



ANCIENT ARABIA LECTURE 15-12-2016

The oasis of Tayma, Northwest Arabia: 6000 years of cultural contacts and exchange

Arnulf Hausleiter

Tayma was an important trading post on the trader routes leading from Southern Arabia to Syro-Mesopotamia and the Levant. Occupied since the 4th millennium BC, it was during the last part of the 1st millennium BC that Tayma interacted with neighbouring oases. This period also saw its occupation by the Babylonian monarch Nabonidus, before it became part of the Nabataean sphere and was probably also under Roman-Byzantine influence. The city played an important role in the expansion of Islam towards the Levant as well.

The Saudi-German excavation of the oasis has shed unprecedented light on the cosmopolitan history of Tayma, and its importance for the history of pre-Islamic Arabia.

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3rd Leiden Lecture
on Ancient Arabian
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15 December 2016,
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Leiden University Library,
Vossius Room

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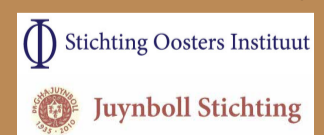


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