Ash-sharq
Bulletin of the Ancient Near East
Archaeological, Historical and Societal Studies
Vol 1 No 1 April 2017

ISSN 2513-8529
eISSN 2514-1732

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR
Laura Battini

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
Silvana Di Paolo
Yagmur Heffron
Barbara Helwing
Elif Koparal
Marta Luciani
Maria-Grazia Masetti-Rouault
Valérie Matoïan
Béatrice Muller
Tallay Ornan
Adelheid Otto
Jack M. Sasson
Karen Sonik
StJohn Simpson
Pierre Villard
Nele Ziegler

Ash-sharq is a Bulletin devoted to short articles on the archaeology and history of the Ancient Near East. It is published twice a year. Submissions are welcome from academics and researchers at all levels. Submissions should be sent to Laura Battini (laura.battini@college-de-france.fr)

Published by Archaeopress Publishing Ltd

Subscriptions to the Bulletin of the Ancient Near East should be sent to
Archaeopress Publishing Ltd, Gordon House, 276 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7ED, UK
Tel +44-(0)1865-311914 Fax +44(0)1865-512231
e-mail info@archaeopress.com
http://www.archaeopress.com

Opinions expressed in papers published in the Bulletin are those of the authors and are not necessarily shared by the Scientific Committee.


All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher.
Contents

A Short Introduction ........................................................................................................ iii
Laura Battini

عمريت خلال العصر الفينيقي المتأخر ............................................................... 1
Michel Al-Maqdissi and Eva Ishaq

A Double-Sided Board from Tell Afis ........................................................................ 9
Anne-Elizabeth Dunn-Vaturi

Some Considerations on the Funnels from Tell Afis ............................................. 18
Giuseppe Minunno

أعمال البعثة السورية في المدينة البيزنطية (تل الكسرة الأثري) خلال خمس مواسم (2006-2010) ............................................................... 22
Yaarob Dahham

Men, Animals and Pots. A few Thoughts about a Narrative Motive on Syrian Bronze Age Vessels .............................................................. 33
Juliette Mas

Entrusting One’s Seal in the Ancient Near East in the First Half of the 2nd millennium BC ................................................................. 40
Julie Patrier

Bronze Metallurgy in the Times of the Earliest Cities. New Data on the City I of Mari ......................................................................................... 48
Juan-Luis Montero Fenollós

Localized Ištar Goddesses and the Making of Socio-Political Communities: Samsi-Addu’s Eštar Irradan at Mari ................................................................. 55
Elizabeth Knott

Of Pins and Beads: Note on a Feminine Costume in Mari ..................................... 62
Barbara Couturaud

Ships and Diplomacy. The Historical Connection between the Letters RS 18.031 (from Tyre) and RS 94.2483 (from Ugarit) ............................................. 69
Juan-Pablo Vita
Issues in the Historical Geography of the Fertile Crescent ............................................ 72
Ran Zadok

The Kiriath-Jearim Archaeological Mission ........................................................................ 93
Thomas Römer

An Entanglement between Nature and the Supernatural: the Early Second
Millennium BCE Ceremonial Complex of Hirbemerdon Tepe in the Upper Tigris
Region .................................................................................................................................. 96
Nicola Laneri

The Architecture of Bahra 1, an Ubaid Culture-Related Settlement in Kuwait. 104
Piotr Bieliński

A Summary of the 5th Campaign of the French Archaeological Mission at Qasr
Shemamok (Kurdistan, Iraq), 21 September – 19 October, 2016 ...................... 112
Maria Grazia Masetti-Rouault

The Peshdar Plain Project, 2015-2016. A Major Neo-Assyrian Settlement on the
Empire’s Eastern Border .................................................................................................... 124
Karen Radner, Janoscha Kreppner and Andrea Squitieri

Abu Tbeirah’s Craft Area NE: A Preliminary Survey ............................................. 131
Franco D’Agostino and Licia Romano

The Creation of the First (Divinatory) Dream and Enki(g) as the God of Ritual
Wisdom ................................................................................................................................ 155
Annette Zgoll

The Hare has lost his Spectacles. Notes on Contest Scenes, Early Occurrences 162
Reinhard Dittmann

Daughters from Good Families and their Seals in the Old Babylonian Period .. 170
Gudrun Colbow

Re-contextualizing Clay Figurines, Models, and Plaques from Iščali ............. 177
Elisa Roßberger
Contents

How Ebla has Changed our Perception of the Ancient Near East in the Third Millennium BC .................................................. 187
Alfonso Archi

Ṭur ‘Abdin’dé üçlü yerleşim modeli: manastir, köy, Kayaya Oyma Manastir .................................................................................................. 193
Elif Keser

Klazomenai Yüzey Araştırmaları (Klasp) ........................................ 201
Elif Koparal

A New Interpretation of the ‘External Portico’ of Arin-berd/Erebuni, Armenia ................................................................. 211
Roberto Dan

The Agora, a Mark of Hellenisation? An Archaeological Note on Public Squares in Hellenised Mesopotamia and Parapotamia ..................... 224
Gaëlle Coqueugniot

Khirnis/Bavian: Changing Models for an Assyrian Monumental Complex ...237
Frederick Mario Fales

The Italian Archaeological Expedition to Qasr Shamamuk-Kilizu, Iraq, 1933. Notes on the Excavation Finds at the Iraq Museum in Baghdad .. 275
Stefano Anastasio

The Architect and the Emperor of Babylonia ........................................ 286
Pierre Villard

Portable Altars .................................................................................... 293
Laura Battini

Egyptian Scarabs in Southwest Canaan in the Late Bronze and Iron I: Observations from a Local Perspective ........................................... 294
Ido Koch

The Lost Greek Epitaph from Hārūnābād (aka Shāhābād, mod. Eslāmābād-e Gharb), Iran, and its Elusive Discoverer, ‘Mr. H.’ .............. 304
Daniel T. Potts
A Short Introduction

Laura Battini
CNRS, UMR 7192 PROCLAC- Collège de France

For a long time, there has been no journal of short articles on the archaeology of the Ancient Near East. In the way that NABU (Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires) provides up-to-the-minute information for epigraphers, so archaeologists need a forum for the quick exchange of ideas and presentation of results from excavations. Ash-sharq is intended to meet this need. The journal will appear twice a year, this year in April and July.

Time Changed

Ash-sharq offers quick publication of the latest archaeological and historical discoveries, as well as of studies of material culture. It is devoted both to the archaeology and to the history of the Ancient Near East because they are inseparable: as epigraphic material serves for the reconstruction of historical societies, so does archaeological material. Material culture is studied from the standpoint of society rather than aesthetics.

Time Changes

Ash-sharq has a new approach to the use of languages: English is be the main language and languages currently spoken in the Near East will also be featured (Arabic, Hebrew, Kurdish, Persian, Turkish ...), ie the current world international language and the languages of the countries where we work. Each number of the journal will include some articles in Near Eastern languages with English summaries. We are aiming to diminish colonialistic attitudes and to encourage contributions from local archaeologists.

The journal is new in encompassing all periods attested in the region (Islamic, medieval, Sassanid as well as protohistoric, prehistoric, Hellenistic and pre-classical archaeology). As archaeologists, we have a professional duty to excavate all archaeological levels with the same precision and resources, even if we specialise in one particular period. Later periods are fascinating and still conserve iconographical material from earlier periods.

Will Time Change?

The journal has a particular brief for women. The scientific committee has a strong representation of experienced women colleagues from both the East and the West. Women are especially encouraged to submit articles as an indication of the ways they are contributing to advances in our field, in archaeology, in Assyriology and in history, in spite of difficulties in carrying on their careers and lives.