

CURRICULUM VITAE

Rebecca Biton

Updated: February, 2021



1. HIGHER EDUCATION

1998-2000, Bachelor (B.A.), The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Institute of Archaeology (major in Prehistory) and Geography Department.

2002-2004 and 2008-2010, Master (M.A.), The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Institute of Archaeology - major in Prehistory (Family issues required a pause in my studies). Supervisors: Prof. Nigel Goring-Morris – The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Prof. Yuval Goren – Tel Aviv University.

Title of Master's Thesis: “The Clay Repertoire from the Pre-Pottery Neolithic Site – Kfar HaHoresh: Not Just the Usual Bull”.

2011-2017, Doctorate (Ph.D.), The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Institute of Archaeology - major in Archaeozoology. Supervisor: Prof. Rivka Rabinovich
Title of Ph.D. Thesis: “An Archaeozoological Study of Amphibians and Reptiles from Pleistocene Archaeological Sites in the Hula Valley, Israel.”

2017-2018, Post-Doctorate, University of Turin (Italy), Department of Earth Sciences, Paleontological Working Group. Host: Prof. Massimo Delfino - University of Turin (Italy).

Title of Research: “The Mediterranean Turtles: from Osteology to Zooarchaeology”

2018-2019, Post-Doctorate, The Hebrew University Jerusalem, National Natural History Collections.

Title of Research: “The Exploitation of Lizards and Snakes in the Palaeolithic Southern Levant.”.

2019-2021, Post-Doctorate, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Department of Bible, Archaeology & Ancient Near East.

Title of Research: “The Application of Novel Analytical Methods for the Study of Cooking / Roasting Processes of Reptiles from Prehistoric Sites”.

2. ACADEMIC TEACHING

Courses Taught

2016/2017, 2018/2019, 2020/2021 “The archeology of animal remains: human-animal-environment relations” for Bachelor’s students, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (course number 135-100-45).

2009-2012, teaching assistant of high school students and school teachers, part of curriculum studies of Biology (Nature Park & Galleries, the open-campus museum of the Hebrew University).

3. COMPETITIVE RESEARCH GRANTS

2019, Irene Levi-Sala CARE Archaeological Foundation, “The Exploitation of Legless Lizards (The European Glass Lizard, *Pseudopus apodus*) at Kebara Cave”, 4,500 USD.

2015, Ruth Amiran fund for Archaeological Research in Eretz Israel, “The turtle assemblage from Eynan”, 5,700 ILS.

2014, Irene Levi-Sala CARE Archaeological Foundation, “Amphibians and reptiles from Nahal Mahanayem Outlet (NMO); retrieving method and tortoise study”, 1,500 USD.

2014, Ruth Amiran fund for Archaeological Research in Eretz Israel, Overseas conference funding “Archaeozoological studies of amphibians and reptiles”, 2,000 USD.

2014, The Zoology Society of Israel - Overseas conference attending funding “New insights into function, biogeography and evolutionary history of *Latonia* based on *Latonia nigriventer* osteology study”, 2,000 ILS.

2012, Synthesys - Taxonomic Access Facilities (TAF), “Pliocene and Quaternary herpetofauna of Israel - a key to future conservation and palaeoenvironment reconstruction”, 2,500 USD

2012, Ruth Amiran fund for Archaeological Research in Eretz Israel, “Amphibians and reptiles from the Hula Valley”, 16,650 ILS.

4. PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES

Referee of peer-reviewed journals

Since 2017, The Herpetological Journal.

Since 2018, Paläontologische Zeitschrift.

Since 2020, Historical Biology

Referee of Ph.D. Dissertations

2020, ROVIRA I VIRGILI UNIVERSITY, Tarragona (Spain).

Conference Work

2020, Scientific Committee, the 3rd meeting of the Microvertebrate Working Group (ICAZ, International Conference of Archaeozoology). Tarragona (Spain)

2014, Co-organizer (with Krister T. Smith) of a session on Archaeozoological Studies of Amphibians and Reptiles, The 12th ICAZ International Conference of Archaeozoology, San Rafael (Argentina).

2014, Coordinator (with Brizuela, S.) of a session on Cenozoic Vertebrates, the 4th IPC International Palaeontological Conference, Mendoza (Argentina).

5. SHORT STAYS FOR RESEARCH IN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTES

December 2019, The Catalan Institute of Human Paleocology and Social Evolution (IPHES), Tarragona (Spain)

September 2019, National Museum of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)

December 2018, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Paris (France)

September 2015, Senckenberg Research Institute, Frankfurt am Main (Germany)

September 2015, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Paris (France)

March and June 2012, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Paris (France)

March 2011, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Paris (France)

April 2004, Maison de l'Orient et de la Méditerranée, Lyon (France)

6. OTHERS

Competitive Awards and Scholarships

- 2019-2021, Post-doctoral Fellowships, Kreitman School for Advanced Research Studies, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.
- 2017-2018, Post-doctoral Fellowships for Outstanding Female Doctoral Students, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2017-2018, Vigevani Post-doctoral Prize, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2013-2016, Kaye-Einstein Fellowship, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2012-2016, President's (HaNasi) Scholarship program for excellence, Harry and Lillian Freedman Endowment Fund, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2012, David Gita & Michael Hoffman Memorial Scholarships in Archeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
- 2011, The Israel Taxonomy Initiative (ITI) – Overseas training in the Herpetofauna osteological collections at Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (MNHN), Paris.
- 2005, The Avraham and Rachel Negev Award of excellence, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Membership in Professional associations

International Council for Archaeozoology (ICAZ)

Israel Prehistoric Society

Main Field Campaigns

- 2013, Excavation at Erq El Ahmar (EEA) an Elephant from the Pliocene site.
- 2010-2014, Excavations at Nahal Mahanayem Outlet (NMO) a Middle Paleolithic site.
- 2003, Excavation at Motza a Neolithic site
- 2002-2004, Excavation at the PPNB site of Kfar Hahores.
- 1998, Excavation at the coastal site of Tel-Dor.

7. PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Articles in Scientific Journals

1. **Biton, R.**, Bailon, S., Birkenfeld, M., Bridault, A., Khalaily, H., Valla, F.R., Rabinovich, R. (In Press)
The anurans and squamates assemblage from final Natufian Eynan ('Ain Mallaha, Israel) with an emphasis on snake-human interactions. *Plos One*.
2. Maul. L. Rabinovich, R., **Biton, R.** 2020. At the southern fringe: Extant and fossil water voles of the genus *Arvicola* (Rodentia, Cricetidae, Arvicolinae) from Israel, with the description of a new Species. *Historical Biology*. DOI: 10.1080/08912963.2020.1827240
3. Sharon, G., Grosman, L., Allué, E., Barash, A. Bar-Yosef, D. E., **Biton, R.**, Bunin, E. J., Langgut, D., Melamed, Y., Mishke, S., Valletta, F., Munro, N. D., 2020. Jordan River Dureijat: 10,000 Years of Intermittent Epipaleolithic Activity on the Shore of Paleolake Hula. *PaleoAnthropology* 2020: 34–64.
4. **Biton, R.**, Bailon, S., Sharon, G., Goren-Inbar, N., Rabinovich, R. 2019. Pleistocene Amphibians and Squamates from the Upper Jordan Rift Valley: Assemblages from Gesher Benot Ya'aqov (MIS 18-20) and Nahal Mahanayem Outlet (MIS 4/3). *Quaternary Research* 91:345–366.
5. Borvon, A., Bridault, A., **Biton, R.**, Rabinovich, R., Prevost, M., Khalaily, H., Valla, F. R. 2018. Finding of trout (*Salmo cf. trutta*) in the Northern Jordan Valley (Israel) at the end of the Pleistocene: Preliminary results. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 18: 59–64.
6. **Biton, R.**, Sharon, G., Oron, M., Steiner, T., Rabinovich, R. 2017. Freshwater turtle or tortoise? The exploitation of testudines at the Mousterian site of Nahal Mahanayem Outlet, Hula Valley, Israel. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 14: 409–419.
7. **Biton, R.**, Boistel, R., Rabinovich, R., Gafny, S., Brumfeld, V., Bailon, S. 2016. Osteological observations on the Alytid Anura *Latonia nigriventer* with comments on functional morphology, biogeography, and evolutionary history, *Journal of Morphology* 277: 1131–1145.
8. Marder, O., **Biton, R.**, Boaretto, E., Feibel, C.S, Melamed, Y., Mienis, H.K., Rabinovich, R., Zohar, I., Sharon G. 2015. Jordan River Dureijat - A new Epipaleolithic site in the Upper Jordan Valley. *Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society* 45: 5–31.
9. **Biton, R.**, Goren, Y., Goring-Morris, A.N. 2014. Ceramics in the Levantine Pre-Pottery Neolithic B: Evidence from Kfar HaHoresh, Israel, *Journal of Archaeological Science* 41: 740–748.
10. Bocquentin, F., Khalaily, H., Bar-Yosef Mayer, D. E., Berna, F., **Biton, R.**, Boness, D., DuBreuil, L., Emery-Barbier, A., Greenberg, H., Goren, Y., Horwitz, L. K., Le Dosseur, G., Lernau, O., Mienis, H.K., Valentin, B., Samuelien, N. 2014. Renewed Excavations at Beisamoun: Investigating the 7th

Millennium cal. B.C. of the Southern Levant, *Journal of the Israel Prehistoric Society* 44: 5–100.

11. **Biton, R.**, Geffen, E., Vences, M., Cohen, O., Bailon, S., Rabinovich, R., Malka, Y., Oron, T., Boistel, R., Brumfeld, V., Gafny, S. 2013. The rediscovered Hula painted frog is a living fossil, *Nature Communications* 4. Article 1959.
12. Rabinovich, R., Ackermann, O., Aladjem, E., Barkai, R., **Biton, R.**, Milevski, I., Solodenko, N., Marder, O. 2012. Elephants at the Middle Pleistocene Acheulian open-air site of Revadim Quarry, Israel, *Quaternary International* 276-277: 183–197.
13. Zohar, I., **Biton, R.** 2011. Land, lake, and fish: Investigations of fish remains from Gesher Benot Ya'aqov (Paleo-Lake Hula), *Journal of Human Evolution* 60: 343–356.
14. Rabinovich, R., **Biton, R.** 2011. Early–Middle Pleistocene faunal assemblages of Gesher Benot Ya'aqov — Inter-site variability, *Journal of Human Evolution* 60: 357–374.
15. Alperson-Afil, N., Sharon, G., Kislev, M., Melamed, Y., Zohar, I., Ashkenazi, S., Rabinovich, R., **Biton, R.**, Werker, E., Hartman, G., Feibel, C., Goren-Inbar, N. 2009. Spatial Organization of Hominin Activities at Gesher Benot Ya'aqov, Israel, *Science* 326: 1677–1680.
16. Ashkenazi, S., Motro U., Goren-Inbar, N., **Biton, R.**, Rabinovich, R. 2005. New morphometric parameters for assessment of body size in the fossil freshwater crab assemblage from the Acheulian site of Gesher Benot Ya'aqov, *Journal of Archaeological Science* 32: 675–689.

Chapters in Collective Volumes

1. Horwitz, L. K, **Biton, R.** 2020. The faunal remains from Cave T1. In Maeir, A. M., and Uziel, J. (eds.). *Tell es-Safi/Gath II: Excavation Reports and Studies*. Ägypten und Altes Testament. Münster: Zaphon, pp. 245-250.
2. Goren, Y., **Biton, R.** 2010. Technology of the fired clay objects from Gilgal I. In Bar-Yosef, O., Goring-Morris, A.N. and Gopher, A. (eds.). *Gilgal: Early Neolithic Occupation in the Lower Jordan Valley. The Excavations of Tamar Noy*. ASPR & David Brown/Oxbow, Oakville, CT. pp.217–221.
3. Zohar, I., **Biton, R.** 2009. Fish speciation and endemism in the Paleo Lake Hula, Israel. In Makowiecki, D., Hamilton-Dyer, S., Riddler, I., Trzaska-Nartowski, N. and Makohonienko, M. (eds.). *Environment and Culture: Fishes – Culture – Environment Through Archaeoichthyology, Ethnography & History*. Vol. 7: 131–134; 15th Meeting of the Fish Remains Working Group of ICAZ, Poznan, Poland.

8. LECTURES PRESENTED AT SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

1. **Biton, R.**, Bailon, S.
Frogs, Lizards and Snakes from Eynan - Background Fauna or More? *The 14th International Meeting of the ASWA working group of ICAZ.*, Barcelona, Spain, June 2019.
2. **Biton, R.**, Bailon, S.
Frogs, Lizards and Snakes from Eynan - Background Fauna or More? *New Aspects of The Human Occupation at The End of the Pleistocene at Eynan/Ain Mallaha*, Nanterre, France, May 2019
3. **Biton, R.**, Gonen, S., Rabinovich, R.
Amphibians and Squamates from the Hula Valley Pleistocene: Assemblages from Gesher Benot Ya'aqov and Nahal Mahanayem Outlet. *The Israel Prehistoric Society annual meeting*, Tel-Aviv, Israel, December 2016.
4. **Biton, R.**, Bailon, S., Rabinovich, R.
Amphibians and Squamates from Gesher Benot Ya'aqov and Nahal Mahanayem Outlet: Two Pleistocene Archaeological Sites in the Hula Valley, Alcalá de Henares (Madrid), Spain, *1st Meeting of the ICAZ Microvertebrate Working Group*, September 2016.
5. Bailon, S. **Biton, R.**, Boistel, R.
Données fossiles – données moléculaires, la bonne entente : le cas du « Discoglosse » d'Israël (*Latonia nigriventer*), Toulouse, France, *43e Congrès de la Société Herpétologique de France*, October 2015.
6. **Biton, R.**, Sharon, G., Steiner, T., Oron, M., Rabinovich, R.
The tortoises and turtles from the Mousterian site Nahal Mahanayem Outlet. *The 17th Galilee Research Conference*, Tel-Hai, Israel, April 2015.
7. **Biton, R.**, Sharon, G., Steiner, T., Oron, M., Rabinovich, R.
The turtles from Nahal Mahanayem Outlet a Mousterian site: An anthropogenic assemblage? *The Israel Prehistoric Society annual meeting*, Beer Sheva, Israel, December 2014.
8. **Biton, R.**, Boistel, R., Brumfeld, V., Rabinovich, R., Bailon, S.
New insights into function, biogeography and evolutionary history of *Latonia* based on *Latonia nigriventer* osteology study, Mendoza, Argentina, *4th International Palaeontological Congress IPC*, October 2014.
9. **Biton, R.**, Steiner, T.
Turtles from late Pleistocene sites in the Hula Valley, Israel: palaeoecology and human exploitation, *12th International Conference of Archaeozoology ICAZ*, San Rafael, Argentina, September 2014.
10. Weissbrod, L., **Biton, R.**, Tsatskin, A., Zaidner, Y.

Microvertebrate remains in the sedimentary context of the Middle Paleolithic open-air site of Nesher Ramla, Israel, *12th International Conference of Archaeozoology ICAZ*, San Rafael, Argentina, September 2014.

11. **Biton, R.**

Amphibians and reptiles from Pleistocene archaeological sites in the Hula Valley, *President's (HaNasi) program for excellence at the Faculty of Humanities in the Hebrew University of Jerusalem - annual meeting*, Jerusalem, Israel, June 2014.

12. **Biton, R.**, Rabinovich, R., Brumfeld, V., Boistel, R., Bailon, S.

The Hula Painted Frog is the last survivor of an ancient genus, *The Zoological Society of Israel annual meeting*, Tel Aviv, Israel, December 2013.

13. **Biton, R.**, Rabinovich, R.

The faunal assemblages from Paleo-Hula Lake, *The effect of climate change on the environment and hominins of the Upper Jordan Valley between ca.800Ka and 700Ka ago as a basis for prediction of future scenarios- Academia Scientiarum Israelitica*, Jerusalem, Israel, May 2013.

14. Goldstein, M., Rabinovich, R., **Biton, R.**

Taphonomic processes in lake margin environments - micro-vertebrate remains at Gesher Benot Ya'aqov (Area A), Israel: A case study, *11th International Conference of Archaeozoology ICAZ*. Paris, France, August 2010.

15. Goldstein, M., Rabinovich, R., **Biton, R.**

Taphonomic processes in lake margin environments - micro-vertebrate remains at Gesher Benot Ya'aqov (Area A), Israel: A case study. *The Israel Prehistoric Society annual meeting*, Tel-Aviv, Israel, December 2009.

16. Zohar, I., **Biton, R.**,

Fish speciation and endemism in the Paleo Lake Hula, Israel, *15th Meeting of The ICAZ Fish Remains Working Group (FRWG)*. Poznań, Poland, September 2009.

17. Rabinovich, R., **Biton, R.**

The Early-Middle Pleistocene faunal assemblages of Gesher Benot Ya'aqov – taphonomy and paleoenvironment, *Climate Change in the Upper Jordan Valley between Ca. 800 Ka-700 Ka Ago - its impact on the Environment and Hominins and its Potential as a Prediction for Future Scenarios*. Jerusalem, Israel, May 2009.

18. Zohar, I., **Biton, R.**, Goren-Inbar, N.,

Land, lake, and fish: Investigations of fish remains from Gesher Benot Ya'aqov (Paleo-Lake Hula), *Climate Change in the Upper Jordan Valley between Ca. 800 Ka-700 Ka Ago - its impact on the Environment and Hominins and its Potential as a Prediction for Future Scenarios*. Jerusalem, Israel, May 2009.

19. **Biton, R.**, Goring-Morris, N.A.

Death and Ritual at PPNB Kfar HaHoresh. *Figures and People- Religion and Ritual in Israel- Israel Antiquity Authority and Yad Ben-Zvi Annual Meeting*, Jerusalem, Israel, 2005.

20. **Biton, R.**

The clay objects from Kfar HaHoresh: typology and technology. *The Israel Prehistoric Society annual meeting*, Jerusalem, Israel, December 2004.

21. Rabinovich, R., **Biton, R.**, Motro, U.

Sedimentological methods applied in taphonomical research, a case study, the Acheulian site of Gesher Benot Ya'aqov, Israel. *The 7th Meeting of the ASWA working group of ICAZ*. Ankara, Turkey, April. 2004.