THE ACHAEMENID PERSIAN EMPIRE AND IMPERIAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST (7TH C. BC – 2ND C. BC)

JULY 3–7, 2023
UNIVERSITÄTSZENTRUM OBERGURGL
GAISBERGWEG 5
6456 OBERGURGL, AUSTRIA

Achaemenid Workshops

UCLA
Pourdadov Center for the Study of the Iranian World
MONDAY, JULY 3

Arrival and Opening

16:00–16:30 Welcome addresses
Robert Rollinger | Innsbruck/Wroclaw and M. Rahim Shayegan | Los Angeles, Organizers
Veronika Sexl | Rector, University of Innsbruck
Dirk Rupnow | Dean, Faculty of Philosophy and History, University of Innsbruck
Brigitte Truschnegg | Vice-Dean, Faculty of Philosophy and History, University of Innsbruck

16:30–16:45 Josef Wiesehöfer | Kiel
Amélie Kuhrt Memorial

16:45–17:15 Robert Rollinger | Innsbruck/Wroclaw
The Achaemenid-Persian Empire and Imperial Transformation

17:15–17:45 BREAK

17:45–18:15 Keynote 1
Hans Neumann | Münster
Reichsbildungen im alten Vorderasien und das Problem der Periodisierung altorientalischer Gesellschaftsgeschichte

18:15–18:45 Keynote 2
Miguel John Versluys | Leiden
Containing Connectivity. Empires and Globalisation in the Axial Age

18:45–19:15 Discussion
TUESDAY, JULY 4

SECTION 1
Continuity and Discontinuity of Empire in the Ancient Near East: From the Sargonids to the Teispids

Chair: Charles Hawley | Los Angeles

09:00‒09:45  Keynote 3  Karen Radner | Munich
Assyria after the age of conquest: new approaches to crown and imperial administration in the 7th century BC

09:45‒10:15  Irene Madreiter | Innsbruck
Aspects of Leadership in Times of Hegemonic Overreach – Some Thoughts on the Transformation of the Assyrian Empire

10:15‒10:45  BREAK

10:45‒11:15  Sebastian Fink | Innsbruck
Imperial Possibilities and the Radius of Actions

11:15‒11:45  Giovanni B. Lanfranchi | Padua
The Assyrian Unification of the Ancient Near East under the Sargonid Kings: A Durable Transformation

11:45‒13:00  LUNCH

SECTION 2
The Achaemenid Persian Empire and Structure: Aspects of Continuity and Discontinuity in Dialogue

Chair: Kai Ruffing | Kassel

13:00‒13:45  Keynote 4  Antonio Panaino | Bologna
“The Gods Who Are,” and their Role. Iranian and Non-Iranian Religions in the Achaemenid Multicultural Empire

13:45‒14:15  Walter Kuttner and Sandra Heinisch | Innsbruck
The End of Urartu as an Archaeological Phenomenon of Cultural Continuity

14:15‒14:45  BREAK

14:45‒15:15  Ali Mousavi | Los Angeles
The Achaemenids between Tradition and Innovation: An Archaeological Perspective

15:15‒15:45  Adriano V. Rossi | Naples
The Notion of “Border”, the Achaemenid Empire and its Borderlands

15:45‒16:15  BREAK

Intersection I: New Generation – New Thoughts

Chair: Alejandro Boucabeille and Elisabeth Pangerl | Innsbruck

16:15‒16:35  Melanie Groß | Leiden
From Assyria to Persia – putting state officials in context

16:35‒16:55  Marissa Stevens | Los Angeles
Persian Influences on Egyptian Perspectives: Demonstrating Authority through Nuance

16:55‒17:15  Bernhard Schneider | Warsaw
The Nippur Region: From the “Heartland of the Cities” to a Rural Imperial Landscape?

17:15‒17:45  Plenary Discussion
WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

SECTION 3
The Achaemenid Persian Empire and Regionality: Aspects of Continuity and Discontinuity in Dialogue

Chair: Emma Petersen | Los Angeles

09:00–09:45  Keynote 5
Matthew Canepa | Irvine
Achaemenid Luxury Material and Commensal Politics and their Legacy and Reinvention after Alexander

09:45–10:15  Wu Xin | Shanghai
Origin of Fire Temples and the Achaemenid Domination in Central Asia

10:15–10:45  Kristin Joachimsen | Oslo
The Persian king and his Jewish queen as presented from a Jewish subaltern point of view in the book of Esther (MT)

10:45–11:15  BREAK

Chair: Touraj Daryaee | Irvine

11:15–11:45  Krzysztof Nawotka | Wroclaw
Burning Enemy Temples in Asia Minor in the Age of Persian Wars

11:45–12:15  Hilmar Klinkott | Kiel
Satrapal Power and Royal Policy – The Transformation of inner political Forces in the Achaemenid Empire

12:15–12:45  Dominik Markl | Innsbruck
Transformations from Neo-Babylonian to Achaemenid Imperial Theologies and the Rise of Judean Monotheism

12:45–14:00  LUNCH

Chair: Lindsay Allen | London

14:00–14:30  Antigoni Zournatzi | Athens
Changing Patterns of Organization and Control along the Western Seaboard of the Achaemenid Empire

14:30–15:00  Gian Pietro Basello | Naples
Echoes of the Achaemenid Imperial Signature in the Book of Ezra

15:00–15:30  BREAK

Intersection II:
New Generation – New Thoughts

Chair: Clemens Steinwender and Valentina Cambruzzi | Innsbruck

15:30–15:50  Silvia Balatti | Kiel
Conditioning the Empires: The Troops of the Medes from the Sargonid to the Early Achaemenid Period

16:10–16:40  Plenary Discussion
THURSDAY, JULY 6

SECTION 4
Continuity and Discontinuity of Empire in the Ancient Near East:
From the Achaemenids to the Seleucids, early Arsacids and Romans
(around 140 BCE)

Chair: M. Rahim Shayegan | Los Angeles

09:00‒09:45 Keynote 6
Rolf Strootman | Utrecht
Iranian Office-holders in the Macedonian Empire (Argeads and Seleucids)

09:45‒10:15 Charlotte Lerouge-Cohen | Paris
“Philhellenes” and heirs to the Persians: the Arsacids, the Seleucids and the
Greeks until the death of Mithridates I (171-138)

10:15‒10:45 BREAK

Chair: Bernhard Palme | Vienna

10:45‒11:15 Fabrizio Sinisi | Vienna
Dealing with Achaemenid legacies in Parthia and Chorasmia, 3rd-1st
century BC: different outcomes in different contexts?

11:15‒11:45 Patrick Sänger | Münster
Alexander the Great and the Emergence of Hellenistic Egypt: Some
Considerations in Administrative History

12:00‒13:30 LUNCH

Chair: Jonathan Wimmerman | Los Angeles

13:30‒14:00 Sabine Müller | Marburg
The Achaemenid Empire in Lucian – More than just an ironical (re)view of
past Greek historiography?

14:00‒14:30 Julian Degen | Trier
Narrating Imperial Success from the Achaemenid Period to the Late Roman
Republic

14:30‒15:00 BREAK

Intersection III:
New Generation – New Thoughts (Doctoral College Entangled
Antiquities, University of Innsbruck and NAWA Project From the
Achaemenids to the Romans, University of Wrocław)

Chair: Cassandra Lamche and Jörg Schwarz | Innsbruck

15:00‒15:20 Florian Posselt | Innsbruck
Topography and Ethnography in the Neo-Assyrian royal inscriptions

15:20‒15:40 Valentina Cambruzzi | Innsbruck
Of satraps and generals: discontinuity between Achaemenid and Seleukid
roles (?)

15:40‒16:00 Nina Mazhjoo | Wrocław
Hail to Mithridates! The Pontic King Blessed by the Achaemenid Deity

16:00‒16:30 Plenary Discussion

16:30‒17:00 BREAK

17:00‒17:30 Concluding Remarks
Kai Ruffing | Kassel and Josef Wiesehöfer | Kiel

FRIDAY, JULY 7

10:00 Farewell and Departure
ORGANIZER:
Organized by Robert Rollinger and M. Rahim Shayegan
Austrian Academy of Sciences, Commission “Transformation Processes and Empire in the Ancient Afro-Eurasian Worlds”
University of Innsbruck, Department of Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

FINANCED BY:
Austrian Academy of Sciences
Pourdavoud Center for the Study of the Iranian World (UCLA)
University of Innsbruck (Office of the Vice Rector for Research, Faculty of Philosophy and History)

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