

Abstract

This thesis deals with the ostraca from Samaria, one of the most significant archeological discovery from the point of view of religious life in northern Israel. The thesis briefly introduces the religious world of Israel Region (Egypt, Mesopotamia and Canaan) and of Israel itself. The main focus of this thesis relates to the Samaria ostraca and the main emphasis is placed on the names of recipients and owners that can be found in ostraca trees which are consequently compared to the religious situation in Israel during 8th century BC (the approximate period to which the formation of ostraca are dated). Final chapters try to complete the main purpose which is outlined in the main part of the thesis (Dating of ostraca, Kuntillet Adžrud, Bull in Old Orient). It tries to seek for possible parallels between biblical and historical texts, archeological discoveries and the ostraca themselves. In the Annex can be found tables from years 9, 10 and 15 which contains number of ostrakon, names of owners and recipients. In conclusion of the thesis is talking about polytheism in northern Israel at 8th century BC.