Encyclopedia of Material Culture in the Biblical World

A New Biblisches Realexikon
Edited by Angelika Berlejung with P.M. Michèle Daviau, Jens Kamlah, and Gunnar Lehmann

[Enzyklopädie der materiellen Kultur in der biblischen Welt. Ein neues Biblisches Realexikon.]

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The Encyclopedia of Material Culture in the Biblical World (EBW) builds on the German »Standardwerk« Biblisches Realexikon (BRL), edited by Kurt Galling 1937, second edition 1977 (2BRL). It is a reference book for biblical scholars, historians, and archaeologists. The EBW focuses on the material culture from the Neolithic Age to the Hellenistic period, giving attention to the material from the Bronze and Iron Ages, including the Persian period. The geographic regions covered by the entries include primarily the records of Palestine (= the Southern Levant) limited by (excl.) the southern fringe of Lebanon and Hermon (North), the Wadi al-Arish, the Sinai peninsula and North-Arabia (South), the Mediterranean Sea (West) and the Transjordanian desert (East). If appropriate to the entry, the neighboring evidence from Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, and Mesopotamia is included. The Encyclopedia presents and documents the material culture based on the archaeological, epigraphical, and iconographical data in historical order and documents the state of current research. The entries do not only list or mention the most important material data, but try to synthesize and interpret it within the horizon of a history of Southern Levantine culture, economy, technical development, art, and religion.

The EBW consists of around 120 articles and an introductory part pertaining to the chronology of the EBW, archaeology and cultural History, epigraphy, and iconography, written by specialists from 15 different countries.

Angelika Berlejung is Professor for «History and Religion of Israel and its Environment» at the Faculty of Theology of the University of Leipzig, an Extraordinary Professor for Ancient Studies at the University of Stellenbosch/South Africa, a Visiting Full Professor for Biblical Archaeology at Bar Ilan University/Israel, and a Full Member of the Saxon Academy of Sciences.
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4556-9167

P.M. Michèle Daviau Born 1943; studied Classics, theology, Biblical Studies and Archaeology as well as Near Eastern Archaeology; 1990 PhD; Professor Emerita of Near Eastern Archaeology at Wilfrid Laurier University/Canada, and a Full Member of the Saxon Academy of Sciences.
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5473-2245

Jens Kamlah Born 1962; studied Protestant Theology, Biblical Archeology and Ancient Near Eastern Archeology; 1999 PhD; 2005 habilitation; since 2008 director of the Biblical Archaeological Institute at the University of Tübingen.
https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9135-0193

Gunnar Lehmann Born 1955; studied Near Eastern Archaeology; 1993 PhD; currently Full Professor for Archaeology at the Ben-Gurion University, Israel.
https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9270-4678

Order now:
order@mohrsiebeck.com
Phone: +49 (0)7071-923-17
Fax: +49 (0)7071-51104

Mohr Siebeck GmbH & Co. KG
Postfach 2040
D-72010 Tübingen
info@mohrsiebeck.com
www.mohrsiebeck.com