

Visual Culture in the Early Bronze Age Levant

1 March 2026



W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research
Salah Ad-Din St. 26, Jerusalem

8:45 – 9:00 **Welcome and refreshments**

9:00 – 9:15 **Preliminary Remarks**

Opening comments by the organizers

Remembering Hai Ashkenazi – Raphael Greenberg

9:15 – 11:00 **Synoptic Studies**

The Iconography of the Early Bronze Age Southern Levant: Economics and the State | Ianir Milevski

The Non-Iconic Visual Culture of the Early Bronze Age | Yuval Yekutieli

Fertility and Frazer: Iconography, Inherited Interpretations, and Early Bronze Age Religion | Julian Hirsch

11:00 – 11:15 **Coffee Break**

11:15 – 12:30 **New Approaches to Figurines**

From Divine to Equine: The Evolution of the Early Bronze Age Figurines | Shira Albaz and Nicole Callaway

Early Bronze Age Zoomorphic Figurines: Aspects of an Enhanced Analytical Methodology | Nadeshda Knudsen

12:30 – 13:15 **Lunch Break**

13:15 – 14:30 **Signs and Symbols in the Early Bronze Age**

Some Notes on Pre-fired Incised Potmarks and their Possible Meanings | Yitzhak Paz

Incised Symbols as Diffused Religious Expressions in the EBA Levant | Samuel Atkins

14:30 – 15:00 **Visual Aspects of EBA Ceramics**

Development and Change within Southern Levantine Metallic Ware in Northern Israel | Tamar Leitner

15:00 – 15:15 **Coffee Break**

15:15 – 16:30 **Synthetic Approaches to Rock Art**

Bulls in the Earliest Layers of Negev Rock Art: Between Pastoral Practice and Mythic Symbolism | Lior Schwimer and Liora Kolska-Horwitz

The 'Arad Stele' and its Connotations | Uzi Avner

16:30 – 17:00 **Final Discussion and Concluding Remarks**