



The Journal
OF THE ANCIENT NEAR
EASTERN SOCIETY



The Journal
OF THE ANCIENT NEAR
EASTERN SOCIETY

VOLUME 36

Jewish Theological Seminary, 3080 Broadway, New York, NY 10027
Copyright © ANE Society 2023
US ISSN 0010-2016

The Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society 36 (2023)

Editor: Shalom E. Holtz

Associate Editors: Allan S. Gilbert, Edward L. Greenstein, Wayne Horowitz,
Yael Landman, Murray H. Lichtenstein, David Marcus,
Karen R. Nemet-Nejat, Holly Pittman, Daniel C. Snell

Assistant Editor and Technical Consultant: David DeLauro

The Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society welcomes articles on all aspects of the ancient Near East. Manuscripts, which must be typed double-spaced in MS Word according to *Journal* style, and all illustrations should be submitted electronically, together with a PDF version, to the Editor (sholtz@yu.edu). Style guidelines may be obtained on request.

The *Journal* is now available on-line without charge. All previously published articles are accessible on our website: <https://janes.scholasticahq.com/>

Several back issues, including the special expanded volumes, are available in hard copy (originally published form). Please send orders to damarcus@jtsa.edu

This periodical is indexed in the American Theological Library Association Religion Database and its articles are summarized in *Old Testament Abstracts* (the Catholic Biblical Association of America).

The Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society 36 (2023)

Table of Contents

James Seth Adcock	<i>Rules of Disfigurement: 1 Samuel 5:1–5's Dagon Idol Paradigm of Decapitated Heads and Amputated Hands for Israel's Archaeological Iconoclasms</i>	1
F. W. Dobbs-Allsopp	<i>On Hieratic and the Direction of Alphabetic Writing</i>	28
Raanan Eichler	<i>The Gezer Calendar, Rahab, and Agricultural Reality in Ancient Israel</i>	48
Yoel Elitzur	<i>The Altar at Tel Dothan – A Trace of Josiah's Reform?</i>	62
Tova Ganzel	<i>Ezra the Scribe-Priest against the Backdrop of Babylonian Temple Officials</i>	90
CJ Gossage	<i>The Neglected Numbers of Judges 17–18</i>	104
Lea Jacobsen	<i>The Story of Dinah (Gen 34) – A Reading in Light of Babylonian Marriage Agreements from the First Millennium BCE</i>	124