The workshop aims at investigating the various roles and architectural layouts of the basilica in Roman Palestine and Arabia, in comparison to Italy, Sicily and North Africa.

Through presentation of recent discoveries and comprehensions resulting from research and surveys it intends to broaden our knowledge of the diffusion of Roman influence into the eastern and southern provinces, as well as of the significant aspects of construction of self-identification of the urban citizens of the provinces between Roman rule and local traditions.

It will allow a better understanding of the agents who first introduced the basilica to these regions and the ways they adapted and adjusted this institution to local needs throughout the Roman era.

At the focal point of the workshop stand the cities of Roman Palestine. Despite significant archaeological remains, these cities were somewhat neglected in general discussions on Roman architecture, compared to other regions of the Empire, such as Asia Minor, Greece, Africa and Hispanic Peninsula.

This lacuna is especially problematic, in light of the fact that in recent decades large-scale excavations in some of these cities have revealed the remains of remarkable buildings of this type, some of them are quite well preserved.

The workshop aims at addressing this gap in research and examining the topic of the basilica in Roman Palestine in light of comparanda from both Italy, at the heart of the Empire, as well as from the provinces of North Africa.
Thursday, December 5th 2019

9.00 Welcome Reception and Opening Remarks

OPENING LECTURE

9.45 Matteo Cadario (Udine University)
Sculptural Decoration and Display in the Roman Civic Basilicae

Panel 1
The Basilica in the Cities of Roman Palestine and Arabia
Chair: Orit Peleg-Barkat

10.30 Sa’ar Ganor, Rachel Bar-Nathan (IAA, Jerusalem)
The Tel Ashqelon Roman Basilica in Light of Renewed Excavation: Archaeological and Stratigraphical Considerations

11.00 Antonio Dell’Acqua (University of Tübingen)
The Severan Basilica of Ashqelon and its Décor

11.30 COFFEE BREAK

12.00 Rachel Bar-Nathan (IAA, Jerusalem)
The Civic Center of Nysa Schythopolis: Forum, Basilica and Temples

12.30 Michael Eisenberg (University of Haifa)
Reconstructing the Antiochia/Hiippos Basilica and the Disappearance of Basilicae in 4th Century CE Syria-Palestina

13.00 Jacques Seigne (CNRS)
The Basilica and the Civic Centre of Gerasa

13.30 LUNCH

16.00 DISCUSSION

Visit to the University Museum with the Curator
DR. ALEXANDER HEINEMANN

19.30 CONFERENCE DINNER

Friday, December 6th 2019

Panel 3
The Basilica in the Jewish Cities of Roman Palestine
Chair: Michael Eisenberg

9.00 Orit Peleg-Barkat (HU, Jerusalem)
Herod’s Royal Portico on the Temple Mount: Between Historical Texts and Archaeological Finds

9.30 Rona Evyasaf (Technion, Haifa)
Rethinking the Beth She’a’rim Basilica in Light of the New Excavations at Sheik Abreik Hill

10.00 Zeev Weiss, Shulamit Miller (HU, Jerusalem)
Was the Monumental Building in Roman Sepphoris a Basilica? Archaeological Remains and a Proposed Identification

10.30 COFFEE BREAK

Panel 2
The Roman Basilica in North Africa
Chair: Jacques Seigne

15.00 Giuseppe Mazzilli (Politecnico Bari, Macerata University)
The Severan Basilica of Lepcis Magna: A Landmark Monument in North Africa

15.30 Linda Stoeßel (University of Tübingen)
New Evidence from Tunisia: The Basilica of Meninx (Jerba) and Basilican Architecture in North Africa

16.00 DISCUSSION

Panel 4
Late Republic and Imperial Basilicae in Italy and Sicily
Chair: Thomas Schäfer / Johannes Lipps

11.00 Patric Alexander Kreuz (Kiel University)
The Basilica(e) of Minturnae

11.30 Martin Tombrägel (University of Tübingen)
The Basilicae in Late Republican Latium: The Case of Tivoli and Praeneste

12.00 Chiara Bozzi (Ca’Foscari University Venice)
What’s New on the Civic Basilica in Luni?

12.30 Leonardo Fuduli (São Paulo University), Rocco Burgio (Soprintendenza di Messina)
The Architecture of the Roman Basilica in Sicily: Case Studies from the Northern Coast Cities

13.00 Steffen Oraschewski (Köl University, La Sapienza Rome)
Building Trajan’s Basilica: An Analysis of the Efforts in Constructing an Ancient Monumental Building

13.30 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

Universität Tübingen
Faculty of Humanities
Institute of Classical Archaeology