

ASLU (Archaeological Studies Leiden University) is a series of the Faculty of Archaeology, Leiden University. The first volume of ASLU appeared in 1998. The series aim is to publish PhD theses and other research of the faculty. Since 2007 the series has been published as a printing on demand service at Leiden University Press.

The Jordan Valley was and still is a place of many different facets: a barrier as well as a demographic centre, a steppe region as well as a fertile agricultural zone, and a region with a mix of different ethnic groups, cultures and ideas. The area forms a rich source of information for scholars of various disciplines and with different academic backgrounds. *A Timeless Vale* brings together thirteen of these studies in honour of Gerrit van der Kooij on the occasion of his retirement as lecturer in Near Eastern Archaeology at Leiden University. The chapters are chronologically and topically diverse and cover such varied themes as an overview of Dutch cultural and archaeological activities in Jordan during the last fifty years (Raouf Sa'd Abujaber), historical reports of the Zerqa Triangle (Eva Kaptijn), the palaeoecology of the Hula area (Willem van Zeist, Uri Baruch and Sytze Bottema), Khirbet Kerak Ware found at Jericho (Lorenzo Nigro), the Jordan Valley during the Early Bronze Age (Moawiyah M. Ibrahim), agrarian settlement and interaction during the Bronze Age (Steven E. Falconer and Patricia L. Fall), textile production at Tell 'Abū al-Kharāz (Peter M. Fischer), clay tablets of Tell Deir 'Allā (Zeidan A. Kafafi), a shrine model from Tel Kinrot (Martti Nissinen and Stefan Mürger), an anthropomorphic statue from Tell Dāmiyah (Lucas P. Petit), metallurgical excavations at Tell Hammeh and Tel Beth-Shemesh (H. Alexander Veldhuijzen), the Persian period at Tell Deir 'Allā (Niels C.F. Groot), and sugar production in Jericho during the Ayyubid and Mamluk periods (Hamdan Taha). This tribute to Gerrit van der Kooij provides a rich and varied collection of archaeological and related essays on the Jordan Valley.



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