

Under the Aegis of 1000 Gods...

The Egyptian-Hittite Relations During the Late Bronze Age

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Abstracts

Mechanisms of conflict and dispute resolution in Ancient Near Eastern Treaties

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The paper focuses on the problems of a juridical classification and evaluation of Ancient Near Eastern treaties with regard to the question if there existed an Ancient Near Eastern International Law or not. Alternatively treaties and their content are looked at uncommitted as mechanisms of conflict and dispute resolution. Main aspects are preliminary and prophylactic conflict resolution in treaties and the procedural context and efficiency of treaties.

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The Ramesside Silver Treaty in a Sociolinguistic Perspective

Seraina Nett (Center for Canon and Identity Formation, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, University of Copenhagen)

The Late Bronze Age witnesses the most diverse linguistic environment we can observe in the textual evidence from the Ancient Near East. Next to Akkadian, used as *lingua franca* in a vast region reaching from Cyprus to Iran and from Anatolia to Egypt, we can observe a variety of other languages in the written record that are used in specific contexts. This paper investigates the language of the Ramesside Silver treaty against the backdrop of the complex sociolinguistic landscape of the Near East in the Late Bronze Age. After a general overview of

the application of sociolinguistic methodology to ancient material and its limitations, the various linguistic processes involved in international communication in the period in question will be discussed in greater detail, with a special focus on the domains of language use (the functional spheres for which any given language is used), and the linguistic processes (such as accommodation and transfer) typically involved in *lingua franca* communication. These concepts will then be applied to the use of Akkadian in the Ramesside period in general. Questions that will be addressed include the relationship between spoken and written language, the functional distribution between various languages in a given context, and the linguistic characteristics and classification of Peripheral Akkadian in general.

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Innovating Eternity: The Egyptian-Hittite Treaty and the Crisis of the 13th Century BCE

Aaron Tugendhaft (Department of Assyriology and Hittitology, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

This paper will consider the Hittite-Egyptian treaty as a reflection of a broader crisis in Bronze Age political norms that arose in the 13th century BCE. The treaty reveals anxieties on the part of the ruling elite of the two major imperial powers of the day and models one particular response to the crumbling of traditional norms. Comparison with several other documents from other sectors of Bronze Age society provides added perspective on the treaty, in that they manifest alternative responses to the same breakdown of political traditions that took place prior to the more commonly discussed collapse of the early 12th century.

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From Kurustama to the Silver Tablet: the treaties between Hatti and Egypt

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Beside the so-called "Kurustama Treaty" and the peace treaty between Hattusili III and Ramses II, whose texts have reached us, the ancient sources inform us that Hatti and Egypt

concluded other treaties, whose texts have not been discovered so far. The present paper will discuss the historical context and the features of all these agreements in order to present an overview of the diplomatic contacts entertained by the two kingdoms between the 15th and the 13th century BC.

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Tili-Tešub and the Others: Identity and Functions of the Hittite Messengers in Ḫattušili's Correspondence with Egypt

Violetta Cordani (Institut für Altorientalistik, Freie Universität Berlin, TOPOI)

The correspondence between the Hittite and Egyptian courts on the occasion of the signing of the "Silver Treaty" testifies to the existence of a sophisticated diplomatic system, in which messengers played a key role. The paper focuses on identity and functions of the Hittite messengers sent to Egypt, and discusses some technical aspects of their profession. Furthermore, it deals with the probable existence of hierarchical levels that are not necessarily made explicit through the use of different titles, but can be inferred from other elements internal to the correspondence itself.

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Lost in Translation. An Egyptological Perspective on the Egyptian-Hittite Treaties

Jana Mynářová (Czech Institute of Egyptology, Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague)

The 'Eternal' Silver Treaty between Ramesses II and Hattusili III is a primary source for understanding the political, economic, and legal relations between Egypt and the Hittite kingdom during the 13th century BCE. However, as flows from the text of the treaty such a legal tradition extends back at least to the 14th/15th century BCE with the so-called Kurustama treaty as one of the examples. It is the aim of this paper to reflect the situation known to us from the Hittite sources in the context of the Egyptian preserved as well as non-preserved documents.

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