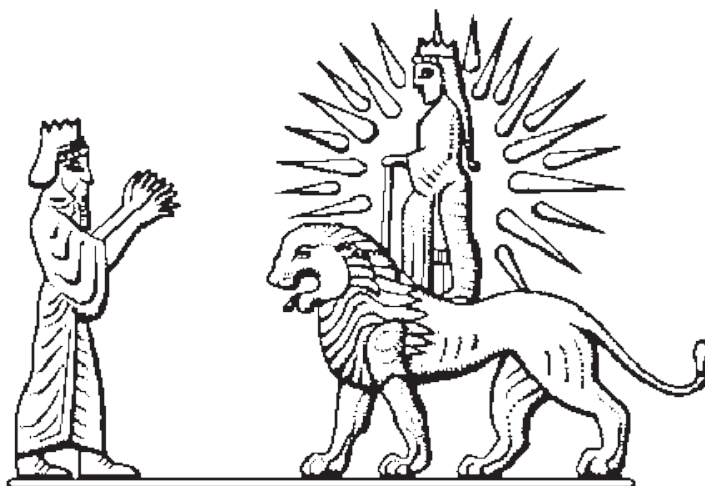


Newsletter

The Heritage of Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East

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Letter of Introduction

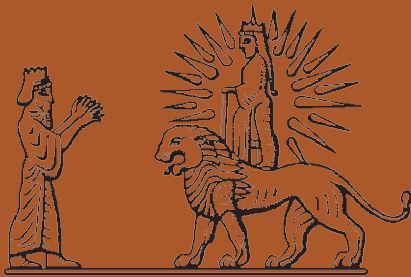
Dear colleagues and friends,

the meetings of the last months have provided new fuel to the evolving agenda of the Melammu. The 12th Symposium, which coincided with the 64th Rencontre Assyriologique, has contributed to widen the network of scientific contacts and the possibility of disseminating principles and interests of the research undertaken by the Melammu group while receiving new inputs and stimuli from the many participants to the conference. The Changchun workshop has contributed to open the horizons to the far east and to the attention for the global dimension of history. I want to express once more my personal and our joint warmest thanks to the organizers of these inspiring events, of which you find a brief report herewith.

In our dense schedule new occasions of intense scientific dialogue are now approaching: the 7th Melammu workshop “Making Peace in Antiquity” will soon take place in Padova, and the organization of Melammu Symposium 13 in Wrocław is in progress, as you can see from the preliminary but already rich program defined by Krzysztof Nawotka. We are also glad to announce the publication of the proceedings of Melammu Symposia 9, the Helsinki/Tartu meeting, and hope to soon send news on the other volumes awaiting publication.

As always, suggestions, comments and new ideas are welcome and we encourage you to send us updates on events you deem useful to publish in our newsletter or to circulate through mail and website.

Yours,
Simonetta Ponchia
(Chair of the Melammu Project)



Reports on Recent Melammu Events

Melammu Symposium 12 (+ RAI)

in Innsbruck, July 16-20:

“The Intellectual Heritage of the Ancient Near East”

(Robert Rollinger, Cinzia Pappi, Martin Lang, Irene Madreiter & Sebastian Fink)

The department of Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, in association with the Research Center “Ancient Worlds Studies and Archaeologies” at the University of Innsbruck, organized the 64th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, which was at the same time the 12th Melammu-Symposium. The meeting took place in Innsbruck, Austria, July 16th to 20th, 2018. The general theme followed the aims of Melammu and was accordingly defined as “The Intellectual Heritage of the Ancient Near East”. This was also reflected by the opening keynotes. Simo Parpola, the initiator of the Melammu project talked about the history and challenges of such a project. The two following keynotes by Beate Pongratz-Leisten (“Once more: Puritans in Babylon – Tracing Approaches to the History of Religion in Mesopotamia”) and Josef Wiesehöfer (“Alte Geschichte und Alter Orient”) also elucidated the close connections between Assyriology, Ancient History and the Melammu project.

In general, papers related to the main topic investigated the continuity, transformation, and diffusion of Mesopotamian and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures through the Western Classical world to the later Islamic times. They also focused on the continuity of the Ancient Near Eastern Cultures into the present world and their cultural influence on the Western scientific thought. Large panels were dedicated to “Rezeptionsgeschichte” and Digital Humanities.

The impressive program consisted of 102 papers, which were organized in seven parallel session and 17 workshops with additional 140 papers. Altogether the 12th Melammu Symposium was attended by more than 400 scholars. The proceedings will be published as a volume of the Melammu Symposia.

Two blogs provide a general impression of the RAI and Innsbruck (with some nice photos): <http://persiababylonia.org/2018/08/14/an-ancient-near-eastern-scholarly-hub-in-the-capital-of-the-alps/> and <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/news/language-culture/rencontre-assyriologique-international-in-innsbruck>



RAI, Innsbruck 2018
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photo S. Haidler

**Melammu Workshop 6 in Changchun,
August 30-September 3:
“At the Edges of Empires: Territories
and Processes nearby and between
Developing Great Powers in
Antiquity”**
(Sven Günther)

What happened at the fringes of ancient empires? Which exchanges, mutual influences and entanglements took place at these contact zones? Are fringes, contact zones, frontiers and edges useful heuristic categories and concepts at all?

These were few of the underlying discourses during the two-day Melammu-workshop “At the Edges of Empires: Territories and Processes nearby and between Emerging Great Powers in Antiquity” held at the Institute for the History of Ancient Civilizations (IHAC) of Northeast Normal University, Changchun, People’s Republic of China. In bringing together international and Chinese experts in the fields of Ancient Near Eastern, Ancient Egyptian and Classical Studies, Prof. Dr. Qiang Zhang, director of IHAC, stressed the parallels between the idea of IHAC from its foundation in 1984 and the aim of the Melammu-project, i.e. to see the ancient world as connected spheres where traditions, transgressions, mutual

influences and interdependencies but also processes of differentiation and discrimination happened dia- and synchronically.

In the closing discussion on the chances and restrictions of Comparative, Entangled and Global History studies, taking place after 11 talks by international experts, the participants pointed out the fixedness of all historians’ perspective and the necessity to understand ancient cultures not from a uniform viewpoint but to recognize the different levels of identities innate in specific ancient societies, groups or individual persons. They strongly advocated the heuristic concepts of “fringes”, “contact zones”, “frontiers” and “edges”, among others, due to the intense processes happening at these focal points. In the following days, the participants had the chance to discover such an entangled area in Jilin Province, in Ji’an with the ancient sites of the UNESCO World Heritage “Capital Cities and Tombs of the Ancient Koguryo Kingdom”.



Melammu
Workshop 6,
Changchun
© private

Sven Günther at the
edges of modern China
© private



Upcoming Melammu Events

2018

**Melammu Workshop 7 in Padova,
November 5-7:
“Making Peace in
the Ancient World”**
(Giovanni B. Lanfranchi &
Simonetta Ponchia)

The Melammu Workshop “Making peace in Antiquity” will be held from November 5 to 7, 2018, in Padova, where the armistice between the armies of the Italian Kingdom and of the Austro-Hungarian Empire was signed on November 3rd, 1918, in Villa Giusti. The Workshop will be organized as a cooperation of the Universities of Innsbruck and Verona, as part of a larger International Meeting organized

by the University of Padova in the occasion of the centennial and entitled “Making Peace from Antiquity to Modern Times”; this larger conference extends to all historical periods, and especially to contemporary history, and deals with the general subjects of the transition from war to peace and of the transformations of the human and natural worlds imposed by war and requested by the return to peace. As

a relevant perspective on the general topic of the dynamics and consequences of the composition of conflicts, the organizers of the Melammu Workshop have invited several experts of the ancient world to deliver a lecture on “Making Peace in Antiquity” on the basis of their specific field of competence.

Program

November 5, 2018

Opening Plenary Session

09.00 INSTITUTIONAL WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

10.30 Coffee Break

11:00 CHRISTOPH CORNELISSEN (Frankfurt)
Un'estate calda. Discussioni e conflitti in Germania sull'accettazione del patto di pace nel 1919

11.40 ADRIAN GREGORY (Oxford)
Religion and Peacemaking in the Era of the Great War

12.20 PAOLO MATTHIAE (Roma)
The Destruction of Cultural Heritage in Syria and Iraq and the Perspectives of a Rebirth

Afternoon Melammu Session

Chair: RAIJA MATTILA (Beirut)

14.30 MARC VAN DE MIEROOP (New York)
Making Peace in the Ancient Near East

15.00 SETH RICHARDSON (Chicago)
Raiders, Neighbors, and Night-time: "Hybrid Peace" in Babylonia

15.30 STEFANO DE MARTINO (Torino)
War, Peace, and the Foreign Policy of the Hittite Kings

16.00 Coffee Break

Chair: GIOVANNI LANFRANCHI (Padova)
16.30 MANFRED BIETAK (Vienna)
The Antagonism between Animosity and Peace-making in Ancient Egypt: between Ideology and Practical Foreign Policy

17.00 SALVATORE GASPA (Heidelberg)
Making Peace in the Ancient Near East of First Millennium BC

17.30 RESPONDENT:
FREDERICK MARIO FALES (Udine)

18.00 DISCUSSION

November 6, 2018

Plenary Session

09.00 GASTONE BRECCIA (Pavia)
Resa incondizionata. Presupposti, limiti e conseguenze dell'inimicizia assoluta
09.40 KURT RAAFLAUB (Brown University)
Making and Experiencing Peace in the Ancient World
10.20 Coffee Break

Morning Melammu Session

Chair: SEBASTIAN FINK (Helsinki)

11.00 ANN GUNTER (Evanston)
Commemorating the End of Conflict in the Ancient Near East: Material Perspectives

11.30 MATTHEW WATERS (Madison)
What Could Go Wrong? Marriage-Alliances and the Path to Peace in Elam

12.00 JOSEF WIESEHÖFER (Kiel)
Peace and Views of Peace in Achaemenid Iran

12.30 RESPONDENT:
SIMO PARPOLA (Helsinki)

Afternoon Melammu Session

Chair: REINHOLD BICHLER (Innsbruck)

14.30 KAJA HARTER-UIBOPUU (Hamburg)
Treaties and Other (Re)solutions — the Settling of Disputes in Archaic and Classical Greece

15.00 CHRISTOPH SCHÄFER (Trier)
Making Peace in the Hellenistic World

15.30 SVEN GÜNTHER (Changchun)
Frames of Making Peace in the Roman Empire

16.00 WOLFGANG SPICKERMANN (Graz)
Making Peace in the Roman Republic: The Case of Appius Claudius Caecus and King Pyrrhus

16.30 RESPONDENT:
KAI RUFFING (Kassel)

November 7, 2018

Plenary Session

09.00 LEONARD V. SMITH (Oberlin)
The Five Armistices of 1918
09.40 ETIENNE BOISSERIE (Paris)
From War to Peace? Central Europe Facing Its 1919–1920 Reshaping
10.20 Coffee Break

Morning Melammu Session

Chair: ALFREDO BUONOPANE (Verona)

11.00 UMBERTO ROBERTO (Roma)
"Theodosius Amator Pacis Generisque Gothorum": Making Peace with the Barbarians in the Late Roman Empire

11.30 JOHANNES PREISER-KAPPELLER (Vienna)
Many Eyes of the World? Making Peace between Byzantium and Other Empires in a Comparative Perspective, 600–1200 AD
12.00 MARTTI NISSINEN (Helsinki)
Peace and Peacemaking in the Hebrew Bible

12.30 RESPONDENT:
MARTIN LANG (Innsbruck)

Afternoon Melammu Session

Chair: SIMONETTA PONCHIA (Verona)

14.30 HUGH KENNEDY (London)
Making Peace in the Early Islamic Conquests of the Middle East
15.00 FABRIZIO FERRARI (Padova)
Peace, Truce and Alliance: Treaties of Non-Aggression among Vedic Tribes

15.30 Coffee Break

16.00 LUCAS NICKEL (Vienna)
The First Emperor of China and His Vision of Peace

16.30 RESPONDENT:
ROBERT ROLLINGER (Innsbruck)

17.00 DISCUSSION
17.30 GENERAL DISCUSSION

Managing Organization: Silvia Gabrieli

2019

**Melammu Workshop 8 in Kassel,
January 31-February 1:
“(Self-)Portrayal and Perception
of Powerful Women in the Ancient
World”**

(Kerstin Droß-Krüpe & Sebastian Fink)

Though we often consider the ancient world as male dominated, our sources also provide evidence for powerful, influential and even ruling women. These women are often perceived as absolute Otherness and usually critically judged by contemporaries and later observers. The workshop aims at bringing together “western” and “eastern” perspectives on such exceptional women.

Program

January 31, 2019

Panel 1: African & Near Eastern Women

Chair: Agnès Garcia Ventura (Barcelona)

GÖSTA GABRIEL (Göttingen)

Kug-Ba’u of Kish – The only queen among kings

GINA KOSTANTOPOLOUS (Helsinki)

Enheduanna: Identity, Authorship, and the ‘World’s First Poet

ANNETTE ZGOLL (Göttingen)

Power on Earth, Power in Heaven. The mutual empowerment of Inana and En-hedu-ana

NICOLE BRISCH (Copenhagen)

Shamhat: Temple Prostitution in the Ancient Near East Revisited

JOSEFINE KUCKERTZ (Berlin)

Amanishakheto - a Meroitic queen

Panel 2: Biblical & Persian Women

Chair: Sebastian Fink (Helsinki)

MARTTI NISSINEN (Helsinki)

The Agency of Female Prophets in the Hebrew Bible: Independent or Instrumental? Prophetic or Political?

LLOYD LLEWELLYN JONES (Cardiff)

Crowns and Concubines: Bathsheba of Jerusalem, Abishag of Shunem and succession politics in the House of David

EVE MAC DONALD (Cardiff)

Shirin: Power Real and Imagined at the End of Antiquity

Panel 3: Women of the Greek World

Chair: Sebastian Fink (Helsinki)

ELIZABETH IRWIN (New York)

Artemisia in Herodotus

PAOLA CORO (Venice)

Between a queen and an ordinary woman: the representation of women in cuneiform sources in the Hellenistic period

SABINE MÜLLER (Marburg)

In Argead mission: Olympias and Kleopatra

Keynote:

SILKE HACKENESCH (Cologne)

A Taste of Power? A Look at First Ladies of the United States

February 1, 2019

Panel 4: Women of the Roman World

Chairs: Kerstin Droß-Krüpe (Kassel)

Kai Ruffing (Kassel) & Anja Wieber (Dortmund)

KORDULA SCHNEGG (Innsbruck)

Cornelia: A Powerful Woman & A Powerful Concept

ELKE HARTMANN (Darmstadt)

Sempronia

MARTIN LINDNER (Göttingen)

Stand by your man? Female characters in Günther Birkenfeld’s Augustus novels (1934-1984)

CHRISTOPH SCHÄFFER (Trier)

Kleopatra im Spiegel ihrer Zeit

FRANÇOIS DE CALLATAÏ (Brüssel)

Cleopatra as a strong woman in modern times: a positive episode in a disfigured tradition

CHRISTIANE KUNST (Osnabrück)

Iulia Maior

FRANCESCA ROHR (Venice)

Domum servavit, lanam fecit. Livia and the rewriting of the female model in the Augustan age

HELMUTH SCHNEIDER (Kassel)

Agrippina und Messalina

BRIGITTE TRUSCHNEGG (Innsbruck)

‘Oriental’ and Female – Aspects of Power and its presentation: The Case of Iulia Domna

UDO HARTMANN (Jena)

Zenobia von Palmyra – eine römische Herrscherin in Zeiten der Krise

PATRICK REINARD (Trier)

Kaiserinnen in den Provinzen

**Melammu Symposium 13 in Wrocław,
May 13-16:**

**“The Ancient Near Eastern Legacy
and Alexander vs. Alexander’s
Legacy to the World”**

(Krzysztof Nawotka)

Program

May 13, 2019

Panel 1: Assyria/Babylonia

(Sebastian Fink)

KERSTIN DROSS-KRÜPE (Kassel)

On the trail of Semiramis? Semiramis and Alexander III as rulers in Mesopotamia in Greek historiography

GEERT DE BREUCKER (Groningen)

Alexander in Babylon

CLAUDIA HORST (München)

Alexander the Great between Eastern and Western Philosophy

SEBASTIAN FINK (Helsinki)

Alexander and Mesopotamian Royal ideology

May 14, 2019

Panel 2: Levant/Jews

(Ory Amitay)

KAI TRAMPEDACH (Heidelberg)

Alexander and the creation of a Hellenic past in the Levant

JESSICA NITSCHKE (Cape Town)

The Alexander Sarcophagus as a Phoenician Commentary on the Macedonian Conquest

ORY AMITAY (Haifa)

Cabbages to Kingship: the Strange Case of Abdalonymos of Sidon

MEIR BEN SHAHAR (Sha’anana College)

Alexander the Great between the Loyal Jews and the Rebellious Samaritans, and between History and Myth

TAL ILAN (Berlin)

Alexander in Jewish Onomastics

EYAL MEYER (Jerusalem)

The Peculiar Image of Alexander the Great in the Third Branch of the Hebrew Alexander-Romance

May 15, 2019

Panel 3: Egypt

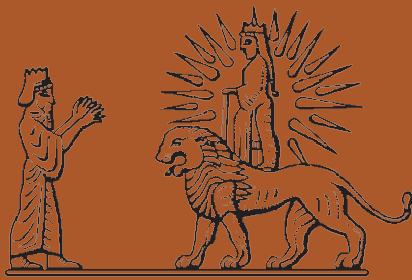
(Ivan Ladynin)

DAMIEN AGUT-LABORDÈRE (Paris)

Alexander in the Egyptian Western Desert: Historical Sources and Memories of the Trip to Siwah

HUGH BOWDEN (London)

Alexander and the Gods of Egypt



IVAN LADYNIN (Moscow)

The Stela Bucheum 2 (BM, EA1697+1719):
The Egyptian Perception of the Achae-
menid Power and State under Alexander

ADAM ŁUKASZEWICZ (Warszaw)

Where is Alexander? A Quest in Alexandria

NENAD MARKOVIC (Prague)

Alexander the Great and the Apis Bull: the
Memphite Religious Traditions on the Eve
of the Macedonian Conquest

MARIA NILSSON (Lund)

Graeco-Roman Activity and Material
Culture at Gebel el-Silsila

ALEXA RICKERT (Tübingen)

The Sanctuary of Alexander in Karnak.
Reflections on its Origin, Life and Afterlife

MELANIE WASMUTH (Helsinki/Basel)

Cross-Regional Identity Display at the
Dawn of a New Age? Legacies from
Achaemenid Egypt

May 15, 2019

Panel 4: Iran

(Josef Wiesehöfer)

ROLF STROOTMAN (Utrecht)

Alexander in between the Achaemenids
and the Seleucids

MILINDA HOO (Freiburg)

Eastern Iran/Bactria in Early Hellenistic Times

PATRICK REINARD (Trier)

Achaemenid treasures and Alexander's
'financial policy'

PIERFRANCESCO CALLIERI (Bologna/Ravenna)

The archaeology of Fars from Late
Achaemenid to Early Hellenistic Times

ALI ANSARI (St. Andrews)

Alexander's role in political and intellectual
debates in Modern Iran

KRZYSZTOF NAWOTKA (Wrocław)

Alexander and the Macedonian and
Iranian elites

Panel 5: Army and veterans

(Yosi Roisman)

EDWARD ANSON (Little Rock)

After Opis: Alexander's Proposed New
Model Army

TIM HOWE (Northfield)

Ptolemy's comma

SABINE MÜLLER (Marburg)

Women, War, and Alexander's Veterans

MAREK OLBRYCHT (Rzeszów)

Desperate Resistance – Alexander and
Achaemenid Defensive Strategies in
the Uxian Land and at the Persian Gates

FRANCES POWNALL (Alberta)

Alexander versus his Veterans: The
Greco-Roman Source Tradition on the
"Orientalization" of Alexander's Army

YOSSI ROISMAN (Colby College)

Alexander, friendship and the military

IAN WORTHINGTON (Missouri)

Why did Alexander recruit the 'Epigonoí'
and what happened to them?

May 16, 2019

Panel 6: Alexander Romance

(Richard Stoneman)

RICHARD STONEMAN (Exeter)

Kalayavana, the Black Greek. A reflection
of Alexander in Indian literature?

SU FANG NG (Virginia)

Alexander's Malay Heirs

CHRISTINE CHISM (UCLA)

Alexander at the Edge of Time

HAILA MANTEGHI (Münster)

The Alexander Romance and the
Mughal Court (16th/17th centuries)

JULIA RUBANOVICH (Jerusalem)

Alexander in the folk Persian narrative

Dārāb-nāma of Tarsusi

FAUSTINA DOUFIKAR-AERTS (Amsterdam)

The Arabic Alexander

Panel 7: Far East (India/China)

(Gościw Wit Malinowski)

AHN JAEWON (Seoul)

Traditions about Alexander in Korea

WANG CHENGDAN (Xiamen)

Alexander and Jesuits in early
modern China

YANG JUPING (Nankai)

Traditions about Iskander in China

MICHIYO MORIYA (Tokyo)

Traditions about Alexander in Japan

GOŚCIWIT MALINOWSKI (Wrocław)

Alexander (Iskander) vs Caesar (Gesar)

Melammu Workshop 9

in Tartu, June:

**"Responses to the 12th Century BC
Collapse: Recovery and Restructuration
in the Early Iron Age Near East and
Mediterranean"**

(Mait Koiv & Peeter Espak)

The exact date and more details will be
announced soon.

**Melammu Workshop 10
in Venice on Bridges**

(Paola Corò)

News about date and more details
will be announced soon.

**Melammu Workshop 11
in Trier, December 11-13:**

**"Water Carriage and Maritime Trade in
the Eastern Mediterranean and
the Near East"**

(Christoph Schäfer & Patrick Reinard)

A call for papers will be sent out in
February 2019.

2020

**Melammu Workshop 12 in Krakow
on Autocratic Rule in Antiquity**

(Edward Dabrowa & Jakub Kuciak)

Date and details still need to be fixed.

**Melammu Symposium 14
in Los Angeles on Persian Religion**

(Rahim Shayegan)

Date and details still need to be fixed.

**Melammu Workshop 13 in Jerusalem
on the Motif of the Good Shepherd**

(Stéphanie Anthonioz & Claudia Horst)

Date and details still need to be fixed.

Impressum:

The Melammu Project

<http://www.aakkl.helsinki.fi/melammu/>

Chair: Simonetta Ponchia

Vice-Chair: Sebastian Fink

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