'Atiqot 56, 2007

The Coins from Khirbat Deiran, Reḥovot

Robert Kool

Twenty coins were found, of which 17 could be identified.[1] The coins originated in the two strata identified at the site (Table 1).

In Stratum II two *folles* were identified. One from the reign of Licinius I (314–315 CE; No. 4) was discovered in the *miqwe* (L508). The other, a coin of Heraclius dated 625/26 CE (No. 8), was found in L437.

Stratum Ib yielded five coins, including three early coins (Nos. 1, 2 and 9) and two later coins, *fals* dating to c. 737 CE and the eighth–ninth centuries CE. Both *fals* were found in the same locus (12 and 15) together with earlier No. 2, and thus suggest the date of this phase.

Finally, in Stratum Ia nine coins were identified (including three coins assigned to both Strata Ia and Ib). Eight finds range from the early fourth century until the Abbasid period (eighth–ninth centuries CE). The date of Stratum Ia should be close to that of Stratum Ib, assuming the latest, ninth coin, a fourteenth century Mamlūk *fals* (No. 17), is intrusive.

Table 1. List of Coins according to Strata and Loci

Stratum	Locus	Date (CE)	Cat. No.
Ia	104	498–538	6
Ia	127	580/81	7
Ia	127	14th c.	17
Ia	134	9th c.	16
Ib	300	5th/6th c.	9
Ib	305	Begin. 3rd c.	1
Ib	354	313–317	2
Ib	354	8th/9th c.	15
Ib	354	8th c.	12
Ia	315	314–315	3
Ia	358	8th/9th c.	14
Ia+b	323	8th c.	11
Ia+b	373	650–697	10
Ia+b	439	8th c.	13
II	437	625/26	8
II	508	314–315	4
Ib	296	383	5

With the exception of two coins—the Roman Provincial bronze (No. 1) and the Mamluk *fals* (No. 17)—the numismatic evidence from the excavations roughly dates to a single chronological unit, beginning with pre-reform *folles* (fourth/fifth centuries CE; 4 coins), followed by post-reform *folles* (sixth–early seventh centuries CE; 4 coins) and ending with *fals* from the Umayyad (late seventh/eighth centuries CE; 4 coins) through the Abbasid periods (3 coins). This coin repertoire is virtually identical with the (yet unpublished) coins excavated at the site by Aharon Sasson in 1992.[2]

Catalogue

1. Reg. No. 3097, L305, IAA 73246. Fig. 1.
Roman Provincial, Caesarea, beginning of the 3rd century CE.
Obv.: [- - -]V[- - -] Laureate bust r.
Rev.: [- - -] Head of Serapis r.
Æ, ↑, 5.43 g, 15 mm.
Cf. Kadman 1957:114–115, No. 84.

2. Reg. No. 3091, L354, IAA 73251. Fig. 1.
Licinius I, Nicomedia, 313–317 CE.
Obv.: IMP C VA[L LICIN LICINIVS PF AVG] Bust r.
Rev.: IOVI CONS[–ERVATORI] Jupiter stg. l., chlamys across l. shoulder; Victory on globe in r. hand; at feet, eagle with wreath; in r. field: N; in ex.: [SMANA]

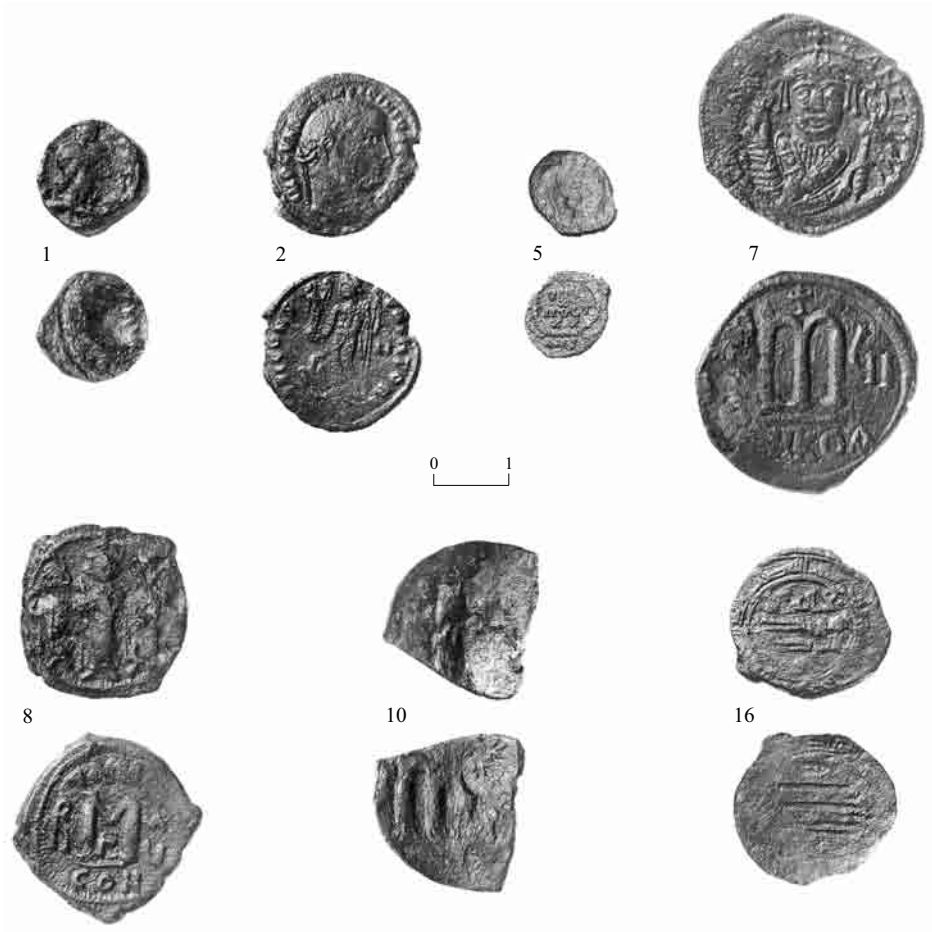

Fig. 1.

Æ, ↓, 3.70 g, 22 mm.
Cf. *RIC* 7:602, No. 17. Unpublished variant.

3. Reg. No. 3095, L315, IAA 73248.
314–315 CE, Rome.
Obv.: [- - -] Bust r.(?)
Rev.: [SOLI INV–I–CTO COMITI] Radiate Sol standing l., raising r. hand; in l. hand, globe; in l. field: R
X
Æ *follis*, 1.24 g, 15 mm.
Cf. *RIC* 7:299, No. 27.

4. Reg. No. 5019, L508, IAA 73255.
Licinius I, Rome, 314–315 CE.
Obv.: IMP LICINIVS PF AVG Pearl-diademed(?) bust r.
Rev.: SOLI [INV–I–CTO COMITI] Radiate Sol standing l., raising r. hand, globe in l.; in fields: R–F
X
in ex.: RQ
Æ *follis*, 2.95 g, 20 mm.
Cf. *RIC* 7:299, No. 27.

5. Reg. No. 1495, L296, IAA 73245. Fig. 1.
383 CE, Antioch.
Obv.: [- - -] Bust r.
Rev.: VOT/X/MVLT/XX within wreath; in ex.: ANS

Æ, ↖, 1.08 g, 11 mm.
Cf. *LRBC* 2:101, No. 2740.

6. Reg. No. 1011, L104, IAA 73241.
498–538 CE, Constantinople.
Obv.: Bust r.
Rev.: **M**; to r. star; in ex.: [CO]N
Æ *follis*, 13.40 g, 31 mm.
Cf. *DOC* 1:80, No. 31.

7. Reg. No. 1191, L127, IAA 73242. Fig. 1.
Tiberius II, Nicomedia, 580/81 CE.
Obv.: [DM TIB CONS]TANT PP AVC bust facing in consular robes, wearing crown with cross and pendilia. In r. hand holds mappa; l. holding scepter with eagle surmounted by cross.
Rev.: **m**; to r.: ϟ; In ex.: [N]IKOM.
Æ *follis*, ↓, 12.56 g, 30 mm.
DOC 1:279, No. 30.

8. Reg. No. 3296, L437, IAA 73253. Fig. 1.
Heraclius, Constantinople, 625/26 CE.
Obv.: Three figures facing, each wearing chlamys and crown with cross, holding gl. cr.
Rev.: **M**; to l. ꝑ; to r. X
ϟ
beneath: Γ; in ex.: CON
Æ *follis*, ↙, 6.94 g, 25 mm.
DOC 2,1:293, No. 99b.

9. Reg. No. 3129, L300C, IAA 73244.
5th/6th century CE.
Obv.: Bust r.
Rev.: Illegible.
Æ, 0.42 g, 9 mm.

10. Reg. No. 3120, L373, IAA 73247. Fig. 1.
Arab-Byzantine or Constans II, 650(?)–697 CE.
Obv.: Bust facing, holding long scepter.
Rev.: **m**; countermark: monogram(?)
Æ *follis*, ↓, 3.06 g, 23 mm.
Cf. Qedar 1988:32, Pl. 4:4.

11. Reg. No. 3094, L323, IAA 73249.
Umayyad (Post Reform), Al-Ramlah, c. 737 CE.
Obv.: Marginal legend: [illegible]
within a dotted circle, a palm branch.
Rev.: Marginal legend: [illegible]
within a dotted circle, a crescent within a circle.
Æ *fals*, 1.64 g, 16 mm.
Ilisch 1993:14, No. 65.

12. Reg. No. 3092, L354, IAA 73252.
Umayyad (Post Reform), Al-Ramlah, c. 737 CE.
Obv.: Marginal legend: [illegible]
within a dotted circle, a palm branch.
Rev.: Marginal legend: [illegible] [illegible]
within a dotted circle, a crescent within a circle.
Æ *fals*, 3.85 g, 16 mm.
Ilisch 1993:14, No. 65.

13. Reg. No. 3303, L439, IAA 73254.
Umayyad (Post Reform), Al-Ramlah, c. 737 CE.
Obv.: Marginal legend: [illegible]
within a dotted circle, a palm branch.
Rev.: Marginal legend: [illegible]
within a dotted circle, a crescent within a circle.
Æ *fals*, 2.03 g, 15 mm.
Ilisch 1993:14, No. 65.

14. Reg. No. 3168, L358, IAA 73256.
Abassid, 8th–9th century CE.
Obv.: [illegible][- - -]
Rev.: Worn.
Æ *fals*, 0.61 g, 16 mm.

15. Reg. No. 3090, L354, IAA 73250.
Abassid, 8th–9th century CE.
Obv. and *Rev.* worn.
Æ *fals*, 4.80 g, 19 mm.

16. Reg. No. 1151, L134, IAA 73243. Fig. 1.
Abassid, 9th century CE.
Obv.: Marginal legend:
[illegible][- - -] [illegible]
Center: [illegible]

Rev.: Center: □□□□
□□□□
□□□□
□□
Æ *fals*, 2.62 g, 21 mm.

17. Reg. No. 1190, L127, IAA 73257.
Mamlūks, 14th century CE.
Obv. and *Rev*. worn.
Æ *fals*, 3.61 g, 20 mm.

NOTES

[1] Thanks to Ariel Berman, who identified the Muslim coins. The coins were cleaned in the IAA laboratories, headed by Ella Altmark, and photographed by Clara Amit.

[2] Thanks to A. Sasson of the IAA for his permission to refer to this numismatic material.

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