

# Tel Aviv

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## CONTENTS

<i>In Memoriam: Moshe Kochavi</i> .....	3
Eran Arie: <i>Reconsidering the Iron Age II Strata at Tel Dan: Archaeological and Historical Implications</i> .....	6
Stephan Jakob Wimmer: <i>A New Hieratic Ostrakon from Ashkelon</i> .....	65
Lily Singer-Avitz: <i>The Earliest Settlement at Kadesh Barnea</i> .....	73
Israel Finkelstein and Eli Piasetzky: <i>Radiocarbon and the History of Copper Production at Khirbet en-Naḥas</i> .....	82
Danny Rosenberg: <i>Spatial Distribution of Food Processing Activities at Late Iron I Megiddo</i> .....	96
Ronny Reich and Eli Shukron: <i>The Date of City-Wall 501 in Jerusalem</i> .....	114
Moshe Fischer, Israel Roll and Oren Tal: <i>Persian and Hellenistic Remains at Tel Yaʿoz</i> .....	123
<i>List of Abbreviations</i> .....	164

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# Tel Aviv

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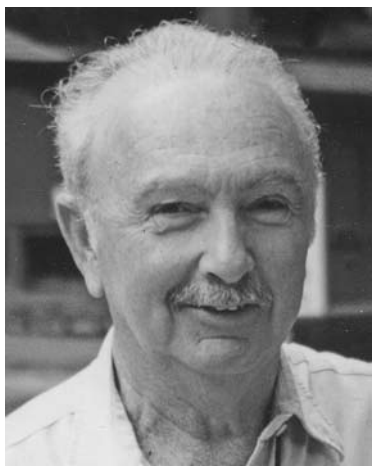
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*Cover art: (front) incense stand and (back) bronze and silver sceptre head from Tel Dan. Photos courtesy of the Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology of the Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion.*



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**IN MEMORIAM**

**MOSHE KOCHAVI**

**(1928—2008)**

Prof. Moshe Kochavi, a pivotal faculty member of Tel Aviv University's Department of Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Cultures and its Institute of Archaeology from their inception in 1968, and a prominent figure in the world of Israeli archaeology, died on February 4, 2008 after a lengthy illness.

Moshe Kochavi—Kuchbi to all those who knew him— was born in 1928 in Bucharest. His father Samuel Stern served as the chairperson of the Romanian Zionist movement and his mother Agatha Abeles was a champion of feminist causes. The family immigrated to Palestine when Moshe was five years old, settling first on Kibbutz Ramat David, later in the then small farming community of Raanana and finally in Tel Aviv. At the age of 19, Moshe joined Kibbutz Daphna in a military training program that would become the third battalion of the Yiftach Brigade of the Palmach—the regular fighting force of the unofficial army of the Jewish community during the British Mandate. During the War of Independence, he served as a combat medic and was wounded twice, once lightly in the battle for Safed in the Galilee and then seriously in the battle for Beit Hanoun near Gaza during Operation Yoav....

# RECONSIDERING THE IRON AGE II STRATA AT TEL DAN: ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL IMPLICATIONS

**Eran Arie**

**Tel Aviv University, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem**

## ***Abstract***

*The paper reexamines the finds from Tel Dan, which in several preliminary reports were dated to the Iron Age II (Biran 1982, 1993, 1994, 1996a, 2002) . It is suggested that during the Iron IIa Dan was either deserted or was a small rural site, and that the date of Stratum IVA should be down-dated to the end of the 9th/beginning of the 8th centuries BCE. These conclusions have far reaching implications for reconstructing the history of northern Israel and southern Syria in the Iron Age. They also reflect on Dan's cultic role in the Kingdom of Israel.*

# A NEW HIERATIC OSTRACON FROM ASHKELON

**Stefan Jakob Wimmer**

Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

## *Abstract*

*A small fragment of a Ramesside ostrakon found recently at Ashkelon bears a short inscription in Egyptian hieratic writing. The article suggests that the fragment be read using the Semitic term prop het/seer (ḥzh), which is also mentioned in the Report of Wenamun. The article concludes with an updated list of hieratic inscriptions from Canaan.*

# THE EARLIEST SETTLEMENT AT KADESH BARNEA

**Lily Singer-Avitz**  
Tel Aviv University

## ***Abstract***

*One of the interesting pottery groups presented in the newly-published excavation report of Kadesh Barnea is Painted Qurayyah Ware, labelled there as Midianite Ware. Most of this painted pottery, mainly sherds, was not found in situ and could not be stratigraphically connected to one of the occupation levels. The paper suggests that the Painted Qurayyah Ware should be related to the settlement of Substratum 4c—the earliest settlement that predates the oval ‘fortress’— which should be dated to the 12th century BCE.*

*It follows that the Substratum 4c settlement in Kadesh Barnea is contemporary with several other settlements, e.g., Tel Masos Stratum III, Khirbet en-Naḥas and Timna, which were associated with trade and copper production. It seems that Kadesh Barnea served as a way station on the copper trade route leading to the Mediterranean coast.*

# RADIOCARBON AND THE HISTORY OF COPPER PRODUCTION AT KHIRBET EN-NAḤAS

**Israel Finkelstein**

**Eli Piasezky**

Tel Aviv University

## ***Abstract***

*The article deals with the 46 <sup>14</sup>C determinations from Khirbet en-Naḥas, described as the largest Iron Age copper-smelting site in the southern Levant. It is suggested that production at Khirbet en-Naḥas: (1) commenced in the early Iron I (after the collapse of the Egypto-Canaanite system) as an outcome of the decline in Cypriot copper-trade with the Levant; (2) peaked in the first half of the 9th century, possibly as a result of the need for considerable amounts of bronze by the vast and powerful armies of the rising territorial kingdoms of the Levant; (3) ended in the late 9th century BCE, probably as a consequence of the revival of contacts with Cyprus and the economic interests of Aram Damascus.*

# SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES AT LATE IRON I MEGIDDO

**Danny Rosenberg**

University of Haifa

## ***Abstract***

*The paper discusses the food-related stone tools found in Building 00/K/10 at Iron Age I Megiddo. Given the tools' spatial distribution in the building, specifically their clustering, the author suggests that the processing and serving of food had social implications directly related to the spatial division between nuclear family units that shared the building during this period.*

# THE DATE OF CITY-WALL 501 IN JERUSALEM

**Ronny Reich**  
University of Haifa

**Eli Shukron**  
Israel Antiquities Authority

## ***Abstract***

*Recently, Eilat Mazar suggested that the wall exposed by the authors on the lower eastern slope of the City of David (Area J, City-Wall 501) be dated to the Middle Bronze II. Since the various earth layers revealed in the ca. 3 m thick debris fill in the square abutting the western, intramural face of the wall all contained late Iron Age II pottery sherds (8th century BCE), it is obvious that Mazar's suggestion is incorrect, as is the entire historical and topographical theory built upon it.*

# PERSIAN AND HELLENISTIC REMAINS AT TEL YA'OZ\*

**Moshe Fischer**

**Israel Roll**  
Tel Aviv University

**Oren Tal**

## ***Abstract***

*The article summarizes the 1981 excavation at Tel Ya'oz, which revealed remains from the Persian and Hellenistic periods. The Persian period settlement extended over an area of at least 1.5 ha and was probably the largest settlement in the lower Nahal Šoreq basin at that time. Remains of Greek-style fresco and stucco architectural elements seem to indicate that a monumental complex existed at the site during the Hellenistic period. In the second part of the article we propose identifying Tel Ya'oz with ancient Gazara, mentioned in Hellenistic sources.*