



DEI Deutsches Evangelisches Institut
für Altertumswissenschaft des Heiligen Landes
German Protestant Institute of Archaeology (GPIA)
Forschungsstelle des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts (DAI)

For more information, see under:

www.deiahl.de

How to contact us:

German Protestant Institute of Archaeology / Jerusalem
Prof. Dr. Dr. Dieter Vieweger, Director General
Auguste-Victoria-Compound (P.O.Box 18 463)
Jerusalem 91184
Israel/Palestine
Phone: 009 72 / 2 / 628 47 92
Fax: 009 72 / 2 / 628 73 88
dei_ger@netvision.net.il

German Protestant Institute of Archaeology / Amman
Dr. Jutta Häser, Director
P.O. Box 183
11118 Amman
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Phone: 00962 / 6 / 534 29 24
Fax: 00962 / 6 / 533 69 24
gpia@go.com.jo

Geschäftsführung des DEIAHL
Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland
Herrenhäuser Straße 12
30419 Hannover
Germany
Phone: 0049 / 511 / 27 96 224
Fax: 0049 / 511 / 27 96 99 224



The Institute

The German Protestant Institute of Archaeology (GPIA) operates in two locations – Jerusalem and Amman. Its high reputation as cultural institution, help desk, and meeting place for European scholars makes it a sought-after partner for cooperation between German and international organizations and projects. The GPIA is a foundation administered by the German Protestant Church. At the same time, it serves as a research unit of the German Institute of Archaeology (DAI) and receives financial support from the German Foreign Ministry.



*The logo of the GPIA
(after a mosaic in the church of the prophet Elijah in Madaba)*

History

The GPIA was founded on June 19, 1900 by the Deutsche Evangelische Kirchenkonferenz in Eisenach in order to "maintain, further and regulate the relations between the holy places of biblical history, on the one hand, and between the scientific inquiry and the interests of the Christian faith of the Protestant Church, on the other, in the fields of biblical and ecclesiastical archaeology."

Gustaf Dalman – then Professor of Old Testament and Judaic Studies at the University of Leipzig – was appointed first director and built up the Jerusalem institute. The changed situation after the Six Day War in June 1967 necessitated the establishment of the Amman institute. In 1982, the institute in Jerusalem moved to new buildings at the Auguste-Victoria-Compound on the Mount of Olives.

Aims

The GPIA engages in the scientific study of the Holy Land on both sides of the Jordan River and disseminates the most recent knowledge about the archaeology and culture of this region to the broad public. The primary aims of the institute and important elements of the German cultural activities are the yearly study courses, the promotion of young scholars, the realization of the institute's own archaeological projects as well as the support of the Protestant congregation at both locations. This fosters close relations with the cultural institutions in the host countries.

Research Activities

For more than 100 years the GPIA has occupied a prominent place in the field of archaeological and ethnographical research in the Holy Land. Since the 1980s, researchers of the GPIA and the DAI have been working together in the systematic investigation of the settlement layout of the ancient Decapolis city of Gadara in northern Jordan. Together they maintain a "dig house" used by many archaeological expeditions, which is located on the edge of the remains of the acropolis of Gadara.



Tall Zirā'a in the Wadi el-'Arab (2005)

Tall Zirā'a – the project of the GPIA

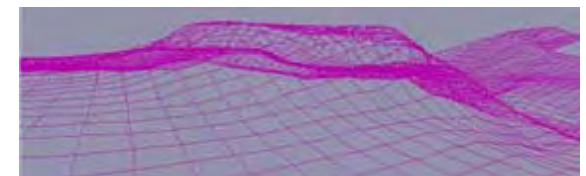
Together with the Biblical Archaeological Institute in Wuppertal (www.bainst.de), the GPIA conducts the „Gadara Region Project.“ This project investigates the Wadi el-'Arab, which is an area rich in archaeological sites, located where the borders of three countries converge, Jordan, Syria and Israel. In the Wadi el-'Arab region, which extends over more than 25 km² and is of exceptional importance as a trade route

between the Mediterranean and Transjordan as well as southern Syria, more than 100 archaeological sites could be identified in a survey. The most promising site is Tall Zirā'a. Since 2001, the fascinating history of Palestine, spanning more than 5000 years, is being uncovered there. Investigations of the agricultural potential and water management supplement the excavation project. The use of archaeometric methods in cooperation with leading German research institutions will produce new research results on the history of technology in the Near East. The results are verified with the help of experimental archaeology.



Analyses of the pottery in Umm Qais

In the geophysical survey of Tall Zirā'a, state-of-the-art methods of geophysical prospection were used, e.g., terrestrial photogrammetry, geoelectrical mapping, and two- as well as three-dimensional tomographic techniques.



Tall Zirā'a as threedimensional modell

Donations

Your donation will support our intercultural work. Receipts are given confirming the use of your donation for scientific purposes. Donation Account: 300 660 060 at EKK Hannover (BLZ 520 604 10), IBAN DE 69 5206 0410 0300 5600 60.