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# Coins from the Armon Ha-Naẓiv Tunnel, 'Government House' Ridge, Jerusalem

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During the excavations (see Billig, this volume), 61 coins were discovered, 33 of them unidentifiable.[1] All the coins are bronze except for one silver Crusader *obole*. Their state of preservation is very poor. While no coins were found within the aqueduct, the coins uncovered within the foundation trench of the tunnel date its construction to the first century BCE—from the days of Alexander Jannaeus to Herod I (Coin Nos. 1–5). The remainder of the coins is related to the later periods of use of the aqueduct and adjacent installations, during the Byzantine and Islamic periods (e.g., Coin Nos. 8–10, 16, 17, 24, 25 and 28).

## Catalogue[2]

1. Reg. No. 126, L24, IAA 29253.
Antiochus IV (175–164 BCE), Antioch.
*Obv*.: Laureate head of Apollo r. Behind, ⅄
*Rev*.: ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ Apollo seated on omphalos l., holding bow and spear. In l. field, aphlaston; in ex.: ⅄
Æ, ↑, 2.36 g, 13 mm, serrated.
Houghton 1983:8, No. 115.

2. Reg. No. 159, L24, IAA 29257.
Alexander Jannaeus (103–76 BCE), Jerusalem.
*Obv*.: [ΑΛΕΞΑΝ]ΔΡΟΥ ΒΑ[ΣΙΛΕΩΣ] Anchor.
*Rev*.: [המלך יהונתן] Star within diadem.
Æ, 1.36 g, 15 mm, *prutah*.
*AJC* 1:119, Type Ca.

3. Reg. No. 148, L24, IAA 29256.
Alexander Jannaeus (103–76 BCE), Jerusalem.
*Obv*.: [ΑΛ]ΕΞΑ[ΝΔΡΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ] Anchor within circle.
*Rev*.: Star within circle.
Æ, 1.05 g, 13 mm, *prutah*.
*AJC* 1:121, Type Cd.

4. Reg. No. 148, L24, IAA 29255.
Alexander Jannaeus (103–76 BCE), Jerusalem.
*Obv*.: Anchor within circle.
*Rev*.: Star within circle.
Æ, 0.97 g, 13 mm, *prutah*.
*AJC* 1:122, Type Ce.

5. Reg. No. 36, L10, IAA 29247.
As No. 4.
Æ, 0.65 g, 15 mm, *prutah*.

6. Reg. No. 126, L24, IAA 29254.
Herod, Jerusalem, 37–4 BCE.
*Obv*.: [ΗΡ]ΩΔ ΒΑ[CΙΛΕ] Anchor.
*Rev*.: Obliterated, but negative of anchor motif from obverse is visible.
Æ, 1.32 g, 15 mm, *prutah*.
Cf. *AJC* 2:237, No. 17.

7. Reg. No. 25, L7, IAA 65537.
Agrippa I, Jerusalem, 41/42 CE.
*Obv*.: [ΒΑCΙΛΕΩC ΑΓΡΙΠΑ] Canopy.
*Rev*.: L – [ς ] Three ears of corn stemming from two leaves.
Æ, ↑, 1.32 g, 15 mm.
*AJC* 2:249, No. 11.

8. Reg. No. 36, L10, IAA 29249.
Valentinian I, 364–375 CE.

*Obv.*: DN VA[LENTINIANVS PF AVG] Bust r., pearl–diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: [SECVRI]TAS RE[IPVBLICAE] Victory advancing l., holding palm branch and wreath. Mintmark illegible.
Æ, ↓, 2.06 g, 18 mm.
Cf. *LRBC* 2:100, No. 2656.

9. Reg. No. 58, L1, IAA 29237.
395–408 CE.
*Obv.*: [---] Bust r., pearl-diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: [GLORIA RO–MANORVM] Three emperors stg. facing, holding scepters. Mintmark illegible.
Æ, ↑, 0.87 g, broken.
Cf. *LRBC* 2:102, Nos. 2801–2804.

10. Reg. No. 27, L5, IAA 29240.
395–408 CE.
*Obv.*: [---] Bust r., pearl-diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: [CONCORDIA AVGGG] Cross, mintmark illegible.
Æ, ↓, 0.66 g, 11 mm.
Cf. *LRBC* 2:102, Nos. 2806–2808.

11. Reg. No. 53, L1, IAA 29236.
Imitation of 'Concordia Avgg' type, end of fourth–beginning of fifth centuries CE.
*Obv.*: [---] Bust r., pearl-diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: Cross.
Æ, ← , 0.36 g, 8 mm.
Bijovsky 2000–2002:199–200.

12. Reg. No. 27, L5, IAA 29241.
Fourth century CE.
*Obv.*: [---] Bust r., pearl-diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: Worn.
Æ, 0.54 g, half a coin.

13. Reg. No. 53, L1, IAA 29235.
As No. 12.
Æ, 1.20 g, 9 mm.

14. Reg. No. 6, L1, IAA 29238.
Fourth–fifth centuries CE.
*Obv.*: [---] Bust r., pearl-diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: Worn.
Æ, 0.82 g, 8 mm.

15. Reg. No. 36, L10, IAA 29248.
Imitation of 'Vota' type, first half of fifth century CE.
*Obv.*: [---] Bust r., pearl-diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: VOT/MVT...within wreath.
Æ, ↓, 0.68 g, 10 mm.
Bijovsky 2000–2002:199, No. 2.

16. Reg. No. 27, L2, IAA 65536.
Leo I (457–474 CE), Constantinople.
*Obv.*: DN LEO Bust r., pearl-diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: Emperor dragging captive. On l. field: star; in ex.: [CON]
Æ, ↓, 1.14 g, 10 × 12 mm.
*LRBC* 2:91, Nos. 2265–2267.

17. Reg. No. 57, L5, IAA 29242.
Fifth century CE.
*Obv.*: [---] Bust r., pearl-diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: Figure stg. holding scepter?
Æ, 0.54 g, 8 mm.

18. No stratigraphical data, IAA 29250.
Fifth century CE.
*Obv.*: [---] Bust r., pearl-diademed, cuirassed and draped.
*Rev.*: Worn.
Æ, 0.4 g, 8 mm.

19. Reg. No. 155, L13, IAA 29251.
Byzantine, sixth century CE.
*Obv.*: Corroded.
*Rev.*: K on l. field, cross.
Æ, 3.72 g, 18 mm, half *follis*.

20. Reg. No. 57, L13, IAA 65540.
Byzantine, Alexandria, sixth century CE.
*Obv*.: worn.
*Rev*.: I+B In ex.: ALEΞ
Æ, 0.49 g, 13 mm, *dodecanummium*.
Cf. *DOC* 1:157, No. 274.

21. Reg. No. 51, surface, IAA 65539.
Arab-Byzantine, 647–670 CE.
*Obv*.: Imperial figure stg. facing, holding globe and cross.
*Rev*.: m exergue line.
Æ, ↑, 1.67 g, 19 mm, *follis*.
Cf. *SICA*: Group E.

22. Reg. No. 10, L7, surface, IAA 29244.
Ummayad, post-Reform, eighth century CE, Tiberias.
*Obv*.: Within three rings: لاالله الا الله وحد ه
*Rev*.: Bird lying horizontally on its face. Central legend: محمد رسول الله
Marginal legend: ضرب هدا الفلس بطبرثه
Æ, 4.12 g, 21 mm, *fals*.
Walker 1956:267, No. 886.

23. Reg. No. 15, L8, IAA 65538.
Ummayad, post-Reform, eighth century CE.
*Obv*.: Obliterated.
*Rev*.: محمد رسول الله
Æ, 1.74 g, 11 × 13 mm, *fals*.

24. Reg. No. 107, L1, IAA 29239.
'Abbasid, ninth century CE.
*Obv*.: لا اله الا الله وحده لاشريك له
Traces of marginal legend.
*Rev*.: محمد رسول الله
Marginal legend: هدا الدرهم...
Cu, 1.4 g, 15 mm, *fals*.
The term *dirham* appears on the reverse marginal legend although the coin is made of copper.

25. Reg. No. 1078, L 110, IAA 65541.
Baldwin III, Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem, (1143–1163).
*Obv*.: REX BALDVINVS Cross pattée.
*Rev*.: DE IERVSALEM Tower of David.
Æ, ↑, 0.51 g, 13 mm, *obole*.
Metcalf 1995: Pl. 10, Nos. 165–167.

26. Reg. 34, L8, IAA 29245.
Ayyûbids, Al-Kamil Nasir Al-Din Abû Ma'ali Muhammad I (615–635 AH = 1218–1237 CE), Harrân.
*Obv*.: Obliterated.
*Rev*.: Square in circle. Central legend: الملك الكامل محمد بن ابو بكر
Marginal legend illegible.
Æ, 2.63 g, 18 mm, *fals*.
Cf. Balog 1980:174, Nos. 480–484.

27. Reg. No. 53, L1, IAA 36489.
Mamluk, Al-Nasir Nasir Al-Din Abu al-Sa'adat Faraj (second reign), (809–815 AH = 1406–1412 CE), Dimashq.
*Obv*.: Obliterated.
*Rev*.: Fleur-de-lis chalice. Legend illegible.
Æ, 4.11 g, 18 mm, *fals*.
Cf. Balog 1964:286, Nos. 647–649.

28. Reg. No. 1, L1, IAA 29233.
Ottoman, Aḥmad I(?) (1012–1026 AH = 1603–1617 CE), Misr.
*Obv*.: Arabesque.
*Rev*.: محروسة مصر...
Æ, 8.34 g, 18 mm.
Valentine 1911:30, No. 13.

## NOTES

[1] The coins were cleaned at the IAA laboratories headed by E. Altmark and were photographed by S. Mandraea of the IAA photography department.

[2] Coin Nos. 22, 24 were identified by Rachel Milstein, and Coin Nos. 26, 27 were identified by Ariel Berman. Many thanks to both.

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