

Round Table

at the

Research Unit of Islamic Archaeology

Presentation by

Prof. Dr. Moawiyah M. Ibrahim

The Jordan Valley

Its Occupational History and Major Excavation Sites

with following discussion

Monday, 20 June 2016

Time: 11:00

Research Unit of Islamic Archaeology,

Brühler Straße 7, 2. OG

53119 Bonn

The Jordan Valley

is one of the richest archaeological regions in the entire Near East. It shows a long and unbroken occupational history since the earliest periods of human settled life. The region has played an important role in the Natufian and Neolithic periods, as well as in the formation of village farming communities of the Chalcolithic period and the first towns of the Early Bronze Age (3rd millennium BC). Major sites were also recovered during the Middle Bronze, Late Bronze and Iron Ages. Roman, Byzantine and Islamic sites are well represented. The Ayyubid/Mamluk period was best represented period and it was apparently associated with the sugar industry in all parts of the Valley. Many of these sites were abandoned during the ottoman period.

The Jordan Valley witnessed major surveys and excavations at many sites including Tell Ash Shunah North, tabac at Fahil (Pella), Tell el Hayyat, tell Abu Al Kharaz, Tell Abu Hamed, Tell as Saidiyyeh, Tell Al Mazar, Tell Deir Alla, Tell Damiyeh, Tell Nimrin, tell Al Hammam, Tuleilat Ghassul, the Baptism Site and others. Many of the archaeological sites and historical buildings were destroyed or in immediate danger.

Prof. Dr. Moawiyah M. Ibrahim

is the representative of Jordan in the UNESCO World Heritage Committee and former President of the Society of Friends of Archaeology, was (2006-2008) a professor and Dean of Research and Graduate Studies at Al-Isra Private University, Jordan.

He is a PhD graduate of the Free University of Berlin (1970). Since graduation, he held several academic and administrative positions at Yarmouk University including Dean of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (1981-1984), Founding Director of the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (1984-1991). He was a professor and Founding Director of the Department of Archaeology at Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. He was guest professor at the University of Jordan, Free university of Berlin (1973-1974), University of Tübingen (1976) and was twice Fulbright Scholar: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia (1985-1986) and the University of Richmond, Virginia (1992-1993). He carried out excavations and other research projects in Palestine, Jordan, Germany, Bahrain, Kuwait, Yemen, and Oman.

He holds das Grosse Bundesverdienstkreuz from the President of the Federal Republic of Germany (1987), Award of Arab Archaeologists Association, Award of the University of Philadelphia and other awards. He also holds the Award of Humboldt and Reimer-Luest Preis fuer Internationale Wissenschafts- und Kulturvermittlung (Germany). He served on boards of several journals including Abhath Al-Yarmouk, Humanities and Social Sciences Series (Editor in Chief), Publication Series of the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology – Yarmouk University, Jordan Journal for History and Archaeology, Arabian Archaeology and Epigraphy, ADUMATU, Paleo Orient and others.

He is a Board member of the American Center of Oriental Research and Board member of the German-Jordanian University.

He is the author/editor of several volumes and over 100 articles in specialized journals and books.