

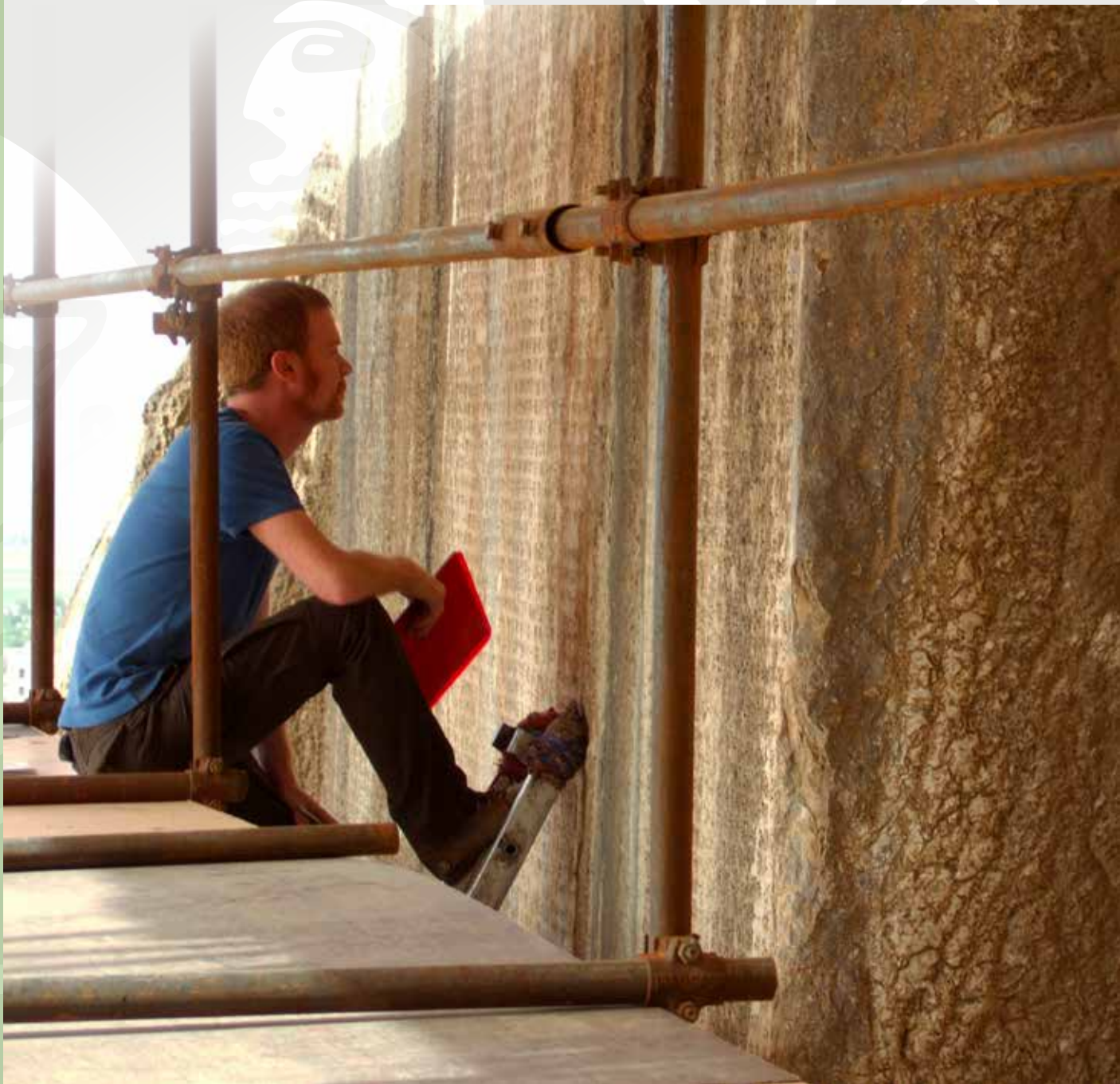


# ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014



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LEIDEN

THE NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE IN TURKEY  
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### **Front cover:**

Wouter Henkelman in Bisotun, Iran  
(photo Bruno Jacobs, Berlin).  
Veenhof Lecture 2014: see p. 41.

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# Annual Report NINO and NIT 2013-2014

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Fig. 1. The Shemshara Hills from northwest. In center of photo the high summit of Main Hill behind North Hill, and to the left the large Camp Hill (photo J. Eidem).

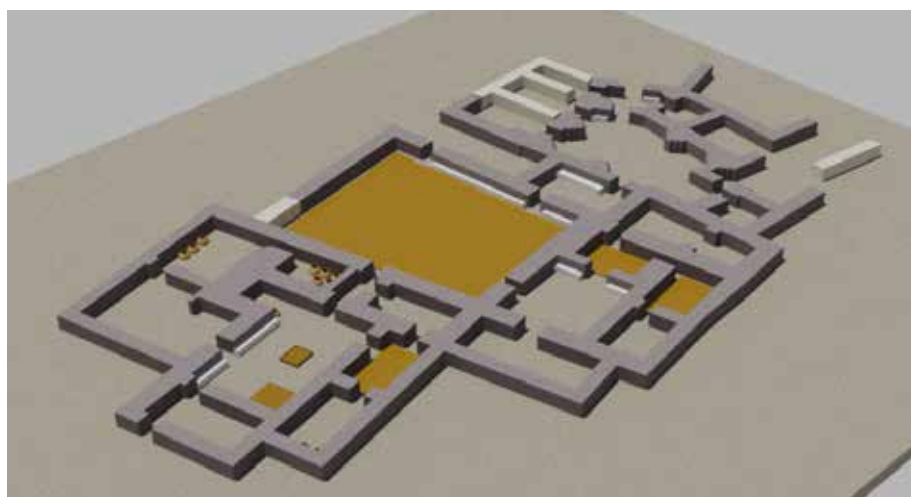


Fig. 2. 3D reconstruction of the Level V palace at Tell Shemshara (view from southeast). The surviving portions re-investigated by NINO 2012-14 (much of the central courtyard, and smaller sections of each wing) provide location and base for approximate, but not to-scale accurate, reconstruction of wholly eroded or yet unexplored rooms and spaces visible in the Iraqi photo record (plan by M. Uildriks).



# The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain 2013-2014

*Jesper Eidem*

## Introduction

After the first exploratory season on the Rania Plain in 2012 (see *Annual Report NINO & NIT 2012*, 2-11) the work was accelerated in 2013-14, with three field seasons and a smaller visit in October 2014. In early 2015 the new NINO website (see [www.nino-leiden.nl](http://www.nino-leiden.nl)) was launched, which includes sections with summary information and picture galleries of our work, some of which will also be briefly summarised in this article.

While Syria for a fifth year is ravaged by a vicious civil war and with much of Northern Iraq in the grips of the perverse barbarity of ISIS, legal archaeological exploration in Greater Mesopotamia has come to an almost complete halt. One notable exception is the still vibrant activity conducted in the safe Kurdish Region of Iraq, by numerous Iraqi and foreign teams, and in close cooperation with the local directorates of Antiquities. NINO is grateful for the continued support of its work by the relevant authorities in Erbil and Sulaymanya, and to the many individuals, Iraqi and European, who contributed to the results reported here. The fieldwork is since 2012 sponsored principally by NWO and NINO.

## The Hills of Shemshara

The ancient settlements at Shemshara are spread over several natural hills. Main Hill is where the Danes excavated in 1957, followed by Iraqi colleagues 1958-59. Just west of this is the large “Camp Hill” (so-called because the Danish expedition pitched its tents here), and just north

of Main Hill is an elongated hill, which we have dubbed North Hill. These three hills form a roughly triangular system, located in the angle where the small Wadi Boskin joins the Lower Zab. They all had some occupation in the Neolithic Hassuna period, and in the Bronze Age (late 3<sup>rd</sup>-early 2<sup>nd</sup> mill. BC). A further hill, west of Wadi Boskin, Bardastee, seems basically unrelated. In spring 2013 we conducted test excavations here, and found that Bardastee was only occupied in the very early third Millennium BC, and a fairly rare settlement of the so-called Ninevite 5 period. During the same season we discovered a very eroded site of the first millennium BC on a hill northwest of Bardastee. Otherwise, however, the Shemshara hills seem fairly isolated, and whatever smaller, rural settlements may have existed nearby, are not today easily identified on the ground.

## The Palace of Kuwari Resurrected

For those studying the history of Northern Mesopotamia in the early second millennium BC the “Palace of Kuwari” at Shemshara has almost mythical status. It was presumably within the walls of this building that Kuwari, the governor of ancient Shusharra, briefly resided as a key figure in both local, regional, and international power plays, exchanging envoys and letters with kings and officials in the Turukkean realm in the Zagros and the mighty Shamshi-Adad in the west. His own archives, or parts of them in any case, were excavated in the building by Danish and Iraqi archaeologists 1957-58. The Danes published a plan of the small section of the palace they explored,

## *The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain 2013-2014*



Fig. 3. Excavation of the central court of the palace, spring 2014 (photo I. Kisjes).



Fig. 4. Entrance to the Level V "temple", re-excavated spring 2014 (photo J. Eidem).



Fig. 5. Terracotta stand from Shemshara (IM.62080; after J.B. Pritchard (ed.), *The Ancient Near East. Supplementary Texts and Pictures*, Princeton 1969, No. 842)

## *The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain 2013-2014*

while the Iraqis only reported to have “uncovered a massive edifice with numerous annexes”, and so for decades available archaeological information on the building remained tantalisingly scant. Results of the recent NINO project on the Rania Plain and the appearance of photos and information from the Iraqi excavations now converge to provide at least a sketch overview of the building, as presented here in Fig. 2.

The western wing of the complex remains fairly unclear and awaits further investigation in coming seasons, but we can now see that the central courtyard, paved with baked bricks (Fig. 3), was flanked by “annexes” north, east, and south. The northern sector features a main entrance and leads to a small court adorned by recessed half-columns. This sector was interpreted as a ‘temple’ by the Iraqi excavators, who mention a ‘cella’ on the west side of the court, but its exact location is unclear. The decorated half-columns would be typical of temple architecture, but in other respects the arrangement is unusual. In 2014 we re-excavated a small part of the entrance room to the ‘temple’ (Fig. 4), and further investigation may help understand this sector better.

East of the central court is the wing which was partly excavated by the old Danish expedition, which here found the famous archive in Room 2 (the small room with paved floor adjacent to the central court). All of this wing is now eroded below floor level, and only shallow limestone foundations remain. Given the location of “Kuwari’s archive” here, and the layout of the suite it seems likely that it was the ‘apartment’ of Kuwari, the lord of the palace.

The large sector south of the central court features several rooms with large storage jars in situ, but also a central court (so according to the Iraqi excavators), with a central podium of baked bricks and a corner platform. On the central podium the Iraqi archaeologists found several, quite impressive stands of terracotta, probably incense burners, shaped like towers carried by animals (see Fig. 5). It seems likely that this space was used for official receptions and meetings. In 2013 we re-excavated the small storage room with many in situ jars just south of the central court, but much of the southern suite is today unfortunately entirely eroded and gone forever.

The reconstruction of the building made possible so far leaves many open questions, and given the heavy erosion which has destroyed much of the complex we can only hope for some partial answers to some of them as we finish this part of the project in coming years. The palace of Kuwari clearly featured elements known from other contemporary sites, but also elements of local flavour. Planning and execution of the complex was carried out when Shemshara was part of a local Zagros kingdom, but still display close connections with Mesopotamian traditions.

### **Before Kuwari**

In our first season at Shemshara in 2012 small operations near the east slope explored levels below the Level V palace. Level VI seemed poorly preserved, Level VII displayed fairly poorly preserved pisé walls and a number of infant burials under the floors, while the burnt Level VIII



## *The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain 2013-2014*

Fig. 6. Araban I: ancient pits visible on surface  
(photo I. Kisjes).



Fig. 7. Dugurdkan II. Examples  
of prehistoric surface  
ceramics (photo J. Eidem).



## *The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain 2013-2014*

was better preserved, and the source of a single cuneiform tablet (from Level VIIIa). In the second season, in autumn 2013, high water of the lake had washed out the east slope and exposed walls and burnt rooms on surface. As expected most of the visible structures belonged to Level VIII, and another tablet was retrieved in Level VIIIb. The results indicate that earlier “administrative” buildings preceded the famous Level V palace, and that at least Level VIII also made perhaps intensive use of written records. An even earlier Level IX was discovered on the lower part of the east slope. Walls of this level are built with characteristic fairly large (ca. 45 x 45 cm), dark red bricks with thick grey mortar, and seem to belong to substantial structures. Remains on the lower east slope include what seems a ‘water gate’.

One of the main tasks remaining at Shemshara is to explore and understand these earlier levels better. The two tablets from Level VIII, although not providing much historical information, can be dated to the very early second Millennium, and it seems that the history of Shemshara as a Bronze Age fort protecting the strategic pass at Darband, goes back into the late third millennium BC.

### **After the Flood: A New Heritage Challenge**

Only within the few years we have been active on the Rania Plain we have witnessed substantial fluctuations in the water level of Lake Dokan, and statistics for the last decades show how the water level, seasonally and yearly, may vary up to 25 m or

more... This has created a large “Flood Risk Zone” around the perimeter of the Lake, where heritage sites, including the Shemshara Hills, are periodically inundated, and the movements of the water progressively remove new layers of soil. Together with the co-investigating team from the University of Copenhagen we will survey and register the sites within this zone before they are further destroyed, and we plan targeted test excavations in selected examples.

A team from NINO carried out a pilot survey of Rania Plain sites in October 2014, and focussed specifically on sites close to the extant edges of Lake Dokan. Subsequent to remote sensing sites were plotted and mapped on location with a differential GPS, detailed aerial views were acquired with UAV photography, geo-physical resistivity prospection performed, surface materials (principally ceramic sherds) collected by systematic random sampling, and in one instance a small test trench excavated. The combination of these methods proved highly promising, and will be employed also in future efforts.

A few examples from the pilot survey may serve to demonstrate the various degrees of flood damage according to site position and characteristics (for a map showing location of the sites see section “NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain (Iraq)” at [www.nino-leiden.nl](http://www.nino-leiden.nl)).

Three of the six sites intensively surveyed, Gird Mamand, Bab-w-Kur South, and Araban, are all basically low-contour, and flooded most of the year, and some years throughout. They are now threatened

## The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain 2013-2014

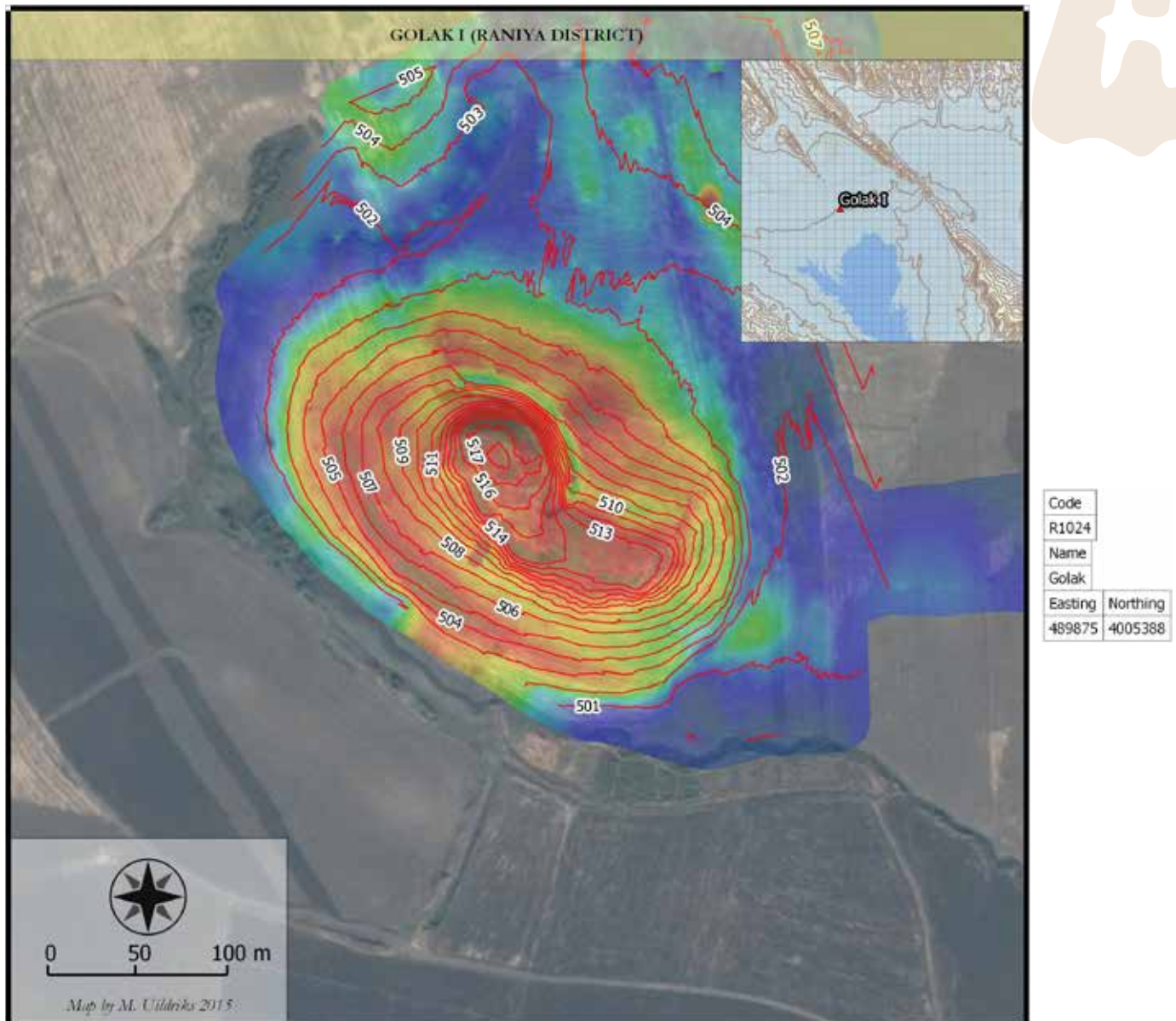


Fig. 8. The main mound of Gird Golak: superimposed satellite image, topography, and resistivity survey (conducted by J. Orbons). The lower slopes with blue colour show low resistivity and indicate either absence of ancient structures or a heavy cover of wash (topography and composite plan by M. Uildriks).

## The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain 2013-2014

by complete obliteration by the movements of the lake, and thus urgent candidates for 'second phase salvage' operations. As an example of this type of site a few particulars of one of them may be noted.

Araban I: resistivity survey as well as surface collections show that only small portions of this site may still hide *in situ* remains. Surface sherds are heavily concentrated on the northern part of the site and otherwise fade out. On the western edge of the north part of the site are numerous circular pits visible on surface, with bones, snail shells, and some near complete ceramic vessels eroding out. On the south-western part of the site are numerous circular fire pits/ovens visible on surface. The surface sherds on the site are predominantly of Uruk and early Ninevite 5 date (late 4<sup>th</sup>-early 3<sup>rd</sup> mill. BC). Araban I appears virtually beyond 'salvation', although further investigation is required to certify this. In any case, the numerous pits on the west edge of the site, and possibly some of the ovens on its southern extension, may well be worth a last salvage effort.

The important sites of Dugurdkan I and II, in 1959 target for limited Iraqi excavation, are in an intermediate position, both being high-contour, but also prone to yearly flooding and erosion. The larger and multi-period Dugurdkan I consists of a small, high tell surrounded by an extensive lower town. Eroded foundations of stones, exposed by flood erosion, are visible over the entire site,

and partial rooms and buildings can be traced. The archaeological remains in the lower town seem shallow and close to bedrock. The smaller Dugurdkan II, across a small wadi to the west of the main mound, is almost circular and quite high. Surface sherds reveal occupations from the Neolithic Hassuna-Samarra, Ubaid, Halaf and Late Chalcolithic periods.

Finally Gird Golak, is on fairly high ground ca. 4 km southwest of Shemshara, and has only been touched by Lake Dokan when the water level was exceptionally high, but it has clearly suffered quite some damage, also from intensive cultivation. It is the largest site close to Shemshara, and would seem to supplement the occupational periods represented there. This site is fortunately in a marginal position as far as flood damage is concerned.

As will be clear from these examples many sites in the Dokan Dam area are endangered by progressing erosion, some indeed are literally disappearing. In future years we therefore hope to perform what we call "second phase salvage" at some of the most important and exposed sites. This work has an obvious and urgent priority, and will evidently also serve to demonstrate concretely the potential losses and gains in relation to timely and adequate planning and preparation for heritage salvage in future flood schemes in Middle Eastern contexts.



Figure 1: A view of the excavations in the central part of the Barcın mound.



# The Barcın Höyük Excavations in 2013 and 2014

*Fokke Gerritsen and Rana Özbal*

Following the 2012 season on which we reported in that year's *Annual Report*, two further excavation seasons were conducted at Barcın Höyük in 2013 and 2014 (Fig. 1). The Barcın Höyük research project investigates the beginnings of sedentary farming life in northwest Anatolia. Excavations to date have established that habitation at Barcın began around 6600 BC and lasted for about six centuries, representing the earliest occupation phase of farming communities in northwest Anatolia.

## 2013: houses and courtyards

The 2013 excavations focused on several goals. The first was to build a better understanding of the stratigraphy of the earlier Neolithic phases, VIe through VIc. This was achieved by digging a sounding in trench M13, just east of where the lowest occupation levels had been reached in previous years in L13. Cutting through finely layered outdoor deposits, the sounding provided sequences of several artifact types, especially ceramics, that will help to establish the sequence and relative date of building phases in areas of the site where the stratigraphy is less clear.

The second goal for the 2013 season was to continue work in the area of trenches L10, L11, M10 and M11 where architectural remains had been encountered in previous years. The results of the season went beyond expectations, because the exposed remains of walls, installations and floors consisted of more building phases than was realized beforehand, and because the excavations of these house remains and adjacent open areas gave a

completely new insight into the use of settlement space over several centuries of Neolithic occupation (Fig. 2). It has now become clear that the areas to the north and south of an east-west oriented strip of houses remained open spaces throughout building phases VIe to VIc, and were only built over in phase VIb. The southern open area, encountered in trenches L11 and M11, showed many interesting features. Part of it was used as a burial place, yielding close to 20 adult inhumation burials (Fig. 3). Another section contained a concentration of small fire pits and hearths, perhaps used for cooking activities over a prolonged period. The function of a third section of the courtyard could not be established but likely had something to do with the repeated paving of the area with layers of small pebbles. With an extent of about ten meters north-south, and at least 20 meters east-west, this courtyard was bounded to the south by further buildings, exposed partly in trench L12. This layout suggests that the court may have been the communal central open space in this part of the settlement.

## 2014: clues are in the floors

In the 2014 season work on the architectural remains of phases VIc and VIId continued. The strictly adhered-to division first observed in 2013, between built-up zones and open areas within the settlement, was confirmed by the discovery of a row of buildings directly underneath those found in 2013. These earlier buildings can be dated to the earlier stages of phase VIId, or to around 6,500 BC in absolute years. The investigation will continue in

## *The Barcın Höyük Excavations in 2013 and 2014*



Figure 2: Remains of houses of VIc and VIId date. Their wall stubs can be recognized by the rows of small holes –holes that originally held wooden posts that formed the walls and carried the roofs.



Figure 3: A burial of an adult in a characteristic flexed position. A bone spoon was placed on the lower legs of the corpse. In the upper left of the photo, a small keyhole shaped hearth can be seen.

## *The Barcın Höyük Excavations in 2013 and 2014*

2015, and will aim to understand their structural aspects, such as buildings materials and techniques.

One of these houses, structure 19, measured 5.7 by 4 meters. Its floor was made of stamped earth into which a red coloring agent had been mixed, giving the floor a dark rusty red color when first exposed (Figs. 4, 5). The material that gave the color still needs to be analyzed, but it is clear that this floor was intentionally colored red. Albeit using a very different technique, red floors are a striking aspect of early Neolithic settlements in Southeast and Central Anatolia, and are often associated with 'special purpose' buildings, such as community houses or ritual structures. Barcın's structure 19 provided no other evidence to suggest that its function differed from other buildings in the row, but it is interesting to think about what possible cultural connections may have existed between Barcın and other regions at this time. Some readers may remember that the color red also featured in the 2012 report on work at Barcın.

The floor of neighboring structure 2a (c. 12 sq. m.) yielded a very different, but equally fascinating find. Impressed in a floor that was made of mud mixed with straw, was a

pair of footprints (Fig. 6). Approximately shoe size 38, the right foot had sunken much deeper into the floor than the left one and left a clear imprint from toes to heel. The left foot, placed somewhat in front of the right, was more difficult to distinguish. Another mud plaster layer covered the footprints, and both floors were preserved because the fire that destroyed this house hardened the mud. As part of the construction of the first floor, situated partly below the left footprint, the builders had placed a horned cattle skull and carefully secured it in place with rocks (Fig. 7). Again, like the red floor, this somewhat enigmatic architectural feature, is reminiscent of archaeological sites further to the east. In particular Çatalhöyük in Central Anatolia



Figure 4: Exposing the red floor of structure 19.



## *The Barcın Höyük Excavations in 2013 and 2014*



Figure 5: The southern part of structure 19. The walls and the red floor are cut by several foundation ditches of later buildings.



Figure 6: Two footprints impressed in a mud and straw floor. The orange color of this floor is a result of the firing of the clay.



## *The Barcın Höyük Excavations in 2013 and 2014*

has yielded a rich repertoire of examples of cattle skulls and horns incorporated in buildings.

A sounding below structure 19 showed us that our 2014 excavations have brought us close to virgin soil in the central part of the mound, and close to the beginning of the occupation sequence. In 2015 we expect to conclude our excavations by investigating the VIe levels here.

The excavations are conducted with permission of the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, and are funded largely by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). In addition to the NIT, institutions that are closely involved in the project include, with others, VU University Amsterdam and Rijksuniversiteit Groningen in the Netherlands, and Koç, Boğaziçi and Ege Universities in Turkey.

A number of publications on the results of the Barcın Höyük Excavations have appeared in 2013 and 2014. A list can be found on pp. 60-61 of this *Annual Report*.



Figure 7: The section of the floor with the footprints has been prepared for lifting. Part of the cattle skull appears below the floor.

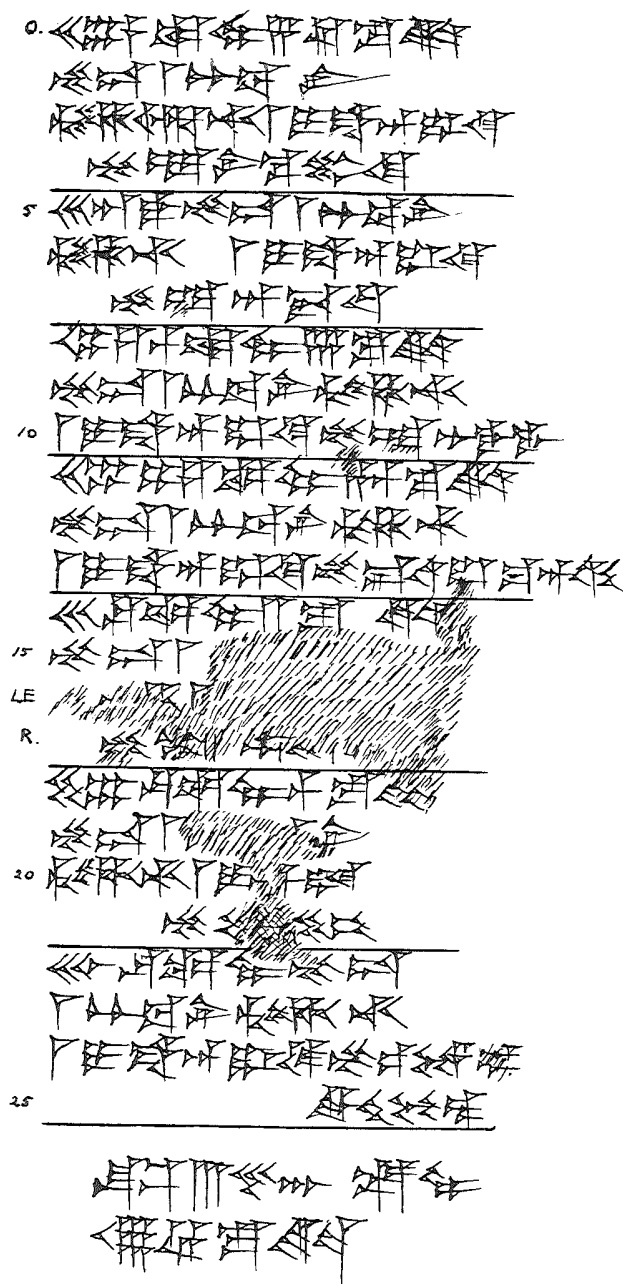


Fig. 1. LB 949 (hand copy W.F. Leemans, 1964).

### Cuneiform tablets in the *De Liagre Böhl Collection*

NINO holds ca. 3000 objects from the Ancient Near East. These were acquired for the most part by Franz de Liagre Böhl in the 1930ies. The collection gives us a representative sample of almost all historical periods of Mesopotamia: the oldest ones can be dated to ca. 2400 BCE and the most recent to ca. 200 BCE. Nevertheless, there are some periods that are better represented than others. Perhaps the three largest groups are cuneiform tablets from the Neo-Babylonian and Persian periods (ca. 750-450 BCE); documents from the Ur III empire (ca. 2100-2000 BCE); and records from the Old Babylonian period (ca. 2000-1600).

Tablets from the Böhl Collection have been published in NINO's *TLB* series (*Tabulae Cuneiformes a F.M.Th. De Liagre Böhl Collectae Leidae Conservatae*) and discussed in NINO's *SLB* series (*Studia ad Tabulas Cuneiformes a F.M.Th. De Liagre Böhl Collectas Pertinentia*).

# From the NINO collections: The administration of a multicultural military colony

*Rients de Boer*

## The Old Babylonian archives from the province of Lower Yahrurum

A small group of tablets from the NINO collection concerns the administration of a military colony in Babylonia around ca. 1750-20 BCE. The colony consisted out of a number of villages in the province of “Lower Yahrurum”. Illicit diggers found the texts more than a century ago whilst digging at a site called “Tell Abu Antiq” (ancient name: Pi-Kasi). They must have found hundreds of cuneiform tablets that were sold through the antiquities market to numerous collections around the world: Paris, Leiden, Berrien Springs, Strasbourg, St. Petersburg, Helsinki, Geneva, etc. However, the bulk of the tablets ended up at Yale University. Over the past century almost 450 of the texts have been published. Recently, Iraqi archaeologists excavating at Tell Abu Antiq found another ca. 1250 documents (all still unpublished). Ancient texts seldom inform us of their historical context and it is very difficult to reconstruct an archive that is spread all over the world. Despite its interest, the archive has received little scholarly attention. Leiden has nine texts from the Lower Yahrurum archives. Six of these were already published in hand copy by W.F. Leemans in 1964. The other three are presented here for the first time and will be fully published in an upcoming volume of *Bibliotheca Orientalis*.

## Foreigners in Babylonian Service

The province of Lower Yahrurum was situated within the Old Babylonian State in Middle Iraq. Nevertheless, most of its inhabitants were not native to this region: we see Elamites (south-

western Iran), Kassites and Turukkeans (Zagros mountains), and inhabitants from non-Babylonian cities like Eshnunna, Malgium, and Uruk. These different groups of people were all settled in Lower Yahrurum as soldiers and dependants of the Babylonian crown. The trade-off was simple: in return for military service, taxes, and corvée labor, the foreigners received the usufruct (not possession!) of fields and date palm orchards. In Babylonian administrative terms this trade-off was called an “*ilkum*” obligation. The Babylonian state was able to provide these fertile lands by digging extra irrigation canals. By doing this they could bring previously barren parts of the steppe into cultivation. The foundation of this new “province of migrants” was the result of Babylonia’s conquests under Hammurabi (1792-1750 BCE). Hammurabi defeated and subdued almost all the major states of his time. As a result, the Old Babylonian kingdom grew enormously rich and prosperous whereas other areas saw economical decline and depopulation. The Babylonian state needed a larger army and its ranks were filled with soldiers hailing from several of the defeated states.

The foreigners were settled in newly developed areas away from the fortified urban centers of Babylon. This was a deliberate policy: large groups of foreign soldiers could pose a serious threat to the state itself when they rebelled. Nevertheless, even the integration in the rural areas went not without its problems. This is exemplified by a letter written by some village elders to the Babylonian military authorities. The letter (*Altbabylonische Briefe* 9, no. 109) describes how a group of Kassites (tough tribal

*From the NINO collections:  
The administration of a  
multicultural military colony*



	(tax)	(extra: <i>datum</i> )	(supplement: dates)	(name)
(8)	13 shekels	2 shekels		Rish-Wedum
(9)	6 ½ shekels			Attashu, son of Tubia
(10)	(A total of) 19 ½ shekels of silver, delivery to the palace			
(11)	(A total of) 2 shekels of silver: <i>datum</i> (payment of the city) Al-malahim			
(12)	10 shekels			Sin-shamuh
(13)	⅓ mina (= 20 shekels)		1200 liters of dates	Shamash-magir

Fig. 2. LB 952, obverse and reverse (photo D. Giannessi, 2015).

Sample of translation: obverse lines 8-13.



## From the NINO collections: The administration of a multicultural military colony

mercenaries from the mountains) were brought to the village by a royal official. However, after the departure of the official the Kassites are accused of multiple thefts!

### Groups of texts found among the Lower Yahrurum archives

Many cuneiform texts, written many centuries ago, have survived until the present day because clay tablets are (usually) very durable. However, despite this durability we only have a fraction of all the texts that were once actually written in the province of Lower Yahrurum. Needless to say, the few that we do have do not form a very coherent group. The challenge for the modern Assyriologist is to see beyond these fragments in order to reconstruct part of ancient Mesopotamia's culture. Typically, we can find in an ancient archive a number of "dossiers" or "files": groups of texts that deal with the same event, activity, person(s), or place in time. We can usually connect texts by looking at recurring place- or personal names. The same is true for the archive of Lower Yahrurum. Each of the three texts presented below belongs to a "dossier" to which other texts – kept elsewhere in the world – can be connected.

### LB 952: a table with names and amounts of silver

*Undated, between Samsu-iluna years 20-29, ca. 1730-1721 BCE).*

Texts like these, with information arranged in columns and lines, can be seen as early spreadsheets.

The numbers in the first column are varying amounts of silver, between 2 and 31 shekels (one shekel is almost the weight of a 2-euro-coin), they indicate the amount of taxes that the person in the fourth column had to pay to the palace. The second column has much lower amounts of silver and describes an extra payment called "*datum*". The third column offers quantities of dates, which could have been supplementary payments. In the fourth column we have the name of the man who was responsible for paying the amounts. Most of the men in the last column can be identified as originating from the city of Malgium. Malgium was conquered and destroyed by Hammurabi of Babylon around 1761 BCE. This table was probably drawn up by the administrative authorities to keep track of the tax payments to be paid by the soldiers from Malgium who had received date palm orchards in exchange for their military service, taxes, and labor (see sample translation on opposite page).

### LB 2113: a text to acquit for harvest labor done by Urukeans on state-owned fields

*Samsu-iluna 28 (ca. 1722 BCE), month II, day 7.*

The foreign soldiers in service of the Babylonian crown not only paid taxes and did military service, they were also obliged to do corvée labor. This meant that they were drafted at certain times of the year to help the state with building projects, the digging of irrigation canals, or harvesting. In this text 11 men, originally from southern Uruk (conquered around 1763 BCE), were drafted to carry sheaves

*From the NINO collections:  
The administration of a  
multicultural military colony*



Fig. 3. Date palms on the bank of the Euphrates (photo J. McCauley, 2005; via Wikimedia Commons).



Fig. 4. Date palm with fruit (photo S. Olkowicz, 2005; via Wikimedia Commons).



## From the NINO collections: The administration of a multicultural military colony

of grain during the harvest. They worked on a field that was cultivated by the state on behalf of a high Babylonian official called Marduk-mushallim. The text carries impressions of the seal of the responsible agricultural manager. Many similar texts belonging to this same dossier are known.

### **LB 3251: note on the transport of dates**

*Samsu-iluna 23 (ca. 1723 BCE), month XII, day 10.*

In this text ca. 9860 liters of dates (the content of a large cargo van) and 1 shekel of silver are delivered by a gardener called Sin-ishmeanni. An official (a “chief gardener”) called Awil-Ishtar received the goods, he also sealed the document to make the transaction official. The dates will be transported by a cargo boat belonging to the palace. It is likely that the dates delivered by Sin-ishmeanni were part of his annual tax. There are several other texts dated to exactly the same day registering the receipt of dates and silver from other gardeners. This probably means that the taxes of several gardeners were received and shipped on the same day.

The texts that survive to this day from the province of Lower Yahrurum do not tell us everything we would like to know – but they do provide us with a fascinating look into the life and organization of a multicultural military colony almost 4000 years ago. Military colonies with contingents of foreigners can be seen throughout history: the Achaemenid empire, the Roman empire, but also more recently the French Foreign Legion.

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Fig. 1. Poster for the NINO jubilee exhibition at the National Museum of Antiquities. Left: limestone figure of a Sumerian priest acquired by Böhl in Iraq for the Museum; right: the bridge Pol-e-Dokhtar, Iran, photographed by Böhl (both in 1939).

### Franz M.Th. (de Liagre) Böhl (1882-1976)

One of the founders and a key figure in the Governing Board was Franz Böhl, Professor of Assyriology at Leiden University, and Kampman's tutor. He had been closely involved with Ex Oriente Lux from the start and would remain so throughout his long life. In January to April 1939, he made a grand tour of the antiquities and excavations in Iraq and Iran. He was also involved with the excavations at Tell Balata, the biblical Sichem. Newspaper clippings in Böhl's archive are testimony to the many public lectures he delivered in order to win attention and funds for the study of the Near East.

As Professor of Hebrew and Israelite Antiquities at Groningen University in the 1920ies he had started collecting clay tablets with cuneiform inscriptions. Texts and other antiquities, collected with an eye to university teaching, were exhibited in an Assyriological Workroom, first in Groningen, later in Leiden.



Fig. 2. Böhl shows tablets from his collection to several high officials. The photo was taken in 1951, shortly after the Institute officially acquired his collection. *NINO archive*.



# From the NINO archives: Selected memories from 75 years of NINO

*Carolien van Zoest & Sebastiaan Berntsen*

In 2014 NINO celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Institute's archives proved a rich source of information on its early years, painting a picture of an almost forgotten past. How did it all begin?

## **Establishment of the Institute**

Seventy-five years ago, on 17 August 1939, three gentlemen visited a notary in The Hague and signed the foundation charter of the “Netherlands Archaeological-philological Institute for the Near East”. The institute, soon to be known under the abbreviation NINO, aimed “to promote all academic disciplines relating to the ancient cultures of the Near East. It envisages the notion of ‘archaeological’ to encompass a broad range, as is usual in France a.o. (Institut de France, Collège de France), where ‘archaeology’ is taken to include ‘inscriptions et belles lettres’.” The comparison with archaeological colleges abroad indicates that the lack of a similar institute in the Netherlands was sharply felt. Initiator Arie A. Kampman (1911-1977) had established the Westasian-Egyptian Society “Ex Oriente Lux” six years prior. The Society, still active today with branches throughout the Netherlands and Flanders, was created to organise lectures, courses and meetings on the ancient Near East for a broad public – not only scholars and students. One of EOL's goals from its inception was the establishment of a scientific institute in the Netherlands for the academic study of ancient Near Eastern history, cultures and languages. This dream now became reality.

Leiden was the obvious choice of location for the new institute. Its University boasts a long and

illustrious tradition in oriental studies; add the presence of the National Museum of Antiquities with its magnificent Egyptian collection, and Leiden clearly stands out as the Dutch centre for the study of the Near East and Egypt. Suitable housing in a spacious town house was realised through generous financial aid by C.H.J. van Haeften Esq., who co-signed the foundation charter and joined the institute's Curatorium (Board of Governors). The founders now finally had space for the book collection they had been striving to form – an important impediment to the study of the ancient Near East was the lack of a specialised library. Between the University Library and the Museum's library, many relevant publications in the rapidly expanding field were unavailable in Leiden, and so could only be consulted by those who could afford to purchase them. University professors were usually able to form their own libraries, but many students and others were less fortunate. EOL had started collecting books and journals – mainly through exchange for its own publications – which were made available to its members and patrons. Judging by his numerous letters to institutes all over the world, keeper-librarian Kampman intensified his efforts to acquire as many relevant publications as possible at the best prices in the months leading up to the official establishment of the institute. In August of 1939 he wrote to Professor Jean Capart, Director of the Egyptological Foundation “Reine Elisabeth” in Brussels:

“I have the honour to announce that the Society “Ex Oriente Lux” is to open a Dutch Archaeological Institute for the Near East in Leiden in October

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Fig. 3. The houses at 4a and 6a Noordeindsplein where NINO was housed for over forty years (photo R.J. Demarée, 2008).



Fig. 4. The NINO library at Noordeindsplein in 1940 or 1941. *NINO archive*.



Fig. 5. Kampman speaking at his retirement in 1974. On the wall of the library/lecture room are pictures of historic and contemporary scholars in oriental studies – including a photograph of Böhl. *NINO archive*.

## *From the NINO archives: Selected memories from 75 years of NINO*

of this year. The institute (...) will comprise two sections: 1<sup>st</sup>. Egyptological section (Director: Prof. Dr A. de Buck; Keeper: abbé Jozef M.A. Janssen); 2<sup>nd</sup>. Westasian section (Director: Prof. Dr F.M.Th. Böhl; Keepers: A.A. Kampman for Hittitology and B.A. van Proosdij for Assyriology). A library will be housed in the institute containing books and journals regarding the Near East, as well as the Leiden Collection of Cuneiform Inscriptions, including a few Egyptian pieces. In addition there will be room to study and board for foreign colleagues who wish to spend some time in Leiden.

The Governing Board has appointed me Keeper-Librarian, so that I am now charged to have a somewhat adequate library ready by October, to be extended whenever funds allow.”

Next is a polite request for a discount on some publications from Brussels, and a proposal to cooperate at organising lectures. In how far this library was filling a gap is clear from a letter from Kampman to a friend and colleague in Prague, July 1939: many journals are unavailable in Leiden, making it impossible for him to retrieve the publishers’ addresses. He encloses a list of titles and asks his correspondent to supply addresses and subscription rates.

### **Fifties and sixties: initiatives and expansion**

#### **The houses on Noordeindsplein**

Shortly after the Institute moved into 4a, Noordeindsplein, its lay-out is described as follows:

“(...) On the first floor is the library room, fourteen metres long, with a dais and provisions for projection of images, so the room can also serve as a lecture room for up to 80 persons. The office of the Keeper of the Assyriology section is also on this floor. On the second floor is the Assyriology room, as well as the Curatorium room and the administrative office. On the third floor is the caretaker’s home. Two nice rooms have been separated on this floor and are used as boarding rooms for guests. The whole house has central heating, the boarding rooms have running water, and there is a guest bathroom. In the garden is a small historic pavilion, built in 1825, that can be used in summer for classes and small meetings. Two rooms in the house are sublet to the Westasian-Egyptian Society [EOL].”

Later the adjacent house at number 6a was added, and, in the words of prof. Veenhof: “Because the Faculty of Humanities had insufficient space to accommodate the increasing number of students in the 1950ies, the different departments were housed in many different houses and buildings in the centre of Leiden. The University rented space from NINO for the Assyriology department, including use of the library. This was an indispensable facility for the Assyriologists, as the University Library left the acquisition of publications in this field increasingly to NINO, that had also incorporated the older EOL library. Furthermore, NINO held the collection of ca. 2500 cuneiform tablets – highly important for research and teaching in Assyriology – that were brought together by Prof. De Liagre Böhl in his ‘Assyriological Workroom’. One floor and a half in the house [at no. 6a] was [from 1963 onwards]

## From the NINO archives: Selected memories from 75 years of NINO



Fig. 6. A tour group from NINO poses at the large temple of Abu Simbel, January 1964 – months before UNESCO started dismantling and moving the monument. *NINO archive*.

rented by the University's Egyptology department. De Buck's library, acquired by NINO, was housed here; there was also a project room for the Coffin Texts, an academic inheritance from De Buck." The library had grown over the years and books were placed in different rooms in the Institute. We see the library room with its dais and the back garden as a background in several group portraits taken at festive occasions, such as the ten-year anniversary celebrations of EOL. With the addition of no. 6a, there were now six boarding rooms on the top floor, that were rented to students and (foreign) colleagues who paid longer or shorter visits to Leiden. The caretaker and his wife were still living in. Visitors to the NINO library were expected to ring the doorbell and wait for the caretaker to remotely open the front door. Kampman, who was now director and held this position for many years, presided over the NINO and EOL activities from his office in the front room on the first floor of no. 6a.

### International meetings and travels

The first two international Assyriologists' meetings took place in the summers of 1950 and 1951 respectively, in Paris. Kampman proposed to organise the third *Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale* in Leiden in 1952, as a tribute to Prof. De Liagre Böhl who celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday that year. The Assyriologists assembled in Paris accepted the proposal. To the programme of lectures and meetings, touristic excursions in and around Leiden were added, and of course there was a reception in the Institute. The first issue of *Bibliotheca Orientalis* volume 1952, dedicated to



## *From the NINO archives: Selected memories from 75 years of NINO*

Böhl, was presented to him at the opening of the conference.

Renewed by-laws of the Institute mentioned the aim to organise trips to the Near East lead by academic specialists. The first trip under the aegis of NINO was a journey to Egypt, led by Professor De Buck, with 22 participants from among the members of EOL. The group left by train to Venice on 31 December 1954, where they boarded a ship to Alexandria. The principal monuments in the Nile Valley and the Fayum were visited, and a tour of Saqqara was given by Dr A. Klasens who was excavating there. The journey to and from Egypt took five to six days each way, so only two and a half week could be spent visiting antiquities.

Further organised trips went by airplane. In 1956 a grand tour of Cyprus, Lebanon, Syria, Transjordan and Palestine was led by Kampman. A second trip to Egypt – including a visit to Klasens' excavation in Nubia, part of the international Nubian rescue campaign – took place in 1964. The following year there was again a trip to Egypt. In 1966 a trip was organised to Iran (often still called "Persia" in correspondence).

In the 1950ies and 1960ies the Middle East was not yet a mass tourism destination. Travel, even to Egypt, was still expensive. This sort of trip was mostly undertaken by the well-to-do, and the participants lists of the above mentioned trips clearly reflect it. Some participants were members of the Curatorium, and/or university professors, diplomats, and members of the nobility. They travelled in relative luxury and stayed in the better

hotels; sometimes the local museum director or head of antiquities would give a tour of some special location. In Beirut a group was received by the Dutch *chargé d'affaires*, in the presence of the Lebanese president and a number of high officials. In Damascus they were invited to a dinner by the Pakistani ambassador. The Institute's trips were highly valued by the participants, but the travel program was eventually discontinued. The Middle East came within reach of a larger public, and with more and more travel agencies offering a variety of possibilities, this was no longer a task for the Institute.

### **Seventies and eighties: start of a new era**

#### **Kampman retires**

For over thirty years Kampman employed numerous activities at and for NINO: he served as director from 1955 onwards, as editor-in-chief for *Bibliotheca Orientalis*, as agent for the Scholten Fund, and as (acting) director of the subsidiary institute in Istanbul. He combined this with activities for EOL and with teaching at a secondary school in Schiedam and at Istanbul University. Maintaining innumerable relations with colleagues, and in diplomatic circles, often led to exchange of publications, speakers, favourable attitude from decision makers, etc. He travelled often: to the Institute in Istanbul, to other countries in the Middle East, as a tour guide or without a tour group, and on several school trips to Italy with students from Schiedam. The Netherlands-Iran Society was



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founded by Kampman as well as its annual journal *Persica* (starting from 1963). One has the impression that his private and professional life were intertwined to a high degree. When he reached retirement age in the early 1970ies, he had great difficulty letting go of the Institute in Leiden and its subsidiary in Istanbul. He initially stayed on as editor-in-chief of *Bibliotheca Orientalis*, which proved somewhat impractical, as he had moved to the south of the Netherlands. Only in August 1976 he stepped down, not long before he passed away in 1977.

### New management, new developments

The new director, Dr E.J. (Emeri) van Donzel (1925-) was appointed in 1974. For many years he was the driving force behind the publication of the *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, the authoritative reference work on islam and related cultures (2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 12 volumes). Among his further publications are editions of Arabic and Ethiopian texts, and studies on the history of Ethiopia in the 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century.

Several decades before, the aim of the Institutes in Leiden and Istanbul had been phrased with an emphasis on library and documentation services, i.e. supporting academic research – independently carrying out research was not mentioned in the original by-laws of 1939. In practice this soon changed, as scholars employed at the institutes' libraries and publications were expected to continue their own studies. The position of Dr. C. (Kees) Nijland (1928-) was the first to officially include a part-time research component. Though Van Donzel was compelled to remark: "Management of the institutes, an extensive publishing program,

and maintaining a large, specialised library leave little room for scholarly research", the trend was nevertheless continued and expanded. The task descriptions of the Leiden director and conservator, and of the Istanbul director, included and still include a research component.

The ties with Leiden University as well as the Ministry of Education grew closer during these years: the Institutes started to send yearly reports for approval. When the new management and procedures were introduced, the Institute had reached out to the Ministry, resulting in a revision of the flow of funds. It was further arranged that Institute staff would have the same terms and benefits of employment as University staff.

Electronic resources were gaining importance, and NINO recognised the need to adapt. In the early 1980ies the library catalogue was digitised, meaning that all titles on the existing index cards had to be typed out – a huge work, that took several years to complete. The choice was made to join PICA, the system that Leiden University Library had also adopted, thus ensuring that NINO's library items could be easily found by all researchers and students at Leiden University – before the introduction of the World Wide Web this was no matter of course. Innovations were also implemented in the publishing process: the Institute now possessed a machine that could process manuscripts into digital texts, designated as the "MK composer" or simply "the computer". Text files were saved onto magnetic cards; the appliance was an early intermediate between an electric typewriter and a word processor. Since the

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end of the 1970ies the annual *Anatolica* issues, as well as many *PIHANS* volumes, were typeset using this machine.

### The move to Witte Singel

As early as the 1950ies Leiden University had expressed the wish to house all the departments and sections that made up the Faculty of Humanities, as well as the University Library, in one large compound. A number of academic but non-university institutes were involved in the project, including NINO. After long preparations, building of the complex at Witte Singel started by the end of the seventies. The Faculties of Theology and Philosophy also found a home here, as well as the Faculty of Archaeology, created later (and recently moved to a separate location). Several departments and institutes possessed their own libraries, and the buildings were adapted for their use. For instance, stock rooms for the Institute's publications – complete with a separate loading entrance – were built in for NINO, as well as library space, and a vault for the Böhl Collection. The Institute moved in in 1982.

As director Van Donzel put it, in an interview with a local newspaper: “At Noordeindeplein we mostly existed for people who were already acquainted with us.” Nowadays, NINO is more readily found – in Leiden, on the internet, and in the thoughts and memories of many colleagues.

*This article is a translation of a few excerpts from the chapter on NINO's history in the jubilee volume “Waar de geschiedenis begon” (see p. 57).*



Fig. 7. Dr C. Nijland and Dr E.J. van Donzel at the inauguration of the director's room in the new Witte Singel building (photo J. Holvast, 1984).





# NINO activities 2013-2014

*Jesper Eidem, General Director NINO and NIT*

## Introduction

This *Annual Report NINO & NIT* covers both the years 2013 and 2014. The reason for this is simple: during 2014 NINO celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a series of different activities, and therefore decided to postpone the issue of a report for 2013. Instead we concentrated not least on the publication of our jubilee publication *Waar de geschiedenis begon* (see p. 44 and p. 57), which contains a large number of articles on the history of NINO and the scholarly activities it represents as conducted by many Dutch researchers in Egyptology, Assyriology, and Near Eastern Archaeology. The book was presented at the opening of a special exhibition, arranged in cooperation with the Rijksmuseum van Oudheden in Leiden, and providing, in some cases for the first time, public access to a selection of objects from the Böhl Collection, owned by NINO. Among other activities to celebrate our jubilee mention must be made of the one-day conference “ZAGROS”, held in Leiden in December 2014 (see p. 42). We were especially pleased, on that occasion, to welcome Kamal Rashid as speaker. As the head of the Sulaymania Directorate of Antiquities and Heritage, Kak Kamal has given extraordinary and invaluable support to the NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain (see article pp. 2-9) since its inception in early 2012. We were also very pleased indeed to welcome Amanj Amin, who has worked with us in the field, as representative of the Sulaymania Directorate and as a valuable member of the team. The jubilee year of course also called for a special series of lectures, focussing on early writing, and culminating with the Veenhof Lecture

in November, when Prof. W. Henkelman delivered an exciting account of his work on the famous Bisotun inscriptions, the ‘Rosetta Stone’, as it were, of cuneiform writing (see p. 41).

These years are not very kind to the world cultural heritage NINO and NIT serve, currently endangered by the tumultuous events in much of the Middle East. In the midst of all the tragic news it is a small comfort and encouragement to witness many local and international initiatives to safeguard and salvage these global treasures. And this heritage is not just endangered by war and pillage, but also by modern development and construction projects. While the ruined cities and settlement mounds of the Middle East were once lonely places of apparent enduring existence and romantic aspect, visited only by nomads and pioneering archaeologists, they are now often in the middle of a rapidly changing landscape, and threatened by flooding or destruction.

NINO aims to continue to play a constructive and visible role in the preservation and study of the Middle Eastern heritage over the next 25 years and beyond. Immediate tasks ahead include online publication of major portions of our collections, and important contributions to heritage salvage in Iraqi Kurdistan. In a wider perspective we are confident that NINO will remain an important facilitating base for Dutch and international study of the cultures of the Ancient Near East. Last but not least we sincerely hope that long before NINO celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2039 our colleagues and friends in the Middle East will be living in a safe and prosperous region.

# *NINO activities 2013-2014*

## *Administration, staff and fellows*

### **Institute administration**

#### ***Curatorium***

NINO and NIT are both governed by a Curatorium (Board of Governors). Members:

- Prof. Dr J.R.T.M. Peters (president)
- Ir. H.G. Dijkgraaf (treasurer)
- Prof. Dr R.T.J. Cappers
- Dr A.H. de Groot
- Prof. mr. P.F. van der Heijden, until December 2013
- Prof. Dr O.E. Kaper
- Prof. Dr W.H. van Soldt, until December 2014
- Prof. Dr M. Stol
- Prof. mr. C.J.J.M. Stolker, starting from December 2013
- Prof. Dr K. van der Toorn
- Drs. W.J. Weijland, starting from December 2014

The general director of NINO and NIT is secretary to the Curatorium.

The Curatorium of NINO and NIT met in August and December 2013, and in June and December 2014.

#### ***Executive Board***

The Executive Board represents the Curatorium between its semi-annual meetings. Members:

- Prof. Dr J.R.T.M. Peters (president)
- Ir. H.G. Dijkgraaf (treasurer)
- Prof. Dr J. Eidem (general director NINO-NIT)

- Prof. Dr O.E. Kaper (president of the scientific committee), starting from March 2013
- Prof. Dr W.H. van Soldt (president of the scientific committee), until March 2013
- Prof. Dr M. Stol (member of the scientific committee)

During the two years under review, the Executive Board held eight meetings, also attended by J. Eidem (general director), R.T. Dickhoff (financial administrator) and C.H. van Zoest (minutes).

#### ***Scientific committee***

A committee within the Curatorium of NINO and NIT advises on scientific matters. Members:

Prof. Dr R.T.J. Cappers, Dr A.H. de Groot, Prof. Dr O.E. Kaper (president starting from March 2013), Prof. Dr W.H. van Soldt (until March 2013; president), Prof. Dr M. Stol, and the director of NINO/NIT.

The scientific committee met in December 2013 and November 2014.



The Curatorium president, Prof. Dr J.R.T.M. Peters, speaking at the opening of the NINO jubilee exhibition.

# *NINO activities 2013-2014*

## *Administration, staff and fellows*

### **Staff**

In the period under review staff assignments remained unchanged. The staff members of NINO in Leiden are:

- Prof Dr J. Eidem, General Director NINO and NIT (0.7 fte general management, 0.3 fte research)
- Mr R.T. Dickhoff, financial administrator (1.0 fte)
- Mrs C. Hoorn-Janssen, financial administration assistant (0.6 fte)
- Mrs A.G.M. Keizers MA, head librarian (1.0 fte)
- Ms O.T.C. Hoogzaad MA, library assistant (1.0 fte)
- Mrs M.W. Keuken MA, library assistant (0.5 fte)
- Ms C.H. van Zoest MA, secretary (0.5 fte) and publications officer (0.5 fte)



NINO staff in Katwijk, from left to right: Odile Hoogzaad, Mariëtte Keuken, Anita Keizers, Jesper Eidem, Corry Hoorn, Carolien van Zoest, Ruud Dickhoff (photo Cathelijne Hoorn).

As Local Director of NIT, Dr F.A. Gerritsen is stationed in Istanbul – see p. 59 ff.

The staff members of NINO in Leiden celebrated the Institute's jubilee with an outing to Sassenheim and Katwijk on Monday 25 August.

### ***(Visiting) Research fellows***

- Prof. Dr J.F. Borghouts
- Dr J.C. Fincke
- Dr W.F.M. Henkelman (EPHE, Paris)
- Dr A. Mouton (CNRS, Paris)
- Dr J.J. Roodenberg
- Prof. Dr J. de Roos
- Prof. Dr M. Stol

### ***Volunteers***

- Dr D. Giannessi
- Mr S.R.L. Berntsen MA

A report on work carried out on NINO's collections can be found on pp. 49-51.



Deborah Giannessi and Sebastiaan Berntsen at work during the July 2013 inventory check of the Böhl Collection.

# *NINO activities 2013-2014*

## *Administration, staff and fellows*

### **Activities by staff members and research fellows**

#### **Prof. Dr J. Eidem, Director**

During 2013 Eidem organised and directed two seasons of fieldwork within the NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain (Kurdish Region of Iraq). The first season took place in spring, and was concentrated on the early Third Millennium BC site of Gird Bardastee, located close to Shemshara. In autumn a second season was focused on excavations at the Main Shemshara hills. For more information on these activities see separate article “The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain 2013-2014”, pp. 2-9 in this *Annual Report*.

In January he presented the first results of the NINO project in Iraq in the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden, and in February he gave a lesson in UvA on Mesopotamian “Epic Archaeology”. In late February he gave a lecture about the Rania Project in Florence, Italy; in March he delivered a paper in Leiden entitled “Tentative Empire” at the symposium “Understanding Hegemonic Practices of the Early Assyrian Empire”, and in June he lectured on Dutch Archaeology in Western Asia in the *Illustere School* at UvA.

#### ***Publications in 2013***

- “Back to Rania”, *Annual Report NINO & NIT 2012* (2013), 2-11.
- J. Eidem, E. Ishaq, M. Maqdissi, Qala’at Halwanji (Northwestern Syria) 2008-2009, *Anatolica* XXXIX, 2013, 1-52.

- J. Eidem (ed.), The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain. Report on work Spring 2013. Shemshara Hill 4 (Gird Bardastee) and Shemshara Hill 5 (unpubl. report submitted to the Directorate of Antiquities, Sulaymania), 38 pp.

During 2014 Eidem devoted much time to the activities organised to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NINO. He organised and directed two seasons of fieldwork within the NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain (Kurdish Region of Iraq). The first season took place in spring, and was concentrated on Tell Shemshara. In October a second short season was devoted to survey of sites near the edges of Lake Dokan. Again, more information on these activities is found in the article “The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain 2013-2014”, pp. 2-9 in this *Annual Report*.

In January he presented the most recent results of the NINO project in Iraq at a lecture in the RMO, and in February he again gave a lesson in UvA on Mesopotamian “Epic Archaeology”. In June he delivered a lecture on the Rania Project at the 9<sup>th</sup> ICAANE in Basel. In October-December he held a course on “Tell Archaeology” at UvA, and in December he presented a paper entitled “Models of Proto-historic Zagros Societies” at the NINO Jubilee Symposium “Zagros”, held at the RMO.

#### ***Publications in 2014***

- J. Eidem, ‘The Kingdom of Shamshi-Adad and its Legacies’, in: E. Cancik-Kirschbaum, N. Brisch, J. Eidem (eds.), *Constituent, Confederate, and Conquered Space in Upper Mesopotamia. The Emergence of the Mittanni State*. Berlin, Boston:



## *NINO activities 2013-2014*

### *Administration, staff and fellows*

de Gruyter 2014, 137-146.

- J. Eidem (ed.), The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain. Summary Report on Work Autumn 2013: Shemshara (unpubl. report submitted to the Directorate of Antiquities, Sulaymania), 20 pp.
- J. Eidem (ed.), The NINO Archaeological Project on the Rania Plain. Summary Report on Work Spring 2014: Shemshara (unpubl. report submitted to the Directorate of Antiquities, Sulaymania), 40 pp.

#### **Dr A. Mouton, Visiting Research Fellow**

Research fellow Mouton (CNRS Ivry sur Seine and Catholic University of Paris) progressed on the scientific researches she is currently engaged in:

1) The proceedings of the four-year international research project she was supervising on individual rites of passage in the Ancient Near East (ViGMA Project) between 2009 and 2012 are now out. They appeared in 2014 in the PIHANS series of NINO:

- A. Mouton and J. Patrier (eds.), *Life, Death, and Coming of Age in Antiquity: Individual Rites of Passage in the Ancient Near East and Adjacent Regions* (PIHANS 124), NINO, 2014, xiii + 552 pp. (see also p. 56 in this *Report*)

2) French translations of Hittite religious texts for the “Littératures Anciennes du Proche-Orient” series (LAPO, Le Cerf, Paris): the 450 page-volume of translations and presentations is still in progress. In 2013-14, Mouton studied the main mythological texts and several prayers of Hittite Anatolia.

Study visits to the NINO library during October 2013 and October 2014 enabled her to see all

the new publications in Hittitology, as well as in adjacent fields.

In 2013, A. Mouton published a collective book as a co-editor (*Luwian Identities. Culture, Language and Religion Between Anatolia and the Aegean, Culture and History of the Ancient Near East 64*, Leiden-Boston, Brill, 2013, viii + 604 p. – edited together with I. Rutherford and I. Yakubovich). She also published several articles about witchcraft (in the studies in honor of Gary Beckman), time and space (in the proceedings of the 56<sup>th</sup> *Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale*), augury (in the *Luwian Identities* volume), and torch and incense (in the studies in honour of Michel Tardieu).

In 2014, Mouton organised two conferences. The first one was held in the French Institute of Anatolian Studies at Istanbul (IFEA) in November 2014. This conference, entitled “Hittitology Today: Studies on Hittite and Neo-Hittite Anatolia in honor of Emmanuel Laroche’s 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday”, was conceived as a tribute to the French hittitologist. The second conference was co-organized with Dr D. Petit at the École des Langues et Civilisations du Proche-Orient Ancien of the Catholic University of Paris in November 2014 and was entitled “Correspondre au Proche-Orient ancien : lettres et messages en tous sens”. The publication of both conference proceedings is being prepared by Mouton. Besides the ViGMA volume (see above), she published several articles about dreaming (in a collective volume around Artemidorus of Daldis), scape-goat rituals (in the proceedings of the 8<sup>th</sup>

## NINO activities 2013-2014

### Administration, staff and fellows

International Congress of Hittitology), and the so-called “genies” of Hittite Anatolia (in the *Semitica et Classica* journal).

After the defence of her “Habilitation à diriger des recherches” in May 2012, Mouton was elected “directrice de recherche” associated to the “École Doctorale” 1 of Paris-IV University in January 2013. Thanks to this election, she is now authorized to supervise PhD researches at Paris-IV. In June 2013, she moved from Strasbourg to Ivry sur Seine, thus entering the “Orient et Méditerranée” CNRS team.

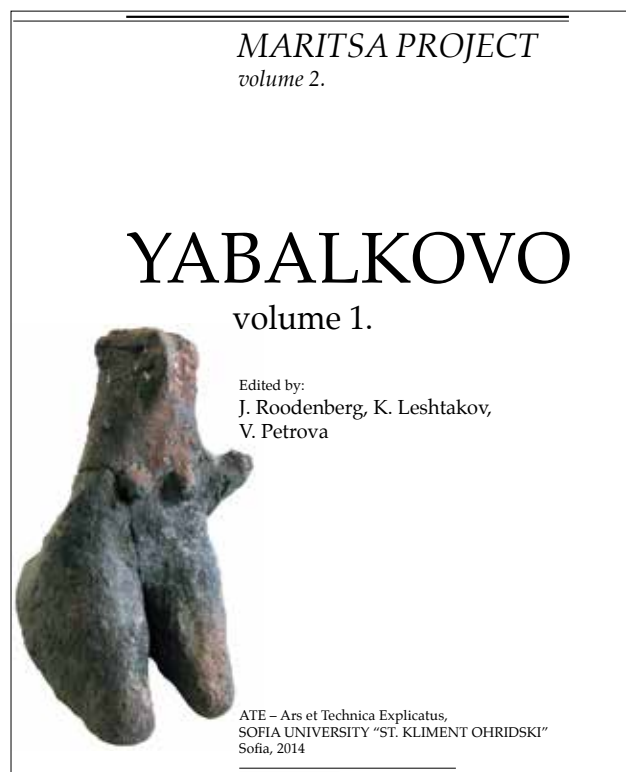
In 2014, Mouton won the “Directeur de Recherche” competition at the CNRS. This status is the equivalent for research of a university professorship in the French system.

#### Dr J.J. Roodenberg, Research Fellow

During the years under review Roodenberg has continued his activities in the field of editing texts for publication. Preparations of the 39<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> volumes of *Anatolica* have taken up much time (spent in cooperation with the Editorial Secretary) as the varied contents of these issues requested the involvement of several editors.

The *annuaire* (yearly periodical), defined as a refereed journal of international standing, aims to issue articles comprising a diversity of facets exposing Anatolia’s eventful past. Set up at first instance to publish scientific activities from both the Netherlands Institute for the Near East in Leiden and its annex in Istanbul, the Netherlands Institute in Turkey (formerly the Historical-Archaeological Institute in Istanbul), it has built a respectable

tradition of contributions to the global research community not least by disseminating a constant output of articles from foreign scientists. During the last decade requirements for publication in *Anatolica* have been stringent. While specific topics are evaluated by independent experts, submitted manuscripts are generally subject to review by a nine-headed board of editors, all well known researchers in their respective disciplines. The European Reference Index for Humanities (ERIH) ranked *Anatolica* as B, subsequently replaced by the



Title page for *Yabalkovo* vol. 1, edited by J. Roodenberg a.o.

## *NINO activities 2013-2014*

### *Administration, staff and fellows*

new nomination INT(ernational) 2, one of three tiers. INT 2 stands for “International publications with significant visibility and influence in various research domains in different countries”.

In 2013-14 final touches were put to the manuscript of the first volume in the series devoted to investigations of the Neolithic settlement Yabalkovo in Southeast Bulgaria (for details, see *Annual Report NINO & NIT 2012*, p. 54-55). This work, which was carried out with a team of co-editors and correctors, has led to publication of the volume in the winter of 2014-2015. The volume has been received favourably by colleagues. A copy was donated to the NINO library.

#### **Prof. Dr J. de Roos, Research Fellow**

In 2013 De Roos spent his research time on the extensive “Treated Passages from Hittite Texts” project, which started in 1975 and has now entered the final stage of completion. Over the past thirty years, many people worked under his direction to gather all translations, transliterations and commentaries of Hittite texts that have been published between 1907 and 1960 – a unique undertaking that may aid research in the field of Hittitology immensely. An important development this year was the decision to abandon the original path of publishing the gathered information in a paper catalogue and aim for an online database instead. For this purpose, much of the information that had already been processed for the intended book format had to be adapted for use in an online environment. This work is effectively being executed with the aid of Ms C. Bronkhorst (MA), assistant

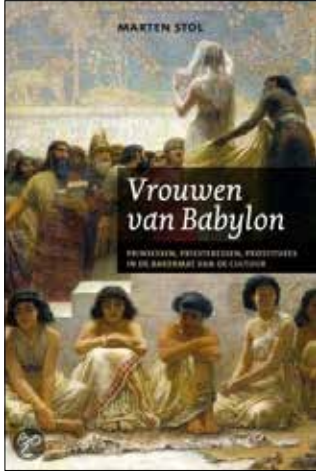
to Prof. De Roos. Although the adaptations were and still are a major cause of delay, in the long run, it will be worth the effort as a properly functioning database will provide access to the gathered information on a much larger scale and improve use and searchability for scholars worldwide.

In 2014 work continued on the adaptation of the Word-files to Excel-files and many issues with the data were solved along the way. As the project has had a long running time, unsuspected issues had to be dealt with, partly because of the number of individuals who worked on the database but also due to the multiple computer systems that have been used in the past. An example of this is the occurrence of an astonishing amount of entries named “0” in the database, an unexpected quirk of early computer systems that automatically filled out blank spaces with “0”. Extra attention has been given to remove these void zeros, as they would distort the view on the actual data.

During 2014 we have also found fellow Hittitologist Dr W.J.I. Waal (Leiden University) willing to join our project, safeguarding the continuation of the online database (including processing future updates). Also, we have made the first steps towards finding a suitable web designer to build the eventual database and website. Prof. De Roos would like to express his gratitude to NINO for the opportunity to use the library and additional resources, which enabled the continuation of the project.

# NINO activities 2013-2014

## Administration, staff and fellows



Cover for *Vrouwen van Babylon. Prinsessen, priesteressen, prostituees in de bakermat van de cultuur*, by M. Stol, 2012.

### Prof. Dr M. Stol, Research Fellow

Stol led two weekly classes with PhD students, who under his guidance studied and evaluated clay tablets – published and unpublished – inscribed in Old Babylonian. One student went on, from September 2014 onwards, to read with him eighty Old Babylonian letters from Ur, never edited before and to be published later. He was advisor in the preparation of two dissertations (R. de Boer, Leiden; B. Fiette, Paris). He prepared several contributions to books, to be published later. An English translation of his book *Vrouwen van Babylon* (2012) was prepared. Stol participated in preparatory work for NINO's 75-years jubilee, and contributed to the book and to the catalogue of the exhibition.

He was invited to a colloquium on Babylonian Medicine in Berlin (October 2014) and was presented the edition of the letters written by F.R. Kraus in Istanbul, edited by Jan Schmidt (May 2014), which was afterwards donated to the NINO library.

### Publications

Stol discovered the Babylonian parallel to 'the sin of Onan' (Genesis 38:9-10), and published the find in an article in *Le journal des médecines cunéiformes*. Further publications include several entries in the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*, and thirteen extensive reviews of books, mainly in NINO's journal *Bibliotheca Orientalis*.

- 'Masturbation in Babylonia', *Journal des médecines cunéiformes* 24 (2014) 39-40.
- Entries in *RIA*: 'Tenne' (threshing floor); 'Thymian' (thyme); 'Tiermedizin' (veterinary medicine); the god Tišpak; 'Trennwand' (partition-wall); 'Trüffel' (truffle); 'Ufer' (bank); the barbarian people Ummān-manda.





# NINO activities 2013-2014

## Jubilee, lectures, and PR

### Carolien van Zoest

#### Lectures 2013

24 January,  
Jesper Eidem  
(NINO): *Back to  
Shemshara. A new  
NINO project in  
northern Iraq*



21 February, J.J. Roodenberg (NINO): *Neolithisch  
Ilipinar. Een voorbeeld van goed boeren*



21 March, Fokke Gerritsen (NIT): *Opgravingen  
in Barcin Höyük, een vroege landbouwgemeenschap  
in Anatolië*



18 April, René Cappers (RuG/NINO): *Van gerst  
tot broodtarwe. Ethno-archeologisch onderzoek naar  
de selectie van granen in het oude Egypte*

16 May, Daniel Soliman (LU): *Hoe leest en schrijft  
men pseudo-schrift? Merktekens in en rond Deir el-  
Medina*

26 September (with LU's dept. of Ancient Cultures  
of the Mediterranean World), Ursula Verhoeven  
(Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz): *Visitors  
writing wisdom texts: Hieratic graffiti in an ancient  
tomb at Asyut*

10 October, Riens de Boer (LU): *Een inter-  
nationaal handelshuis rond 1880 v.C.: het Ikun-pisha  
archief*

1 November, Veenhof Lecture (with RMO),  
Pascal Butterlin (Sorbonne, Paris): *Mari – 80 years  
of archaeological research in perspective*

12 December, Jaana Toivari-Viitala (Helsinki  
University): *Resultaten van het project "The  
Workmen's Huts in the Theban Mountains"*

The lectures were held at the RMO' lecture  
room on the ground floor, on Thursday afternoons  
at 15.00 hrs. They were attended by ca. 20 to 50  
people, mostly colleagues, students, and other  
people with a specific interest in antiquity. The  
Veenhof Lecture was held on Friday 1 November  
at 20.00 hrs. All lectures were announced through  
email messages, posters, our website, etc.



# NINO activities 2013-2014

## Jubilee, lectures, PR



The NINO-75 Jubilee logo was used instead of the normal NINO logo throughout 2014. The two sphinxes are placed in Egyptian jubilee kiosks; the number "75" is written in Babylonian cuneiform.

### Jubilee year

Founded in 1939 (see article pp. 22-29), NINO celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2014. Preparations for a jubilee publication and an exhibition began in 2011 with the help of a small committee of colleagues. Additional funding for the jubilee activities was given by Shell Nederland BV.

### Lectures 2014

The theme of the NINO lectures held in 2014 was "Written in code, the past deciphered". They were again held at the RMO on Thursday afternoons.

16 January, Theo Krispijn (LU): *Het ontstaan van het oudste schrift in Mesopotamië*

20 February, Caroline Waerzeggers (LU): *De vier helden van de ontcijfering van het spijkerschrift*

27 March, Holger Gzella (LU): *Het begin van het alfabet*

17 April, Olaf Kaper (LU): *Spelen met de woorden van de god. Cryptografie in het oude Egypte*

7 May, additional lecture, Joachim Marzahn (Vorderasiatisches Museum, Berlin): *News about the writing technology in the archaic Uruk texts*

22 May, Laura Van Broekhoven (Rijksmuseum Volkenkunde, Leiden): *Het hiërogliefenschrift van de Maya's ontcijferd?*

16 October, Willemijn Waal (LU): *Vergeten maar niet verdwenen. De herontdekking van het Hettitische rijk en zijn schriftelijke nalatenschap*



# NINO activities 2013-2014

## Jubilee, lectures, PR

21 November, Veenhof Lecture (with RMO), Wouter Henkelman (EPHE, Paris/DAI, Berlin/NINO): *De inscriptie van Bisotun, Iran: Poort naar het Oude Nabije Oosten*

25 November, additional lecture, Jason Thompson: *Edward William Lane and Ancient Egypt*

11 December, Ben Haring (LU): *Egyptische merktekens en pictogramschrift*

Ca. 25 to 60 people attended, depending on the topic. The Veenhof Lecture, held on a Friday evening at the RMO, was attended by ca. 175 people. The lectures were again announced through email messages, posters (new design), our website and Facebook page, etc.

### Public study day

On the afternoon of Friday 4 April we held a study day on “4000 years of tomb decoration in Egypt and Africa”, at the RMO.

All participants were offered a free copy of a title of their choice from among selected NINO publications 1962-1994; current NINO

### Studiemiddag: Levendige versiering, geëerde doden. 4000 jaar grafdecoratie in Egypte en Afrika

René van Walsem (LU): *Oudegyptische elitegraven in Sakkara*

Irene Morfini, MA (LU/Min Project): *The Tomb of Min and other new discoveries in the tombs of Luxor*

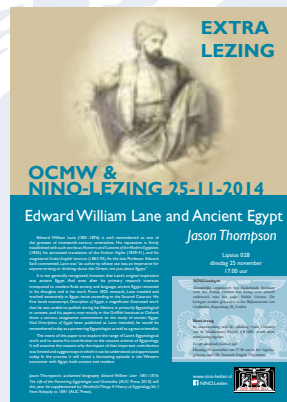
Olaf Kaper (LU): *Egyptische grafdecoratie in de Romeinse periode*

Jacques van der Vliet (LU/Radboud University Nijmegen): *De grafkelder van een Nubische bisschop*

Wouter van Beek (African Studies Centre, Leiden/Tilburg University): *De Dogon/Tellem-necropolis in centraal Mali*



publications were sold at a discount. Drinks were offered during a break and at the end of the afternoon. Ca. 50 people attended.





# NINO activities 2013-2014

## Jubilee, lectures, PR

### Conference "ZAGROS"

Kamal Rashid Raheem (Sulaymania): *Recent Archaeological Activity in the Iraqi Zagros*

R. Cappers (University of Groningen/LU): *Barley and wheat: food or fodder?*

R. and W. Matthews (University of Reading): *Long-term human-environment interactions in the Neolithic of the Central Zagros, 10,000-6000 BC*

O. Nieuwenhuys (LU) and B. Robert (University of Lyon 2): *Reassessing the Hassuna-Samarra period in Iraqi Kurdistan*

T. Skuldbøl (University of Copenhagen): *Urban trajectories and dynamics of complexity in the Upper Mesopotamia: a view from the Zagros foothills*

M. Merlino (UvA) and D. Gianessi (NINO): *Continuity or change? The site of Bardastee (Iraq) as a case study in the transition between fourth and third millennium BC*

C. Kepinski (CNRS): *Permeability and Resilience between Zagros foothills and Mesopotamia: the case of Kunara in the Upper Tigris at the end of the third millennium BC*

J. Eidem (NINO): *Models of Proto-historic Zagros Societies*

U. Bürger (University of Heidelberg): *Cultural entanglement between Zagros highlands and Mesopotamian lowlands: The case study of Bakr Awa in the Middle Bronze Age*

Dishad Marf Zamua (LU): *Looking for the deified and sacred mountains in the Zagros*

L. de Jong (University of Groningen): *Imperial landscapes in the Erbil Plain: the Hellenistic and Parthian/Roman periods*



### Academic meeting

We organised a one-day conference for invited guests and students, entitled "ZAGROS", on Monday 1 December. The topic was the current main research project conducted by NINO, in the Kurdish Region of Iraq. The conference gathered a small group of Dutch and foreign experts and addressed broader issues of ancient Zagros society.

### Library book displays

In a showcase placed near the entrance desk of the library, small displays of special books are shown to give visitors an impression of our rich and varied library collections (see p. 47 for more details). This new initiative was started as part of our jubilee celebrations, but may well be continued in the coming years.

### Jubilee exhibition

The National Museum of Antiquities kindly lent their cooperation in putting together an exhibition entitled "75 jaar NINO", which ran from 1 October 2014 to 3 May 2015 in the Museum's small temporary exhibition room on the ground floor. The main exhibits were objects from the Böhl Collection: clay tablets and other objects inscribed in cuneiform; Luristan bronzes; sculptures and terracottas, including the Hittite bronze bull. They were illustrated by large copies of selected glass slides made by De Liagre Böhl on his 1939 trip through Iraq and Iran, a recently rediscovered



## *NINO activities 2013-2014*

### *Jubilee, lectures, PR*



Opening of the NINO jubilee exhibition at the National Museum of Antiquities.



Photo in Leidsch Dagblad, 15 October 2014.

NINO collection (see pp. 49-51). In the back of the room, a larger screen showed moving images from Eidem's excavation at Tell Shemshara, and a smaller showed selected Böhl glass slides. On the first floor there was one additional case with Egyptian objects from the Böhl Collection, augmented with some materials on Prof. A. de Buck.

The catalogue of the exhibition was published by Ex Oriente Lux as special issue *Phoenix* 59,3 (2013). A short article on the history of NINO, introducing the exhibition, appeared in the RMO Magazine (published by the Museum's friends'

association). Interviews highlighting the exhibition were published in *Leidsch Dagblad* and *Mare* (Leiden University's weekly newspaper).

The exhibition was opened on Tuesday evening 30 September, in the presence of several ambassadors, three former NINO directors, numerous colleagues and friends, former and current board members, including many witnesses to NINO's history, as well as a few family members of professors De Liagre Böhl and De Buck. This special occasion was perceived as the culmination of NINO's jubilee efforts. It was attended by ca. 230 people.



Objects from the Böhl Collection shown in the exhibition "75 jaar NINO" (not to scale).

# NINO activities 2013-2014

## Jubilee, lectures, PR

### Jubilee publications

#### Volume “*Waar de geschiedenis begon*”

As an overview of Dutch research into the Ancient Near East and Egypt, 23 contributions were written by various colleagues, on their (and their predecessors’) excavations and research, as well as on the history of the disciplines involved. These were combined into a volume of 363 pages with many illustrations in colour: *Waar de geschiedenis begon. Nederlandse onderzoekers in de ban van spijkerschrift, hiërogliefen en aardewerk* (see p. 57). Layout and printing was expertly done by Peeters Printers, Leuven. Partial funding was given by Shell Nederland BV and Ex Oriente Lux.

At the opening of the jubilee exhibition, the first copy of the book was presented to Wim Weijland, director of the Museum.

#### BiOr issue

*Bibliotheca Orientalis* 71, 3/4 (2014) appeared as a special jubilee issue: the articles section was filled with overviews of digital resources for the study of the (Ancient) Near East, produced on our request by various authors. The articles (and summaries in Arabic) were made available as free pdf downloads from our website.

#### Digitised publications

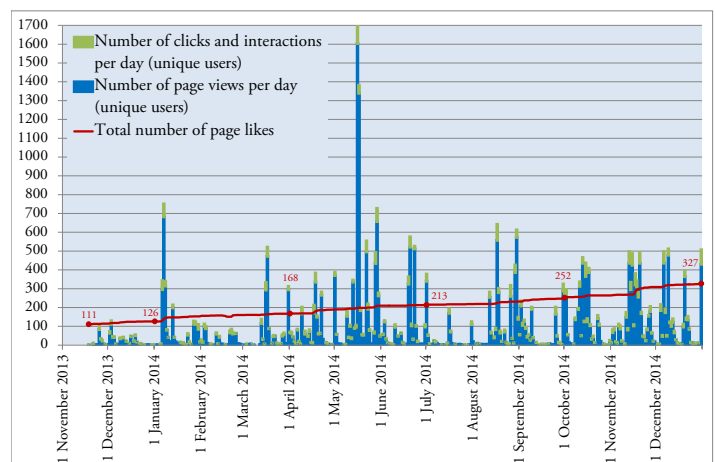
Sold-out NINO publications – some 35 titles – were scanned into pdf files and made available as free pdf downloads from our website. OCR has been applied to enable searching through the texts.

### Publicity and online presence

During the years under review NINO made an effort to build a stronger online presence. During 2014 a new website was prepared which was launched in 2015 (report to follow in Annual Report 2015). A Facebook page was started and a new mailing list service employed.

#### Facebook page

The NINO.Leiden Facebook page was created on 1 March 2013. Aims are to bring news and information on NINO activities and publications, but also on relevant activities and news from other parties in our fields of interest, without striving to give a complete overview. Posts are usually in English; for announcements of local activities Dutch is occasionally used. The page can be viewed without logging in to Facebook.



Graph 1. Page activity for [www.facebook.com/NINO.Leiden](http://www.facebook.com/NINO.Leiden), 2013-2014.

## NINO activities 2013-2014

### Jubilee, lectures, PR

Statistical data on public reception of the NINO Facebook page is available starting from 18 November 2013. The number of “likes” for the page grew steadily from naught to 327 by the end of 2014 (see Graph 1). The number of people viewing the page per day averaged 16 in 2013, with occasional peaks, the highest 110 views. A total of 69 posts appeared on the NINO Facebook page in 2013. They were viewed by an average of 136 unique users, with peaks up to 202 views.

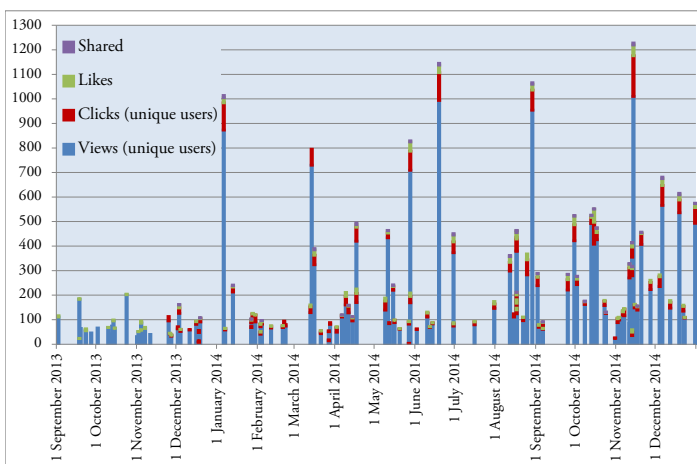
In 2014 the average number of page views went up to 85, with an exceptional peak of 1604 on 16 May 2014 – perhaps influenced by our announcement of a lecture organised by the Leiden Department of Egyptology on that day. In 2014 a total of 95 posts appeared, viewed on average by 219 people. An exceptional peak of 1010 views was reached for the report on the NINO Archaeological Project on the

Rania Plain posted on 14 November 2014: “Three Sites to GO – and one to STAY!”

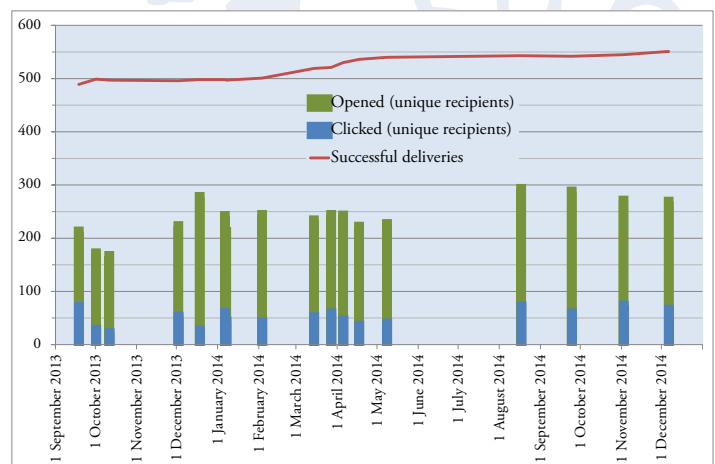
### Mailinglist “Lezingencyclus”

Starting from September 2013, a new format was used to send monthly messages about the NINO lectures. An online mailing list service was employed to manage contacts, compose newsletter-style messages, and monitor results. The emails (in Dutch, as most NINO lectures are held in Dutch) quickly grew into a monthly newsletter, often including short news on our library, publications, and (local) activities organised by colleagues.

An average of 211 addressees opened our messages in 2013; in 2014 the average went up to 249. The best read message (viewed by 293 people) was sent on 17 August 2014, on our jubilee activities planned for the autumn.



Graph 2. Reach per post for [www.facebook.com/NINO.Leiden](http://www.facebook.com/NINO.Leiden), 2013-2014.



Graph 3. Reach per email message for mailing list “NINO Lezingencyclus”.

## *NINO activities 2013-2014*

# Library

*Anita Keizers*

### General

The NINO library is an independent academic research library, open to the public but mostly used by researchers and students from Leiden University and other universities in the Netherlands and abroad. It is an open shelf library where visitors can consult the book collection themselves, except for items from our special collections which have to be retrieved by the library staff. Books are not loaned out; copying and scanning facilities are available in the library.

The library is open on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A total number of 10,712 visitors registered in 2013; 9,178 visitors registered in the guestbook in 2014, mostly from the departments of Egyptology, Assyriology, Archaeology, and Ancient Cultures of the Mediterranean World. The

library can host a maximum of 65 visitors at once; there are approximately 40-50 visitors daily. As in previous years, we were pleased also in 2013 and 2014 to welcome a number of renowned visitors from abroad, who spent a shorter or longer period doing research in our highly appreciated library.

Beside the regular ongoing library activities – such as assisting visitors, keeping the collection up-to-date and cataloguing – the staff members have busied themselves in 2013 and 2014 with conservation of the collection and the reorganisation of the library and storage rooms, including re-shelving and cleaning considerable parts of the collection. While this could not be done without some nuisance to the library users, improved placement means that books are now more easily found on

the shelves. After completion of this reorganisation, an updated and renewed list of periodicals was finished and a library classification folder was prepared, corresponding with the more detailed signature lists placed on the bookcases. The new periodicals list and classification folder are since regularly used by library users.

The annual full collection check was rescheduled from winter to summer, when visitor numbers are lower. Bi-monthly work meetings are held to keep library staff informed of ongoing developments.



Study area in the NINO library.



# NINO activities 2013-2014

## Library

### Jubilee activities

To celebrate our 75 year jubilee in 2014 bookmarks and pens featuring the NINO logo were distributed to library visitors.

As of January 2014, a small showcase placed at the entrance of the library exhibits a few items from the different collections in our library.

### Library book displays 2014

February-March, Anita Keizers: *From the Seyyidah Salme / Emily Ruete Collection. Four old imprints around Lawrence of Arabia*

March-April, Mariëtte Keuken: *The Egyptian Lotus. Books from our library collection and two objects from our Böhl Collection*

May-September, Anita Keizers: *Mesopotamia. Books from our library's old imprints collection*

October-December, Odile Hoogzaad: *Old writings from Yemen and Stelae in Aksum, Ethiopia*

### Collections and acquisitions

The NINO library collection consists of monographs and periodicals, all catalogued by library staff members. The titles are available in the online Leiden University Libraries Catalogue under the subcategory "Leiden collections". Two computers are available in the library for visitors to consult the online catalogue. In 2013 a retro project was started to catalogue a small but important collection of special old printed books. This was completed in 2014.

The main fields of interest and largest categories are Egyptology, Assyriology and the Near East in general; the library can be considered one of the few excellent libraries in the world with many essential reference works for these subjects. Notable are also the many important publications on the Middle East, including Turkey, Iran, Hebraica and the archaeological reports from the Levant area (the "Scholten" collection); the library further hosts an impressive collection of travel literature and country descriptions, as well as the special collections of Seyyidah Salme (Emily Ruete), D. van der Meulen, R. Hoogland and G.H. de Knecht. The publications are in western languages, Hebrew, Arabic, Persian, Turkish and in several other non-western languages.

Acquisitions are mainly restricted to the fields of Egyptology, Assyriology and Ancient Near Eastern archaeology. These acquisitions are based on publisher catalogues, reviews in journals, as well as



Accompanying text to book display  
"The Egyptian lotus".

## *NINO activities 2013-2014*

### *Library*

advice from NINO fellows and other specialists in Near Eastern studies.

In 2013 472 new monographs were acquired and 270 periodical issues. In 2014 463 new monographs were acquired and 250 periodical issues. Occasional gifts and donations are accepted if appropriate for the collection. In 2013 these counted to 44 items. In 2014 we accepted donations of in total 178 volumes or issues; among them items from the legacies of A.J. Drewes and H.M. Hays. Every four months a list of new acquisitions is published on the NINO website.

In 2013 there were 839 titles of periodicals for all the categories available in the collection, 162 of these dynamic (including some titles received in exchange for NINO publications), and some are single volumes. In 2014, there were 836 titles of periodicals, of which 143 dynamic. Sadly, in 2014 we had to cancel some of our standing orders due to budget cuts.

In total about 42,000 titles are catalogued for the NINO library; the number of volumes present on the shelves is understandably a lot more. These volumes occupy approximately 1,650 m of shelf space in the library's over 500 m<sup>2</sup> floor space.



Cleaning and reshuffling books for improved placement in the NINO library.

## NINO activities 2013-2014

# Collections

*Deborah Giannessi & Sebastiaan Berntsen*

During 2013 a pilot project for the evaluation of the De Liagre Böhl Collection was initiated, addressing issues of conservation, organization and presentation of the different parts of the collection. The project was led by Deborah Giannessi, aided on a weekly basis by Sebastiaan Berntsen.



A card-index box in NINO's Böhl archive (photo G. van der Kooij, 2013).



Papers in the University Library's Böhl archive, arranged for loan to NINO's jubilee exhibition.

[http://catalogue.leidenuniv.nl/UBL\\_V1:All Content:UBL\\_DTL2955024](http://catalogue.leidenuniv.nl/UBL_V1:All Content:UBL_DTL2955024)

During his very active professional life Prof. Böhl kept many papers and documents related to his scientific activities. At the beginning of his career, these included in particular oecumenical studies; later came trips and studies of the Middle East, like the excavation at Sichem in Jordan, papers related to the acquisition of objects and tablets for the RMO and his own collection (acquired by NINO in 1951). Throughout his life, he kept letters to and from colleagues, photos, notes, diaries, manuscripts and research documents. Personal items like tickets, visa, special invitations and varia also belong to the Collection. All these documents were stored at NINO, except for a large number of letters which were donated by the family to the University Library in Leiden. In order to gain a provisional overview of the whole collection all the papers at NINO have



## *NINO activities 2013-2014*

### *Collections*

been checked, listed, divided according to subjects, and stored in 35 boxes. The University Library has recently made available online the list of letters to and from Böhl in their archive in alphabetical order of the correspondents. To facilitate access to subjects relevant for Near Eastern Studies, however, a specific list of those of interest, has been made by NINO.



Glass slide: the Pol-e Dokhtar bridge in Iran (photo F.Th.M. Böhl, 1939).

In addition to paper documentation a large number of photo albums, postcards, and glass slides used for teaching, have been evaluated and partly catalogued. A group of 1615 glass slides have been listed. The slides – except for 451 pieces which were made by Kampman mostly in Turkey and Jordan in the 1950'ies – are black and white glass slides made by Böhl himself during his several trips to the Middle East between 1926 and 1939. These slides document many archaeological sites

in the whole region, some during the excavations itself, landscapes, biblical reference places visited by Böhl, landmarks like bridges and rivers, air photos and some ethnographical pictures. The quality is good and most are well preserved. A number of 113 slides were acquired in Jerusalem at the American Colony shop and have been assigned the pertinent Library of Congress reference No.



Colleagues at work during the July inventory check of the Böhl Collection. From left to right: J.G. Dercksen, W.H. van Soldt, M. Stol.

The archaeological collection of NINO, objects and tablets, originally acquired by Böhl himself, have also been provisionally sorted and ordered. With the valuable contribution of the Assyriologists and scholars affiliated with SMES at Leiden University and NINO, a three-day inventory check of the entire tablets collection, ca. 2500 items, was done in July 2013. Also the ca. 500 objects, seals, clay figurines, bronze tools, stone items, pottery,



## NINO activities 2013-2014

### Collections

and some Egyptological items have been checked. During this process photos of some relevant items have been made.

Information about all these items has been gathered from different paper sources, and we are in the process of entering all information into a database that will be used both for our administration, and as a basis for online presentation. The complete check of the NINO Böhl Collection is a first, but important step towards making the collection available for a larger public, and to be protected, stored and preserved for the future.

The 2013 inventory check on the Böhl Collection revealed that quite a few of the clay cuneiform tablets and other objects were in danger of decay and damage, in a few cases irreversible. Preservation and conservation of clay tablets is a

highly specialised field. In May 2014 we invited Prof. Joachim Marzahn, Curator of the cuneiform collection of the Pergamon Museum in Berlin, to visit NINO and help us assess the situation. Prof. Marzahn inspected the Collection and made a number of recommendations for changes and improvements of the storage environment needed to stabilise and preserve the artefacts. Ventilation, plastering of the walls and floor, climate control system, acid free environments were the main issues. During the remainder of 2014 preparations were made to implement these changes in early 2015. Fundamental for the concrete planning was advice kindly offered by Mrs. Sonja Radujkovic in the conservation department of the Pergamon Museum, and by Mrs. Carmen Gütschow, independent restorer specialised in clay tablets.

Creating comprehensive inventories and securing optimal storage environments for our collections are of course basic tasks, which should be followed by efforts to compile scholarly catalogues and digital recordings of the various sections of the collections, with the ultimate aim of making the information available online and in other formats. Many of the cuneiform tablets in the Böhl Collection – which encompasses easily some 90% of all cuneiform tablets in the Netherlands – have been studied and published by NINO (in the *Tabulae De Liagre Böhl* and *Studia ad Liagre Böhl* series). Much remains to be done, and we are therefore busy seeking financial support to organise this in the near future.



Colleagues at work during the July 2013 inventory check of the Böhl Collection. From left to right: W.J.I. Waal, A.H. Jagersma, Th.J.H. Krispijn, J. Eidem.

# Chair of Ecology and Palaeoecology of the Near East

*René Cappers*

The special chair was established by NINO in 2007 at the Faculty of Archaeology of Leiden University. It is held by Prof. Dr. R.T.J. Cappers (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen). Below is an overview of his activities in 2013-2014:

## Education

- Environmental History of the Near East;
- Economy of food;
- The archaeology of death and burial.

## Supervising students

### *PhD-students*

- F. Fantone (Leiden), participating in the Dunnu Project (Bronze Age Sabi Abyad; Dr Bleda During & Prof. Dr P.M.M.G. Akkermans);
- C. Cilingir (Istanbul): archaeobotanical remains from Tepecik (Neolithic-Chalcolithic);
- R. Neef (Berlin): archaeobotany of Jordan;
- H. Madina (Paris): archaeobotany of the West Bank;
- F. Heinrich (Groningen): Modelling Crop Selection in Roman Italy: The Economics of Agricultural Decision Making;
- A. Hansen (Groningen): The agricultural economy of Islamic Jordan, from the Arab conquest to the Ottoman period.

### *MA-students*

- M. Günther (Berlin): iconografie van de oogst van Emmer tarwe (2015);
- D. Alshawish (Leiden): processing of Bitter vetch (*Vicia ervilia*);
- C. van Doorn (Leiden): archeobotanisch onderzoek Deir Alla;

- V. Verezen (Leiden): archeobotanisch onderzoek Tall Baazi (Syrië).

## Lectures

IWGP (Thessaloniki; 2013): Modeling Shifts in Cereal Cultivation in Egypt from the Start of Agriculture Until Modern Times.

## Participation in excavations

### *Egypt*

Cappers is co-director of the Fayum project (with Dr W.Z. Wendrich; UCLA): from 2003 onwards (Egypt; Neolithic and Graeco-Roman period). Research title: "The Fayum as an Agricultural Landscape: settlements, field systems and shore lines from the prehistory to the present."

### *Turkey*

Archaeobotanical research at Barcın Höyük (Turkey; Neolithic until early Chalcolithic): from 2007 onwards. Directed by Dr F.A. Gerritsen (NIT).

Archaeobotanical research at Tepecik-Çiftlik (Turkey; late-Neolithic until Middle Chalcolithic): from 2004 onwards. Directed by Dr E. Bıçakçı (Istanbul University).



Threshing products of Emmer wheat (left) and Durum wheat (right).

## *NINO activities 2013-2014*

### *Chair of Ecology and Palaeoecology of the Near East*

Archaeobotanical research at Güvercinkeyası from 1996 onwards (Turkey; Middle Chalcolithic). Directed by Prof. Dr Sevil Gülçur (Istanbul University).

#### ***Syria***

Archaeobotanical research at Sabi Abyad (Syria; late-Neolithic and late Bronze Age): from 2000 onwards (previously by Prof. Dr. W. van Zeist). Directed by Prof. Dr. P.M.M.G. Akkermans (LU).

Archaeobotanical research at Qala'at Halwanji (Syria; Early and Middle Bronze Age), directed by Prof. Dr J. Eidem (NINO).

#### ***Jordan***

Archaeobotanical research at Tall Hisban (Jordan; Umayyad-early Ottoman period). Directed by Prof. Dr B.J. Walker (Middle East and Islamic archaeologist and director of the Northern Jordan Project; currently: Missouri State University, USA, when the project commences: University of Bonn, Germany).



Threshing Durum wheat in Egypt with the aid of modern machinery.

#### ***Crete***

Ethnoarchaeobotanical research dealing with traditional rusk bread baking (2013).

#### ***Iraq***

Ethnoarchaeobotanical research dealing with traditional crop processing and food preparation (2013 and 2014).

#### ***India***

Ethnoarchaeobotanical research dealing with traditional crop processing and food preparation (2013 and 2014).

#### ***Sudan***

Archaeobotanical research at Kerma (2014).

#### **Memberships**

- Korrespondierendes Mitglied des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts (DAI);
- Member of the scientific committee of the Netherlands School of Archaeological Research (ARCHON) (graduate school);
- Member of the Management Team of the Groningen Institute of Archaeology;
- Editorial board 'Advances in archaeobotany';
- Editorial board 'Palaeohistoria';
- Editorial board 'Groningen Archaeological Studies';
- Editorial board 'Electronic Journal of Indian medicine'.

# NINO activities 2013-2014

## Chair of Ecology and Palaeoecology of the Near East

### Publications

- Cappers R.T.J., & R.M. Bekker (2013): Handboek voor het determineren van zaden en vruchten. Groningen Archaeological Studies no. 22. Groningen: Barkhuis & Groningen University Library, 276 pp.
- Cappers, R.T.J. & R.M. Bekker (2013): Manual for the identification of plant seeds and fruits. Groningen Archaeological Studies no. 23. Groningen: Barkhuis & Groningen University Library, 274 pp.
- Cappers, R.T.J., F.B.J. Heinrich, S.R. Kaaijk, F. Fantone, J.C. Darnell & C. Manassa (2014): Barley Revisited: Production of Barley Bread in Umm Mawagir (Kharga Oasis, Egypt). In: K. Accetta, R. Fellingner, P. Lourenço Gonçalves, S. Musselwhite & W.P. van Pelt (eds.): Current research in Egyptology 2013. Proceedings of the Fourteenth Annual Symposium. Oxbow Books: Oxford, pp. 49-63.
- Linseele, V.; W. Van Neer; S. Thys; R. Philipps; R.T.J. Cappers; W.Z. Wendrich & S. Holdaway (2014): New Archaeozoological Data from the Fayum "Neolithic" with a Critical Assessment of the Evidence for Early Stock Keeping in Egypt. In: *PLoS ONE* 9(10): e108517 [DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0108517].
- Schepers, M., R.T.J. Cappers & R.M. Bekkers (2013): A review of prehistoric and early historic mainland salt marsh vegetation in the northern-Netherlands based on the analysis of plant macrofossils. In: *Journal of Coastal Conservation* (2013) 17:755-773 [DOI: 10.1007/s11852-013-0275-y].
- Cappers, R.T.J. (2013): Modelling cereal selection in Neolithic Egypt: An evaluation of economic criteria. In: Noriyuki Shirai (ed.), Neolithisation of Northeastern Africa. Studies in Early Near Eastern Production, Subsistence, and Environment (SENEPSE) no. 15, ex oriente, Berlin, pp. 109-120.
- Schepers, M., J.F. Scheepens, R.T.J. Cappers, O.F.R. Van Tongeren, D.C.M. Raemaekers & R.M. Bekker (2013). An objective method based on assemblages of subfossil plant macro-remains to reconstruct past natural vegetation: A case study of Swifterbant, The Netherlands. In: *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany* 22 (3), pp. 243-255.
- Cappers, R.T.J., E. Cole, D. Jones, S. Holdaway & W.Z. Wendrich (2013): The Fayyûm desert as an Agricultural Landscape: Recent Research Results. In: C. Arlt & M.A. Stadler (eds.): *Das Fayyûm in Hellenismus und Kaiserzeit. Fallstudien zu multikulturellem Leben in der Antike*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, pp. 35-50.
- Cappers, R.T.J. (2014): Botanique. In: M.-C. Bruwier, W. Claes & A. Quertinmont (eds.): "La description de l'Égypte" de Jean-Jacques Rifaud (1813-1826). Bruxelles, Éditions Safran, pp. 185-214.
- Cappers, R.T.J. (2014): Graanteelt in Romeins Egypte. Nieuwe inzichten op basis van onderzoek aan plantenresten uit Karanis (Fajom, Egypte). In: O.E. Kaper & J.G. Dercksen (red.): *Waar de geschiedenis begon. Nederlandse onderzoekers in de ban van spijkerschrift, hiërogliefen en aardewerk*. Leiden: NINO, pp. 287-299.
- Cappers, R.T.J. (2014): The cultivated and wild plant remains. In: P.M.M.G. Akkermans, M.L. Brüning, H.O. Huigens & O.P. Nieuwenhuyse (eds.): *Excavations at the Neolithic tell Sabi Abyad, Syria. The 1994-1999 seasons*. Turnhout: Brepols Publishers n.v., pp. 233-246.



## *NINO activities 2013-2014*

### *Chair of Ecology and Palaeo-ecology of the Near East*



Mud bricks, tempered with vegetal remains, are prepared for analysis in water buckets.

- Cappers, R.T.J. (2013): Modelling shifts in cereal cultivation in Egypt from the start of agriculture until modern times. In: *Annual Report NINO & NIT 2012*, pp. 20-31.
- Cappers, R.T.J. (2013): Determinatie prehistorische verkoolde plantenresten. In: E. Eimermann: *Verkoold graan uit de IJzertijd en een middeleeuws ophogingspakket*. Archeologisch onderzoek bij de renovatie van hotel Vermeer aan de Grote Kerkhof 7-9. Interne Rapportage Archeologie Deventer 60, pp. 15-16.

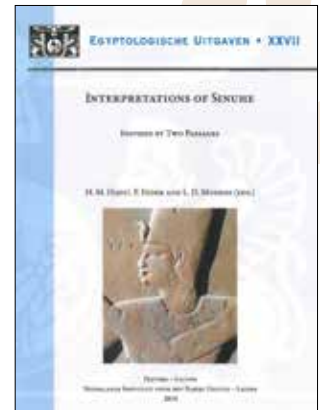
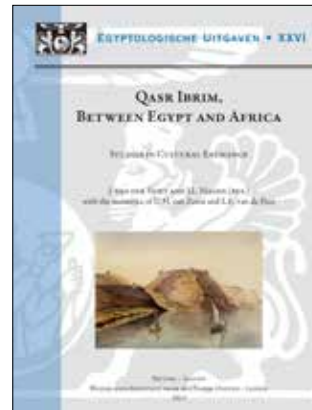
### **Curatorium of the Special Chair of Ecology**

The special chair, created by NINO at the Faculty of Archaeology at Leiden University, is overseen by a Curatorium that meets annually.

Members: Prof. Dr W.H. van Soldt (president), Prof. Dr M.H. Field, Prof. Dr O.E. Kaper, Dr D.J.W. Meijer.

The chair is held by Prof. Dr R.T.J. Cappers (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen) since 2007.

# NINO and NIT Publications



## PIHANS

Vol. 123 (2013): Old Assyrian Legal Practices. Law and Dispute in the Ancient Near East  
*T. Hertel*  
27 cm, softcover; XLII, 479 pp.; € 80.00. ISBN 978-90-6258-334-8.

Vol. 124 (2014): Life, Death, and Coming of Age in Antiquity: Individual Rites of Passage in the Ancient Near East and its Surroundings. *Vivre, grandir et mourir dans l'antiquité : rites de passage individuels au Proche-Orient ancien et ses environs*  
*A. Mouton, J. Patrier (eds.)*  
27 cm, softcover; XIII, 552 pp.; € 55.00. ISBN 978-90-6258-335-5.

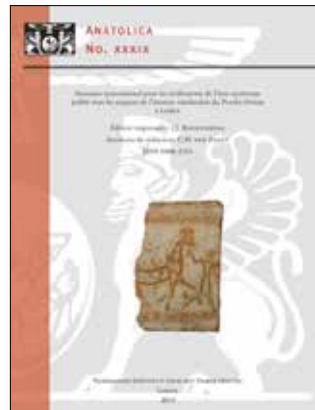
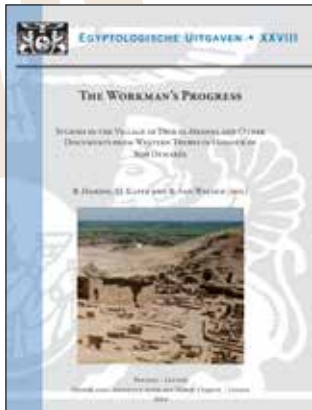
## Egyptologische Uitgaven (Egyptological Publications)

Vol. 26 (2013): Qasr Ibrim, between Egypt and Africa. Studies in cultural exchange (NINO symposium, Leiden, 11-12 December 2009).  
*J. van der Vliet and J.L. Hagen (eds.), L.E. van de Peut, C.H. van Zoest (ass.)*  
27 cm, softcover; VI, 191 pp.; € 40.00. ISBN 978-90-6258-226-6.

Vol. 27 (2014): Interpretations of Sinuhe. Inspired by Two Passages (Proceedings of a Workshop held at Leiden University, 27-29 November 2009)  
*F. Feder, H.M. Hays, L.D. Morenz (eds.)*  
27 cm, softcover; VI, 243 pp.; € 45.00. ISBN 978-90-6258-227-3.

Vol. 28 (2014): The Workman's Progress. Studies in the village of Deir el-Medina and documents from Western Thebes in Honour of Rob Demarée  
*B.J.J. Haring, O.E. Kaper, R. van Walsem (eds.)*  
27 cm, softcover; XIV, 332 pp.; € 59.00. ISBN 978-90-6258-228-0.

## NINO and NIT Publications



### ANATOLICA

Vol. 39 (2013): 296 pp., 11 articles on archaeology of Anatolia and Syria, and Hittitology.

Vol. 40 (2014): 231 pp., 12 articles on archaeology of Anatolia, Armenia and Egypt, Hittitology, Urartu, and object studies.

### Bibliotheca Orientalis

Vol. 70 (2013): 819 cols., 11 articles, 172 books reviewed.

Vol. 71 (2014): 880 cols., 16 articles, 177 books reviewed.

*BiOr* 71, 3/4 (2014) was a special jubilee issue. The articles section of this issue, containing eight overviews of digital resources for research in Near Eastern Studies, is available as a free pdf download from the NINO website. Summaries in Arabic of three articles are also available as a free pdf download.

### Hors série

(2014) *Waar de geschiedenis begon*. Nederlandse onderzoekers in de ban van spijkerschrift, hiërogliefen en aardewerk. Uitgave naar aanleiding van het 75-jarig bestaan van het Nederlands Instituut voor het Nabije Oosten, 1939-2014.

*J.G. Dercksen, O.E. Kaper (eds.)*

27.5 cm, softcover; XIV, 363 pp.; € 46.50. ISBN 978-90-6258-248-8.

Special jubilee publication in Dutch, in full colour, containing chapters on past and current Dutch research, as well as historical accounts of the studies of the Near East and Egypt in the Netherlands, and of NINO itself.







# NIT activities 2013-2014

*Fokke Gerritsen, Local director NIT*

## Introduction

The Netherlands Institute in Turkey is a research institution located in Istanbul, fostering the study of the (historical) cultures and societies of Anatolia and surrounding regions. It conducts research, and aims to stimulate and facilitate academic studies in Turkey, by scholars as well as students, from the Netherlands and other countries. An additional objective is to promote cooperation in research and education between the Netherlands and Turkey.

Founded in 1958, the institute has been located since 2006 in the Merkez Han premises of the Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (RCAC) of Koç University, in the central Beyoğlu district of Istanbul. During the 2013 and 2014 years, the NIT collaborated on several occasions with RCAC staff and Koç University faculty members, and made its library holdings available to members of the academic community and beyond. Since 2010 NIT and Koç University's Department of Archaeology and History of Art have worked together intensively in the Barcın Höyük Excavations project.

In the spring of 2013, the NIT received news that the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science decided to discontinue its funding for the NIT from 2015 onwards, as part of general budget cuts of the ministry. This means that the NIT will see a major decrease of its budget. Currently, all efforts are made by the board and directors of NINO and NIT to find new partnerships to ensure that the NIT can continue its activities.

This unhappy news notwithstanding, the institute

conducted a full and diverse program of activities. It carried out research projects in archaeology and heritage studies, published on these projects, organized short courses and summer schools, hosted conferences, symposiums and lectures, and provided support to numerous fellows, visiting researchers and students. In the following pages, you can read about the activities of the NIT in 2013 and 2014.

## Staff

Throughout 2013 and 2014, the core of the Istanbul-based NIT team remained the same: local director Fokke Gerritsen (0.9 fte), staff member Karin Schuitema (0.8 fte, through Leiden University), librarian Gülten Yıldız (1.0 fte) and assistant Güher Gürmen (1.0 fte). Based in Ankara, Funda Demir coordinated the Study in Holland Desk in Turkey also on behalf of the NIT (0.5 fte, through Leiden University). The appointment of Charlie Smid (0.1 fte, through Leiden University) was not renewed at the end of 2013, and the appointments of Karin Schuitema and Funda Demir will not be renewed by Leiden University after 2014.

## Library

Through acquisitions, exchanges and gifts, the collections of the library expanded by about 500 volumes over 2013 and 2014, adding to its collection of c. 25.000 monographs and journal volumes. The main subject areas of the library are archaeology and history of Anatolia, the Near East and Southeast Europe, and Istanbul. In addition

## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Research and publications

to being intensively used by NIT and RCAC staff and fellows, the library welcomed close to 2400 researchers and students from outside.

#### Guestrooms

The NIT has access to three single guestrooms in the institute building for visiting researchers and fellows. In 2013, overall occupancy was at about 65%, in 2014 this figure reached to 69%, showing that the lodgings are a much-valued element of the NIT facilities.

### Research and publications

NIT research proceeds along two tracks: research conducted by NIT staff members, and research conducted by others with support from the NIT. For the last several years, three research projects were conducted directly under the auspices of the NIT, one in archaeology, heritage studies and architectural history each. Research supported by the NIT covers a much wider range of topics from the humanities and social sciences, with 'Turkey' as the common denominator. It includes work by NIT fellows and visiting scholars, residents in our lodgings and numerous library users. The research topics of the recipients of NIT fellowships listed below given an impression of the wide scope of research supported by the NIT.

#### Barcın Höyük Excavations

The main research project conducted under the flag of the Netherlands Institute in Turkey is the Barcın Höyük Excavations Project. Two seasons of fieldwork took place in the summers of 2013 and

2014; a report on the work can be found in this *Annual Report* (pp. 10-15).

The excavations are conducted with permission of the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, and are funded largely by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). In addition to the NIT, institutions that are closely involved in the project include Koç University (Dr. Rana Özbal), VU University Amsterdam (Dr. Fokke Gerritsen) and Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (Dr. René Cappers), as well as others. Starting in 2013, Dr. Mücella Erdalkıran of Ege University in Izmir took on the position of Turkish adjunct-director.

The following publications related to the Barcın Höyük excavations appeared in 2013 and 2014:

- Alpaslan Roodenberg, S., F. Gerritsen, R. Özbal, 2013: Neolithic Burials from Barcın Höyük: The 2007-2012 Excavation Seasons, *Anatolica* 39, 93-111.
- Arbuckle, B. et al., 2014: Data Sharing Reveals Complexity in the Westward Spread of Domestic Animals across Neolithic Turkey, *PLoS ONE* 9(6): e99845 [DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0099845].
- Baysal, E., 2014: A preliminary typology for beads from the Neolithic and Chalcolithic levels of Barcın Höyük, *Anatolia Antiqua* 12, 1-10.
- Galik, A., 2014: Late Chalcolithic Subsistence Strategies on the Basis of Two Examples: The Çukuriçi Höyük in Western Anatolia and the Barcın Höyük in Northwestern Anatolia, in B. Horejs, M. Mehofer (eds), *Western Anatolia before Troy Proto-Urbanisation in the 4<sup>th</sup> Millennium BC? Proceedings of the International Symposium held at the Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien, Vienna, Austria, 21-24 November, 2012*, 385-394.

## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Research and publications



Excavations at Barcin Höyük.

- Gerritsen, F., Özbal, R., L. Thissen, 2013: Barcin Höyük ve Marmara Bölgesi'nde Tarımının Başlangıcı, *Arkeoloji ve Sanat/Journal of Archaeology and Art* 143, 51-66.
- Gerritsen, F., Özbal, R., L. Thissen, 2013: The Earliest Neolithic Levels at Barcin Höyük, Northwestern Turkey, *Anatolica* 39, 53-92.
- Gerritsen, F., R. Özbal, 2013: NIT Excavations at Barcin Höyük, 2012, *Annual Report NINO & NIT 2012*, 13-20.
- Gerritsen, F., R. Özbal, L. Thissen, 2013: Barcin Höyük. The Beginnings of Farming in the Marmara Region, in M. Özdoğan, N. Başgelen, P. Kuniholm (eds), *The Neolithic in Turkey. New Excavations and New Research. Vol. 5 Northwestern Turkey and Istanbul*, Istanbul: Archaeology and Art Publications, 93-112.
- Gerritsen, F.A., 2014: Klei wordt aardewerk en melk wordt yoghurt. Neolithische innovaties te Barcin Höyük, in O. Kaper, J.G. Dercksen (eds), *Waar de geschiedenis begon. Nederlandse onderzoekers in de ban van spijkerschrift, hiërogliefen en aardewerk. Uitgave naar aanleiding van het 75-jarig bestaan van het Nederlands Instituut voor het Nabije Oosten, 1939-2014*, Leiden, 247-257.
- Gerritsen, F.A., Özbal, R., 2014: 2012 Yılı Barcin Höyük Kazıları, *35. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı*, vol. 1, 471-485.
- Groenhuijzen, M., S. Kluiving, F. Gerritsen, 2013: Landscape archaeological research and 3D modelling of the Neolithic site of Barcin Höyük, Northwest Turkey, *Geophysical Research Abstracts* 15, EGU2013-10268.
- Özbal, H., L. Thissen, T. Doğan, F. Gerritsen, R. Özbal, A. Türkecul Bıyık, 2013: Neolitik Batı Anadolu ve Marmara Yerleşimleri Çanak Çömleklerinde Organik Kalıntı Analizleri, *28. Arkeometri Sonuçları Toplantısı*, 105-114.
- Özbal, H., L. Thissen, T. Doğan, F. Gerritsen, R. Özbal, A. Türkecul Bıyık, 2014: Yenikapı, Aşağıpınar, Bademağacı ve Barcin Çömleklerinde Organik Kalıntı Analizi, *29. Arkeometri Sonuçları Toplantısı*, 83-90.
- Özbal, R. ve F. Gerritsen, 2014: Barcin Höyük'te Neolitik Ayak İzi, *Aktüel Arkeoloji – Kasım/Aralık* 42: 26-27.
- Özbal, R., F. Gerritsen, 2013: 2011 Yılı Barcin Höyük Kazıları, *33. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı*, vol. 1, 159-168.
- Özbal, R., H. Özbal, F. Gerritsen, 2014: Yenişehir Ovasının İlk Sakinleri ve Barcin Höyük Kazıları, *Tarihten Günümüze Yenişehir* (edited by M. Hızlı and S. Sevim), Bursa: Uludağ Üniversitesi Basım Evi, 53-65.
- Weninger, B., L. Clare, F. Gerritsen, B. Horejs, R. Krauß, R. Özbal, E. Rohling, 2014: Neolithisation and Rapid Climate Change (6600-6000 cal BC) in the Aegean and Southeast Europe, *Documenta Praehistorica* 41: 1-31 [DOI: 10.4312/dp.41.1].

## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Research and publications



Fieldwork in Tophane.

#### Tophane Heritage Project

The Tophane Heritage Project continued in 2013 and 2014 under the direction of NIT staff member Karin Schuitema. The aim of the project is to document and study the urban transformations taking place in this neighborhood with special reference to the role of material as well as immaterial heritage in these processes. Historical and historical-geographical research is combined with ethnographic studies of the diverse communities that live and work in Tophane and did so in the past.

In both years, the summer months were spent on a combined project of photographic documentation of the architecture in a part of the neighborhood and oral history fieldwork among old and new inhabitants. Students from the Netherlands and Turkey participated in this fieldwork.

Karin Schuitema presented lectures about the Tophane Heritage Project at meetings at several universities in Istanbul and at an international conference in Berlin. She participated in the postgraduate summer school *History takes place. Dynamics of urban change* organized by the ZEIT Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius and the Gerda Henkel Stiftung.

The project is set up in a way that enables guest researchers and graduate students to conduct their own research activities within the context of the Tophane Heritage Project. In the spring of 2013, archaeology and art history student Gözde Önder of Koç University collected and studied primary and secondary historical sources related to the Tophane neighbourhood. That autumn, the project hosted cultural geography major Niek Zeeman.



## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Research and publications

His research investigates the mental boundaries, both socially and spatially, that inhabitants draw around Tophane. The project hosted two interns in 2014. Marina Shcherdlovskaya, student at the department Cultural Heritage and Tourism in the European Humanities University (Vilnius/Lithuania), and Jelmer Roukema from the Faculty of Arts at the University of Groningen spent each two months at the NIT. Both interns contributed to the Tophane Heritage Project, especially by conducting interviews and organizing data.

#### Ottoman Architecture in the Balkans

Senior Research Fellow Machiel Kiel continued his research on Ottoman history and architecture in the Balkans. During the 2013-2014 academic year, Machiel Kiel held a nine-month senior fellowship at Koç University's Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations. He received two major recognitions for his scholarship spanning half a century. In October 2013, the Turkish History Society (Türk Tarih Kurumu) made him an honorary member. And in June 2014, Machiel Kiel was recognized for his major contributions to Ottoman history by being bestowed with the Order of Merit of the Turkish Republic.

As a result of continued efforts by archive curators Grigor Boykov (Sofia) and Maximilian Hartmuth, two major updates to the online Machiel Kiel Photographic Archive could be made in 2013. In March, 500 images pertaining to Turkish Thrace were uploaded, and in November a further 500 images of architectural structures in Balkan countries outside Turkey were added. The Machiel

Kiel Photographic Archive is an online resource presenting photos made by Machiel Kiel since the 1960s of historical architecture, mainly Ottoman, in the Balkans. Many of the structures documented by Kiel have been altered, damaged or demolished over the course of recent decades.

In the course of the 2013 and 2014, Kiel published the following monographs and articles:

- Kiel, M., 2013: *Birgi. A Forgotten Turkish Cultural Centre in Western Anatolia*, Istanbul.
- Kiel, M., 2013: Krieg und Frieden an der Unteren Donau, Siedlungsgeschichte und demographische Bemerkungen über die Kaza Zıstova-Svišov 1460-1878 anhand osmanischer administrativer Quellen, in R. Lauer, H.G. Majer (eds.), *Osmanen und Islam in Südosteuropa*, Berlin, 285-301.
- Kiel, M., 2013: *Turco-Bulgarica: Studies on the History, Settlement and Historical Demography of Ottoman Bulgaria*, Istanbul.
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- Kiel, M., 2014: Founding New Towns as means of conflict solving: The case of Eğridere Palanka (Kriva Palanka, Rep. of Macedonia), in: S. Kuru, B. Tezcan

## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Research and publications

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- Kiel, M., 2014: Kastel Mora – Mora Kastelli – Burgaz-i Cedid: The reconstruction of the Castle of Sultan Bayezid II at the Mouth of the Gulf of Corinth under Grand Admiral Hayreddin Barbarossa according to the Ottoman Building Account B.O.A, M.A.D. 523 from 1537/39, in: *The Balkans and the History of the Balkans from the XIV<sup>th</sup> Century to the Present; Dördüncü Askeri Tarih Kongresi Bildirileri-1*, Ankara, 131-156.
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- Kiel, M., 2014: Patronage of Ottoman Architecture at the Frontier: Thoughts and Materials. A Preliminary

Overview, in: Maria Baramova, Grigor Bojkov and Ivan Parvev (eds.), *Bordering Early Modern Europe*, Wiesbaden, 221-241.

- Kiel, M., 2014: Plithismos kai paragogi apta oikismon tis Ellassonas to 1570 kata to forologiko katasticho T-D. 695, (Valanida, Dolichi, Domeniko, Evangelismos, Pithio, Sykia kai Tsaritsani), in: *Thessaliko Imerologio*, 66, 3-16.
- Kiel, M., H. Reindl-Kiel, 2013: Die Polog-Ebene und die ehemalige osmanische *kaza* Kalkandelen (Tetovo) in Mazedonien. Siedlungsgeschichtliche und demographische Bemerkungen, in A. Helmedach, M. Koller (eds.), *Das osmanische Europa, Methoden und Perspektiven der Frühneuzeit-forschung zu Südost-Europa*, Leipzig.



Image from the Kiel archive.

## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Fellowships

#### NIT fellowships

During 2013 and 2014 it was again possible to award a number of junior researchers with a fellowship for a research stay of up to one month at the NIT. These were:

##### 2013

**Evrin Emir** (University of Amsterdam, Philosophy) came to Istanbul for PhD research on Ottoman and Middle Eastern miniatures.

**Laurien de Gelder** (University of Amsterdam, Mediterranean Archaeology) conducted museological research on the current development and building of a new museum at the archaeological site of Troy.

**Tayfun Karabağlı** (Utrecht University, International Relations) collected sources for his MA thesis on German-Turkish relations in the 1930s.

**Alex Kemman** (Utrecht University, Global Criminology) looked at the impact of dam building projects on local communities in southeastern Turkey and Iraq, spending most of the time of his fellowship in the field.

**Enno Maessen** (Utrecht University, History) prepared a proposal for dissertation research on public space and social identity in the urban environment of Istanbul.

**Maria Romano** (Maastricht University, Arts and Heritage Policy) did fieldwork and library research looking at the contemporary relevance of Byzantine monuments in Istanbul.

**Janric van Rookhuijzen** (Nijmegen University, Classics) spent time in Istanbul and in the Troad to investigate *lieux de mémoire* associated with Troy

and the Persian Wars as described by Herodotus.

**Frouke Schrijver** (University of Birmingham, Byzantine Studies) finalized her PhD thesis on *The Early Palaiologan Court (1261-1354)* while at the NIT and meanwhile convened an international conference under the title *Emperors, Sultans, Khans*, which took place at the NIT on February 22.

**Sanne Ursem** (University of Amsterdam, Cultural Anthropology) came to Istanbul for ethnographic fieldwork on globalization, multicultural neighborhoods and urban identities.

**Valentijn Vermeer** (University of Münster, Comparative Literature) used his time at the NIT to study cultural and political relationships between the German and Ottoman Empires before and during the First World War.

**Maaïke Wentink** (Leiden University, Cultural Anthropology) conducted fieldwork in the context of the Tophane Heritage Project for her MA thesis. Through questionnaires and interviews she investigated the relationship between cultural heritage and tourism in Tophane.

**Alexander Wielemaker** (Leiden University, Turkish Studies) combined a NIT fellowship with a semester at Sabancı University, doing research for his MA thesis on social and political relationships at the 18<sup>th</sup> century Ottoman court as demonstrated by fountain building practices.

##### 2014

**Thalia Lysen** (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam & Universiteit van Amsterdam, Ancient Studies) conducted research for her thesis on funerary rituals

## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Fellowships

in the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age (roughly between 1600 and 700 BCE).

**Isabel Kimmelfield** (Radboud University Nijmegen, History) primarily devoted her time at the NIT to research for project a titled 'Byzantine Monuments and Memory in Tophane, Istanbul'. In addition to this project, she also undertook research for a paper on the presentation and reception of the remains of the Great Palace of Constantinople today.

**Laurentia Schreiber** (Freie Universität Berlin, Languages of Europe) carried out research for her master's thesis on Romeyka, a variety of Pontic Greek, which has been spoken in the Black Sea region since Antiquity.

**Judith Zijlstra** (University of Amsterdam, Migration and Ethnic Studies) worked on her PhD-research proposal on Iranian migration to Turkey. The period she spent at the NIT gave her the opportunity to arrange meetings with various professors and universities that are active in the field of migration in Turkey, participate in conferences and build a network.

**Anouk Willemsen** (Radboud University Nijmegen, Islamic Studies/Middle Eastern Studies) undertook interviews for her master's thesis, a research on the experiences of migrants with a Turkish background and decided to migrate to Turkey.

**Robin van Oene** (Leiden University, Cultural Anthropology & Developmental Sociology) conducted a fieldwork for his research on the LGBTI movement in Istanbul.

**Phil Bosch** (Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten, Artistic Research) continued her research on the archaeological site Göbekli Tepe and focused on the edit of the earlier recorded footage, which resulted in the production of a film and its screening at the NIT.

**Ruben Sibon** (Leiden University, Cultural Anthropology & Development Sociology) explored the emergence of citizen journalism and alternative media in Istanbul.

**Daan Huberts** (Radboud University, Political Science) made use of his stay to complete his research on 19th century Ottoman sovereignty for his master thesis and also participated in the Tophane Cultural Heritage Project initiated by the NIT.

**Dies van der Linde** (University of Groningen, Archaeology) prepared a paper for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists and started working on the research project 'Funerary Life in Pisidia'.

**Eva Mol** (Leiden University, Archaeology) to explore a topic the course of writing of her dissertation on the perception and use of Egyptian artefacts in Roman domestic contexts of Pompeii. She also gave a lecture entitled "Tracing Egypt from Constantinople to Rome".

**Hüseyin Şen** (Utrecht University, History and Philosophy of Science) made use of his stay for his PhD. Research on Taqi al-Din ibn Ma'ruf (d.1585), one of the most important scientists of Islamic civilization, and gave a lecture entitled "Ottoman Science in the Sixteenth Century".



## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Academic meetings

#### Academic meetings

2013

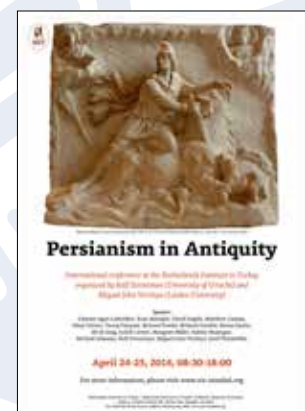
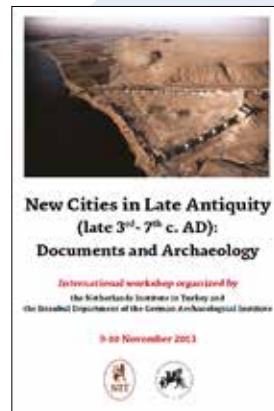
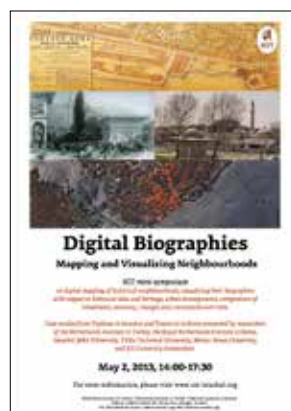
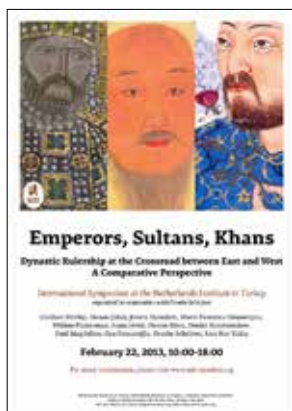
February 22: **Emperors, Sultans, Khans. Dynastic Rulership at the Crossroad between East and West. A Comparative Perspective.** Convener of this symposium was NIT fellow Frouke Schrijver, who brought together an international panel of scholars working on rulership and power in Byzantium, the Mamluk state, the Ottoman Empire, the Seljuk Rum and the Mongol Khanats. Several of the speakers are affiliated with the Eurasian Empires Program of Leiden, Amsterdam and Nijmegen Universities. A review of the conference was published by Caroline Finkel in the 2013/2 issue of *The Court Historian*. *The International Journal of Court Studies*.

March 21-22: **Troy: New Perspectives on Archaeology and Cultural Heritage in Turkey.** The NIT was co-organizer of this conference that took place at the Allard Pierson Museum in Amsterdam, with the aim of creating a platform

for further analysis of the notion of cultural heritage in Turkey and the archaeology of Troy. The conference was held in the context of the exhibition *Troy: City, Homer and Turkey*, the closing event of the celebrations of 400 years of Turkish - Dutch diplomatic relations.

April 8: **Tophane research network meeting.** Researchers, students and artists involved in Tophane research activities gathered at the NIT to present and discuss ongoing projects. The meeting was organized in cooperation with volunteers of the radio program 'Burası Tophane' ('This is Tophane') by the radio station Açık Radyo.

May 2: **Digital Biographies. Mapping and Visualizing Neighborhoods.** This symposium brought together researchers affiliated with two neighborhood-focused heritage projects, the Tophane Heritage Project of the NIT in Istanbul and the Testaccio Project of the Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome. It discussed GIS-based technologies to integrate (historical) cartographic, visual and textual materials in novel ways, in order



## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Academic meetings

to develop research tools as well as visualizations for the public and for stakeholders in neighborhood planning and development projects.

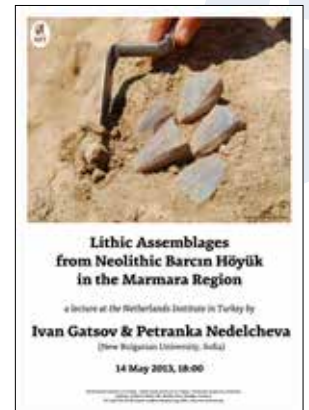
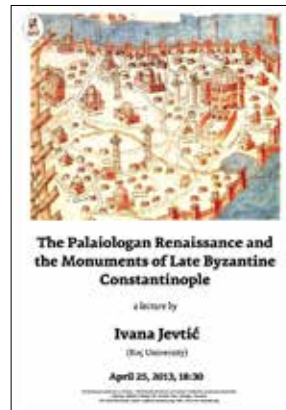
May 24-25: **Western Anatolia during the Late Second and Early First Millennium BCE: old questions, new perspectives.** Convened by Rik Vaessen (Sheffield University) and Sila Mangaloğlu-Votruba (RCAC, Koç University), organized with support of Koç University's Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations and the NIT.

November 9-10: **New Cities in Late Antiquity (late 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> c. AD): Documents and Archaeology.** This symposium was convened by NIT fellow Efthymios Rizos, and organized by the NIT in collaboration with DAI Istanbul. The conference discussed recent and ongoing research on the nature of urbanism in Late Antiquity from Hungary and the Northern Balkans to Anatolia, Mesopotamia and Syria.

#### 2014

March 28: **Citizenship, 'Claims' to the City, Heritage and Urban Developments.** In this workshop organized by the NIT staff member Karin Schuitema, questions about gentrification, claims to the past, notions of 'ownership', the commodification of heritage, identity, citizenship, citizens' participation, and 'sense of belonging' were raised by students from Dutch and Turkish universities during presentations about their graduate research projects.

24-25 April: **Persianism in Antiquity.** An international conference held at the Netherlands

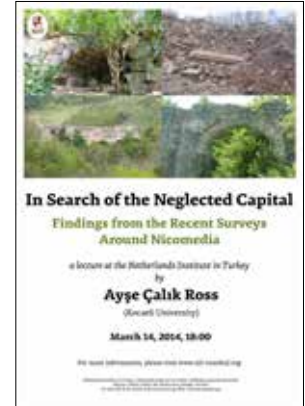
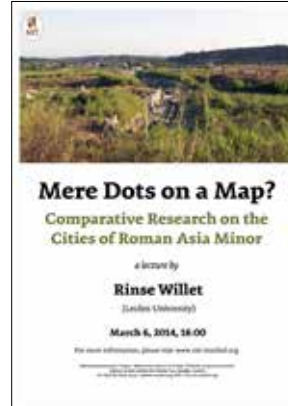
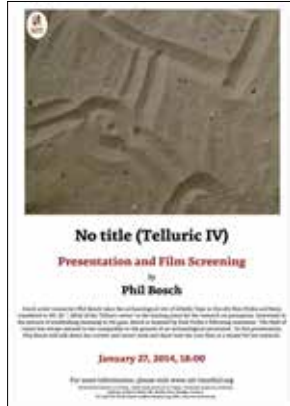
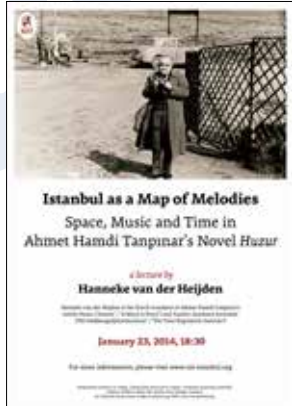


Institute in Turkey (Istanbul) in the spring of 2014, to be organized by Rolf Strootman (University of Utrecht) and Miguel John Versluys (Leiden University). The conference aimed to trace the origins of the concept of "Persia" in post-Achaemenid Antiquity.

November 6-8: **Heritage, Tourism and Hospitality International Conference 2014.** Organized by Rotterdam School of Management/Erasmus University and Elgin & Co. consultancy (Netherlands), Boğaziçi University and Adnan Menderes University (Turkey), with the partnership of the NIT among others.

## NIT activities 2013-2014

### Lectures, panel discussions



## Lectures and panel discussions

### 2013

March 7: **Tableware in the Roman East: Diversity and Regionality at the Table.** Rinse Willet (Leuven University).

April 25: **The Palaiologan Renaissance and the Monuments of Late Byzantine Constantinople.** Ivana Jevtić (Koç University).

April 25: **Keepers of Monumental Memory in Medieval Constantinople** Paul Magdalino (Koç University).

May 10: **Historical Reconstruction and Cosmopolitanist Nostalgia in Istanbul.** İlay Romain Örs (Bilgi University). In collaboration with the *Archaeologies of Memory* Research Group Scholion, Jerusalem.

May 10: **Out of Place: The Social Construction of Refugeeness.** Osnat Suued (Hebrew University Jerusalem). In collaboration with the *Archaeologies of Memory* Research Group Scholion, Jerusalem.

May 14: **Lithic Assemblages from Neolithic Barcin Höyük in the Marmara Region.** Ivan Gatsov and Petranka Nedelcheva (New Bulgarian University).

May 23: **Üçüncü Milenyumda 80 Şiiri ve Sonrası** ('*Poetry of the 1980s and after in the Third Millennium*'). Poetry readings and panel discussion on contemporary Turkish poetry, organized by members and alumni of Leiden University's Department of Turkish Studies.

December 17: **The Mesolithic period in the north Black Sea region: new data from Crimea and southwestern Ukraine.** Paolo Biagi (Venice).

December 23: **Ulpiana: an Ancient City in the Balkans Reborn - Results of the First Turkish Excavation in Europe.** Haluk Çetinkaya (Mimar Sinan University).

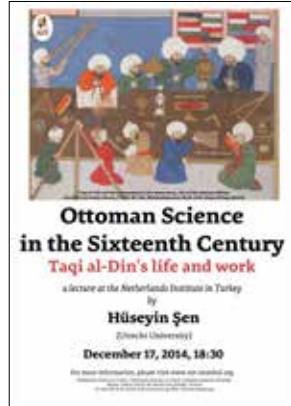
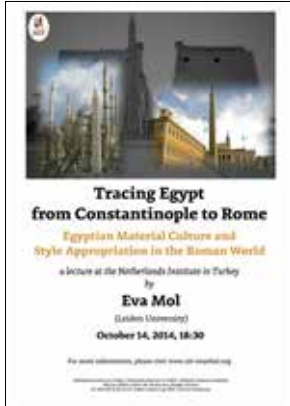
### 2014

January 23: **Istanbul as a Map of Melodies: Space, Music and Time in Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar's Novel "Huzur".** Hanneke van der



# NIT activities 2013-2014

## Lectures, panel discussions, courses



Heijden is the Dutch translator of Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar's novels *Huzur* ('Serenity'/A Mind at Peace') and *Saatleri Ayarlama Enstitüsü* ('Het klokkengelijkzetzetinstituut'/The Time Regulation Institute').

January 27: **'No title (Telluric IV)'. Film Screening & Presentation.** Phil Bosch (Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten).

March 6: **Mere Dots on a Map? Comparative Research on the Cities of Roman Asia Minor.** Rinse Willet (Leiden University).

March 14: **In Search of the Neglected Capital. Findings from the Recent Surveys around Nicomedia.** Ayşe Çalık Ross (Kocaeli University).

October 14: **Tracing Egypt from Constantinople to Rome: Egyptian Material Culture and Style Appropriation in the Roman World.** Eva Mol (Leiden University).

December 17: **Ottoman Science in the Sixteenth Century: Taqi al-Din's life and work.** Hüseyin Şen (Utrecht University).

## Courses

As in previous years, the NIT offered academic courses at undergraduate and graduate level, and facilitated the teaching activities of several Dutch universities. When requested, most participating students are awarded study credit from their home institutions for the NIT courses that they successfully conclude.

### 2013

April 24-27: **Monuments and Memory.** Course for Nijmegen University MA students.

June 10-21: **Constantinople/Istanbul. History and Heritage in a Global City.** This summer school offers students enrolled in Dutch universities an in-depth look at the multi-layered heritage of Istanbul in the contexts of contemporary urban transformations. The 2013 edition was attended by students of history, archaeology, art history, urban studies and planning, Turkish studies, Greek & Latin, and cultural anthropology.





# NIT activities 2013-2014

## Courses

June 26-September 6: **Field school Barcın Höyük Excavations.** The 2013 excavations provided opportunities to gain in fieldwork, documentation and analysis methods for ca. 25 undergraduate and graduate students from the Netherlands, Turkey, Bulgaria and the United Kingdom.

June 28-30: **Recht en Religie.** Course for Leiden University Honours track Recht en Religie, on (de-)secularisation in Turkey and the Netherlands.

July 4-24: **Recording Tophane's memories.** This fieldwork course offered training in oral history fieldwork to Dutch and Turkish students.

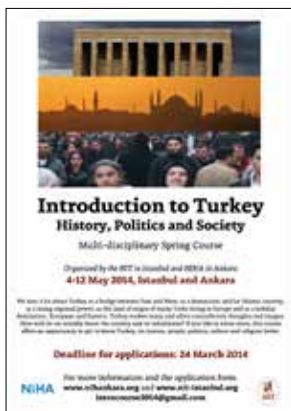
September 30-October 8: **Introductie cursus Turkije: Geschiedenis, Politiek, Land en Volk.** This course was offered by the NIT and NIHA, and gave participants a first academic introduction to Turkey. After four days in Istanbul, the course finished in Ankara. The course included lectures, on-site visits, and panel discussions.

### 2014

April 3-4: **Workshops “Het interviewgesprek” en “Interviews schrijven”.** In these two workshops on interviewing techniques and writing by journalist Brigit Kooijman, participants learned about interview techniques, how to make efficient questions, how to interpret answers and how to create the appropriate atmosphere for an interview.

April 7-20: **Archaeology of Mythology.** The course was organized by KNIR (Royal Dutch Institute in Rome), in collaboration with the NIT, ACASA (Amsterdam Centre for Ancient Studies and Archaeology) and National Research School in Classical Studies Oikos. Loosely on the trail of Aeneas, the course began in Istanbul, visited Troy and the Troad, before moving on to Rome and Campania.

May 4-12: **Introduction to Turkey. History, Politics and Society.** This multi-disciplinary spring



Courses “Introduction to Turkey” (left) and “Constantinople/Istanbul” (right).

## *NIT activities 2013-2014*

### *Courses*

course was organized by the NIT and NIHA. It offered a short, intensive program providing a broad academic introduction to Turkey to students and other participants.

June 9-20: **Constantinople/Istanbul. History and Heritage in a Global City.** This summer school offers students enrolled in Dutch universities an in-depth look at the multi-layered heritage of Istanbul in the contexts of contemporary urban transformations.

30 June-26 July: **Recording Tophane's Memories.** The fieldwork in the context of the Tophane Cultural Heritage Project involved

students from Dutch, Turkish, English and Greek universities took place again in the context of the Tophane Heritage Project. The fieldwork mainly included interviews with inhabitants or former inhabitants of the neighbourhood from different social and ethnic groups, whom were asked for their views on Tophane's complex past and their positions in the present-day gentrification process going on in the neighbourhood.

July 1-September 5: **Field school Barcın Höyük Excavations.** As in earlier years, an international group of students received training in fieldwork and archaeological documentation methods.



Courses "Archaeology of mythology" (left, centre) and "Constantinople/Istanbul" (right).



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### **Annual Report NINO and NIT 2013-2014**

*edited by Jesper Eidem  
editing, design and layout by Carolien van Zoest*



