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The Coins from Ḥorbat Ṭarbenet

Robert Kool

Thirty-seven coins were unearthed in the salvage excavations (2010–2011) conducted at Ḥorbat Ṭarbenet in the Jezreel Valley (Mokary 2015; see Atrash and Mazor, this volume). Twenty-seven of these were identified after cleaning. Historical sources apparently identify the site with the third-century CE Jewish settlement of "Tarchenet" (*trknt*, Jerusalem Talmud, Megillah 4, 5). Excavations uncovered the remains of a residential building, with an adjacent well and a large pool that possibly functioned as a bath in the Roman period.

Fig. 1. The coins.

CATALOGUE[i]

No.	Locus	Basket	Weight (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date (CE)	Mint	Reference	Notes	IAA No.
SELEUCID												
Alexander I or II (147/146 BCE)												
1*	34	1163	1.99	13	↑	Head r.	[ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ] Palm tree; date in field l. and r.: ϛ Ξ - P	Year 166	Tyre	*SC* II/I:242, No. 1838		146648
ROMAN												
Elagabal(?), 218–222												
2	54	1264	8.66	27		Bust r.	Illegible				Worn	146656
FOURTH–FIFTH CENTURIES												
Constantius II (337–361)												
3	30	118	3.30	19	↑	[- - -] Pearl-diademed bust r.	FEL TEMP RE-PARATIO Soldier spearing fallen horseman	351–354		*LRBC* II:100, No. 2625		146646
4*	29	1156	1.87	15	↑	DN CONSTAN-TIVS PF AVG Same	[FEL] TEMP RE-PA[RATIO] Soldier spearing fallen horseman	351–361		Cf. *LRBC* II:100, No. 2632		146641
5	29	1221	1.05	13	↓	[- - -] Bust r.	[SECURITAS REIPVBLICAE] Victory marching to l., holding wreath and palm branch	364–375		Cf. *LRBC* II:102, Nos. 2768–2771		146644
Valentinian II (375–392)												
6*	21	1223	1.88	18	↓	DN VALENTINIANVS PF AVG Bust r.	CONCORDIA AVGGG Roma seated, facing, holding globe and spear	378–383	Nicomedia	*LRBC* II:93, No. 2352		146632

[i] Coins bearing an asterisk are illustrated in Fig.1.

CATALOGUE (cont.)

No.	Locus	Basket	Weight (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date (CE)	Mint	Reference	Notes	IAA No.
383–395												
7	29	1157	0.52	10	↑	[- - -] Bust r.	[SALVS REIPVBLICAE] Victory dragging captive to l.			Cf. *LRBC* II:102, Nos. 2768–2771		146642
8	32	1155	0.74	13	↑	[- - -] Illegible	[SALVS REIPVBLICAE] Victory dragging captive to l.	Same				146647
395–408												
9	52	1278	1.24	18	↓	[- - -] Bust r.	VIRTVS EXERCITI Victory crowning emperor with wreath; in exergue: SMK[-]		Cyzicus	Cf. *LRBC* II:99, Nos. 2580–2582		146654
408–423												
10	26	1114	1.06	13	↑	Bust r.	[GLORIA ROMANORVM] Two emperors facing, heads turned r. and l., each holding spear and shield			Cf. *LRBC* II:90, No. 2223		146638
11	52	1268	0.91	12	↓	Bust r., behind star	Same			Same		146653
12	60	1301	0.91	13		Illegible	Same			Same		146657
4th Century												
13*	29	1208	0.43	8		Illegible	Cross	First half 4th c.		Bijovsky 2012:115, No. 5		146643
14	38	1235	2.47	18	↓	Bust r.	Sol stg., holding globe(?)	Same				146649
15	39	1203	1.41	18	↑	Same	Same	Same				146650
16	26	1115	0.90	16		DN CON[- - -] SP[F AVG] Pearl-diademed bust r.	Illegible	Mid-4th c.				146639

CATALOGUE (cont.)

No.	Locus	Basket	Weight (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date (CE)	Mint	Reference	Notes	IAA No.
17	20	1158	1.10	12		Bust r.	Same	4th c.				146631
18	29	1149	1.27	10		Bust r.	Figure stg. to l.	End 4th c.				146640
19	44	1189	1.42	14		Bust r.	Two victories facing each other holding wreaths(?)	4th c.				146651
20	22	1036	1.71	14		Same	Illegible	Same				146633
21	22	1074	1.18	15		Bust r.	Illegible	Same				146634
22	52	1279	0.80			Bust r.	Illegible	Same				146655
BYZANTINE **Anastasian I, (491–518 CE), *follis***												
23	25	1154	14.58	36	↑	DN [ANASTA] - SIVS PP AVC Bust r.	**M** Cross above; stars l. and r, below: E; in exergue: CON	512–518	Constantinople	*MIBE* 1:87, No. 27		146637
24*	45	1216	16.78	32	↓	DN ANASTA - SIVS PP AVC Bust r.	**M** Cross above; stars l. and r.; in exergue: CON	Same	Same	Same		146652
Justinian I, (527–565) CE, *follis*												
25*	23	1121	16.55	30	↓	DN IVSTINI-ANVS PP AVC Bust r.	**M** Cross above; star l., cross r.; below: Γ; in exergue: CON	Same		*MIBE* 1:126, No. 84		146635
UMAYYAD **Post Reform, 697–750 CE, *fals***												
26	23	1122	2.72	19		Illegible	Illegible				Corroded	146636
OTTOMAN **16th c., *mangir***												
27	15	1150	2.59	15		Ornamented	Ornamented					146630

The earliest coin is a single small Seleucid ‘palm tree’ bronze, minted in Tyre, dated to 147/146 BCE (No. 1). The latest datable coin is an early Ottoman copper *mangir* from the sixteenth century (No. 27). Only one Roman bronze (No. 2) can be associated with the excavated remains of the third-century CE settlement. The majority of the coins (Nos. 3–25) date from the later fourth–sixth-century Byzantine phase of the settlement, of which little is known (see Atrash and Mazor, this volume). Presumably, the settlement at the site continued into the Umayyad period, evidenced by a single early eighth-century Umayyad copper (No. 26).

Rerefences

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