

Melammu Project

The Heritage of Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East

Melammu newsletter 3/2016

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Dear colleagues and friends,

It is our pleasure to share the third Melammu Newsletter providing the most recent information about our ongoing activities. As you will see, the Melammu Project is prospering. This year three Melammu events took or will take place. The first Melammu Workshop “Representing the Wise: A Gendered Approach,” organized by Stéphanie Anthonioz and Sebastian Fink, was held in early April in Lille. Stéphanie Anthonioz provides a short summary of this workshop in this Newsletter.

Kai Ruffing and his team will organize Melammu Symposium 10 in Kassel from September 25-29. From October 13-14 the second Melammu Workshop “Literary change in Mesopotamia and beyond,” organized by Martin Lang and Sebastian Fink, will take place in Innsbruck. The preliminary programs of the symposium and workshop as well as further details on both upcoming events are also attached to this Newsletter.

Next year Rocío Da Riva will organize the third Melammu Workshop “Routes and Travellers between East and West: cultural exchange in the Ancient World” in Barcelona (March 22-23).

Raija Mattila will organize the 11th Melammu Symposium in Beirut (April 3-6). You will find the open call for the general session of the Melammu Symposium in this Newsletter.

Finally, Sabine Müller will organize the Fourth Melammu Workshop in autumn 2017 in Marburg. This interdisciplinary meeting will focus on Xenophon’s *Cyropaedia*.

With best wishes for the upcoming summer holidays,

Yours,

Robert Rollinger

Chair of the Melammu Project

Melammu 10, Kassel, 26.-28. September 2016
Preliminary program (18.05.016)

Day 1:

09:00-09:15 Robert Rollinger/Kai Ruffing: Opening

09:15-12:45 Panel 1: War and Numbers (Hannes D. Galter/Kai Ruffing)

09:15-09:30 Opening

09:30-10:00 Davide Nadali: Numbers matter. On the nature and function of counting in warfare in the Neo-Assyrian period

10:00-10:30 Ingo Schrakamp: On the size of Third-Millennium Mesopotamian armies. Royal inscriptions and archival records in comparative perspective

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-11:15 Reinhold Bichler: Numbers in Herodotus

11:15-11:45 P. Patrick Reinard: Krieg und Zahlen in der römischen Welt

11:45-12:00 Response

12:00-12:30 Discussion

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-18:00 Panel 2: War and Legitimacy (Giovanni B. Lanfranchi/Sabine Müller)

14:00-14:30 Opening

14:30-15:00 Salvatore Gaspa: The King as a Warrior in Assyria: Legitimacy as a Religious and Political Issue from Middle Assyrian to Neo-Assyrian Times

15:00-15:30 Simonetta Ponchia: Legitimation of war and warriors in literary texts

15:30-15:45 Break

15:45-16:15 Daniel Ogden: The role of warfare in the legendary tradition of Seleucus

16:15-16:45 Frances Pownall: Revenge Against a Foreign Foe as a Legitimizing Principle in Warfare: Some Antecedents to Alexander the Great

16:45-17:00 Response

17:00-17:30 Discussion

17:30-18:30 Poster Session I (Silvia Balatti/Louisa D. Thomas)

Gilles Andrienne: The Bow in Ancient Greece and Near-Eastern Cultures

Eleanor Bennett: Queens at War: 'Queens of the Arabs' and their Conflict with the Neo-Assyrian Empire

Sevgul Cilingir Cesur: Segmenting the Military Rituals of the Hittites

Teodora Costache: The Combat Myth as a Literary and Iconographic Motif in the Diffusion of the Assyrian Royal Ideology

Elena Chepel: Praying for war: the ritual power of battle cries in Greece and Near Eastern cultures

Hilmar Klinkott: The Mithridatic Empire - constructing identity by war?

Day 2:

09:00-10:45 General Session I (Kerstin Droß-Krüpe/Sebastian Fink)

09:00-09:10 Introduction

09:10-09:40 Valeska Hartmann: War on picture – Imaginations of violence and their aesthetics in the art of ancient Assyria

09:40-10:10 Raija Mattila: Societal Impact of War in the Neo-Assyrian Period

10:10-10:40 Annunziata Rositani: Prisoners of War: from free men to slaves

10:40-11:00 Break

11:00-12:00 General Session II (Kerstin Droß-Krüpe/Sebastian Fink)

11:00-11:30 Igor Kreimermann: Why were cities destroyed in times of war? The Bronze and Iron Age Southern Levant as a case-study

11:30-12:00 Hannah Ringheim: Arms Race in the Near East: Greek Mercenaries in Judaea and Egypt from the 8th to 6th centuries BC

12:00-13:30 Lunch

13:30-16:00 General Session III (Kerstin Droß-Krüpe/Sebastian Fink)

13:30-14:00 Juan A. Álvarez-Pedrosa Núñez & Julia Mendoza: Greece and Persia, Policies in conflict, cultures in contact

14:00-14:30 Geert De Breucker: The Babylonian temple communities and Greek culture in the Hellenistic period

14:30-15:00 Christopher Baron: Communication in Alexander's Empire

15:00-15:30 Discussion

15:30-15:45 Break

15:45-16:30 Keynote I:

Peter Funke: "...stärker als die Rache der Götter..." Gewalt und Versöhnung im klassischen Athen

16:30-17:30 Poster Session II (Silvia Balatti/Louisa D. Thomas)

Selim Adalı: Turkish Melheme Texts: Babylonian Origins?

Krzysztof Hipp: Some remarks on the translations of Rusa's bilingual stelae and their historical implications

Milinda Hoo: Eurasian Localisms: A globalization approach to cultural interaction in ancient Central Asia

Sean Manning: A Closer Look at the Gadal-Yama Contract

Seyed Abazar Shobairi: Irrigation, Farming and Society: Some Notes on Land use in the Achaemenid Heartland (6 –4 B.C.E)

17:30 Board Meeting (Board-Members only)

Day 3:

09:00-12:30 Panel 3: War and Ritual (Rocío Da Riva/Kai Trampedach)

09:00-09:15 Opening

09:15-09:45 Cinzia Pappi: War and Ritual in Mari

09:45-10:15 Martin Lang: War and Ritual in Mesopotamia and the Old Testament

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-11:00 Wolfgang Havener: Tropaion – The development of the battlefield trophy in Greece and Rome

11:00-11:30 Jens-Arne Dickmann: Burial at the Battlefield
11:30-11:45 Response
11:45-12:15 Discussion

12:15-13:45 Lunch

13:45-14:30 Keynote II:
Michael Gehler: Krieg und Frieden in der Neueren Geschichte. Ursachen – Motive – Folgen

14:30-18:00 Panel 4: War and Civilians (Cinzia Pappi/Oliver Stoll)
14:30-14:45 Opening
14:45-15:15 Josué J. Justel: Run for your lives! War and Refugees in the Ancient Near East during the Late Bronze Age
15:15-15:45 Saana Svärd: War on Women: Arabian Queens in the Neo-Assyrian Empire
15:45-16:00 Break
16:00-16:30 Josef Fischer: Welfare services for disabled veterans and surviving dependents in Classical Athens
16:30-17:00 Anna M. Kaiser: Recruits and Deserters – How War affects Civilians in the Late Roman Empire
17:00-17:15 Response
17:15-17:45 Discussion

Preliminary Program Melammu Workshop 2: Literary change in Mesopotamia and beyond (Innsbruck)

Organizers: Martin Lang and Sebastian Fink

Thursday, October 13

09:00-09:15 Opening

The Beginnings

09:15-10:00 Gonzalo Rubio (New York): TBA

10:00-10:45 Peeter Espak (Tartu): The Transformation of the Sumerian Temple Hymns

10:45-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-11:45 Gebhard Selz (Vienna): Bilingual plants: a critical evaluation of the plant motif in the epic tradition concerning Etana and Adapa

11:45-12:30 Vladimir Emelianov (St. Petersburg): The Evolution of the Festival of Dumuzi in the light of Russian Assyriology

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

From the Second to the First Millennium

14:00-14:45 Simonetta Ponchia (Verona): From II to I millennium BC: cases and problems in investigating change in Assyro-Babylonian literary texts

14:45-15:30 Takayoshi Oshima (Leipzig): Legends of Sargon — History to His Story: Forming the Warrior King Archetype

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-16:30 Christian Hess (Berlin): On the Textual History of Enūma eliš

16:30-17:15 Martin Lang (Innsbruck): TBA

Friday, October 14

Religion, Medicine and Rituals

09:00-09:45 Barbara Böck (Madrid): On the Formation and Transmission of Babylonian Magical Books

09:45-10:30 Strahil Panayotov (Berlin): Changes and Transformations in Mesopotamian Eye Disease Texts

10:30-10:45 Coffee break

10:45-11:30 Cinzia Pappi (Innsbruck): Message in a Tablet. The Evolution of the Letters to the Divine in Literary and Religious Perspective

11:30-12:15 Anne Löhnert (München): The techniques of editing Mesopotamian lamentations

12:15-14:00 Lunch break

Beyond Mesopotamia

14:00-14:45 Yoram Cohen (Tel Aviv): The Vanity Theme in Wisdom Literature: The Cuneiform World and Beyond

14:45-15:30 Ignacio Rowe (Madrid): The Position and the Role of Ugarit in the History of Babylonian Literature

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-16:30 Johannes Haubold (Durham): The textual transmission of Greek and Akkadian epic
16:30-17:00 Closing

Melammu Workshop 3:
**"Routes and Travellers between East and West: cultural exchange in
the Ancient World" (Barcelona 2017)**

Organizers: Rocío Da Riva & Sebastian Fink

Venue: Faculty of Geography and History, University of Barcelona

Date: 22 and 23 of March 2017

Supporting institutions: University of Barcelona, ICREA

PROGRAMME

DAY 1: 22/03/2017 9.00-18.30

9.00-9.30 Opening:

Session I. Routes between East and West (Chairperson: Paola Corò):

9.30-10.00 1. Through the Middle Sea: An overview of the main Mediterranean sea-routes in Antiquity (CHRISTOPH SCHAEFER, UNIV. TRIER & PASCAL WARNKING, UNIV. TRIER)

10:00-10:30 2. The Knights of the Ocean: The Phoenicians between East and West (BÄRBEL MORSTADT, UNIV. BOCHUM)

10.30-11.00. COFFEE BREAK

11.00-11.30 3. Landroutes between East and West (ERVIND SELAND, UNIV. BERGEN)

11-30-12.00 4. Commercial routes and military routes (AURELIE PACI, UNIV SORBONNE)

12.00-12.30 5. Informal networks of interchange at the end of the Late Bronze Period in NE Africa and the Red Sea: their economic and political impact in Egypt (JUAN CARLOS MORENO, CNRS)

12.30-15.00 LUNCH BREAK

Session II. From West to East (Chairperson: Rocío Da Riva):

1. Cuneiform Sources

15.00-15.30 1.1. Greeks travellers in Neo-Assyrian and Neo-Babylonian sources (PAOLA CORÒ, UNIV VENEZIA)

15.30-16.00 1.2. Campaign routes to Mesopotamia, from Alexander to Crassus (JULIEN MONERIE, UNIV SORBONNE)

16.00-16.30 BREAK

2. Classical Sources:

16.30-17.00 2.1. The Flying Greek: Travelling Greek Historians and Philosophers in the East (JAUME PORTULAS, UNIV BARCELONA)

17.00-17.30 2.2. Around the 10.000: Greek Armies in the East (CHRISTOPHER TUPLIN, UNIV LIVERPOOL)

17.30-18.00 2.3. Greek Merchants and Businessmen in the East (KAI RUFFING, UNIV KASSEL)

18.00-18.30. Religious networks and cultural exchange: some possible cases from the Eastern Mediterranean (IAN RUTHERFORD, UNIV READING)

DAY 2: 23/03/2017 9.30-17.00

Session III. From East to West (Chairperson: Bärbel Morstadt):

1. Cuneiform Sources:

9.30-10.00 1.1. Going West according to Neo-Assyrian Sources

(GIOVANNI BATTISTA LANFRANCHI, UNIV PADOVA)

10.00-10.30. 1.2. Neo-Babylonians in the West: the documentary sources

(PHILIPPE CLANCIER, UNIV SORBONNE & DAMIEN AGUT, CNRS)

10.30-11.00 COFFEE BREAK

11.00-11.30 1.3. The conquest of the Far West: the Mediterranean lands in the Neo-Assyrian and Neo-Babylonian political programs

(ROBERT ROLLINGER, UNIV INNSBRUCK)

2. Classical Sources

11.30-12.00 2.1. The Orient and the Orientals in Greek and Roman Sources

(HENNING BÖRM, UNIV KONSTANZ)

12.00-12.30 2.1. Assyrians and Babylonians in Classical sources

(SEBASTIAN FINK, UNIV INNSBRUCK)

LUNCH BREAK 12.30-15.00

15.00-17.00 IV. Workshop conclusion: Comparative thoughts and final discussion.

Summary of the first Melammu Workshop “Representing the Wise: A Gendered Approach”

by Stéphanie Anthonioz

The first Melammu Workshop “Representing the Wise: A Gendered Approach” organized by S. Anthonioz (Lille) and S. Fink (Innsbruck) was held in “La Maison des Chercheurs” at the Catholic University of Lille and assembled a team of twelve scholars from Europe and Canada: G. Selz (Vienna), P. Espak (Tartu), S. Svärd (Helsinki), R. Mattila (Helsinki), C. Cannuyer (Lille), P. Vernus (Paris), I. Kottsieper (Göttingen), E. Ben Zvi (Alberta), A. Szalac (Wroclaw), C. Leblanc (Lille), E. Biondi (Franche-Comté) and C. Horst (Munich).

This workshop was made possible with grants from the Fonds fédératifs de l’Université catholique de Lille as well as with the help of the French National Center for Research (CNRS – UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée).

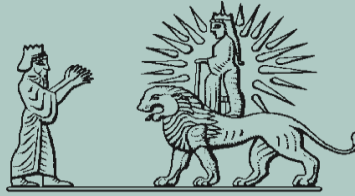
The day-and-a-half workshop spanned a wide chronological range: from Mesopotamian and Egyptian sources, continuing West through the Levant, and ending with Greek and Roman documentation. A discussion of the Indian representations also provided comparative insights.

The Workshop permitted a wide-ranging exploration of sages, both divine and human, as they are portrayed in antiquity. This exploration also brought to light several new insights and questions, not the least of which was the influence of gender on these representations. Other questions arising from this exploration were the nature of wisdom, its diverse origins (human, divine, empirical, theoretical, or even mysterious), and the attendant difficulty of defining wisdom, leading to plurality in its representation.

Moreover the question of gender has proven to be deeply interconnected to the societies from which given feminine or masculine representations emerge. Accordingly, we cannot provide any generalization or typology of sages at this point, but there does appear to be a historical evolution toward masculine representations of wisdom in the evidence we surveyed.

Certainly this trend is connected to the shifting loci of power and authority in the societies under consideration. In many regards, however, women have also appeared as counterparts to men in their search for wisdom. In this sense, the workshop was especially productive in comparing a diverse gallery of portraits and in bringing to light differences dependent on social settings and available sources while elucidating evolving historical trends.

**Call for Papers for the General Session of
Melammu Symposia 11
“Evidence Combined – Western and Eastern Sources in Dialogue”
3-6 April 2017, Finnish Institute in the Middle East, Beirut, Lebanon**



The Melammu Project investigates the continuity, transformation and diffusion of Mesopotamian and Ancient Near Eastern culture from the third millennium BCE through the ancient world until Islamic times. It organizes regular symposia on aspects related to this general subject. For more information, see <http://www.aakkl.helsinki.fi/melammu/>.

The next conference, Melammu Symposia 11, will be the first one to be held in the Middle East and will take place in Beirut (Lebanon) on 3-6 April 2017.

We herewith invite proposals for papers for the General Session of Melammu Symposia 11 accompanying several more narrowly themed sessions. Please note that this call concerns only the general session, NOT the conference as a whole. The general session will be organized by Raija Mattila and Sebastian Fink.

The suggested papers should be connected with the overall topic “**Evidence Combined – Western and Eastern Sources in Dialogue**” and, in accordance with the aim of the Melammu Project, an investigation of transfers, continuities or differences between Ancient Near Eastern and other cultures is highly welcome. Therefore we invite researchers from all possibly relevant disciplines. Please note that the conference language is English only.

Please send **abstracts** of max. 300 words to raija.mattila@fime.fi **by 15 September 2016**. Notification of acceptance or rejection will be announced by 15 October 2017.

The conference is organized by the Finnish Institute in the Middle East with support from the Ugarit-Verlag. Although the conference organizers are looking into possibilities to help out with accommodation and travel costs, at this stage it is best to assume that participants will have to find funding for their costs by themselves.

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Suggestions, ideas, calls for papers and other announcements concerning the Melammu Community and events related to the Project's idea, please send to:
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