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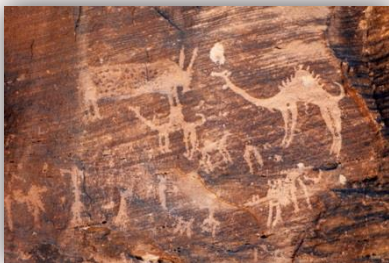
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DASI. Updates on digitization

In the first months of 2015, DASI archive has been enriched with more than 400 inscriptions. The majority of these are texts from the *Répertoire d'Epigraphie Sémitique*, whose digitization is in progress, in addition to the inscriptions published in A. Jamme 1962's *Sabaeen inscriptions from Mahram Bilqis* and the wooden sticks studied by P. Stein. The corpus of the Early Sabaic inscriptions from Ethiopia is complete and available online, as well as the texts published by Iryani and the whole of the *Corpus des inscriptions et antiquités sudarabes (CIAS)*.

Tadwin. Digital Corpus of Inscriptions and Rock Art in Saudi Arabia

The Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities has conceived and is realizing an ambitious project aimed at the mass digitization of inscriptions and rock art of Saudi Arabia. In this view, a new meeting, following the one held in Pisa on February 16-19, was held in Riyadh on May 8-17, 2015. An international panel of experts from King Saud University, University of Pisa, Scuola Normale Superiore, CNRS of Paris, University of Leiden and University of Oxford will provide scientific supervision and technical support to the project.



Salut Virtual Museum

Explore the [Virtual Museum of Salut](#)! The Museum illustrates the site and the exploitation of its territory over a huge time span, from the Bronze and Iron Ages to the Medieval period. Archaeological evidence and artefacts discovered at the site and in the neighboring countries are displayed, with the purpose of discussing the different cultural horizons of Oman through the ages. A short teaser introduces to the heart of Oman and its rich culture, with its ancient seafaring traditions and its equally ancient and deep knowledge of the desert. The virtual museum represents only a first phase of a wider project (concerning other archaeological sites of Oman, such as Khor Rori, the ancient





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Sumhuram), aimed at stimulating a broader interest in the history and archaeology of ancient Oman.



IMTO. Khor Rori 2nd campaign

On April – June 2015 the [excavation](#) has concerned the Area F with two different purposes. Firstly the southern side of the so-called Monumental Building 2 was dug out, in order to clarify what kind of structure was used to enter the building in the first phase of the city. Later on excavations were performed between the city wall and the structures on the south of the Monumental Building 2, with the objective of following the probable water-channel which runs along the street that served this area. This is a crucial element to outline the road network in this part of the city. The report related to this archaeological campaign will be soon published on Arabia Antica.

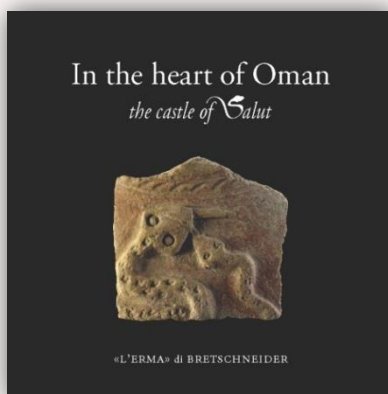


Reading suggestions

In the heart of Oman: the castle of Salut ed. by Alessandra Avanzini. Roma: «L'Erma» di Bretschneider, 2015. URL:

<http://www.lerma.it/index.php?pg=SchedaTitolo&key=00012980>.

Ten years of archaeological excavations at Salut are held in this book. Salut is an important fortified settlement, rising from the plateau at the western foot of the al-Hajjar mountains. The site, that is fully part of the cultural context of East Arabia, designed as the “land of Magan” in Mesopotamian texts, documents a very long occupation (from the Bronze and Iron periods to the Medieval and modern times) and represents a key place in the Omani tradition, because of its connection to the victory of the Arabians over the Persians. The book contains a collection of essays on some of the most interesting archaeological aspects and materials from Salut, with particular attention to the surrounding environments, water management, and trading contacts with other countries, and also a preliminary analysis on the history of the interior of Oman before Islam. *In the heart of Oman* is the first issue of the new series **Ancient Oman** which will be aimed at communicating the point of the investigations carried on by IMTO in Oman. Further monographic works will be devoted to the other archaeological sites.

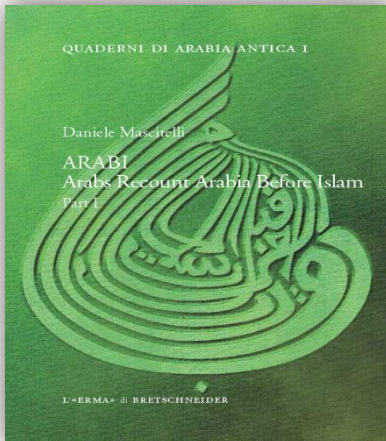




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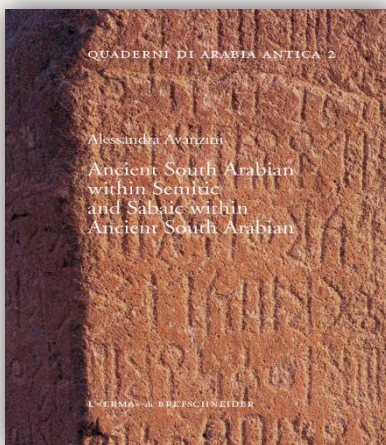
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Quaderni di Arabia Antica. A new series supported by the Arabia Antica working group is forthcoming. It is planned to make readily available notes and reflections, different from time to time, about historical and philological issues, through concise volumes.

ARABI: Arabs Recounts Arabia Before Islam (Quaderni di Arabia Antica 1) by Daniele Mascitelli. This is the first monograph that is going to be published. *ARABI* will sound out the Arabic literature in search of stories about Pre-Islamic Arabia which have not been yet translated into English, or even only partially translated or studied.



Ancient South Arabian within Semitic, and Sabaic within Ancient South Arabian (Quaderni di Arabia Antica 2). The study reviews a recent theory put forward by P. Stein which is based on the hypothesis, initially presented by N. Nebes in 2001, on the relationships between Sabaic and the North-West Semitic, and between Sabaic and non-Sabaic languages in southern Arabia. Contrary to the two German scholars, the author maintains that the endogenous formation model for ASA culture and languages is more coherent with the linguistic and archaeological data known today.

DASI @ Université Catholique de Louvain. Thanks to the collaboration with the Université Catholique de Louvain, DASI recently visited the South Arabian collection of the university's museum. The visual material about ten epigraphic and anepigraphic pieces, and the archives of Prof. J. Ryckmans – rich in notes and photographic documentation - will be provided and soon published in DASI archive.

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<http://arabiantica.humnet.unipi.it/>

Università di Pisa,
Dipartimento di Civiltà e Forme
del Sapere

via L. Galvani 1

56126 Pisa

tel.: +39 050 2215222

e-mail: arabiantica@sta.unipi.it

Rencontres Sabéennes 19. The 19th annual meeting Rencontres Sabéennes will be held at the University of Pisa from Thursday 18 June to Saturday 20 June 2015. The topic of RS19 is identity. Register at [EventBrite](#) if you wish to attend the conference.

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