

International Conference:

Textile Trade and Distribution

From the Ancient Near East to the Mediterranean (1000 BC to AD 400)

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11.-14. November 2015, Kassel University (Germany)

CALL FOR POSTERS

Textiles have always been among the most popular goods of mankind. Thus it is surprising that ancient textile production only within the last decades has been given particular attention in Classical Studies. However it is remarkable that at the same time textile trade and distribution has gained little attention so far. This desideratum was the point of departure for the first international conference "Textile Trade and Distribution in Antiquity", held at Philipps-University Marburg (Germany) in 2013. This follow-up conference is based on a collaboration between the Department of Ancient History at Kassel University and the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre for Textile Research and will expand the outcomes of the Marburg conference by the integration of modern economic stimuli. More than 30 researchers from 13 countries will give lectures covering the fields of Ancient History, Near Eastern Studies, Archaeology, Textile Research, Economics, and Life Sciences.

To enable an analysis of textile exchange processes we decided to follow a strict terminological distinction between trade and distribution deriving from modern Economics. We consider it important to be well aware of the actual meaning of this vocabulary to create a common basis for communication for all attendees:

Trade: Purchase of goods from one (or several) producer(s) or supplier(s), transportation, stockage and sale of these goods to customers without modifying or processing them significantly. Traders (or trading companies) normally act with the intention of profit making.

Distribution: Any process of making a product or service available for use or consumption by a consumer or user.

So not all exchange processes are automatically to be called trade; not every 'exotic' object came to the place where it was found by means of trade. Other distribution channels such as presents, subsidies, tributes, and booty, should not be neglected, though it is certainly often difficult to identify them.

Poster presentations will be an integral part of the conference, with a session for interactive discussion between presenters and attendees, plus a fast-forward presentation track where authors can orally present a brief summary of their work to all conference participants. The organisers invite proposals for posters investigating to what extent and why people in the ancient world used non-local clothes or textile components (e.g. Syrian *pallia*, wool from Noricum, linen from Egypt). Posters may for example focus on textile material traded, trade-routes, sales and buying markets, people involved, or the forming and operating of the institutions that ensured a smooth running of all textile exchange processes. Postdocs, doctoral researchers and junior colleagues are encouraged to submit, but the poster session is also open to senior colleagues.

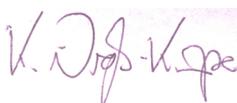
Poster proposals should consist of a **draft of the poster layout** (DIN A1, i.e. 60 x 84 cm, portrait format only) and a **summary** of max. 500 words (in English or German).

Please also provide your full **contact details** and a short **CV** (max. 2 pages).

A selection committee will review all proposals. Authors of selected posters will receive detailed guidelines concerning presentation and dimension by summer 2015. Please note that the organisers cannot cover travel and/or accommodation, but assume costs for high quality printouts of the accepted posters. Accepted posters will be published online on the conference website.

Please send your proposal **before 30. April 2015** to: textiletrade2015@uni-kassel.de

For questions or further information, please contact the conference organisers.



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