

JOURNAL OF NORTHWEST SEMITIC LANGUAGES

VOLUME 15

1989

VOLUME EDITOR:

WALTER T CLAASSEN

*Professor at the University of Stellenbosch
South Africa*

Editorial Board: Prof J P J Olivier, Dr P A Kruger, Dr J Cook,
Dr I Cornelius, Prof P J Nel, Prof T J D Bothma

Published by the Department of Semitic Languages and Cultures
University of Stellenbosch

CONTENTS

<i>Abbreviations</i>	i
Claassen, W T, Frank Charles Fnessham – Making a Contribution to Semitic and Old Testament Scholarship	1-5
Althann, R, The Inverse Construct Chain and Jer 10:13, 51:16	7-13
Cloete, W T W, The Colometry of Hebrew Verse	15-29
Conradie, A F, The Calah Wall Inscriptions	31-37
Cook, J, Recent Developments in Peshitta Research	39-52
Cornelius, Izak, The Lion in the Art of the Ancient Near East: A Study of Selected Motifs	53-85
Fensham, F C, The Term ^c <i>dn</i> in Keret (KTU 1.14:II:32-34) and a few other Occurrences in Ugaritic Reconsidered	87-90
Fensham, F C, Remarks on keret II: 15:1-8: A Poem on the Excellence of Hariya	91-96
Hunter, J H, The Literary Composition of Theophany Passages in the Hebrew Psalms	97-107
Kotze, Robert J, The Circumstantial Sentence – a catch-term – all term? A Study in Sentence Relationships in 1 Samuel 1 - 12	109-126
Kruger, Paul A, Another look at Isa 9:7-20	127-141
Miller, J Maxwell, Recent Archaeological Exploration on the El-Kerak Plateau	143-153
Nel, P J, Structural and Conceptual Strategy in Zephaniah, Chapter 1	155-167
Olivier, J P J, The El-Kerak District of Jordan (Ancient Moab) in Nineteenth Century Maps: A few Preliminary Remarks	169-177
Timm, Stefan, Einige Orte und Strassen auf dem Gebiet des alten Moab bei Eusebius	179-216
Van der Merwe, C H J, Recent Trends in the Linguistic Description of Old Hebrew	217-241
<i>Reviews</i>	243-244

NO ABSTRACTS

REVIEWS

D. Ciafaloni - G. Pisano, *La collezione Torno: Materiali Fenicio-Punici*, 1987, pp. 102 + 13 figures + XVII tables. II Università degli Studi di Roma, *Studia Punica* I, Roma.

This publication is concerned with a collection of antiquities acquired by the Torno family. In the collection are a number of Attic vases, but this book is dedicated to 92 objects of Phoenician-Punic origin which are unpublished. Only one stele of Sulcis in Sardinia was published in 1982 (Pisano, *RSF* 10 (1982), 33-36), but it is also included in this study.

The method used in this book, is to list the objects according to categories, e.g. the scarabs from 1 to 4 and to describe them carefully. This is followed by a comparative and typological description (cf. pp. 15-28). In the tables at the back of the book a photographic reproduction is given of every object of art. The next subject is the Thymiaterion of which 14 examples are discussed. This is followed by a description of the only stele in the collection, which, as we have seen, has already been published in 1982. The next is one coin of 350-270 B.C. which is beautifully preserved with the head of a horse on the one side and a palmtree on the other. Different kinds of amulets are described, showing Egyptian influence on some and again a careful comparative and typological is made. One mould of a woman's head is also in the collection coming from Sulcis. The greatest number of objects are the ceramics, viz. 49. These are carefully described and at the back of the book reproduced in figures. The author of this part D. Ciafaloni describes the difficulties in the typological study of Punic ceramics and problems around the chronology (pp. 86 ff.). This is quite understandable *inter alia* in light of the fact that no strata study of these objects is available.

This is a very important study because it adds to our knowledge a number of objects of art from the Phoenician-Punic world. It is heartily recommended.

F.C. Fensham

Karel van der Toorn, *Van haar wieg tot haar graf*, 1987, pp. 152, Ten Have, Baarn, The Netherlands. N.P.

This book of Van der Toorn "From her cradle to her tomb" is concerned with the daily life of women in ancient Israel and Babylonia. After an introduction in which the author emphasizes the paucity of material on certain spheres of life of women in the Ancient Near East, he tackles in the first chapter baby care and the early years of children. He then proceeds to the youth years of girls and puberty. The next chapter discusses marriage, followed by pregnancy and giving birth. The next three chapters are devoted to the place of women in the religious community with emphasis on their devotion, women and folk religion and the woman as widow. The study is concluded with some results gleaned from the sources. He emphasizes that we must keep in mind that the orthodox religion of Israel was not dominant for long periods in Israelite history and that in those times the religion of Baal and Ashera dominated (p. 137).

The picture drawn by the author of women, is done from the primary sources, although interpreted. This is to be welcomed. The author has shown that women in Israel and Mesopotamia had much in common, i.e. you cannot understand the way of life of women in Old Testament times properly without studying their counterparts in Mesopotamia. The interaction between Israel and the Mesopotamian culture is of the utmost importance, especially in the sphere of folk religion. One has to admit that the paucity of material on certain areas of woman's activities should make us cautious not to overstress our case. The author is, however, aware of this.

This book can be strongly recommended for further research, because this is a very neglected subject in the study of the Ancient Near East.

F.C. Fensham