Local and Regional Perspectives on Nomads in the Biblical World

June 13th, 2022 | 13:45-19:45
Gilman Building 458, Tel Aviv University
and Live on zoom

13:45 Gathering and Refreshments

14:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks
Prof. Rachel Gali Cinamon | Dean
The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities,
Tel Aviv University
Prof. Youval Rotman | Chair
The Chaim Rosenberg School of Jewish Studies and Archaeology,
Tel Aviv University

14:10 Introduction: Putting Nomads of the Biblical World in Perspective
Dr. Zachary Thomas and Prof. Erez Ben-Yosef
Tel Aviv University

Session 1 Nomads and Tribes in the Modern Middle East
14:30 The Middle East in the 21st Century – the Return of the Tribe
Prof. Eyal Zisser | Vice-Rector, Tel Aviv University
14:55 Nomads in the 19th Century: Power Games
Dr. Eveline van der Steen | Independent Scholar (via Zoom)
15:20 Tribes and State Builders: The Case of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Prof. Yoav Alon | Tel Aviv University

Session 2 Nomads and Society in the Ancient Near East
16:00 Nomads and Nomadic Polities in the Nilotic World
Dr. Julien Cooper | Research Centre for History & Culture, United International College & Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai (China)
16:25 This Mortal Coil: The Impact of Nomadic Societies on the Political Scene of Mesopotamia in the Amorite Age
Dr. Yigal Bloch | Bible Lands Museum
Prof. Nathan Wasserman | Hebrew University of Jerusalem
16:55 Nomads, Non-State Actors, and Seafaring Cultures
Prof. Louise Hitchcock | University of Melbourne
17:20 Issues in the Historical Geography and Ethnolinguistic Composition of Upper Mesopotamia in the 13th-9th centuries BCE
Prof. Ran Zadok | Tel Aviv University

Session 3 Nomads in the Unfolding Biblical World
18:00 Remembering the Copper Trade—Biblical Archives and Oral Traditions
Prof. William Schniedewind | University of California, Los Angeles
18:25 Early Edomite Identity and Resource Control
Prof. Aren Maeir | Bar-Ilan University
18:50 Revealing Iron Age Nomadic Pastoralists Through Faunal Isotopic Approaches in the Greater Hesi Region
Ms. Kara Larson | University of Michigan (via Zoom)
19:15 Rethinking Cultic Complexity without Monumentality: Sacrifice, Sacred Space, and Priestly Ritual Texts in the Hebrew Bible
Prof. Jonathan Greer | Grand Rapids Theological Seminary (via Zoom)

The organizers are planning an overnight trip to the biblical copper mining region of the Timna Valley on the 15th-16th of June. Those interested are asked to contact:
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Erez Ben-Yosef ebenyose@tauex.tau.ac.il.