Robert M. Kerr

Latino-Punic Epigraphy

A Descriptive Study of the Inscriptions

[Latino-Punische Epigraphik. Eine Beschreibung der Inschriften.]

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Forschungen zum Alten Testament 2. Reihe

Mohr Siebeck

2010. XVI, 253 pages. FAT II 42

ISBN 978-3-16-151140-0 DOI 10.1628/978-3-16-151140-0 eBook PDF 79,00 € Published in English.

Robert M. Kerr presents a complete edition of all known Latino (and Graeco)-Punic inscriptions along with a detailed, comparative grammatical analysis, esp. with regard to phonology and orthographic practice. Several texts are presented here for the first time. These texts from Roman-era Tripolitania (the first centuries A.D.) render Punic systematically, although written with Latin graphemes. Until now they have been largely neglected by Semiticists. They thus provide, among other things, fully vocalised material, unusual for alphabetically written Semitic languages, which can provide us with insight into the historical and diachronic development of the (North-West) Semitic languages, esp. biblical Hebrew. At the same time, these texts are also interesting epigraphic texts documenting the spread of the Punic language into the African interior. A glossary and comprehensive indices help make this work accessible for reference purposes.

Robert M. Kerr Born 1968; studied Semitic languages and comparative linguistics; is currently working on his Doctoral Thesis on late Punic.

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