



**Universiteit
Leiden**
Humanities

Leiden
University
Institute for
Area Studies



RMO RIJKSMUSEUM
VAN OUDHEDEN

**68th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale
Leiden, 17–20 July 2023
Second Circular**

It is our pleasure to provide you with more details about the 68th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, to be held at Leiden from Monday 17 to Thursday 20 July 2023.

Venue

On Sunday afternoon (16 July) registration will start in the National Museum of Antiquities (RMO) on Rapenburg 28. From Monday morning onwards, the registration desk will be located in the Lipsius building of the Humanities Campus (Cleveringaplaats 1), the main venue of the RAI68.

Remote presentation

We aim to organise an in-person congress, with all speakers present in Leiden. However, we are facilitating a specific exception for those who are affected by exceptional political conditions that prevent them from traveling to the Netherlands. If this applies to you, you are welcome to submit a request to present your paper remotely. How does this work?

- Please submit your abstract through our online submission system and add a note in the “remarks” box indicating that you request to present remotely (deadline 31 March).
- If your abstract is accepted, we will ask you to send a pre-recorded video of your presentation by July 1. To avoid technical problems during the RAI, a pre-recorded presentation is mandatory. Instructions will be sent upon acceptance.
- During the RAI, we will connect to you through Zoom. You will be able to present live and to engage with the other speakers and the audience present at your session (or workshop) in Leiden.
- You will not have hybrid access to other sessions or workshops, but you can attend through livestream (see below).
- We do not charge for this service; you do not have to pay a registration fee.

As we have limited capacity to accommodate hybrid sessions, we are only able to offer this option for those unable to attend for the above-mentioned reasons. Remote presentation is not a standard alternative for in-person attendance. We are unable to grant requests for a remote presentation made after the March 31 deadline.

RAI68

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/rai68>

rai68@hum.leidenuniv.nl

Remote attendance

We will offer a livestream of sessions held in our main venue, free of charge. A livestream implies that remote participants can watch and listen to the papers and discussions in Leiden but they cannot engage in the Q&A. Instructions for registration will follow in the third circular.

Submissions

The [submission system](#) for abstracts is open until 31 March. We accept proposals for papers (20 mins + 10 mins Q&A), posters, and brief project presentations (8 mins). The theme of the conference is “Inequality in the ANE”, but in keeping with the traditions of the RAI, we also accept proposals on other topics.

Workshops

We are grateful to all colleagues who have submitted workshop proposals. Here follows a list of accepted workshops and their organisers:

- Intertextuality in cuneiform literature: latest research and the issues of methodology (N. Artemov, J. Bach, S. Wisnom)
- Who is it (good) for? Ritual texts and ritual performances (B. Baragli *et al*)
- Beyond slavery and freedom in the Ancient Near East (V. Bartash)
- Akkadian linguistics (Ø. Bjøru, J.J. de Ridder, N. Pat-El)
- The construction of meaning in Ancient Mesopotamian literature and scholarship (N. De Zorzi)
- Trees and shrubs in the Ancient Near East: investigating the plurality of practices and meanings in the human-arboreal relationship (S. Di Paolo, G. Zisa)
- Assyrian Royal Inscriptions in Honor of A.K. Grayson (G. Frame)
- New research on the city of Babylon (O. Boivin, K. Kleber)
- Tracking and managing texts, things, and people in cuneiform cultures (M. Kozuh)
- Third millennium studies (N. Kraus)
- Accounting systems in cuneiform cultures (T. Nicolas)
- The impact of Victorian evolutionism on Ancient Near Eastern studies (E. Pfoh, L. Verderame)
- Hygiene in the Ancient Near East: power, privilege, inequality (L. Portuese)
- Connecting Babylon and Ešnunna: textual and archaeological evidence of the first half of the second millennium BCE (A. Rositani, N. Laneri)

In addition, there are proposals for workshops on “Equality of access to Mesopotamia: public outreach and pedagogy” (from P. Rosenstein and C. Michel) and “Religion, Ritual and Inequality in the Ancient Near East” (from T. Nation). Both of these workshops are still open for submissions. If you want to submit an abstract to these workshops, please indicate so in the “remarks” box in the online submission system.

Registration

Online registration is now open. Members of the International Association for Assyriology will receive a discount of €30 (full member) or €10 (student member). **Publishers** pay a

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rental fee of €75 per table in addition to registration. Tables measure c. 160/80 cm. The bookstalls will be located at the central venue (Lipsius building). Publishers who want to ship materials to Leiden prior to the RAI are invited to contact us via [e-mail](#).

	until 1 May	until 1 July	after 1 July
IAA member	€140	€170	€190
IAA student	€60	€70	€90
regular (non-IAA)	€170	€200	€220
student (non-IAA)	€70	€80	€100
accompanying person	€70	€80	€100

The fee provides access to all lectures, coffee breaks, receptions and dinner party. Due to inflation and the rising costs of food and personnel in the Netherlands, we had to raise the fee with c. 8% since the first circular. We kept the student fee at the original price.

Childcare

On-site childcare facilities are available for children aged 10 weeks–12 years (c. € 55 per day per child). Please contact us via [e-mail](#) before 1 April 2023 if you want to make use of these facilities, as these services depend on the number of subscriptions.

Accommodation

Participants are encouraged to book a hotel room early. Leiden now boasts many more hotels, hostels, B&B's and camping sites than it did in the past, but the summer holiday is still a busy season. The city of The Hague is located at a 10-minute trainride distance

Getting around

Information on how to get from A to B can be found here: <https://9292.nl/>. Bikes are available for rent from every train station in the Netherlands, <https://www.ns.nl/en/door-to-door/ov-fiets>.

A summer of conferences in Leiden

In addition to the RAI68, Leiden University hosts two more international conferences in the summer of 2023 that may be of interest to you. The 13th [International Conference of Egyptology](#) takes place from 6 to 11 August and the 10th [European Conference of Iranian Studies](#) takes place from 21 to 25 August.

We hope to see you soon in Leiden!

The organizing committee

Leiden, 22 February 2023

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