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S h o r t R e v i e w s

John S t r a n g e, Caphtor-Keftiu. A New investigation, Leiden 1980, E. J. Brill, 80, pp. 227, 11 figs., 2 maps. (= Acta Theologica Danica 14), Price: Gld 54.-

The old Egyptian texts mention many countries. Some of them are well-known, others have caused dispute as to their location. To this latter category belongs Keftiu, known also through non-Egyptian texts by the name of Caphtor. Many different areas have been proposed as the location of Keftiu-Caphtor, for instance Northern Syria and Cilicia in Eastern Asia Minor. Lately the dominating opinion, however, has been to identify Keftiu-Caphtor with Crete.

The problem has now been taken up anew by the Danish scholar John S t r a n g e in his dissertation Caphtor/Keftiu. A new investigation. The main thesis of Strange is that Keftiu-Caphtor is Cyprus, not Crete.

In Chapter 1 Strange presents the problem and discusses the method he has used. In Chapter 2 he goes through the sources of different kinds: geographical lists, texts with pictorial representations of ethnic types and tributes, "historical narratives", mythological narratives, documentary texts like letters and finally the "dubious texts" which he rejects. In this chapter Strange discusses the different sources, their value as evidence and the conclusions which are possible to draw from them. In Chapter 3 Strange analyses the earlier proposals regarding the location of Keftiu-Caphtor. Crete he thinks to be "a possible hypothesis"; however, rejects it. With respect to Asia Minor (Cilicia) he finds that Keftiu-Caphtor "might be somewhere in Asia Minor" but he himself rejects also this conjecture. Finally he cannot accept Northern Syria, either. In Chapter 4 Strange examines Cyprus as a possible place for Keftiu-Caphtor. This island has been proposed earlier, even if it has not been a favoured opinion in recent times. Strange arrives to the conclusion that Keftiu-Caphtor was Cyprus or at least the Southern or Eastern parts of the island. His grounds for this he summarizes in the following way: "The general geographical position of Cyprus meets the requirements of the texts mentioning Caphtor-Keftiu. The history of Cyprus as it may be reconstructed from the archaeological finds in the island has been shown to be in agreement with the history of Caphtor-Keftiu as it may be reconstructed from the texts. Especially important in this connection is the settlement of the Philistines and other branches of the Sea-peoples in the island around the transition from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age".

Strange's starting point is some passages in the Bible connecting the Philistines with Caphtor: Amos IX, 7 says that the Philisti-

nes came from Caphtor and Ezekiel XXV, 15-17 implies that they came from Crete. The latter passage, however, is rejected by Strange as a recent interpolation. Crete is not Keftiu-Caphtor, Strange says, but part of the "islands in the Midst of the Sea", mentioned in the Egyptian texts. He rejects the pictorial text in Rekhmiré's tomb in Egypt which is usually referred to in support of Keftiu being Crete. He says: the tributaries represented in this picture are certainly labelled "the chiefs of Keftiu and the islands in the Midst of the Sea" but the men in the picture came only from the islands in the Midst of the Sea. Keftiu was mentioned in the text only as a synonym for the West, according to Strange. So the painting does not depict people from Keftiu, he concludes. About other pictures he says that they show different ethnic types, all of them designated as coming from Keftiu; they are, however, so different, that it is impossible to consider them true portraits and to use them in a study of the Keftiu-problem.

I find hard to accept Strange's argumentation in this part. The explicit label "men from Keftiu" can hardly be explained so easily. It is, however, possible in itself that Keftiu, if Crete, sometimes is mentioned independently as Keftiu and sometimes is included in the broader concept "the islands in the Midst of the Sea."

Keftiu must be situated further to the North than Crete, Strange argues and refers to geographical lists as a proof. It is however rather common opinion that the names on these lists are so confused that it is impossible to draw any certain conclusions from the position of a country on these lists. As Strange himself mentions, for instance, Naharina (Mitanni) is listed twice on the same list. On some lists countries are listed that did not even exist when the list was made. Besides, in one list of tribute in Rekhmiré's tomb Keftiu and the islands in the Midst of the Sea are listed together while Syria and other northern countries are brought together in another group.

With respect to Strange's identification of Keftiu-Caphtor with Cyprus on the basis of the history of Keftiu it is obvious that it is impossible to reconstruct such a history of Keftiu. The only historical fact is the information of the Bible that the Philistines came from Caphtor and Crete.

Strange asserts that it can be proven that the Philistines and other Sea-peoples were resident in Cyprus before the attack on Egypt. There is, however, extremely little archaeological evidence to support this statement.

Keftiu was a country of metallurgy, Strange further proposes, but the single metal pieces from Keftiu mentioned in the texts hardly support this argument. What was most typical of Cyprus in according to the archaeological finds, that copper was mined there, not that it was refined there. As a metallurgical centre for the refinement of copper Ugarit, for instance, was far more important than Cyprus, in spite of not having its own copper resources but being dependent on import of Cypriot copper.

Two texts give Strange occasion to argue that the communications from Egypt to Keftiu went via Byblos. I can hardly see that the texts support this statement. One text describes how isolated Egypt has grown: it was not possible to sail to Byblos and it is impossible to go as far away as Keftiu. This mention of Byblos and Keftiu in the same text hardly means that Byblos and Keftiu are situated in the same direction. On the contrary, I would interpret

it as meaning that the textwriter gives expression to the feeling of being closed in all directions, both towards North (Byblos) and West? (Keftiu). Another text speaks about the Keftiu-ships and the Byblos-ships. Nor does this juxtaposition support the view that Byblos and Keftiu are situated in the same direction. I would rather interpret it so that Byblos-ships were used for traffic to Byblos, Keftiu-ships for sailing to Keftiu. Two different boat-types would hardly have been used for sailing to two places on the Levant coast. In my opinion Byblos-ships were used when going to the Levant while the Keftiu-ships were a different type of boats intended for other waters, maybe for sailing over the open water to Crete when the Etesian winds could be used to facilitate the journey to and from Crete.

Finally, Cyprus is Alasia rather than Caphtor-Keftiu. Alasia, for instance, is mentioned far more often in the texts of those countries that lie around Cyprus than Keftiu-Caphtoris. Alasia is mentioned in Alalakh, Keftiu is not. Alasia is very often mentioned in Ugarit while Keftiu is mentioned there only three times. Alasia is also often mentioned in Hittite texts but no Hittite text mentions Keftiu-Caphtor. Ezekiel speaks about timber export from Cyprus just as the Amarna letters mention timber export from Alasia.

While thinking that Keftiu was a metallurgical centre Strange argues that Alasia was no copper producing country of rank. The Amarna letters from Alasia are no proof that Alasia was a copper country, Strange says. Most of the copper mentioned in the letters was not delivered, according to Strange. He can only accept the minor quantities that without doubt were sent from Alasia according to the letters.

The reply to this is that if all copper mentioned in the letters had not yet been delivered this has not the importance argued by Strange. Business letters, as these letters in fact are, obviously would mention more of forthcoming deliveries than deliveries already made. The important thing is that the letters prove that Alasia had the capacity to supply considerable quantities of copper and therefore with right can be characterized as a land of copper.

Isy, mostly thought to be another name of Alasia, Strange thinks to be in Assuwa. To me, however, it seems doubtful that Egypt had connections to the distant western part of Asia Minor as early as the time of Thutmose III.

To summarize, Strange's conjecture can hardly limit other attempts to solve the Keftiu-problem but will be another contribution to the discussion of a problem which can hardly be solved definitely on the basis of existing facts. However, Strange gives an exemplary account of the text material, which will be of enormous help during future research in the fields and has put forward new interesting views on an old problem.

Lennart Hellbing

Sydney A u f r è r e, Collections égyptiennes. Collections des Musées départementaux de Seine-Maritime. Rouen 1987, pp. 243. ISBN 2.902093.05.05. Price not given.

The publications of less known Egyptological collections are of great significance and their more and more often appearing ca-

catalogues are welcome as are exhaustive descriptions of particular categories of objects. The present catalogue ranks among model examples in this respect, being carefully prepared by the author and excellently edited.

In this brief communication I do not aim at the discussion of its whole content or, in some cases, at the extension of parallels to individual objects just known to me. On the other hand, I would like to draw attention to the local cultural and historical context, in which this very collection has been located by the author. This is simply an ideal instance how suchlike collection should be framed within social and cultural conditions, with an indication to its genesis and development stages (p. 13-18) in connection with the activity of local collectors and enthusiasts, and also with taking into reckoning both direct and indirect interactions between the culture of ancient Egypt and numerous representatives of that local society (in this case of Normandy, so far off Egypt!) in the course of many centuries (pp. 215-232).

For Polish reader the fact is meaningful that one of the donors to the museum in Rouen was a dealer in antiquities Marius Panagiotis Tano[s], through mediation of whom the collection of Władysław Czartoryski got enriched in 1893 with several ancient objects coming from Cyprus (cf. K. M o c z u l s k a, Le correspondance entre Władysław Czartoryski et l'antiquaire Tanos et l'achat d'antiquités chypriotes (1892-1893). Folia Orientalia XIX, 1978, pp. 191-200, pls. I-VIII). To the collection in Rouen Tanos handed over in 1889 (through G. Le Breton), among other things, several Egyptian alabaster vessels. Moreover, in 1908 the inventory of the Rouen collection registers the inclusion of the assemblage of 132 flint artefacts of the so-called Fayum Neolithic, collected in the field personally by M. P. Tanos (cf. No. 413 and p. 212, Doc. 6; on the illustration there are only 52 objects). This assemblage, one of the many dispersed all over the world, should not escape the attention of Polish scholars recently investigating in the northern area of Fayum depression the local Neolithic (cf. B. G i n t e r, J. K. K o z ł o w s k i, Kulturelle und paläoklimatische Sequenz in der Fayum-Depression - eine zusammenfassende Darstellung der Forschungsarbeiten in den Jahren 1979-1981. MDAIK 42, 1986, pp. 9-24).

Joachim Śliwa

Bibliotheca Nubica, Band I. Nubia et Oriens Christianus. Festschrift für C. Detlef G. Müller zum 60. Geburtstag. Herausgegeben von Piotr O. S c h o l z und Reinhard S t e m p e l. Verlag Jürgen Dinter, Köln 1988, pp. XVIII + 454. ISBN 3-92794-08-1. Price: DM 175,-

In 1986 an idea was conceived in circles around Professor C. D. G. Müller at the Bonn University ("Wissenschaft vom Christlichen Orient") of creation of a new international annual for Meroitic and Nubian studies, which was given a name Nubica. Parallely, a supplementary series came immediately into existence, devoted mainly to the publication of more comprehensive monographic works (Bibliotheca Nubica). Apart from Professor Müller, the co-editor is Dr. Piotr O. Scholz. A double volume of Nubica (Vol. I/II, 1987/88) is presently in the press, yet the first volume of Bibliotheca Nubica has current-

ly appeared, which has been intended this time as a "Festschrift" commemorating the 60th birthday of Professor Müller, who directed the Department of the Christian Orient at the Bonn University since 1976. The volume under consideration was edited and prepared by Professor's disciples, Dr. P. O. Scholz and Dr. R. Stempel.

After the list (pp. XIII-XVIII) of Professor Müller's publications (who is widely known, among others, as the author of fundamental works from the area of angelology, Coptic sermons or considerations touching upon the activity of Patriarch Benjamin), 28 studies follow which are grouped in three topical sections: I. Theology, Church and history; II. Language, texts and philology; and III. Iconography, symbols and archaeology. Their authors make the Professor's disciples, friends, collaborators and acquaintances not only from his most familiar Bonn circle, but also from other centres of FRG and moreover from Canada, Italy, Vatican, Belgium, Spain, Egypt, GDR and Poland. The considered volume, luxuriously printed and bound (an excellent vignette of the whole Nubica series!) has been perfectly prepared in the Jürgen Dinter's Publishing House in Cologne.

Joachim Śliwa

T. G. H. J a m e s, Pharaohs Volk. Leben im alten Ägypten. Aus Englischen übertragen von Hanna Jenni. Artemis Verlag. Zürich und München 1988, pp. 312, figs. 28. ISBN 3 7608 07453.

The renowned Swiss and German "Artemis" Publishing House, immensely meritorious in the field of Egyptology and antiquity sciences already for its multi-volumed publications of texts in the series "Bibliothek der Alten Welt" or "Lebendige Antike", has recently released a German translation of the valuable work by T. G. H. J a m e s, Pharaoh's People. Scenes from Life in Imperial Egypt. The Bodley Head, London-Sydney-Toronto 1984 [cf. reviews published, among others, in: The American Historical Review 90, 1985, p. 910 (by J. A. S. Evans); Antiquity 59, 1985, p. 66-67 (by P. Jordan); Biblical Archaeology Review 11, No. 4, July/August 1985, p. 17 (by D. B. Redford)]. A thorough and competent translation has been done by Hanna J e n n i, collaborator of the Basel Egyptological Seminar (cf. her, Das Dekorationsprogramm des Sarkophages Nektanebos' II. Aegyptiaca Helvetica 12, Genève 1986). Thanks to her efforts, also a wide circle of German-speaking readers can familiarize themselves with the standard work by T. G. H. James (keeper of the Department of Egyptian Antiquities, British Museum, London), which in intelligible and at the same time topical way introduces the main problems of social life, habits and everyday life of commoners in the Land on the Nile in a selected historical period (mid-18th Dynasty, c. 1500-1400 B.C., and thus Egypt's "classical" period). The discussed publication's translation into Polish would be also highly useful and fully justified.

Joachim Śliwa

NUBICA I/II, 1987-1988. Internationales Jahrbuch für Äthiopische, meroitische und nubische Studien. International Annual for Ethiopian, Meroitic and Nubian Studies. Annuaire international pour les études éthiopiennes, méroïtiques et nubiennes. Herausgegeben von Piotr O. Scholz und C. Detlef G. Müller. Verlag Jürgen Dinter, Köln 1990, pp. 672, many illustrations. Price 350,- DM

A new "Nubica" volume has recently appeared (June 1990), already to have been announced for some time. A vast, double volume for the years 1987-1988 comprises a series of studies and materials from various circles of interest in Nubiology. Moreover, the editors have introduced the following divisions: History of investigations; Field research and excavations; From collections and museums; Remarks and materials for discussion; Bibliography and reviews; Information and materials from meetings and conferences.

This latter division constitutes an important factor in editorial policy, which attempts to give an exhaustive review of these forms of scientific activity. It is important inasmuch as the so-called conference and congress materials await their publication many a time for years. Henceforth, we can encounter in the discussed volume, part of the papers from the VI International Conference for Nubian Studies in Uppsala, held August 11th-16th 1986 (cf. pp. 443-667), only now to have appeared in print.

The new annual is also to fulfill a similar role with regard to the publication of excavation results. The present volume contains the reports from Italian investigations at Gebel Barkal 1987, and the information on Italian survey in the 4th cataract area in 1987. Moreover, it comprises the report from Polish excavations at Deir el-Naqlun/Fayum, 1986-1987, and the information on the sites spotted by the Canadian expedition to the Dongola Reach. This chapter on field works closes with an ethnographical text on Ethiopian dishes and dining habits.

I would also like to draw attention to the bibliographical section (pp. 313-351), prepared by P. O. Scholz in cooperation with E. Wacker. It contains the materials for the Nubian bibliography, following a certain code and proposing a system of fixed abbreviations to be consistently used in "Nubica". This section is also to be continued in further volumes and, in due course, basing on these materials, the editors envisage the publication of more exhaustive, supplemented "Bibliographia Nubica" (with reviews also taken into account) as a separate volume of the complementary series entitled "Bibliotheca Nubica".

It remains to wish further prosperous development to the new annual, and particularly the possibility of regular appearing in such exquisite editorial frame. [The editorial board envisages the publication of another double volume ("Nubica" III/IV for the years 1989-1990), and starting from 1991 the regular appearance of particular volumes every year].

Joachim Śliwa

Barbara Adams, *Predynastic Egypt*, Shire Egyptology 7, Shire Publications LTD 1988, pp. 76, 11. 47. ISBN 0852639384. Price UK £ 2.50

Barbara Adams's book has been the only one over the last dozen or so years to attempt synthesis of one of the most interesting periods in the history of Egypt. Despite its popular character it offers a systematized presentation of the most important aspects of the culture of the predynastic society. Fortunately, the author did not limit herself to repeating earlier theories but gives us the picture of this civilization in accordance with the current state of knowledge, aptly using the latest results of investigations carried out by numerous scientists on the sites dating from the period of interest to her and of her own researches conducted directly on the sites and on the material from earlier excavations. The great value of the book lies in the large number of illustrations showing the discussed material and sometimes presenting objects so far unpublished and unknown even to specialists. Another merit of the book is the list of the major museums whose collections include items from the predynastic period, this greatly encouraging the reader to increase his knowledge and to become acquainted with the material kept in various collections. Likewise valuable is a list of about 15 publications addressed directly to the reader. One might point out the absence in it of some classical books, such as, e.g., those by G. Brunton, but the reader who is genuinely interested will surely find his way to them as well.

A few minor slips made by Barbara Adams are the result rather of the writer's zeal than her ignorance. Thus, for instance, a certain inconsistency can be seen in the dating of Maadi. On page 8 it is considered to be a site going back to the late predynastic and the proto-dynastic period. This view is repeated in the table of chronology on p. 5, but in the chronological diagram on p. 67 Maadi is placed in the period between 3.800 and 3.400 BC, the latter dating seeming more acceptable in the light of the studies carried out by Rizkana and Seeher. On p. 11, following H. Junker and O. Menghin, the author claims the existence in Merimde of three culture phases, whereas the recent studies of J. Eiwanger point rather to five successive phases of the occupation of the site. The author gives far less attention to the situation in Lower Egypt, this, as a matter of fact, being stressed by herself: "...As most of the early objects in museums come from the south, this book concentrates on the material culture of Upper Egypt..." (p. 8). Undoubtedly, it is an important achievement, worth emphasizing, that Barbara Adams presents several different relative chronology systems hitherto used by scientists, and a succinct description of new dating methods. However, the author draws too far-reaching conclusions regarding the dating of the Badari culture, on the basis of thermoluminescent dating (p. 31) which is particularly unreliable when performed on very old samples kept for a long time in museum stores, as was the case here. On the other hand, it is worth noting that the author presents one of the first written critical estimates of the methods of acquiring historical objects by G. Caton-Thompson (p. 39). It appears as a typical lapsus linguae when Adams writes on p. 43 that harpoons of copper were later copied in bone and ivory, while actually it was the other way round.

Nevertheless, these few minor errors, the result of oversight, must not diminish the impression that we have received another very good book both from the Shire Egyptology series and from Barbara Adams. It will surely be not only very useful to the general reader, but also of valuable help to undergraduates and scholars who are engaged in the study of the problems of the civilization of ancient Egypt.

Krzysztof M. Ciałowicz

Eric P. Uphill, Egyptian Towns and Cities Shire Egyptology 8. Aylesbury 1988, pp. 72. ISBN 0852639392. Price £ 2.50

The popular, carefully edited booklets in the series "Shire Egyptology" make an interesting and competent introduction into various problems of broadly comprehended Egyptology. As the publisher states, "this series is written by experts for the student or interested layman".

In the next booklet of this series the author set a task ahead of discussing the whole problematics associated with the main kinds of urban settlement and town planning in pharaonic Egypt. Notwithstanding all the appearances, this is the topic rarely touched upon among the hitherto literature of the subject and still calling for a critical analysis of many detailed problems and undertaking of excavations in many sites belonging to particular historical periods.

The author deals with individual problems in chronological arrangement, distinguishing at the same time some architectural types, such as nome capitals, workmen's villages, lesser royal residences and frontier towns, towns for funerary priests, or imperial cities. However, the material presented by the author is not always complete, even where its amount is objectively scarce, as in relation to the Middle Kingdom. The author mentions here only the Kahun complex or Nubian sites (Buhen), taking no account of interesting and important results of Swedish excavations from the thirties at Abu Ghàlib (cf. H. Larsen, MDAIK 6, 1936, pp. 41-87; MDAIK 10, 1941, pp. 1-49), or the results of French excavations in Mirgissa (cf. J. Vercoûtter [ed.], Mirgissa I, Paris 1970) and the latest results of German excavations on Elephantine (cf. reports in MDAIK). This latter architectural complex yields interesting materials also for subsequent periods within the framework of the discussed subject matter. [At the same time, the most recent iconographical treatise should be mentioned here (E. Roik, Das alt-ägyptische Wohnhaus und seine Darstellung im Flachbild. Vol. I, II, Frankfurt 1988) that will undoubtedly prove to be greatly helpful to the scholars entering in future upon a task of broader studies from the history of Egyptian architecture].

The publication concludes with a concise, tabular list of Egyptian towns known to the author (16 sites) arranged from the smallest to the largest (p. 66) and the register of Egyptian nome capitals (with Egyptian, Greek and contemporary Arabic name of a site given). Further on, a map has been inserted, standard for the whole series (p. 68), and the whole closes with a bibliography (pp. 69-70). Here, however, we encounter quite a serious deficiency, since the list consequently contains only English-language publica-

tions. The bibliography is lacking, among others, such an important work as for example L. Borchart, H. Rickle, Die Wohnhäuser in Tell el-Amarna, Berlin 1980. Besides, there are not listed basically popular yet provided with rich illustrative material works by Geneviève Sée (Naissance de l'urbanisme dans la vallée du Nil, Paris 1973; Grandes villes de l'Égypte antique, Paris 1974), which surely would be useful to the reader of the so intended series. This confinement to English-language literature, observable also in principal parts of the text, should be regarded as rather considerable shortcoming in this important and absorbing publication, blaming both the author and the editor of the whole series.

Joachim Śliwa

Miguel Angel Corzo (ed.), Wall Paintings of the Tomb of Nefertari. Scientific Studies for their Conservation. First Progress Report, July 1987. A Joint Project of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization and the Getty Conservation Institute (Publications de l'Organisation des Antiquités Égyptiennes. Annales du Service des Antiquités de l'Égypte). Le Caire 1987, pp. 123 + Arabic summary (pp. 1-14). ISBN 0-89236-129-8

The tomb of Queen Nefertari, royal consort of Ramses II (who reigned 1290-1224 B.C. as the third ruler of the 19th dynasty), since its discovery by E. Schiaparelli in 1904 has been arousing justifiable interest of scholars as both historical source and important phenomenon in the history of Egyptian art. For many years it has also been making one of the more important sights for tourist groups visiting the Valley of the Queens (tomb No. QV 66). However, the unsatisfactory state of tomb complex (salt crystallization behind the plaster layer) forced some years ago the authorities of the Egyptian Antiquities Organization to close it and to undertake preservation works. This task, however, is conditioned by the preparation of an adequate project of conservation works which in turn depends on the conduction of proper geological, chemical, physical and biological investigations. Only their completion can prove the direct threat and help to find accurate means of preservation.

The considered, extraordinary carefully edited volume comprises just the results of complex, multidisciplinary research devoted to the elucidation of situation in the tomb of Nefertari within the framework of joint project of Egyptian Antiquities Organization and Getty Conservation Institute, launched in September 1986.

The study opens with two historical outlines introducing into the period and events associated with the life, activity and position of Queen Nefertari (G. A. Gaballa, pp. 11-17; M. Maher-Taha, pp. 19-23). Then a concise archaeological description follows of the tomb and its decoration (G. Moukhtar, pp. 25-33).

The following texts touch already upon conservation problems, starting with the review of some earlier attempts and projects (A. Kadrý, F. A. Esmael, pp. 35-38 [it is to be regretted that - even for the sake of historical order - neither the existence nor basic elements have been taken into account of the project work-

ed out by Polish experts under the auspices of the Polish Center of Mediterranean Archaeology in Cairo and Ateliers for the Monuments Conservation, cf. K. Michałowski (ed.), *The Tomb of Queen Nefertari: Problems of Conserving Wall Paintings*, Warsaw 1973] and also of the current project's schedule (M. A. Corzo, pp. 41-43). It appears from it, among other things, that the programme envisages six basic stages, of which four make the first diagnosing phase which should be completed within one year. The remaining two phases (the choice and checking up of the method; proper conservation works on the walls of the tomb) depend upon the course and conclusion of the first stage. Regarding the state of the paintings, it is obviously necessary to carry into effect appropriate conservatorial measures as quickly as possible.

Further on a series of detailed studies follow which pertain, among others, to the geographical and geological situation of the tomb, basing upon field survey and satellite photography analysis: Gemini XII, Landsat, Thematic Mapper (F. El-Baz, pp. 46-52) and on the results of biological investigations (H. Arai, pp. 54-57), identification of microflora (M. S. Ammar et al., pp. 58-63) and the tomb's microclimate (F. A. Esmail, pp. 64-68). In this context, colour measurements must be also mentioned (F. Preusser, M. Schilling, pp. 70-81) as well as the results of plaster and paint samples examinations and those of salt crystals from the wall paintings (F. Preusser, pp. 82-93). Moreover, the results are given of earlier investigations (1980) of pigment samples, plaster and salts (S. A. Saleh, pp. 94-105).

The specification, mainly of technical and technological character, comprised in the volume under consideration, visualizes us the enormity of the problem related to the progressing damage of the wall paintings of the Tomb of Nefertari and enables to draw the conclusion that definite conservatorial measures will be carried into effect at speed equalling that of preliminary investigations, which will result with the preservation and reconstruction of the mutilated portions of paintings, and in future even rendering accessible the whole funerary complex of Nefertari at least for the most interested investigators of Egyptian art and culture.

Joachim Śliwa

ISTORIJA DREVNEGO VOSTOKA. I. Mesopotamija, ed. I. M. Diakonoff, Nauka, Moskva 1983, in-8°, 536 pp., 12 pl. en couleur, 134 fig., 4 cartes hors-texte, relié; II. Perednjaja Azija. Egipet, ed. G. M. Bongard-Levin, Nauka, Moskva 1988, in-8°, 624 pp., 12 pl. en couleur, 186 fig., 3 cartes hors-texte, relié. Prix: 3 r. 90 kop. et 4 r. 60 kop.

Les progrès remarquables réalisés au cours des dernières décennies dans notre connaissance de l'histoire de l'ancien Proche-Orient devaient aboutir à des grandes synthèses, mises au point par des équipes de spécialistes, travaillant chacun dans son domaine propre. C'est le résultat d'une telle entreprise que présentent les deux premiers volumes de l'"Histoire de l'Orient ancien", préparée à l'initiative de l'Académie des Sciences de l'URSS. I. M. Diakonoff a assumé la rédaction du premier tome, intitulé "Mésopotamie", et G.

M. Bongard-Levin est le rédacteur du deuxième tome, consacré à l'"Asie Antérieure" et à l'"Egypte". Les auteurs du tome I sont I. M. Diakonoff, V. K. Afanasieva, V. M. Masson, V. A. Jakobson et K. Kh. Kuchnareva. Le tome II est l'oeuvre de I. M. Diakonoff, N. B. Jankowska, V. G. Ardiznba (chapitres I-III) et Yu. Ya. Perepelkin (chapitres IV-X).

Le chapitre I du premier tome donne une esquisse de la géographie du Proche-Orient antique (pp. 29-38), traite de l'homme paléolithique sur le continent afro-asiatique (pp. 38-47), puis présente l'évolution de la civilisation préhistorique à partir de l'époque mésolithique (pp. 47-106). Le chapitre II est consacré entièrement à la période protolithéraire en Mésopotamie (pp. 107-161), tandis que le chapitre III traite des trois périodes protodynastiques en Mésopotamie et en Elam (pp. 162-232), les datant de c. 2750-2315 av. n.è. Cette haute datation, - trop haute à notre sens, - se retrouve au chapitre IV, dont l'objet est l'histoire de la Mésopotamie depuis la fondation de l'Empire d'Akkad jusqu'à la chute de la III^e dynastie d'Ur et l'avènement des Amorites avec la I^{re} dynastie d'Isin (pp. 233-315). Cette époque cruciale, dont les débuts coïncident avec la troisième période protodynastique, semble devoir être abaissée de c. 75 ans. La période babylonienne ancienne, qui lui fait suite en Mésopotamie, occupe tout le chapitre V (pp. 316-414). L'époque kassite en Babylonie et en Elam fait ensuite l'objet du chapitre VI (pp. 415-444), tandis que le chapitre VII est consacré à l'étude des conceptions et de la civilisation babyloniennes (pp. 445-485).

Le contenu du second tome se répartit entre l'Asie Antérieure et l'Egypte. Le chapitre I est consacré aux "périphéries" septentrionales de la civilisation mésopotamienne du IV^e au II^e millénaire av. n.è. (pp. 21-117). Cette présentation ne rend pas justice à l'importance de la civilisation paléo-syrienne d'Ebla, mais accorde néanmoins une place équitable à l'Assyrie du II^e millénaire av. n.è. Le chapitre II traite de l'Empire hittite et du monde égéen (pp. 118-201), tandis que le chapitre III est dédié à l'histoire de la Syro-Palestine du IV^e au II^e millénaire av. n.è. (pp. 202-290). Il passe en revue, trop rapidement, les civilisations paléo-syrienne, mitannienne et hurrite, l'époque amarnienne et celle des documents d'Alalakh et d'Ugarit, l'invention de l'alphabet phénicien et le problème des Habisu. La seconde partie du tome est consacrée à l'Egypte des années 3000 au XI^e siècle av. n.è. Le chapitre IV traite donc de l'époque thinite de la I^{re} et de la II^e dynasties (pp. 295-325), tandis que le chapitre V est dévolu à l'Ancien Empire, jusqu'à la VIII^e dynastie inclusivement (pp. 326-390). Le Moyen Empire, jusqu'à la XVII^e dynastie, fait l'objet du chapitre VI (pp. 391-421), tandis que l'"âge d'or" de la XVIII^e dynastie est traité non seulement au chapitre VII (pp. 422-456), mais aussi au chapitre VIII, consacré à la société égyptienne du XVI^e au XII^e siècle (pp. 457-496), puis au chapitre IX, contenant un exposé de la révolution amarnienne dans la première moitié du XIV^e siècle av. n.è. (pp. 497-527). Le dernier chapitre (X) examinant la situation en Egypte après l'intermède amarnien, jusqu'au XI^e siècle, c'est-à-dire sous la XIX^e et la XX^e dynasties (pp. 528-572).

Les deux tomes sont pourvus de tableaux chronologiques, de notes bibliographiques et d'index des noms propres de personnes, de lieux et de peuples. L'illustration est abondante et bien choisie, mais la reproduction technique de cette documentation visuelle laisse à désirer, notamment en raison de la qualité du papier.

Il ne fait pas de doute que la compétence des auteurs de cette "Histoire de l'Orient ancien" a permis de mettre à la disposition du public de langue russe un ouvrage comparable à la 3^e édition des tomes I et II de la Cambridge Ancient History. Il faut souhaiter une parution rapide des tomes suivants, qui doivent traiter de l'histoire du Proche-Orient, respectivement, du XI^e/X^e siècle au V^e/IV^e siècle av. n.è. et de l'époque qui va d'Alexandre le Grand aux III^e - V^e siècles de notre ère.

Edward Lipiński

M. A. Dandamayev, ed., Gosudarstvo i socialnie struktury na Drevnem Vostoke, Nauka, Moskva 1989, 160 pp., 21,5 x 14,5 cm. Price: 1 r. 40 k. ISBN 5-02-016575-1.

This small volume edited by prof. M. A. Dandamayev contains several short studies devoted to the State and the social structures in the ancient Near East and Far East.

Four contributions deal with Western Asia. A rather general article written by M. A. Dandamayev himself is entitled "State, Religion, and Economy in Ancient Western Asia" (pp. 4-16). V. A. Jakobson treats then of "Kings and Cities in Ancient Mesopotamia" (pp. 17-37), while N. V. Kozyreva describes the "Social Structure of Labourers at Large-Scale Farms in Old Babylonian Mesopotamia" (pp. 38-52). One article, written by the late lamented I. Sh. Schiffmann, deals with the "State within the System of Social Institutions in Ancient Palestine" (pp. 53-85), from the second half of the third millennium B. C. to the first half of the first millennium B. C.

Two contributions refer to Pharaonic Egypt. The first one, by O. D. Berlev, analyzes "Egyptian Statistical Data concerning the Importation of People from Subjugated Countries" (pp. 86-108), while the second one, by the late lamented Ye. S. Bogoslovsky, examines "The Factor of Statehood in the Structural Formation of Egyptian Society in the Second Half of the Second Millennium B.C." (pp. 109-127).

The last two articles deal with China and Japan. The late lamented K. V. Vasilyev examines "Some Aspects relating to the Situation of Land Farmers in the Ts'in Empire (221-207 B.C.)" (pp. 128-131), while M. V. Vorolyev treats of "State and Public Production in Japan up to the Mid-Seventh Century" (pp. 132-154).

A substantial bibliography is added to most articles and a list of abbreviations closes this welcome book, that will be of special use to readers interested in the economic and social history of the Ancient Near East.

Edward Lipiński

Zofia Sztetyłko, éd., Studia i materiały archeologiczne, tom 7, Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, Warszawa 1989, 129 pp., 23,5 x 16,5 cm. Prix: 160,- zł

Ce volume d'études archéologiques, préparé par les membres de l'Institut d'Archéologie de l'Université de Varsovie, est consacré en grande partie au Proche-Orient. Il s'ouvre par une étude de R.

Koliński qui examine la "Chronologie du Bronze Ancien en Anatolie occidentale" (pp. 5-36), spécialement à Troie. Le deuxième article est dû à M. Olbrys qui donne un aperçu de l'"Histoire de l'installation dans la vallée du Habur aux époques du Bronze et du Fer I - II (c. 3200 - c. 600 av. n.è.)", se limitant toutefois aux 180 km du Bas-Habur, depuis Hasaka jusqu'au confluent du Habur et de l'Euphrate (pp. 37-58). Son étude est basée sur les résultats des prospections et des fouilles archéologiques, de même que sur les données des sources écrites. Dans la troisième étude, Dorota Ławecka examine les "Usages funéraires en Mésopotamie à l'époque protodynastique" (pp. 59-88), d'après les données de Hafadje, Kish, Tell Abu Salabikh, Fara, Ur, El-Obeid, ainsi que celles de la région du Djebel Hamrin, où l'on connaît les nécropoles de Tell Ahmad al-Hattu et de Kheit Qasim. Deux articles consacrés à Chypre ont pour auteurs W. A. Daszewski et Zofia Sztetyłko. Le premier traite de la "Sculpture à Néa-Paphos" (pp. 89-105), notamment d'après les trouvailles de la Mission archéologique polonaise. Le second examine les "Représentations du 'Temple-Boy' dans la plastique figurative de Chypre" (pp. 107-116), soulignant les rapports étroits de ce type de figurines avec les milieux phéniciens. La seule étude consacrée aux Balcanes, plus exactement à la Bulgarie, est celle de P. Dyczek, T. Sarnowski et W. Szubert qui présentent les résultats des fouilles polonaises dans le "Secteur occidental de Novae, en 1985" (pp. 117-129).

Ce volume intéressant et de haut niveau scientifique, rédigé entièrement en polonais, sans résumés dans une langue plus accessible à la grande majorité des chercheurs intéressés à ces domaines, est malheureusement publié sur un papier dont la qualité nuit à la clarté des photographies. Espérons qu'une situation financière plus propice permettra à l'avenir d'améliorer la présentation de ces "Etudes".

Edward Lipiński

J. Śliwa and E. Kluge (eds.), From the Archaeological Collections of Cracow and Jena, Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, Warszawa-Kraków 1988, in-8°, 71 pages and 19 pl. Price: 200 zł

The present fascicle of the publications of the Jagellonian University in Cracow contains several short and useful studies dealing with artefacts kept in the archaeological collections of Cracow and Jena. J. Śliwa presents Egyptian and "Egyptianizing" Objects from the Leo D. Kostka Collection in the National Museum in Cracow (pp. 8-15, pl. I-II). J. Oelsner publishes Inschriften mittelelamischer, neuassyrischer und neubabylonischer Herrscher auf Ziegeln in Kraków und Jena (p. 17-22). E. Paucic-Władyka comments on Two Corinthian Terracotta Figurines in Cracow (pp. 23-29, pl. I-II), while V. Paulinś studies two Attic vase-paintings under the title Begierde und Symplegma: Zu zwei Schalen des Q- und des Jena-Malers (pp. 31-40, pl. I-II). M. Wilkoss publishes Le goblet en verre avec l'inscription grecque KATAKHAIRE KAI EUPHRAINOU from the Czartoryski Collection in the National Museum in Cracow (pp. 41-44, pl. I), while E. Kluge studies Münze als historische und kulturgeschichtliche Zeugnisse (pp. 45-54, pl. I-IV). Finally, A.

L a s k a examines Glass Reproductions of Ancient Gems in the Collections of the Jagellonian University Museum (pp. 55-61, pl. I-II), and J. A. O s t r o w s k i presents Jan Matejko und das archäologische Kabinett der Jagiellonen-Universität (pp. 63-71, pl. I-VI).

Edward Lipiński

I. M. D i a k o n o f f, Afrasian Languages, Nauka, Moscow 1988, in-8°, 144 pp. Price: 1 r. 70 kop.

This booklet is a revised version of Semito-Hamitic Languages published by I. M. Diakonoff in 1965, both in Russian and in English, in the series "Languages of Asia and Africa". This new edition sums up the recent studies on phonology, morphology and the syntax of the main Afro-Asiatic languages of the past and the present, both from the diachronic and synchronic points of view. The change of "Semito-Hamitic" into "Afrasian" in the title of the book is not the reflex of a simple terminological fashion in the field of comparative grammar. It results from a deeper insight in the components of the large family of the languages concerned, which includes six branches according to our actual knowledge: Semitic, Cushitic, Omotic, Libyan-Guanche, Old Egyptian, and Chadic. The author offers an adequate description of the main features that characterized the ancient stages of the Afrasian languages and show their mutual affinities. Of course, much more space would be needed to trace the considerable changes that took place during the period of independent evolution of the separate branches and, still later, of the individual languages of this family. In other words, the main concern of Afrasian Languages is to attempt a reconstruction of Proto-Afrasian. Transliterated text samples are analyzed in appendices pp. 115-134, followed by a bibliography going up to 1986. No doubt, this is an important and authoritative synthesis by a leading scholar in the field of Afrasian linguistics and it should interest every linguist or philologist dealing with these languages.

Edward Lipiński

S. M. I a k e r s o n, Hebrew Incunabula. Description of Publications kept in Libraries of Moscow and Leningrad, Library of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Leningrad Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Leningrad 1988, in-8°, 340 pages. Price: 75 kop.

The present catalogue offers a description of 111 Hebrew incunabula kept in the Lenin State Library, Moscow, the Library of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Leningrad, and the M. E. Saltykov-Shchedrin State Public Library, Leningrad. Among the rarest incunabula described in the catalogue one should mention the Pērūš hat-Tōrā by Nahmanides. This copy of his commentary on the Torah was probably printed in Rome between 1469 and 1473, and is considered as the oldest extant Hebrew incunabulum (no. 1). Two copies of the major work by Jacob ben Asher, the 'Arbā'ā Tūrīm, have been printed

in Piove di Sacco (Italy), in 1475. The oldest printed edition of a biblical book, viz. the Psalms with a commentary by David Kimḥi, dates back to 1477 and one of the two extant copies of the Hebrew grammar by Moses Kimḥi, Māhalak Šēbilē had-Da'at, in which he stressed the morphology of the verb, was printed by Soncino in 1488. Two copies of the More Nebukim by Maimonides have been printed between 1473 and 1475, probably in Rome, and a printed edition of the Torah with the Targum of Onkelos and the commentary by Rashī was published by Eliezer Toledano in Lisbon, in 1491. The catalogue mentions three copies of the first collection of Rashba's responsa, Tēšubot Šē'elot, which was printed in Rome between 1469 and 1473, as well as three copies of the Mišne Tora by Maimonides, all printed probably in Rome between 1473 and 1475.

All entries in the catalogue are first grouped by printing-houses in Rome, Piove di Sacco, Mantova, Ferrara, Bologna, Soncino, Casal Maggiore, Naples, Brescia, Lisbon, Leiria, and Constantinople. The chronological order is then followed in each section. Each bibliographic entry is given in Hebrew and in Latin transcription. It gives the author's name, the title, eventually the names of the translator or commentator, the imprint, the size, and the technical peculiarities of the publication. Text quotations in Hebrew and specimens of each incunabulum complete the information furnished by the catalogue, which contains also an index of authors, commentators, and translators, an index of publishers, proof-readers, compositors, and donators, as well as an index of owners whose name is inscribed in the incunabula, an index of censors, of titles, a chronological index, concordances with other catalogues, a table of the Latin transcription of Hebrew, an index of abbreviations used in entries and colophones, and finally a summary in English. There is no doubt that this catalogue constitutes a real scholar's tool and deserves high praise.

Edward Lipiński

Ks. Antoni T r o n i n a, Bóg przybywa ze Synaju, Redakcja Wydawnictw KUL, Lublin 1989, in-8°, 180 pp.

La monographie intitulée "Dieu vient du Sinai" est une étude du genre littéraire de théophanie dans la lyrique religieuse de l'ancien Israël. Elle a été présentée comme thèse de doctorat spécial (Habilitation) à la Faculté de Théologie de l'Université Catholique de Lublin et marque probablement, dans ce domaine d'études en Pologne, une innovation remarquable, en ce sens qu'elle dépasse le recours à de simples parallèles extra-bibliques en s'efforçant de comprendre le texte véterotestamentaire à partir du milieu culturel du Proche-Orient antique, dans lequel la Bible est née. En l'occurrence, ce sont les mythes et les légendes d'Ugarit qui permettent de saisir le mieux les caractéristiques de l'ancienne poésie religieuse et culturelle de Canaan à la fin de l'âge du Bronze, c'est-à-dire à l'aube des premières manifestations de la poésie paléo-hébraïque. L'auteur aborde donc son sujet en étudiant les théophanies de Baal dans les textes mythologiques d'Ugarit (pp. 17-43), pour passer ensuite à la Bible. Le noyau de son étude est constitué à la Bible. Le noyau de son étude est constitué par les chapitres II et III, qui traitent du genre theophanique, respectivement, en

dehors du Psautier (pp. 45-74) et dans le Livre des Psaumes (pp. 75-115). L'analyse porte donc sur le Psaume de Moïse (Deutéronome 32,2-5.21b. 26-29), le Cantique de Débora (Juges 5,2-11b), la Prière d'Habaquq (Habaquq 3, 3-15) et les Psaumes 18,8-16; 29,3-9b et 68,6-19b, auxquels l'auteur attribue, à juste titre, une haute date. Le dernier chapitre examine les origines de la religion de l'ancien Israël, dont le genre théophanique est l'une des expressions, mais que l'auteur s'efforce de mieux cerner à l'aide des données épigraphiques et de l'onomastique (pp. 117-147). Les conclusions (pp. 149-155) résument les résultats acquis grâce aux analyses judicieuses des chapitres I-IV et soulignent la nécessité d'étudier la poésie paléo-hébraïque à partir du milieu dans lequel elle est née. L'ouvrage se complète d'une riche bibliographie (pp. 157-168), d'un index des textes bibliques et ugaritiques cités, ainsi que des auteurs modernes (pp. 169-178). On regrettera seulement l'absence d'un résumé en allemand, anglais ou français.

Cette excellente monographie présage un renouveau des études vétértestamentaires en Pologne et témoigne d'une ouverture sur les sources proche-orientales dont l'apport leur est nécessaire tout autant que celui de la recherche qumranienne, targumique et hellénistique est indispensable à l'exégèse néotestamentaire.

Edward Lipiński

Rekopisy z Qumran I, II. Ed. Z. J. Kapera Kraków 1989 - 1990 [= Filomata 391, 1989, pp. 183-280; 395, 1990, pp. 3-90], 16,5 x 12 cm. Prix: 60 + 160 zł. ISSN 0015-1815.

Les fascicules 391 et 395 de la revue polonaise Filomata sont entièrement consacrés aux manuscrits de Qumrân et contiennent une série d'articles de quatre auteurs qui présentent aux lecteurs l'ensemble de la problématique qumrânienne. Z. J. Kapera explique d'abord l'intérêt particulier de ces textes (fasc. 391, pp. 183-191), puis W. Chrostowski décrit la bibliothèque du "monastère" de Qumrân (pp. 191-210) et montre son importance pour l'étude de l'Ancien Testament (pp. 211-225), tandis que St. Mędala met en lumière l'apport des manuscrits qumrâniens aux recherches néotestamentaires (pp. 225-252). J. Chmiel soulève le problème des fragments grecs de la grotte 7 de Qumrân (pp. 252-261), appartenant selon certains auteurs à des livres du Nouveau Testament. Z. J. Kapera présente ensuite une sélection d'ouvrages polonais traitant de Qumrân pp. (262-271) et fait un compte rendu du Premier colloque international sur les manuscrits de Qumran, tenu à Mogilany en 1987 (pp. 271-280). Dans le second fascicule, il décrit d'abord les ruines de Khirbet Qumrân (fasc. 395, pp. 3-23), puis fait l'historique des fouilles d'Aïn Feshqa (pp. 23-29) et décrit l'établissement d'Aïn el-Guweir, à 15 km au sud de Qumrân (pp. 30-40). St. Mędala traite ensuite des fouilles de Massada (pp. 41-56), tandis que W. Chrostowski présente les autres découvertes du Désert de Juda, celles du Wadi Murabba'at, du Khirbet Mird, du Nahal Hever, du Nahal Mishmar, du Wadi Daliyeh, du Nahal Mihmas et des environs d'Aïn Fara (pp. 57-91). Cette série d'articles apporte une information à jour aux lecteurs polonais intéressés à ces découvertes, dont on ne saurait exagérer l'importance.

Edward Lipiński

Hans Burgmann, Der "Sitz im Leben" in den Josuafluch-Texten, in 4Q 379 22 II und 4Q Testimonia (Qumranica Mogilanensia 1), "Secesja" Press, Kraków-Offenburg 1990, 63 pp., 19,5 x 14 cm.

Ce premier fascicule des Qumranica Mogilanensia, introduit par leur éditeur Z. J. Kapera (pp. 3-6), cherche à établir la situation historique que reflètent les textes 4Q Testimonia 21-30 et 4Q 379, 22, II, 7-14. L'auteur propose d'identifier "l'homme maudit" visé par les malédictions de Josué avec le grand-prêtre et ethnarque Simon Maccabée, assassiné en 134 av. n.è. par son gendre Ptolémée. L'éditeur de la série a complété le fascicule de la bibliographie de Hans Burgmann (pp. 56-61).

Edward Lipiński

V. I. Sarianidi, Chram i nekropoli Tilljatepe (The Temple and Necropolis of Tilljatepe), Moskva 1989, Izdatelstvo Nauka, 326 pp., Price: 3 roubles and 90 copecs.

The book under review is a long awaited one by the archaeologists and historians, and it is a comprehensive publication of archaeological materials from Tilljatepe in northern Afghanistan (near Shibargan). During the excavations of the Soviet-Afghan Archaeological Expedition conducted in 1969, 1971 and 1977-1979 very interesting remains were unearthed. The V. I. Sarianidi's work consists of the following chapters: I. The Temple; II. The Tilljatepe Necropolis; III. The Bactrian Centre of Goldsmithing; IV. The Nomads in Bactria.

Chapter I is a survey of excavations of an architectural complex. Its development was divided by the author into three phases: Tillja I, II, and III. According to the author, the excavated structures were a fire-temple situated on a tall brick platform (it measured 27,7 x 36 m). The temple consisted of two column-halls safeguarded by defensive walls with towers. There was an inhabited settlement at the foot of the shrine. The sanctuary was entirely re-planned in Tillja IIb phase and became the residence of a local ruler. Towards the end of the Achaemenian Period the temple was destroyed. According to the author, the Tilljatepe monumental architecture is very similar to the structures known from western Iran (Baba Jan Tepe, Tepe Nush-i Jan, Hasanlu), Turkmenistan (Jazdepe, Elkendepe), and ancient Bactria (Kucuktepe).

The objects found in the architectural remains were divided into three complexes - Tillja I, II and III (dating to the middle of the 2nd millennium B.C. - first half of the 1st millennium B.C.). Complex Tillja II contained, among others, the Painted Ware with geometric ornaments (compositions of the squares, triangles and diamonds). The author analyzes the archaeological data evidencing close relations of this pottery with the Iranian area, and concludes that the Painted Ware from Tilljatepe is very similar to the Tall-i Bakun Ware (southwestern Iran). He supposes that the makers of this pottery style were the Indo-Iranians migrating from southwestern Iran as far as to Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Farghana and India.

Chapter II describes the discoveries of the ancient burials at Tilljatepe which are dated back to around the 1st century B.C. and

the 1st century A.D., i.e., the time of Yüeh-chih rule in Bactria. The seven graves were very simple: a wooden coffin was placed in a rectangular hole 1,5 - 2 m deep and covered by a counterpane decorated with golden and silver plates. The dead were clad in rich clothes embroidered with gold decorations. Some 20.000 gold objects were found. These were personal ornaments: brooches, hairpins, buckles, sheath plaques and others.

In Chapter III, the author analyzes jewellery from Tilljatepe. According to V. I. Sarianidi's view, this collection may be arranged into several distinct categories. The first, the smallest group, includes Graeco-Bactrian objects seized as a booty by the Kushan conquerors (e.g. the figure of an ibex). The second category is represented by imported objects (among others, the Chinese mirrors, the Roman and Indian coins). The third group comprises artifacts of the Graeco-Roman style which are presumably of a local origin (e.g. signet rings with representations of gods and goddesses, and especially with the name of Athena in Greek). The largest, fourth group, consists of the objects of local Bactrian manufacture, reflecting several cultural traditions. This category includes finds typical of the Scytho-Sarmatian animal style (phaleræ, plaques depicting the mauling of an antelope), pieces reflecting the mixture of Graeco-Roman and Siberian-Altai influences (clasps with representations of the gods Ares und Verethragna, the "Kushan Aphrodite") and, finally, artifacts that display local Old Bactrian tradition (the "goddess amidst animals" pendants, bracelets with sculptured figures of animals). In the author's opinion, the Bactrian tradition of goldsmithing goes back to the Bronze Age. Many motifs and scenes known from this period became manifest in the objects from Tilljatepe necropolis. The chronological gap between the Bronze Age and Tilljatepe collection has been filled in by the Amu-Darya Treasure and Tachti Sangin Treasure recovered in southern Tajikistan¹. According to the author, the inferior artistic level of the objects from Tilljatepe was most likely due to low aesthetic tastes of the clientele for whom they were made. The Yüeh-chih had only a very general notion on the Hellenistic cultural achievements. After the excavations at Tilljatepe, the importance of a nomadic factor in Kushan art should be estimated properly. The author is prone to believe that nomadic art served to catalyze the interaction between Bactrian and Hellenistic traditions.

Chapter IV deals with the problems of nomads in Bactria. There are very close connections between archaeological remains of nomadic culture from Siberia, Altai, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and the Tilljatepe finds. Also the influence of Parthian culture must be underlined (cf. Parthian gold from Nineveh). In the author's opinion, Tilljatepe necropolis was the family cemetery of the rulers of one of the five Yüeh-chih principalities mentioned in Chinese sources. It is very probable that the city of Emšitepe, which is next door to the Tilljatepe, was a residence of these Yüeh-chih princes.

The whole work is summed up in the short "Conclusion" and ends with two appendices (by S. A. Pisarev, S. V. Ustinov and E. N. Černych) dealing with chemical and physical analysis of the jewellery from Tilljatepe.

Generally speaking, V. I. Sarianidi's work brings interesting contributions to many problems. Yet, some of his conclusions are controversial and leave space for doubts, for instance, the problem of the artistic level of the Tilljatepe jewellery. One cannot

agree with estimating these objects, as the author of the book does, from the point of view of the Hellenistic art. The classification of the jewellery presented by V. I. Sarianidi is incoherent in some places².

To conclude these remarks, I would like to point out that the publication under review is of great value, not only because it contains a detailed description of interesting archaeological remains from Tilljatepe, but also since it offers a great comparative material known from the investigations in Iran, Central Asia, Siberia, Altai and India.

The volume is adequately illustrated with relatively clear photographs (unfortunately, in black-and-white only) and drawings. A valuable supplement to the reviewed book would be the album Bactrian Gold. From the Excavations of the Tillya-tepe Necropolis in Northern Afghanistan, Leningrad 1985, not mentioned by the author (published in English, German and French, and containing a text by V. I. Sarianidi).

Notes

¹ Cf. B. A. Litvinskij, I. R. Pichikyan, The Temple of the Oxus, Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1981, pp. 133-167.

² On this subject, see G. A. Pugačenkova, L. I. Rempel, O zolote bezymjannyh carej iz Tilljatepe (in:) Iz istorii kulturnyh svjazej narodov Srednej Azii i Indii, Taškent 1986.

Marek Olbrycht

S. V. Novikov, Jugo-Zapadnyj Iran v antičnoe vremja (ot Aleksandra Makedonskogo do Ardasira I) [Southwestern Iran in Ancient Period (from Alexander of Macedonia to Ardashir I)], Moskva 1989, Izdatelstvo Moskovskogo Universiteta, 183 pp., Price: 1 rouble

Main aims of the reviewed book are to analyze the changes in life of the population of Southwestern Iran under the Seleucids and Parthians, to examine the role of the Graeco-Macedonian component and the degree of its integration in the local population, to present position of the East-Hellenistic polis in the structure of Seleucid and Arsacid Kingdom, and, to show a development of economy and slavery of the Southwestern Iran. According to the author, the socio-economic relations and relationships between nomadic and sedentary segments of society in Susiana must be analyzed taking into consideration the situation of the rural areas. The author's next postulate is the examination of currency circulating in cities and rural settlements.

The book under review consists of three major parts: I. Sources, Historiography; II. Socio-Economic Relations in Poleis of Southwestern Iran (on Example of Seleucia-Susa); III. Countryside of Southwestern Iran in Ancient Period.

Chapter I of the reviewed book is divided into two parts. The first one deals with history of investigations. Particular attention was given to the complex regional investigations of Susiana conducted by R. J. Wenke. During the excavations and surveys of Sir A. Stein, E. Herzfeld, R. Ghirshman, M. Siroux, J. Hansman and others, the remains of the shrines, reliefs, numismatic and epigraphic objects were unearthed. In the second part of Chapter I the author presents a review of Greek and Latin sources on Southwestern Iran. He concludes that this written tradition is often unbelievable, therefore it is of importance only as an auxiliary source in comparison with the archaeological, numismatic and epigraphic data.

At the beginning of Chapter II the author analyzes the polis system of Seleucia on the Eulaeus (Susa). A letter of Artabanus II - in the Novikov's opinion - testifies to decrease the real importance of polis under the Arsacids. Finally Seleucia on the Eulaeus lost polis status after Elymaean conquest in the middle of the 1st century A. D. The author discusses the question concerning the numissions which were written in Greek in accordance with Greek legal ideas. The last section of Chapter II is a detailed examination of currency circulating and trade in the cities of Susiana. Among the imported coins unearthed in Susa the bronze and silver issues from Seleucia on the Tigris prevail until the 1st century A. D. According to the author, there were very close connections between Seleucia on the Tigris and Seleucia on the Eulaeus, particularly under Antiochus III, Mithradates II, Phraates IV and Artabanus II. By the beginning of the 1st century B. C. the most important centre of the transit trade in Southwestern Iran was Characene and Susa lost its earlier predominant position. Attention is also paid to the reconstruction of trade routes in this part of Iran.

Chapter III is based on R. J. Wenke's investigations in Khuzestan. A result of Wenke's research is the author's conclusion that Parthian Period was the culminating phase of the socio-economic development for Susiana. Historical and regional comparisons with Sistan (investigations of W. Fairervis), Diyala Plain (R. McAdams), Parthia proper (V. N. Pilipko) and Serakhs Oasis (O. Orazov) are very important. In all these areas the Seleucid-Parthian Period was the time of the rise of settlement and irrigation. The author gives the analysis of currency circulating in the countryside. The bronzes from the Susa mint fully supplied the needs of the local rural "market" which was formed in Southwestern Iran.

In the last part of the book under review the author presents his conclusions. A predominant position of the Greek cities in the socio-economic and political structure of the state was characteristic for the Seleucid Period (Seleucia on the Eulaeus, Seleucia on the Hedyphon, Alexandria-Antioch). On the other hand, barter prevailed in the rural countryside where coins did not circulate. After Parthian conquest the Greek cities declined. The homogeneous economic system was formed under the Arsacids joining the nomadic tribes from the mountains and the agriculturalists from the lowlands. In contradistinction to the Hellenistic (Seleucid) Period when the Greek and Oriental principles of the socio-economic and political life were joined, in Post-Hellenistic (Parthian) Iran the socio-economic development proceeded according to the Oriental scheme. In the author's opinion, different situation existed in the sphere of culture. Here a synthesis of the Hellenistic and Oriental element was attained. This conclusion, however, is not at all motivated.

To sum up: the reviewed book gives a comprehensive picture of the socio-economic system of Southwestern Iran under the Seleucids and Arsacids. Unfortunately, the author did not take into consideration the latest works dealing with the question (especially The Cambridge History of Iran, vol. 3: The Seleucid, Parthian and Sassanian Periods, Cambridge 1983, and R. N. Frye, A History of Ancient Iran, München 1984). Nevertheless, the book is a reliable reconstruction of the relationships between nomadic and sedentary population, between Hellenistic and Oriental components and between city and countryside in Southwestern Iran. It demonstrates the value of interdisciplinary look at the ancient world.

Marek Olbrycht

Corpus of Indus Seals and Inscriptions. I. Collections in India, edited by J. P. Joshi and Asko Parpola, Helsinki 1987.

The recent publication from the scope of inscriptions of the Indus culture is an important step towards their decipherment. This culture, discovered about 1922 almost at the same time in two places of the Indus river-basin, in Mohenjo-Daro at its mouth and in Harappa in Panjab, is still a puzzle for linguists and archaeologists, in spite of ceaseless publications on its decipherment. This decipherment struggles till now with the essential difficulty, as there neither the alphabet nor the language of inscriptions are known. Therefore the investigations hitherto went in two directions. On the one hand one is searching the character of this alphabet and its possible connections with other systems of writing, on the other, one considers the possibilities to determine the language of inscriptions. An important help is given here by the connections of Indus culture with Mesopotamia, which was represented by the Sumerians, as the seals from Indus culture were found in Sumerian excavations. It contributes to determine the date of this culture. Also the pictures incised on seals and tablets give some information on the meaning of inscriptions and on religious conceptions. The hitherto attempts to determine the language went in two directions. Some searchers were of opinion, that it was an Indo-Aryan language, i.e. related to the language of the Vedas. Such a theory, however, introduced some chronological difficulties. The culture of Indus was placed with the help of the test C14 in the IIIrd and IIInd millennium B. C. and the supposed arrival of the Aryans to India was accepted to the IIInd half of IIInd millennium B. C. However, it must be admitted, that these both chronologies are not quite certain. Other researchers accept as the language of inscriptions a proto-Dravidian language. This thesis has many reasons in favour of it. Till now there lives in Baluchistan a Dravidian group of Brahui and cultural traditions show a Dravidian substratum in the whole Hindustan. Therefore also the conclusion that the language of Indus culture was a Dravidian language is shared by many scholars. To them belonged Rev. Henry Heras (from Bombay) and his followers, a group of Soviet researchers who under the direction of Jurij Knorozov work with the help of computers, and lately a team of Finnish researchers, who also use computers. These 3 teams working independently from each

other have arrived at some conclusions which moved the researches forward. First of all it was stated that the writing is to be read from the right to the left and that some signs denote word stems and others are exponents of grammatical functions. These ones stand at the end of sign groups denoting the stems. There were neither prefixes nor infixes stated. The Finnish team even put forward some hypotheses about the meaning of some particular signs, but these have not not obtained any confirmation till now.

Constantly it is repeated that such a confirmation would be given, if a bilingual inscription were discovered, in which one of them would be written in some known language. A big difficulty for analysis of the texts is given by the fact, that the inscriptions are very short and therefore one cannot conclude from them anything about the grammatical structure of their language. At any rate the totality of the Finnish team's attainments is very important. The team is led by Asko Parpola, now professor at the University of Helsinki. In 1973 he initiated the publication of all hitherto discovered inscriptions with information about their sources¹.

Such a work facilitates the verification of the hitherto attained results and hypotheses. A great obstacle in research was the fact, that the materials were difficult to obtain, as particular researchers had at their disposal only one part of them and often in bad reprints.

The present work, edited luxuriously, contains all inscriptional sources in original photos. It is edited in Helsinki through joint efforts of Finnish Academy of Sciences and of the Archaeological Survey of India, with the financial support of UNESCO. The publication is the 1st part of the work and contains the collections which are in India. About one fourth of these objects is here published for the first time. The IInd part will be the documents in Pakistan and the IIIrd one, the other collections. The photos were produced by the Finnish specialists who executed their work in India.

Thanks to these publications every researcher has the whole scientific material at his disposal, all researchers have thus even chances for working and also for obtaining results. At any rate, a scientific preparation plays an important role. Thus the probability is greater for specialists, who master the scientific materials. Therefore from the Finnish team one can hope to obtain further discoveries till the final solution of this enigma. In the introduction the publication presents the discovery of this culture and its contemporary contacts, further the meaning of seals and tablets and the character of writing. It explains the arrangement of the photos according to the place of documents (Mohenjo-Daro, Harappa, Lothal, Kalibangan, Chanhujo-Daro, Banawali and others with only few inscriptions). A precise map of excavation places allows to orientate oneself in the geography of these terrains. Most discoveries have Mohenjo-Daro (620), Harappa (381) and Lothal (290). The photos show every document very precisely, the seals with both reverse and obverse. It allows to grasp even the slightest particulars of the documents.

Tadeusz Pobożniak

Notes

¹ Seppo Koskeniemi, Asko Parpola, Simo Parpola, Materials for the study of the Indus Script, I. A concordance to the Indus inscriptions, Helsinki 1973.

Kara, G. (Hrsg.): Batuvčir's Specimens of Mongolian Penmanship (1934) (= Materials for Central Asiatic and Altaic Studies 8), Budapest 1990, Akadémiai Kiadó, 108 S., ISBN: 963 05 5764 9.

1983 erschien das erste Heft der ungarischen Reihe Materials for Central Asiatic and Altaic Studies. Debter — Deb-Ter — Dehtelin (auch Debter-Reihe genannt). Nun liegt Heft 8 auf unseren Tischen vor. Zum Druck vorbereitet wurde es vom berühmten ungarischen Mongolisten, G. Kara, dessen Verdienste für die mongolische Philologie gut bekannt sind (hingewiesen sei hier nur auf seine Monographie Knigi mongol'skich kočevnikov (Sem' vekov mongol'skoj pis'mennosti), Moskva 1972). G. Kara ist auch in der Debter-Reihe kein neuer Name: 1984 hat er hier The Mongolian Tales of the Bewitched Corpse herausgegeben.

Diesmal bietet uns der Forscher eine Neuedition von den 1934 in Ulan Bator erschienenen mongolischen Schriftmustern, die — von Batuvčir verfertigt — in einer heute schwer zugänglichen Zeitschrift veröffentlicht wurden. Die ganze Publikation besteht aus drei Teilen: sie fängt nämlich mit einem Vorwort (S. 5-11) an und schliesst mit der Transkription des edierten Mustertextes (S. 103-105). Den Kern des Heftes bildet die Edition (S. 13-102), die neben der Titelseite eine Einleitung (S. 17-20), den Mustertext in verschiedenen Schriftarten (S. 21-98) sowie eine Veröffentlichungsliste des Komitees der Wissenschaften für das Jahr 1934 (S. 99-102) enthält.

Zum Inhalt des in verschiedenen Schriftarten veröffentlichten Textes schreibt der Herausgeber im Vorwort (S. 5-6): "The five specimens repeat the same text which is the first three articles with fourteen paragraphs of the proclamation or first constitution of the people's republic".

Sonst findet der Leser im Vorwort auch eine Beschreibung der Originalausgabe (S. 5), Kommentare zu einzelnen Duktus (S. 6-7), die englische Übersetzung der Einleitung zur Originalausgabe (S. 7-10) sowie die englische Übersetzung der Veröffentlichungsliste (S. 10-11).

Marek Stachowski