

LC Collections Enrich Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit

In December 1991, Mark Talisman, the President of Washington D.C.'s Project Judaica Foundation, approached the Library of Congress on behalf of the Israel Antiquities Authority with a proposal to mount an exhibition of Dead Sea Scrolls. That initial contact led to a fruitful collaboration between the Library of Congress, the Israel Antiquities Authority, the New York Public Library, and the M.H. de Young Memorial Museum in San Francisco. The outcome of that collaboration, "Scrolls from the Dead Sea: The Ancient Library of Qumran and Modern Scholarship," is on view through August 1 in the gallery of the James Madison Memorial Building.

The proposal to mount a Dead Sea Scroll exhibit came on the heels of the very public squabble concerning scholarly access to the unpublished fragmentary Dead Sea Scrolls in the custody of the Israel Antiquities Authority. In late August 1991, two scholars affiliated with Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati--Ben Zion Wacholder and Martin Abegg--published a computer reconstruction of various texts using a decades-old concordance. In September of that year, the Huntington Library, responding to the public outcry, acted unilaterally and opened its microfilms of the Dead Sea Scrolls to the public. And finally, Hershel Shanks, the publisher of *Biblical Archaeology Review*, produced a two-volume facsimile edition of the scrolls. The exhibit that was proposed to LC by the Authority would include scrolls from the very collection that had been the subject of the heated public debate and controversy.

From the outset, the organizers viewed the scroll exhibit as an opportunity to showcase related materials from the collections of each of the respective venues. "Scrolls from the Dead Sea," therefore, highlights not only the scrolls and artifacts on loan from the Israel Antiquities Authority, but also books, manuscripts, photographs, maps, atlases, prints, and even newsreel footage, from the special and general collections of the Library of Congress. Two types of materials were selected to augment the Israeli materials: (1) rarities from the special collections housed in PSCMI and (2) examples of "modern scholarship"--that is, monographs and specialized studies on the exhibited scrolls from the General Collections. The New York Public Library and the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum will follow suit and include materials from their own collections (or materials borrowed from other collections) to supplement the Israeli objects that will form the common nucleus of each venue's exhibition.

The LC materials have been used to highlight a variety of subjects. To illustrate the the chain of transmission of the biblical text, we have placed alongside the two-thousand-year-old Dead Sea Psalm Scroll, a facsimile of the tenth-century Aleppo Codex (which until the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls was the earliest known Hebrew Bible manuscript) and the first Hebrew printed edition of the Psalms from 1477--both from the Library's Hebraic collections. A series of views of the Holy Land from atlases and maps from the Geography and Map Division, as well as a 19th-century panorama of Jerusalem

from the Prints and Photographs Division, provide visitors with a sense of place for the scrolls and artifacts. Early editions of Flavius Josephus and Pliny the Elder from the Rare Book and Special Collections Division are displayed in the exhibition section that treats the possible Essene identification of the Qumran community. The Leviticus Scroll, written in the paleo-Hebrew script, is grouped with an 18th-century Torah Scroll and a 19th-century Samaritan Bible manuscript (written in a script similar to the paleo-Hebrew)--all opened to same verses in Leviticus.

Of special interest, are the materials connected with the Library of Congress' first Dead Sea Scroll exhibition in October 1949. A newsreel from the Motion Pictures, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division, titled "Library of Congress ... Oldest Known Bible Scrolls on Display," documents the delivery of the scrolls to the national library, the unrolling of the Isaiah Scroll in the Whitall Pavilion by the Metropolitan of Jerusalem's Syrian Jacobite Church, and the opening of the three-scroll exhibition in the Great Hall of the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building. Completing this section on "LC and the Scrolls" are photographs and memoranda documenting the event from the Manuscript Division.

Interspersed throughout are examples of modern Dead Sea Scroll research drawn from the General Collections. The exhibition features scholarly monographs on the Psalm Scroll, the Book of Enoch, Leviticus, the Damascus Document, the Songs of the Sabbath Sacrifice, the Community Rule, the phylactery text, the Calendar Scroll, the Hosea Commentary, and the War Rule. A section on the "Dead Sea Scrolls in Translation" includes Indonesian, Japanese, Arabic, Serbo-Croatian, Russian, and Yiddish versions from the Library's Area Studies collections as well as from its General Collections.

Listed below are the supplementary materials from the Library's collections that are included in the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibition. The Israel Antiquity Authority's scrolls and archaeological artifacts are enumerated in the published exhibition catalog, **Scrolls from the Dead Sea: An Exhibition of Scrolls and Artifacts from the Collections of the Israel Antiquities Authority** (Washington, 1993).

Michael W. Grunberger

Head, Hebraic Section



Selected Readings

Official Series

Discoveries in the Judaean Desert. 9 vols. to date. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1955-.
Vol. I: Barthelemy, D., and J. T. Milik. *Qumran Cave I*. 1955.

Vol. II: Benoit, P., J. T. Milik, and R. de Vaux. *Les Grottes de Murabba'at*. 1961.

Vol. III: Baillet, M., J. T. Milik, and R. de Vaux. *Les 'Petites Grottes' de Qumran* . 1962.

Vol. IV: Sanders, J. A. *The Psalms Scroll of Qumran Cave II (IIQPsa)* . 1965.

Vol. V: Allegro, J. M. *Qumran Cave 4: I (4Q158-4Q186)* . 1968.

Vol. VI: De Vaux, R., and J. T. Milik. *Qumran Grotte 4: II (Archeologie et 4Q128-4Q157)* . 1977.

Vol. VII: Baillet, M. *Qumran Grotte 4: III (4Q482-4Q520)*. 1982.

Vol. VIII: Tov, E. *The Greek Minor Prophets Scroll from Nahal Hever (8HevXIIgr) (The Seiyal Collection I)* . 1990.

Vol. IX: Skehan, P., E. Ulrich, and J. Sanderson, with a contribution by P. J. Parsons. *Qumran Cave 4: IV. Palaeo- Hebrew and Greek Biblical Manuscripts* . 1992.

Transcriptions, Reproductions, and Reconstructions

The Dead Sea Scrolls on Microfiche: A Comprehensive Facsimile Edition of the Texts from the Judean Desert. Edited by E. Tov. Printed catalog by S. Reed. Israel Antiquities Authority. Leiden: E. J. Brill, forthcoming.

A Facsimile Edition of the Dead Sea Scrolls . Prepared with an introduction and index by R. Eisenman and J. Robinson. 2 vols. Washington, D.C.: Biblical Archaeology Society, 1991. Introduction in English. Facsimiles primarily in Hebrew and Aramaic.

A Preliminary Edition of the Unpublished Dead Sea Scrolls: The Hebrew and Aramaic Texts from Cave Four . Reconstructed and edited by B. Wacholder and M. Abegg. 2 fascs. Washington, D.C.: Biblical Archaeology Society, 1991-92.

The Scroll of the War of the Sons of Light Against the Sons of Darkness. Edited by Y. Yadin. Translated by B. and C. Rabin. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1962.

Scrolls from Qumran Cave I: The Great Isaiah Scroll, the Order of the Community, the Peshar to Habakkuk. Photographs by J. Trever. Jerusalem: Albright Institute of Archaeological Research and the Shrine of the Book, 1972.

The Temple Scroll. Edited by Y. Yadin. 3 vols. Jerusalem: Israel Exploration Society, 1977-83. Translation of Megilat-ha-mikdash. Contents: v. 1. Introduction -- v. 2. Text and commentary -- v. 3. Plates and text; supplementary plates (2 v.).

General Sources

Baumgarten, J. **Studies in Qumran Law. Studies in Judaism in Late Antiquity**, vol. 24. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1977.

Cross, F. **The Ancient Library of Qumran and Modern Biblical Studies**. The Haskell Lectures, 1956-57. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1958.

----- . "The Development of the Jewish Scripts." In **The Bible and the Ancient Near East: Essays in Honor of William Foxwell Albright**. Edited by G. Wright. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1961.

The Damascus Document Reconsidered. Edited by M. Broshi. Jerusalem: Israel Exploration Society and Shrine of the Book, 1992.

The Dead Sea Scrolls: Forty Years of Research. Edited by D. Dimant and U. Rappaport. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1992.

De Vaux, R. **Archaeology and the Dead Sea Scrolls**. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1973. English translation from the French.

Fitzmyer, J. **The Dead Sea Scrolls: Major Publications and Tools for Study**. Society of Biblical Literature Resources for Biblical Study, no. 20. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1990.

----- . **Responses to 101 Questions on the Dead Sea Scrolls**. New York: Paulist Press, 1992.

Flusser, D. **Judaism and the Origins of Christianity**. Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 1988.

Golb, N. "The Dead Sea Scrolls: A New Perspective." **The American Scholar** 58 (Spring 1989):177-207.

Qumran and the History of the Biblical Text. Edited by F. Cross and S. Talmon. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1975.

Schechter, S. **Documents of Jewish Sectaries**. 1910. Reprint. Library of Biblical Studies. New York: KTAV Publishing House, 1970.

Schiffman, L. *The Halakhah at Qumran* . **Studies in Judaism in Late Antiquity**, vol. 16. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1975.

Scrolls from the Dead Sea: An Exhibition of Scrolls and Archeological Artifacts from the Collections of the Israel Antiquities Authority. Edited by A. Sussman and R. Peled. Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress in association with the Israel Antiquities Authority, 1993. Catalog issued in conjunction with an exhibition held at the Library of Congress, Apr. 29-Aug. 1, 1993.

Talmon, S. **The World of Qumran from Within: Collected Studies**. Jerusalem: Magnes Press; Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1989.

Tov, E. "The Unpublished Qumran Texts from Caves 4 and 11." **Journal of Jewish Studies** 43 (Spring 1992):101-36.

Understanding the Dead Sea Scrolls: A Reader from the Biblical Archaeology Review. Edited by H. Shanks. New York: Random House, 1992.

Vermes, G. **The Dead Sea Scrolls: Qumran in Perspective**. Rev. ed. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1977.

----- **The Dead Sea Scrolls in English**. 3rd ed. London: Penguin, 1990.

Wieder, N. **The Judean Scrolls and Karaism**. London: East and West Library, 1962.

Wilson, E. **Israel and the Dead Sea Scrolls**. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1978.

Yadin, Y. **The Temple Scroll: The Hidden Law of the Dead Sea Sect**. New York: Random House, 1985.

-- Compiled by Michael W. Grunberger

Resource Materials for Teachers

Selective Bibliography

Barry, Iris. **Discovering Archaeology**. London: Trewin Copplestone Books, 1981.

A well-illustrated introduction to the way archaeologists work, the historic treasures they find, the conclusions they draw.

Carey, Helen H. **How to use maps and globes**. New York: Franklin Watts, 1983.

Clearly written explanation of how maps and globes are designed and how to use them.

Discoveries in the Judaean Desert series, I - IX. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1955 - 1992.

The **DJD** is the official publication of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Additional volumes are planned over the next few years. The series includes identification, dating, and other technical information about the texts. Teachers should be aware of this scholarly series even though it may be inappropriate for use by most secondary school students.

Fitzmyer, Joseph A. **The Dead Sea Scrolls: Major Publications and Tools for Study**. Society of Biblical Literature Resources for Biblical Study, no. 20. Atlanta, Ga: Scholars Press, 1990.

A basic reference book that allows you to see what has been published about each scroll.

Fitzmyer, Joseph A. **Responses to 101 Questions on the Dead Sea Scrolls**. New York: Paulist Press, 1992.

Answers to the most frequently asked questions about the scrolls by a prominent scholar in the field.

Hackwell, W. John. **Signs, Letters, Words**. New York: Scribner's, 1987.

A history of writing as put together from archaeological evidence.

Shanks, Hershel, editor. **Understanding the Dead Sea Scrolls: A Reader from the Biblical Archaeology Review**. New York: Random House, 1992.

Anthology of articles by various authors with different points of view which provides a popular introduction to the controversy surrounding the Dead Sea Scrolls. The editor was responsible for getting the scrolls exposed to the world through facsimile editions.

Vermes, Geza. **The Dead Sea Scrolls In English**. 3rd edition. London: Penguin Books, 1990.

An authoritative translation of the scrolls by an Oxford scholar. In hardback and paperback editions.

Vermes, Geza. **The Dead Sea Scrolls: Qumran in Perspective**. Revised edition. Philadelphia, Fortress Press, 1977.

Presents the view that the scrolls are a product of the Essenes, a sectarian group. Provides a good introduction on a scholarly level. Available in hardback and paperback editions. The author is the keynote speaker at the Library of Congress symposium.

Wilson, Edmund. **Israel and the Dead Sea Scrolls**. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 1978.

Excellent introduction by a famous critic concerning the discovery and early theories about the Qumran community. First appeared in the New Yorker in the 1950's where it served to introduce millions of Americans to the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Yadin, Yigael. **The Temple Scroll: The Hidden Law of the Dead Sea Sect**. New York: Random House, 1985.

Describes the last large scroll -- the Temple Scroll -- to be uncovered. The profuse illustrations and accessible content make this a worthwhile book for secondary school use.

Selective List of Films

The Arab World. [Videorecording]. Middleton, WI: Knowledge Unlimited, 1988. 20 min., col., vhs. Incl. tchr's. guide. Tel: 608-836-6660

Depicts the Arab world as the gateway to Africa, Asia, and Europe. The earliest civilizations and three major world religions took root in this part of the world. It is rich in one of the most vital natural resources, oil, and in the 20th century, it has been a land in nearly constant turmoil & conflict.

The Archaeologist and How He Works. [Videorecording]. Chicago, IL: International Film Bureau, Inc. 1965. 18 min., col., vhs; beta; 3/4". Tel: 312-427-4545

Filmed on an actual archaeological expedition and shows all phases of the operation from planning, to handling materials, to follow-up work in museums.

The Dead Sea in Biblical Times. [Videorecording]. New York, NY: Doko Communications, Inc. 1988. col., vhs; beta. Tel:212-686-6160

Visits many sites important to Christianity and Judaism.

Dead Sea Scrolls. [Film]. Panorama City, CA: Family Films, 1960. 15 min., col., 16mm. Address: 14622 Lanarck St. Panorama City, CA 91402

Shows the caves and sites where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. The thousands of fragments being worked on by scholars and other scenes emphasize the importance of the discovery of the scrolls.

Israel: History, Land & People. [Videorecording]. New Y, NY: Phoenix/ BFA Films & Video, 1978. 18 min., col., vhs; beta; 16mm. Tel: 800-221-1274

Tells the story of the Jewish people and their homeland starting with Biblical times. Moves through Jewish history to the establishment of modern Israel in 1948.

Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls. [Film]. Madison, WI: Bureau of Audio-Visual Instruction, {Univ. of WI-La Crosse}, 1972. 25 min., col., 16 mm. Tel: 800-831-9504

Shows the caves where the scrolls and fragments were found and rooms in the ruins of Qumran on the shores of the Dead Sea. Dr. Charles Fritsch interviews Dr. Yigael Yadin about the Temple Scroll and the monastic sect of Essenes.

Secrets of the Dead Sea Scrolls. [Videorecording]. Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities, Inc., 1992. 60 min., col., vhs; beta; 3/4". Tel: 800-257-5126

Originally presented on the PBS Nova series. Documents how the scrolls were discovered by a Bedouin shepherd, smuggled to Bethlehem, and sold on the black market to antiquities dealers. Discusses the meaning of the scrolls and the scholarly debate concerning the scrolls and the Qumran ruin.

Other Sources

Following is a list of organizations that conduct activities and provide a variety of information related to archeology and Near East history and geography.

American Schools of Oriental Research 711 West 40th Street, Suite 354 Baltimore, MD 21211 Phone: (301) 889-1383 Dr. Eric M. Meyers, President

Conducts archaeological research on the peoples and cultures of the Near East, from the early to modern periods. Maintains data bases. Publishes the *Biblical Archeologist*, the *Journal of Cuneiform Studies*, a monograph series, and a quarterly newsletter.

Biblical Archaeology Society 3000 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20008 Phone: (202) 387-8888

Publishers of the influential journal, *Biblical Archaeology Review* as well as other publications relating to the Dead Sea scrolls and Near Eastern archaeology.

Israel Exploration Society P. O. Box 7041 Jerusalem, 91070, Israel

Publishes a journal and monograph series in English on archaeology of the Holy Land.

Near East Archaeological Society c/o Dr. W. Harold Mare Covenant Theological Seminary 12330 Conway Road St. Louis, MO 63141 Phone: (314) 434-4044

Promotes archaeological and biblical research in Israel and the surrounding Near East region. Publishes a journal and provides information.

Society of Biblical Literature 1549 Clairmont Road, Suite 204 Decatur, GA 30033-4635 Phone: (404) 636-4744 David J. Lull, Executive Director
Supports the study of ancient languages, textual criticism, history, and archaeology of the Near Eastern and Mediterranean regions. Maintains data bases. Publishes a journal and educational and reference materials.

Glossary

Acacia tortilis

A tree prevalent in the southern wadis (valleys) of Israel.

Apocrypha

Books included in the Septuagint and Vulgate but excluded from Jewish and Protestant canons of the Old Testament.

Aramaic

A Semitic language known since the ninth century B.C.E.; official language of the Persian empire; used extensively in southwest Asia and by the Jews after the Babylonian exile; the cursive script replaced the ancient paleo-Hebrew script for secular writing as well as for holy scriptures.

B.C.E.

Before the Common Era; indicates that a time division falls before the Christian era; same as B.C.

C.E.

Common Era; indicates that a time division falls within the Christian era; same as A.D.

Canon

A collection of books accepted as holy scripture.

Carbon-14 dating

A heavy radioactive isotope of carbon of mass number 14 used in dating archaeological and geological materials

Denarii

Roman Republican coins, originally cast in silver and worth 10 asses; known as a "penny" in the New Testament. The Library of Congress exhibition includes coins from the mid-first century B.C.E.

Essenes ("Judah" in some Qumran writings)

One of the three orders of Jews during the Second Temple Period; a separatist group that formed an ascetic monastic community and, in response to apocalyptic visions, retreated to the wilderness.

First Temple Period

ca. 850 - 586 B.C.E.; ended with destruction of the First Temple and exile of the Hebrews.

Flavius Josephus ca. 37 - 100 C.E.

Jewish historian who defined and described the characteristics of the three existing Jewish orders: the Sadducees, the Pharisees, and the Essenes; for example, he reported that those Essene men who chose to marry were primarily concerned about their wives' morality.

Genizah

A storehouse for damaged or defective Hebrew writings and ritual articles.

Halakhah (pl. halakhot)

Corpus of Jewish religious law; disagreement on these matters caused the Judean Desert sect to secede from Israel.

Hasmonean

A family of Jewish patriots to which the Maccabees belonged; period of Jewish history from 167 - 30 B.C.E.

Herodian

Associated especially with Herod the Great's reign 37-4 B.C.E.; a period of Jewish history from 30 B.C.E - 70 C.E.

Judea

Southern region of ancient Palestine; the Qumran region was a barren area within the Judean desert which yielded the Dead Sea scrolls treasure.

Leviticus

Third book of Jewish and Christian scripture consisting mainly of priestly legislation. Scroll fragments are included in the Library of Congress exhibition.

Maccabees

A priestly Jewish family which ruled Palestine in the second and first centuries B.C.E. and wrested Judea from the rule of the Seleucids and their Greek practices. The Jewish holiday Hanukkah commemorates the Maccabees' recapture of Jerusalem and reconsecration of the Temple in December 164 B.C.E.

Masada

Jewish fortress of ancient Palestine situated on a butte west of the Dead Sea; last stronghold of the Zealots who committed suicide rather than surrender to the Romans.

Masoretic

Relating to a body of notes on the textual traditions of the Hebrew Old Testament; compiled during the first millennium of the Christian era; traditional text of the Hebrew Bible.

Mishnah

Collection of Jewish traditions based on rabbinic traditions and compiled about 200 C.E.; part of the Talmud.

Paleographic

Relating to the study of ancient writings and inscriptions or to an ancient manner of writing.

Paleo-Hebrew

Ancient Hebrew script; one of the offshoots of the Phoenician script; used exclusively in the First Temple period and in priestly circles and as a symbol of nationalistic revival in the Second Temple Period. A version of this script is still used today by the Samaritans.

Parchment

Prepared animal skin on which text is written.

Pentateuch

The first five books of scripture: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy; the first of three major divisions of the Hebrew Bible

Pharisees ("Ephraim" in some Qumran writings)

One of the three orders of Jews during the Second Temple period; noted for strict observance of rites and interpretation of the law; their teachings concerned the immortality of the soul, resurrection of the body, future retribution, and a coming Messiah.

Phylacteries (tefillin)

Two small leather boxes containing four scriptural passages in Hebrew and traditionally worn on the left arm and on the forehead by Jewish men during morning prayers.

Plaited baskets

Made of single coiled braid in which successive courses are joined around cords to form a ribbed texture; each basket had two arched handles.

Pliny the Elder ca. 23 - 79 C.E.

Upper class Roman historian who wrote about the Essenes and identified their location as the Dead Sea area.

Psalms (tehillim)

Collection of Biblical hymns, i.e. sacred songs or poems used in worship and non-canonical passages.

Pseudepigrapha

Pseudonymous or anonymous Jewish religious writings of the period 200 B.C.E. to 200 C.E., especially those attributed to biblical characters.

Qumran

Northern Dead Sea desert plain, part of Jordan (1949- 1967); region of the eleven caves yielding Hebrew biblical, sectarian, and literary scrolls. It is the habitation site where excavations have uncovered a complex of communal structures and generated numerous artifacts; the site was founded in the second century B.C.E. and abandoned about the time of the Roman offensive of 68 C.E. when the site was destroyed.

Sadducees ("Menasseh" in some Qumran writings)

One of the three orders of Jews during the Second Temple Period; priestly and aristocratic Jewish families who interpreted the law more literally than the Pharisees and were much less formal in the observance of rites and traditions; denied the concept of immortality and tended toward materialism.

Second Temple Period

520 B.C.E - 70 C.E.; a time of crucial development for monotheistic religions; ended with the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 C.E. Period in which the Dead Sea Scrolls were copied.

Sectarian

Characteristic of a sect, a religious group adhering to a distinctive doctrine.

Septuagint

The Greek version of the Old Testament (including the Apocrypha) translated by Jewish scholars in the third to second centuries B.C.E.; the first vernacular translation of the Bible and still used in the Eastern Orthodox Church.

Seleucid Empire

Created out of part of Macedonian Empire after death of Alexander the Great (323 B.C.E.) and, at its height, extended from southern coast of modern Turkey south through Palestine and east to India's border; spanned period 312 - 64 B.C.E.

Talmud

The authoritative body of Jewish law and tradition incorporating the Hebrew Mishnah and the Aramaic Gemara and supplementing the scriptural law; developed in the fourth and fifth centuries C.E.

Tetradrachms

Ancient Greek silver coins. The Library of Congress exhibition includes coins minted in Tyre about 136 - 126 B.C.E.

Tetragrammaton

The four Hebrew letters that represent the divine name of God, usually transliterated YHWH or JHVH; out of reverence, Jews ceased to pronounce the word aloud about the third century B.C.E.

Yahad

The group within the Judean Desert sect who chose to live communally. The sect divided humanity between the righteous and the wicked and asserted that human nature and everything that happens in the world are irrevocably predestined.