

Egyptian Topographical Lists
of the Late Bronze Age on Jordan (East Bank)

Zeidan A. Kafafi - Irbid

In 1982, D.B. REDFORD published an article discussing the list of Asiatic Toponyms of Thutmosis III (REDFORD 1982a; cf. also REDFORD 1982b). He refers No. 89 - 101 of this list to Jordan (East Bank). Here, only some remarks on archaeological evidence related to sites mentioned in REDFORD's article are presented, but not evaluation of his whole theory will be offered.

Since most scholars agree on the identification of *itr*^C (No. 91) with modern Der^C_ā (REDFORD 1982a: 60 fn. 43), his equation of *hkrm* (No. 89) with *kur*^{Hukkuri}_{īna}, the Assyrian designation for the Hauran district (WEIPPERT 1973: 65 fn. 99), is quite plausible. Note, however, that in this case *hkrm* could not be interpreted as a Semitic *hekālīm*. Concerning *kzrm* (No. 96), nobody will object that it may be identical with the Abel Karamim mentioned in the Old Testament (Judges 11:33) as an Ammonite town. Abel Karamim, however, is not to be looked for at Tell el-^CUmērī (REDFORD 1982a: 66-70; excavations in progress since summer, 1984), but at Sahāb, 12 km south-east of ^CAmmān (KNAUF 1984b; for the excavations at Sahāb, cf. IBRAHIM 1983; 1984). From Sahāb originates a seal-impression from the time of Thutmosis III (IBRAHIM 1983: 46f; Tf. 2) and a seal-impression with the name of Thutmosis III (HORN 1971: 103-105; fig. 1:C-E). Furthermore, Sahāb is located close to the Darb el-Haǧǧ, which was the most important north-south-route through Jordan in the Islamic period (IBRAHIM et al., forthcoming). -*Btiy3* cannot be equated with Bēt Allāh (full name Šaǧarat Bēt Allāh, cf. REDFORD 1982a: 62 fn. 76), because the name refers to the ruin of a Byzantine church which was venerated as a holy place by the local population in the 19th century. This explains the name of the place perfectly, so we cannot assume that a pre-Arabic name is preserved in it (WORSCHICH 1985, #56). - Concerning *yrt* (No. 100) it should be noted that the present day Yārūt does

not have any Late Bronze Age pottery (recently re-surveyed by U. WORSCHKECH et al.), but a site in Wādī Fawwār below Yārūt produced some LB I sherds (WORSCHKECH 1985, #61). - REDFORD's identification of *hrkr* (No. 101) with el-Kerak is based on the assumption that an ancient road runs through Wādī el-Kerak (REDFORD 1982a: 63; 72). But the nature of Wādī el-Kerak makes it very unlikely that it was an important road in ancient times. Ancient roads connecting the plateau with the Dead Sea are attested for the regions north and south of Kerak (WORSCHKECH-KNAUF 1985).

Between Der^Cā and the Zerqa river, REDFORD does not pay attention to the LB-sites of Quwēlbe (KAFABI 1984), Irbid (KAFABI 1977: 11-145) and Ḥusun (KAFABI 1977: 154-266).

Interesting as it is, D.B. REDFORD's theory of an LB road through Transjordan needs further clarification and verification in the light of present and future archaeological research. If it existed, it probably branched off from the later "King's Highway" in the vicinity of Yārūt and went down to the Dead Sea through Wādī Fawwār.

Further Egyptian Toponyms supposed to be related to Transjordan

1. *s(t)rtm* (Execration Texts [POSENER] No. 25); *strtw* (Karnak-List, Thutmosis III, No. 28); *strtw* (Amenophis III, list B_N No. 9); *strt* (^CAmārah). The identification with Ashtaroth/Tell ^CAštara is commonly accepted (KELLERMANN 1981: 53-54; cf. for the excavations at this site ABOU ASSAF 1968; 1969). In the Karnak-list of Thutmosis III, the name of the city appears between the two cities ^Crn which is otherwise unknown and *nрпи* which has been identified with er-Rāfeh (KELLERMANN 1981: 53 fn. 56).
2. *bḏrnw* (Execration Texts [POSENER] No. 27): Buṣrā š-šām or Buṣrā l-Harīrī? For recent excavations at Buṣrā š-šām, cf. KADOUR-SEEDEN 1983.
3. *itr*^C - Der^Cā (see above).
4. *itmn* (SIMONS 1937: 116 I No. 36) was considered by ALBRIGHT to be an unknown site, unless it is to be identified with ed-Dāmye (ALBRIGHT 1926:22). The name of the city has not appeared in any other list. It occurs in the list between *šmn* which AHARONI has associated with Ḥirbet Sammūniye (AHARONI 1967: 148), and *gśn* which has been identified as Ḥirbet Qasyūn (ibid.). Since these sites are located in northern Palestine, it would seem that AHARONI's identification of this site with Ḥirbet et-Tell is more acceptable (ibid.).

5. *phr(m)* - Pella, Tabaqāt Faḥl. The Egyptian name is attested from the Execration Texts till Ramses II (cf. SMITH 1973: 23-33). The identification is unquestionable; cf. for the history of the city SMITH 1973: 23-28, for the recent excavations SMITH 1973; McNICOLL 1982; SMITH 1984; HENNESSY et al. 1983; SMITH 1983.

6. *rhb* (SIMONS 1937: Ia, c No. 87 [Thutmosis III]; Beth-Shan-Stele of Sethos I, 18). Since Sethos refers to a town in the close vicinity of Bēsān, it is more likely that Thutmosis III meant the same place than that he mentioned a Rehob in Transjordan (today Rihab, cf. for the antiquities there MITTMANN 1970: 120f [LB I and II!]; PICCIRILLO 1981: 63-90). Rehob near Beth-Shan was identified with Tell es-Sarim by ALBRIGHT (1926: 38).

7. *rbt* (SIMONS Ia, b, c No. 105 [Thutmosis III]; XXXIV No. 13; 109 [Shoshenq]). ALBRIGHT suggested that the *rbt* of Thutmosis III may be Rabbath-Ammon (1926: 19), but the context suggests a location in southern Palestine (AHARONI 1967: 151). XXXIV: 109 is surely located in the Negeb.

8. *tpn* (Karnak-List of Thutmosis III, No. 98; KRI II/3, 181 [Rameses II]). The identification of this town with Dibon/Dībān by REDFORD (1982a: 62; 71) is very likely; the same holds true for the Ramesside reference (GÖRG 1978: 12-13). For Egyptian *t* rendering Semitic /d/, cf. KNAUF 1982:33f.

9. *bwrt* (KRI II/3, 181). The Egyptian inscription states explicitly that the town was situated in the country of Moab. K.A. KITCHEN identified the town with Batora (Peutinger Map: "Rababatora" is a clerical error), this is Betthoro (Notitia dignitatum Or. XXXVII 22), today el-Leḡḡūn (for the archaeological evidence, cf. PARKER 1983). The Egyptian consonants match the ancient name of the site perfectly; it is less likely, therefore, to reconstruct the Semitic name of the LB period as "Bēt Lōt" (GÖRG 1978: 7-9).

10. *ś^crr* (^cAmārah 92). Most scholars agree on the equation of this toponym with Séir (EDEL 1980: 78; WEIPPERT 1982: 292) and its location in southern Jordan. The next five toponyms of the ^cAmārah-list may be sought in the same region, although exact identifications are difficult. According to KNAUF (1984), four names from the Karnak-list of Rameses II refer to Southern Jordan, too.

11. *pwnw* (^cAmārah 45). GÖRG (1982) identifies it with Punon/Fēnān. In the light of recent archaeo-metallurgical research, this identification is very likely indeed (HAUPTMANN et al., 1985).

References

- ABOU ASSAF, A.
1968 Tell ^CAschtara in Südsyrien. Erste Kampagne 1966. Annales archéologiques arabes syriennes 18: 103-122.
1969 Tell ^CAschtara 2. Kampagne 1967. Annales archéologiques arabes syriennes 19: 101-108.
- AHARONI, Y.
1967 The Land of the Bible: A Historical Geography. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press.
- ALBRIGHT, W.F.
1926 The Jordan Valley in the Bronze Age. Annual of the American Schools of Oriental Research 6: 13-74.
- EDEL, E.
1980 Die Ortsnamenlisten in den Tempeln von Aksha, Amarah und Soleb im Sudan. Biblische Notizen 11: 63-79.
- GÖRG, M.
1978 Namenstudien I: Frühe moabitische Ortsnamen. Biblische Notizen 7: 7-14.
1982 Punon - ein weiterer Distrikt der Š3šw-Beduinen? Biblische Notizen 19: 15-21.
- HAUPTMANN, A. et al.
1985 Archäometallurgischer Survey um Fēnān in Süd-jordanien, 1984. Ein Vorbericht. Der Anschnitt 37: forthcoming.
- HENNESSY, J.B. et al.
1983 Preliminary Report on the Fourth Season of Excavations at Pella, 1982. Annual of the Department of Antiquities, Jordan 27: 325-360.
- HORN, S.H.
1971 Three Seals from Sahab Tomb C. Annual of the Department of Antiquities, Jordan 16: 103-106.
- IBRAHIM, M.M.
1983 Siegel und Siegelabdrücke aus Sahāb. Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins 99: 43-53.
1984 Sahāb. Archiv für Orientforschung 29/30: 257-260.
- IBRAHIM, M.M., C. GAUBE-GUSTAVSON, H. GAUBE, Z.KAFABI, Sahāb-Survey 1983. forthcoming
Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- KADOUR, M.-H. Seeden
1983 Busra 1980: Reports on an Archaeological and Ethnographic Campaign. Damasener Mitteilungen 1: 77-101.
- KAFABI, Z.A.
1977 Late Bronze Age Pottery in Jordan (East Bank). M.A. Thesis, University of Jordan (unpublished).
1984 Late Bronze Age Pottery from Quwelbe. Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins 100: 12-29.
- KELLERMANN, D.
1981 ^CAštārōt - ^CAstērōt Qarnayim - Qarnayim. Historisch-geographische Erwägungen zu Orten im nördlichen Ostjordanland. Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins 97: 45-61.
- KITCHEN, K.A.
1964 Journal of Egyptian Archaeology 50: 47-70.
- KNAUF, E.A.
1982 Zur Etymologie der Handhieroglyphe. Göttinger Miscellen 59: 29-39.
1984a Qaus in Ägypten. Göttinger Miscellen 73: 33-36.
1984b Abel Keramim. Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins 100: 119-121.
- McNICOLL, A.W. et al.
1982 Pella in Jordan I. Canberra: Australian National Gallery.

- MITTMANN, S.
1970
Beiträge zur Siedlungs- und Territorialgeschichte des nördlichen Ostjordanlandes. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- PARKER, S.Th.
1983
The Central Limes Arabicus Project: The 1982 Campaign. Annual of the Department of Antiquities, Jordan 27: 213-230.
- PICCIRILLO, M.
1981
Chiese e Mosaici della Giordania Settentrionale. Jerusalem: Franciscan Printing Press.
- REDFORD, D.B.
1982a
A Bronze Age Itinerary in Transjordan (Nos. 89-101 of Thutmose III's List of Asiatic Toponyms). Journal of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities 12: 55-74.
- 1982b
Contact between Egypt and Jordan in the New Kingdom: Some Comments on Sources. Studies in the History and Archaeology of Jordan 1: 115-119.
- SIMONS, J.
1937
Handbook for the Study of Egyptian Topographical Lists Relating to Western Asia. Leiden: Brill.
- SMITH, R.H.
1973
Pella of the Decapolis, I. Wooster: The College of Wooster.
- 1983
Preliminary Report on the 1983 Season of the Sidney/Wooster Joint Expedition to Pella (Spring Session). Annual of the Department of Antiquities, Jordan 27: 363-373.
- 1984
Pella. Archiv für Orientforschung 29/30: 248-251.
- WEIPPERT, M.
1973
Die Kämpfe des assyrischen Königs Assurbanipal gegen die Araber. Die Welt des Ostens 7/1: 39-85.
- 1982
Edom und Israel, Theologische Realenzyklopädie 9: 291-299.
- WORSCHER, U. et al.
1985
Northwest Ard el-Kerak 1983 and 1984. A Preliminary Report, Biblische Notizen. Beiheft 2, München.
- WORSCHER, U., E.A. KNAUF,
1985
Alte Straßen in der nordwestlichen Ard el-Kerak. Ein Vorbericht. Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins 101: forthcoming.

Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
Yarmouk University
Irbid, Jordan