

## Lapis Lazuli From The Kiln Glass And Glassmaking In The Late Bronze Age Studies In Archaeological Sciences

Lapis Lazuli from the Kiln Glass and Glassmaking in the Late Bronze Age Leuven University Press

"The religious and ethical contribution of the Judaism to civilization has been rightly acknowledged. The seminal role the Jews have played in the technological evolution of civilization has been largely overlooked." "This remarkable book uses the history of glassmaking as a foil with which new light is shed on the hidden history of that phenomenally creative people. During his association with the glassmakers of Venice, the author uncovered an intriguing historical symbiosis between the Jews and the art of glassmaking. The revelation impelled him to launch an intensive, eight-year campaign of research which led him across three continents and through 4000 years of human history. He discovered that the vitric arts, conceived in Akkadia among the progenitors of the Jews, was subsequently borne by the Jews into the Diaspora, an enthralling historical odyssey which has never been told in its entirety." "Many myths are shattered in the course of following the adventurous path of the art from its Akkadian roots through Canaan, Egypt, Rome, Persia, China and the West. Drawing upon a wealth of archeological, Biblical, archival and historical material, an intense beam of light is cast into the darker recesses of history in which conquered peoples suffer the indignity of having the record of their accomplishments obliterated by their conquerors, a process the author terms "Institutionalized Obfuscation." "The peculiar parallelism between the movement of the Jews and the vitric arts bears historical connotations which stretch far beyond glassmaking; the very foundation upon which classic versions of history is based is demolished by the revelations which erupt from the pages of the book."--BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

"This book examines the history of the first glass, from its early sporadic occurrence, through the height of its production in the late second millennium BC, to its disappearance at the end of that millennium. It draws on an exceptionally wide range of sources including ancient texts detailing recipes and trade in glass, iconographic depictions in tombs and temples, archaeological excavation of the most important sites [including Amarna and Qantir], and the description of the glass objects themselves. The area covered includes the heart of glassmaking and use in Egypt and the Near East, and to a lesser extent those areas were [sic] glass might have been traded, for example the Levant and the Mycenaean Aegean. It also considers the life of the glassmaker, his or her place in society and relationship to other industries"--P. [4] of cover.

The technological capabilities of the ancient world have long fascinated scholars and the general public alike, though scholarly debate has often seen material culture not as the development of technology, but as a tool for defining chronology and delineating the level of interactions of neighbouring societies. These fourteen papers, arising from a conference held in Oxford in September 2000, take the approach that technology plays a vital role in past socio-economic systems. They cover the Near East and

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associated areas, including Greece, Crete, Cyprus, Anatolia, the Levant, Mesopotamia and Egypt from the end of the Middle Bronze Age to the Late Bronze Age (1650-1150 BC), a period when many technological innovations appear for the first time. The Ancient Near East reveals three millennia of history (c. 3500–500 bc) in a single work. Liverani draws upon over 25 years' worth of experience and this personal odyssey has enabled him to retrace the history of the peoples of the Ancient Near East. The history of the Sumerians, Hittites, Assyrians, Babylonians and more is meticulously detailed by one of the leading scholars of Assyriology. Utilizing research derived from the most recent archaeological finds, the text has been fully revised for this English edition and explores Liverani's current thinking on the history of the Ancient Near East. The rich and varied illustrations for each historical period, augmented by new images for this edition, provide insights into the material and textual sources for the Ancient Near East. Many highlight the ingenuity and technological prowess of the peoples in the Ancient East. Never before available in English, The Ancient Near East represents one of the greatest books ever written on the subject and is a must read for students who will not have had the chance to explore the depth of Liverani's scholarship.

This short volume discusses a group of glass objects kept in the British Museum that date to the Egyptian New Kingdom (1550–1069 BC) and are commonly referred to as 'ear plugs' or 'ear studs'. Ancient Egyptian ear studs from variety of materials appear in the archaeological record and are usually depicted as worn with a convex dome to the front. However, there is evidence to suggest that the glass objects discussed in this volume, and which are similar, but not equal, in shape to ear studs, were not designed as ear jewelery, but that they actually functioned as beads. The objects are flat-fronted and pierced latitudinally. The piercing, which is related to the manufacture of the objects on a metal rod, would have enabled the objects to be threaded and to be suspended vertically, either as parts of garments or as parts of bead chains.

In 1739, Qaraar Ali, a young craftsman from Delhi witnesses the destruction of his world as he has known it. His wondrous city where he found love, spirituality, the friendship of poets and philosophers becomes a desolate, scorching hell. From the embers of his past, a journey begins; one which takes him into the depths of Sufi philosophy. Traversing spectacular landscapes of a fading Mughal empire, a turbulent central Asia and Persia, a culturally retreating Ottoman empire and declining Spanish influence, Qaraar Ali finds hope in the sacred Geometry of the Sufis through which he attempts at rebuilding his life and rediscovering love. A deeply passionate love story imbued with spirituality, acceptance, compassion and redemption, The Lost Fragrance of Infinity gives a much deserved voice to Sufism and its contributions to humanity, art, mathematics, mysticism and science.

A single-authored two-volume work which makes no claims to comprehensiveness, but selectively treats periods and areas usually studied in universities (treatment of Egypt is brief because of the availability of studies of Egyptian history at all levels). It is intended as an introduction to ancient Near Eastern history, to the main sources used for reconstructing societies and political systems, and to some historical problems and scholarly debates. The area discussed extends from Turkey (Anatolia) and Egypt in the west through the Levant (which includes Israel, Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria west of the Euphrates) to Mesopotamia into Iran. Volume I covers c.3000 BC to c.1200 BC; volume II, 1200 BC to 330 BC. The author is a Reader in Ancient History at University College London. Annotation copyright by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR. "In The Meaning of Color in Ancient Mesopotamia, Shiyanthi Thavapalan offers the first in-depth study of the words and expressions for

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colors in the Akkadian language (c. 2500-500 BCE). By combining philological analysis with the technical investigation of materials, she debunks the misconception that people in Mesopotamia had a limited sense of color and convincingly positions the development of Akkadian color language as a corollary of the history of materials and techniques in the ancient Near East"--

This book is a must for everyone interested in glass, especially artisans and collectors.

Commodity branding did not emerge with contemporary global capitalism. In fact, the authors of this volume show that the cultural history of branding stretches back to the beginnings of urban life in the ancient Near East and Egypt, and can be found in various permutations in places as diverse as the Bronze Age Mediterranean and Early Modern Europe. What the contributions in this volume also vividly document, both in past social contexts and recent ones as diverse as the kingdoms of Cameroon, Socialist Hungary or online eBay auctions, is the need to understand branded commodities as part of a broader continuum with techniques of gift-giving, ritual, and sacrifice. Bringing together the work of cultural anthropologists and archaeologists, this volume obliges specialists in marketing and economics to reassess the relationship between branding and capitalism, as well as adding an important new concept to the work of economic anthropologists and archaeologists. This book is an interdisciplinary exploration of archaeological glass in which technological, historical, geological, chemical, and cultural aspects of the study of ancient glass are combined. The book examines why and how this unique material was invented some 4,500 years ago and considers the ritual, social, economic, and political contexts of its development. The book also provides an in-depth consideration of glass as a material, the raw materials used to make it, and its wide range of chemical compositions in both the East and the West from its invention to the seventeenth century AD. Julian Henderson focuses on three contrasting archaeological and scientific case studies: Late Bronze Age glass, late Hellenistic-early Roman glass, and Islamic glass in the Middle East. He considers in detail the provenances of ancient glass using scientific techniques and discusses a range of vessels and their uses in ancient societies.

In addition to a study of cuneiform texts, this volume includes a chemical interpretation of these texts and two accounts of Mesopotamian glass vessels of the period 1500-500 B.C. with corresponding cataloguing of objects. Illustrated.

Our attachment to ancient Mesopotamia (Iraq) and Egypt as the "birthplace of civilization", where the foundations of our own societies were laid, is as strong today as it has ever been. When the Iraq Museum in Baghdad was looted in 2003, our newspapers proclaimed "the death of history". Yet the ancient Near East also remains a source of mystery: a space of the imagination where we explore the discontents of modern civilization. In *What Makes Civilization?* archaeologist David Wengrow investigates the origins of farming, writing, and cities in Egypt and Mesopotamia, and the connections between them. This is the story of how people first created kingdoms and monuments to the gods - and, just as importantly, how they adopted everyday practices that we might now take for granted, such as familiar ways of cooking food and keeping the house and body clean. Why, he asks, have these ancient cultures, where so many features of modern life originated, come to symbolize the remote and the exotic? What challenge do they pose to our assumptions about power, progress, and civilization in human history? And are the sacrifices we now make in the name of "our" civilization really so different from those once made by the peoples of Mesopotamia and Egypt on the altars of the gods?

This is the most comprehensive guide to the chemical and subtle nature of gemstones and their use throughout history. Johari

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includes detailed instructions for the creation of gem talismans and the rituals surrounding the use of gems to obtain desired effects. He also uses Hindu astrology to explain the gems you should wear to maximize your physical and psychological well-being. New edition of a popular classic. This is the first book in this subject area to draw on the ancient Hindu sciences of Tantra, Ayurvedic medicine, and astrology, as well as on the author's own family tradition of gemology.

This is the first systematic attempt to survey in detail the archaeological evidence for the crafts and craftsmanship of the Sumerians, Babylonians, and Assyrians in ancient Mesopotamia, covering the period ca. 8000-300 B.C.E. As creators of some of the earliest farming and urban communities known to us, these people were among the first pioneers of many crafts and skills that remain fundamental to modern ways of life. Many of the raw materials for crafts had to be imported from outside the river valley of the Tigris and Euphrates, providing an unusually sensitive indicator of the commercial and cultural contacts of Mesopotamia. In this book, Dr. Moorey reviews briefly the textual evidence, and then goes on to examine in detail the material evidence for a wide range of crafts using stones, both common and ornamental, animal products--from hippopotamus ivory to ostrich eggshells--ceramics, glazed materials and glass, metals, and building materials. With a comprehensive bibliography, this will be a key work of reference for archaeologists and those interested in the early history of crafts and technology, as well as for specialist historians of the ancient Near East.

Using a combination of historical, archaeological, and scientific techniques is not an uncommon practice in archaeological interpretation. Rarely found, however, are more overt critical considerations of how these data relate to each other, or explicit attempts at demonstrating successful strategies for these kinds of interdisciplinary research. The authors in this volume provide such a critical consideration, examining a wide range of cultures, time periods, and materials to demonstrate the diversity of approaches to these types of analyses. Case studies include such examples as the ideology of flint knives in ancient Egypt, meaning of Cuneiform glass texts, and urban archaeology in Sheffield. This volume is particularly noteworthy because it offers individual contributions to specific areas of study, as well as reflects on the problems and potentials of the interdisciplinary study of the human past.

How were Chinese pots made, glazed and fired? Why did China discover porcelain more than 1,000 years before the West? What are the effects of China's influence on world ceramics? These questions (and many more) are answered in this history of Chinese ceramic technology, from the late Stone Age to the twenty-first century AD. The non-specialist reader will appreciate its unique coverage of research materials originally published in several languages.

The authorship of this dictionary is enough to state that no Akkadianist will want to be without it. It is incredibly good value for money.

A large number of Aramaic inscriptions from the 9th century B.C. to the 3rd century A.D. are revisited in this fourth volume of Studies. After the stele of Tel Dan, the epitaph of Kuttamuwa from Zincirli, and the inscription found at Tepe Qalaichi, Aramaic dockets from Dur-Katlimmu are re-examined, distinguishing a court ruling concerning theft,

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agreements regarding mortgage, guarantee, indemnity, barley and silver loans, and the particular nsk-loan. Next are examined "cadastral" reports from Idumaea, some inscriptions from Hellenistic times, a divorce bill from the Roman period, several Palmyrene dedications, epitaphs, and honorific inscriptions, as well as some Hatraean texts, mainly related to Adiabene. Finally, Mercionism is considered as background of a saying on "two gods," ascribed to Rabbi Hiyya bar Abba. Like in the preceding volumes of Studies, detailed indexes list the inscriptions, the personal names and the place-names examined, as well as other subjects.

Art and international relations during the Late Bronze Age formed a symbiosis as expanded travel and written communications fostered unprecedented cultural exchange across the Mediterranean. Diplomacy in these new political and imperial relationships was often maintained through the exchange of lavish art objects and luxury goods. The items bestowed during this time shared a repertoire of imagery that modern scholars call the first International Style in the history of art. Marian Feldman's *Diplomacy by Design* examines the profound connection between art produced during this period and its social context, revealing inanimate objects as catalysts—or even participants—in human dynamics. Feldman's fascinating study shows the ways in which the exchange of these works of art actively mediated and strengthened political relations, intercultural interactions, and economic negotiations. Previous studies of this international style have focused almost exclusively on stylistic attribution at the expense of social contextualization. Written by a specialist in ancient Near Eastern art and archaeology who has excavated and traveled extensively in this area of the world, *Diplomacy by Design* provides a much broader consideration of the symbolic power of material culture and its centrality in the construction of human relations.

The *Babylonian World* presents an extensive, up-to-date and lavishly illustrated history of the ancient state Babylonia and its 'holy city', Babylon. Historicized by the New Testament as a centre of decadence and corruption, Babylon and its surrounding region was in fact a rich and complex civilization, responsible for the invention of the dictionary and laying the foundations of modern science. This book explores all key aspects of the development of this ancient culture, including the ecology of the region and its famously productive agriculture, its political and economic standing, its religious practices, and the achievements of its intelligentsia. Comprehensive and accessible, this book will be an indispensable resource for anyone studying the period.

Jointly published by the National Gallery of Victoria and Macmillan Publishers Australia this book is the first publication to document in depth the nature, extent and history of the National Gallery of Victorias celebrated glass collection. Its author, and expert on the art of glass, Geoffrey Edwards, has selected the most magnificent works from the collection, each reproduced in colour, as the basis for a broader discussion of the history of glassmaking in the worlds leading

