

## MIDDLE BRONZE AGE TOMBS AT FASSUṬA

LILLY GERSHUNY AND MORDECHAI AVIAM

The Christian-Arab village of Fassuṭa is located in the northern upper Galilee, 5 km northeast of the modern town of Ma'alot (NIG 229/772, OIG 179/272; Fig. 1). The ancient site was established on a hill named Faṣil Danyal by the local inhabitants (Frankel et al. 2001:31, Site 233). Its existence was maintained by three main factors: the rocky landscape, water springs and large cultivated tracts of land. Fassuṭa is founded on a rift trough that separates areas of hard limestone and soft limestone (*qirton*) (Fruman 1983). The juncture of the two layers is a source for several springs; the most significant is 'Ein el-Balad, on the northwestern outskirts of the modern village. North of the village is the valley of 'Aqrav, one of the largest valleys in the hilly Upper Galilee. Two kilometers east of Fassuṭa is Tel Rosh, a large mound where potsherds from the Early and Middle Bronze and Iron Ages, as well as the Persian, Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine periods, were discerned (Amiran 1953).

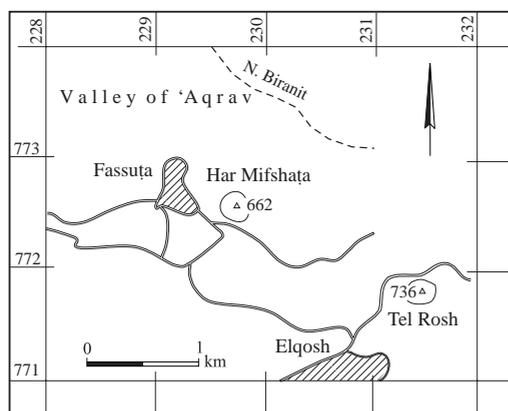


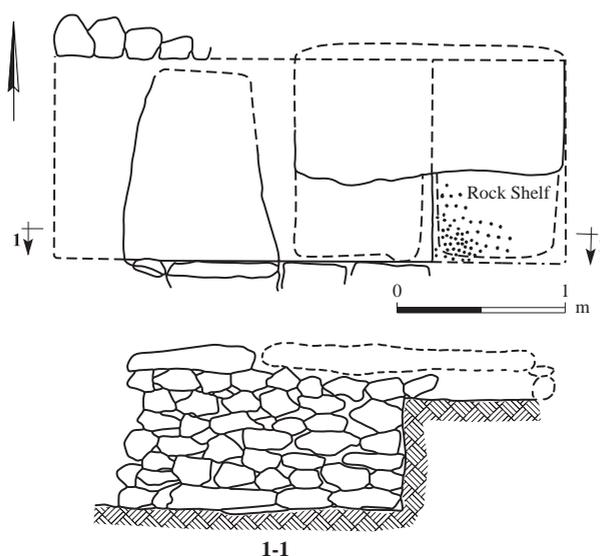
Fig. 1. Location map.

The village of Fassuṭa was surveyed in recent years by the team of the Western Galilee Survey (Frankel et al. 2001:31). Potsherds from the Early and Middle Bronze Ages were collected in the village during the survey, indicating that the hill of Faṣil Danyal was an ancient tell. Foundations for a new private house, which were dug in the village in 1989, damaged two built tombs and a salvage excavation was undertaken (Aviam 1991).<sup>1</sup>

### THE TOMBS

#### *Tomb 1* (Plan 1)

This rectangular-shaped tomb (length 3 m, width 1.2 m, height 1 m), oriented east–west, was cut into bedrock on its short, eastern side. The long walls and the western side were built of medium-sized fieldstones. The tomb was covered with limestone slabs (width 1 m) and a rock-hewn shelf, 0.4 m high, was left on its eastern side. The original entrance was in the western side, which was entirely destroyed by modern construction; the tomb could be accessed for excavation only via its demolished western side. The soil that penetrated through the cover stones filled the tomb all the way to its top, and it was impossible to discern any layers in the tomb, although at one point during fieldwork, the excavator noted that some vessels were found lying superimposed, in which case they may represent three layers in the tomb. The records refer to a large open bowl with hooks (Fig. 9:1) that overlaid a jar, or jug, which unfortunately did not survive (marked No. 29 in the field diary), and a dipper juglet (Fig. 11:5) below it. Nonetheless, this information should be taken with reservation,



Plan 1. Tomb 1, plan and section.



Fig. 2. Tomb 1, pottery vessels in the western side, looking east.

as the field records are not entirely clear on this issue.

The western end of the tomb contained store jars, bowls and juglets (Fig. 2). Near the center of the tomb was a large, open bowl with a scarab inside and bronze fragments nearby (Fig. 3; see below). Along the southern wall was a group

of metal artifacts and above the rock shelf were broken pottery vessels mixed with bone fragments (Fig. 4). During the excavation, it was thought that the rock shelf was a repository for the bones and objects removed from the tomb itself, in which case the finds on the shelf would be earlier; hence, it was marked separately. The



Fig. 3. Tomb 1, pottery vessels in center of tomb, looking east.



Fig. 4. Tomb 1, the rock shelf, looking south.

subsequent study of the assemblage proved that the rock shelf was an integral part of Tomb 1.

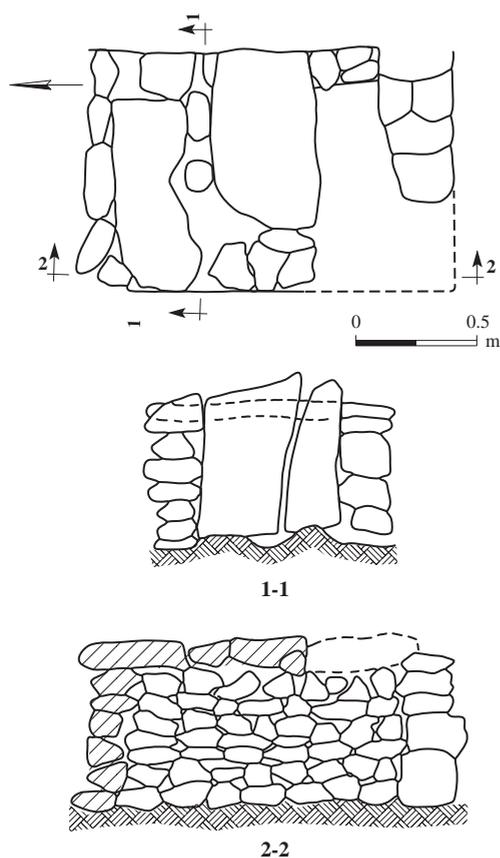
Bone fragments were dispersed among the pottery vessels in the tomb. No complete skeleton was discerned and the state of preservation was poor, yet the numerous fragments indicated a multiple burial.

#### *Tomb 2 (Plan 2)*

This tomb was located c. 3 m west of Tomb 1. It was smaller than Tomb 1 and oriented north–south. The tomb (length 1.6 m, width c. 1 m, height 0.6 m), built entirely of small-sized fieldstones, was covered with three limestone slabs, one of which was found broken (Fig. 5). The entrance, apparently on the northern side, consisted of two vertical stone slabs (Plan 2: Section 1–1). The foundations of the modern house destroyed the southwestern corner of the tomb, which was excavated via this breach. The majority of finds were concentrated in the



Fig. 5. Tomb 2, the covering slabs, looking east.



Plan 2. Tomb 2, plan and sections.

southeastern side of the tomb and included jugs and juglets. Five skulls were placed around and between the vessels (Fig. 6). On the northern side of the tomb were numerous long bones, but no complete skeleton was detected. A small votive carinated bowl (Fig. 12:1) was found above the cover slabs of the tomb.

#### POTTERY

Pottery vessels were the main component of the offerings in the tombs. Metal artifacts and a single scarab were recovered only from Tomb 1 (see below).

#### *Tomb 1*

The finds above the rock shelf and those from inside the tomb form a homogeneous assemblage, yet they are discussed separately. The metal artifacts were analyzed by Shalev (this volume) and the animal bones, by Kolska Horwitz (this volume). Petrographic analysis of several of the vessels was conducted by Yuval Goren in the early 1990s (see n. 6).



Fig. 6. The interior of Tomb 2, looking south.

*The Rock Shelf*

The fragmentary state of the vessels found on the rock shelf warranted a sherd count, which included all fragments, i.e., rims, bases and handles that were neither part of the complete vessels nor formed any complete profiles. The total count of fragments comprised six jugs, nineteen juglets, two dipper juglets, eleven carinated bowls, four open bowls and either one or two store jars. The small fraction of vessels that could be completed or partially restored included three open bowls, one carinated bowl, two jugs, four piriform juglets and two juglets of Tell el-Yahudiyeh ware, as well as one store jar. The discussion below pertains to these

vessels, which, due to the homogeneity of the context, present a representative picture of the assemblage from the entire rock shelf.

*Open Bowls.*— Three bowls were complete. The first (Fig. 7:1) has a slightly convex disc base and an externally beveled rim with a slight exterior swelling. The second bowl (Fig. 7:2) has a flat disc base and a straight rim, with a flat top and an external ridge. The third bowl (Fig. 7:3) has a ring base with an omphalos interior, an externally beveled rim and a burnished red slip on the exterior and the rim's interior.

The externally beveled rim is the dominant feature of open bowls. It was introduced at

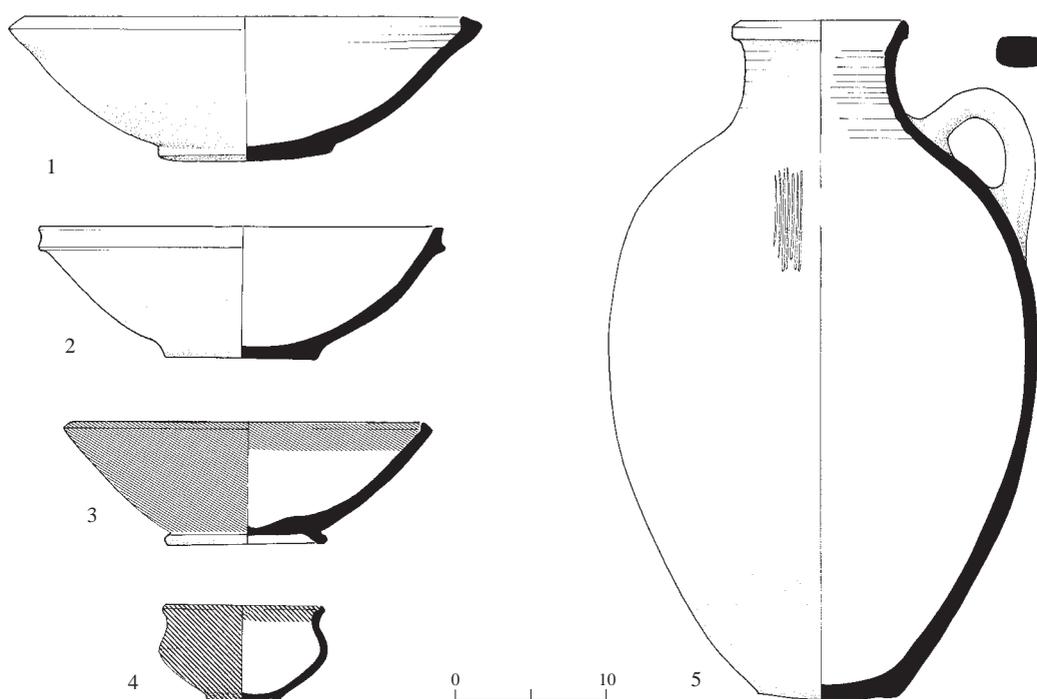


Fig. 7. Tomb 1, pottery vessels from the rock shelf.

No.	Reg. No.	IAA No.	Vessel	Description
1	06/7	1996-2304	Bowl	Light brown to buff clay (7.5YR 7/4)
2	06/8	1996-2305	Bowl	Brownish clay (5YR 6/6)
3	06/2	1996-2306	Bowl	Brown-orange clay (5YR 6/6); burnished red slip (7.5R 5/8)
4	06/6	1996-2307	Bowl	Brown-red clay (2.5YR 6/8); burnished red slip (2.5YR 5/8)
5	05	1996-2328	Store jar	Reddish clay (10R 5/8)

the beginning of MB I,<sup>2</sup> e.g., Ha-Gosherim (Covello-Paran 1996: Fig. 4:1) and Gesher (Garfinkel and Bonfil 1990: Fig. 5:1, 6), and it continued throughout the entire period. Comparisons to the bowl in Fig. 7:1 come from Ḥazor, Tomb 1181 (Maier 1997: Fig. IV.1) and Ginosar, Tomb 1 (Epstein 1974: Fig. 5:15). The ridge on the bowl in Fig. 7:2 is rather unusual; similar ridges were found in Ginosar, Tomb 1 (Epstein 1974: Fig. 7:2) and Munḥata, Tomb 641 (Ferembach, Furshpan and Perrot 1975: Fig. 2:1), although the latter does not have a concave external profile. An analogy for Fig. 7:3 comes from Ḥazor, Area D3, Stratum 2, Locus 9039 (Yadin et al. 1958: Fig. 101:3).

*Carinated Bowl.*— The carinated bowl (Fig. 7:4) is slightly globular and wide. It has a very shallow ring base, a plain everted rim and burnished red slip on the exterior and the rim's interior.

This carinated bowl is a transitional form between MB I and MB II. The bowl is not very deep (height 6.25 cm) and is more open than earlier forms (rim diam. 10.75 cm; max. diam. 11 cm); it has a nearly flat ring base and the carination angle is moderate and somewhat rounded. Burnished red slip is still applied, but does not attain the glossiness that typifies earlier examples. This bowl shape marks the beginning of MB II, when carinated bowls changed their stance from closed to open (Kempinski 1989:50). This phenomenon is clearly noted at Tel Qashish, where open carinated bowls begin to appear in Stratum IXB, sporadically continuing into

Stratum IXA and becoming dominant in Stratum VIII (Ben-Tor and Bonfil 2003:206).<sup>3</sup>

*Store Jar.*— This jar (Fig. 7:5), sometimes called a 'jug-jar', has an ovoid shape, a flattened base, a single wide, thick handle on the sloping shoulder, a short wide neck and an everted rim. A group of seven combed lines is incised on the shoulder. A similar shape from an MB II burial comes from Dan, Tomb 4663 (Ilan 1996: Fig. 4.91:3).<sup>4</sup> Another comes from Tomb 4 at Ginosar (Epstein 1974: Fig. 17:4). The jug-jar shape is already known in MB I, having a single handle that extends from rim to shoulder.<sup>5</sup> The placement of the handle on the shoulder points to an MB II date (Ilan 1996:221).

*Jugs.*— Two complete jugs were found in this tomb. The first (Fig. 8:1) has an ovoid shape with a disc base. Its narrow neck ends in a trefoil mouth with a plain, everted rim. The handle, which begins below the rim and extends to the shoulder, is a fairly wide ribbon handle, upon which two circular strands are applied at the edges, terminating in a flaring extension on both the top and the bottom. The extension on the shoulder appears like the palm of a hand when viewed en-face. This handle is exceptional and thus far, has no comparisons. The shape and trefoil mouth of the jug can be compared to a burnished, red-slipped jug from Megiddo, Stratum XIII (Loud 1948: Pl. 20:5) and another similar jug from a tomb in the Ruweishe ridge of Kafr Ḡarra in South Lebanon (Guigues 1937: Fig. 38-J).

Fig. 8 ▶

No.	Reg. No.	IAA No.	Vessel	Description
1	06/4	1996-2309	Jug	Red-brown clay (10R 5/6); dark red slip (7.5R 4/8)
2	06/9	1996-2310	Jug	Red-brown clay (5YR 6/6); burnished brownish slip (10YR 5/6)
3	06/3	1996-2311	Juglet	Buff-brown clay (2.5YR 7/6); burnished brownish slip (2.5YR 5/6)
4	06/13	1996-2308	Juglet	Pink brown clay (10R 6/4); burnished dark red slip (7.5R 4/6)
5	06/17	1996-2313	Juglet	Reddish clay (2.5YR 5/6); burnished red slip (10YR 5/6)
6	06/16	1996-2312	Juglet	Red-brown clay and slip (2.5YR 6/8)
7	06/10	1996-2314	Juglet	Brownish buff clay (5YR 7/6)
8	06/5	1996-2315	Juglet	Grayish clay (5YR 5/3); gray slip (5YR 4/2)

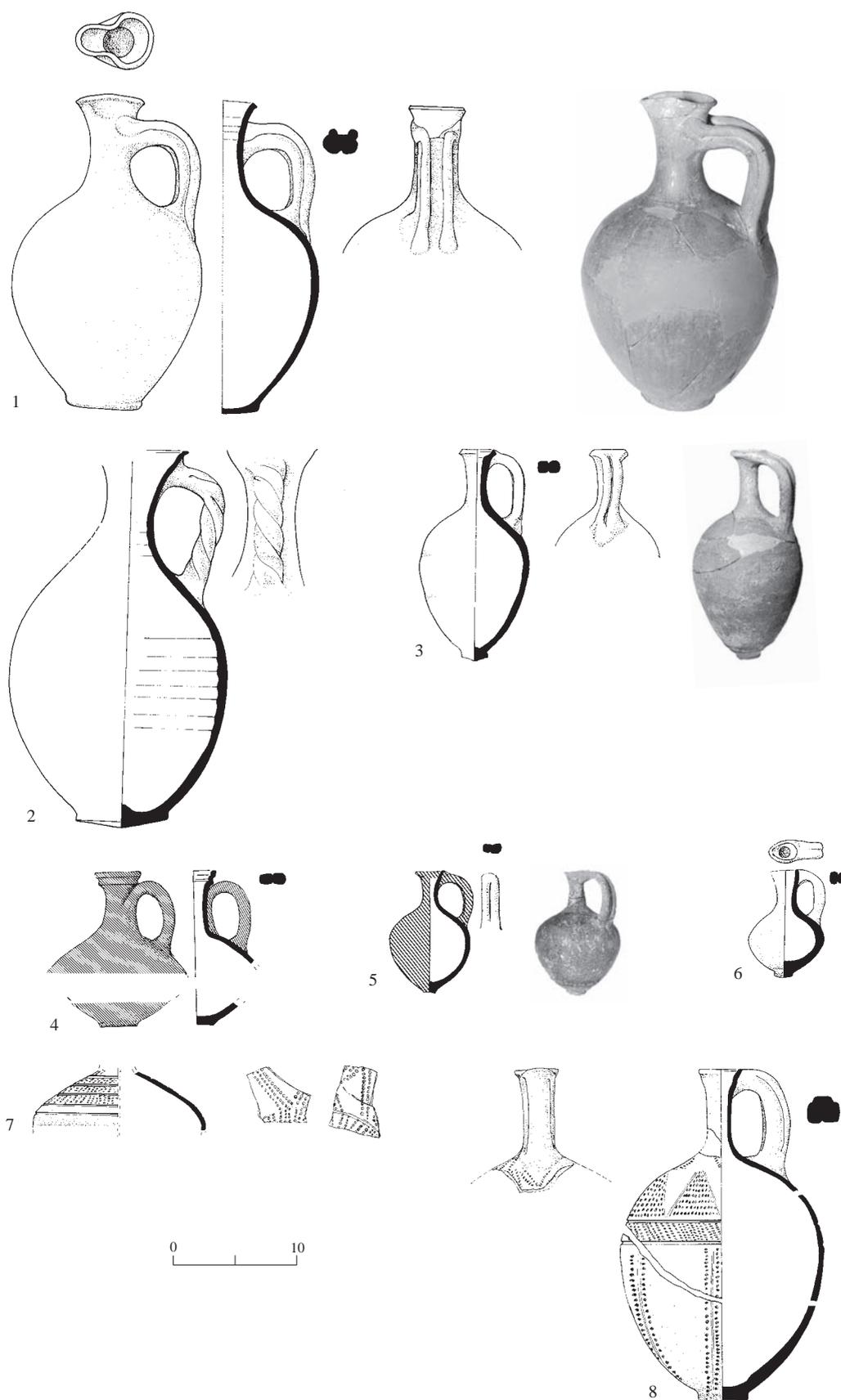


Fig. 8. Tomb 1, jugs and juglets from the rock shelf.

The second jug (Fig. 8:2) has an ellipsoid body and a convex disc base, with a protruding interior. The narrow, funnel-like neck ends in an everted rim, flat on top, with a slight inner gutter. Since part of the rim is broken, its reconstruction is difficult, but based on comparative material, it would seem to have had a trefoil mouth. A single, twisted handle extends from below the rim to the gently sloping shoulder. The handle is comparable to one on a red-slipped and burnished jug from Megiddo, Tomb 2145 (Loud 1948: Pl. 25:8) and on a buff-burnished version from Tomb 2130 there (Loud 1948: Pl. 34:11). The twisted handle seems to be a North Syrian feature; it appears on jugs from the large sepulcher, "The Lord of the Goats" at Ebla (Matthiae 1989: Figs. 1–4), as well as on a vertical ring flask from Tomb LXVII at Ras Shamra (Schaeffer 1938: Fig. 36).

*Piriform Juglets.*— Four juglets are illustrated (Fig. 8:3–6). The juglet in Fig. 8:3 has a slender body with a prominent button base, a tall, narrow neck and a small, externally beveled rim with an inner gutter. A double-strand handle extends from rim to shoulder; it has a slight curvature and ends in a flat surface, similar to the flat ends of the jug handle in Fig. 8:1. The rim of this juglet appears in piriform and other juglet types in Ginosar, Tomb 2/3 (Epstein 1974: Fig. 8:12, 20), and its prominent button base is also present on other juglets in the same tomb (Epstein 1974: Fig. 18:13). A similar juglet was recorded in Munhata, Tomb 641 (Ferenbach, Furshpan and Perrot 1975: Fig. 2:9).

The red-slipped and burnished juglet in Fig. 8:4 was possibly a large piriform shape, although this is not certain due to its fragmentary state. It has a flat base, a fairly wide neck and a stepped rim. Its double-strand handle begins at the base of the neck and curves up to under the rim. A similarly fashioned handle appears on a jug from Tomb 2 (see Fig. 12:2), as well as on juglets from other sites, e.g., Afeq, Post-Palace Phase, Tomb 428 (Beck 2000:218, Fig. 10.21:4), Ginosar, Tomb 4 (Epstein 1974: Figs.

8:15, 15:5) and Hazor, Tomb 1181 (Maeir 1997: Figs. IV.4:16; IV.5:15, 16).

The third juglet, also red-slipped and burnished (Fig. 8:5), has a somewhat more globular-shaped body with a shallow button base, a narrow neck with a plain, everted rim and a double-strand handle from rim to shoulder. The body has an analogy in Tomb 641 at Munhata (Ferenbach, Furshpan and Perrot 1975: Fig. 5:14) and the whole juglet is similar to one from Tomb 9024 at Hazor (Yadin et al. 1958: Pl. 121:9).

The fourth juglet (Fig. 8:6) has a small, somewhat globular body, prominent button base, a tall, narrow neck with a pinched rim and a double strand handle, extending from the rim to the shoulder. The neck, pinched rim and handle are highly reminiscent of a dipper juglet. Combined with the piriform body, the button base and double-strand handle, it becomes a rather odd shape that partially resembles a juglet from Megiddo, Locus 2133 (Loud 1948: Pl. 32:28).

*Tell el-Yahudiyeh Juglets.*— Two juglets of this ware were found on the rock shelf (Fig. 8:7, 8). The first (Fig. 8:7) is a shoulder fragment of a juglet that was fired to a pinkish orange hue. It has four registers separated by double lines; the upper three are filled with punctured decoration. Two other small fragments from this juglet have the punctured decoration, but do not join the main fragment. The shoulder's angle seems to indicate that this juglet originally had a piriform shape. The fragments of the second juglet (Fig. 8:8) do not join, but have been reconstructed in the line drawing. It has a large ovoid body and a small and very shallow ring base with a flat edge. Its tall, narrow neck slightly bulges below the plain, everted rim. The triple-strand handle extends from rim to shoulder and its upper third extends from rim to shoulder and its upper third is wide and flat. The decoration is divided by a band of diagonal punctures encircling the center of the body and bound by double lines. Below the band, on the lower body, there are vertical stripes, each composed of a double line flanked by punctures. Above the band, a row

of standing, punctured triangles seems to be topped by a double incised line. Above this line and at the base of the neck, which is the broken part of the juglet, more punctured designs may have existed.

Both juglets are of local manufacture. The brown fabric is rich in foraminifers, which contain a large concentration of iron acids, in particular magnetite and hematite. The tempers in the matrix consist of angular calcite crystals of idiomorphic shape. The high contents of calcite and the absence of additional components in the tempers indicate that the ground calcite was added to the matrix as the sole inclusion.<sup>6</sup>

The large juglet (Fig. 8:8) was fired to a dark gray hue and very little survived of the original white fill of the punctures. The petrographic analysis determined that the firing temperature did not exceed 800°C, since the calcite temper does not show any changes that occur at higher firing temperatures. The gray core of this juglet could be the result of either incomplete burning of the organic substances in the fabric (Orton, Tyers and Vince 1997:69), or the creation of a reducing atmosphere in the kiln, which is difficult to attain in open firing or simple kilns (Rice 1987:80). In all likelihood, this juglet was fired in a neutral atmosphere that was neither completely oxidizing, nor completely reducing (Rye 1994:96). The idea that the dark color of the surface was achieved via smoking the juglet after its firing, causing the surface and pores to become black, was suggested for the juglets in the 'Afula refuse pit (Zevulun 1990: n. 22). However, it does not seem to hold true for the Fassuṭa juglet, mainly because its surface is gray, burnished, and has traces of the white filling in the punctured decoration.

This juglet (restored height 26.75 cm) does not have many analogies. Two juglets that are ovoid shaped and have a combination of vertical and horizontal decoration can be compared to our juglet. The first comes from Bet Yerah (Kaplan 1980: Fig. 110b)<sup>7</sup> and the second was found in Munḥata, Tomb 641 (Ferembach, Furshpan and Perrot 1975: Fig. 5:7). The latter is a small juglet whose horizontal shoulder

pattern is a band of vertical punctures, which fits its small size. Still another juglet from Jericho, Tomb G37 (Kenyon 1960: Fig. 122:15) has both vertical and horizontal decoration, although the vertical design is composed of inverted triangles, pointed toward the base.

The ovoid body shape of this Tell el-Yahudiyeh juglet conforms to Kaplan's Ovoid 2 group (Kaplan 1980:27), as does its horizontal and vertical decoration. The Ovoid 2–4 juglets at Tel ed-Dab'a were imported from the northern region of Canaan, where Bietak dates them to the transition of MB I–MB II (Bietak 1989:10).<sup>8</sup> Two fragmentary Ovoid 2 juglets came from a tomb in Stratum F, although they may have been part of a Stratum G tomb that was disturbed by the Stratum F tomb (Beitak 1991a:39, n. 12). The Fassuṭa juglet, although ovoid in shape, has a decoration pattern that was not found in Tell ed-Dab'a and is quite rare in Canaan as well, as noted above.

#### *The Interior of Tomb 1*

The content of the tomb's interior was better preserved than that of the rock shelf, hence more vessels are presented. The pottery assemblage of complete vessels included eight open bowls, two carinated bowls, two globular bowls, a single store jar, two jugs, four juglets and two dipper juglets.

*Open Bowls.*— The various features of the open bowls display a rather homogenous group (Fig. 9); to avoid repetition, these features are summarized in tabular form (Table 1). The two features dominating the open bowls are the beveled rim and the ring base. The bowls are all of similar dimensions, excluding the extreme margins.

The bowl in Fig. 9:1 is the largest in the assemblage. It is provided with four hooks in two pairs, attached to a flat band that encircles the rim only between each pair of hooks facing each other. Hooks or bars of various shapes and sizes that are attached to rims of open bowls in different ways are a rather widespread phenomenon, beginning in MB I, e.g., the

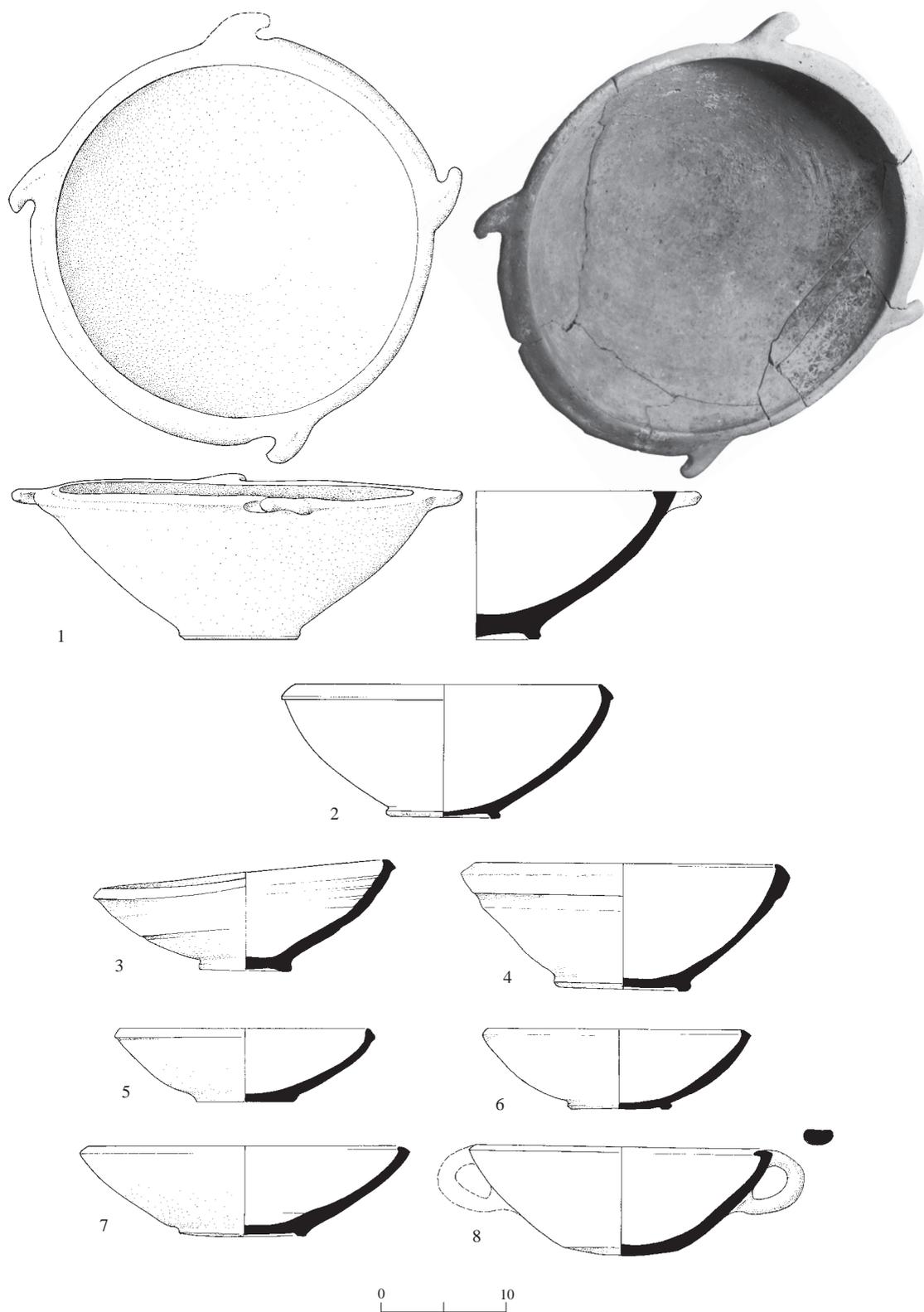


Fig. 9. Tomb 1, open bowls.

◀ Fig. 9

No.	Reg. No.	IAA No.	Description
1	26	1996-2316	Reddish brown clay (2.5YR 6/6)
2	40	1996-2326	Brownish clay and slip (2.5YR 7/6); radial burnishing outside
3	49	1996-2324	Reddish brown clay (2.5YR 6/6)
4	25	1996-2325	Reddish brown clay (2.5YR 7/6)
5	04/3	1996-2321	Reddish brown clay (5YR 6/6); brownish red slip
6	04/2	1996-2327	Brownish clay (5YR 6/6)
7	47	1996-2322	Light brown clay (7.5YR 7/3); burnished, brownish red slip inside (2/5YR 6/6)
8	04/1	1996-2323	Buff-brown clay (5YR 6/6)

Table 1. Features of Open Bowls

Fig.	Base	Base Diam. (cm)	Rim	Rim Diam. (cm)	Handles/hooks	Total Height (cm)	Surface Treatment
9:1	Ring	12	Flat, slightly inverted	36	4 hooks	13.5	Light combing on upper part
9:2	Ring	10.5	Beveled	30		12	
9:3	Concave disc	9.75	Beveled	27.5		8.75	
9:4	Ring	12.5	Beveled, thickened	30		11.25	
9:5	Flat disc	9	Beveled	23.5		6.5	Brownish red slip
9:6	Ring	9.5	Beveled	24.25		7.25	
9:7	Ring	11.5	Beveled	29.5		8	Interior orange slip, radially burnished; exterior brown slip
7:1	Rounded	10	Inverted	27.25	2 handles	9.75	

triangular protrusions on a bowl from Ginosar, Tomb 1 (Epstein 1974: Fig. 7:3), a bowl with truncated hooks with a wider rim between them that includes a horizontal handle from Kabri, Tomb 498 (Kempinski, Gershuny and Sheftelowitz 2002: Fig. 5.31:16), spiral hooks on a bowl from Ḥazor, Locus M12 (Yadin et al. 1961: Pl. 192:7), curved hooks on a bowl from the grand MB tomb in Tel Sukas (Thrane 1978: Fig. 78) and a bowl from Bet She'an that has four pairs of curved hooks encircling the rim, with a bar handle between each pair (Maier 2007:250, Fig. 37:1), found in a burial dated to the transitional MBI-II.

The petrographic analysis showed that the fabric of this bowl differed from that of the

other analyzed vessels from Fassuṭa. The carbonaceous clay is rich in minerals, such as dolomite and calcite, as well as numerous foraminifers. The dominant temper is sand, composed of rhomboid dolomite crystals and flint and quartzite angular grains. This temper combination is mostly known from pottery assemblages in the Judean mountains and desert, which may imply that this bowl was brought to Fassuṭa from that region.<sup>9</sup>

The bowls in Fig. 9:2, 6, 7 can be compared to a bowl from Ḥazor, Tomb 1181 (Maier 1997: Fig. IV.1:7, 9). The bowl in Fig. 9:5 seems to be more common, with its flat disc base, having comparisons in Megiddo, Tomb 3092 (Bowl 49; Loud 1948: Pl. 29:11), Bet She'an

(Maier 2007: Pl. 36:5, BL24), Munhata, Tomb 641 (Ferembach, Furshpan and Perrot 1975: Fig. 2:2) and Dan, Tomb 1025 (Ilan 1996: Fig. 4.104:1). The bowl in Fig. 9:3 can be compared to Kabri, Tomb 498 (Kempinski, Gershuny and Sheftelowitz 2002: Fig. 5.31:1, 4) and Ḥazor, Tomb 1181 (Maier 1997: Fig. IV.1:13). The bowl in Fig. 9:4 has a thickened, elongated rim exterior, whose lip is slightly inverted. A similar rim appears at Tell el-Ḥayyat, Phase 3 (Falconer and Magness-Gardiner 1984: Fig. 18), which denotes the final MB I stage at the site (Falconer and Magness-Gardiner 1984:61). A similar rim is seen in Kabri, Tomb 984, on a bowl with a concave disc base (Kempinski, Gershuny and Sheftelowitz 2002: Fig. 5.24:6) and Tomb 498, on a bowl with a flat base (Kempinski, Gershuny and Sheftelowitz 2002: Fig. 5.31:3). The bowl in Fig. 9:8 has a pair of loop handles, extending from the inverted, flattened rim top to approximately mid-body. It can be compared to a bowl from Kabri, Tomb 1050 (Kempinski, Gershuny and Sheftelowitz 2002: Fig. 5.22:8) and Ḥazor, Stratum 2, Locus 018 (Yadin et al. 1958: Pl. CI:1).

*Carinated Bowls.*— The two bowls (Fig. 10:1, 2) have a ring base and burnished red slip on the exterior and inside the rim. The bowl in Fig. 10:1 has a slight bulge of the upper shoulder, below the everted rim. Its maximum diameter is positioned slightly above the center of the bowl (53% of total height). An analogy for this bowl comes from Ḥazor, Tomb 1181 (Maier

1997: Fig. IV.2:7). The bowl in Fig. 10:2 has an acute carination, with a small ridge at the top of the shoulder. Its flaring rim has a flat top with a groove, and has an analogy in the collective grave on Tell Sukas (Thrane 1978: Fig. 60), although it is rather rare among carinated bowls, whose rims are generally everted and simple. The rim diameter of both bowls is c. 80% of their maximum diameter.

The carinated bowls display the classic features of this type throughout MB I (Amiran 1969: Pl. 27). Notwithstanding, the prominent ring base, the somewhat careless burnishing and the relatively high neck of Fig. 10:2, point to a more advanced date for these bowls.

*Globular Bowls.*— These bowls (Fig. 10:3, 4) have a curved outline and a plain, everted rim. The bowl in Fig. 10:3 has a very shallow ring base, whereas the Fig. 10:4 bowl has a flat and somewhat thick disc base. Similar bowls come from Ḥazor, Tomb 1181 (Maier 1997: Figs. IV.2:17; IV.3:13), a burial cave in Zefat (Damati and Stephansky 1996: Fig. 4:8), Munhata (Ferembach, Furshpan and Perrot 1975: Fig. 3:1) and Tur'an (Gershuny and Eisenberg 2005: Fig. 3).

Globular bowls are a dominant feature of MB I. They continue into the transitional phase and further into MB II, when the shape eventually develops a high, everted neck (Cole 1984:51).

*Store Jar.*— The ovoid store jar (Fig. 10:5) with its single flattened shoulder handle, like Fig.

Fig. 10 ▶

No.	Reg. No.	IAA No.	Vessel	Description
1	43	1996-2317	Bowl	Reddish brown clay (2.5YR 5/6); burnished dark red slip (10R 5/8)
2	41	1996-2314	Bowl	Reddish brown clay (2.5YR 6/6); burnished dark red slip (10R 5/8)
3	35	1996-2319	Bowl	Light brown clay (5YR 6/6)
4	32	1996-2320	Bowl	Creamy brown clay (7.5YR 6/3)
5	04/6	1996-2329	Store jar	Reddish brown clay (2.5YR 6/6)
6	33	1996-2330	Jug	Brownish red clay (2.5YR 6/8)
7	24	1996-2331	Jug	Reddish brown clay (2.5YR 6/6)

7:5 described above, is sometimes referred to as a 'jar-jug'. It has a slightly convex base, a rather wide, short neck with a beveled rim and two groups of combed lines on the shoulder.

Jars with a single shoulder handle are prevalent in MB II and their different features have no regional or chronological bearing (Ilan 1996:221, Fig. 4.91:3; Maeir 1997:305).

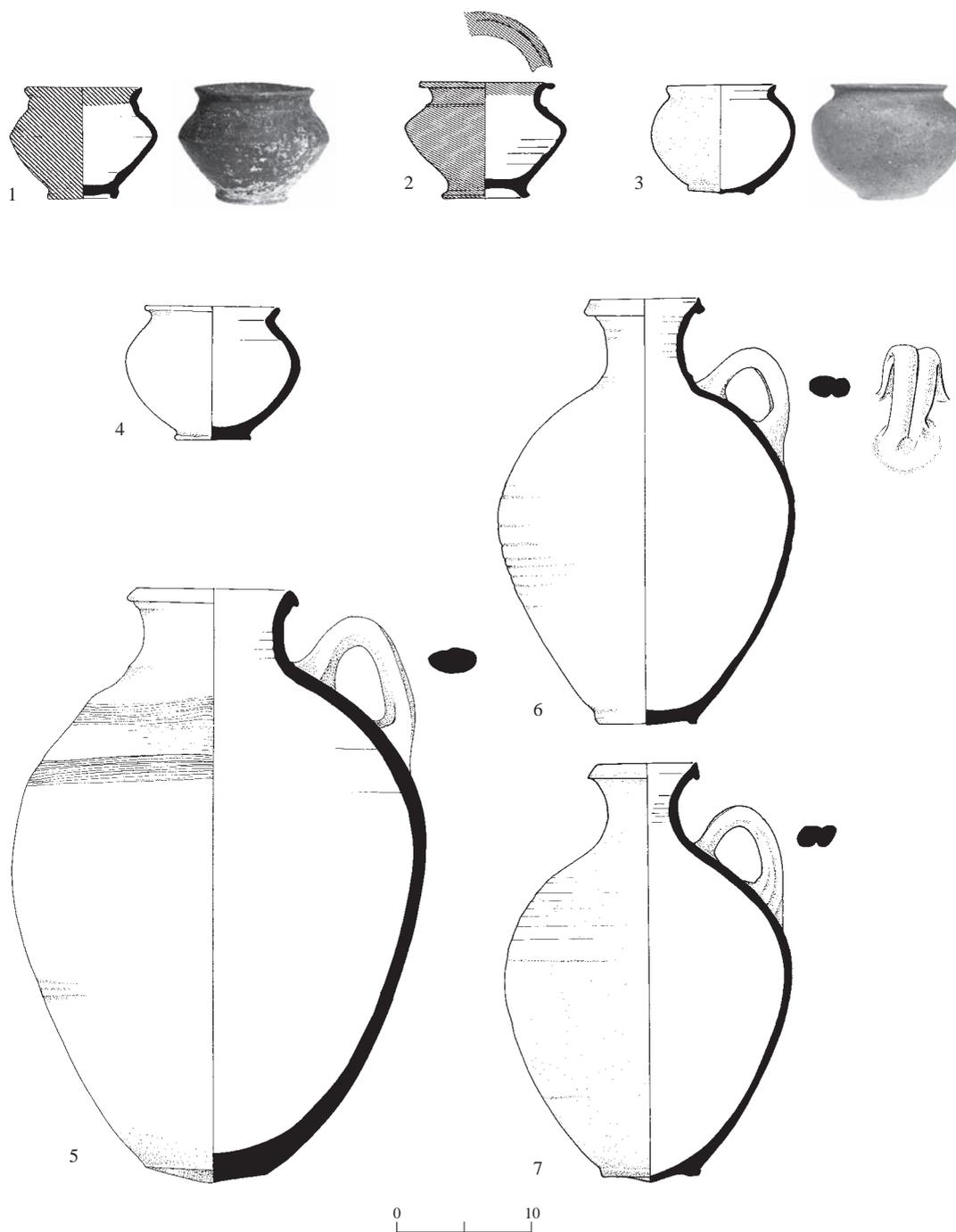


Fig. 10. Tomb 1, pottery vessels.

*Jugs.*— Two very similar jugs were found (Fig. 10:6, 7). Both have an ovoid body (height 31.25 cm) whose maximum diameter is 22.25 and 21.75 cm respectively, a shallow ring base (diam. 7.5 cm), which in Fig. 10:7 is somewhat convex, a two-strand handle on the shoulder, a fairly narrow neck and an externally beveled, everted rim (diam. 9 cm and 8.5 cm respectively).

Although the shape of these jugs is common, their beveled rim is not. A similar rim appears in a jug from a burial cave in Tur'an (Gershuny and Eisenberg 2005: Fig. 6:4) and in Shekhem,

such a rim appears in early MB II Level XIX (Cole 1984: Pl. 29:g).

*Juglets.*— Four piriform juglets (Fig. 11:1–4) are illustrated, two of which have a more elliptical shape (Fig. 11:3, 4). Three of the juglets (Fig. 11:1–3) have a burnished red slip and two (Fig. 11:1, 2) have a small ring base. The rims are everted (Fig. 11:1, 3) or stepped (Fig. 11:2). The juglet in Fig. 11:4 has a very thick button base and a buff-cream slip that is vertically burnished. All four juglets have a double-strand handle extending from rim to shoulder.

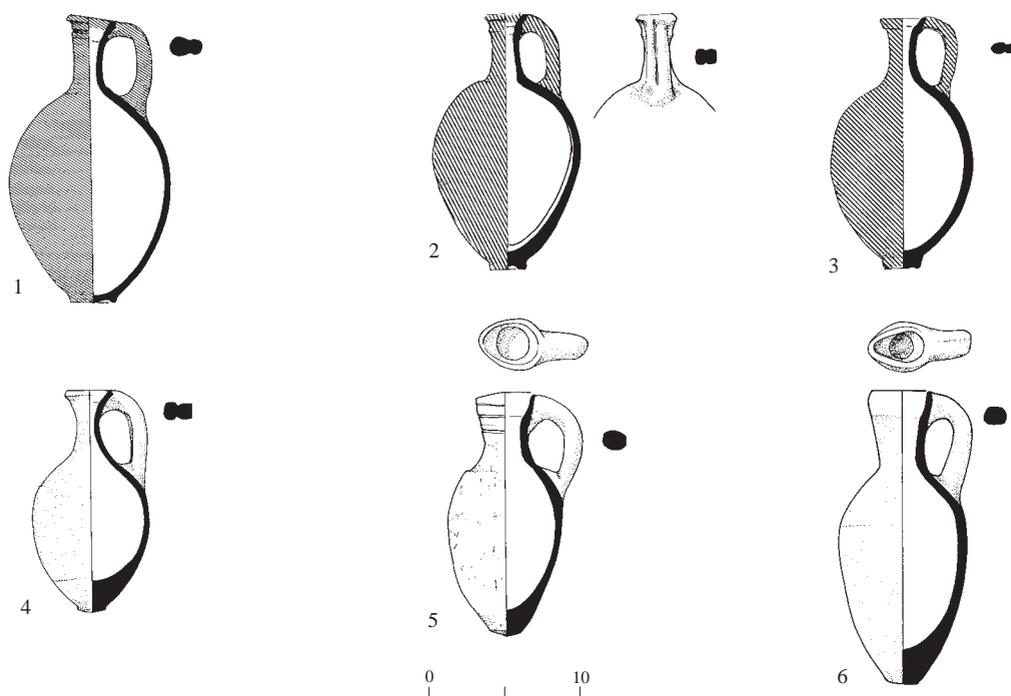


Fig. 11. Tomb I, juglets.

No.	Reg. No.	IAA No.	Description
1	44	1996-2334	Light pinkish brown clay (2.5YR 6/6); burnished red slip (10R 5/6)
2	04/8	1996-2335	Reddish pink clay (10R 6/6); burnished red slip (2.5YR 6/6)
3	27	1996-2333	Reddish pink clay (10R 6/6); burnished red slip (10R 5/6)
4	36	1996-2332	Reddish pink clay (2.5YR 7/6); vertically burnished creamy slip (7.5YR 7/3)
5	30	1996-2336	Brownish red clay (2.5YR 6/8)
6	04/7	1996-2337	Brownish clay and slip (5YR 6/6)

Piriform juglets are omnipresent in tombs of the period and analogies are widespread, e.g., Kabri, Tomb 498 (Kempinski, Gershuny and Sheftelowitz 2002: Fig. 5.37), Ḥazor, Tomb 1181 (Maier 1997: Figs. IV.4; IV.5) and in the lower level of Tomb 1 at Sasa (Ben-Arieh 2004: Fig. 5).

*Dipper Juglets.*— Two dipper juglets were found (Fig. 11:5, 6), one slightly larger than the other. Both have an ovoid body, a pinched lip and a single handle, extending from rim to shoulder, as well as a very thick base, one slightly convex (Fig. 11:5) and the other small and flat (Fig. 11:6).

Dipper juglets are a permanent component of MB I and MB II burials. The flat bases point toward MB I, whereas the unburnished surfaces of the juglets are more typical of a later date.

#### *Tomb 2*

This tomb is much smaller and contained a more modest content than Tomb 1. The assemblage includes two jugs and five juglets. The only other vessel—a votive bowl—was placed outside the tomb on its capstones.

*Votive Bowl.*— This small bowl (Fig. 12:1) is thick walled, with a low carination and a flat disc base. It has an everted stance above the carination and a pointed rim. It highly resembles votive bowls from the Middle Bronze Age temple at Nahariyya (Ben-Dor

1950: Fig. 17:95; Dothan 1956: Fig. 5:1), although the latter has a vertical stance.

*Jugs.*— The first jug (Fig. 12:2) has a rather globular body, a convex disc base and a short wide neck, ending in a flaring, folded rim. The triple-strand handle stems from the base of the neck, curves up along the neck to below the rim, descending to the shoulder. The upper third strand ends in a left-turned half loop on the shoulder. Two narrow bands at the base of the neck create a small ridge. Flat, flaring rims occur on jugs of the transitional MB I–II phase at Ḥazor, Tomb 1181 (Maier 1997: Fig. IV.7) and Ginosar, Tomb 4 (Epstein 1974: Fig. 15: 6, 7). The loop end of the handle’s upper third strand resembles a piriform juglet’s handle from Megiddo, Tomb 5067 (Loud 1948: Pl. 24:22), which Kempinski (1989:52) defined as an “archaic MB IIA feature”.

The jug in Fig. 12:3 has an ovoid body, a very low ring base and a double-strand handle on the shoulder. The narrow neck is funnel-like, ending in an everted rim with a pointed, slightly projecting lower edge—reminiscent of jug rims from Tomb 1 (see Fig. 10:6, 7). A similar rim belongs to a burnished, globular jug from Ḥazor, Tomb 1181 (Maier 1997: Fig. IV.7:2).

*Juglets.*— Of the five juglets in the assemblage (Fig. 12:4–8), four are piriform (Fig. 12:4–7) and one is biconical (Fig. 12:8). Three of the piriform juglets (Fig. 12:4, 5, 7) are red-slipped and burnished. The juglet in Fig. 12:4 has a

**Fig. 12 ▶**

No.	Reg. No.	IAA No.	Vessel	Description
1	52	1996-2338	Bowl	Light gray clay (10YR 6/2)
2	10	1996-2340	Jug	Reddish brown clay and vertically burnished slip (2.5YR 7/6)
3	9	1996-2339	Jug	Brownish red clay and vertically burnished slip (2.5YR 7/6)
4	02	1996-2341	Juglet	Reddish brown clay (2.5YR 6/6); burnished red slip (2.5YR 4/6)
5	17	1996-2344	Juglet	Light brown-pink clay (5YR 6/4); burnished red slip (2.5YR 5/6)
6	11	1996-2342	Juglet	Reddish clay (2/5YR 7/6); dark gray slip (5YR 4/2)
7	12	1996-2343	Juglet	Reddish brown clay (2.5YR 5/6); burnished red slip (2.5YR 5/8)
8	16	1996-2345	Juglet	Reddish pink clay (2.5YR 7/6); burnished red slip (2.5YR 5/6)

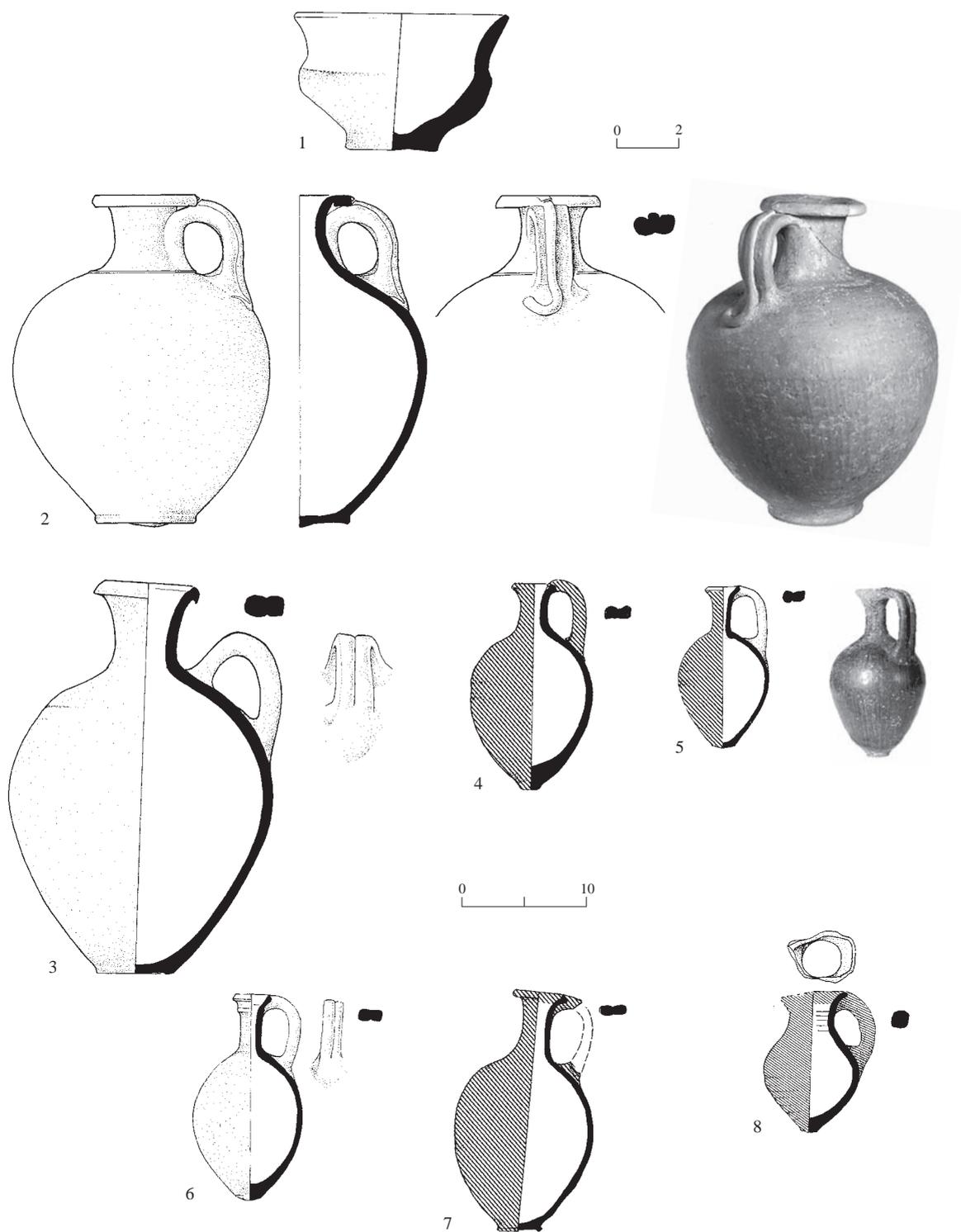


Fig. 12. Tomb 2, pottery vessels.

button base and a rather thick everted rim; the juglet in Fig. 12:5 has a small flat base with a convex center and a rather thin everted rim, and the juglet in Fig. 12:7 has a shallow ring base, thin delicate walls and an everted rim with a pointed lip. Comparative juglets come from Kabri, Tomb 498 (Kempinski, Gershuny and Scheftelowitz 2002: Fig. 5.29:3, 6) and Munḥata, Tomb 641 (Ferembach, Furshpan and Perrot 1975: Fig. 5:11). The fourth piriform juglet (Fig. 12:6) has a convex base, a vertically burnished, dark gray slip, as well as an everted rim with an inverted lip. A similar juglet comes from a burial cave at Tur'an (Gershuny and Eisenberg 2005: Fig. 9:14). All four juglets have double-strand handles from the rim, or slightly above it, to the shoulder. The red-slipped and burnished biconical juglet in Fig. 12:8 has a partly broken, trefoil mouth and a pointed, truncated base. A single thick handle, square-sectioned, extends from rim to shoulder, reaching the juglet's maximum diameter. This juglet can be compared to a juglet from Kabri, Tomb 1045 (Kempinski, Gershuny and Scheftelowitz 2002: Fig. 5.22:3).

#### METAL ARTIFACTS

All the metal objects were recovered from the interior of Tomb 1 and their metallurgy was analyzed by Shalev (this volume). A description and comparative study is presented here.

*Socket Axe.*— The axe (Fig. 13:1) is 12.95 cm long; its maximum width is 2.2 cm and the width of the socket is 1.5 cm. It belongs to Type I of the socket axes in Miron's classification, being the simple version of these axes that he termed "the notched shaft-hole axe" (Miron 1992:71); Gerstenblith (1983:91) defined this type as "the notched chisel axe".

Miron (1992:76), who presented a large corpus of these axes, placed them in MB I, claiming that the advanced type of the notched shaft-hole axe became dominant in the transitional MB I–II and continued into the

subsequent period (MB II). Philip (1989:37) listed these axes in his narrow-blade category (Type 1) and dated them to the end of MB I, although he contended that these simple socket axes came mostly from disturbed contexts along the Levantine coast (Philip 1989:38–39). Gerstenblith (1983:91) assigned these axes to her middle and late MB I phases at Megiddo, i.e., the end of MB I and the transitional MB I–II. Similar plain socket axes in the north of the country come from Zefat (Damati and Stephansky 1996: Fig. 11) and Ginosar, Tomb 1 (Epstein 1974: Fig. 7:15).

*Dagger.*— The intact dagger (Fig. 13:2) has a fairly long tang, a rounded point and rather square shoulders. It is 22.8 cm long, the tang is 4.85 cm long and the maximum width is 5.1 cm. The dagger comes under Philip's Type 10 (Philip 1989:113–115)—long-tanged, oblique daggers. Fassuṭa is, so far, the most northern site in Israel where a long-tanged dagger has been found; most of these daggers occur in the central and southern regions of Canaan (Philip 1989:414–422). Philip (1989:114) claimed that the long-tanged daggers did not accompany axes in single burials, except for Tomb 6 at the Tel Aviv harbor (Kaplan 1955: Fig. 5: 1, 2). However, there is evidence that they are found together with axes in multiple burials of MB II, e.g., Ginosar Tomb 2/3 (Epstein 1974: Fig. 12), as well as in Fassuṭa Tomb 1. The long-tanged daggers appear to be a local Canaanite phenomenon, as they are unknown at Tell ed-Dab'a or in Syria (Philip 1989:114).

Fig. 13 ▶

No.	Reg. No.	IAA No.	Artifact
1	37	1996-2346	Axe
2	46	1996-2347	Dagger
3	21	1996-2348	Spearhead
4	45	1996-2350	Spearhead
5	31	1996-2349	Toggle pin
6	48	1996-2353	Ring

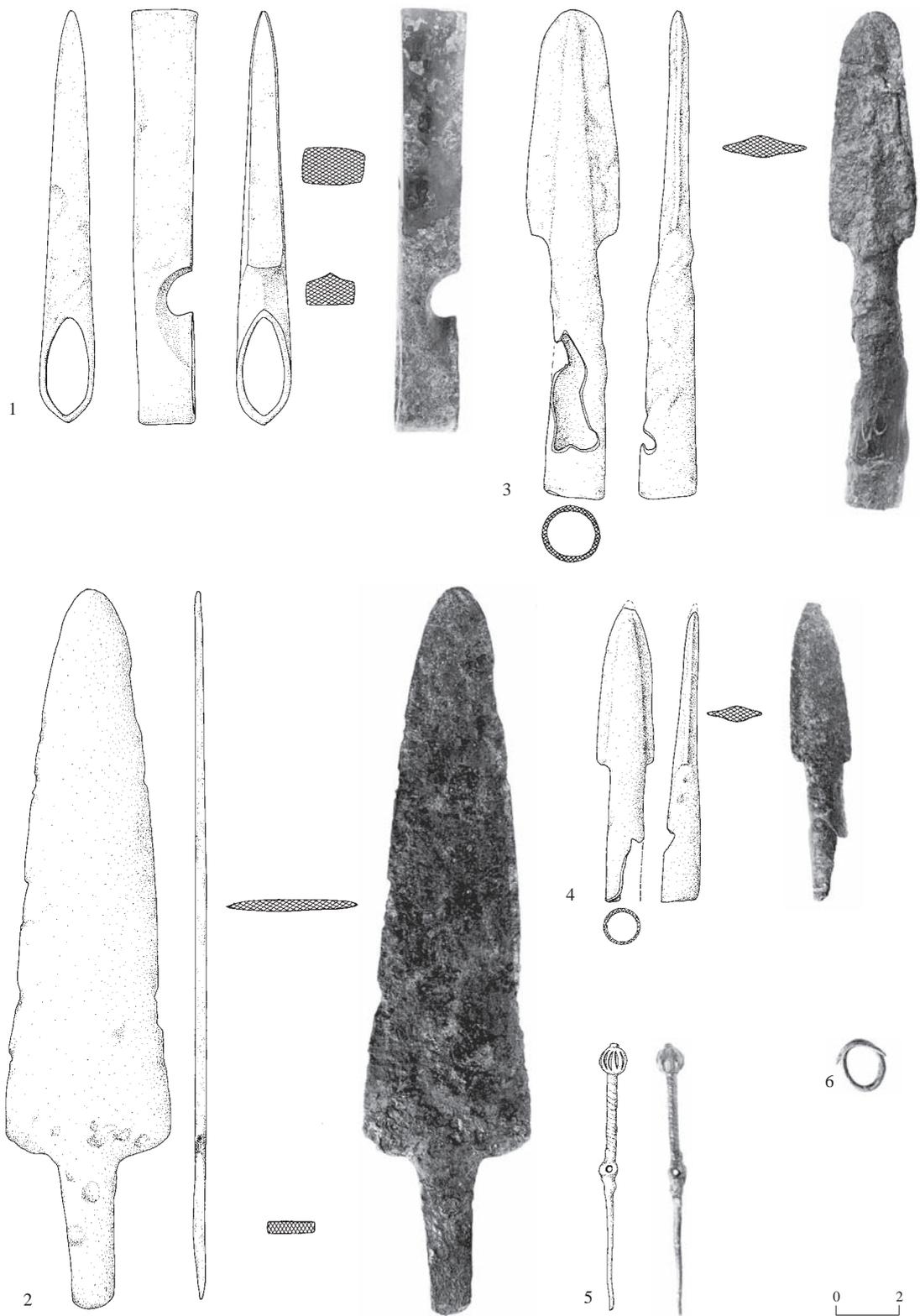


Fig. 13. Bronze artifacts from Tomb 1.

*Socketed Spearheads.*— Two spearheads were found in the tomb (Fig. 13:3, 4), one slightly larger than the other. The larger spearhead (Fig. 13:3) has a total length of 15.3 cm; the length of the socket is 8.2 cm and its maximum diameter is 2.1 cm; the length of the blade is 7.1 cm and its maximum width is 3 cm. The smaller spearhead (Fig. 13:4) 9.5 cm long; the length of the socket is 4.3 cm and its maximum diameter is 1.2 cm; the length of the blade is 5.2 cm and its maximum width is 1.85 cm.

The larger spearhead can be assigned to Philip's Type 8 (Philip 1989:94), which is well-known in northern Canaan, e.g., in Zefat (Damati and Stephansky 1996: Fig. 12) and Ginosar, Tomb 1 (Epstein 1974: Fig. 7:14). The smaller spearhead fits Philip's Type 7 and tends to be concentrated in southern Canaan (Philip 1989:94). The occurrence of two different-sized spearheads is recorded in the second burial phase at Barqai, which is dated by the excavators to MB I (Gophna and Sussman 1969: Fig. 4). Dever (1975:23) attributed the spearheads to MB I, claiming they were usually indicative of a warrior's tomb. So does Philip (1989:95), who also attributes the spearheads to MB I, although for his Type 8, he suggests a short extension into MB II, even when they are part of a multi-period burial. Such is the case of Zefat, where 12 spearheads were discovered in a multiple burial of a wide chronological range within the Middle Bronze Age (Damati and Stephansky 1996:20\*).

*Toggle Pin.*— The elegant, intact toggle pin (Fig. 13:5) has a serrated bulbous head, topped with a bead or button; its upper shank is wrapped with a metal wire. The pin is 8.3 cm long and the eyelet is located at 54% of the total height. It fits Henschel-Simon's Group II, Type 9a (Henschel-Simon 1938:174), although it has elements from her Type 9c as well. The small size and decoration of the pin associate it with the later group of toggle pins, which are noted for their short size, slightly thick upper shank and head, as well as the decoration and a tin content of over 3% (Shalev 1989:43; 2002:314–

315). Similar toggle pins are known from Zefat (Damami and Stephansky 1996: Fig. 18) and in the Middle Bronze Age cemetery at the Tel Aviv harbor (Kaplan 1955: Fig. 5:8).

*Ring.*— The ring (Fig. 13:6) is formed of a plain band that was bent into a circle by pulling the edges in counter directions. The ring may have been inserted through the eye of the toggle pin, as discovered in the fourth burial cave at Kefar Veradim (Getzov and Nagar 2002: Fig. 25:5). It could have been a simple finger ring that is found occasionally in Middle Bronze Age tombs, e.g., Moza (Sussman 1966: Fig. 3:5) and Tel Lakhish (Tufnell 1958: Pl. 25:50). These artifacts maintain their shape and size throughout the Middle Bronze Age and later on. Hence, their dating depends entirely on the context in which they were found.

*Belt.*— The fragmentary state of the bronze belt (IAA Nos. 1996-2351, 2352) does not permit its reconstruction; yet, in the line drawing, the fragments were placed in the best conceivable manner (Fig. 14; see a somewhat different reconstruction in the photograph). The identification was based on the complete triangular buckle, which is composed of two joined, curved wires that form a triangle, whose top was joined to the belt itself.<sup>10</sup> A thin metal wire overlaps the curved base of the triangle at the sides, binding the two wires together. The edges of the overlapping wire extend over one of the buckle wires on each side.

To date, two bronze belts have been published from Israel: a belt with a triangular buckle from Tell el-Far'ah (North), Tomb A4, dated MB II (de Vaux and Stève 1947: Pl. XX), and a belt with a triangular buckle from Jericho, Tomb J3, which belongs to Kenyon's Group I, dating to MB I (Kenyon 1960:306–314). Two more belts, yet unpublished, include one with a bow-type buckle, found in the large Middle Bronze Age cemetery at Rishon Le-Ziyyon.<sup>11</sup> It was accompanied by two daggers, which were probably held by the belt (Levi 1995:57–59). Recent excavations of a large Middle Bronze

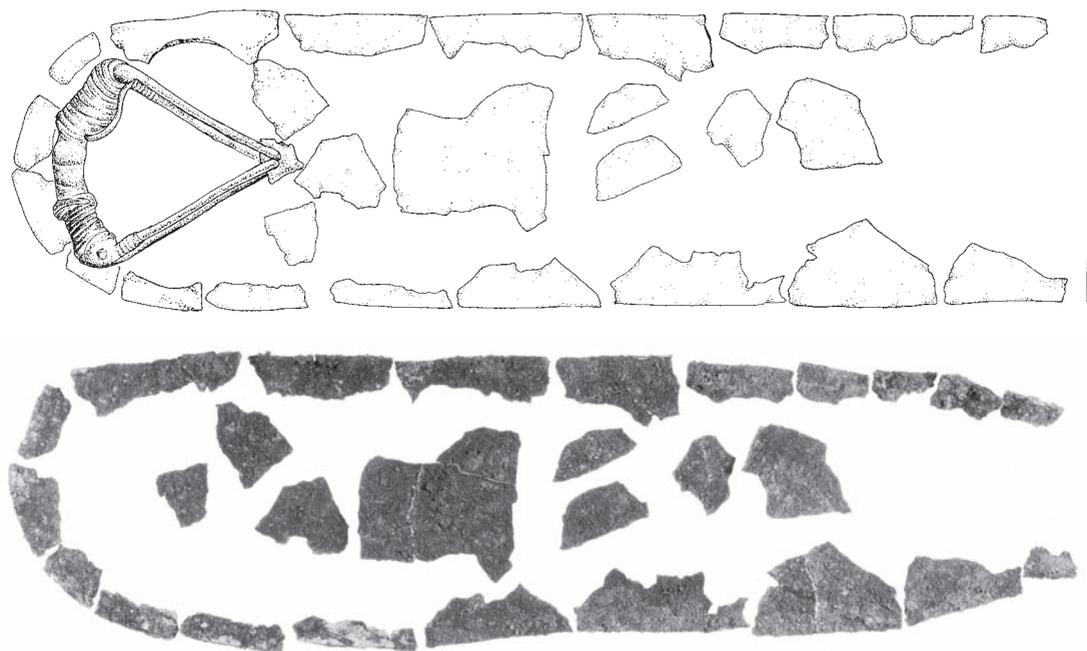


Fig. 14. Tomb 1, bronze belt fragments and buckle.

Age cemetery in the Holyland compound in Jerusalem revealed yet another complete bronze belt with a bow-type buckle (Ianir Milevski and Zvi Greenhut, pers. comm.).

In addition to these belts, two bow-type bronze buckles were found in the lower level of Tomb 1 and in the 'Mixed Group' at Sasa, dating to transitional MB I-II (Ben-Arieh 2004:17\*, Figs. 7:2; 14:8). It is feasible that the two buckles actually belonged to the same belt (Ben-Arieh 2004:14\*).

Three bronze belts are reported from Tell ed-Dab'a in the Egyptian Delta; although Philip (1995:72) claimed there were four belts, he provided no details as to the fourth one. One belt is fairly complete with rounded ends, decorated with embossed circles and pairs of smaller circles between them; it has a triangular buckle (F/I-d/23, Tomb 1-No. 3080; Bietak 1985: Fig. 12). The second is a fragmentary belt, tapering toward the rounded ends and decorated with large embossed circles; it has a triangular buckle (F/I-o/19, Tomb 8, Stratum d/2; Bietak 1991b: Fig. 6). The third is a belt fragment with

a rounded end, decorated with small embossed circles; it has a bow-type buckle (Tomb m/15, No. 9, Stratum G; Bietak 1979:241, Fig. 4).

Two additional belts are known: a bronze belt with a bow-type buckle from Ugarit, Cave LVI (Schaeffer 1938:239, Fig. 32:v, w) and a metal belt with a bow-type buckle from Kültepe, Stratum Ib, which was found within a jar burial (reconstructed in Emre 1971: Fig. 39, Pl. 16). Fragmentary Levantine bronze belts were also discovered in Cyprus, mostly in disturbed contexts (Philip 1991:84).

The Levantine belts have two buckle types, triangular and bow. The triangular-type buckle appears at the following sites: Fassuṭa, Tell el-Far'ah (North) and Tell ed-Dab'a, Strata F and d/2. The bow-type buckle comes from Sasa, Rishon Le-Ziyyon, Jericho, Jerusalem, Tell ed-Dab'a, Stratum G, Ugarit and Kültepe.

The distribution of the buckle types shows that while both were found at Tell ed-Dab'a, the triangular type appears only in northern Canaan and the bow type is found at sites in both the central and northern regions of Canaan,

as well as at sites to its north, e.g., Ugarit and Kültepe.

The bronze belts were accompanied by various weapons, although in each tomb, the types and quantities differ (Table 2). The data shows that the dagger is a permanent feature in tombs where belts were found. The socket axe is the second most common weapon that accompanied bronze belts in five tombs, and spearheads were found with belts in three tombs. Three versions of the socket axe appear with belts. The simple version is found at Fassuṭa, Jerusalem and Tell ed-Dab‘a. The advanced type, which Miron (1992:77) refers to as the “butterfly”-type butt and dates it to the transitional MB I–II and early MB II, occurs at Sasa, Tell el-Far‘ah (North), Jericho and Ugarit. At Jericho, Beck and Zevulun (1996:71) attributed it to MB II. At Sasa, it was found in the later, MB II burial layer. The third socket axe type, a “fan” butt in Miron’s terminology (Miron 1992:71), which appears as a somewhat degenerated version of Miron’s Type 2, is only recorded at Ugarit. The closest context that compares to Fassuṭa is Tell ed-Dab‘a, Area F/I,

Stratum b, d/23, T. 1, dated to the transitional MB I–II phase (Bietak 1985:340), which contained the same weapon types, with the addition of a knife, and lacking a toggle pin as in Fassuṭa.<sup>12</sup>

The small number of belts may imply that they were a precious commodity, as suggested by Ziffer (1990:76\*). While a belt does not require a larger amount of metal than other objects, such as weapons, it does entail skilled workmanship. However, it appears as though the scant numbers of belts should be attributed to their poor preservation, being made of thin sheet metal, as well as to the contingencies of archaeological recovery. Philip (1995:144) suggested that the presence of weapons in a tomb is related to a status symbol. We would like to propose that the belt might have served as a symbol of rank, perhaps a commanding insignia; as such, it would be present only with a small number of warriors who achieved the required status. Even then, there seems to have been ranks, as apparent in the number of weapons accompanying the belt in each tomb (see Table 2). While this proposition

**Table 2. Bronze Weapons and Artifacts accompanying Belts in Tombs**

Site	Weapon	Dagger	Socket Axe	Duckbill Axe	Spear- Head	Knife	Toggle Pin	Single Burial	Multiple Burial
Fassuṭa, T1		1	1*		2		1		+
Sasa, T1 and ‘Mixed Group’		4	1**		1	1	10		+
Tell Far‘ah (N) TA		1 + pommel	1**					+	
Rishon Le-Ziyyon, T B133		1							
Jericho, T. J3		1 + pommel	1**					+	
Jerusalem, Holyland cemetery (MB)			1*						
Tell ed-Dab‘a, Str. G, m/15, T9		1 (rilled)							
Tell ed-Dab‘a, Str. F, F/I, d/23, T1		1	1*		2	1		+	
Tell ed-Dab‘a, Str. d/2, F/I o/19, T8				1					
Ugarit, Cave LVI		9	2*** 1**		2		9		+

Socket axes (Miron 1992:71): \* Type 1; \*\* Type 2; \*\*\* Type 3

may be applicable to Canaan, Ugarit and Tell ed-Dab'a, it does not seem to fit the metal belt from Kültepe. This belt is said to have come from a pithos burial, about which no details are given.<sup>13</sup> It was suggested by Özgüç and Özgüç (1953:197) that metal belts adorned lead deities, although that does not necessarily imply that the pithos burial contained such lead deities. It could possibly have contained a child/infant burial, which is a dominant feature of the Middle Bronze Age, for example, Tomb 4242a at Dan (Ilan 1996:171) and several tombs at Kabri (Kempinski 2002:46). The complete lack of information regarding this pithos burial does not allow us to draw any definitive conclusions. Suffice it to say at this stage that if the pithos burial did contain the interment of a child, the accompanying belt was most likely purchased by the father or family of the interred, to show their great loss and perhaps to imply what had been hoped for the future of the deceased child.

#### SMALL FINDS

*Scarab* (Fig. 15; IAA 2001-2894).— A well-preserved steatite scarab (Brandl 1991) was found inside the large open bowl with hooks in Tomb 1 (see Fig. 9:1). This is a royal-name scarab of Neferhotep I, one of seven kings in the middle of the Thirteenth Dynasty, to whom a group of scarab seals, known as “the Sobhotep group” is ascribed (Ben-Tor 2007:38). Our scarab appears to follow the paternal affiliation (Ryholt 1997:35, Fig. 1, upper right) and it closely resembles two other scarabs of the same king (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 21:4, 16).

The presence of this scarab in Tomb 1 is most likely residual and it appears to have been an heirloom.

#### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The two tombs, excavated in the wake of modern construction at the site, are most likely part of a larger cemetery. Both were built in similar technique, although they differ in size and contents. The smaller of the two tombs,

Tomb 2, contains a fairly coherent group of vessels that is composed of only two jugs and five juglets. It may have served a family, as there were five skulls in the tomb. The tomb did not contain any obvious items of wealth and none of the vessels was unusual. Most of the vessels have comparisons in contexts of the transitional MB I–II, the date to which this tomb is assigned.

The larger and richer Tomb 1 is undoubtedly a large family tomb, whose main figure was a warrior, possibly a high-ranking one. His burial was probably the focal point of the mortuary. His weaponry included a bronze belt, together with a long-tanged dagger, a socket axe and spearheads. It is doubtful whether the toggle pin belonged to the weapons' deposit; it possibly belonged to an interred female who may have been the warrior's wife or perhaps another close relation. At Tell ed-Dab'a, toggle pins were present in both male and female burials, but they always formed part of the artifacts interred with women (Philip 1995:73–74).

The rich pottery assemblage is characterized by an amalgamation of features that can be found in both MB I and MB II assemblages. Representing the MB I are burnished red-slipped juglets and bowls, a thickened open bowl rim, closed carinated bowls and small globular bowls. Features of the transitional MB I–II phase include the ‘stepped’ rim, the prominence of ring and button bases, the minute quantity of globular bowls, and the relatively small number of burnished red-slipped vessels, as well as the ovoid Tell el-Yahudiyeh juglet.

We are thus inclined to date Tomb 1 to the transitional MB I–II, toward the end of the eighteenth century BCE. We propose the following explanation for the presence of MB II elements in the tomb: Although the store jar with the single shoulder handle is a clear representative of MB II, it could have been introduced already in the transitional phase, at least in the northern part of the country, as in Ḥazor, Tomb 1181 (Maier 1997: Fig. IV.9:2) and in Gerstenblith's fourth group from Megiddo (Gerstenblith 1983: Fig. 17:1, 11; referred to



Fig. 15. Tomb 1, scarab.

as a jug). The date of the long-tanged dagger is somewhat more complex. Daggers of this type that are cited by Philip (1989:404–422) come from MB II deposits and none seems to be earlier in date. It is thus somehow odd

to suggest that in this one instance, the long-tanged dagger was deposited at an earlier date than is ordinarily usual. We therefore leave this open and hope that future research may shed light on this subject.

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> The excavation of the tombs, on behalf of the Israel Antiquities Authority (Permit No. A-1656) was directed in 1989 by Mordechai Aviam (surveying and photography), with the assistance of Edna and Eliezer Stern, Fahri Hason, Olga Shorr (pottery restoration), Tsila Sagiv and Clara Amit (studio photography), Carmen Hersch (pottery drawings), Sarel Shalev (metallurgy), Yuval Goren (petrography), Liora Kolska Horwitz (archaeozoology), and Lilly Gershuny (processing the finds and author of the final report).

<sup>2</sup> The chronological terminology used in this article follows Dever 1992: MB I for MB IIA, MB II for MB IIB, and MB III for MB IIC.

<sup>3</sup> At Yoqne'am, Livneh refers to closed carinated bowls during MB IIB, while the reference to the illustration shows an open carinated bowl (Livneh 2005:55, Fig. II.21:1).

<sup>4</sup> Tomb 4663 is assigned to MB I (Ilan 1996:178), although Maier (1997:331, n. 62) uses an earlier publication that assigned the tomb to the transitional MB I–II.

<sup>5</sup> On occasion, the term 'jug-jar' is erroneously applied to regular-sized jugs, such as Maier 2007:264, Fig. 4.5.

<sup>6</sup> This information was kindly provided by Yuval Goren.

<sup>7</sup> This juglet was erroneously thought to have come from 'Afula and, as such, it appears in Kaplan (1980:315). Zevulun (1990: n. 36) pointed out this error.

<sup>8</sup> The ovoid juglets in Bietak's classification (Bietak 1989:19) bear no relation to Kaplan's classification.

<sup>9</sup> This information was kindly provided by Yuval Goren.

<sup>10</sup> My sincere thanks to Baruch Brandl, who assisted in the identification of the belt.

<sup>11</sup> I wish to thank Yossi Levi, who directed the excavation of the Rishon Le-Ziyyon cemetery, for his kind permission to mention the belt from that cemetery.

<sup>12</sup> I am sincerely grateful to Manfred Bietak and Karen Kopetzky for allowing me to view the complete assemblage of d/23 Tomb 1.

<sup>13</sup> Other than the citation by Kutlu Emre in her book on lead figurines (Emre 1971), no details about the bronze belt and its context can be found.

## REFERENCES

- Amiran R. 1953. Khirbet Tell er-Ruweisa in Upper Galilee. *Eretz Israel* 2:117–126 (Hebrew).
- Amiran R. 1969. *Ancient Pottery of the Holy Land from the Neolithic Period to the End of the Iron Age*. Jerusalem.
- Aviam M. 1991. Fassuṭa. *ESI* 9:92.
- Beck P. 2000. Area A: Middle Bronze Age IIA Pottery. In M. Kokhavi. *Aphek-Antipatris I: Excavations of Areas A and B, the 1972–1976 Seasons* (Tel Aviv University Institute of Archaeology Monograph Series No. 19). Tel Aviv. Pp. 173–238.
- Beck P. and Zevulun U. 1996. Back to Square One. *BASOR* 304:64–75.
- Ben-Arieh S. 2004. Middle Bronze Age II Tombs at Kibbutz Sasa, Upper Galilee. *'Atiqot* 46:1\*–22\*.

- Ben-Dor I. 1950. A Middle Bronze Age Temple at Nahariya. *QDAP* 14:1–41.
- Ben-Tor A. and Bonfil R. 2003. The Stratigraphy and Pottery Assemblages of the Middle and Late Bronze Ages in Area A. In A. Ben-Tor, R. Bonfil and S. Zuckerman. *Tel Qashish, a Village in the Jezreel Valley: Final Report of the Archaeological Excavations (1978–1987)* (Qedem Reports 5). Jerusalem. Pp. 185–276.
- Ben-Tor D. 2007. *Scarabs, Chronology, and Interconnections: Egypt and Palestine in the Second Intermediate Period* (OBO Series Archaeologica 27). Göttingen.
- Bietak M. 1979. *Avaris and Piramesse: Archaeological Exploration in the Eastern Nile Delta*. London.
- Bietak M. 1985. Eine Palastanlage aus der Zeit des Späten Reichs und Ander Forschungsergebnisse aus dem Östlichen Nildelta (Tell el-Dab‘a 1979–984). *Verlag der Österreichischer Akademie der Wissenschaft Anzeiger* 121:312–349.
- Bietak M. 1989. Archäologischer Befund und Historische Interpretation am Beispiel der Tell el-Yahudiya-Ware. In S. Schoske ed. *Akten des Vierten Internationale Ägyptologen Kongresses II, München 1985*. Hamburg. Pp. 7–34.
- Bietak M. 1991a. Egypt and Canaan during the Middle Bronze Age. *BASOR* 281:27–72.
- Bietak M. 1991b. Der Friedhof in einem Palastgarten aus der Zeit des Späten mittlern Reiches und andere Forschungsergebnisse aus dem Östlichen Nildelta (Tell el-Dab‘a 1984–1987). *Ägypten und Levante* 2:47–75.
- Brandl B. 1991. Scarab from Tomb 1 at Fassuta. *ESI* 9:92.
- Cole D.P. 1984. *Shechem I: The Middle Bronze Age IIB Pottery* (ASOR Excavation Reports). Winona Lake.
- Covello-Paran K. 1996. Middle Bronze Age Burial Caves at Ha-Goshrim, Upper Galilee. *Atiqot* 30:71–83.
- Damati E. and Stepansky Y. 1996. A Middle Bronze Age II Burial Cave on Mt. Canaan, Zefat (Wadi Hamra). *Atiqot* 29:1\*–29\* (Hebrew; English summary, pp. 107–108).
- Dever W.G. 1975. MBIIA Cemeteries at ‘Ain es-Sâmiyeh and Sinjil. *BASOR* 217:23–36.
- Dever W.G. 1992. The Chronology of Syria-Palestine in the Second Millennium B.C.E.: A Review of Current Issues. *BASOR* 288:1–25.
- Dothan M. 1956. The Excavations at Nahariyah, Preliminary Report (Seasons 1954/55). *IEJ* 6:14–25.
- Emre K. 1971. *Anatolian Lead Figurines and their Stone Moulds*. Ankara.
- Epstein C. 1974. Middle Bronze Age Tombs at Kefar Szold and Ginosar. *Atiqot (HS)* 7:13–39 (English summary, pp. 2\*–6\*).
- Falconer S.E. and Magness-Gardiner B. 1984. Preliminary Report of the First Season of the Tell el-Hayyat Project. *BASOR* 255:49–74.
- Ferembach D., Furshpan A. and Perrot J. 1975. Une Sepulchre Collective du Bronze Moyen II AB a Kh. Minha (Munhata), Israel. In G.M. Landes ed. *Report on Archaeological Work at Sawwānet eth-Thaniya, Tananir and Khirbet Minha (Munhata)* (BASOR Supplement 21). Missoula. Pp. 87–117.
- Frankel R., Gezov N., Aviam M. and Degani A. 2001. *Settlement Dynamics and Regional Diversity in Ancient Upper Galilee: Archaeological Survey of Upper Galilee* (IAA Reports 14). Jerusalem.
- Fruman A. 1983. The Geology of the Galilee. In A. Shmueli, A. Sofer and N. Kleot eds. *The Land of Galilee* 1. Haifa. Pp. 47–74 (Hebrew).
- Garfinkel Y. and Bonfil R. 1990. Graves and Burial Customs of the MB IIA Period in Gesher. *Eretz Israel* 21:132–147 (Hebrew; English summary, p. 106\*).
- Gershuny L. and Eisenberg E. 2005. A Middle Bronze Age Tomb at Tur‘an. *Atiqot* 50:1–17.
- Gerstenblith P. 1983. *The Levant at the Beginning of the Middle Bronze Age* (ASOR Dissertation Series No. 5). Winona Lake.
- Getzov N. and Nagar Y. 2002. MB II Burial Caves in the Western Galilee. In Z. Gal ed. *Eretz Zafon: Studies in Galilean Archaeology*. Jerusalem. Pp. 1–49 (Hebrew; English summary, p. 178\*).
- Gophna R. and Sussman V. 1969. A Middle Bronze Age Tomb at Barqai. *Atiqot (HS)* 5:1–13 (English summary, p. 1\*).
- Guigues P.E. 1937. Léebé‘a, Kafr-Ġarra, Qrayé Nécreopoles de la Région Sidonienne. *BMB* 1:35–76.
- Henschel-Simon E. 1938. The ‘Toggle-Pins’ in the Palestine Archaeological Museum. *QDAP* VI:169–209.
- Ilan D. 1996. The Middle Bronze Age Tombs. In A. Biran, D. Ilan and R. Greenberg. *Dan I: A Chronicle of the Excavations, the Pottery Neolithic, the Early Bronze Age and the Middle Bronze Age Tombs*. Jerusalem. Pp. 161–267.
- Kaplan J. 1955. A Cemetery of the Bronze Age Discovered Near Tel Aviv Harbour. *Atiqot (ES)* 1:1–18.
- Kaplan M.F. 1980. *The Origin and Distribution of Tell el Yahudiyeh Ware* (SIMA 62). Göteborg.
- Kempinski A. 1989. *Megiddo: A City-State and Royal Center in North Israel*. Munich.

- Kempinski A. 2002. Stratigraphy and Architecture II: Area C. In A. Kempinski (N. Scheftelowitz and R. Oren eds.), *Tel Kabri: The 1986–1993 Excavation Seasons* (Tel Aviv University Institute of Archaeology Monograph Series No. 20). Tel Aviv. Pp. 35–54.
- Kempinski A., Gershuny L. and Scheftelowitz N. 2002. Pottery: The Middle Bronze Age. In A. Kempinski (N. Scheftelowitz and R. Oren eds.), *Tel Kabri: The 1986–1993 Excavation Seasons* (Tel Aviv University Institute of Archaeology Monograph Series No. 20). Tel Aviv. Pp. 109–175.
- Kenyon K.M. 1960. *Excavations at Jericho I*. London.
- Kolska Horwitz L. This volume. The Animal Bones from Fassaṭa.
- Levi Y. 1995. Rishon Le-Ziyyon Sand Dunes. *ESI* 13:57–59.
- Livneh A. 2005. The Pottery of the Middle Bronze Age. In A. Ben-Tor, D. Ben-Ami and A. Livneh. *Yoqne'am III: The Middle and Late Bronze Age, Final Report of the Archaeological Excavations (1977–1988)* (Qedem Reports 7). Jerusalem Pp. 41–138.
- Loud G. 1948. *Megiddo II: Seasons of 1935–39* (OIP 62). Chicago.
- Maeir A.M. 1997. Tomb 1181: A Multiple-Interment Burial Cave of the Transitional Middle Bronze Age IIA–B. In A. Ben-Tor and R. Bonfil eds. *Hazor V*. Jerusalem. Pp. 295–340.
- Maeir A.M. 2007. The Middle Bronze Age II Pottery. In A. Mazar and R.A. Mullins eds. *Excavations at Tel Beth-Shean 1989–1996 II: The Middle and Late Bronze Age Strata in Area R*. Jerusalem.
- Matthiae P. 1989. Jugs of the North–Syrian/Cilician and Levantine Painted Wares from the Middle Bronze II Royal Tombs at Ebla. In K. Emre, B. Hrouda, M. Mellink and N. Özgüç eds. *Anatolia and the Ancient Near East*. Ankara. Pp. 303–313.
- Miron E. 1992. *Axes and Adzes from Canaan* (Prähistorische Bronzefunde IX, 19). Stuttgart.
- Özgüç T. and Özgüç N. 1953. *Ausgrabungen in Kültepe*, 1949. Ankara.
- Orton C., Tyres P. and Vince A. 1997 (reprint). *Pottery in Archaeology* (Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology). Cambridge.
- Philip G. 1989. *Metal Weapons of the Early and Middle Bronze Ages in Syria-Palestine* (BAR Int. S. 526). Oxford.
- Philip G. 1991. Cypriot Bronzework in the Levantine World: Conservatism, Innovation and Social Change. *JMA* 4/1:59–107.
- Philip G. 1995. Warrior Burials in the Ancient Near-Eastern Bronze Age: The Evidence from Mesopotamia, Western Iran and Syria–Palestine. In S. Campbell and A. Green eds. *The Archaeology of Death in the Ancient Near East* (Oxbow Monograph Series 51). Oxford.
- Rice P.M. 1987. *Pottery Analysis: A Sourcebook*. Chicago.
- Rye O.S. 1981 (3rd printing 1994). *Pottery Technology* (Manuals on Archaeology 4). Washington, D.C.
- Ryholt K.S.B. 1997. *The Political Situation in Egypt During the Second Intermediate Period c. 1800–1550 B.C.* (Carsten Niebuhr Institute Publications 20). Copenhagen.
- Schaeffer C.F.A. 1938. La neuvième campagne de fouilles à Ras Shamra-Ugarit (printemps 1937): rapport sommaire. *SYRIA* 19:193–327.
- Shalev S. 1989. Middle Bronze Age Toggle-Pins from Kabri. In A. Kempinski ed. *Excavations at Kabri: Preliminary Report of the 1988 Season*. Tel Aviv. Pp. 42–45 (Hebrew; English summary, pp. XIII–XIV).
- Shalev S. 2002. Metal Artifacts. In A. Kempinski (N. Scheftelowitz and R. Oren eds.), *Tel Kabri: The 1986–1993 Excavation Seasons* (Tel Aviv University Institute of Archaeology Monograph Series No. 20). Tel Aviv. Pp. 307–318.
- Shalev S. This volume. The Metal Artifacts from Fassaṭa.
- Sussman V. 1966. Middle Bronze Age Burials at Moza. *'Atiqot (HS)* 3:40–43 (English summary, p. 5\*).
- Thrane H. 1978. *Sūkās IV: A Middle Bronze Age Collective Grave on Tall Sūkās*. Copenhagen.
- Tufnell O. 1958. *Lachish IV: The Bronze Age*. London.
- de Vaux R. and Stève A.M. 1947. La Première Campagne de fouilles à Tell el-Far'ah près de Naplous. *RB* 54:394–433.
- Yadin Y., Aharoni Y., Amiran R., Dothan T., Dothan M., Dunayevsky I. and Perrot J. 1961. *Hazor III–IV: An Account of the Third and Fourth Seasons of Excavations 1957–1958*. Jerusalem.
- Yadin Y., Aharoni Y., Amiran R., Dothan T., Dunayevsky I. and Perrot J. 1958. *Hazor I: An Account of the First Season of Excavations, 1955*. Jerusalem.
- Zevulun U. 1990. Tell el-Yahudiyah Juglets from a Potter's Refuse Pit at 'Afula. *Eretz Israel* 21:174–190 (Hebrew; English summary, p. 107\*).
- Ziffer I. 1990. *At That Time the Canaanites Were in the Land: Daily Life in Canaan in the Middle Bronze Age 2 (2000–1550 B.C.E.)* (Eretz Israel Museum Exhibition Catalogue). Tel Aviv.