

Even if kings, pharaohs, rulers, and priests promote the illusion of control and order, disasters are and always were part of the usual ebb and flow of everyday life. Disasters are able to overthrow the cultural, social, religious and political systems, but at the same time, "catastrophes are great educators of mankind" (Pitirim Sorokin) and generate different mechanisms of relief management. Thus their impact is both, destructive and productive. The international conference deals with disasters and worst case scenarios in Antiquity, with the focus on the Ancient Near East, Egypt and Ancient Israel. Questions as e.g. "What is a disaster?", "Were nomadic societies more or less vulnerable to disasters than rural and urban settlements?", or "How did societies in Antiquity manage catastrophes?", and "Are there early traces of risk evaluation, social networks, solidarity and relief management?" will be discussed. Scholars from different sciences will have a close look at the concepts of disasters, their impact on society, possible dynamics and cultural dimensions. They will give insights into their actual research on the destructivity and productivity of disasters, including the possibility, that disasters were used as *topoi* in ideological, mythological and theological discourses.

Location:
Villa Tillmanns
Wächterstraße 30
04107 Leipzig

Registration:
written confirmation until 15/09/2010

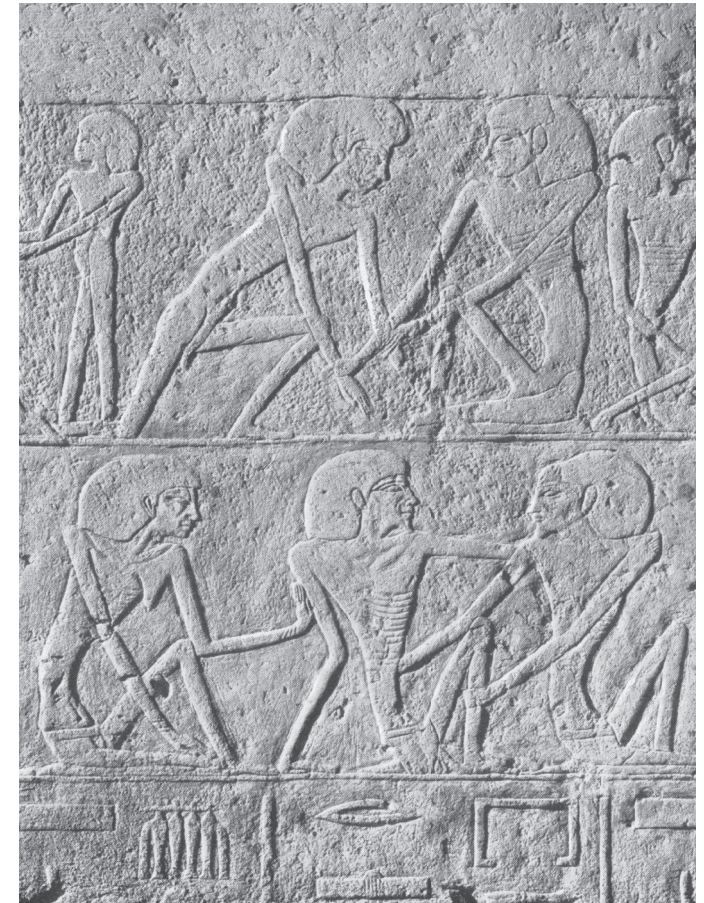
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Funding:
 **DIFFERENZ + INTEGRATION**
SFB 586: „Differenz und Integration“
Teilprojekt B7
Universität Leipzig

Disaster and Relief Management in Ancient Israel, Egypt and the Ancient Near East



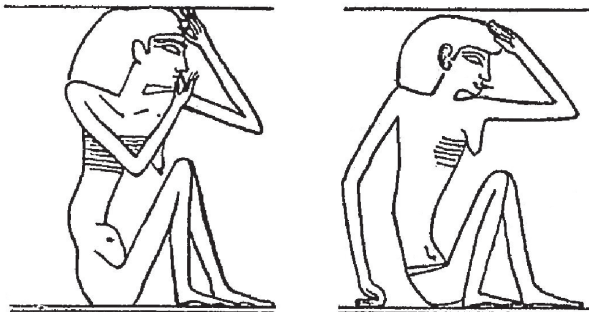
Bildnachweis: Drioton, Bulletin de l'Institut d'Egypte 25 (1943), Fig. 3, 49.

4/10/2010 to 6/10/2010

Villa Tillmanns/Leipzig



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Bildnachweis: Drioton, Bulletin de l'Institut d'Egypte 25 (1943), Fig. 7, 51 [l], Fig. 8, 52[r].

Monday 04.10.2010

I. Theories of disaster

13.00 Angelika Berlejung (Leipzig), Gunnar Lehmann (Beersheva) and Ariel Bagg (Leipzig):
Welcome and: "What is a disaster?"

14.00-15.30 Elke M. Geenen (Kiel):
Gesellschaftliche Verfügung über Kapitalien und Vulnerabilität in konzeptioneller Perspektive.

15.30-17.00 Jan Dietrich (Leipzig):
Katastrophen und ihre Deutung aus Kulturanthropologischer Perspektive.

Break

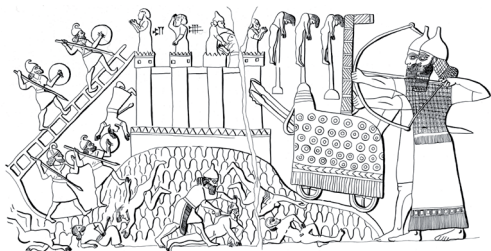
17.30-19.00 Elisabeth List (Graz):
Einbruch ins Selbstverständliche. Katastrophen als Kontingenzerfahrung.

II. Disaster and relief management in Israel/Palestine

II.1. Archaeology/Archäologische Aspekte

19.00-20.30 Open Public: Aren Maeir (BIU/Ramat-Gan):
The Judean Shephelah after Hazael: The power play between the Philistines, Judeans and Assyrians in the 8th century in light of the excavations at Tell es-Safi/Gath.

20.30 Dinner



Tuesday 05.10.2010

II. Disaster and relief management in Israel/Palestine

II.1. Archaeology /Continuation

8.00-9.30 Aaron A. Burke (UCLA/Los Angeles):
Coping with the Effects of War: The Archaeology of Refugees in the Ancient Near East.

Break

10.00-11.30 Gunnar Lehmann (BGU/Beersheva):
The Archaeology in the Time of Manasseh: Survival and Reconstruction of Judah.

11.30-13.00 Ariel M. Bagg (Leipzig):
Water Management in Palestine. Avoiding and Mastering Crises

Lunch

II. Disaster and relief management in Israel/Palestine

II.2. Exegesis/Exegetische Aspekte

14.30-16.00 Diana Edelman (Sheffield):
Earthquakes the Ancient Southern Levant: A Literary Topos and a Problem Requiring Architectural Solutions.

16.00-17.30 Sebastian Graetz (Mainz):
Gericht und Gnade: Die Fluterzählung im Rahmen der biblischen Urgeschichte.

Break

18.00-19.30 Bernd Janowski (Tübingen):
Eine Welt ohne Licht. Zur Chaosschilderung von Jer 4,23-28 und verwandten Texten

19.30-21.00 Thomas Römer (Lausanne/Paris):
The Hebrew Bible as crisis literature - The Babylonian Exile, divine wrath and matrix of a new identity.

Dinner

Wednesday 06.10.2010

III. Disaster and relief management in the Ancient Near East and Egypt

9.00-10.30 Paul Kruger (Stellenbosch):
Disaster and the topos of the world upside down: example cases from the ancient Near Eastern World.
Break

11.00-12.30 Joachim F. Quack (Heidelberg):
Danaergeschenk des Nil? Zuviel oder zu wenig Wasser im Alten Ägypten.

Lunch

14.00-15.30 Ludwig Morenz (Bonn):
Der Topos „Hungersnot“ und seine Inszenierung in den Selbst-Präsentationen der ägyptischen Elite. Ein (Über-)Lebensproblem zwischen Fiktionalität und Fiktionalität.

15.30-17.00 Marco Stuckhusen (Leipzig):
Die Deutung kosmischer Erscheinungen am Beispiel von Sonnen- und Mondeklipsen. Ein Vergleich zwischen den Kulturräumen Mesopotamien und Ägypten im 1. Jt. v.Chr.

Break

17.30-19.00 Hanspeter Schaudig (Heidelberg):
Erklärungsmuster von Katastrophen im Alten Orient.

19.00-20.30 Jörg Klinger (Berlin):
Krankheit und Krieg im Spannungsfeld zwischen mythischer und realer Katastrophe - die hethitischen „Pestgebete“.

Dinner/Departure

Thursday 07.10.2010

2nd Part of the Conference (Dr. Franz/Prof. Schubert)
Plagues in Nomadic Contexts: Historical Impact, Medical Responses, Cultural Adaptations