



The Orion Newsletter

The Orion Center for the Study of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Associated Literature

מרכז אוריון לחקר מגילות מדבר יהודה והספרות הקרובה להן

November 2015

Twenty-First Issue

Letter from the Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

“Tradition and Innovation” is a paradigm for much of our research on the “Dead Sea Scrolls and Associated Literature,” in which we often trace developments from the Hebrew Bible into the Second Temple period and late antiquity. It is also an apt trope for the work of the Orion Center during the twenty years since its inauguration in 1995. I have been involved with the Center since its inception, first serving as Associate Director under founding Director, Prof. Michael E. Stone, to whom I wish to express our deepest thanks.

Looking back over the years I see that we have established a tradition of academic activities: the Orion International Symposia and symposium volumes, the Greenfield Scholars’ Seminars, the Discussion Hours, Orion Scholarships, the Visiting Scholars program, the Orion Internet Site and Online Bibliography Project. We have continually infused these with fresh topics, the latest methodologies, and new academic conversations. We have been innovative in other ways, too: under the tutelage of outgoing director, Prof. Menahem Kister, the Online Bibliography added a new search engine, an expansive database, an index by keywords, and links to abstracts, full-texts and photographs in the Leon Levy Dead Sea Scrolls Online Digital Library. Prof. Kister also forged a partnership with the University of Haifa and the Bialik Institute to coproduce the prestigious journal *Meghillot*; the latest double volume is about to appear. We applaud Prof. Kister for his able leadership as director of the Orion Center during the past five years, and welcome Prof. Michael Segal as the new head of the Orion Academic Committee. I wish to thank the entire Academic Committee, the head of Orion Publications, Dr. Ruth Clements, and the Center’s Administrative Manager, Ms. Ariella Amir, for their ongoing, dedicated service.

As I embark upon my first term in this stint as Orion director, I look forward to a stimulating program of activities; in particular, our Fifteenth International Symposium under the very important cooperation agreement with the University of Vienna, in which we are also partnering for the first time with the Schechter Institute. The Symposium is supported by our three academic institutions, as well as by a significant special grant from the Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fund. I thank our partners in this endeavor. The Center’s ongoing work is made possible by the constant, generous support of the Hebrew University and the Orion Foundation, to which we are ever grateful.

Esther Chazon

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The Fifteenth International Orion Symposium *The Texts of the Bible from the Dead Sea Scrolls to the Biblical Manuscripts of the Vienna Papyrus Collection*

The Fifteenth Orion International Symposium, “The Texts of the Bible from the Dead Sea Scrolls to the Biblical Manuscripts of the Vienna Papyrus Collection,” held in conjunction with the University of Vienna’s Institute for Jewish Studies and the Schechter Institute for Jewish Studies, will take place April 10–14, 2016, at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The gathering will draw on the expertise of scholars from Israel, Europe, and North America.

The discovery and publication of over 200 biblical manuscripts among the Dead Sea scrolls has fundamentally changed our understanding of the biblical text and its history. These copies reflect the earliest manuscript evidence currently available for the books of the Bible, and therefore provide invaluable evidence for the state of the biblical text in the Second Temple period. The comparison of these manuscripts to one another, and to later texts found in the Cairo Genizah and other repositories, allows for a comprehensive assessment of the dynamic processes of transmission and textual development of the Bible in antiquity and in the early medieval period. These and other issues will be addressed in this two-part symposium.

The first part of the program will focus on the biblical text as used and transmitted in the Dead Sea scrolls, and connections between this text and various versions and translations of late antiquity. Several papers will then discuss, respectively, the text of the Hebrew Bible in light of rabbinic literature, and the texts of the Bible used by Greek-speaking Jewish communities of late antiquity. The second part of the symposium will focus on the Vienna papyrus collection and early medieval trajectories in the transmission of the biblical text. Topics to be covered include:

- The significance of both the biblical and nonbiblical Qumran scrolls for the study of the received Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek biblical texts.
- The dynamics of textual transmission both in light of the biblical Dead Sea Scrolls and with respect to the biblical manuscripts in the Vienna papyrus collection.
- The political, historical, cultural, and material circumstances that influenced textual developments in the Hebrew biblical text and in its Jewish translations into Greek, Aramaic, and Judeo-Arabic.
- The social and historical contexts of the Jewish textual history of the Bible.

The First International Symposium of the Orion Center, held in May, 1996 (the first academic year of the Center’s operation), was entitled, “Biblical Perspectives: Early Use and Interpretation of the Bible in the Light of the Dead Sea Scrolls.” Since those early years, both the publication of virtually all the biblical scroll materials, and the development of innovative technology for the study of the scrolls and other ancient manuscripts, have opened up myriad possibilities for the kind of interdisciplinary study proposed here. Thus, this upcoming symposium on the development of the biblical text in light of the scrolls and other manuscripts is a fitting way to mark the Center’s twentieth year.

Center News

This past year the Center has hosted an outstanding array of scholars, in both daytime seminars and evening colloquia. The year began with a presentation by visiting doctoral student Yedidya Etzion (Berkeley) on Philo and the development of Jewish law. Prof. Hindy Najman (Yale) gave the fall semester's Greenfield Seminar, on wisdom and cosmology in *4QInstruction*. Prof. Lutz Doering (University of Munster), gave the spring Seminar, "Jeremiah, Baruch and the Development of Early Jewish Diaspora Letters." Two separate evening colloquia celebrated particular interests of the Center:

● **January 28, 2015:** "*Saluting the Completion of the Orion Bibliography Updating Project and the 20th Anniversary of the Orion Center.*" Presenters and subjects were:

Esther Chazon: Opening remarks

Pnina Shor (Israel Antiquities Authority): "The Documentation of the Scrolls and the Bibliography Project"

Shlomi Efrati: "The Updated Orion Bibliography Project"

Menahem Kister: "Sectarian Scrolls and Rabbinic Literature"

Michael Segal: "The Woman from Proverbs in New (Theological) Garb—A Study of 4Q184 and 4Q525"

Noam Mizrahi: "Text, Language, and Interpretation of a Biblical Passage from Qumran"

● **April 27, 2015:** "*Colloquium on the Qumran Scrolls*":

Jonathan Ben-Dov (University of Haifa): "Studying the *Book of Hagu*: Education and Adolescence in the Yahad"

Eshbal Ratzon (Tel-Aviv University; Orion Matlow Scholar 2012–2013): "Tours and Gates: Cosmic Geography in *1 Enoch*"

Mechael Osband (Bar-Ilan University; Orion Matlow Scholar 2014–2015): "Pottery Workshops in Israel in Roman Times, as Compared to the Qumran Site"

Asaf Gayer (Haifa University; Orion Matlow Scholar 2014–2015): "Traces of Stoic Thought in *4QInstruction*"

◆ *Changes, Congratulations, Thanks:* In January 2015, Prof. Menahem Kister ended his five-year stint as Director of the Center. His tenure saw, among other things, the development of the new Orion Bibliography search engine and the implementation and completion of the Updating Project. He is succeeded by Prof. Esther Chazon, who shepherded the Center through much of its first decade and has returned to see us into the third.

● Additional congratulations are due to Esther Chazon on her recent appointment as Associate Professor in the Department of the Hebrew Language at the Hebrew University.

New Publications

Two Center-related volumes have just appeared:

◆ *Tradition, Transmission, and Transformation, From Second Temple Literature through Judaism and Christianity in Late Antiquity: Proceedings of the Thirteenth International Symposium of the Orion Center for the Study of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Associated Literature, Jointly Sponsored by the Hebrew University Center for the Study of Christianity, 22–24 February, 2011* (ed. M. Kister, H. I. Newman, M. Segal, and R. A. Clements; STDJ 113; Leiden: Brill, 2015).

This volume comprises fourteen papers presented at the 13th International Orion Symposium. The diverse contributions explore the dynamics by which earlier texts and traditions were transmitted to later generations, and were both preserved and adapted in new cultural and religious contexts. The papers address compositions ranging from Second Temple Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and Hellenistic Jewish writings, to rabbinic midrash, halakhic texts, *piyyuṭ*, and patristic literature; some deal also with medieval Jewish, Christian, and Muslim works. The papers share the premise that the transmission of *texts* and the transmission of *traditions* are two distinct but complementary

● Our office manager, Ariella Amir, officially retired at the end of September; but, fortunately for us, she will continue to help out on a part-time basis. Ariella has kept the Orion office running smoothly for most of its twenty-year existence. She has filled a variety of roles vital to the running of the Center, from managing the budget, to arranging Orion programs, to editing the Hebrew newsletter. In many arenas, she has served as Orion's bridge to colleagues and supporters, smoothing the path for international visitors, greeting symposium participants, founding and running the Orion Associates program. Many thanks, Ariella, and best wishes in your new capacity!

● Neta Rosenblit, who has had charge of the Orion Bibliography this year, has completed his masters' degree and left the Center; Michal Drori-Elmalem, an MA student in the program on the History of the Jewish People, has taken over from him the job of managing the Current Bibliography and indexing the database.

● And thanks also to Dr. Avital Pinnick, former Orion webmaster and head of publications, who has made a substantial donation of books to the Scholars Room Library.

◆ *Matlow Scholars:* Last year's Matlow scholars were doctoral candidates Mechael Osband, Dept. of Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology at Bar-Ilan; and Asaf Gayer, Bible Dept. at Haifa; they presented their research in the spring colloquium (see facing column). This year we welcome Matlow scholar Simcha Gross from Yale University, who is researching connections between the scrolls and early Syriac Christianity. Orion postdoctoral fellow Shira Golani, whose project is entitled, "Lists as Manifestations of Scribal Techniques and Cultural Memory in Second Temple Judaism," will complete her postdoc as an Erasmus Fellow at the Katholieke Universiteit of Leuven (Belgium). We look forward to hearing about their research in the second semester.

◆ *Interns:* This past year's interns, all Rothberg International School students, were Neill Brown (Tennessee; returning from the previous year) and Micah Bello (New York), both of whom worked on the Bibliography Project; Mario Bendezu (Peru), who did much-needed maintenance on and cataloguing of the Scholar's Room Library; and Tom Corrigan (Iowa), who worked on the Scholars' Room News clipping archive. Thanks for all your good work!

processes; attention to both is crucial for exploring biblical interpretation in rabbinic Judaism and early Christianity.

◆ *Meghillot: Studies in the Dead Sea Scrolls 11–12* (ed. J. Ben-Dov and M. Kister; Haifa: The University of Haifa; Jerusalem: Bialik Institute and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 2015)

This double volume of *Meghillot* is the second under the partnership of the University of Haifa and the Orion Center/Hebrew University Institute for Jewish Studies. The fifteen articles mostly stem from the Haifa Workshop on the Dead Sea Scrolls, 2011–2013. The papers address a wide range of issues, from the presentation of new readings; to linguistics; to historical questions; to trajectories of interpretation from the Second Temple period through later Jewish and Christian literature. Two important issues surface throughout the articles. The first is the methodological question of how to understand the relationship between very similar but fragmentary texts, and the extent to which such may be used for the reconstruction of a single "original" text. The second is the issue of the continuity of biblical motifs, ideas, formulations and models of interpretation in the Second Temple period and beyond.

Contents and abstracts:

<http://meghillot.haifa.ac.il/index.php/en/meghillot-journal>

Ventures in Scholarly Cooperation: The Hebrew University and the University of Vienna

The Fifteenth Orion Symposium is being held in conjunction with the University of Vienna. This will be the third joint conference program under a cooperation agreement between the Hebrew University and the University of Vienna. The first such conference, “The Dead Sea Scrolls in Context,” was held in Vienna in 2008; the second was a special session of the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Vienna in July, 2014, on the reception of Scripture in Second Temple literature, hosting Hebrew University faculty affiliated with Orion. We are excited to join forces once again!

Prof. Armin Lange, Professor for Second Temple Judaism at the University of Vienna’s Institute for Jewish Studies, is spearheading Vienna’s participation. Through his efforts, the Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration, and Foreign Affairs will sponsor the travel expenses of European symposium participants. We asked Prof. Lange to reflect on the Hebrew University/Vienna cooperative efforts and on the highlights of the upcoming conference.

What have been some of the highlights of the HU/Vienna cooperation, both institutionally and personally?

The University of Vienna cooperation agreements target top-class universities in Asia, North America, and Europe. These agreements are based on common research and teaching interests, and existing faculty links. Beyond such scholarly considerations, we regard the cooperation with the Hebrew University as particularly important. Such efforts help to build respect and appreciation for, and understanding of, Jews and Judaism, in Austrian society at large and in the academic world in particular, as an antidote to prejudice and hatred. On a personal level, I was very moved by a comment of one of my Jewish colleagues. When he saw the Israeli flag displayed at the 2008 conference, he said, “Now I know that Hitler did not win.”

The Dead Sea Scrolls Inventory—Five Years On

The Dead Sea Scrolls Inventory is a comprehensive listing of the manuscripts found in the Judean Desert. The list coordinates the numbers of the texts as assigned for publication with their photographic plates, primary publication data, and other information, to enable researchers both to easily locate relevant photographs and to trace the history of research. The most recently revised version of the list was published by Emanuel Tov in 2010, as the *Revised Lists of the Texts from the Judaean Desert* (Leiden: Brill). At that time, Prof. Tov placed the ongoing management of the list in the hands of the Orion Center. Now, five years down the road, it is appropriate to update our colleagues on the present shape of the inventory.

A bit of history: The first inventory lists of the Dead Sea fragments were made by the original scrolls team. Those lists were supplemented in 1956 with an inventory of the cave 4 fragments, and again in 1967. In 1981, Elisha Qimron prepared the first computerized listing of the texts, which coordinated the Rockefeller Museum inventory numbers with publication numbers, main photographs, and publication data if any. This list, with updates by John Strugnell and others, became the basis of subsequent lists. One, compiled by Stephen Reed for the Ancient Biblical Manuscripts Center at Claremont (1989–1992), resulted in the *Dead Sea Scrolls Catalogue* (1994).

The Inventory first took its present form for the 1993 publication of the *Dead Sea Scrolls Microfiche Edition*. The *Companion Volume* to that publication (2d edition 1995), edited by Tov with Stephen Pfann, continues to be an invaluable resource on the earlier stages of photography and documentation of the scrolls. The inventory list was compiled by Pfann, drawing on the work of his predecessors; a supplement to that edition features Reed’s inventory description of the photographic plates, edited by Marilyn Lundberg.

Can you tell us a bit about the Vienna biblical manuscripts and the significance of discussing these texts at a conference on the biblical Judean Desert texts?

The Papyrus Collection of the Austrian National Library, with 180,000 objects, is one of the largest in the world. It originated from the collection of Archduke Rainer, who in 1883 began acquiring texts from Egypt, written on papyrus, parchment, ostraca, and paper. In 1889 the Archduke donated the texts to the Emperor Franz Josef I, for inclusion in the Royal and Imperial Court Library as a special collection. Among its holdings are about 200 manuscripts written in square Hebrew script; 26 of these represent Hebrew, Aramaic, or Judeo-Arabic biblical mss; they may be connected with the Cairo Genizah. The collection also includes important Septuagint manuscripts. Bringing together the texts of the Vienna collection with the biblical manuscripts from the Judean Desert will allow for a broader investigation of the factors that have influenced the textual history of the Hebrew Bible and its transmission in Jewish cultures of antiquity.

And finally, what are your thoughts on the future of academic cooperation between the University of Vienna/Institute for Jewish Studies and the Hebrew University/Orion Center?

I hope that we will be able to continue our joint work through conferences and other venues. Already, Hebrew University and Vienna faculty have worked jointly on the first volume of the new reference work, *Textual History of the Bible* (<http://www.brill.com/products/online-resources/textual-history-bible-online>), whose printed version will be launched at the Orion symposium. Beyond purely academic concerns, however, I personally understand our cooperation in this Orion symposium as a sign of respect for and solidarity with the Hebrew University and all other academic institutions in Israel at a time of renewed aggression against Jews in Israel and Europe.

With the publication of the *Companion Volume*, the Inventory became an integral part of the process of publishing the scrolls. New scroll editions, new identifications of fragments, all became part of the information accessible through the list, managed by Tov and his assistants. Re-editions of the list in 1999 culminated in 2002 in the edition included in DJD 39, *The Texts from the Judaean Desert: Indices and an Introduction to the Discoveries in the Judaean Desert Series*. However, although the official DJD publication project was then drawing to a close, work on the scrolls was not, as Tov’s 2010 *Revised List* indicates.

Since 2010, work on the inventory has primarily been carried forward by Shlomi Efrati and Ruth Clements of the Orion Center, with the close collaboration of Shani Tzoref and Oren Ableman of the IAA, through their work on the online [Leon Levy Digital Scrolls Library](#). The preparation of the IAA database has led to numerous corrections of minor errors; these corrections are reflected in the Inventory database as well.

The foregoing “historical review” highlights the fact that the Inventory, like so much else in scrolls studies, is the result of the cumulative efforts of many researchers. This is especially clear at present, with the promise of new publications on the horizon. The new readings in Qimron’s re-edition of the scrolls (p. 4); the upcoming publications of the Schøyen and Azusa collections; the new texts and re-editions promised by the Brill *Dead Sea Scrolls Editions (DSSE)* series; are but a few of the recent developments that have left or will leave their mark on the Inventory.

As always, please keep us apprised of your own publications. If you find corrections, let us know, so that they can be entered into both the Inventory and the IAA database. It is an exciting time for scrolls scholarship—and a pleasure working with you!

Orion Center Calendar 2015/2016*

December 16. Jonas C. Greenfield Scholars' Seminar 14:00–16:00. Prof. Menahem Kister, Depts. of Bible and Talmud, Hebrew University: “Qumran, *Jubilees*, and the Fragment, 2 Cor 6:14–7:1” (in Hebrew)

January 19. Discussion Hour 14:00–16:00. Simcha Gross, Ph.D. candidate, Yale University; Orion Center Matlow Scholar: The Dead Sea Scrolls and Syriac Christian Tradition (in English)

April 10–14. Fifteenth International Orion Symposium
The Texts of the Bible from the Dead Sea Scrolls to the Biblical Manuscripts of the Vienna Papyrus Collection

June 1. Jonas C. Greenfield Scholars' Seminar 14:00–16:00. Dr. Shira Golani, Dept. of Bible, The Hebrew University; Orion Postdoctoral Fellow: “Lists as Manifestations of Scribal Techniques and Cultural Memory in Second Temple Judaism: Some Observations from the Dead Sea Scrolls” (tentative title; in Hebrew)

June 26–29. *Eighth International Symposium on the Hebrew of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Ben Sira*

Stay tuned to the Orion website for updates, additions, and the full spring schedule.

*Please note: Unless otherwise specified, Orion programs are held in the Mandel World Center of Jewish Studies (Rabin Building), the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Mt. Scopus.

Orion Research Scholarships

The Orion Center awards research scholarships to young scholars once a year. Priority is given to research that can be done uniquely in Jerusalem or at the Hebrew University, and that integrates the new information gleaned from the Dead Sea Scrolls into the broader picture of Second Temple Judaism. Please see

<http://orion.mscc.huji.ac.il/educate/fellowships.shtml>

for application information, deadlines, and forms.

International Qumran

The International Organization for Qumran Studies (IOQS) will be meeting in Leuven, Belgium, July 18–20, 2016, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the European Association of Biblical Studies (July 17–20). Theme: “Halakhic Texts and Rule Texts.”

◆ For more information and the IOQS call for papers, see: <http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/qumran-institute/research/ioqs/?lang=en>

◆ For information about the EABS meeting, which now hosts a Qumran research group, please visit: <https://eabs.net/site/leuven-2016/>

Become an Orion Associate—

and help the Orion Center foster innovative research and disseminate information on the scrolls!

Visit <http://orion.mscc.huji.ac.il/orion/associates.shtml> for a printable membership form; mail this form to the Center with your check (made out to “The Orion Center, Hebrew University”). Gifts may be general or designated for specific purposes (e.g., the Bibliography Project). A special thanks to our current Associates—your interest and assistance are vital to the work of the Center and much appreciated!

In Appreciation

We would like to express our gratitude to the Orion Foundation and the Hebrew University for their ongoing support; to the Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fund for assisting with designated projects in the past as well as the upcoming symposium; to the University of Vienna, the Schechter Institute, the Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration, and Foreign Affairs, and Brill Academic Publishers for their support of the upcoming symposium; and to those who have helped fund other specific Orion projects: Yad ha-Nadiv; the Bollag-Herzheimer Foundation; the Dorot Foundation; Yad Ben-Zvi; the Israel Antiquities Authority; and the American and Canadian Friends of HU—as well as the many individuals in Israel and abroad who make up the Orion Associates.

Thank you for your past and ongoing support!

Orion Publications

Just out! *Tradition, Transmission, and Transformation, From Second Temple Literature through Judaism and Christianity in Late Antiquity: Proceedings of the Thirteenth International Symposium of the Orion Center for the Study of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Associated Literature, Jointly Sponsored by the Hebrew University Center for the Study of Christianity, 22–24 February, 2011.* Edited by Menahem Kister, Hillel Newman, Michael Segal, and Ruth A. Clements. Studies on the Texts of the Desert of Judah 113. Leiden: Brill, 2015

In Preparation: *The Religious Worldviews Reflected in the Dead Sea Scrolls: Proceedings of the Fourteenth International Symposium of the Orion Center for the Study of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Associated Literature, 28–30 May, 2013.* Edited by Menahem Kister, Michael Segal, and Ruth A. Clements. Studies on the Texts of the Desert of Judah. Leiden: Brill.

Also recently published: E. Qimron: מגילות מדבר יהודה: הכתובים העבריים [Dead Sea Scrolls: The Hebrew Writings], Volume 3. Jerusalem: Yad Ben-Zvi, 2014. This edition combines all the existing copies and fragments of a given text, noting variations between copies that overlap, and placing nonoverlapping fragments so as to get a more coherent picture of the whole. Occasionally, the new placement challenges the sequence of fragments suggested by previous editors. An additional feature is the introduction of many new readings. Volume 1 (2010), comprises the extensive scrolls (CD, IQS, the *Hodayot*, etc.). Volume 2 (2013) features fragmentary but more extensive texts (*Instruction*, MMT, etc.). This third and final volume presents the most fragmentary texts.

Dead Sea Scrolls on Tour 2015–2016 “Dead Sea Scrolls: The Exhibition”

March 10 to September 7, 2015

California Science Center, Los Angeles, CA

<http://californiasciencecenter.org/about/media-room/press-releases/dead-sea-scrolls-the-exhibition>

For information on upcoming venues, please visit:

<http://orion.mscc.huji.ac.il/resources/boardExhibits.shtml>

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