: **Christian art under Muslim rule**. This international workshop brought together scholars working on different territories in the Islamic world between the seventh and nineteenth centuries with the aim to explore to what extent the fact that – irrespective of period and region – Christian art was produced under non-Christian rule can serve as a useful frame for analysis. The workshop included a keynote lecture by Machiel Kiel and presentations by Merih Danalı, Paolo Girardelli, Rossitsa Gradeva, Maximilian Hartmuth, Mat Immerzeel, Ivana Jevtić, Dimitris Loupis, Luit Mols, Bas Snelders, Lilyana Stankova, Tolga Uyar, and Sercan Yandım. The papers of this workshop will appear in an upcoming volume of PIHANS.

May 31: **Whose Heritage? Preservation and Destruction of the Cultural Heritage of Historic Neighborhoods – A Comparison of Global Cities**. This international seminar organised in collaboration with Jan Rath (University of Amsterdam) and Volkan Aytar (Bahçeşehir University) aimed at exploring and comparing the roles of material and immaterial forms of heritage in processes of urban change and renewal. The seminar included presentations by Jan Rath, Volkan Aytar, Karin Schuitema, Ching Lin Pang, Iris Hagemans, Ayça İnce, Semra Somersan, and Özlem Ünsal, presenting cases from Istanbul, Amsterdam, Melbourne and Beijing.

June 28-July 1: **Fountains of Byzantion-Constantinople-Istanbul**. An international symposium organised by Ingela Nilsson and Paul Stephenson at the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul (SRII), and the Netherlands Institute in Turkey, with the participation of Fabio Barry, Jesper Blid, Marianne Boqvist, Federica Broilo, James Crow, Eunice Dauterman Maguire, Nathalie de Haan, Ragnar Hedlund, Gerda de Kleijn, Brenda Longfellow, Rowena Loverance, Paul Magdalino, Henry Maguire, Johan Mårtelius, Terése Nilsson, Mathilde Pinon Demirçivi, Julian Richard, and Brooke Shilling.

November 9: ***Ha'ilat-i Osmaniye* (Ottoman Tragedies); Ottoman Upheavals Through Ottoman and Foreign Eyes**. The aim of this international conference organised with Jan Schmidt and Irena Ajdinović was to illuminate the role of cultural background in different types of textual representation of Ottoman conflicts. The conference included presentations from Baki Tezcan, Tülün Değirmenci, Bahadır Sürelli, Irena Ajdinović, Ivana Brković, Aysel Yıldız, and Jan Schmidt.

November 19-20: **Local Stories: Methods and approaches in oral history**. Organised in



cooperation with the Bahçeşehir University Faculty of Communication New Media Department and in relation to the Tophane Heritage Project, this international symposium aimed to contribute to a more profound understanding of the role of oral history in research to local places, neighbourhoods, and their heritage. The symposium included papers by Eda Çakmakçı, Tuba Demirci, Henk Driessen, Güliz Erginsoy, Deniz Koç, Selma Leydesdorff, Leyla Neyzi, Kıvılcım Özmen, Andrew Palmer, Emilia Salvanou, Lennert Savenije, Aniek Smit, Dolly Verhoeven. A walk through Tophane as well as an excursion to the Museum of the Princes' Islands provided additional opportunities for presentations and discussions.

Lectures

January 9: **Aiding the poor soldiers' families: the Asker Âilelerine Yardımcı Hanımlar Cemiyeti**. This lecture by Nicole van Os dealt with one of the many women's organisations, the Asker Âilelerine Yardımcı Hanımlar Cemiyeti, established in the Ottoman Empire during the Second Constitutional Period. The speaker sought to place the existence of this organisation in the wider context of gendered historical processes taking place in the Ottoman Empire during this period and, more specifically, during the First World War.

January 26: **'Language is the mirror of our lives': The Dutch translation of Oğuz Atay's novel *Tutunamayanlar***. In this lecture, Hanneke van der Heijden talked about some of the characteristics of Atay's dazzling novel, and described in short how the Dutch translation came about.

February 17: **New Discoveries at Barcın Höyük. Investigating the Neolithization of Northwest Anatolia**. Ongoing excavations at Barcın Höyük in the Yenişehir Plain in Bursa help shed light on the earliest stages of agricultural habitation in the region. Building on the work of a team of specialists, this lecture by Fokke Gerritsen (Netherlands Institute in Turkey) and Rana Özbal (Koç University) presented an overview of the main discoveries to date, including architecture, material culture and subsistence practices.

April 25: **Sulayman Hajj Ali (1892-1958), an Ottoman Arab soldier from Adana. Publishing the memoirs of my grandfather, a work in progress**. This lecture by Meltem Halaceli highlighted particular events written in the memoirs that shed light on the character of Halaceli's grandfather Sulayman Hajj Ali, an Ottoman Arab born in Adana and a conscripted soldier sent to several fronts during the First World War, including Gallipoli, Gaza and Ankara, and his personal experiences of the turbulent times in which he lived.

Courses

March 14-17: **Winter School U4: East and West: Bridges and Boundaries**. The NIT and the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul (SRII) hosted a course for PhD students in archaeology, (ancient) history and classics from the U4 group, the universities of Groningen, Gent, Göttingen and Uppsala.

March 26-30: **Spring School: Islam and the non-Muslim Other: Doctrines, Attitudes, and Practices**. The aim of the Istanbul Spring School was to bring together junior and senior researchers of Islam from various disciplines and countries to discuss Islamic doctrines, Muslim attitudes and practices which shape cultural, social and political boundaries between themselves and non-Muslim 'others'. The Spring School's organisation was a joint effort by the Netherlands Interuniversity School for Islamic Studies (NISIS), the Institut d'études de l'Islam et des sociétés du monde musulman (IISMM), in cooperation with the Netherlands Institute in Turkey (NIT) and several other institutions in Turkey and abroad.

April 16-17: **Contemporary Popular Religion in Turkey and the Netherlands**. In this two-day seminar for advanced MA and PhD students interested in ritual and religious studies the participants looked below the surface at popular religiosity in Turkey and the Netherlands and the methodologies currently being used for its study. The course was organised by Logan Sparks (Süleyman Şah University and Netherlands Institute in Turkey) and taught by Peter Jan Margry of the Meertens Institute in Amsterdam and Uğur Kömeçoğlu.

June 11-22: **Constantinople/Istanbul: History and heritage of a metropolis**. The second edition of the Constantinople summer course was offered to selected advanced undergraduate students from Dutch universities. In this course, students are introduced to Istanbul as a capital of several world empires, and explore how its monuments and urban fabric are the outcome of centuries of building activities by rulers and commoners. Current issues related to the interplay of urban development and cultural heritage are studied as well.

The staff of the NIT also organised (guest) lectures, excursions and student seminars for BA, MA and PhD level courses of Dutch universities and research schools, including Leiden University Turkish Studies, Classics Departments of VU University Amsterdam, University of Amsterdam and Groningen University, Philosophy Honours Course of Leiden University, City Branding Course Nijmegen University's Business Communication Studies, and HZ University of Applied Sciences in Vlissingen. A four-day program was held at the NIT in October for students of the minor Tourism and Heritage of NHTV University of Applied Sciences in Breda.

Library

The NIT library holds important collections on the archaeology, history and heritage of Turkey and surrounding regions. Through acquisitions, donations and exchanges, 457 volumes (monographs and periodicals) could be added to the holdings. About 80 volumes, mainly on Christian and Early Islamic Art in the Middle East, were gratefully received from the Netherlands Institute for Academic Studies in Damascus. As a result of budget cuts, the NIASD had to close its doors in 2012. The number of registered library visitors increased from previous years to 1562 (from 1158 in 2011).

Guestrooms

The three guestrooms of the NIT were occupied for a total of 765 nights (70% occupancy rate) by researchers, fellows, and speakers at NIT conferences.

Other activities

The staff of the NIT welcomed numerous groups of students and professionals. During their visit to the institute, they learned about the activities of the institute, its facilities and research projects. In some cases, and excursion through the Tophane neighbourhood was part of the program. The groups included student organisation Awater (Utrecht University), international business communication students from Nijmegen University, Leiden University anthropology students, the Descartes Honours College of Utrecht University, and groups of young professionals of Den Haag municipality and the Dutch Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Economic Affairs.

With NINO and the municipal archive of Schiedam, the NIT assisted with the preparation of a new, revised edition of A.H. de Groot's classic study *The Ottoman Empire and the Dutch Republic. A History of the Earliest Diplomatic Relations 1610-1630*. This appeared in NINO's PIHANS series.

Curatorium

Curatorium of NINO and NIT

NINO and NIT are both governed by a Curatorium (Board of Governors). Members:

Prof. Dr R.T.J. Cappers, Ir. H.G. Dijkgraaf (treasurer), Dr A.H. de Groot, Prof. mr. P.F. van der Heijden, Prof. Dr O.E. Kaper, Prof. Dr J.R.T.M. Peters (president), Prof. Dr W.H. van Soldt, Prof. Dr M. Stol, Prof. Dr K. van der Toorn. The general director of NINO and NIT is secretary to the Curatorium.

The Curatorium met in June and December 2012.

Executive Board

The Executive Board represents the Curatorium between its semi-annual meetings. Members:

Prof. Dr J.R.T.M. Peters (president), Ir. H.G. Dijkgraaf (treasurer), Prof. Dr W.H. van Soldt (president of the scientific committee), Prof. Dr M. Stol (member of the scientific committee).

The Executive Board met in March, June, and December 2012. The meetings were attended by J. Eidem (general director), R.T. Dickhoff (financial administrator) and C.H. van Zoest (minutes).

Scientific committee

A committee within the Curatorium of NINO and NIT advises on scientific matters.

Prof. Dr R.T.J. Cappers, Dr A.H. de Groot, Prof. Dr O.E. Kaper, Prof. Dr W.H. van Soldt (president), Prof. Dr M. Stol, and the director of NINO.

The scientific committee met in October 2012.

Curatorium of the Chair of Ecology and Palaeoecology of the Near East

The special chair, created by NINO at the Faculty of Archaeology at Leiden University, is overseen by a Curatorium that meets annually. Members:

Prof. Dr W.H. van Soldt (president), Prof. Dr M.H. Field, Prof. Dr O.E. Kaper, Dr D.J.W. Meijer.

The chair is held by Prof. Dr R.T.J. Cappers (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen). The first five-year term being complete, the chair was renewed starting from 1 September for a second term.

The Netherlands Institute for the Near East

Witte Singel 25, 2311 BG Leiden

P.O.Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden

www.nino-leiden.nl

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey

İstiklal Caddesi, Nur-i Ziya Sk. 5,
Beyoğlu, Istanbul

P.K. 132, Beyoğlu 34431, Istanbul

www.nit-istanbul.org

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edited by Jesper Eidem
design and layout by
Carolien van Zoest.