

TAU Archaeology

The Jacob M. Alkow Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures

The Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology

The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities | Tel Aviv University

Number 11 | 2025

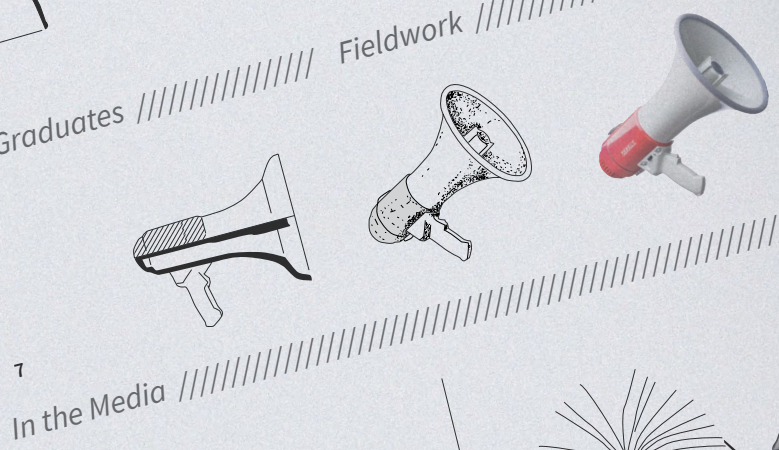
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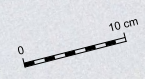
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Newsletter of

The Jacob M. Alkow Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures

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Number 11 | 2025

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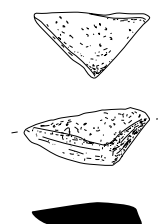
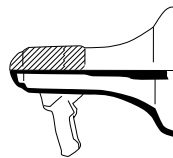
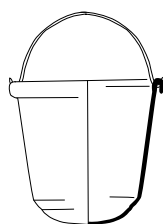
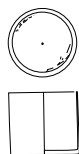
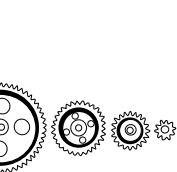


TEL AVIV אוניברסיטת
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Message from the Head of the Department and the Director of the Institute

We are pleased to share the 11th issue of our annual newsletter. In the following pages, you will find updates on personal and collective achievements, as well as events that took place in the course of 2024. The various activities and research advances presented here occurred alongside the ongoing war, which deeply impacted our lives and our academic activities throughout the year.

The summer excavation season was especially affected by the situation in Israel. With very few volunteers and international students, the excavations relied mainly on Israeli students and staff, who did their best under challenging circumstances. Excavations were carried out at Qesem Cave, Tel Azekah, Tel Hadid, Tel Shaddud, Tel Qasile and Giv'ati Parking Lot. Unfortunately, the dig at Tel Shaddud had to be cut short due to the threat of an Iranian missile attack. We wish to congratulate Ella Assaf Shpayer, Omer Sergi, Oded Lipschits, Ido Koch and Yuval Gadot for their determination and dedication in conducting these excavations despite the circumstances.

The results of these and other excavations affiliated with our institute were presented at our annual "News from the Trenches" conference, with 19 talks showcasing the vibrant and diverse nature of our community and its commitment to advancing research.

At the end of the year, we saw the publication of a new volume in our "Salvage Excavation Reports" series. This volume details various excavations conducted in Jaffa by Ze'ev Herzog, Meir Edrey and Boaz Gross. It is the 12th volume in the series, which began in 2004 and is dedicated to publishing salvage excavations carried out in collaboration with the Israeli Institute of Archaeology. We wish to commend the work of our publication team, led by Tsipi Kuper-Blau, for their outstanding work.

This year, we lost two esteemed retired faculty members, Ora Negbi and Ze'ev Meshel. We wish to express our deep gratitude and respect to these scholars, who served as teachers and mentors as we began our academic journeys. This newsletter includes a tribute to their remarkable careers and achievements.



Photo by Sasha Flit

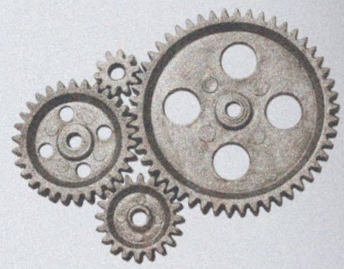
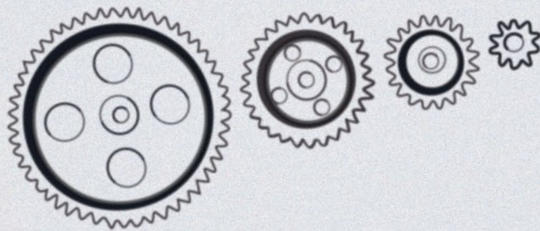
The third decade of the 21st century allows us to update and improve our teaching methods. In collaboration with the university and the faculty, we have developed new courses that integrate practical and self-directed learning, and many courses introduced significant innovations to their curriculum this year. For example, Alexander Fantalkin led a seminar course that centered on a tour of Cyprus, where students visited a variety of archaeological sites and museums ranging from the Neolithic to the Roman period. The course concluded with students presenting their impressions of the tour in a dedicated conference during the department's end-of-year celebration. The "Introduction to Archaeology" course, led by Ido Koch and Yuval Gadot, was updated to include instructional videos, podcasts and even a visit to a VR excavation square. The departmental seminar, led by Oded Lipschits, produced a series of **podcasts** featuring MA and PhD students discussing their research and future plans.

It is our sincere hope that by the time this newsletter is published, all the hostages will have returned home.

Prof. Lidar Sapir-Hen
Head, The Jacob M. Alkow
Department of Archaeology
and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures

Prof. Yuval Gadot
Director, The Sonia
and Marco Nadler
Institute of Archaeology

Administrative Staff



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A New Administrative Director and Curator for the Institute of Archaeology

The Faculty of Humanities, the Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology and the Jacob M. Alkow Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures extend their heartfelt congratulations to Dana Ackerfeld on her new position as Administrative Director and Curator of the Institute of Archaeology at Tel Aviv University.

Dana has been an integral part of our community for many years. She holds BA and MA degrees from our department and wrote her thesis on plaster floors in the Pre-Pottery Neolithic. Since 2020, she has successfully managed the institute's library, seamlessly combining her love for archaeology with her passion for books. Now Dana is taking the next step, overseeing the institute's extensive operations, including excavations, research laboratories, documentation labs, curation and publications.

We wish Dana great success in her new role and are confident that together we will reach new heights.

This is also an opportunity to express our deep gratitude to Nirit Kedem, the outgoing Administrative Director and Curator of the Institute of Archaeology.

For the past ten years, Nirit led the institute with dedication and vision, fostering its growth and development. The institute was like a second home to her, and she treated both the place and its people as family. From renovating and designing workspaces to organizing the vast storage facilities, managing staff through the challenges of the pandemic and war, overseeing budgets and streamlining the processing of finds for publication, Nirit left no stone unturned.

We all extend our deepest gratitude for her unwavering commitment, evident in every aspect of the institute's operations. We wish her success in her next endeavors and hope that her path and ours will cross again in the future.

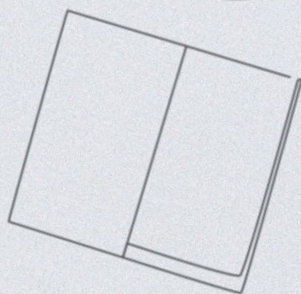
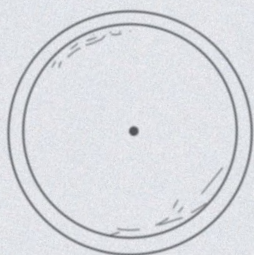


Nirit Kedem
(photo by Sasha Flit)



Dana Ackerfeld
(photo by Sasha Flit)

In Memoriam



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Prof. Ora Negbi (photo courtesy of Ze'ev Herzog)

Prof. Ora Negbi (1929–2024)

On May 28, 2024, we lost our esteemed colleague and friend, Prof. Ora Negbi. Ora was a devoted member of the Jacob M. Alkow Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures and the Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology from their inception. She was a beloved teacher, a dedicated mentor to countless students and a leading expert in exploring connections and interactions among communities in the Levant, Anatolia, Cyprus and the Aegean during the second millennium BCE.

Her doctoral dissertation, completed in 1963, focused on metal figurines from the Levant and served as the foundation for her groundbreaking book *Canaanite Gods in Metal* (1976). In subsequent years, her research pivoted to Late Bronze Age pottery, with a particular focus on imported ceramics from Cyprus and the Aegean islands.

Throughout her distinguished career, Ora conducted numerous excavations throughout Israel. She played a significant role in prominent excavations at Tel Michal, near Herzliya, and Tel Gerisa, located along the Yarkon River. Her contributions to archaeology and her unwavering commitment to her students and colleagues leave a lasting legacy.

Dr. Ze'ev Meshel (1932–2024)

On December 14, 2024, Dr. Ze'ev Meshel passed away. Known for his expertise in historical geography, Ze'ev inspired countless scholars and enthusiasts with his profound connection to the Southern Levant.

Ze'ev completed his BA and MA degrees at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and was among the first PhD students of archaeology at Tel Aviv University. Under the guidance of Prof. Yohanan Aharoni, he wrote his dissertation *The History of the Negev during the Period of the Kings of Judah*. Ze'ev later joined the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures and the Institute of Archaeology, where he taught and conducted research until his retirement.

His groundbreaking excavations in the Negev and Sinai deserts, particularly at Kuntillet 'Ajrud (Ḥorvat Teman), have left an enduring legacy. The discoveries at Kuntillet 'Ajrud are crucial to discussions about religion in ancient Israel and Judah, literacy and trade networks during the Iron Age. Following his retirement, Ze'ev focused on finalizing the publication of his excavation findings, culminating in the 2012 release of a comprehensive excavation report.

The final report of his excavations at Yotvata, titled *Yotvata: The Ze'ev Meshel Excavations (1974–1980), The Iron I "Fortress" and the Early Islamic Settlement*, was co-authored by Lily Singer-Avitz and Etan Ayalon and published in the framework of the Monograph Series of the Institute of Archaeology in 2022.

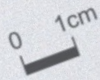


Dr. Ze'ev Meshel (photo by Omer Ze'evi-Berger)

Awards, Grants & Scholarships



4



Awards & Grants



Prof. Oded Lipschits (photo courtesy of Tel Aviv University)

Honorary Doctorate Awarded to Prof. Oded Lipschits

Prof. Oded Lipschits has been awarded an honorary doctorate by the Faculty of Theology and the Study of Religion at the University of Zurich.

According to the committee: “Prof. Oded Lipschits is a leading historian and archaeologist of ancient Israel, and his research has made groundbreaking advances in biblical studies and theology. Prof. Lipschits bridges different academic disciplines and makes a crucial contribution to mutual understanding and interdisciplinary integration.”

Awards of Excellence Granted to Nadin Reshef Edrey and Nirit Kedem

The Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures and the Institute of Archaeology are pleased to announce that Nadin Reshef Edrey, Nirit Kedem and Koral Harel have received the Faculty of Humanities’ Award for Excellence.

These outstanding staff members are the welcoming faces that every student and faculty member encounters. Beyond their warmth and approachability, they have played a vital role in ensuring the smooth operation of departmental functions and providing essential support to the academic community, including both students and staff.



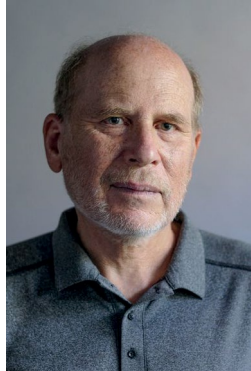
*Nadin Reshef Edrey
(photo by Sasha Flit)*



*Nirit Kedem
(photo by Sasha Flit)*

Israel Science Foundation Grants

We are proud to announce that a notable number of five faculty members were awarded grants from the Israel Science Foundation this year for the following projects:



Photos by Sasha Fit

Ella Assaf Shpayer

The Use of Limestone and Basalt Tools in the Late Lower Paleolithic: Renewed Excavations at Qesem Cave

Rafael Greenberg

Pottery of Rashaya el-Fukhar: Production, Distribution and Comparative Research of a Multi-Period Production Center

Oded Lipschits

From Field to Laboratory: Archaeological Examination of the Iron Age Cultic Complex at Tel Moza, Based on Analytical Scientific Research Methods

Omer Sergi and Karen Covello-Paran (Israel Antiquities Authority)

Resilience of Rural Societies under Changing Political Regimes: A Perspective from the Jezreel Valley

Alexander Fantalkin and Anat Cohen-Weinberger (Israel Antiquities Authority)

Revealing Economies and Trade Networks in the Ancient Levant through Integrated Analysis of Ceramics and Kiln Waste

The 2023–24 Dean's List

On June 30, 2024, Prof. Rachel Gali Cinamon, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, recognized the outstanding achievements of students from the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures. During the ceremony, the following students were named on the Dean's List and awarded certificates of excellence:

Guy Edelsztein, Gaya Ettinger Lelyveld, Netanel Rinon, Roni Sapir, Elior Shoua Haim and Boaz Tal

Guy also earned a place on the Rector's List and received an additional certificate of excellence from the University Rector.



From left to right: Prof. Ido Koch, Netanel Rinon, Roni Sapir, Gaya Ettinger Lelyveld, Elior Shoua Haim and Guy Edelsztein (missing from the photo: Boaz Tal; photo by Yael Tzur)

Scholarship Recipients for the 2023–24 Academic Year

In the past year, the Institute of Archaeology and the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures awarded scholarships totaling hundreds of thousands of shekels to students in recognition of their outstanding achievements, dedication and contributions to their fields of research.

Financial aid for students directly affected by the war

Eitan Levy (BA)
Hadar Azrad (BA)
Eyal Shalom (BA)
Eden Nahmani (BA)
Yulia Busuyuik (MA)
Eleanore Milstein (MA)
Daniil Nam (MA)
Noga Rapaport (MA)
Rikki Zalut Har-Tuv (MA)
Vitaly Starman (MA)
Shahar Gofer (MA)

The James Kessler Grant for Excellence in Ancient Near Eastern Studies and Egyptology

Aviel Barr (BA)
Ma'ayan Reuven (BA)
Lenore Morag (BA)

Research publication grants 2024

Amit Etya (MA)
Yuval Amir (MA)
Nimrod Katzir (MA)
Omer Peleg (MA)
Vlad Litov (PhD)



Scholarship recipients (photo by Rotem Tzadok)

Outstanding seminar papers

Netanel Rinon (BA)
Assaf Weiss (BA)
Lenore Morag (BA)
Eden Aharon (BA)
Daniel Kravtsov (BA)
Eitan Levy (BA)
Ibrahim Kour (BA)
Jonathan Gov (BA)
Guy Eilon (BA)
Ronnie Avidov (BA)
Noam Levy (BA)
Sapir Gadka (Preparatory Program)

Outstanding participation in the educational excavation

Shilav Ebert (BA)
Shai Segal (BA)
Roni Agranov (BA)
Ori Winter (BA)
Efrat Sheffi (Preparatory Program)

Academic achievements

Guy Edelsztejn (BA)
Elior Shoua Haim (BA)
Gaya Ettinger Lelyveld (BA)
Dana Shraga (BA)
Yulia Busuyuik (BA)
Lenore Morag (BA)
Noga Rapaport (MA)
Tamar Leitner (MA)
Aryeh Ben Hanoch (MA)
Amit Etya (MA)
Nadav Heipert (MA)

The Prof. Moshe Fischer and the Israeli Institute of Archaeology scholarships for academic excellence

Eshchar Gichon (MA)
Neer Lect Ben Ami (PhD)

Research Debut

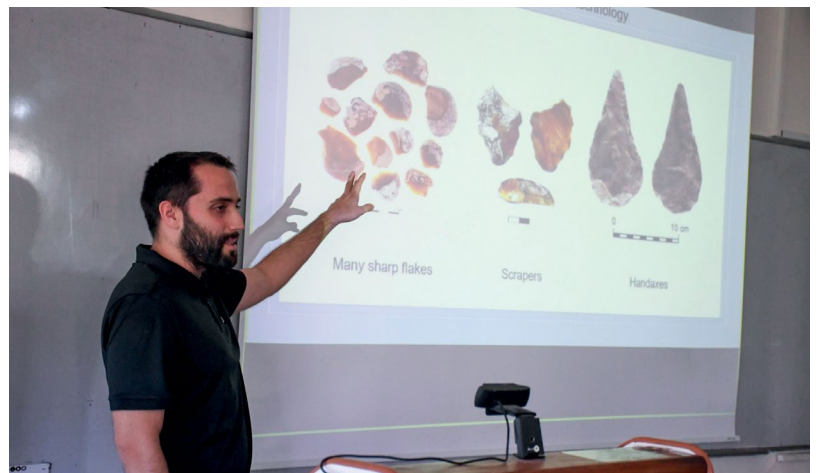
The Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures hosted its third annual “Research Debut” event on July 3, 2024, as part of the departmental seminar series.

This TED-style event aims to inspire and support the next generation of scholars as they embark on their academic and professional journeys.

This year, six MA students delivered engaging presentations on their innovative research. The two most outstanding talks, delivered by Vlad Litov and Aryeh Ben Hanoch, were later featured at the Institute of Archaeology’s “News from the Trenches” conference in November 2024.



Aryeh Ben Hanoch (photo by Dana Shraga)



Vlad Litov (photo by Dana Shraga)



Prof. Moshe Fischer (photo courtesy of Greta Fischer)

The Prof. Moshe Fischer and the Israeli Institute of Archaeology Scholarships for Academic Excellence

A new memorial scholarship has been established in memory of Prof. Emeritus Moshe Fischer, who contributed extensively to the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures and the Institute of Archaeology for many years before his untimely passing.

Initiated by Moshe’s family and the Israeli Institute of Archaeology, the scholarship is awarded to two students whose research focuses on classical archaeology: Eshchar Gichon and Neer Lect Ben Ami.

PhD Graduates



5



Dr. Bar Efrati

On the Shoulders of Giants: Theory, Method, and Practice of Readymade Concepts and Techniques during the Paleolithic Period

Under the supervision of Prof. Ran Barkai

This study redefines conventional perspectives on prehistoric toolmaking and recycling by focusing on “double patin.” This phenomenon describes how prehistoric lithic tools, initially abandoned and naturally patinated over time, were later collected by Lower Paleolithic groups, reshaped and repurposed. By bridging archaeology with modern art theory and philosophical frameworks on cognition and perception, the study uncovers the cognitive and social dimensions underlying these practices.

In her PhD dissertation, Dr. Efrati argues that conscious thought and intentionality were present in Lower Paleolithic societies much earlier than traditionally assumed. Her research demonstrates that prehistoric humans, beginning in the Lower Paleolithic period, engaged in the intentional and mindful collection and recycling of old stone tools. She introduces the idea that the “readymade” technique (a concept from modern art involving the transformation of pre-existing objects into new creations) was already in practice during this period. This hypothesis challenges current assumptions about prehistoric tool use and offers a groundbreaking perspective on the roots of object-making and human creativity.

The research draws on lithic tool assemblages from three key Late Lower Paleolithic sites in Israel: Revadim (Late Acheulian), Jaljulia (Late Acheulian) and Qesem Cave (Acheulo-Yabrudian).

By incorporating five published journal articles, the study employs a multidisciplinary framework that integrates archaeological findings with theories from modern art, materiality studies and the 4E cognition model. This approach examines the technological features, use-wear patterns and residues of patinated recycled tools, emphasizing the mindful interaction between humans and materials.

Through her analysis, Dr. Efrati reveals how the perceptions of prehistoric humans and their interactions with their environments shaped their toolmaking practices. The study argues that these behaviors required advanced cognitive processes, including intentional thought, mindful perception and a nuanced understanding of materiality and memory. This research suggests that the origins of human expression and creativity, as well as the conceptualization of materiality, stretch far deeper into prehistory than previously acknowledged.

In conclusion, this research enriches our understanding of prehistoric toolmaking and recycling, while offering profound insights into the behaviors and cognitive capacities of early humans. By connecting archaeology with contemporary art practices, Dr. Efrati’s study introduces an innovative lens through which to explore how humans perceive and interact with their world.



Dr. Eriola Jakoel

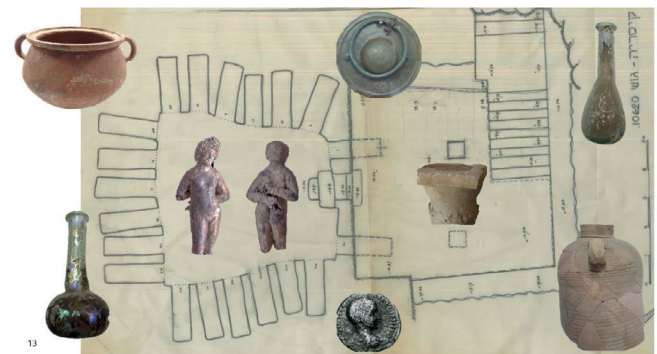
The Necropoleis of Roman Caesarea Maritima

Under the supervision of Prof. Oren Tal

This study aims to fill a critical gap in the research on the Roman-period cemeteries of Caesarea Maritima (the late 1st century BCE to the 3rd century CE). In her research Dr. Eriola Jakoel provides a detailed, reliable and contemporary account of burial practices, cemeteries, tombs, burial inscriptions and sarcophagi discovered in Caesarea and its immediate environs.

Numerous graves and cemeteries found in Caesarea have been either superficially documented or entirely overlooked in scholarly literature. In her research, Dr. Jakoel consolidated findings from various excavations and surveys conducted through 2021, integrating previously unpublished data with both fully and preliminarily published material. Her work represents the first comprehensive archaeological compilation and analysis of these significant discoveries.

The research places particular emphasis on analyzing hundreds of burial inscriptions and sarcophagi excavated in Caesarea. By meticulously examining the city's burial practices, the study illuminates the ethnic and religious composition of its population, while also revealing intricate social structures related to gender, status and urban community roles.



Plan of a burial cave and burial offerings from Caesarea Maritima (courtesy of the Israel Antiquities Authority)

A comparative analysis between Caesarea and other cities in Roman-period Judaea and the broader Roman Empire unveils striking similarities in burial customs, reflecting shared cultural practices and beliefs. Simultaneously, the research demonstrates the cultural, demographic and socio-economic diversity of Caesarea's inhabitants through their funerary traditions. These customs reveal both unique local traditions and the syncretism of burial practices rooted in Greco-Roman cultural contexts.



Dr. Mati Johananoff

Studies in Early Palestinian Coinage: Local Autonomy and Collective Identity under Persian Control

Under the supervision of Prof. Oren Tal

This study examines the local (Southern Levantine) adoption of a coin-based payment system, which replaced the previous practice of weighing precious metals (mainly silver) for each transaction. This new payment system peaked in the 5th and 4th centuries BCE, when the region was under the rule of the Persian (Achaemenid) Empire. During this period, local urban centers—including Philistine cities such as Ashdod, Ashkelon and Gaza, as well as the province of Yehud (Jerusalem), Samaria, and possibly Edom and Dor—began minting silver coins. The designs and inscriptions on these coins offer fascinating insights into the region's culture, daily life and transformations in various fields, from religion to technology.

Dr. Mati Johananoff's research fosters interdisciplinary collaboration and allows for multi-perspective analysis that enhances our understanding of the region's early adoption of coinage around 2,500 years ago. The study, which required the identification and interpretation of inscriptions in various languages and scripts (Aramaic, Paleo-Hebrew, Greek and Phoenician) and analysis of

symbols and designs on the coins, was also based on a comparative analysis between the different civic centers and their coinages during the period. Integrating these findings with known historical narratives has created a challenging, engaging and rewarding field of study, where much remains to be discovered.



A tiny silver coin from the Samaritan minting authority, struck during the 4th century BCE (photo by Mati Johananoff)



Dr. Yafit Kedar

Light My Fire: Understanding the Implications of Smoke Dispersal and Air Circulation on Humans at Paleolithic Caves and Rock Shelters

Under the supervision of Prof. Ran Barkai

The use of fire during the Paleolithic period is a pivotal subject of archaeological research due to its transformative impact on early human life. By around 400,000 years ago, fire use had become habitual, significantly shaping human adaptation and survival. It offered numerous benefits, including heating, cooking, lighting and protection. Hearths also served as social hubs, possibly encouraging relaxation and reducing stress-related health issues.

While much attention has focused on the advantages of fire, recent studies highlight its challenges. Smoke accumulation in confined spaces could make caves uninhabitable within minutes, and reliance on combustion materials such as wood, animal dung, bones and bushes posed significant health risks through smoke emissions.

To address these issues, an advanced model was developed, combining cave airflow dynamics with modern smoke dispersal data from the National Institute of Standards and Technology. These models consider cave structure, the size and placement of openings, hearth location and seasonal

variations to predict air circulation and smoke dispersal patterns. This approach enables the assessment of pollution levels across different cave areas and correlates findings with archaeological evidence of activity zones.

The model has been applied to multiple Paleolithic caves and rock shelters with hearth evidence, revealing correlations between smoke dispersal patterns and spatial organization. For instance, activity areas were often located where smoke concentrations were lower, reflecting strategic hearth placement to minimize health risks.

Dr. Yafit Kedar's study offers critical insights into how the side effects of fire influenced human behavior and spatial organization within caves. It highlights the adaptability of early humans in maximizing the benefits of fire while mitigating its drawbacks. Furthermore, it enhances our understanding of fire management in narrow and decorated Upper Paleolithic caves, showcasing early human ingenuity and resilience in addressing the challenges of fire use in enclosed spaces.



Dr. Flavia Marinelli

Small Tools and Elephant Exploitation during the Lower Paleolithic: Test Cases from Italy and Israel

Under the supervision of Prof. Ran Barkai and Dr. Cristina Lemorini (Sapienza University of Rome)

This study explores the potential correlation between the production and the use of small flakes and examines whether these items were employed in processing animals. The research is based on the analysis and comparison of small flake samples from archaeological sites in Israel and Italy, dated to the Late Lower Palaeolithic and associated with megafauna remains. The methodology combines Low Power and High Power approaches for use-wear and prehension analyses, alongside Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM), Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectroscopy (EDX) and Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) for residue analysis.

The primary goals of the research are:

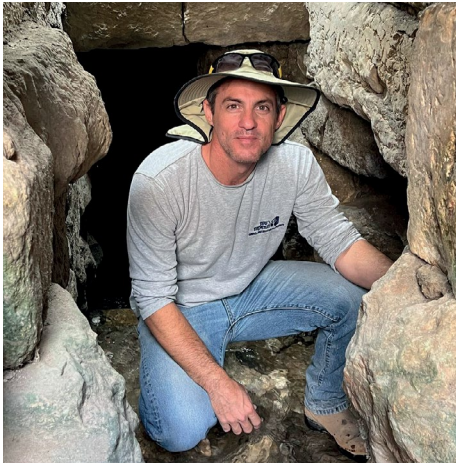
- To clarify the functional role of small flakes in daily activities.
- To determine whether these tools were intentionally produced for specific purposes, particularly tasks requiring precision.
- To investigate whether this specialization is linked to the processing of animal tissues and the exploitation of medium-sized to large animals.

- To examine the gripping methods and manipulation of these tools and identify factors influencing the grip effectiveness of small flakes.

The hypotheses were tested through a series of experiments aimed at enhancing the understanding of small flake functionality and residue formation. Experimental replicas were used in various activities, including cutting and scraping materials with different textures, such as hide, meat, internal organs, bone, wood and vegetables. Special emphasis was placed on butchering selected body parts of medium-sized to large animals.

Additionally, the study investigated gestures and types of prehension applied to the experimental specimens. This analysis revealed how the tools were manipulated during use, identified factors affecting grip and provided insights into the effectiveness of these tools.

This research contributes to the broader discussion on the role of small flakes in the daily lives of hominins. The findings support the hypothesis that small flakes were closely linked to the processing of medium-sized to large animals, highlighting their significance in prehistoric activities.



Dr. Nahshon Szanton

The Urban Development of Jerusalem in the Time of the Roman Procurators (6–66 CE) in View of the Archaeological Finds and the Historical Sources

Under the supervision of Dr. Guy D. Stiebel and Dr. Joseph Uziel (Israel Antiquities Authority)

The urban landscape of Jerusalem during the Roman procurators' period (6–66 CE) served as the backdrop for pivotal historical events, as documented in historical texts, New Testament writings and rabbinic literature.

Dr. Nahshon Szanton's research delves into Jerusalem's urban development during this transformative era, presenting archaeological evidence of the city's remarkable growth. This period saw Jerusalem reach its peak in settlement density and architectural advancements, shaped by the stability of the *Pax Romana*.

The study provides an updated review of archaeological findings, including fortification systems, streets, water infrastructure, public buildings and the Temple Mount. These findings are analyzed alongside historical texts, integrating contemporary approaches such as the archaeology of the senses and movement.

In addition, Dr. Szanton's work addresses longstanding questions through stratigraphic analyses, historical and geographical identifications and interpretations of the architectural significance of various structures. It

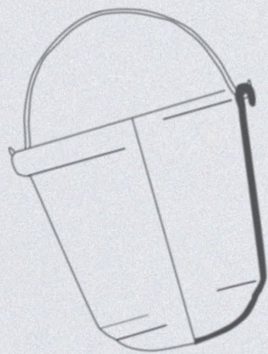
explores both the city's physical development and the symbolic roles of its architecture.

By reconstructing Jerusalem's urban landscape and linking it to historical accounts, this research offers valuable insights, contributing to broader studies of the region's history and archaeology.

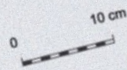


Looking west on the main street of Jerusalem in the Early Roman period, passing at the foot of Robinson's Arch; note the secondary paving systems descending and connecting to it (photo by Nahshon Szanton)

Fieldwork



6



Fieldwork

Tel Shaddud

Co-Directors: Dr. Omer Sergi, Dr. Karen Covello-Paran (Israel Antiquities Authority), Prof. Hannes Bezzel (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena) and Prof. Joachim Krause (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)

July 28–August 6, 2024



Students during the short excavation season (photo by Omer Sergi)



A scarab, likely from the 20th Dynasty of Egypt (photo by Omer Sergi)

Qesem Cave

Director: Dr. Ella Assaf Spayer | July 8–21, 2024



Handaxe discovered this season (photo by the Qesem Cave Expedition)



Students working in the southwestern excavation area (photo by the Qesem Cave Expedition)

Fieldwork

Tel Qasile

Co-Directors: Prof. Ido Koch, Dr. Shirly Ben-Dor Evian (University of Haifa), Prof. Assaf Yasur-Landau (University of Haifa) and Ms. Yelena Elgart-Sharon (Eretz Israel Museum [MUZA] and Tel Aviv University)

July 21–August 4, 2024



*Excavations in Area A
(photo by the Tel Qasile Expedition)*



Excavations in Area A (photo by the Tel Qasile Expedition)

Tel Ḥadid

Co-Directors: Prof. Ido Koch and Prof. James Parker (New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary)

April 7–12, 2024



*Tel Ḥadid permanent residents
(photo by Dana Shraga)*



*Tel Ḥadid staff and team members (photo by Dana Shraga; missing from the photo:
Prof. Parker)*

Fieldwork

Giv'ati Parking Lot

Co-Directors: Prof. Yuval Gadot, Dr. Yiftah Shalev (Israel Antiquities Authority) and Ms. Efrat Bocher (Israel Antiquities Authority)

All year round



Area 75: remains dating to the late Iron Age (photo by Sasha Flit)



Giv'ati Parking Lot excavation team (photo by Sasha Flit)

Tel Azekah

Co-Directors: Prof. Oded Lipschits and Prof. Manfred Oeming (University of Heidelberg)

August 4–30, 2024

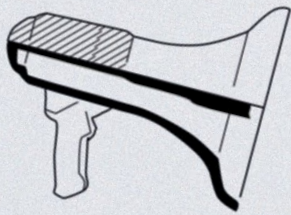


Aerial view of Area A1 (photo by the Lautenschläger Azekah Expedition)

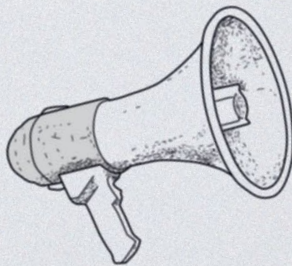


Field director Dr. Sabine Kleiman on site with her baby (photo by the Lautenschläger Azekah Expedition)

In the Media



7



“Resetting the Clock”: *Haaretz* Features Groundbreaking Radiocarbon Dating Study on Ancient Jerusalem

An article published in April 2024 in the *Haaretz* daily presented a pioneering and large-scale radiocarbon dating study focused on ancient Jerusalem. The study is notable for its innovative approach and comprehensive scope, shedding new light on the city’s distant past.

The study, originally published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, represents the first large-scale attempt to reconstruct the ancient history of the city using radiocarbon dating techniques. Previous studies focused on key historical periods, including the Early and Middle Bronze Ages and the Late Roman and Byzantine periods. This latest study provides over 100 new radiocarbon dates from the Iron Age, offering valuable insights that bridge biblical historiography and archaeological findings.

One notable site analyzed in this study is the excavation beneath the Giv’ati parking lot. Over the years, archaeologists have identified 12 distinct layers of archaeological remains, ranging from the 9th century BCE to the 11th century CE. Excavations at this site began in 2003 under the supervision of the Israel Antiquities Authority. Since 2017, a collaborative excavation has been conducted by Tel Aviv University (led by Prof. Yuval Gadot) and the Israel Antiquities Authority (led by Dr. Yiftah Shalev, later joined by Efrat Bocher).

Click [here](#) for the research published in *PNAS*

Click [here](#) for the article published in *Haaretz* (in English)

Click [here](#) for an article posted on *Ynet* (in Hebrew)



Prof. Yuval Gadot and Dr. Joe Uziel (Israel Antiquities Authority), co-directors of the extensive radiocarbon research in Jerusalem (photo by Yaniv Berman, City of David)



"Quina" scrapers from Qesem Cave (photo courtesy of Vlad Litov)

Ynet Features Article on Paleolithic Tools Used in Fallow Deer Butchery

Ynet recently published an article on a study by PhD student Vlad Litov and Prof. Ran Barkai. The research examines advancements in flint tool production during the Lower Paleolithic in the Levant, focusing on how changes in the availability of large mammals influenced technological developments.

Around 400,000 years ago, as elephants and other large animals became scarcer, early humans shifted to hunting smaller game like Persian fallow deer. This transition led to the development of specialized “Quina” scrapers designed for butchering and hide processing, associated with the Acheulo-Yabrudian cultural complex.

These tools were often made from homogenous Campanian flint, likely sourced from the Samarian Hills, a region that was also home to fallow deer populations. The study suggests that early humans intentionally used flint from the deer’s natural habitat to craft their tools, reflecting a functional and conceptual connection between the resources they depended on most: fallow deer and stone tools.

Click [here](#) for the article posted on *Ynet* (in Hebrew)

In the Media

Ḥorvat Tevet in *Haaretz*

In April, an article was published in the *Haaretz* daily about the Ḥorvat Tevet expedition, led by Dr. Omer Sergi and Dr. Keren Covello-Paran, a senior archaeologist with the Israel Antiquities Authority.

The article highlights a remarkable discovery: rare evidence of burial practices in a rural cemetery in the Jezreel Valley dating back approximately 3,000 years. The findings reveal that the deceased were honored with rituals involving fire and beeswax. While the cultural identity of those buried remains unknown, researchers date the cemetery, and its adjacent settlement at Ḥorvat Tevet, to a period when Israelite identity was beginning to emerge in the region (Early Iron Age, primarily the 11th and early 10th centuries BCE).

Excavators emphasize that burial sites in this area are scarce, making this discovery particularly significant. It sheds new light on the transitional period marking the decline of Canaanite city-states and the rise of a new territorial-political entity: the Kingdom of Israel.

Click [here](#) for the article published in *Haaretz*



Ḥorvat Tevet (photo by Omer Sergi)



The temple altar in Tel Azekah (photo by the Lautenschläger Azekah Expedition)

Tel Azekah in *Haaretz*

A recent article published in the *Haaretz* daily presented the remains of a newly uncovered temple excavated by the archaeological team at Tel Azekah. The temple, dating to the later stages of the Late Bronze Age, was situated on the eastern side of the mound, where it was likely illuminated by the morning sunrise and may have been connected to the nearby Elah Valley. Both the temple and the other structures were destroyed in a massive fire—a destruction event that the Azekah expedition has been studying for the past 12 years.

Click [here](#) for the article published in *Haaretz*

Archaeology Podcasts on Tel Aviv University's Podcast Channel "Tel Aviv 360"

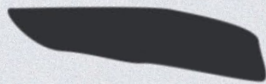
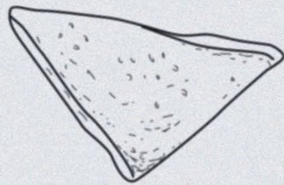
Tel Aviv University's official podcast channel "Tel Aviv 360" has compiled a comprehensive [playlist](#) featuring all archaeology-related podcasts.

This playlist offers captivating insights into topics such as the lives of ancient humans, the latest research on Masada, the use of archaeological sciences to understand the destruction of Jerusalem and much more. These episodes are presented by faculty members from the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures at Tel Aviv University.

Additionally, the playlist includes short interviews with MA students who participated in the 2023–24 departmental seminar. The students introduce themselves, discuss their research and share why they chose to pursue a degree in archaeology at Tel Aviv University.


All podcasts are available on the "Tel Aviv 360" YouTube channel and the department's dedicated YouTube channel: [Archaeology TAU](#).

Events



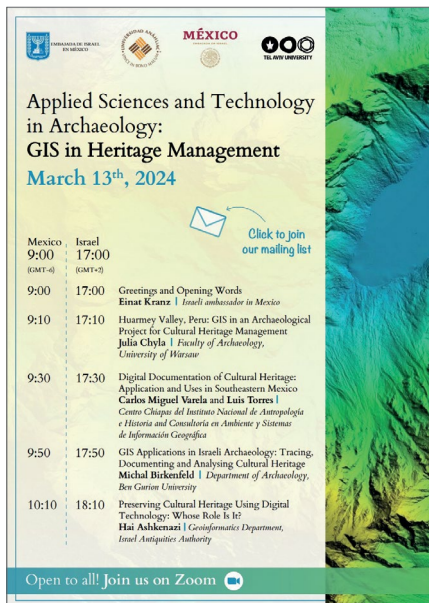
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March 13, 2024

Applied Sciences and Technology in Archaeology: GIS in Heritage Management



Applied Sciences and Technology in Archaeology:
GIS in Heritage Management
March 13th, 2024

Click to join our mailing list

Mexico	Israel	
9:00 (GMT-6)	17:00 (GMT+2)	
9:00	17:00	Greetings and Opening Words Einat Keava Israeli ambassador in Mexico
9:10	17:10	Huarey Valley, Peru: GIS in an Archaeological Project for Cultural Heritage Management Julia Chyla Faculty of Archaeology, University of Warsaw
9:30	17:30	Digital Documentation of Cultural Heritage: Application and Uses in Southeastern Mexico Carlos Miguel Varela and Luis Torres Centro Chiapas del Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia y Consultoría en Ambiente y Sistemas de Información Geográfica
9:50	17:50	GIS Applications in Israeli Archaeology: Tracing, Documenting and Analysing Cultural Heritage Michal Birkenfeld Department of Archaeology, Ben Gurion University
10:10	18:10	Preserving Cultural Heritage Using Digital Technology: Whose Role Is It? Hai Ashkenazi Geoinformatics Department, Israel Antiquities Authority

Open to all! Join us on Zoom

The second online conference in the “Applied Sciences and Technology in Archaeology” series was held on March 13, 2024, focusing on the topic of GIS in heritage management.

Organized by PhD students Andrea Garza and Nitsan Shalom, the event was a collaboration between the Institute of Archaeology at Tel Aviv University and the Center for the Study of Ancient Cultures (*Centro de Investigación en Culturas de la Antigüedad*) at the University of Anáhuac, Mexico.

Click [here](#) to view a recording of the conference

March 14–21, 2024

Archaeobotanical Workshop

In March 2024, Prof. Dafna Langgut held an intensive week-long archaeobotanical workshop for MA students of the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures.

The students learned to identify plant remains from various excavations in Israel, such as Tel Moza, Horkanya, the archaeological site at Gesher Benot Ya'akov and a burial cave in Palmahim, as well as from the Mongolian Wall.



Dry sieving of plant remains from intact vessels from Moza; the sieving was conducted by Roni Sapir, an MA student in the Laboratory for Archaeobotany and Ancient Environment Research

April 5–12, 2024

Field Trip to the German *Limes*

During April 2024, students from the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures participated in an educational field trip as part of a block seminar along the *Limes Germanicus*—the northern frontier of the Roman Empire. The trip was led by Prof. Oren Tal of Tel Aviv University and Prof. Hans-Peter Kuhnen of Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany.

This seven-day journey focused on exploring archaeological sites along sections of the German *limes*, stretching from Mainz in the south to parts of the Rhine Delta in the Netherlands to the north.

The itinerary included visits to prominent Roman-period sites such as the reconstructed Roman fort of Saalburg and the reconstructed Roman colony of Xanten, the (assumed) battle site of Varus at Kalkriese and the Late Roman fort and town of Boppard.

Lesser known Roman military installations in Germania were also explored, including the cavalry *castellum* of

Aalen, the reconstructed watchtower at Mahdholz, the reconstructed victory gate at Dalkingen, the forest *castrum* of Holzhausen, the fortlet of Pohl and the fortress of Haltern. In the Netherlands the students visited the fort of Vechten and the nearby Waterliniemuseum, the reconstructed *castellum* of Hoge Woerd, the Roman ship preservation pavilion at Archeon and the *castrum* of Arnhem-Meinerswijk.

In addition to site visits, the students explored leading Roman archaeological museums, such as those in Saalburg, Xanten, Kalkriese, Aalen, Haltern and Hoge Woerd. These museum tours offered valuable insights into the material culture of the Roman army and the way of life in the northern provinces of the Roman Empire.

This educational seminar was made possible through the generous support of Tel Aviv University's Lowy International School and the Koret Center for Jewish Civilization at Tel Aviv University.



The cavalry *castellum* of Aalen (photo by Oren Tal)



The *limes* watchtower at Mahdholz, as reconstructed from the inside (photo by Hagi Yohanan)



The *limes* victory gate at Daklingen (photo by Oren Tal)

May 22, 2024

The Annual Yohanan Aharoni Colloquium: 2024

The annual colloquium of the Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology at Tel Aviv University took place on May 22, 2024. This year's colloquium focused on the theme of colors and their perception throughout history and was titled "Red and Black, Blue and White: Color Perception in Antiquity."

Recent studies have significantly reshaped our understanding of the importance of colors in antiquity. Scientific analyses have expanded our knowledge of pigment production, their international trade and their applications, whether on architectural surfaces, artifacts or the human body. At the same time, research in social sciences and neuroscience has enhanced our insights into how humans perceive and interpret colors.

The colloquium brought together scholars and experts from diverse fields, including archaeology, neuroscience, art history and psychology, to present their research on the cultural, scientific and social significance of colors in the ancient world. It showcased cutting-edge interdisciplinary research and featured case studies from across the globe, encouraging dialogue on this vibrant and multifaceted topic.

הסמל למחלקת ארכיאולוגיה של מוסד הרשות להגנה ולשימור אתרים
מוסד הרשות להגנה ולשימור אתרים
המחלקה לשימור ושיקום אתרים
אוניברסיטת תל אביב

אדום ושחור, כחול ולבן

על צבע ותפיסה
בעת העתיקה

יום העיון השנתי ע"ש יוחנן אהרונים

יום רביעי, 22 במאי 2024 | בניין גילמן אולם 223

14:00	ברכות וחלוקת מלונות
14:25	דבר מתיחה: הענת נשא הכינוס
14:30	מושב ראשון
14:30	איכז המוח תופס צבעים? יואב מור-טוב, האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים ומכללת תל-חי
14:55	שחור הוא כחול החדש: כחול בלבנט באלף השני לפנה"ס ילנה אלרס-שרון, מור"א מוזיאון ארץ-ישראל תל אביב
15:20	הפסקת קפה
15:40	מושב שני
15:40	הדמיון האליקטרי בפעולה: צבעים ופעולה בעולם ובגוף האדם מור קדישון
16:05	צבעים ומשמעותם באנונייה החתית אמיר גיל, אוניברסיטת תל אביב
16:30	הפסקת קפה
16:50	מושב שלישי
16:50	אדום בתקופת האבן: עולם החיים, עולם המתים ומה שבניהם אלה אסר-שפיי, אוניברסיטת תל אביב
17:15	אש, דם ויון: על מיתוסים ומלחמת הצבע האדום באמנות ימי-הברונזה גילי שלום, אוניברסיטת תל אביב

May 24, 2024

Open House at the Institute of Archaeology

On May 24, 2024, the Institute of Archaeology welcomed visitors as part of the Tel Aviv-Yafo Open House program.

Approximately 150 enthusiastic and curious guests enjoyed a rare glimpse into the heart of the action: the collections room, the restoration, petrography and conservation labs, the graphic documentation studio and the offices of our researchers.

The event was made possible with the help of Nadav Heipert, an MA student, who coordinated the event.



Visitors at the restoration lab (photo by Rotem Tzadok)

May 2024

Celebrating 20 Years of Collaboration between Heidelberg University and the Institute of Archaeology of Tel Aviv University



In May 2024, Heidelberg University hosted a series of celebratory events to mark 20 years of fruitful collaboration in archaeological excavations across Israel between Heidelberg University and the Institute of Archaeology. These joint efforts have included groundbreaking work at sites such as Ramat Raḥel, Khirbet er-Ras, Jerusalem and Tel Azekah, with the participation of over 250 German students over the years.

The events brought together distinguished guests, scholars and excavators who have contributed to this partnership over the past two decades. This milestone highlights not only the academic achievements and discoveries made through this collaboration but also the enduring friendships and cultural exchange it has fostered.

May 26–June 2, 2024

Field Trip to Cyprus



*House of Theseus, Paphos
(photo by Dana Shraga)*



*Students in the field trip
to Cyprus (photo by Dana
Shraga)*

Students from the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures participated in an educational tour of Cyprus, led by Prof. Alexander Fantalkin and accompanied by Prof. Emeritus Irad Malkin from the History Department.

The six-day journey focused on exploring archaeological sites spanning from the Neolithic era through the Roman and Byzantine periods and into the Middle Ages. The group visited prominent locations such as Idalion, Tamassos, Kition, the Roman-Byzantine city of Kourion and the Neolithic sites of Khirokitia and Kalavassos-Tenta. They also explored the Hala Sultan Tekke mosque, a sacred Islamic site and the ancient Temple of Aphrodite in Paphos, among others.

In addition to archaeological sites, the participants gained insights into the island's rich history, cultures and natural resources by touring renowned museums, including the Archaeological Museum of Larnaka District, the Jewish Museum of Cyprus, the Cyprus Museum and the Troodos Geopark Geological Museum.

This memorable field trip was made possible with the generous support of the Koret Center for Jewish Civilizations at Tel Aviv University and the logistic help of Tagliot (Israeli Institute of Archaeology).

June 20, 2024

In Centro V: Fire

On June 20, 2024, the fifth “In Centro” conference took place at the Eretz Israel Museum (MUZA). This conference was a collaborative effort between the Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology of Tel Aviv University, the Institute of Archaeology of Bar-Ilan University, the Central District of the Israel Antiquities Authority, and the Eretz Israel Museum (MUZA).

במרכז V: אש
 הרב מרדכי רשות העתיקות | המכון לארכאולוגיה, אוניברסיטת תל אביב | המכון לארכאולוגיה ואנתרופולוגיה, אוניברסיטת בר-אילן | מוזיאון - מוזיאון ארץ ישראל, תל אביב
 יום חמישי, 20 ביוני 2024 | אולם רוטשילד, מוזיאון

מושב ראשון: ידיד אלה אביה שמיר	מושב שלישי: ידיד נגור שחר
10:00 אש במרחב: ישימות חדשים למודל פנור השטח במערות ובמחסות סלע מהתקופה הפלאוליתית יעת קרר	13:00 נהלים לוחשות מה מספרת לנו משרת מפתחה בצפון הכרמל? עמות נבא, מידר שור, נמרוד וילן, יומם טפיר ויוחם אשר
10:20 רבות מבת הקברות בנחל אפרים (נהר מערב) בין פונקציונליות לסמליות נמר סאת: ישי ירמיהו ונחל אפרים אילנה אלכסנדרובסקי, עיני אמנון ונמר סאת	13:20 שימושים באש בחורבת תל-א-קנקים, ורחבה רחי סבא
10:40 בישול וחומרים בספינות סוחר מהתקופה הרומית ובכיבוש עיקב שרביט וברנדליט בקסטון	13:40 "באור חדש": כבשנים לייצור רבות וקדרות מהמאה ה-19 להייג'נר לילד מר וילן ושחר קרישפין
מושב שני: של האש ידיד דפנה לנגוט	מושב רביעי: חותם אש - שינוי של חומר ידיד שרה אולב
11:00 לכני בני צרופות מאתר נאולית קדם קראמי ג', תל בני ברק (דרום) מאשה קרוקובסקי, רן באר, דור נוק, אילית דין	14:00 יש לי כימה נהדרת עם רחלה: אש, חימום וויקוק בעולם האסלאמי אמיר ברחוני
11:20 "ימי אש, מי בודד": השימוש הבאני הרומי באש נמר סבא	14:20 The Effects of Fire in the Archaeological Record Ilana Peters, Yonah Maor, Yotam Asscher
11:40 תחם את הבשן - קרר את הסיפור אשרת גינזון, אורן בן נסיף	14:40 מספר לאפרי: קרפצית בתקופה הרומית בארץ-ישראל: עדויות חדשות מקיסריה אירילה קינאל
12:00 הפסקת צהריים	

July 24, 2024

Plants in the Bible, Mountain Peaks and Royal Gardens: Symposium in Honor of Prof. Dafna Langgut

מזמינים את הציבור ליום עיון לכבוד פרופ' דפנה לנגוט לרגל זכייתה בפרס ברונו למחקר פורץ דרך ובפרס כדר על הצטיינות במחקר והוראה

על צמחים במקרא, פסגות הרים וגני מלכות
 16:00-14:00 | 24.7.24
 אוניברסיטת תל-אביב, בניין גילמן, חדר 449

14:00 התכנסות וכיבוד קל
 14:15 ברכות
 פרופ' רחל לוי יענון
 דקאות מסקולטת למדעי החי
 פרופ' יורי כהן
 ראש בית הספר למדעי היהדות וארכאולוגיה

פרופ' דפנה לנגוט
 החוג לארכאולוגיה ותרבויות המזרח הקדום
 עשור לייסוד תחום החקר העוסק בשחזור גני פאר במרחב הקדום

אגל ודין בהנחיית פרופ' לירד ספיר-תן
 ראשת החוג לארכאולוגיה ותרבויות המזרח הקדום
 תרומות הארכיאובוטניקה לחקר צמחי המקרא והארכיאולוגיה הסביבתית

שחררנו מן המולד, הרדיין איך ספק קטנת

A symposium was held on July 24, 2024 to honor Prof. Dafna Langgut's achievements. She received the prestigious IIAS Michael Bruno Memorial Award for outstanding and innovative research, as well as the Kadar Family Award for Outstanding Research.

August 1, 2024

Summer Break Event at the Institute of Archaeology

On August 1, 2024, the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures, together with the Institute of Archaeology at Tel Aviv University, celebrated the start of summer break and the end of the academic year with a traditional gathering. This event brought together faculty members, graduate students and third-year BA students.

This year's event was held in collaboration with ANU Museum and supported by the Koret Center for Jewish Civilization. The program featured a guided tour of the museum, followed by talks on integrating innovative teaching methods into the department's curriculum. The day concluded with a series of insightful presentations by students who participated in last semester's educational tour to Cyprus, where they shared their experiences and key takeaways.



*Dr. Ella Karev and student Stav Bartel
in ANU Museum (photo by Dana Shraga)*

September 10, 2024

The Annual Visit of “Beit Josef” Students from Germany

On September 10, 2024, the Institute of Archaeology hosted students from the German Academic Study Program of Theological and Biblical Studies (Theologischen Studienjahr in “Beit Josef” Jerusalem). During their visit, the group had a behind-the-scenes tour of the institute facilities and laboratories.

Prof. Lidar Sapir-Hen and Dr. Omer Sergi warmly welcomed the group, and Prof. Ido Koch and PhD student Ofer Nave gave them a guided tour of the institute.



Students visiting the restoration lab (photo by Rotem Tzadok)

December 12, 2024

“Of Objects and People: Seals from the MUZA Collection” Exhibition

On December 12, 2024, the Eretz Israel Museum (MUZA) opened the exhibition “Of Objects and People: Seals from the MUZA Collection,” curated by Yelena Elgart-Sharon.

The exhibition, housed in the Ceramics Pavilion, is the product of unique collaboration between the museum and the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures at Tel Aviv University. It featured the work of students who participated in the departmental course “Of Objects and People at MUZA,” led by Prof. Ido Koch.

This course examined the “life” of archaeological artifacts in a museum context: what happens to them after excavation, whether they are stored or displayed for public viewing. Students engaged directly with the MUZA staff to gain insights into the organization of the museum’s collections, cataloging and documentation methods, curatorial practices and more.

The course culminated in research assignments focusing on seals from the museum’s collection, and the MUZA exhibition incorporated the results of the students’ work.

Special thanks are extended to the MUZA staff for their invaluable collaboration, particularly Raz Samira, Deputy Director and Chief Curator; Efrat Haberman, Head of the Registration Department; and Yelena Elgart-Sharon, Curator of Archaeology.



הנכם מוזמנים לתערוכה:

מוזיאון ארץ ישראל תל אביב
MUZA ERETZ ISRAEL MUSEUM TEL-AVIV

שיתוף פעולה ייחודי בין מוז"א לחוג לארכיאולוגיה ותרבויות המזרח הקדום באוניברסיטת תל אביב

על הפצים ואנשים
חותמות מאוסף מוז"א

פתיחה: יום חמישי
18:00, 12.12.2024

לאישור הגעה

התמונה: רות ארמית, מוזיאון ארץ ישראל, תל אביב

Departmental Seminar 2024

The Departmental Seminar, organized by Prof. Oded Lipschits, was titled "Opening Doors: Meetings with the Faculty of the Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures."

During each session, we had the opportunity to meet two faculty members from the department. They briefly summarized their academic journeys, sharing insights into their past and current fieldwork, publications, experiences and academic collaborations. They also discussed plans for future research, both in the near and long term.

The seminar helped to develop a deeper connection between students and faculty members. Participants

gained a better understanding of each other's academic paths and reflected on the future of archaeology and the study of ancient cultures.

The seminar's final assignment was to record a short podcast. Each student briefly introduced themselves, discussed their research and future goals and explained why they chose their specific research topic. This assignment not only strengthened the bonds among students but also provided a platform to share their work with family, friends and the broader public.

Click [here](#) to listen to these podcasts (and more).

מפגש אישי עם מורות ומורי החוג לארכאולוגיה ותרבויות המזרח הקדום

לפתוח דלת

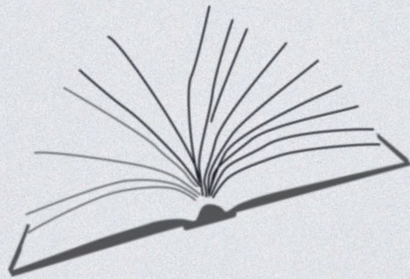
חוקרים ומחקרים במכון לארכאולוגיה: סיכום ביניים ומבט לעתיד | הסמינר המחלקתי של החוג לארכאולוגיה ותרבויות המזרח הקדום – תשפ"ד (2024)

ימי רביעי, בין השעות 14:15 – 15:45 | בבניין גילמן, חדר 220

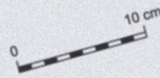
<p style="text-align: right;">29.5.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">רו ברקאי ארכאולוגיות מעמקים עומר סרגי תרבות חומרית, תרבות כתובה ושאלות של ראשית</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17.1.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">מפגש פתיחה קצר לסטודנטים עם עודד ליפשיץ תכנית הסמינר, דרישות, חובות וציפיות</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">5.6.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">דבורה סוויני משפחות בניו הקברים בדיר אל מדינה וכורי הטורקוז בסרביט אל-ח'אדם – מחקר שתי קהילות שונות ממזרים העתיקה עודד ליפשיץ בין היסטוריה, מקרא וארכאולוגיה – ושוב פעם ובחזרה</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24.1.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">לידר ספיר-חן הארכאולוגיה של יחסי אדם-חיה גיא שטיבל חורבן דרבו – על מלחמות, כלי נשק ואנשים</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">19.6.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ארז בן יוסף חיפוש אחר משמעות: כשמדעי כדור הארץ וארכאולוגיה נפגשים אורן טל בין ארכאולוגיה קלאסית לבין ארכאולוגיה ימי-בינמית</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7.2.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">עידו קור מחוזות ועד לקולוניאליזם ובחזרה, או: מה למדתי ב-15 השנים האחרונות ומה ארצה לעשות ב-5 השנים הבאות רפי גרינברג מה ארכאולוגים חואים?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">26.6.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">אלכס פנטלקין הזהות היום-תיכונית ומקומה בארכאולוגיה ישראלית ובמחקר יורם כהן על אבן מתנגלת לא צומח האזוב</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28.2.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">אלה אסף הדבר החשוב באמת סמוי מן העין, גם בפרהיסטוריה ויבל נדות אדם הוא תבנית נוף מולדתו ואז הוא הולך ומשנה אותה</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">10.7.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">מפגש סיכום של הסטודנטים עם עודד ליפשיץ הגשת מטלות והתרשמות כללית</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13.3.24</p> <p style="text-align: right;">אמיר גילן אלף האלים, חתושילי ואני – דרכי המחקרית באנטוליה החייתית דפנה לנגוט רגנרי אבקה (=פולן): מקריסת אימפריות ועד לשחזור גני מלכות</p>



Publications



9



Salvage Excavation Reports



The Tel Aviv University Excavations in Ancient Jaffa Vol. I

Salvage Excavation Reports No. 12

Meir Edrey, Boaz Gross and Ze'ev Herzog

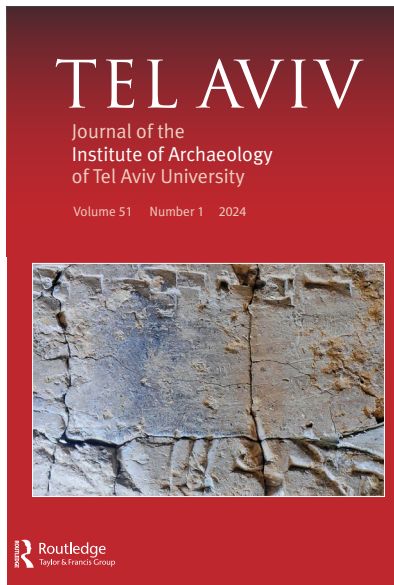
This is the first of two volumes presenting the results of several archaeological projects conducted in Jaffa under the auspices of the Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology of Tel Aviv University. The current volume, published in the framework of the Institute of Archaeology's "Salvage Excavation Reports" series, contains the results of three excavations. The first is the 1997 and 1999 excavations on Tel Yafo, the upper mound of ancient Jaffa, directed by Prof. Ze'ev Herzog. The second is the 2010 salvage excavation in the area of the Saint Louis French Hospital, at the intersection of Yefet and Louis Pasteur Streets, conducted by the Israeli Institute of Archaeology and directed by Dr. Meir Edrey. The third is the 2011 salvage excavation of the Kishle Compound (the old police station in Jaffa), directed by Dr. Meir Edrey and Boaz Gross, also on behalf of the Israeli Institute of Archaeology. A fourth excavation, conducted on the eastern outskirts of Tel Yafo, in the Ganor Compound, was directed by Alexander Fantalkin and will be published in a future volume by Prof. Alexander Fantalkin, Dr. Matasha Mazis and Dr. Itamar Taxel.

The combined documentation of these four archaeological projects will considerably enrich the scientific community's understanding of the history of ancient Jaffa throughout the ages.

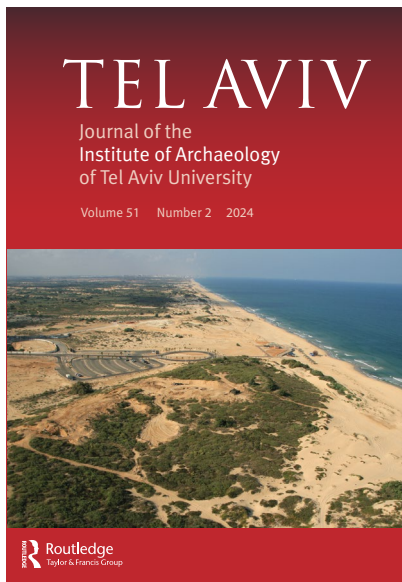
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Tel Aviv

Journal of the Institute of Archaeology of Tel Aviv University



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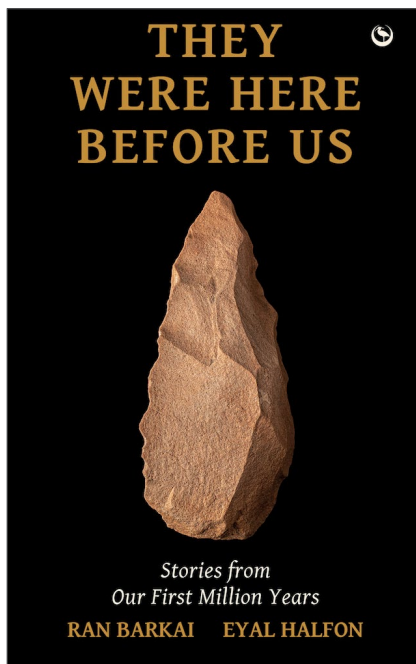
Volume 51, Number 1, 2024

- 🔗 Archaeo-Material Study of the Cuneiform Tablet from Tel Beth-Shemesh
Cécile Fossé, Jonathan Yogev, José Mirão, Nicola Schiavon and Yuval Goren
- Qla': A Royal Oil- and Wine-Production Centre in the Kingdom of Israel
David Eitam and Zvi Lederman, with online supplement by Assaf Kleiman
- The Lion Figurine from Qla'
Irit Ziffer
- 🔗 Biblical Gilgal: A Common Place Name or a Cult Site near Jericho?
Nadav Na'aman
- 🔗 Archaeomagnetic Dating of the Outer Revetment Wall at Tel Lachish
Yoav Vaknin, Ron Shaar, Erez Ben-Yosef and Oded Lipschits
- 🔗 Between Gaulanitis and Hippos: The Roman Road in the Southern Golan Heights in Context
Adam Pažout, Michael Eisenberg and Mechael Osband
- Revising the Chronology and Typology of Gaza Ware, a Hallmark of Late Islamic Palestinian Pottery
Itamar Taxel

Volume 51, Number 2, 2024

- In Memoriam: Professor Ora Negbi (1929–2024)
Ze'ev Herzog
- Unveiling Regional Socio-economic Dynamics in the EB IB Southern Levant: The Case of the Gutter-Rim Bowls
Yitzhak Paz, Itai Elad and Anat Cohen-Weinberger
- 🔗 Manufacturing Technology: Firing as an Integral Component in the Production of Cuneiform Tablets from the Amarna Archive
Jana Mynářová
- 🔗 A Unique Iron I Installation with a Double Basin and Drain from Tel Abel Beth Maacah
Naama Yahalom-Mack, Matthew Susnow, Carroll Kobs, Rachel Silverman, Robert A. Mullins and Nava Panitz-Cohen
- 🔗 An Israelite Residency at Mahanaim in Transjordan?
Israel Finkelstein and Tallay Ornan
- 🔗 Hellenistic Ashdod-Yam in Light of Recent Archaeological Investigations
Alexander Fantalkin, Matasha Mazis, Yaniv Schauer, Donald T. Ariel, Shahar Krispin, Orit Tsuf, Tzilla Eshel and Eli Itkin
- Roman Glass Windowpanes in Context: The Regimental Shrine of the Standards in the Fort near Tel Shalem
Ruth E. Jackson-Tal, Natalya Katsnelson and Annmarie Bartfeld

Other Publications by Faculty Members



New English Edition:

They Were Here before Us: Stories from Our First Million Years

Ran Barkai and Eyal Halfon

Watkins Publishing, U.K.

A new English-language edition of Eyal Halfon and Ran Barkai's book *They Were Here before Us: Stories from Our First Million Years* has recently been published. It covers over a million years of our ancient ancestors and takes its readers on a journey across ten key sites in the Southern Levant. In each site the authors delve into a specific subject, such as migration, dietary habits, rituals, prehistoric art and altered states of consciousness.

The book offers a glimpse into the everyday adventures of ancient humans and the archaeologists who studied them, providing a long-term perspective on how human nature and culture evolved in the Southern Levant during their first million years.

This book is available for purchase [here](#)



The Untold Story of the Kingdom of Judah

Oded Lipschits

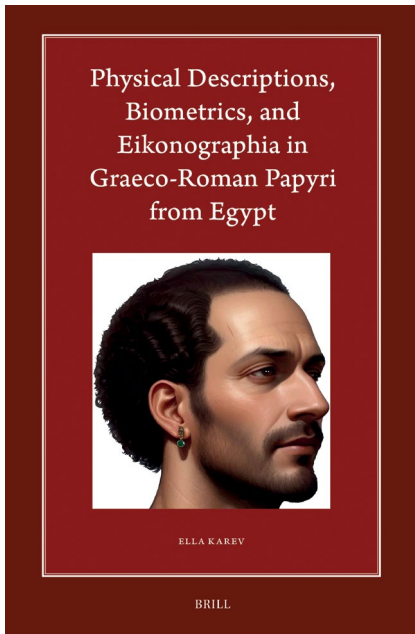
Yedioth Books

What did the authors of the Bible know about the ancient past of Israel and Judah? What did they choose to include in their accounts? And, most intriguingly, what stories did they choose to leave untold?

The Untold Story of the Kingdom of Judah is written with a profound love for the biblical text and even greater curiosity about its authors. The book, written in Hebrew on the basis of a series of podcasts of the same name, invites readers on a journey through time to explore the lives of those who composed the historical narratives in the Bible, uncovering who they were, when they wrote and where they lived.

It examines the pivotal events of the period while highlighting the deliberate omissions in the biblical narrative. In doing so, the book reveals the text's moral objectives and its intended audience. It also demonstrates that the Bible does not seek to provide a factual account of past events but rather to illuminate them for future generations, offering guidance to ensure a better future for both individuals and the collective.

The book is available for purchase [here](#)



Physical Descriptions, Biometrics, and Eikonographia in Graeco-Roman Papyri from Egypt

Ella Karev

Harvard Egyptological Studies Vol. 24

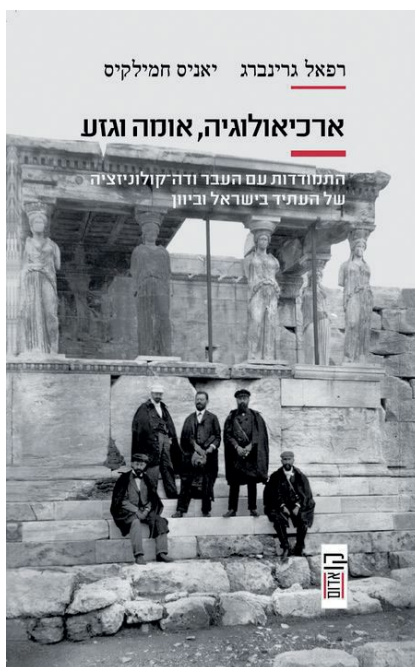
Brill

In today's world, everyone carries an official identification document that includes a photograph, linking their appearance to their legal and social identity. However, this association between appearance and identity is not a modern concept. In Greco-Roman Egypt, a wide range of official documents featured a "verbal portrait" that provided a detailed written description of the physical characteristics of individuals involved in these agreements.

These descriptions, known as "icons," were remarkably detailed, including information such as height, skin tone, hair type, facial structure, nose shape and distinctive traits like a pierced ear. Their function was similar to today's identification cards, serving as an official means of identification for the population of Egypt.

This book explores the role of "icons" as an identification tool, compiling for the first time a comprehensive corpus of thousands of "icons" from this period. Through an analysis of these records, the book brings to life the physical descriptions of Greco-Roman Egypt's population, contextualizing them within the biometric system that shaped their daily lives and served as the foundation for official identification.

The book is available for purchase [here](#)



New Hebrew Edition:

Archaeology, Nation, and Race

Confronting the Past, Decolonizing the Future in Greece and Israel

Raphael Greenberg and Yannis Hamilakis

Hakibbutz HaMeuchad—Sifriat Poalim Publishing House

This book, published in 2022 in English by Cambridge University Press, offers a compelling and thought-provoking dialogue between two archaeologists, exploring the deep connections between racism, nationalism and the role of archaeology in shaping the identities of Israel and Greece. The authors challenge traditional narratives, advocating for a more inclusive and liberating approach to archaeology—one that empowers individuals and communities to reclaim and interpret their own histories. Now the book is available in Hebrew, translated by Assaf Nativ.

The Hebrew edition is available for purchase [here](#)

The English edition is available for purchase [here](#)

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TAU Archaeology

The Jacob M. Alkow Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures

The Sonia and Marco Nadler Institute of Archaeology

The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities

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