

CURRICULUM VITAE

• **Personal details**

Name: Oded Tammuz

Born December 24, 1955; Kfar-Saba, Israel.

Work Address: Department of Bible, Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies,
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Beer-Sheva 84105, Israel +972-(0)8-
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• **Education**

B.A. 1979-1981, Tel-Aviv University, Department of History and Department of
Jewish History.

M.A. 1982-1986. Tel-Aviv University, Department of Jewish History.

Thesis Advisor: Prof. Israel Eph`al

Thesis: 'The Sea as Economic Factor, Aspects in the Maritime Connections of
the Eastern Mediterranean Populace, From the Amarna Age to the Decline of
the Assyrian Empire.'

M.Phil. 1986-1989. Yale University, Department of Near Eastern Languages and
Civilizations.

Ph.D. 1989-1994. Yale University, Department of Near Eastern Languages and
Civilizations.

Dissertation Advisor: William W. Hallo.

Dissertation: 'Archives from Lagaba.'

• **Employment history**

2005 – Present Senior Lecturer, (tenured) Department of Bible, Archaeology and

Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

2003 Senior Lecturer, Department of Bible, Archaeology and Ancient Near
Eastern Studies, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Dr. Oded Tammuz

- 2003 Visiting Professor – Religion Department, Wesleyan University.
- 1996 - 2003 Lecturer, Department of Bible, Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
- 1993-1996 Instructor, Department of Bible, Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
- 1987 Teaching Assistant, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations , Yale University.
- 1983-1986 Teaching Assistant, Department of History of the Jewish People, Tel-Aviv University.

• Professional activities

(a) Positions in academic administration

- 2007-2009 Chair, Department of Bible, Department of Bible, Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
- 2006-2009 Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Bible, Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.
- 2005 Organizer of the Graduate Seminar, Department of Bible, Archaeology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

(b) Professional functions outside universities/institutions

- 2016-present Chair, Israel Society for Assyriology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies.
- 1997- 1998 – Member of the Organizing and Steering committee, Israel Society for Assyriology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies.

(f) Membership in professional/scientific societies

- 2015 Society for Biblical Literature
- 2011 The Society for Military History
- 1997-present Israel Society for Assyriology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies.
- 1994-2016 The International Association for Assyriology
- 1993-2000 - American Oriental Society.

Dr. Oded Tammuz

• Educational activities

(a) Courses Taught

BGU, Bible Department	B.A.	Akkadian for Beginners
	B.A.	Advanced Akkadian
	B.A.	History of Israel from its beginning to the Hellenistic Period
	B.A.	The Land of the Bible: Historical Geography
	B.A.	Ancient Sources and Modern Scholars: The Use and Misuse of Ancient Sources by Modern Scholars.
	B.A.	Between the Rivers: History of the Neo-Assyrian and the- Neo-Babylonian Empires.
	B.A.	The Dawn of History: Mesopotamia in the Third Millennium BCE
	B.A.	Mesopotamia Between The Neo-Babylonian and the Roman Empires
	B.A.	Worlds meet: Assyrians, Arameans, and Greeks in the Ancient Near East, in the First Millennium BCE
Weslyan University		
Department of Religion	B.A.	History of Israel from its beginning to the Hellenistic Period
	B.A.	History of Mesopotamia
Yale University,		
Department of NELC	B.A.	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible
BGU, Bible Department	M.A.	Akkadian Texts (survey)
	M.A.	Sumerian for Beginners
	M.A.	The Mesopotamian Civilization – A survey
	M.A.	Diplomacy and International Relationships in the Ancient Near East
	M.A.	History of the Samaritans
	M.A.	Early Maritime History of the Eastern Mediterranean Seashore

Dr. Oded Tammuz

(b) Research Students

PhD

- 2009 Ilan Abecassis, “And Smote him and, Reigned in his Stead (2Kings 15:30): Political Assassinations in the Ancient Near East . PhD. Dissertation. Ben Gurion University of the Negev.
- 2020 (expected) Shiri Solomon, “The First Edition of the Book of Kings” (Together with Prof. Shamir Yona).
- 2021 (expected) Hagit Shabtai, “The Ephraimite History (Joshua 24–1 Samuel 12): historical-criticism of its origins, redaction and editing processes, and the ideology behind them.” (Together with Prof. Shamir Yona).
- 2020 (expected) Hagar Sadde, “Esagila Chronicle – Redaction, Structure and Meaning.”

M.A.

- 2002 Roni Feingold, Engraved on Stone: Mesopotamian Cylinder Seals and Seal Inscriptions in the Old Babylonian Period. M.A. Thesis, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.
- 2004 Amir Eitan, On Drought, Migration and Territoriality: Reassessment of the Settlement Process in the Highlands of Israel, During the end of the second Millennium B.C.E., M.A. Thesis, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.
- 2005 Asnat Kleiman, Children Adoption in the 2nd Millennium in Mesopotamia, M.A. Ben Gurion University of the Negev.
- 2013 Hagit Shabtai, "Hause of YHWE in Shiloh": Historical and Literary Image of Biblical Shiloh.
- 2019 (Submitted) Nofech Ben Or – “Pseudo Epigraphy in the book of Jeremiah”
- 2019 (expected) Tamar Schiff, “The downfall of Nineveh.”

Awards, Citations, Honors,

(a) Honors, Citation Awards

Dr. Oded Tammuz

1986 Fellowship from the University of Pennsylvania (\$16.000) (Fellowship declined).

1986 Fellowship from Yale University (\$11,000 per anum).

• Scientific Publicatios

h-index – 5

Total number of citations – 152 (Goggle scholar 79; Academia.edu 31; Google search 36; Notification by authors 4; self citations 2)

Total number of citations without self citations – 150

(a) Authored book

1. **Tammuz, Oded.** (Accepted for publication). Texts for Lagaba. (Yale Oriental Series Babylonian Texts) New Haven: Yale University Press (ISBN-10: 0300089856; ISBN-13: 978-0300089851).

(c) Refereed chapters in collective volumes

1. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1998. "Do me a Favor! The Art of Negotiating According to Old Babylonian Letters." Intellectual Life of the Ancient Near East: Papers Presented at the 43rd Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Prague, July 1-5, 1996: Pp. 379-388. (3 citations [Google search; Academia.edu])
- 2*. **Tammuz, Oded.** 2010. Will the Real Sanballat Please Stand Up? In: M. Mor and F. V. Reiterer (eds.) Samaritans: Past and Present, Berlin: De Gruyter: 51-58. (5 Citations [Google search; Academia.edu]).
- 3*. **Tammuz Oded.** 2012. The 'Shipyard Journal' and the 'Customs Account:' An Investigation of the Nature of the Documents, of their Journey and its Circumstances and of the Benefits of Forgotten Lines of Inquiry. In: M. Gruber et al. (eds.) All the Wisdom of the East: Studies in Near Eastern Archaeology and History in Honor of Eliezer D. Oren, Friburg, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht: 73*-82* (Hebrew) .(No citaions)

- 4*. **Tammuz Oded.** Accepted for publication. "Job 40:30-31 and the First Whalers."
In: Gruber et al. (eds.) "Isaac went out. . . to the field" (Genesis 24:63): Studies
in Archaeology and Ancient Cultures in Honor of Isaac Gilead (Archaeopress)

(d) Refereed articles and refereed letters in scientific journals, running numbers

1. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1994. Old Babylonian Bullae in the Israel Museum.
Nouvelles Assyriologiques Breves et Utilitaires 7: 46-47. (1 Citations [Google
search] Journal not rated)
2. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1996. The location of Lagaba. *Revue d'Assyriologie et
d'Archeologie Orientale* 90: 19-25. (8 Citations [Google scholar; Google
search], Jr B; Q2).
3. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1996. Two Small Archives from Lagaba. *Revue
d'Assyriologie et d'Archeologie Orientale* 90: 121-133 (9 Citations, [Google
scholar; google search; Academia.edu] [Jr B; Q2).
4. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1997. IMJ 70.575: A New Variant of Eannatum 22. *Acta
Sumerologica* 19: 229-233. (3 Citations [Google search, Academia.edu]
Journal not rated [discontinued]).
5. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1998. Justice, Justice, Shall You Pursue. *Ugarit Forschungen*
29: 641-653. (No Citations [Google scholar] Jr A).
6. Horowitz, Wayne^{PI} and **Oded Tammuz**^{PI}. 1998. A Multiplication Table for 40
in the Israel Museum, *Israel Exploration Journal* 48: 262-264. (1 Citation,
[Google search] Jr B; Q2)
7. **Tammuz, Oded.** 2000. A Loan Document from Elam, *Revue d'Assyriologie et
d'Archeologie Orientale* 94: 17-19. (5 Citations [Google scholar; Notification
by the author] Jr B; Q2).

Dr. Oded Tammuz

8. **Tammuz, Oded.** 2001. Cuneiform for Beginners. . *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Breves et Utilitaires* 14: 39. (No citations; Journal not rated)
9. **Tammuz, Oded.** 2001. Canaan - A Land Without Limits, Ugarit Forschungen 33: 501-543. (21 Citations [Google scholar; Google search; Academia.edu; self citation: 1] Jr A; Q1).
10. * **Tammuz, Oded.** 2005. Mare Clausum? Sailing Seasons in the Mediterranean in Early Antiquity. *Mediterranean History Journal* 20: 145-162. (59 Citations [Google scholar; Google search; Academia.edu] Jr C; Q3).
- 11* Kahn Dan'el^{PI} and **Oded Tammuz^{PI}**. 2008. Egypt is Difficult to Enter: Invading Egypt – A Game Plan (Seventh – Fourth Centuries BCE), *Journal of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities* 35: 37-66. (27 Citations [Google scholar; Google search; Academia.edu, notification by author] Journal not rated)
- 12.* **Tammuz, Oded.** 2010. The Expansion of the Kingdom of Damascus Under Rezin and Its Aftermath: A Case Study on the Mining of Concealed Information from 'Propogandistic' Sources, *State Archives of Assyria Bulletin* 18: 187-204. (6 citations [Academia.edu, Google search; self citation: 1] Journal not rated)
- 13.* **Tammuz, Oded.** 2011. Disintegration from Above: A Case Study of the History of Southern Phoenicia and Philistia. *Rivista di Studi Fenici.* 39: 177-209 (1 citation [Notification by the author] Jr C; Q3)
- 14.* **Tammuz Oded.** 2013. Punishing a dead villain: The Biblical accounts on the murder of Sennacherib. *Biblische Notizen* 157:101-105. (5 citations [Google scholar; Google search] Journal not rated).
- 15.* **Tammuz, Oded^{PI}** and Baruch Rosen^{PI}. 2016. "Diplomats and Renagades in the Neo-Babylonian Empire" *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Breves et Utilitaires* 30: 50-52. (No citations. Journal not rated)

Dr. Oded Tammuz

- 16.* **Tammuz, Oded.** 2016. "Hosea 10,13b-14b: A Warning about a Rebellion,"
Biblische Notizen 170: 35-49. (2 citations [Academia.edu, Notification by the author]; Journal not rated)
- 17* **Tammuz, Oded.** 2017. "The Evolution of the Boomerang: On Some Meanings of GIŠ.RU." *Ancient Near Eastern Studies* 54, 91-101 (No Citations, Jr A; Q1)
- 18* **Tammuz, Oded,** 2017. "Ps. 78: A Case Study in Redaction as Propaganda," *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 79, 205-221 (1 citations [Notification by the author] Jr A+; Q1)
- 19* Tammuz, Oded, 2018. "All the Goods of Damascus: Reassessing Who Actually Plundered Damascus in the Reign of Adad-nērāri III" Sources, *State Archives of Assyria Bulletin* (Journal not rated).
- 20* Tammuz, Oded, Accepted for Publication, "The Sabbath as the Seventh Day of the Week and a Day of Rest: Since When?" *Zeitschrift für die Alttestamentliche Wissenschaft* (Jr. A+ Q1).
- 21* Tammuz, Oded, Accepted for Publication, "On Ideology and Lions: A Hypothesis on the Authorship of 2 Kgs. 17:7-41, *Ugarit Forschungen* 49: 305-317. (Jr A; Q1).

(f) Unrefereed professional articles and publications

1. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1999. Review of: Elgavish, D. 1998. *The Diplomatic Service in the Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Sources*. Magnes, Jerusalem. *Zion* 54: 379-383.
2. **Tammuz, Oded.** 2000. Review of: Patai, R. 1998. *The Children of Noah: Jewish Seafaring in Ancient Times*, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 120: 658-660. (3 citations [Google scholar])
3. **Tammuz, Oded.** 2004. Review of Joan Goodnick Westenholz, 1997. *Legends of the Kings of Akkade: The Texts*, Winona Lake, Indiana. Eisenbrauns. *Israel Exploration Journal* 54:122-125.

(g) Encyclopedia Articles

1. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1988. Eretz Israel. in: Y. Hofman (ed.) The Israeli Encyclopedia of the Bible. Masada, Tel-Aviv. Vol 1: 102-107.
2. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1988. Fishing and Hunting. in: Y. Hofman (ed.) The Israeli Encyclopedia of the Bible. Masada, Tel-Aviv. Vol 3: 700-704.
3. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1988. War Strategies. in: Y. Hofman (ed.) The Israeli Encyclopedia of the Bible. Masada, Tel-Aviv. Vol 2: 466-474.
4. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1988. Greece. in: Y. Hofman (ed.) The Israeli Encyclopedia of the Bible. Masada, Tel-Aviv. Vol 1: 310-311.
5. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1988. Transportation. in: Y. Hofman (ed.) The Israeli Encyclopedia of the Bible. Masada, Tel-Aviv. Vol 3: 869-890.
6. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1988. Samaritans. in: Y. Hofman (ed.) The Israeli Encyclopedia of the Bible. Masada, Tel-Aviv. Vol 3: 799-804.
7. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1988. Commerce. in: Y. Hofman (ed.) The Israeli Encyclopedia of the Bible. Masada, Tel-Aviv. Vol 2: 453-466.
8. **Tammuz, Oded.** 1992. 30 entries in: Poul, S. (ed) Illustrated Dictionary and Concordance of the Bible. Macmillan, New York.

• **Lectures and Presentations at Meetings and Invited Seminars**

- (b) Presentation of papers at conferences/meetings

Dr. Oded Tammuz

1992. **Oded Tammuz.** The Archive of Marduk-muballit from Lagaba. 202th Meeting of The American Oriental Society, Boston.
1996. **Oded Tammuz.** Do Me a Favor! The Art of Negotiation According to Old Babylonian Letters. 43e Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Prague.
1999. **Oded Tammuz.** On Winter Navigation in the Mediterranean in Antiquity. Mare Nostrum: a Conference on Mediterranean Civilizations, University of Haifa.
2000. **Oded Tammuz.** By the Name of the King and for the Community: On Redistribution of Barley in Babylon. Conference of the Israel Assyriological Society. University of Haifa.
2004. ***Oded Tammuz.** Nehemiah's Memoir: A Fictional Autobiography. 214th conference of the American Oriental Society, San Diego.
2004. ***Oded Tammuz,** From Safe Heavens to Killing Machines: Long-Term Changes in the Attitude of Kings to the Increasing Size of Domestic and Foreign Population. Conference on "Hierarchy and Power in the History of Civilizations," Moscow.
2006. ***Dan'el Kahn and Oded Tammuz.** 2006. "Egypt is Difficult to Enter: Invading Egypt – A Game Plan (Seventh – Fourth Centuries BCE)." 52e Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Münster.
2011. ***Oded Tammuz.** 2011. "Sennacherib's Failure in front of Tyre." The Society for Military History Annual Meeting, Lisle, IL.
2013. ***Oded Tammuz.** 2013. "Job 40:30-31 and the First Whalers." VIII Congresso Internazionale di Studi Fenici e Punici, Carbonia and Sant Antioco, Sardinia.

Dr. Oded Tammuz

2015. ***Oded Tammuz**. 2015. "Boomerang in Image and Text" 61st. Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Geneve and Bern.

Research Grants

2017-2020 - *European Commission Research Executive Agency (BGU participants:

Yuval Goren, PI, Oded Tammuz, CI and Peter Fabian, CI; with other participating universities and institutions).

The Emergence of Copper Pyrotechnology in the West Asia

USD 3,910,676.60 (€ 3,298,256.36; Inclusive. The share of Ben-Gurion

University is unknown as of yet).

• Present academic activities

Pirates and Ship wreckers in early antiquity and the birth of counter measures.

Throughout human history clashes occurred at times between sea born groups and shore dwellers. The clashes themselves are of three types:

- A. A ship in distress, lands on a foreign shore, and locals kill everybody on board and acquire all goods and useful materials that are on the ship (in some cases the ship is plundered by the local authorities but the crew is not harmed). (Hereafter: "Shipwrecking")
- B. A ship (or a flotilla of ships) lands on a shore and lunches an offence against the local inhabitants (Hereafter: "Freebooting").
- C. A merchant ship is caught by a ship of pirates and plundered (Hereafter: Piracy).

Shipwrecking and freebooting are two sides of the same coin. Both activities take place on

the shoreline, are unprovoked violent actions that are motivated by greed and in vast majority not punishable. However, there are some differences between the two:

Shipwrecking is an opportunistic activity and requires very little resources and no organization; on the contrary, freebooting requires considerable resources (ships and crews) organization and hierarchy.

The intensity of both activities is dictated by:

- A. The attitude of the central authority toward these activities, which were either:
 - a. Taking part in the activity, or being engaged in it exclusively.
 - b. Turning a blind eye toward the activity.

Dr. Oded Tammuz

- c. Restrain the activity.
- d. Prohibit the activity
- B. The relative strength of central authority in the port of origin of the pirates and/or the location in which the activity takes place.
- C. The relative strength of the interstate system.

All these variables depend on the strength of the central authorities and there will to impose the rules of civilized society on their subjects and in other cases on themselves. The motive of rulers to act against freebooting and shipwrecking was their basic obligation – to protect their subjects. This motive lead to the countermeasures aimed at reducing or regulating freebooting and shipwrecking.

Contrary to the opinion of Scholars, piracy immersed in a very late period (6th century BCE or even later). The place (Aegean and Tyrrhenian seas) and time of its appearance was caused by a surge of commercial maritime activity in these places in the late 6th century BCE.

The objective of this research is survey the available written sources on shipwrecking and freebooting and piracy and the birth of countermeasures against them.

• Synopsis of research

Throughout my career my research interests were (and still are) developing constantly. I devoted the earlier years of my research to the publication of cuneiform tablets written in Akkadian and Sumerian and belong to various genres of writing (letters, bullae, legal texts, royal inscriptions, Mathematical text and others). Most of these are Old-Babylonian (1900-1600 BCE) but others originated in different periods and locations (#1,3,4,7, and 8 in category d).

Next, I used these texts to pinpoint location of a Babylon town, which was hitherto unknown (# 2 in category d). My exposure to Old Babylonian letters enabled me to use them in order to explore day-to-day interaction between individuals especially strategies of negotiations (# 1 category c).

My activity in the department in teaching history of Israel in Biblical times directed my attention to a new field of research – using non-Biblical (written and archaeological) and Biblical material to shade new light of topics that were already investigated. (These included: The transition of “Canaan” from a Geographic name to an idea (#9 in category d), the last stages in the history of the kingdom of Damascus (#11 in category d), and the

Dr. Oded Tammuz

dawn of whaling which is illuminated by archaeological finds from Sicily and by...the book of Job (#4 in category c).

In the last ten years I have contributed to four different fields: History, Biblical History (described above), Cuneiform and Bible. My main area of interest is history. As a historian my modus operandi is to check truisms that had somehow remained unchecked for many years. The best example is the problem of sailing season and sailing practices in the Mediterranean Sea. The ideas that sailing was conducted only in the summer and that ancient sailors did not venture of to sea but sailed only near the coasts was agreed upon since the publications of F. Braudel and L. Casson. As I have demonstrated (#10 category d) both convictions were wrong. Within this area of interest I also investigated international relations (#5, 12, and 14 in category d), war strategies (#10 in category d), and archives (#4 in category c). As a Biblicist, I am interested in the Biblical text itself its reduction and the reasons for these reductions (#17 in category d). From time to time I return to my basic interest in cuneiform and use texts to reconstruct material culture (#16 in category d).