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American Schools of Oriental Research Newsletter

ASOR

ASOR at Boston University, 656 Beacon Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02215-2010

Committee on Archaeological Policy Conducts Annual Tour of ASOR-Affiliated Excavations

This year's CAP tour began from Jerusalem on June 22. Participating in the Israel and West Bank part of the trip were Walter Rast, CAP chair, and Joe D. Seger, President of ASOR, while Edward Gilbert, President of CAARI joined us for the West Bank and the remainder of the tour, and Carlyn Hoffman, a friend of Ed's from Kansas City, joined us for the Cyprus and Jordan segments. The focus of the trip was ASOR-affiliated digs, but since only a small number of ASOR digs in Israel were in the field this summer, we visited non-affiliated or local expeditions as well.

ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIAN WEST BANK. Monday's trip (June 22) began with a visit to the synagogue excavations at 'En Gedi. We were taken around by Gideon Hadas, assistant to Yizhar Hirschfeld who has directed the excavations. The 'En Gedi synagogue community is important to connect with the contemporary Byzantine remains across the Lisan peninsula as well as those at es-Sag (Lot's Cave) in Jordan. For me this site had special interest since it impinges on our regional studies in the area of Bab edh-Dhra'.

From 'En Gedi we pressed on to Ashkelon. Regrettably, we were able to spend only an hour and a half at Ashkelon, reviewing the Middle Bronze fortifications, and the continuing work on the other Bronze and Iron Age areas. The work at Ashkelon under Larry Stager's direction is the most ambitious of all our current projects, and we made apologies for the shortness of time. Unfortunately we also had to miss seeing David Schloen's specially designed computer program at Ashkelon. Hopefully some of us will have a chance to view this in Chicago.

From Ashkelon we had to rush to meet Hani Nur al-Din, fellow at the Albright Institute, who is conducting excavations at Khirbet Shuweyka near Ramallah. The expedition is sponsored by al-Quds University, which uses it as a training ground for some of its students. The site contains im-

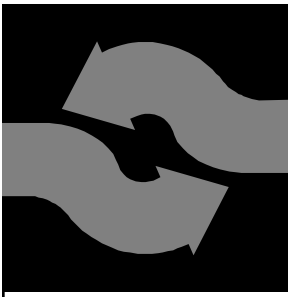
pressive Byzantine and Islamic remains, and some of these had already been cleared when we visited.

On June 23 and 24, the tour went to the north. We began with a visit to the salvage excavation of Byzantine shops and a street along the highway skirting Beth-shean conducted by Dany Syon. Syon joined us for the rest of the day for trips to Gamla and Bethsaida. Those who have been to Gamla know that is an extraordinary location. That in itself helps explain its role in the battle described by Josephus, who called it a "difficult place."

The CAP tour had made previous visits to Bethsaida, and the site appeared to be one mass of rocks. The patient clearing of some of this in the recent seasons has laid bare an Iron Age gate which the excavators, Rami Arav and John Greene, argue is a six-chambered entry dating to the Iron II period, i.e. later than the date usually associated with such gates. Without question the one at Bethsaida is an impressive example, as are also some of the special cultic objects uncovered at the gateway. The University of Nebraska at Omaha is a major participant in this work along with Haifa University. The project is not ASOR-affiliated.

Returning to Beth-shean we took the opportunity to walk over nearby Tel Rehov. Although Ami Mazar's crew was not yet in the field, he had explained to us in Jerusalem what we would see if we walked around the excavations. This year's excavations did begin a week later but we were unable to synchronize our schedule to be there at that time. We made another brief stop at Tel Jezreel where David Ussishkin and John Woodhead had conducted work through 1995. Although the site is heavily overgrown, the lines of fortification walls along the roadway could still be observed. We then continued across the Esdraelon Valley past Nazareth to Sepphoris.

The University of Southern Florida excavation staff kindly put us up in one of their kibbutz houses on Tuesday night. This gave us the chance to attend Dennis Groh's informative and entertaining presentation on stratigraphy



**ASOR
Contributors**

page 5



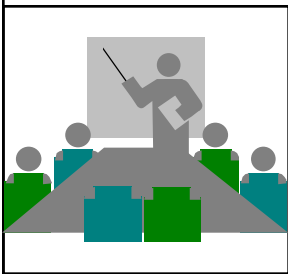
News&Notices

page 6



**Annual Meeting
Information**

page 11



Meeting Calendar

page 18



AIAR Fellows' Reports

page 19



**ACOR Fellowship
Announcement**

page 26



CAARI News

page 27

and recording, the lecture for volunteers that evening. Joe and I were impressed with Denny's incisive presentation and feel it could well be videotaped for use by other expeditions in their training sessions.

The visit with Jim Strange and Groh at Sepphoris allowed us to see how this expedition was carrying on its careful technique among other competing archaeological enterprises. Only meters away, in an area not assigned to the American group, a bulldozer gouged out rocks and soil as tourism outpaced archaeology. Our admiration for our American colleagues in persisting according to ASOR standards was doubled through what we observed.

The next stop was Megiddo. Israel Finkelstein and David Ussishkin explained the discoveries their project is making in going back to unresolved problems left over from the Oriental Institute's work. In brief these include key information on the Stratum VA-IVB structures as well as the gate area—sources for some of the current controversial proposals on dating. Their work is also redefining the Early Bronze Age cult area with its temple and prominent altar. The cult activity in Area BB turns out to have been even more extensive than the original excavators found.

We went on to the Caesarea region, and stopped first at Tel Tannim where Robert Stieglitz has uncovered evidence of a sophisticated water system related to the aqueduct at Caesarea along with a number of isolated, well-constructed ponds for a fishing industry. Following this we met Ken Holum and his Caesarea team for lunch. The Caesarea expedition is affiliated with ASOR, while that at Tel Tannim currently is not.

The late afternoon was spent at the Israel Antiquities Authority in Jerusalem, which included a meeting with the director, Amir Drori, and several colleagues. These meetings are valuable from more than one perspective. They highlight the presence of American excavators in the region, and stress the role that archaeology plays not only in isolated expeditions but in the wider curricula of institutions in the U.S. They further allow certain concerns mentioned to us by American excavators as we tour around to be put before the Israeli authorities, several of which were broached with Mr. Drori.

Thursday was devoted to the Palestinian projects on the West Bank. We began with a visit to the Institute of Archaeology at Bir Zeit University and a meeting with Khaled Nashef, the director. The institute has made great progress under Nashef's leadership. The library has an impressive collection that now includes the late Albert Glock's library, the books and periodicals being neatly housed in the Institute's own building. We heard of the progress on the publications of the Institute, including the Tell Ta'anek excavations. A monograph on Tell Ta'anek loom weights by Glenda Friend, beautifully produced by Birzeit University, is now available (see information on page 25). Other Tell Ta'anek publications about to go to press include a study of cultic material by Frank Frick, and the Iron Age stratigraphy by Mark Meehl.

The rest of the day was spent with Hamdan Taha, director of the Palestine Department of Antiquities. We met at his office in Ramallah, where he spelled out his thoughts about the future work in the West Bank. Much like the other

countries where ASOR works, he envisions new collaborative projects involving Palestinian and foreign archaeologists and institutions.

The afternoon was spent visiting Tell Belameh, where the department under Hamdan's direction has done recent excavations. Tell Belameh is just off the main road from Nablus on the outskirts of Jenin. Although excavations have not yet begun on the tell itself, the expedition has cleared a major water system with features unique compared with others known from the Iron Age. Future work on this tell is bound to add new data for Iron Age research in the Esdraelon Plain. Our group, which now included Ed Gilbert, crawled from one end of the tunnel to its opening on the interior of the city. The challenge was strenuous but Hamdan rewarded us by treating us to the famous canafe of Nablus on the way home.

We express our thanks to Sy Gitin and Edna Sachar for their generous assistance.

CYPRUS. Arriving in Nicosia on Friday, June 26, we felt quickly at ease in the delightful ambience of the island. Vathoula was on hand to orient us, while Nancy Serwint, director of CAARI, had laid out an excellent schedule for our weekend. The tour began in the afternoon when Sven van Lokeren, a member of the ASOR-affiliated Sydney Cyprus Survey Project, accompanied us to Mitsero to view the survey crew's recent work on sources of metal and metal processing along this fascinating valley outside Nicosia. We were surprised to see how much of the ancient operation was still evident, even in the wooden supports the ancients had built into the mines.

Saturday began with a visit to Pamela Gaber's excavations at Idalion. The achievements of a number of seasons of work are evident. The extent of the ancient site has become more clearly determined, and Gaber's work is showing how the settlement functioned in the metallurgical industry of the surrounding region. The expedition has also studied ancient Idalion in relation to the growth of Dhali as the modern town expands under new opportunities. This project is not affiliated. From Idalion we went to meet Alison South and Ian Todd at their affiliated sites in the Vasilikos valley. Ian gave us a tour of the protective structure built over the Neolithic buildings uncovered at Tenta. The startling design of the cover can be seen at quite a distance. Nearby we toured the Late Bronze Age site of Ayios Dhimitrios with Alison, who has continued the excavation and consolidation of this remarkable production center in the south of the island.

After a fish luncheon at Zygi, we met Michael Toumazou to visit his excavations at Athienou-Malloura. Here in this fertile open landscape, excavation has unearthed an ex-



Sy Gitin, Joe Seger and Walt Rast at the Albright Institute.

pansive settlement dating to the classical period. Nearby, the expedition has also uncovered a series of architecturally striking tombs cut deep into the rock, also dating to the classical period. The Malloura excavations are not yet ASOR-affiliated, but the project, sponsored by Davidson College, was encouraged to apply. Toumazou is in the unique position of being from the area and at the same time holding an academic position in the U.S. Many of the volunteers are from the college.

On Sunday morning, June 28, we visited the ASOR-affiliated project of the University of Missouri (Columbia) led by Danielle Parks near the Amathus Gate at Kourion. This excavation has focused on uncovering, planning, and interpreting a series of tombs along a rocky scarp outside the gate. The results are providing a window into the mortuary customs of some of the occupants of this great town.

The rest of the day we spent enjoying the beauty of Cyprus in the summertime. We first had lunch at the second home of Diana and Drew Oliver near Episkopi, which has a stunning view of the sea and surrounding countryside. Members of the CAP tour have experienced their generous hospitality before and we thank them once again for inviting us to their lovely village home.

On the way back to Nicosia we followed the road through the Troodos mountains, a beautiful drive offering the chance to see the finest mountain scenery in Cyprus. It was a wonderful way to wrap up our stay in Cyprus, where the ASOR-related projects are making significant contributions to all aspects of the history and archaeology of Cyprus.

Owing to his obligations during the state visit of the president of Greece to Cyprus, we were not able to meet with the director general, Dr. Hajjisavvas, but Nancy Serwint and several of the American excavators filled us in on some of the changes going on in the administration of archaeology on the island.

Thanks again to Nancy and Vathoula for all they did to make the tour in Cyprus productive and enjoyable.

JORDAN. On Monday, June 29, we crossed the King Hussein Bridge to Jordan, arriving in time for an excellent meal at ACOR. We spent the afternoon lining up our schedule for the tour in Jordan, and looking over the intense activity at the center. We also had the chance to attend in the evening one of the numerous archaeological lectures sponsored by ACOR or the Friends of Archaeology throughout the year.

On Tuesday morning, we set out for Madaba, where we visited the affiliated project on Tell Madaba directed by Tim Harrison of the University of Toronto. Many archaeological scholars have made guesses about what might be present at ancient Madaba, based on a few surface finds. Tim's sophisticated, modern approach to the excavation of the site, whose location provides special problems for the strategy of the expedition, has already uncovered excellent evidence for the Early Bronze and Iron Ages in particular.

Since Pierre Bikai was with us on this trip, we took the opportunity to see the continued work on Roman and Byzantine Madaba. One has to agree with Pierre's enthusiasm about the way the ruins in this old city have been restored for visitors to see and enjoy. The project in Madaba is in many ways a model for working out the relation between archaeology and tourism.

The rest of the morning was spent at the large project directed by Michele Daviau along the Wadi eth-Themed. With only a couple seasons behind them, expedition members have already uncovered a large Iron Age walled town. Their intensive survey of the region is also pinning down conditions that made this impressive town possible in a demanding environment that only ingenuity could in some way master. The project is ASOR-affiliated.

After dinner at ACOR we set out for Petra and spent the night in the new Forum Hotel. We walked through the siq the following morning for a visit to the Brown University work on the great temple. Martha Joukowsky now tells us that this is probably not a temple but rather the major administrative building of Petra. If this new interpretation turns out to be correct, the excavations here will have placed an entirely new light on the social and political organization of Petra. Whatever the outcome, the excellent work the affiliated Petra project is accomplishing is a major contribution to the study of this great site.

At Petra we also visited the Byzantine church where the Petra scrolls were found. Here Pierre and Patricia Bikai were directing final preparations in anticipation of the grand opening of the church to the public on July 8. (See the most recent ACOR Newsletter for more on the opening celebrations). This provided an opportunity to view the magnificent carpets of mosaic in the side aisles.

From Petra we made our way to Humeima, the affiliated project directed by John Peter Olson of the University of Victoria. Here we were shown the latest results by Rebecca Foote. These include work on Nabataean buildings and the massive water catchment and storage systems. The site will be a major attraction for visitors as the preservation and preparation of the site for this role pro-

ceeds. We caught up with John over lunch at his dig headquarters and enjoyed a brief tour of his conservation lab. We were disappointed not to be able to include Tom Parker's work at Aqaba, which was just concluding at the time we were in Jordan, in the schedule, but we have shared the excitement of discovery of an extraordinarily well-preserved Byzantine church at Aqaba.

The last day of the CAP tour on Thursday, July 2, was spent at the sites of the Andrews University Madaba Plains Project. We began by meeting Oystein LaBianca and colleagues at Tell Hesban. Here an interesting project has re-emerged, showing how much can be gained by returning to old sites. In the years that have passed since the earlier fieldwork stopped, the Hesban staff has developed new strategies, methods, and mechanisms of site investigation. These are being brought to bear with promising results. Already during the early part of this year's season, LaBianca was able to show some new implications for understanding the Iron Age at this site.

We capped off the morning's visits at Tell Umeiri where Larry Herr and colleagues started us off in the deep cut that has revealed the Late Bronze and Iron Age fortifications. The main work this season concentrated on the several levels of Iron Age structures, including closer examination of the evidence for some sort of destruction in some of the buildings.

Returning to Amman we were able to get to the registration center and offices of the Department of Antiquities before they closed. Since we had just seen the Director of Antiquities, Ghazi Bisheh, at the conference in Copenhagen, we decided not to burden him with another appointment at a very busy time for him following the conference. Instead, we spent the time purchasing recent volumes published in Jordan for our libraries.

Although we were not able to get to a number of projects (Gary Rollefson had just begun a small season at 'Ain Ghazal and Bruce Routledge at Khirbet el-Medeiniych), it is obvious that ACOR continues to be the clearing house for many important North American projects. To assist these projects in maintaining lively contact with each other, as well as with related projects in the neighboring countries, is one of the important functions of the Committee on Archaeological Policy.

We thank Pierre and Patricia Bikai for standing ready to help us as we carried out our visits in Jordan.

Since this was my last tour for ASOR's CAP Committee, I express here my appreciation for the opportunity to have held this position for a number of terms. I wish the new chair of the committee (see p. 6 for results of election) much success as CAP continues to seek ways to meet the challenges that face archaeologists in all of the countries that ASOR serves.

Walter Rast



THE AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES ITS CONTRIBUTORS FOR THE 1998 FISCAL YEAR

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by the ASOR Board of Trustees on the basis of a Development Committee proposal.

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Lindstrom Foundation
Replogle Foundation
Samuel H. Kress Foundation
Scheuer Family Foundation
Taggart Foundation

NEWS and NOTICES

MCCREERY ELECTED TO CAP CHAIR

In run off voting just concluded, Dr. David W. McCreery, Professor of Religious Studies at Willamette University, was elected to be the new Chair of the Committee on Archaeological Policy. He will serve for a three year term from July 1, 1998 through June 30, 2001. McCreery served as director of ACOR from 1981–88 and has been the co-director of the Tell Nimrin Project in Jordan since 1986. He has been a member CAP since 1981. He succeeds Walter Rast who served in the position from 1988–94, and again from 1996–98.

ASOR VISION 2000 THE PRE-MEETING DIALOGUE CONTINUES PLEASE JOIN IN!

This is an invitation to all ASOR members and friends to join an on-line e-mail dialogue about ASOR and its future as a prologue to a Round Table session to be held at our 1998 Annual Meeting in Orlando on Thursday, November 19, Orlando Renaissance Hotel MILAN C/D, 12:30–2:30 pm

ASOR Vision 2000 will be a single continuing session in Orlando with time split between luncheon round table discussions, and follow up brief reports by Table Leaders. It is conceived as an occasion for open-ended dialogue about the opportunities and challenges facing ASOR as it enters the second century of its operations, and as a means for assessing the ideas and concerns of members with respect to priorities and goals for the organization. The discussion is open-ended. No particular agendas are being pursued! But the discussion should help ASOR clarify and set its agenda for the future.

As a means to “jump-start” this dialogue you are invited to participate on-line via the ASOR-L by addressing any of the following question areas. Copy for entry to the ASOR-L should be sent to Billie Jean Collins at <bcollin@emory.edu> with cc: to <jds1@ra.msstate.edu> AND to the specific Table Leaders assigned to the question area.

Question Areas and Table Leaders are as follows:

QA #1 - What means and forms should ASOR's support of fieldwork projects take and how should ASOR relate to overseas centers' activities?

Table Leaders:

David McCreery <dmccreer@willamette.edu>
Stuart Swiny <swiny@cnsvox.albany.edu>

QA #2 - What new means and directions should ASOR's publication efforts take with respect to the dissemination of research and of other educational information?

Table Leaders:

Robert Haak <rehaak@augustana.edu>
R. Thomas Schaub <rtschaub@grove.iup.edu>

QA #3 - What are the best means for ASOR to serve the public interest in archaeology and where should it give priority effort?

Table Leaders:

Oded Borowski <oborows@emory.edu>
Tammi Schneider <tammi.Schneider@cgu.edu>

QA #4 - What priorities should be established for Annual Meeting Program development?

Table Leaders:

Sidnie White Crawford <scrawfor@unlinfo.unl.edu>
Victor Matthews <vhm970f@mail.smsu.edu>

QA #5 - What means should ASOR use to help establish support systems for development of careers in archaeology?

Table Leaders:

Tim Harrison <tim.harrison@utoronto.ca>
Maxwell Miller <theojmm@emory.edu>

QA #6 - Are ASOR's organizational structures adequate and appropriate to meet the challenges of the new century? How can ASOR raise sufficient funds to meet its obligations and goals in the coming years?

Table Leaders:

Jeffrey Blakely <jblakely@facstaff.wisc.edu>
Randall Younker <younker@andrews.edu>

Operational Note: Tracking of the dialogue will be easier if you restrict each entry to comment on just one question! For notes on concerns that fall outside the six QA's listed please cc: only jds1@ra.msstate.edu. Also, please don't expect a response from Table Leaders on each of your comments. The dialogue will go on via ASOR-L in which Table Leaders will also participate as they deem appropriate.

P.E. MACALLISTER HONORED AT 80TH BIRTHDAY

On September 30, Rudy Dornemann, Ed Gilbert, Joe and Patty Seger were honored to represent ASOR and its affiliated overseas centers at a special surprise celebration of P.E. MacAllister's 80th birthday in Indianapolis. The occasion was provided by the concurrence of the finals of the annual MacAllister Awards opera competition, which P.E. sponsors. Without his knowledge, invitations were sent to representatives of the various church, community, college and professional groups that P.E. has enabled and supported for many years through his active participation and philanthropy. The day was most enjoyable including a special brunch followed by the wonderful music of the fifteen finalists in the opera competition (which was broadcast live on the Indianapolis area PBS TV network). At a reception at the close of the program P.E.'s birthday was celebrated with congratulatory words from each of the several groups represented. On behalf of ASOR P.E. was presented with a silver bowl inscribed:

"To P. E. MacAllister
All at ASOR wish you exciting finds with future digs!
August 30, 1998"

ASOR is indeed favored to be included within the family of P.E.'s wide interests. Our warmest congratulations to him as he begins his second 80 year crusade.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF CAT!

In celebration of P.E.'s birthday letters were solicited for a "good wishes" page in the MacAllister Today publication of the MacAllister Machinery Co. The following is President Seger's submission on behalf of ASOR:

P.E.,

I just had a long conversation with Rudy Dornemann who, as you know is now back from directing this summer's ASOR-sponsored excavations at Tell Qarqur in Syria. Considering your special interests in the Ancient Near Eastern world and in music I'm sure you will be intrigued by the inscription he found from Early Bronze IV levels just before 2000 BC (representing the age of the biblical patriarchs by most folks' reckoning.) It is written in what appears to be a paleo-Victorian script and, although it is broken at beginning and end, some of the main text could be reconstructed. What remains seems to be a ceremonial recitation in honor of one of the community sages. Most remarkably the versification is in a cadence that could come directly out of one of our contemporary Broadway musicals. A preliminary translation is as follows:

"MacA(---)er, M(-----)ister, there is no one just like he is sir!
He's brokered many a humane cause but lauds and honors does demur.
His powers of (--)literation would make a poet stare,
and when decisions need be made MacAllister's right fair!

"You may seek him at the opera, or at the Presbytair,
but I tell you once and once again MacAllister's right fair!

"MacAllister's a lanky cat, he's dapper, sharp and lean.
You'd know him if you saw him cause his carriage is quite keen!
His brow is deeply lined with thought, his head has Reagan sheen,
His druthers he does well define, good counsel does assert.
You never find him half asleep, he's always quite alert!

"He has a talent tried and true, good things to morphosize
from caterpillar larvae, to glorious butterflies.
He's outwardly respectable, (at golf he counts all strokes.)
He's honest, helpful and direct, his handicap is gr---(text broken
at this point!)

"(-----)ter, Ma(---)ster, there's no one like MacAllister.
For he's a friend with special gifts, in whom good works adhere.
His verbal prowess all alone would make a poet start,
and when decisions need be made MacAllister's right smart!"



Another fragment of text was found—perhaps from the same document—with reference to something like "practical cats" and maybe initials "T. S. E(---)T"—possible evidence of extraterrestrial intrusion into the Early Bronze culture.

In any case all of us at ASOR think it quite a coincidence, that with your 80th birthday coming up on September 30, some really old ancestor with your surname was looked upon, even way back then, with the same fondness and respect we all hold for you today. Here's to a very happy birthday celebration with warmest congratulations from all of us in the American Schools of Oriental Research. We are all very proud and happy for the opportunity to work with you.

Joe Seger, ASOR President

THE TRUDE DOTHAN LECTURESHIP IN ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN STUDIES

The W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem is pleased to announce a gift of \$100,000 from the Dorot Foundation to endow the annual Trude Dothan Lectureship in Ancient Near Eastern Studies at the Albright Institute. The lectureship was established in honor of Professor Trude Dothan of the Hebrew University, one of Israel's leading archaeologists, on the occasion of her receiving the Israel Prize in Archaeology.

Each year, a senior scholar from outside Israel, working in the disciplines of Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology, History, Languages and Literature, will be invited to give a lecture at the Albright Institute, the Hebrew University, and a Palestinian academic institution. In establishing this annual lecture program at the Albright Institute, the Dorot Foundation recognizes the Albright's significant role in advancing the dialogue between students and scholars from the Israeli, Palestinian and foreign academic communities in Jerusalem. The Albright Institute, originally established in 1900 as the American School of Oriental Research, is the oldest American research center for ancient Near Eastern studies in the Middle East.



“Crossing Borders: Ancient Egypt, Canaan and Israel” Symposium

The Skirball Cultural Center and the UCLA Institute of Archaeology have organized jointly a day long symposium on Saturday, November 7, 1998, at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles. Eight world-renowned archaeologists and scholars will meet with members of the public for a day-long program—discussing and debating the possibilities and limits of the newest textual and archaeological evidence informing us about the ancient lands of Egypt, Canaan and Israel.

“Crossing Borders” is an opportunity to explore the enduring impact of Egypt, Canaan and Israel, and to examine the historical core of the traditions that still resonate in our society today. Scholars and archaeologists will use texts, myths, and artifacts to focus on the realities and traditions of these ancient lands. Despite a jumble of cultures and borders separating them, these lands were linked by roads, sea, trade, war, culture, and mythic moments. This impressive array of scholars from the US and Israel will present their latest thinking in a lecture format interspersed with discussions, questions, and social activities, including a gala banquet featuring a major address by Trude Dothan, winner of the prestigious Israel Prize. For information, the public can call (310) 440-4692.

Speakers include:

Trude Dothan, Hebrew University, Jerusalem “The Great Philistine Cities: Reality for David and Goliath”

Richard Elliott Friedman, UCSD ““Back to Egypt!” The Exile to Egypt After the Fall of Judah”

Ron Hendel, Southern Methodist University “The Exodus in Biblical Memory”

Tom Levy, UCSD, “Crossing Borders in the Ancient World: Early Egypt and Canaan”

Antonio Loprieno, UCLA “Broken Memory: The Use of the Past in Egyptian and Biblical Literature”

Peter Machinist, Harvard University “The Uncircumcised Ones: The Philistines as Foe in the Hebrew Bible”

Stuart Smith, UCLA “Egyptian Imperialism: Conquer Thy Neighbor!”

Frank Yurco, University of Chicago “And Pharaoh said ... Israel is no more. Egyptian Sources for Early Israel”

The University of Chicago announces a new Ph.D. Program in the Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East,

under the auspices of the Committee on Jewish Studies, in the Division of the Humanities. This will be a cooperative program between the faculties of the Department of Near Eastern languages and the Divinity School.

Students in this program will take a common core of courses in Biblical Hebrew, Aramaic and Northwest Semitics, the History of the Ancient Near East and Biblical scholarship. They will also elect a specific Near Eastern culture (Canaanite, Mesopotamian, Egyptian, or Persian) as an area of specialization, and take examinations in the appropriate languages and literature.

They will also choose a methodological emphasis: thematic and comparative (law, religion, literature), archaeological and historical, or philological and linguistic. Reading knowledge of modern Hebrew is required, in addition to French and German.

For further information regarding the program contact: John J. Collins, The University of Chicago, Divinity School, 1025 East 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637. Tel: 773/702-8240; Fax: 773/702-8223. E-mail: jj-collins@uchicago.edu.

ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE SEEKS TO BROADEN MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION

In an effort to broaden participation in the ASOR Committee on the Annual Meeting and Program and its subcommittees, ASOR members are invited to submit their names to serve on the following:

a. Program Committee. This CAMP sub-committee will be responsible for reviewing current program units, initiating new program units, and, in cooperation with the CAMP Chair and ASOR Staff, organizing the Annual Meeting Program. There will be six members on the committee in addition to the Chair and they will represent the range of interests reflected in the Annual Meeting Program: Near Eastern archaeology, Classical and Mediterranean archaeology, Pre-Historic archaeology, History and Material Culture. Terms for members will be three years with two persons rotating off each year.

b. Honors and Awards Committee. This CAMP sub-committee is charged with soliciting nominations for ASOR awards (see vol. 48/2, Summer 1998 issue of the ASOR Newsletter for a list of these awards) to be given at the Annual Meeting. In addition to the Chair, members of the committee will reflect the following distribution: one each from AIAR, ACOR, and CAARI, and one AT-LARGE member. Terms for the members will be two years with two persons rotating off each year.

c. Outreach Committee. This CAMP sub-committee is charged with promoting ASOR outreach education opportunities at the Annual Meeting and in other venues during the year. There will be six members on the committee in addition to the Chair. The terms for members will be three years with two persons rotating off each year.

Each of these committees will function as a sub-committee of CAMP and the Chairs of each committee will serve on CAMP. Names of nominees offered will be used by the Chairman of CAMP in consideration of appointments for the 1998-1999 membership classes.

Please send your letter expressing an interest in serving on one of these ASOR CAMP Sub-committees by **November 2** to

Dr. Victor H. Matthews, CAMP Chair, Religious Studies Department, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, MO 65804; email: vhm970f@vma.smsu.edu; phone: 417/836-5491; fax: 417/836-4757.

EDITOR SOUGHT FOR ASOR ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS

The oversight of ASOR's electronic publication program offers a unique opportunity to develop a new area in archaeological publication. The editor will have carte blanche to develop this program (within the limits of the Publications budget) with the full administrative and financial support of the ASOR Publications Program.

Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- * Soliciting, encouraging and fostering within the ASOR membership the creation of archaeological data and manuscripts for electronic publication
- * Vetting and oversight of peer review of manuscripts
- * (Working with designer to) explore new and innovative ways to present materials and make them accessible and useful to archaeologists
- * Coordinating with designer the production of ASORDigs on-line and/or on CD-ROM
- * Establishing criteria and standards for electronic publication. Defining categories of electronic publication, from raw data to fully refereed final publications.
- * Formulating a statement on behalf of ASOR supporting the viability/acceptability of refereed electronic publications in tenure review.

Interested ASOR members should contact Al Leonard, Jr. ASOR's Chair of Publications, aleonard@sonic.net, or Billie Jean Collins, Director of Publications, Suite 330, 825 Houston Mill Rd., Atlanta, GA 30329; Tel. 404-727-0807; bcollin@emory.edu.

Like the Marines, ASOR is always looking for a few good men and women to support and serve its cause. Part of ASOR's development work involves recruiting the best people possible for Trustee leadership roles. This is an ongoing process and the Nominations Committee is always prepared to receive names and leads. Nominations for Membership elected Trustees are acted on during the Fall Annual Meeting. Nominations for Board elected Trustees can be acted on at either the Fall or the Spring Board of Trustees meetings. Trustee nominees can be from the current membership but may also include non-members who may be recruited to share in ASOR's mission and goals. Please maintain the vigil and help the Nominations Committee identify potential Trustee leaders by forwarding suggestions. Committee Chair, Randy Younker is prepared to receive nominations throughout the year.

ASOR TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. To be a spokesperson and advocate for the work of ASOR.
2. To attend ASOR Board Meetings regularly and to participate in the development of policy and plans for ASOR, working to remain current in understanding all of its work and activities.
3. To make an annual financial contribution and to solicit others for ASOR support.
4. To work actively on at least one committee of the ASOR Board.



1998 ASOR ANNUAL MEETING

ASOR PROGRAM NOTES AND ADDENDA

The Meeting-At-A-Glance that follows on pages 13–16 supersedes that which appears in the Annual Meeting Program Book. A new schedule reflecting all changes will accompany your registration packet.

CHANGES

All sessions previously assigned to London have been moved to Vienna A.

All sessions previously assigned to Berlin have been moved to Les Continents.

All Saturday business meetings scheduled for Milan D have been moved to Milan C.

- B15 has been moved to Paris
- B17 will begin at 9:00am and end at 6:00pm
- B24 will run from 1:00pm to 2:00pm
- A13 proposed as a joint ASOR/SBL session, the Paleography Section will be held on Sunday, Nov. 22 from 9:00am to 10:30am in the Walt Disney World Dolphin Meetings Pavilion Lobby Level-Australia 2.
- A16 has been moved to the Amphitheatre and will take place from 7:30pm to 9:30pm
- A17 has been moved to Vienna A and will take place from 4:30pm to 6:30pm
- A19 has been combined with A20 into a single session. The combined session will be held in Milan D from 10:00am to 1:00pm. (See p. 12 for revised schedule of speakers.)
- A22 Alysia Fischer will be the second speaker in this session. The remaining speakers will follow in their current order.

ADDITIONS

- B00 ASOR Canada will meet from 1:00pm to 2:00pm on Friday in the Paris room.
- B00 Centennial Planning Wrap-Up session will take place on Saturday, from 4:30pm to 6:00pm in Milan D.
- B00 There will be an Open Meeting for ASOR editors and potential authors on Saturday morning from 10:30 to 11:30am in Munich.
- B00 The Tel Rehov Excavations will host a reception from 9:30 to 10:30 on Friday evening. Location TBA.
- A10 Michael Fuller and Neathery Fuller will offer the fifth and final paper in this session. They will speak on “The 1998 Excavations at Tell Tuneinir.” (see abstract p. 12)
- A23 Douglas Edwards will offer the fourth paper in this session. It is entitled “The 1998 Excavations at Khirbet Cana (Cana of the Galilee).” (see abstract p. 12)

GENERAL

All receptions will be held in the Rendezvous area of the hotel (refer to map in Program Book).

Coffee, decaffeinated coffee and tea will be available throughout the meetings.

As a reminder, everyone is encouraged to donate to the Lindstrom Foundation in support of the Lindstrom Fellowships. If you wish to contribute, please contact the Lindstrom Foundation at 2128 Alvarado St., San Leandro, CA 94577. Monies received will be used to provide scholarships of up to \$500 each for students who will in turn provide 20 hours of service at the 1998 Annual Meeting in Orlando.

ASOR VISION 2000 PROGRAM AGENDA

Thursday November 19, 12:30–2:30 P.M.

Orlando Renaissance Hotel, Milan C/D

Everyone attending the ASOR Annual Meeting in Orlando is urged to participate in the ASOR VISION 2000 discussions. A listing of focal question areas and Table Leaders is provided in the adjacent invitation for pre-meeting dialogue. Registration for table assignments and lunch reservations will be facilitated in Orlando at the ASOR registration desk. Lunch will be provided at \$7.50 per person. Payments for the lunch vouchers will be collected at the time table assignments are made. However, in order plan for luncheon needs we are asking all who wish to participate to fax or e-mail the information on the following form to the Boston office no later than November 6.

Vision 2000 Discussion Advance Registration
(return by November 6)

Name _____

Lunch reservation ____ Yes ____ No

QA Table ____ 1st choice ____ 2nd choice ____ 3rd choice

(Use QA numbers from Pre-meeting Dialog listing on page 6.)

Send by e-mail to asor@bu.edu,
by FAX to 617-353-6575, or by mail to
ASOR at Boston University
656 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02215-2010

10:00am–1:00pm Tribes of the Testament, Session I and Madaba Plains Symposium on Recent Archaeological Research in the Madaba Plains Region of Jordan

Douglas R. Clark (Walla Walla College), and Larry G. Herr (Canadian University-College), Presiding

- 1) Randall W. Younker (Andrews University), "Iron Age Tribes of the Madaba Plains Region." (20 mins)
- 2) Peter Feinman (Columbia University), "Nebo - Why North Moab Was Important to Israel: Claiming the Past to Legitimate the Present in the Ninth Century BCE." (20 mins)
- 3) Chang-Ho C. Ji (La Sierra University), "Iron Age Settlement Patterns and Tribal History in the Dhiban Plateau: A Preliminary View." (20 mins)
- 4) Recess (10 mins)
- 5) Larry G. Herr (Canadian University-College), "The 1998 Excavations at Tall al-Umayri, Jordan." (20 mins)
- 6) Karen A. Borstad (University of Arizona), "Reconstructing Ancient Roads: A Diachronic Study of Communication Routes Using Geographic Information System Models for the Madaba Plains Project Region." (20 mins)
- 7) Oystein S. LaBianca (Andrews University), "Food-system Cycles and Deforestation at Hisban and Vicinity." (20 mins)
- 8) Paul J. Ray, Jr. (Andrews University), "The Iron I Bedrock Trench at Tall Hisban: Another Look." (20 mins)
- 9) Gary L. Christopherson (University of Arizona), "The New Hisban Survey." (20 mins)
- 10) Recess (10 mins)

A1, PLENARY SESSION Ugarit and the Bible

Professor Alan Millard, University of Liverpool
Aspects of Ugarit and the Bible

Alan Millard studied Ancient Semitic Languages in the universities of Oxford and London, was employed in the Department of Western Asiatic Antiquities at the British Museum, served as Librarian at Tyndale Library for Biblical Research in Cambridge for seven years and has taught at the University of Liverpool since 1970, where was awarded a personal chair as Rankin Professor of Hebrew and Ancient Semitic Languages in the University of Liverpool in 1992. He has worked on archaeological excavations in Syria (Tell Rifa'at, Tell Nebi Mend), Jordan (Petra) and Iraq (Nimrud). In 1984 he held a Fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. He has published editions of Babylonian and Assyrian cuneiform tablets, among them Atrahasis, the Babylonian Story of the Flood (with W. G. Lambert), La Statue royale de Tell Fekherye et son inscription bilingue assyro-araméenne (with A. Abou Assaf and P. Bordreuil) and Eponyms of the Assyrian Empire. His books *Treasures from Bible Times* and *Discoveries from the Time of Jesus* present some of the results of archaeological and historical research relating to the Bible for the wider public.

Professor Dennis Pardee, University of Chicago
Ugaritic Ritual

Dennis Pardee holds his Ph. D. from the University of Chicago where he is currently Professor in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, the Oriental Institute, the College and Committee on Jewish Studies. He is a member of the Epigraphic team for the Mission

Archéologique de Ras Shamra-Ougarit, and a member of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique: Unité de Recherche Associé 1062 (Études Sémitiques), attachée au Collège de France (Paris) and of the Unité Mixte de Recherche 5649, Institut Fernand-Courby (La maison de l'Orient Méditerranéen, Lyon). He has published several books (two with Pierre Bordreuil) and numerous articles on ancient languages and inscriptions. After a brief up-date regarding excavations at Ras Shamra-Ugarit, Pardee will discuss the Ugaritic ritual texts and various areas of comparison with ritual as known from the Hebrew Bible. Included will be data on deities venerated, types and composition of offerings, times and places.

A10, Reports on Current Excavations and Surveys, Session II, non ASOR-Affiliated

Michael Fuller and Neathery Fuller, St. Louis Community College
The 1998 Season at Tell Tuneinir, Syria

The eleventh season of rescue excavation at the site of Tell Tuneinir was conducted by archaeologists from St. Louis Community College. Tuneinir, an important site along the banks of the Khabur River, will be impacted directly as water impounds behind the Khabur River reservoir in northeastern Syria.

Fieldwork during 1998 focused on the ruins of a monastic complex that includes a large church, mortuary chapel, baptistry, two wine presses, kitchen, refectory, and pottery kilns. Lamps, pottery, and coins provide evidence that the monastery church was constructed in the Abbasid Period and flourished until the city's destruction during the thirteenth century. Artifacts from a well, next to the monastery kilns, indicate activity in the monastery area during the late Roman/early Byzantine Period.

Radiocarbon dating and skeletal analysis of burials from within baptistry and haikal of the monastery church support the interpretation that the last monks were slaughtered by Mongols during the incursion of Tmaerlanel forces into the Gezira. Short Syriac inscriptions on clay sealings associate the monastery with the Syrian Orthodox. An elaborate marble panel from the exterior wall of the mortuary chapel and associated burials provide new insights into the aspects of sacred space within the monastery. Remote sensing discoveries were employed to map the unexcavated portions of the monastery.

Significant discoveries were made during 1998 in the step trench situated along the east slope of the tell. The Parthian Temple was removed to expose pottery and features associated with Persian, Neo-Assyrian, and Middle Assyrian cultures. Nuzi ware and Khabur ware sherds, associated with the Late Bronze Age cultures in the Khabur Valley, are admixed within the Iron Age loci.

A23, Reports on Current Excavations and Surveys, Session III, ASOR-Affiliated

Douglas R. Edwards
The 1998 Excavations at Khirbet Cana (Cana of the Galilee), Israel

This report discusses the first season of excavation at Khirbet Cana for the summer of 1998. The paper discusses three goals: 1) to determine the range of occupation; 2) to determine dates of several key buildings and other human habitation, and 3) to locate the site within its broader geographic and geologic history. Several key areas will be checked, notably a large building on the acropolis, probes of building remains on the lower southern half of the site that appear to date from the Byzantine period to the fifteenth century, and an area on the west slope that may date to the Roman period. A geological profile of the site will include a comparison of the changes in the Bet Netofa Valley through an analysis of well logs done in the Valley. Finally, the paper will discuss the use of GPS and GIS systems in gathering and storing the data.

ASOR Plenary

**UGARIT
and the
BIBLE**



Speakers Include:

Alan Millard

Aspects of Ugarit and the Bible

Dennis Pardee

Ugaritic Ritual

Milan Ballroom
Renaissance Orlando Hotel-Airport
Wednesday, November 18, 1998
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

**The ASOR Grand Reception
will follow at 9:00 pm**

MEETING CALENDAR 1998-99

December 27-30, 1998

100th Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C. Contact: AIA/ APA '98 Meeting, c/o International Conference Management, 4709 Montgomery Lane, 1st Floor, Bethesda, MD 20814, Phone: 301-913-9338, FAX: 301-913-5452. Information also available at www.archaeological.org/.

January 7-14, 1999

The Inspiration of Astronomical Phenomena ("INSAP II") will be held on the Mediterranean island of Malta. Contact: <http://ethel.as.arizona.edu/~white/insap.htm>

January 10-14, 1999

World Archaeological Congress 4, Cape Town, South Africa. Theme: Global Archaeology at the Turn of the Millennium. The Congress will be structured around three broad themes: time; archaeology in a global context, and the future. This will provide a rich vein of intellectual stimulation, offering a truly global perspective on a discipline that has stimulated and satisfied many for well over a century. Contact the Congress Secretariat, Carolyn Ackermann, PO Box 44503, Claremont 7735 South Africa. Tel. +27 (21) 762 8600, Fax: +27 (21) 762 8606. E-mail: wac4@globalconf.co.za, web: <http://www.uct.ac.za/depts/age/wac>

January 16, 1999

Cosmological and Contextual Approaches in Egyptian Art History. Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. Contact: Laurie Flentye or Melinda Hartwig, Institute of Fine Arts, NYU, 1 East 78th St., New York, NY 10021. Fax: 212-772-5800; e-mail: laf6506@is.nyu.edu.

February 14-16, 1999

Daily Life in the Ancient Near East. Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, Ohio. The Midwest Region of the American Oriental Society. Plenary speakers for the conference include: Daniel Snell (Sumer), Samuel Greengus (Mesopotamian and Biblical Law), David Weisberg (Babylonia), Harry Hoffner (Hatti), Anson Rainey (Syro-Egypt), Jim Hoffmeier (Egypt), Carol Meyers (Hebrew Bible), and Bruce Malina (New Testament). Others are also invited to propose papers that contribute to the topic. Contact the Program Coordinator: Richard E. Averbeck, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, 2065 Half Day Road, Deerfield, IL 60015. Tel: (847) 317-8017. Fax: (847) 317-8141. Home: (414) 697-1877. E-mail: RAverbeck@compuserve.com

February 26-27, 1999

Do Ut Des: Ritual and Economy in the Ancient World. University of Texas, Austin. Graduate student conference to explore intersections between ritual and economic activity in the ancient world. Contact: Graduate Conference on Ritual and Economy, Dept. of Classics, Waggener Hall 123, Austin, TX 78712-1181; e-mail: doutdes@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu; web: ccwf.cc.utexas.edu/~doutdes/.

March 6-7, 1999

SBL/AAR/ASOR Southwest Commission on Religious Studies Regional Meeting. Harvey Hotel—DFW Airport, Irving, TX. Contact: W. H. Bellinger, Jr., Dept. of Religion, Baylor University, PO Box 97284, Waco, TX 76798-7284; Tel.: 254-710-3742; e-mail: bill_bellinger@baylor.edu

March 12-14, 1999

SBL/AAR/ASOR Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion Regional Meeting. Omni Chapel Hill Hotel, Chapel Hill, NC. Contact: Herbert Burhenn, Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN 37403; Tel: 423-755-4336; Fax: 423-755-4279; e-mail: Herbert-Burhenn@utc.edu

March 20-21, 1999

SBL/ASOR Central States Regional Meeting. St. Louis, MO. Deadline for paper proposals: October 31, 1998. Contact: Donald A. Johns, 2107 E. Camorene, Springfield, MO 65803; Tel: 417-833-6555; e-mail: dajohns@compuserve.com

March 21-24, 1999

209th Meeting of the American Oriental Society. Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel, 300 South Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland. Con-

tact: Jonathan Rodgerd, Graduate Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI 48109-1205. Tel. 734-764-7555; Fax. 734-763-6743; e-mail: jrodgers@umich.edu; <http://www.umich.edu/~aos/>.

March 24-29, 1999

The Aegean and the Western Mediterranean: Relations and Interaction, 8th-5th centuries BC. Austrian Academy of Science, Vienna. Papers are invited. Topics: urban planning; polis and hinterland; sanctuaries and cults; Ionian art and influence in the west; architecture; sculpture; terra-cotta and ceramics; aspects of trade. Contact: Die Ägäis und das westliche Mittelmeer, Frau Dr. Verena Gassner, Institut für Klassische Archäologie, Franz Klein-Gasse 1, A-1190 Vienna, Austria. Fax: 43 1 3193684; e-mail: Verena.Gassner@univie.ac.at.

April 21-23, 1999

The First Jewish Revolt: Archaeology, History, and Ideology. Jointly sponsored by the Department of Classical and Near Eastern Studies, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis and the Department of Classics, Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota. Speakers include Erich Gruen, Martin Goodman, Eric Meyers, Tessa Rajak, Anthony Saldarini, Richard Horsley, Neil Silberman, and Hanan Eshel. Registration fee: \$50. Contact: Prof. J. Andrew Overman, Dept. of Classics, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN 55105, tel. (651) 696-6375, email: overman@macalester.edu OR Prof. Andrea M. Berlin, CNES, 330 Folwell Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455, tel. (612) 626-7371, email: aberlin@tc.umn.edu.

July 12-16, 1999

Fourth International Congress of Hittitology, Ruhr-Universität, Bochum, Germany. The focus of this Congress will be on philological, historical, cultural, religious, linguistic, and archaeological aspects of Ancient Anatolia. Contact: 4. Internationaler Kongress für Hethitologie, Professor Dr. E. Neu (Organisation), Sprachwissenschaftliches Institut, Ruhr-Universität, D-44780 Bochum.

August 23-27, 1999

Seventh International Conference of Demotic Studies, University of Copenhagen. The Conference will be organized by the Carsten Niebuhr Institute of Near Eastern Studies. Submit the title and an abstract not later than April 31, 1999. There is no theme for the conference as a whole, but given the nature of the contents of the collection of papyri in Copenhagen (the Carlsberg Papyri), it is hoped that due attention will be given to the study of literary texts. Contact: Paul John Frandsen and Kim Ryholt.

September 20-27, 1999

14th International Congress for Christian Archaeology. Vienna, Austria. Theme: Early Christianity between Rome and Constantinople. Contact: Kongresssekretariat, c/o Abteilung für Frühchristliche Archäologie am Institut für Klassische Archäologie, Universität Wien, Franz Klein-Gasse 1, A-1190 Vienna, Austria. Tel.: ++43/1/313 52 - 242, Fax: ++43/1/319 36 84. E-mail: fcha.klass-AustrArchaeologie@univie.ac.at.

November 7-11, 1999

Human Remains: Conservation Retrieval and Analysis. Williamsburg, VA. This conference is being organized by the Departments of Conservation and Archaeology at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Conservators, archaeologists, curators, bio-archaeologists and physical anthropologists are invited to submit abstracts on such specific topics as field techniques, ethics, display issues, legal issues, current research and scientific analysis, new techniques/technologies and specific case studies. Abstracts of up to 300 words should provide a clear summary of the proposed paper to allow an evaluation of its quality and significance. Evaluation of submissions will be done by the planning committee and an advisory board of specialists in respective disciplines. Papers presented at the conference will be published in an edited post-conference publication. Deadline for submission of abstracts: 12/30/98. Send abstracts to: Emily Williams, Department of Conservation -BHW, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, P.O. Box 1776, Williamsburg, VA. 23187-1776, fax: (757) 565-8752; tel. (757) 220 7079, email: ewilliams@ccwf.org.

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