

Colloque • Συνέδριο• Conference

CIRCULATIONS ANIMALES ET ZOOGÉOGRAPHIE EN MÉDITERRANÉE ANCIENNE
Faunes et bestiaires en contact - Xe – Ier s. a.C.

ΜΕΤΑΚΙΝΗΣΕΙΣ ΖΩΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΒΙΟΓΕΩΓΡΑΦΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΜΕΣΟΓΕΙΟΥ ΚΑΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΤΗΤΑ
Πανίδες, κείμενα και αναπαραστάσεις από τον 10ο έως τον 1ο αιώνα π.Χ.

ANIMAL CIRCULATION AND ZOOGEOGRAPHY IN THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN
Fauna and Bestiarries in Contact - 10th to 1st centuries B.C.

Résumés • Περιλήψεις • Abstracts

ATHÈNES
ΑΘΗΝΑ
ATHENS

14-16/10/20

wwwefa.gr



Inscription au webinaire / Εγγραφή στο webinar / Webinar registration link
<https://u.efa.gr/animated>



Conférence inaugurale / Εναρκτήρια ομιλία / Inaugural conference

Marco Masseti Università degli Studi di Firenze

Zoogeography of the Mediterranean and the Ancient Circulation of Animals

From a strictly zoogeographical point of view, the Mediterranean Sub-region is a threshold, a transitional zone where species and individuals are richer due to the confluence within its borders of faunal elements from other sub-regions, including the Boreal, the Iran-Turanian and the Saharo-Sindian, as well as the Mediterranean itself, characterised by exclusive elements (endemics). In particular, indigenous mammals populated many of the islands of the ancient *Mare nostrum* of the Romans until fairly recent Holocene times. To assess the range of the original distribution of the species, however, earlier chronologies prior to the Neolithisation (10th millennium BC) of the eastern Mediterranean and the western Near East should be considered, after which improved human sea-faring skills and the established commercial networks between countries allowed the exportation of game and commensal animals, together with those already involved in the process of domestication. In fact, since prehistory, the human settlers of the Mediterranean brought about a radical turnover between ancient and modern mammalian faunas, deeply altering the primary distributions of the different species, even introducing a variety of allochthonous taxa. The custom of moving animals from one's own homelands to new territories produced ecological alterations already in proto-historical times and continued without an apparent solution of continuity in the 2nd and the 1st millennium BC. This process culminated in the course of the Roman Empire, but doesn't seem to have suffered a significant setback either in the early Middle Ages. In an attempt to explain this phenomenon, various cultural models have been created, over time. Some of them have been later disavowed, but still struggle to be removed. One of the most deeply rooted, even if without any scientific justification, concerns the improbable role played by the Phoenicians and Carthaginians in the translocation of the most diverse zoological species across the Mediterranean. The time has finally come to contradict this fictitious statement and to prevent it from further spreading, once and for all.

Irit Zohar Tel Aviv University - Nimrod Marom University of Haifa

The Role of Fish in Southern Phoenicia: Can we Identify Cross-Mediterranean Interactions?

The Bronze Age population of southern Phoenicia evolved to become a major maritime power of the Iron Age Mediterranean Sea at the turn of the first millennium BCE, although maritime trade connections between the Levantine coast, Egypt, Cyprus and the Aegean are evident since the Late Bronze Age. Phoenician colonies and trading networks spread across the Mediterranean, reaching Carthage in North Africa, and Cádiz in Spain (Atlantic Ocean). The maritime culture of the Phoenicians also included utilization of aquatic resources by small and large scales fisheries.

We here explore the hypothesis that such an increase in maritime activity, trade and connectivity with the central and western Iron Age Mediterranean world will be reflected in the diversity of the aquatic fauna recovered in Phoenician settlement sites. To test this hypothesis we use metadata analysis on fish remains recovered in the Mediterranean (East and West) with respect to species richness, diversity, habitat (littoral vs. pelagic) and body size. In addition, we use geometric morphometrics and oxygen analysis on key species to identify evidence for fish trade.

Angelos Gkotsinas Université de Montréal - **Marion Sirit-Olivier** Université Paul Valéry - **Armelle Gardeisen** ASM CNRS

Zoogéographie égéenne, entre îles et continents au cours du I^{er} millénaire avant notre ère

La mer Égée se situe entre la péninsule grecque à l'ouest et l'Asie mineure à l'est, l'île de Crète au sud. Cette mer est parsemée de nombreuses îles regroupées en archipels: Cyclades, Sporades, Sporades nord, nord-est égéen, îles Saroniques, Eubée et Crète. La plupart de ces îles se sont formées à partir des extensions des chaînes de montagne continentales. Les continents qui circonscrivent l'Egée, actuellement sur les territoires de Grèce et de Turquie, sont caractérisés par une très longue ligne de côte faite d'innombrables baies et golfes successifs. La morphologie actuelle de la mer Égée s'est mise en place à la fin de l'Holocène, entre 3000 et 1000 avant le présent (Asku et al. 1995). Ainsi, le niveau de la mer et le climat ont eu une influence sur la faune égéenne. Dans cette communication, nous allons tenter de recenser les espèces terrestres qui ont été documentées sur les îles comme sur le continent au cours du Ier millénaire avant notre ère: pour cela, nous nous sommes référés aux données archéozoologiques de la littérature scientifique archéologique et nous tenterons de comparer continents et milieu insulaires.

The Aegean Sea is located between the Greek peninsula on the west and Asia Minor on the east. The island of Crete can be taken as marking its boundary on the south. The sea has numerous islands divided into the following groups: the Cyclades, the Dodecanese, the Northern Sporades, the Northeast Aegean, and the Saronic islands, as well as Euboea and Crete with its surrounding islets. Many of the Aegean islands or island chains are geographically extensions of the mountains on the mainland. The mainland surrounds the Aegean Sea, shared nowadays between Greece and Turkey, and is characterized by an extended coastline with countless bays and gulfs.

The present-day morphology of the Aegean Sea was established during the late Holocene epoch, between 3000 and 1000 years BP (Asku et al. 1995). Thus, the sea level and the climate, among other factors, significantly affected the diversity of the fauna in the Aegean. In this presentation, we will explore the terrestrial animal species that existed on the Aegean islands and the mainland during the first millennium, through the remains of animal bones found in archaeological sites. We will also compare the fauna of the islands and the mainland.

Katerina Papayannis National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Microfauna from Historical Sites in the Aegean: an Assessment of the Excavated Evidence and Issues of Small Mammal Synanthropy and Commensalism

Zooarchaeological studies of both prehistoric and historical sites around the Aegean have focused on large mammals, domestic or wild, as well as fish and mollusks, and how economy, trade, exchanges and sourcing evolved around them. However, a whole range of vertebrates called microfauna, has generally been neglected. Rodents, insectivores, bats, amphibians and reptiles comprise the microfaunal spectrum and they are very useful indicators of different natural habitats as well as of human commensalism and dispersal of small animals by humans. During the Neolithic times, the commensal house mouse was dispersed from the Middle East, where it naturally lives, to Europe along human commercial or migration routes. The house mouse is the most ubiquitous mammal on earth and it is found on all continents. It is of interest to investigate whether another native Asian species and typical modern pest, the black or ship rat *Rattus rattus*, or any other current synanthropic or commensal micromammal, followed a similar path or not. In this presentation all existing evidence for the presence or absence of micromammals from historical sites will be summarized and discussed through the lenses of synanthropy. Conclusions regarding natural habitats will be drawn and the reasons for any lack of microfaunal evidence will be analysed.

Η μικροπανίδα από θέσεις ιστορικών χρόνων στο Αιγαίο: σύνοψη των ανασκαφικών δεδομένων και ζητήματα συνανθρωπισμού και παρασιτισμού μικρών θηλαστικών.

Οι ζωοαρχαιολογικές μελέτες από θέσεις προϊστορικών και ιστορικών χρόνων στον ευρύτερο αιγαιακό χώρο επικεντρώνονται συνήθως στα μεγάλα θηλαστικά, ήμερα ή άγρια, καθώς επίσης και στα ψάρια και τα μαλάκια, καθώς και σε θέματα οικονομίας, εμπορίου, ανταλλαγών και προμηθειών. Εντούτοις, μία ευρεία γκάμα σπονδυλωτών, η μικροπανίδα, δεν περιλαμβάνεται στις εν λόγω μελέτες. Η εν λόγω γκάμα περιλαμβάνει τρωκτικά, εντομοφάγα, νυχτερίδες, αμφίβια κι ερπετά, τα οποία χρησιμεύουν τόσο ως δείκτες διαφορετικών ενδιαιτημάτων όσο και ως δείκτες ανθρώπινων μετακινήσεων και παρασιτισμού. Χαρακτηριστικό παράδειγμα ο οικιακός ποντικός, ο οποίος διαδόθηκε από την φυσική κοιτίδα του, τη Μέση Ανατολή προς την Ευρώπη κατά τη Νεολιθική περίοδο, με τις ανθρώπινες μετακινήσεις κι εμπορικές συναλλαγές. Ο οικιακός ποντικός εντοπίζεται σήμερα σε όλες τις ηπείρους. Θα ήταν ενδιαφέρον να δούμε εάν ένα άλλο γηγενές ασιατικό είδος και τυπικό σύγχρονο παράσιτο, ο μαυροποντικός *Rattus rattus*, ή εάν κάποιο άλλο σύγχρονο συνανθρωπικό ή παρασιτικό είδος, ακολούθησε παρόμοια διαδρομή με τον οικιακό ποντικό ή όχι. Με αυτό το σκεπτικό, η ανακοίνωση αυτή συνοψίζει όλα τα δημοσιευμένα δεδομένα για την παρουσία ή απουσία μικροθηλαστικών από θέσεις ιστορικών χρόνων, τα οποία θα σχολιαστούν υπό το πρίσμα του συνανθρωπισμού. Θα αναζητηθούν συμπεράσματα σχετικά με τα φυσικά ενδιαιτήματα που αντιστοιχούν στη μικροπανίδα καθώς και οι λόγοι τυχόν απουσίας μικροπανίδας από θέσεις ιστορικών χρόνων.

Christophe Chandezon CRSES, Université Paul Valéry

Une mutation des cheptels bovins : la diffusion du bœuf à bosse à l'époque hellénistique

Une documentation essentiellement iconographique atteste qu'à partir du IV^e s. a.C., et dans des zones précises du monde grec, notamment d'Asie Mineure, le bœuf à bosse, autrement dit le zébu (*Bos taurus indicus*), connaît une diffusion qui l'amène parfois à supplanter le bœuf domestique sans bosse. Cette sous-espèce est arrivée d'Inde en passant par le Levant. Les causes de son expansion restent obscures, mais on peut étudier assez précisément la chronologie et l'ampleur géographique du phénomène. C'est un exemple de ces lentes mutations des faunes domestiques dans la Méditerranée grecque. Il illustre une circulation animale sous contrôle anthropique. La présence du bœuf à bosse est toujours manifeste à l'époque impériale, mais il disparaît pendant l'Antiquité tardive, comme on le notera en conclusion.

Ancient evidence, mainly iconographic, shows that from the IVth century BC onwards, and in specific areas of the Greek world, the humped ox — the zebu (*Bos taurus indicus*) — spreads in some parts of Asia Minor which leads him to supplant the usual domestic ox. This subspecies arrived from India via the near-eastern Mediterranean. The explanations of its expansion remain obscure, but the chronology and geographic extent of the phenomenon can be studied fairly precisely. This is an example of these slow mutations of domestic fauna in the Greek Mediterranean. It illustrates animal circulation under human control. The presence of the humped ox is still evident in Imperial times, but it disappears during late Antiquity, as will be noted in the conclusion.

Jérémy Clément Université Paris Ouest Nanterre

Les mobilités chamelières dans les sources grecques

Les camélidés (dromadaires et chameaux de Bactriane) ont joué un rôle majeur dans les circulations des hommes, des armées, des marchandises et des informations dans les empires de l'Orient ancien. Les Grecs découvrent ces animaux lors des guerres médiques et les associent, dès lors, aux entreprises militaires des Grands Rois. Avec la conquête de l'empire achéménide, Alexandre et ses successeurs se les approprient et cherchent à en tirer avantage. Il s'agira donc de voir le rôle que les sources grecques attribuent à ces animaux dans les mobilités militaires et civiles de l'Orient hellénistique.

Camelids (dromedaries and Bactrian camels) played a major role in the circulation of men, armies, goods and information in the empires of the Ancient East. Greek people discovered these animals during the Greco-Persian Wars and, therefore, associated them with the military enterprises of the Great Kings. After the conquest of the Achaemenid Empire, Alexander and his successors appropriated Camelids and sought to take advantage of them. We will try to see the role that Greek testimonies attribute to these animals in the military and civil mobilities of the Hellenistic East.

Cristiana Franco *Università degli studi di Siena*

An Indian Among Us. The Marvelous Psittacus in Ancient Greece and Rome

It seems that the Indian parakeet (in its common variants *Psittacula krameri*, *Psittacula eupatria*, and *Psittacula cyanocephala*) was the only type of parrot imported by the ancient Greeks and Romans. It kept its exotic allure of the far Orient down to the imperial times [Ov. Am. II 6 *Psittacus, Eois ... ab Indis*, Plin. NH X 117 *India hanc avem mittit, siptacen vocat*], when it contended for the title and honor of the “talking bird” par excellence with indigenous species such as the magpie (*pica*), various corvids (*corvus, cornix*) and the starlings (*sturnus*) [Plin. *ibid.*, *super omnia voces humanas reddunt, psittaci quidem etiam sermocinantes*]. First mentioned by Ctesias and Eubulus, and depicted in a II century BC mosaic, its diffusion as a pet animal in the Greco-Roman Mediterranean does not seem to have occurred before the reign of Augustus.

L'unico tipo di pappagallo conosciuto dagli antichi Greci e Romani sembra essere stato il parrocchetto indiano (nelle sue varianti *Psittacula krameri*, *Psittacula eupatria*, and *Psittacula cyanocephala*). L'uccello mantenne la sua allure esotica di animale dell'estremo Oriente fino all'età imperiale [Ov. Am. II 6 *Psittacus, Eois ... ab Indis*, Plin. NH X 117 *India hanc avem mittit, siptacen vocat*], quando contese il titolo di “uccello parlante” per eccellenza a specie indigene quali la ghiandaia (*pica*), lo storno (*sturnus*), il corvo e la cornacchia (*corvus, cornix*) [Plin. *ibid.*, *super omnia voces humanas reddunt, psittaci quidem etiam sermocinantes*]. Menzionato per la prima volta nella prima metà del IV secolo a.C. da Ctesia e da Eubulo e raffigurato poi in un mosaico del II secolo a.C. a Pergamo, la sua diffusione come animale da compagnia nel Mediterraneo greco-romano non sembra essere avvenuta prima del regno di Augusto.

Arnaud Zucker CEPAM, Université de Nice

Domestication intellectuelle, domestication pratique. Enquête sur la notion de familiarité et d'assimilation des animaux non indigènes en Grèce

Il s'agira d'analyser dans la littérature les voies d'assimilation des animaux exprimées ou réalisées par les textes, pour les animaux situés dans un contexte naturel distant de l'espace culturel grec. En nous appuyant sur un large corpus de textes grecs (d'Aristote à Elien) nous étudierons à la fois les formes d'acclimatation intellectuelle des animaux considérés comme "exotiques", par le biais des descriptions et des commentaires motivant leurs différences et leur identification, et le cadre des expériences d'acclimatation documentées par les sources anciennes. L'objectif n'est pas de dresser l'inventaire des transferts d'animaux des espaces lointains vers le monde grec (une notion géographique problématique et évolutive), mais d'étudier comme une opération globale et dans ses diverses formes la double assimilation intellectuelle et physique des "animaux exotiques", en particulier pour déterminer si ces derniers constituent véritablement une catégorie consistante dans la représentation.

Intellectual and practical domestication: familiarity to and assimilation of non-native animals in Ancient Greece.

The aim of this paper is to analyze the ways of cultural assimilation of animals as expressed or achieved in Greek literature, for animals regarded as belonging to a natural context distant from the Greek environment. Drawing on a large corpus of Greek texts (from Aristotle to Elian) we will consider both the forms of intellectual acclimatization of animals somehow considered "exotic", through descriptions and comments motivating their differences and identification, and the framework of acclimatization experiences documented by ancient sources. Our purpose is not to draw up an inventory of animals transferred from faraway places to the 'Greek world' (a problematic and changing spatial concept), but to study as a global operation and in its various forms the dual intellectual and physical assimilation of exotic animals, especially to determine whether and how far 'exotic animals' truly constitute a relevant category in Greek representation.

François Lissarrague *EHESS Paris*

Quand le félin fait l'autre : lions et panthères dans l'imagerie archaïque

On se propose d'examiner, à partir des représentations figurées, la place et l'importance des félins, en particulier de la panthère, dans la culture grecque archaïque. Les peintres ont fréquemment représenté lions et panthères (comme nous les appelons), aussi bien de manière dynamique, lorsqu'ils se comportent en prédateurs, que statique, lorsque ce sont des motifs isolés, fontaines ou épisèmes. De cet examen, il ressort que la plasticité formelle de ces représentations de félins l'emporte sur l'exactitude zoologique qui nous occupe dans ce colloque.

In this paper, I would like to discuss, from the pictorial evidence, the role and the importance of felines and in particular of the panther, in archaic Greek culture. Vase painters have often depicted lions and panthers (as we call them) both as dynamic motives, when they behave as predators, and as static motives, in fountains or shield devices. From this analysis, it seems that the formal plasticity of these depictions of felines is more effective than the zoological accuracy which is central in this conference.

Thorsten Fögen Durham University
Lions in the Greek and Roman World

In the ancient Graeco-Roman world lions were known from North Africa and the Middle East. To what extent lions were actually present in ancient Greece has been hotly debated by modern scholars. They occur in ancient literature from Homer onwards and are also represented in visual art. Aristotle (in the *Historia animalium*) and Pliny the Elder (in the *Naturalis historia*) offer valuable zoological descriptions of the different types of lions as well as their morphology and character, although it must be said that their accounts are not always fully reliable from a modern perspective.

While a great deal of scholarly publications examine the role and function of lions in ancient art, this paper concentrates on their occurrence in Greek and Latin literature. After a brief review of the Greek evidence (in particular Herodotus, Aristotle and Pausanias), a closer look at various Roman authors will be taken. In addition to Pliny the Elder (*Nat. hist.* 8.41–58), there will be sections on Aelian, Martial, Statius (*Silv.* 2.5) and the fable. Through close reading, it will be examined in what contexts lions are portrayed and for what purpose. Aspects of literary genre and readership will also be taken into account.

Apart from the cultural and symbolic value of lions for the Roman world, information will be extrapolated on the different types of interactions between lions and humans, on the keeping of lions, and on zoogeographical aspects. The use of these animals in the circus and for games will also be investigated.

Löwen in der griechisch-römischen Antike

In der griechisch-römischen Antike waren Löwen vor allem aus dem Raum Nordafrika und dem Mittleren Osten bekannt. Inwieweit diese Tiere tatsächlich im griechischen Raum verbreitet waren, wurde von der Forschung kontrovers diskutiert. In literarischen Quellen finden sie sich seit Homer und sind zudem in der Bildkunst repräsentiert. Aristoteles (in seiner *Historia animalium*) und Plinius der Ältere (in seiner *Naturalis historia*) bieten zoologische Beschreibungen der verschiedenen Arten von Löwen und gehen auf ihre Morphologie und ihren Charakter ein; allerdings ist das Bild, das diese beiden Autoren liefern, aus moderner Sicht nicht durchweg zuverlässig.

Während ein nicht unbeträchtlicher Teil der Forschung die Rolle und Funktion von Löwen in der antiken Kunst untersucht hat, konzentriert sich dieser Beitrag auf ihre Bedeutung innerhalb der griechischen und römischen Literatur. Im Anschluß an einen kurzen Überblick über die griechischen Zeugnisse (vor allem Herodot, Aristoteles und Pausanias) soll auf verschiedene römische Autoren ausführlicher eingegangen werden. Zusätzlich zu Plinius dem Älteren (*Nat. hist.* 8.41–58) sollen relevante Passagen bei Aelian, Martial, Statius (*Silv.* 2.5) und der römischen Fabel in den Blick genommen werden. Dabei ist zu prüfen, in welchen Kontexten und zu welchem Zweck Löwen jeweils portraitiert werden. Aspekte wie literarische Gattung und Lesergruppe sind dabei besonders zu berücksichtigen.

Neben dem kulturellen und symbolischen Stellenwert von Löwen für die römische Welt soll das Augenmerk auf die verschiedenen Formen der Interaktion zwischen Löwen

und Menschen, auf die Haltung dieser Tiere sowie auf zoogeographische Überlegungen gerichtet werden. Auch der Verwendung von Löwen in der Arena und für Spiele ist näher zu betrachten.

Select bibliography:

- Andreae, Bernard (1985): *Symbolik der Löwenjagd*, Opladen.
- Jennison, George (1937): *Animals for Show and Pleasure in Ancient Rome*, Manchester.
- Jensen, Bent (2016): *Löwen in der Antike. Archäologische Zeugnisse zur Existenz des Löwen im antiken Griechenland*, Hamburg.
- Keller, Otto (1909): *Die antike Tierwelt* (vol. 1), Leipzig.
- Kluge, Theodor (1906): *Die Darstellungen der Löwenjagd im Altertum*, Berlin.
- Martini, Wolfram (2014): Die Magie des Löwen in der Antike. In: Peter Janich (ed.), *Der Mensch und seine Tiere. Mensch-Tier-Verhältnisse im Spiegel der Wissenschaften*, Stuttgart, 65–92.
- Rakatsanis, Dinos (1980): Antike Quellenzeugnisse zur Existenz des Löwen in Hellas. In: Fritz Krinzinger, Brinna Otto & Elisabeth Walde-Psenner (eds.), *Forschungen und Funde. Festschrift für Bernhard Neutsch*, Innsbruck, 367–370.
- Steier, August (1926): s.v. “Löwe”. In: *Paulys Realencyklopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft* 13, 968–990.
- Toynbee, Jocelyn M. C. (1973): *Animals in Roman Life and Art*, London.
- Usener, Knut (1994): Zur Existenz des Löwen im Griechenland in der Antike. Eine Überprüfung auf dem Hintergrund biologischer Erkenntnisse. In: *Symbolae Osloenses* 69, 5–33.

Tatiana Theodoropoulou CEPAM, Université de Nice

Fishing Locally, Eating Imported: Short and Long Distance Circulation of Fresh and Processed Fish in Classical Aegean

Fresh fish, usually caught in inshore waters, have always supplied Aegean populations with an alternative protein source, although faunal assemblages from various periods suggest that they have never formed a staple in the Aegean diet. From the Classical period onwards the number of literary references to short-, i.e. intra-Aegean, or long-distance, i.e. trans-Mediterranean, trade of fish and fish products increases. In this presentation, I will briefly review archaeological and zooarchaeological data from the Aegean that could support relevant mentions from literary sources, as well as methodological limits inherent in each record. I will also discuss the nature and degree of a “trans-Mediterranean fashion” of consumption of fish products transported over long distances, and their co-existence with local traditions.

Ψαριές από κοντινά νερά, θαλασσινά πιάτα από μακρινές θάλασσες: διερευνώντας το κοντινό και μακρινό εμπόριο φρέσκων και παστών ψαριών στο κλασσικό Αιγαίο

Τα φρέσκα παράκτια αλιεύματα πρόσφεραν πάντοτε στους Αιγαιακούς πληθυσμούς μια εναλλακτική πηγή πρωτεΐνης, παρότι τα αρχαιοζωολογικά σύνολα από διάφορες περιόδους υποδηλώνουν μια περιφερειακή συμβολή τους στην αιγαιακή διατροφή. Από την κλασική περίοδο και εξής πληθαίνουν οι γραπτές αναφορές σχετικές με το κοντινό (ενδο-αιγαιακό) ή μακρινό (διαμεσογειακό) εμπόριο φρέσκων ψαριών και παστών αλιευμάτων. Σε αυτή την παρουσίαση, θα αναφερθώ συνοπτικά στα αρχαιολογικά και αρχαιοζωολογικά δεδομένα που δύνανται να υποστηρίζουν τις σχετικές αναφορές των γραπτών πηγών, καθώς και στους μεθοδολογικούς περιορισμούς καθενός από αυτά. Θα συζητήσω την φύση και τον βαθμό μιας πιθανής «μεσογειακής μόδας» κατανάλωσης αλιευμάτων από μακρινές περιοχές, καθώς και το πώς συνυπήρξαν με στις τοπικές παραδόσεις.

Liora Horwitz Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Exploitation of Elephant and Hippopotamus Ivory in the Levantine Iron Age: a Discussion of Possible Source Areas and Trade Networks

In the Eastern Mediterranean, the Late Bronze and Iron Ages (ca. 1300-700 BCE) were peak periods in the use of ivory (especially elephant but also hippopotamus ivory), as an elite raw material. Its dispersal in the Near East was tied to extensive trade and inter-cultural connections that appear to have extended beyond the region. However, it is unclear whether the ivories (all/some/none) were locally manufactured (either from local ivory or imported raw material), or alternately imported as finished objects. Moreover, there is an ongoing debate as to the provenance of the ivory (as a raw material or as finished objects), with three possible source areas having been suggested – Egypt, Syria or Southeast Asia. The option of a Syrian source of fresh ivory is tied to the issue of whether or not local relict populations of Asian elephants and hippopotami still inhabited the Orantes Valley at this time, while hippopotami may have inhabited the Levantine coastal rivers.

This presentation will assess the current state of knowledge for the Levant (based on the extensive published literature on the topic) and with recourse to ecological and archaeological data from the region, further explore the feasibility of the existence of local, live populations of elephants and hippo's at this time.

Exploitation de l'ivoire d'éléphant et d'hippopotame au Levant à l'âge du bronze et du fer : une discussion sur les zones d'origine et les réseaux commerciaux possibles

En Méditerranée orientale, la fin de l'âge du Bronze et du Fer (vers 1300-700 avant J.-C.) a été l'âge d'or de l'utilisation de l'ivoire (surtout l'ivoire d'éléphant mais aussi d'hippopotame), comme matière première de choix. Sa dispersion au Proche-Orient était liée à un commerce important et à des liens interculturels qui semblent s'être étendus au-delà de la région. Cependant, nous ne savons pas si les ivoires (tous, certains, aucun) ont été fabriqués localement (soit à partir d'ivoire local ou de matière première importée), ou s'ils ont été alternativement importés comme objets finis. En outre, un débat est en cours quant à la provenance de l'ivoire (en tant que matière première ou en tant qu'objet fini), trois zones d'origine possibles ayant été suggérées: l'Égypte, la Syrie ou l'Asie du Sud-Est. L'option d'une source syrienne d'ivoire frais est liée à la question de savoir si des populations locales reliques d'éléphants et d'hippopotames d'Asie habitaient encore la vallée d'Orantes à cette époque, tandis que les hippopotames ont peut-être habité les rivières côtières du Levant.

Cette présentation fera le point sur l'état actuel des connaissances concernant le Levant (sur la base de la vaste littérature publiée sur le sujet) et, en s'appuyant sur les données écologiques et archéologiques de la région, examinera plus avant la faisabilité de l'existence de populations locales vivantes d'éléphants et d'hippopotames à l'heure actuelle.

Gerhard Forstenpointner - Gerald E. Weissengruber Vetmeduni Vienna

Seafood for Mountaineers, Specific Patterns of Food Transport in Late Archaic Sicily

The Monte Iato, an 852m high table mountain on the north-western flank of the right Belice river (fiume Belice destro) and 30km appr. south of Palermo, comprises on its high plateau an indigenous settlement that after beginnings during the early 1st millennium BC achieved a first florescence that lasted until late-archaic times. Finds from a late-archaic house, the inhabitants of which are suspected to have played a major role in the maintaining of a close-by sanctuary, express a strong affinity to Greek culture and life-style. What is more, the quality of finds points to an elite ranking of the displayed group of consumers.

Undisturbed sediment layers out of a drainage channel that ran alongside the declining front of the house underwent a thorough recovery of finds by means of wet-sieving procedure. While the primary function of the channel most likely concerned the draining of rainwater from the adjacent slope, in its beginning it had an artificially enlarged deepening, receivable for a reasonable amount of water. Along with small quantities of ceramics and mammal bones the sandy fraction of the sediment contained significant amounts of faunal remains that represent aquatic, in particular marine species. Shells of oysters are exclusively proven by small splinters of the conch's margin, sea urchins (*Paracentrotus lividus*) by spines and fish mainly by high numbers of scales show ctenoid morphology that is a common feature of perciform taxa like sea bass or grouper (*Serranidae*). Low quantities of fish remains comprise also skeletal elements of very small individuals that mainly represent clupeiform taxa like anchovies. An interpretation of the finds from the channel as to witness the preparation of seafood for further processing or for serving appears most likely. Remains of small fish potentially also prove the consumption of fish sauce or similar products. It should be assumed that the proven marine animals have been transported still alive (oysters, sea urchins) or at least in very fresh condition (fish) from the coast to the settlement on the Monte Iato. Doubtlessly, an express transport over the distance of 35-40km, including 800 metres in altitude, required remarkably high logistic efforts as well as defaults, like limitation on the cooler seasons of the year. At present, for antiquity the transport of seafood like oysters, in that case to be rated as luxury goods, from the sea to inland consumers is only proven in Roman times. Apparently, for members of an elite consumer group, settling in a remote Sicilian mountain townlet, this kind of luxury was available and also affordable as early as in late-archaic times.

Meeresfrüchte für die Höhensiedlung – außergewöhnliche Spuren des Lebensmitteltransports im spätarchaischen Sizilien

An der nordwestlichen Talseite des Fiume Belice destro, etwa 30 km südlich von Palermo, erhebt sich der 852 m hohe Monte Iato. Auf seinem ausgedehnten Hochplateau ist seit dem frühen 1. Jahrtausend v. Chr. eine indigene Siedlung nachweisbar, die spätestens im 6. Jh. v. Chr. urbane Züge aufwies und eine erste Blütezeit bis in spätarchaische Zeit erlebte. Funde aus einem spätarchaischen Haus, dessen Bewohner in funktionellem Zusammenhang mit einem nahegelegenen Heiligtum gesehen werden, legen eine starke Affinität zu griechischer Kultur und Lebensart nahe und lassen überdies auf gehobene wirtschaftliche und soziale Stellungschließen.

Ungestörte Sedimentschichten aus einem Drainagekanal entlang der Hausfront, der wohl primär zur Ableitung des Hangwassers dienen sollte, in seinem Anfangsabschnitt aber eine beckenartige Eintiefung aufweist, wurden mittels Nasssiebeverfahren einer Fundextraktion unterzogen. Neben geringen Mengen von Keramik und Säugetierknochen konnten in der mineralischen Fraktion des Sedimentes signifikante Mengen an Resten aquatischer, vor allem mariner Tierarten nachgewiesen werden. Austernschalen sind ausschließlich durch kleinformatige Absplisse der Schalenränder repräsentiert, Seeigel (*Paracentrotus lividus*) durch Stacheln. Fischschuppen finden sich in größerer Menge und liegen ausschließlich in ctenoider Form vor, die in erster Linie mit perciformen Arten, wie z. B. den Sägebarschen (*Serranidae*) in Zusammenhang gebracht wird. Fischreste liegen in geringer Menge auch noch in Form von Wirbeln und anderen Skelettelementen sehr kleiner Individuen vor, die meist von clupeiformen Arten, wie der Sardelle, stammen. Die Vermutung liegt nahe, dass die Funde aus dem Kanal die Vorbereitung von Meeresfrüchten für die weitere Zubereitung bzw. den Verzehr belegen. Die Reste kleiner Fische liefern möglicherweise auch Hinweise auf die Verwendung von Fischsauce. Es muss davon ausgegangen werden, dass die Tiere noch lebend (Austern, Seeigel) oder in sehr frischem Zustand (Fische) in die Siedlung auf dem Monte Iato transportiert wurden und dementsprechende logistische Aufwendungen für den Eiltransport über ca. 40 km und 800 Höhenmeter, aber auch Vorgaben, wie die Beschränkung auf kühlere Jahreszeiten, notwendig waren. Der Transport von Meeresfrüchten, vor allem Austern, die als Luxusgüter einzuschätzen sind, an binnengärtische Bestimmungsorte ist bislang vor allem aus römischer Zeit durch entsprechende Funde belegt, scheint aber auch für elitäre Konsumenten im archaischen Sizilien einen ebenso leistbaren wie verfügbaren Luxus geboten zu haben.