

# The PEACE Portal

Revisiting the Sea of Stone

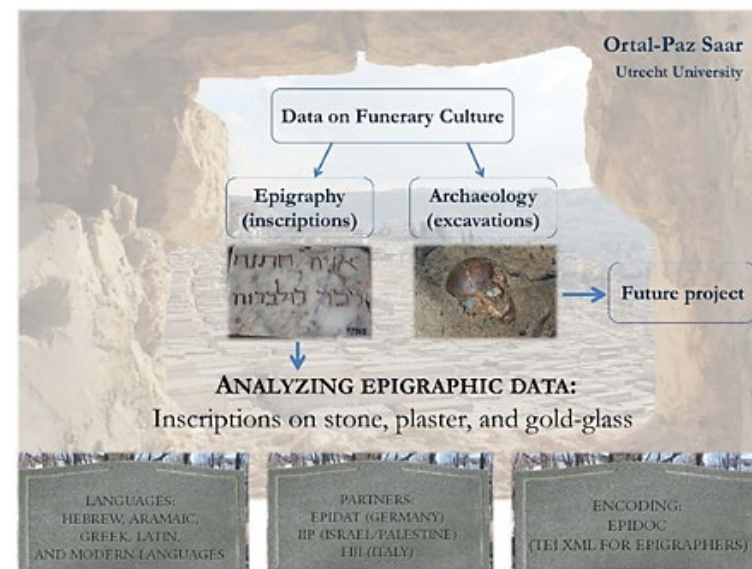
Ortal-Paz Saar

Utrecht University, Netherlands

# DH Benelux 2017

## A SEA OF STONE

Digitally Analyzing Jewish Funerary Inscriptions



### FIRST PHASE — THREE EPIGRAPHIC DATABASES:

- Utrecht University (O.-P. Saar and DH Lab):  
**Funerary Inscriptions of Jews from Italy**  
Ca. 800 Jewish epitaphs, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> century CE,  
Rome and Southern Italy.
- The Steinheim Institute, Germany (Thomas Kollatz):  
**Epidat**  
Over 32,000 Jewish epitaphs, 11<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> century,  
primarily Germany .
- Brown University, USA (Michael Satlow and Center for DS):  
**Inscriptions of Israel/Palestine.**  
Ca. 3,000 inscriptions, 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE – 7<sup>th</sup> century CE,  
Israel and Palestine. Mostly funerary, Jewish and non-Jewish.

### METHODOLOGY:

1. Merging the data of the three databases
2. Standardizing the search fields
3. Making the data uniform – tagging

### RESEARCH SEGMENTS

- Custom and change in commemorative norms
- Gender and sexuality
- Onomastics
- Emotions



# DH Benelux 2017

# DH Benelux 2021

<http://peace.sites.uu.nl>

## A SEA OF STONE

Digitally Analyzing Jewish Funerary Inscriptions

Ortal-Paz Saar  
Utrecht University

**ANALYZING EPIGRAPHIC DATA:**  
Inscriptions on stone, plaster, and gold-glass

LANGUAGES: HEBREW, ARAMIC, GREEK, LATIN, AND MODERN LANGUAGES

PARTNERS: EPIDAT (GERMANY), IP (ISRAEL/PALESTINE), EPI (ITALY)

ENCODING: EPIDOC (TEI/XML FOR EPIGRAPHERS)

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PEACE PORTAL PEACE Project Epigraphy Archaeology Conservation Education Contact

PEACE – Portal of Epigraphy, Archaeology, Conservation and Education on Jewish Funerary Culture

Epigraphy Archaeology Conservation Education

PEACE portal developed by  
DIGITAL HUMANITIES LAB

# **PEACE**

**Portal of Epigraphy, Archaeology, Conservation and Education**  
on

Jewish Funerary Culture

**<http://peace.sites.uu.nl>**

# Funerary culture

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- burial methods
- inscriptions
- rituals
- iconography



© Leonard Rutgers

© Christian Herrmann



Funerary culture is a part of life,  
informative on:

- life expectancy
- causes of mortality
- personal names
- occupations and official functions
- inter-religious contacts
- conceptions of the afterlife
- ideals and values of the living



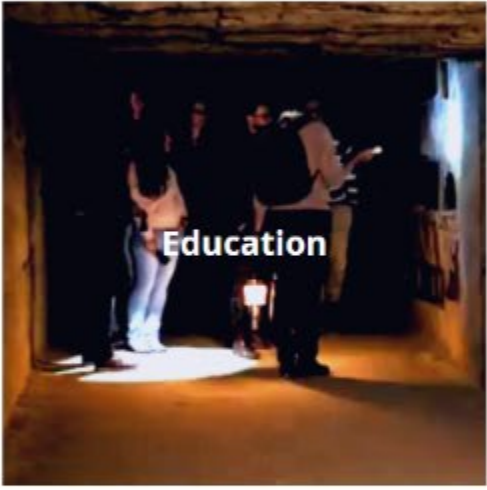
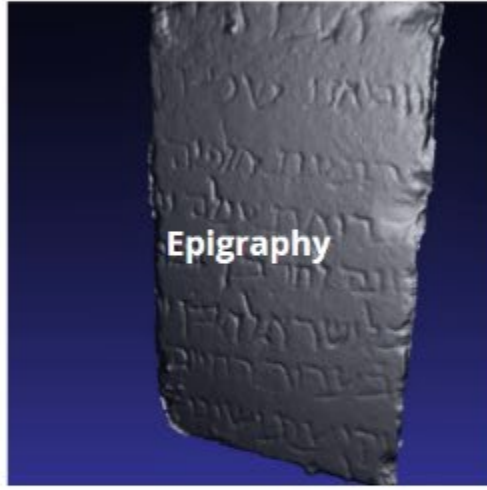
# Funerary culture

- religion
- cultural tradition
- geography
- chronology





# PEACE – Portal of Epigraphy, Archaeology, Conservation and Education on Jewish Funerary Culture





# PEACE Partners

- 1. Utrecht University:** [\*Funerary Inscriptions of Jews from Italy\*](#). Over 800 Jewish epitaphs, dating to the 2nd – 11th century CE, from Rome and Southern Italy.
  - 2. The Steinheim Institute, Germany:** [\*Epidat\*](#). Over 39,000 Jewish epitaphs, dating to the 11th – 20th century, primarily from Germany.
  - 3. Brown University, USA:** [\*Inscriptions of Israel/Palestine\*](#). About 3,000 inscriptions, dating to the 6th century BCE – 7th century CE, from the area of present-day Israel and Palestine. Most inscriptions are funerary, but they are not restricted to the Jewish community.
  - 4. Jewish medieval inscriptions from Toledo.** Salamanca University, Spain. 38 epitaphs.
- NEW: Jewish medieval inscriptions from France.** CNRS/Sorbonne. Ca. 300 epitaphs

Utrecht University, Netherlands

Steinheim Institute, Germany

Brown University, USA



Leonard Rutgers



Michael Brocke



Michael Satlow



Ortal-Paz Saar



Thomas Kollatz



Elli Mylonas

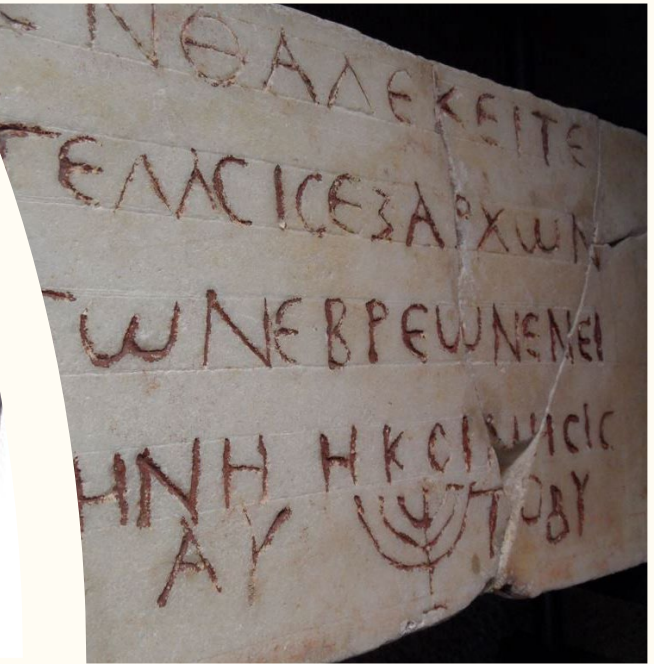


University of Salamanca, Spain

Elíshabá Mata Lopez

# PEACE Portal: Epigraphy

- engraved or painted inscriptions
- different support types  
(e.g. stone plaque, slab, stele, catacomb wall)
- languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, Latin,  
other European languages
- iconography  
(e.g. menorah, shofar, plants, animals)



# PEACE Portal: different databases

## Epidat (Steinheim Institute)

file	all	1050-1519
1. Bommersheim	18	5 show
2. Frankfurt am Main, Battonstraße	3875	151 show
3. Koblenz	8	2 show
4. Mainz	128	120 show
5. Minden	1	1 show
6. Speyer	50	50 show
7. Toledo	38	21 show
8. Trier	12	5 show
9. Worms	1672	890 show
	<b>41240</b>	<b>1245</b>

## IIP (Brown University)

For tips on how to use the search box, please refer to the Guide to Searching.

## FIJI (Utrecht University)

Search Results: 765 results. Showing results 761 - 765:

Transcription: hic requis[iti] in pace Christientia filia Pascasi ebrae virgo qui vivit annus p[er]plus m[inus] XVIII — ירמ ערלור

Country: Italy

## Medieval Toledo (University of Salamanca, hosted by Steinheim Institute)

- Namensliste
- Symbole
- Genderdistribution - Symbole
- Ornamente
- Hauszeichen
- Schriftauftrag
- Steinmetze/Bildhauer/Künstler
- Hebräischer Wortindex
- Index hebräischer Abkürzungen
- Zitate
- Textidentische Inschriften
- Datierte Inschriften
  - Verhältnis Mann|Frau
  - beschriftete Rückseiten
  - Akrosticha
  - Reime
  - Chronogramme

# PEACE Portal: different databases

## Epidat (Steinheim Institute)



Navigation de en

Worms 1672 Inschriften (1040-1080)

Information Inschriften Karte Indizes Download

suche z.B. ח"א (אשת חיל)

Inv.-Nr.:  Jahr:  | « < [4/1672] > » |

Edition Kommentar Beschreibung Foto

Export: TEI P5 plain text

Name

Seitenanfang

Jaakow [1077]

Diplomatische Transkription und Übersetzung

Text/Zeilenansicht Textansicht Seitenanfang

Vorderseite

זו מעבתי יעקב	<i>Dies ist die Stele von Jaakow,</i>
הבחור הנפטר	<i>dem jungen Mann, der verschied</i>
לעולמו בתלמי	<i>in seine Ewigkeit im (Jahr) 837</i>
לפרט תנוח נפשו	<i>der Zählung. Es ruhe seine Seele</i>
בצירור החיים	<i>im Bündel des Lebens.</i>

Kommentar

Seitenanfang

Die Inschrift enthält keinen Namen des Vaters. Möglicherweise handelt es sich, wie bisher zumeist angenommen wird, um einen auswärtigen, noch unverheirateten Jeschiwa-Studenten, da ein Titel wie "Mar" oder "Rabbi" vor dem Namen fehlt. Es ist aber die Frage, ob der Name seines Vaters unbekannt war, was unwahrscheinlich ist, oder ob hier nicht eher das "haBachur" den "Junior" bezeichnet und sich auf einen (uns unbekannt) Jaakow "Senior" bezieht. Dieser Stein ist einer der bekanntesten Wormser Grabsteine, da er seit langem als der älteste datierte Stein galt, was nun aber durch die kürzliche Entdeckung des Jahresdatums des neben ihm stehenden Steins für einen noch unbekannt Mann von 1058/59 (Nr. 9008) überholt ist. (Zu beachten ist wegen der Datierungsunsicherheit von Nr. 1265 die große Ähnlichkeit beider Steine).

Datum: 4837 = 1076/77

Das Jahr 4837 umfasst die Zeit vom 31. August 1076 bis 20. September 1077

R&R: 220 u. 1050/ Lewysohn: 51

Beschreibung

Seitenanfang

Material Stein (Material undefiniert) -

Quellen / Sekundärliteratur

Seitenanfang

Lewysohn, Ludwig; Nafschoth Zaddikim. *Sechzig Epitaphien von Grabsteinen des israelitischen Friedhofes zu Worms, regressiv bis zum Jahre 905 übl. Zeitr., usw.*, Frankfurt am Main: 1855, Nr. 51

Rosenthal, Julius; Rothschild, Samson; Kaufmann, David: *Die Epitaphien des alten israelitischen Friedhofs zu Worms (unveröff. Mskr., Vorwort von Julius Goldschmidt)*, 220 und 1050

Fotografien

Seitenanfang

Sommer, Bert



2004-09-15  
recto

Brocke, Michael



Zitation der Inschrift

Seitenanfang

Digitale Edition – Jüdischer Friedhof Worms, wrm-9009

URL: <http://www.steinheim-institut.de/cgi-bin/epidat?id=wrm-9009>

(letzte Änderungen - 2015-09-03 00:53)

# PEACE Portal: different databases

## Inscriptions of Israel/Palestine - IIP (Brown University)

CAES0180 - Caesarea, 100 CE - 650 CE. Plaque. Funerary (Epitaph).

Images:



**Diplomatic:**  
[no diplomatic]

**Transcription:**  
Ἀντωνίνου  
καὶ Κύρου  
τέκνα Σα-  
μουήλου.  
5 εἰς  
εἰρήνην

**Translation:**  
(The tomb of) Antoninos and Kyros , children of  
Samuelos . Peace!

**Languages:** Greek , Hebrew

**Dimensions:** H: 26 cm.; W: 26 cm.; D: 2.5 cm.

**Date:** 100 CE to 650 CE

**Place Found:** Caesarea, Coastal Plain.  
Maioumas (Shuni).

**Current Location:** In 1937 it was in the Bezalel Museum in Jerusalem. Present  
location unknown.

**Note:** Plaque of gray marble with a Greek inscription and Hebrew acclamation.  
Only the front is smooth.

**Figures:** palm branches (flanking the Hebrew in line 5)

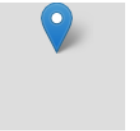
**Source of Diplomatic:**  
Not Available

**Source of Transcription:**  
Lehmann, Clayton Miles, and Kenneth G. Holum. "The Greek and Latin Inscriptions  
of Caesarea Maritima." In *Joint Expedition to Caesarea Maritima Excavation  
Reports, Vol. 5*. Boston: American Schools of Oriental Research, 2000.  
(inscription. plate CXII, no. 180)

**Source of Translation:**  
Lehmann, Clayton Miles, and Kenneth G. Holum. "The Greek and Latin Inscriptions  
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### Bibliography:

- Lehmann, Clayton Miles, and Kenneth G. Holum. "The Greek and Latin  
Inscriptions of Caesarea Maritima." In *Joint Expedition to Caesarea Maritima  
Excavation Reports, Vol. 5*. Boston: American Schools of Oriental Research,  
2000.  
( insc. plate CXII, no. 180 ) (See in Zotero)
- Lange, M.E., and R.C. Burkiitt. "An Inscription from Maioumas [Notes and  
Queries]." *Palestinian Exploration Fund Quarterly Statement*, no. 1 (1920):  
47null.  
( p. 47 ) (See in Zotero)
- Sukenik, E. L. "Some New Inscriptions." *Proceedings of the JPES* 1 (1925):  
79null.  
( p. 79-80; p. fig. 41 ) (See in Zotero)

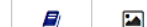


# PEACE Portal: different databases

## Funerary Inscriptions of Jews from Italy - FIJI (Utrecht University)

Document 6 of 25

<b>ID</b>	52
<b>Names</b>	Erpidia bat X (X ארפידיא בת)
<b>Sex</b>	F
<b>Age</b>	6
<b>Country</b>	Italy
<b>Settlement</b>	Taranto
<b>Location details</b>	Taranto, Museo Archeologico Nazionale
<b>Language</b>	Hebrew, Latin
<b>Iconography</b>	Menorah
<b>Material</b>	Limestone, Stone
<b>Bibliography</b>	Noy 1993, pp. 166-167 (127), Colafemmina 2005, pp. 36-37 (13)
<b>Commentary</b>	<p>The Latin is inscribed on the top of the slab, the Hebrew on the front, and the nine branch menorah on the reverse.</p> <p>One of the letters in the Latin inscription is rendered in a Greek form (Δ for D). Could this point to a Greek connection? The name is also Greek (see Noy).</p> <p>ICONOGRAPHY: Nine branch menorah on reverse.</p>



פה ינוח ארפידיא  
בת [...] מבת  
שש שנים. יהי  
שלום על מנוחתה  
[Hic re]quiescit Erpidia [quae vixit  
a]nni VI sit  
[pax in requie eius]

# PEACE portal: discovering patterns

PEACE PORTAL PEACE Project - Epigraphy - Archaeology Conservation Education Contact

Search

שלום Search Transcription Download csv Customize csv

Year -530 - 1950

Source database Choose

Sex Choose

Country Choose

Region Choose

Settlement Choose

Language Choose

368 results. Showing results 41 - 60:

SORT BY Year Ascending PAGES 1 2 3 4 ... 19 < >

**Year:** 1049  
**Transcription:** שלום על משכבו יוח — נפטר ללמנו ר' יהודה בר שאר — בבין ניסן בתתים לפרט — החיים נפשו בגמנות — ובצור

**Country:** Germany

**Year:** 1176  
**Transcription:** אשר ירדתי וגם נצבה — הביטו לצור שרה חוצבה — השלימה נפשה ליצרה — כת יוסף הלוי החשוכה — בתתקלי — כי בכסליו לבואה שבה — באהבה...

**Country:** Germany

**Year:** 1187  
**Transcription:** מנחם כיום הי יידי? — טרף טרף יוסף החתור ביר — שנת תתקמ"ז? לפרט [תחא?] — לחדש אלול — נקמתו ויבא שלום — בשנת? טא? חוקם ונקומה?]

PEACE PORTAL PEACE Project - Epigraphy - Archaeology Conservation Education Contact

Search

שלום Search Transcription Download csv Customize csv

Filters Search Results Visualizations

Year -530 - 1950 Region [List]

Source database Choose

Sex Choose

Country Choose

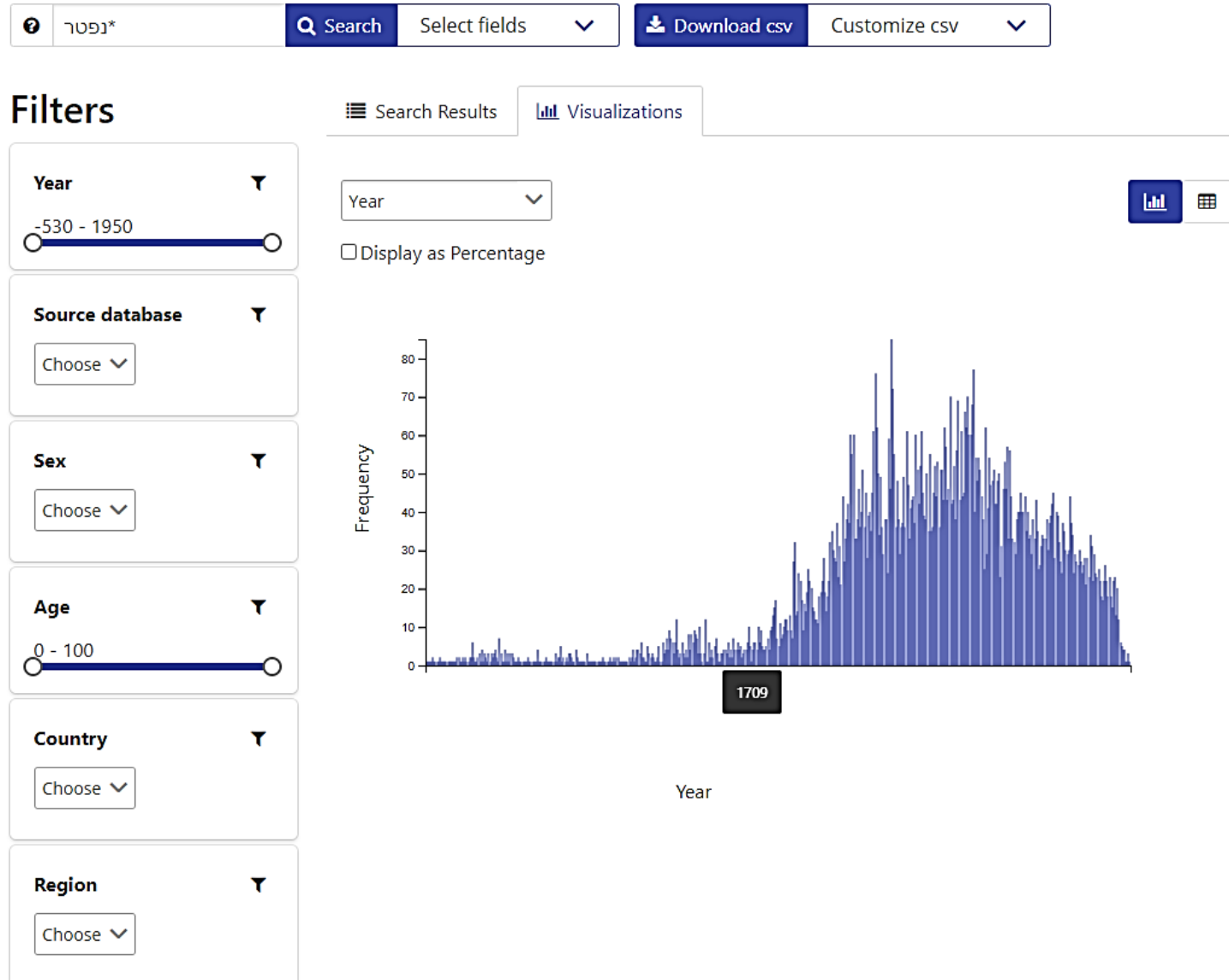
Region Choose

Frequency

Region



# PEACE portal: discovering patterns



# PEACE Portal: Challenges

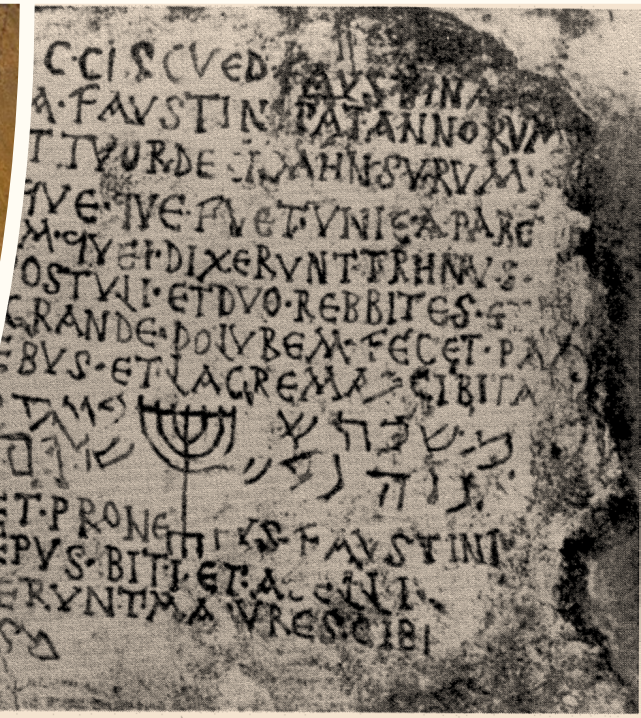
- pattern accuracy
- search efficiency
- multiple languages
- RTL languages: Hebrew, Aramaic
- vocalization (absence of)
- privacy (for modern data)

א ב ג ד



**B** = Ba, Be, Bu...








בּ בְּ בִּ



# PEACE Portal: Future goals

- Epigraphy:
  - add new partners
  - improve search efficiency
- Archaeology:
  - develop archaeology section
  - make searchable data from ancient burial excavations
  - discover patterns



 edge of excavation	 female burials
 post-cemetery features	 child burials
 cemetery boundary feature	 unsexed burials
 male burials	

0 10 20 30 metres

# Revisiting the Sea of Stone

DH Benelux 2017

DH Benelux 2021

<http://peace.sites.uu.nl>

## A SEA OF STONE

### Digitally Analyzing Jewish Funerary Inscriptions

Ortal-Paz Saar  
Utrecht University

Epigraphy (inscriptions) Archaeology (excavations) Future project

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Inscriptions on stone, plaster, and gold-glass

LANGUAGES: HEBREW, ARAMIC, GREEK, LATIN, AND MODERN LANGUAGES

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