

PUBLICATIONS OF THE ISRAEL ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

SECTION OF HUMANITIES

THE ONOMASTICON OF IUDAEA • PALAESTINA AND ARABIA
IN THE GREEK AND LATIN SOURCES

VOLUME I
INTRODUCTION, SOURCES, MAJOR TEXTS

In memory of Hans Zvi Kroch and Prof. Michael Avi-Yonah,
creators of the Holyland Model of Jerusalem
in the Second Temple Period

and with thanks to the following institutions and individuals, without whose
support these volumes would not have been published:

The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Israel Science Foundation

The Cherni Family and the Holyland Hotel, Jerusalem

Yoel and Stella Carasso

Joy Ungerleider and the Dorot Foundation

Melvin and Lolita Goldstein

THE ONOMASTICON OF
IUDAEA • PALAESTINA
AND ARABIA
IN THE GREEK AND LATIN SOURCES

by

Leah Di Segni and Yoram Tsafrir
with Judith Green

VOLUME I

INTRODUCTION, SOURCES, MAJOR TEXTS

THE ISRAEL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

JERUSALEM 2015

Copy editor: Deborah Greniman
Production: Yehuda Greenbaum

ISBN 978-965-208-201-5

©

The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, 2015
Typeset by Raphaël Freeman, Renana Typesetting
Printed in Israel

CONTENTS

Preface	7
Introduction	11
Bibliographical Abbreviations	17
Sigla and Abbreviations	31
Primary Sources	33
Major Texts	
1. <i>PCairo Zen.</i> , no. 59004	145
2. Pl., <i>NH</i> v, 65–75	145
3. Jos., <i>Bell.</i> III, 35–58	150
4. Jos., <i>Ant.</i> XIII, 395–397	153
5. Ptol. v, 15 (ed. Nobbe)	154
5a. Ptol. v, 14 (ed. Müller)	157
6. Ptol. v, 16 (ed. Nobbe)	160
6a. Ptol. v, 15 (ed. Müller)	163
7. Ptol. v, 17 (ed. Nobbe)	166
7a. Ptol. v, 16 (ed. Müller)	169
8. It. Anton. 149–152, 195–200	172
9. <i>PRylands</i> , no. 627	175
10. <i>PRylands</i> , no. 628	176
11. <i>PRylands</i> , no. 633	177
12. <i>PRylands</i> , no. 638	184
13. <i>It. Burd.</i> 584–601	185
14. <i>Nom. patr. Nicaen.</i> (Latine)	194
15. <i>Nom. patr. Nicaen.</i> (Graece)	205
16. <i>Nom. Patr. Nicaen.</i> (Graece), restored lists	208
17. Conc. Antioch. AD 341	213
18. Conc. Seleucia AD 359	215
19. Conc. Antioch. AD 363	218
20. <i>Tab. Peut.</i>	219
21. Conc. CP AD 381	219
22. Hier., <i>Ep.</i> 108	226
23. <i>Not. dign. Or.</i> I, II, XXII	236
24. <i>Not. dign. Or.</i> XXVIII	240
25. <i>Not. dign. Or.</i> XXXIV, XLIII	243
26. <i>Not. dign. Or.</i> XXXVII	248
27. Conc. Diospolit. AD 415	251
28. Conc. Ephes. AD 431	252
29. Conc. Ephes. AD 449	255
30. Conc. Chalced. AD 451	257
31. Honigmann, ‘Lists’ (Chalcedon)	259
32. <i>PVan Scherling</i> G 110	260
33. Conc. Hier. AD 518	262

34. Hierocl., <i>Synec.</i> 715–716	266
35. Hierocl., <i>Synec.</i> 717–721	267
36. Hierocl., <i>Synec.</i> 721–723	270
37. Hierocl., <i>Synec.</i> 726–728	271
38. Conc. CP AD 536, Catalogus episcoporum	272
39. Conc. CP AD 536, Libellus monachorum ad imperatorem	273
40. Conc. CP AD 536, Libellus monachorum ad synodum	278
41. Conc. CP AD 536, Catalogus monachorum	282
42. Conc. CP AD 536, Libellus monachorum ad Iustinianum	284
43. Conc. CP AD 536, Libellus monachorum ad Agapetum	285
44. Conc. CP AD 536, Epistula episcoporum ad Agapetum	289
45. Conc. CP AD 536, Introitus monachorum	291
46. Conc. CP AD 536, Gesta synodi de Anthimo (list of bishops)	293
47. Conc. CP AD 536, Gesta synodi de Anthimo (list of monks)	294
48. Conc. Hier. AD 536	296
49. <i>Ed. Beersheba</i>	300
50. Proc. Caes., <i>Aed.</i> v, 6–9	305
51. Conc. CP AD 553	314
52. <i>MM</i>	315
53. Georg. Cypr., 685–700	315
54. Georg. Cypr., 967–983	316
55. Georg. Cypr., 997–1057	317
56. Georg. Cypr., 1058–1092	320
57. Geogr. Ravennas II, 7, 14, 15	322
58. Geogr. Ravennas v, 7	327
59. Ps. Cyr. Hier., <i>Ep. Syriaca</i> , 11–12	328
60. <i>Ep. Archim. Arabiae</i> , Subscriptiones	329
61. Umm er-Rasas mosaic	337
62. Ma'in mosaic	339
63. Leo Sap., <i>Ordo patr.</i>	340
64. Leo Sap., <i>Rec. patr.</i>	344
65. Georg. Cedrenus I, 333	347
66. Not. Antioch. C	348
67. Not. Antioch. F	355
68. Not. Antioch. (ed. Honigmann)	357
69. Nov. Justin. AD 535	358
70. Nil. Dox., <i>Not. patr.</i> 141–167	360
Lists and Indexes	
Toponyms Treated in the <i>Onomasticon</i>	365
Sacred Places Treated in the <i>Onomasticon</i>	395
Monasteries Treated in the <i>Onomasticon</i>	413
Index of Toponyms in Volume I	
Toponyms in Latin and in English Translation	423
Greek Toponyms	444

PREFACE

The project of compiling an Onomasticon of Palestine and Arabia in the Greek and Latin sources was initiated by Prof. Michael Avi-Yonah (1904–1974), perhaps the foremost twentieth-century scholar of the historical geography of Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine Palestine. The *Onomasticon* was to be the culmination of two of his seminal works: his *Map of Roman Palestine*¹ and his *Historical Geography of Eretz-Israel from the End of the Babylonian Exile up to the Arab Conquest*.²

Avi-Yonah's study of the historical geography of Palestine was halted by his severe illness in the late 1960s. He did not even complete the preparation for publication of his vast compilation of references to sites in Palestine and Arabia in source texts of any language, with the relevant modern scholarly bibliography, and so his *Gazetteer of Roman Palestine* was published posthumously (henceforth: Avi-Yonah, *Gazetteer*).³ Yoram Tsafrir, who prepared the book for publication, wrote in his Preface:

While preparing this manuscript for press and proofreading it, we decided not to alter or add to the standard which had been fixed. Prof. Avi-Yonah was busy at the time with the preparation of material for his far-reaching work, the 'Onomasticon of Palestine in the Greek-Roman Sources' (which, it is hoped, will be published in the not too distant future).

Over thirty-five years after this prediction appeared in print, we present the first two volumes of the *Onomasticon*.

Avi-Yonah's intention was not only to publish references to sources concerning sites in Palestine and Arabia, but to present the original Greek and Latin texts themselves, with a Hebrew translation.⁴ He started the work of copying the texts in the mid-1960s, with the help, sequentially, of several assistants, including Avraham Negev and, from 1966, Yoram Tsafrir, whose injury in the Six Day War caused another long intermission in the course of the work. At first the texts were copied by hand, making the pace of the work very slow, but the introduction of the photocopier

1 Michael Avi-Yonah, *Map of Roman Palestine*, second revised edition, London 1940; first published in *QDAP* 5 (1936), pp. 139–193.

2 Michael Avi-Yonah, *Historical Geography of Eretz-Israel from the End of the Babylonian Exile up to the Arab Conquest*, Jerusalem 1949, with two folded maps (Hebrew); revised editions 1952, 1962. Shorter English edition: *The Holy Land from the Persian to the Arab Conquest (536 B.C. to A.D. 640): A Historical Geography*, Grand Rapids, MI, 1966; revised edition with text revisions and toponymic index by A.F. Rainey, Grand Rapids 1977; reprinted as *The Holy Land: A Historical Geography from the Persian to the Arab Conquest*, with an introduction by Y. Tsafrir, Jerusalem 2002.

3 Michael Avi-Yonah, *Gazetteer of Roman Palestine* (Qedem 5), Jerusalem 1976.

4 The Hebrew and Aramaic sources were set aside, as many of them had already appeared in Samuel Klein's *Sefer haYishuv*, Jerusalem 1939 (Hebrew).

eventually facilitated the collection of the texts. In the late 1980s, material began to be transferred to electronic files. In the 1990s, this process was greatly advanced by using the database of the *Thesaurus Linguae Graecae*.

Leah Di Segni, Judith Green, Joseph Patrich and for a short period Shifra Schnoll joined the team in the early 1970s, along with several other researchers who remained briefly with the project. In 1972, Avi-Yonah, by then very ill, decided to dedicate all his time to completing his great study of Hellenistic culture, published posthumously as *Hellenism and the East: Contacts and Interrelations from Alexander to the Roman Conquest* (Ann Arbor 1978). He asked Yoram Tsafrir to take over as Director of the *Onomasticon* project, a duty that he has carried out up to the present. Joseph Patrich left the team in the early 1980s, and since then, the work of collecting sources, updating editions, translating, annotating, writing the commentaries, editing the entries and assembling the bibliography has been done by the three present authors.

Many thousands of entries were selected by reading page after page of more than 1,300 works written or collected by more than 750 authors or editors, as indices, if they existed, often proved inaccurate. The source texts range from major works such as the *Jewish War* and *Antiquities* of Josephus to single letters or sermons, collections of papyri, inscriptions and coins, administrative and ecclesiastical lists, and so on. The quantity of sources included herein is greater by far than that contained in any of the historical-geographical collections published heretofore.

At the initiative of the late Prof. Joshua Prawer, then the Israel Academy's representative in the Union Académique Internationale, the material compiled for the *Onomasticon* was used as the basis for creating the detailed maps and gazetteer of the Roman province of Iudaea, later renamed Palaestina, for the international *Tabula Imperii Romani* project.⁵ The preparation of that volume led to further delay in the publication of the *Onomasticon* itself. The enthusiasm with which it was received by scholars in many countries was a major factor in persuading the Israel Academy and the authors to abandon the original plan of publishing the *Onomasticon* in Hebrew in favour of making it available to international scholarship in English.

Acknowledgements

We owe thanks to all the research assistants, ὧν Κύριος γιγνώσκει τὰ ὀνόματα, who contributed to the collection of texts for the *Onomasticon*. Prof. Chaim Ben-David (Kinneret College) helped with advice and references about sites in Transjordan. Much assistance was given by the administration of the Hebrew University and its Research and Development Department, and particularly by the Institute of

5 Yoram Tsafrir, Leah Di Segni and Judith Green, *Tabula Imperii Romani: Iudaea · Palaestina: Maps and Gazetteer*, with five historical maps, Jerusalem 1994.

Archaeology and its directors, Joseph Aviram and Benjamin Sekay, and their assistants, Frieda Lederman, Semadar Yosef and the late Nehama Litani.

The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities took the *Onomasticon* project under its wing in the mid-1970s, at first under the advice and guidance of a committee comprising the late Profs. Ze'ev Ben-Hayyim, Ephraim E. Urbach, Joshua Praver, Chaim Wirszubski and Menachem Stern. From the mid-1990s the project benefited from the guidance of the Chairpersons of the Academy's Projects Committee, Prof. Shaul Shaked and after him Prof. Benjamin Z. Kedar, and of the Chairpersons of its Publication Committee, the late Prof. Hayim Tadmor (who also aided the project in his capacity as Vice President of the Academy), Prof. Yohanan Friedmann and now Prof. Yosef Kaplan; and it also had the steadfast support of the Academy's Executive Director, Dr. Meir Zadok, and its Deputy Directors for Finance and Administration, formerly Joseph Lenz and now Gadi Levin. We are grateful to the present and former staff members of the Academy's Publications Department: to Tali Amir, its Director and Chief Editor, to former Chief Editor Zofia Lasman and to Yehuda Greenbaum, who oversaw the book's production. Above all, we owe many thanks to Deborah Greniman, Senior Editor of English-Language Publications, who edited these volumes faithfully through several revisions, made numerous helpful suggestions and corrections, and saw it through the press.

Our thanks also to Nurit Karshon and Tikva Blaukopf for their expert proofreading of the Greek and Latin texts.

We thank the Copyright and Permissions Department of Harvard University Press and Ms. Scarlett R. Huffman for their generous permission to use extracts from the translations published in the Loeb Classical Library (LCL) and to modify them slightly where needed for the purposes of this publication. Shulamit Miller checked and evaluated the relevant translations to determine the extent of their dependence on those editions. We also thank the following authors and institutions: Hannah Cotton, for allowing us to use her translations of some of the Judaeen Desert papyri; the Israel Exploration Society, for the use of the late Naphthali Lewis' translations of some of the Bar Kokhba letters; the American Center for Oriental Research in Amman, its Director, Barbara Porter, and the translators for permission to use their translations of the Petra Papyri; Cornelia Horn, Robert Phenix, the Society of Biblical Literature and its Director, R. Buller, for permission to use their translation from the Syriac of the Life of Peter the Iberian; Sebastian Brock for the use of his translation from the Syriac of the Letter attributed to Cyril of Jerusalem; James C. VanderKam and Peeters Publishers for the use of his translation of the Ethiopic version of the Book of Jubilees; and the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago for the use of J.E. Dean's translation of Epiphanius' treatise on *Weights and Measures*.

The comparative chart of the Israel Cassini Soldner Grid (ICS, also known as the Old Israel Grid [OIG]), the Israel Transverse Mercator Grid (ITM, also known as the New Israel Grid [NIG]), the United Transverse Mercator Grid (UTM) and the World

Geodetic System (WGS 84), used to create the individual charts in each volume, was prepared by Uri Offenbacher. Tamar Sofer, cartographer of the Department of Geography of the Hebrew University, made the map showing the sites in Volume II.

We are grateful to all those who have given financial support to the *Onomasticon* project, without which these volumes could not have been published. At the initial stage, it was financed by the Hebrew University's Institute of Archaeology and Faculty of Humanities, which are still involved and offer much assistance. From the mid-1970s, principal responsibility for the project has devolved upon the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Contributions from Mrs. Joy Ungerleider and the Dorot Foundation in the 1980s, the Israel Science Foundation (grant no. 1672/13), Yoel and Stella Carasso, Melvin and Lolita Goldstein, and especially a generous contribution by Mr. Hillel Cherni and the Holyland Hotel, Jerusalem, starting in 2008, made possible the continuation of the work.