

Wine played an important role in many ancient cultures. The complex processes of wine-making were known and practiced in several regions of the ancient Near East.

Often wine was considered as a prestigious luxury product, to be consumed by the royal family and the elites at court. The prestige of the beverage wine and the economic importance of viticulture transcended the spheres of production and consumption, entering the realm of religious and ideological concepts. Here, the grapevine and its main product, wine, acquired special significance as symbols of abundance, well-being, regeneration and immortality.

The aim of the conference 'Viticulture and Wine in Hittite Anatolia and Its Ancient Near Eastern Context' is to bring together scholars from diverse disciplines (archaeologists, historians, linguists, palaeobotanists and philologists) to assess the progress achieved in the fields of the viticulture and viniculture among the Hittites and other ancient Near Eastern cultures.



Participants

Gojko Barjamovic

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Grégory Chambon

École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris

Carlo Corti

Julius-Maximilians-Universität, Würzburg

Nicola Laneri

Università degli Studi di Catania

Stefano de Martino

Università degli Studi di Torino

Valérie Matoïan

UMR 5133 Archéorient, Lyon

Lucio Milano

Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia

Naomi F. Miller

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Andreas Schachner

Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Istanbul

Juan-Pablo Vita

Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid

Mark Weeden

School of Oriental and African Studies, London

Chantel White

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Location

The conference will be held in the rooms of the Ancient Near Eastern Studies section of the Department of Ancient Cultures of Würzburg University located in the Würzburg Residenz.

Registration

There is no participation fee. However, as the talks will take place in a mid-size classroom in the library, informal prior registration is required. (email Ms Ursula Kraft: 1-altorientalistik@uni-wuerzburg.de)

Sponsor

The conference is funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and by the Lehrstuhl für Altorientalistik, Universität Würzburg.

Viticulture and Wine in Hittite Anatolia and Its Ancient Near Eastern Context:

Philological, Archaeological and Comparative Perspectives

Julius-Maximilians-
**UNIVERSITÄT
WÜRZBURG**

Würzburg University
Lehrstuhl für Altorientalistik
16 – 18 February 2017

DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

Thursday, 16 February

from 12:00 Refreshments

Session 1: Ancient Near East
(Chair: Daniel Schwemer)

14:30–15:00 Welcome and general remarks
Daniel Schwemer (Würzburg)

15:00–15:30 Introduction to the workshop
Carlo Corti (Würzburg)

15:30–16:30 *Near Eastern viticulture in a historical perspective*
Lucio Milano (Venice)

16:30–17:00 Coffee break

17:00–18:00 *Archaeobotany of the grape I: Lines of evidence and the origins of winemaking*
Naomi F. Miller (Philadelphia)/
Chantel White (Philadelphia)

18:00–19:00 *The impact of wine production in the social transformation of northern Mesopotamian societies during the mid-to-late third millennium BCE*
Nicola Laneri (Catania)

19:00 Reception
(Martin von Wagner-Museum)

Friday, 17 February

Session 2: Ancient Near East: Case study
(Chair: Lucio Milano)

09:30–10:30 *Archaeology of the oenology: drinking wine at the royal table in Mari*
Grégory Chambon (Paris)

10:30–11:00 Coffee break

11:00–12:00 *First press. Early textual evidence for Anatolian wine*
Gojko Barjamovic (Cambridge MA)

12:00–12:30 *Archaeobotany of the grape II: Data from Anatolian and Near Eastern archaeological sites*
Naomi F. Miller (Philadelphia)/
Chantel White (Philadelphia)

12:30–14:30 Lunch

Session 3: Hittite Anatolia and satellite kingdoms
(Chair: Stefano de Martino)

14:30–15:30 *Contribution to the knowledge of viticulture and viniculture in Hittite Anatolia*
Carlo Corti (Würzburg)

15:30–16:30 *The agricultural potential of central Anatolia and what the Hittites made out of it*
Andreas Schachner (Istanbul)

16:30–17:00 Coffee break

17:00–18:00 *The administration of vine in Ugarit*
Valérie Matoïan (Lyon)/
Juan-Pablo Vita (Madrid)

18:30 Wine-tasting
(Bürgerspital Weinstuben)

20:30 Dinner
(Bürgerspital Weinstuben)

Saturday, 18 February

Session 4: Hittite Anatolia: Case study
(Chair: Andreas Schachner)

09:30–10:30 *“Guess who’s coming to dinner”. Hittite banquets*
Stefano de Martino (Turin)

10:30–11:30 *The good god, the wine god and the storm god of the vineyard*
Mark Weeden (London)

11:30–12:00 Coffee break

Session 5: Conclusions

12:00–13:00 Roundtable and concluding remarks