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The Coins from Ḥorbat Roẓeẓ

Robert Kool

Ten bronze coins were found during the excavations at Ḥorbat Roẓeẓ (see Yannai, this volume). Nine of these coins were identified.[1] All the coins were found in Stratum II (Byzantine period). Interestingly, no coin finds came from Hellenistic-period Stratum III. Except for two coins—a bronze coin issued in Caesarea under the emperor Commodus (177–192 CE) and one from the fourth–fifth centuries CE (Nos. 1, 2)—all the coins are of the large *follis* type (and its fractions) issued after the Anastasian monetary reform of 498 CE. They comprise a chronologically homogeneous group, dating from Justin I (518–527 CE) until the first years of Heraclius (629/630 CE).

No seventh century Arab-Byzantine or post-reform Umayyad coins were retrieved from the site. This conforms to the date of the pottery finds, which do not post-date the sixth century CE. Consequently, the numismatic evidence strengthens the impression that the settlement ceased to be active after the 630s CE, following the Muslim conquest of the area around this date.

Catalogue

1. Reg. No. 30195, L3045, IAA 74538.
Commodus (177–192 CE), Caesarea.
Obv.: Bust r., bearded, laureate, wearing cuirass.
Rev.: COLP[RI]MA [FLAV]GCAESA Bust of Serapis to r., draped wearing ornamented kalathos, hair confined with a ribbon.
Æ, ↑, 9.76 g, 25 mm.
Cf. Rosenberger 1975:7, No. 45.

2. Reg. No. 30118, L3025, IAA 74537.
Fourth–fifth centuries CE.
Obv.: Bust r.(?)
Rev.: Illegible.
Æ, 0.81 g, 13 mm.

3. Reg. No. 30131, L3006, IAA 74535.
Justin I (518–527 CE).
Obv.: DN IVST[I–NVS PP AVC] Bust r.
Rev.: M above cross; to l. and r., stars; beneath A
Æ *follis*, ↓, 15.41 g, 30 mm.
Cf. *DOC* 1:48, No. 28a.I.

4. Reg. No. 30068/co, L3006, IAA 74533.
Justininian I (527–538 CE).
Obv.: [DN IVSTIN]I–ANVS PP AV[C] Bust r.
Rev.: M above cross; to l., star.
Æ *follis*, ↑, 10.95 g, 27 mm.
DOC 1:78, No. 28a.1.

5. Reg. No. 30054, L3005, IAA 74534.
Justininian I, Antioch (529 CE).
Obv.: DN IVSTIN[I] –NVS] PP AVC Bust r.
Rev.: M above cross; to l. and r., stars; beneath A
In ex.: +THEUP[+]
Æ *follis*, ↓, 13.11 g, 32 mm.
Cf. *MIBE* 1:143, No. 126.

6. Reg. No. 30008/c, L3000, IAA 74530.
Justininian I (538–565 CE).

Obv.: Bust r.
Rev.: I on l. side: ANNO
Æ decanumium, ↓, 3.11 g, 15 mm.
Cf. *MIBE* 1:133, No. 100.
Struck off-flan.

7. Reg. No. 30044/co, L3005, IAA 74531.
Maurice, Constantinople (583/584 CE).
Obv.: [DNM]AC–R[CPPAV] Bust facing, wearing crown with cross.
Rev.: M above cross; on l. side ANNO; on r. side date: II; below E; in ex: CO[N]
Æ follis, ↓, 11.18 g, 28 mm.
Cf. *DOC* 1:303, No. 22d.2.

8. Reg. No. 3022/co, L30105, IAA 74536.
Maurice, Cyzicus (583/584 CE).
Obv.: [O]NTIB[ ] A[---] Facing bust facing.
Rev.: M above cross; on l. side ANNO; on r. side date: II; below B; in ex: KYZ
Æ follis, ↓ 12.33 g, 30 mm.
Cf. *DOC* 1:330, No. 119.I.

9. Reg. No. 30044/co, L3005, IAA 74532.
Heraclius, Constantinople (629/630 CE).
Obv.: Two emperors stg., each holding long cross.
Rev.: K on l. side ANNO; below △
Æ half follis, ↓ 5.06 g, 20 mm.
DOC 2/1:303, No. 119.c.I.

NOTE

[1] The coins were cleaned by Ella Altmark in the IAA laboratories and photographed by Sandu Mendrea.

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Yannai E. This volume. A Salvage Excavation at Ḥorbat Roẓeẓ.