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Textile Terminologies from the Orient to the Mediterranean and Europe, 1000 BC to 1000 AD -- Covers & Frontmatter

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Textile Terminologies
from the Orient
to the Mediterranean
and Europe,
1000 BC to 1000 AD

Salvatore Gaspa, Cécile Michel, & Marie-Louise Nosch, editors
The papers in this volume derive from the conference on textile terminology held in June 2014 at the University of Copenhagen. Around 50 experts from the fields of Ancient History, Indo-European Studies, Semitic Philology, Assyriology, Classical Archaeology, and Terminology from twelve different countries came together at the Centre for Textile Research, to discuss textile terminology, semantic fields of clothing and technology, loan words, and developments of textile terms in Antiquity. They exchanged ideas, research results, and presented various views and methods.

This volume contains 35 chapters, divided into five sections:

- Textile terminologies across the ancient Near East and the Southern Levant
- Textile terminologies in Europe and Egypt
- Textile terminologies in metaphorical language and poetry
- Textile terminologies: examples from China and Japan
- Technical terms of textiles and textile tools and methodologies of classifications

The 42 contributors include Salvatore Gaspa, Cécile Michel, Marie-Louise Nosch, Elena Soriga, Louise Quillien, Luigi Malatacca, Nahum Ben-Yehuda, Christina Katsikadeli, Orit Shamir, Agnes Korn, Georg Warning, Birgit Anette Olsen, Stella Spanidaki, Peder Flemestad, Peter Herz, Ines Bogensperger, Herbert Graßl, Mary Harlow, Berit Hildebrandt, Magdalena Öhrman, Roland Schuhmann, Kerstin Droß-Krüpe, John Peter Wild, Maria Mossakowska-Gaubert, Julia Galliker, Anne Regourd, Fiona J. L. Handley, Götz König, Miguel Ángel Andrés-Toledo, Stefan Niederreiter, Oswald Panagl, Giovanni Fanfani, Le Wang, Feng Zhao, Mari Omura, Naoko Kizawa, Maciej Szymbaszek, Francesco Meo, Felicitas Maeder, Kalliope Sarri, Susanne Lervad, and Tove Engelhardt Mathiassen.

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2017
This volume is the fruit of a longstanding collaboration in the field of textile terminologies. Since 2005, Cécile Michel and Marie-Louise Nosch have collaborated on numerous academic activities – joint teaching, lectures at conferences, experimental workshops, co-publishing and co-editing. One of the highlights was the first Textile Terminologies of the 3rd and 2nd millennia conference, an exploratory workshop with a diachronic and interdisciplinary scope held in Copenhagen in March 2009 with the generous support of the European Science Foundation.

The French-Danish scholarly cooperation on textile research was further consolidated in the “Programme International de Coopération Scientifique” TexOrMed (2012-2014). The European Science Foundation Exploratory Workshop on Wool economy in the Near East and the Aegean organized in Nanterre in November 2012 was one of the flagship projects of this collaboration.

In 2013 Salvatore Gaspa joined the team with a prestigious Marie Curie Grant from the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Union (FP7). Together they fostered the idea of continuing the textile terminological research but widening the scope to Central and North European and Asian languages and focusing on the 1st millennium BC and 1st millennium AD, thus providing a platform for the textile terminological exchange of the classical languages of Greek and Latin, but also including Germanic languages, Armenian, Italic, Semitic, Chinese and Japanese.

The second conference on textile terminology was held in June 2014 at the University of Copenhagen. Around 50 experts from the fields of Ancient History, Indo-European Studies, Semitic Philology, Assyriology, Classical Archaeology, and Terminology from twelve different countries came together at the Centre for Textile Research, to discuss textile terminology, semantic fields of clothing and technology, loan words, and developments of textile terms in Antiquity. They exchanged ideas, research results, and presented various views and methods.

It was a specific aim to cross disciplinary boundaries, both between language families and chronological phases, but also to keep the focus on textiles and garments as visual, tactile and material items, and not simply words. This multi-faceted view is also apparent in the present volume. We have, as far as possible, included illustrations where it was possible, in order to marry images, objects and words.

The present volume has been prepared within the frame of an international cooperation, the Groupe de Recherche International ATOM = Ancient Textiles from the Orient to the Mediterranean (2015-2018) which involves several research institutions and universities in France, Denmark and the United Kingdom. ATOM aims to define both the impact of textile production on agriculture, husbandry and the environment, its role in handicrafts, in trade, and, more generally, in the ancient economy, but also the uses of clothing in the construction of gender and individual and collective identities.

We are delighted that Zea Books of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Libraries’ Office of Scholarly Communications accepted this volume for publication. The open and free access will make our joint efforts available worldwide, and this is particularly important for a topic such as textile terminologies, which represents a truly global phenomenon. The electronic interface makes the papers searchable for those colleagues wishing to follow the paths of a textile or garment term, or for those who will search for textile techniques, tools or professions across languages and culture. We hope that the specialized papers will reach experts around the world, and enjoy a large and interested global readership who finds that the terminology of textiles is an intriguing endeavour.
Acknowledgements

We warmly thank all participants for their insightful and stimulating papers, lively discussions, inspiring exchange of ideas, both during the conference and in continued exchanges after the conference.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to those individuals and institutions who have contributed to the success of the conference and to the editorial work for the publication. First and foremost, for the generous financial support from our sponsors and hosts providing the institutional and financial framework for this conference and its publication: The Danish National Research Foundation’s Centre for Textile Research (CTR), the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung, the PICS TexOrMed, the GDRI Ancient Textiles from the Orient to the Mediterranean (ATOM), and the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). Financial support has also been provided by the Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship within the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission for research activities at the University of Copenhagen (ASTEX Project no. 36539).

This publication benefitted from the assistance and advice of our colleagues Peder Flemestad, Cherine Munkholt, Cailin Kwoh and Sidsel Frisch.

Salvatore Gaspa
Cécile Michel
Marie-Louise Nosch

December 2016
# Contents

Preface .................................................. 3

Acknowledgements ..................................... 4

List of Contributors .................................... 9

1 Textile Terminologies, State of the Art and New Directions .................. 19
   Salvatore Gaspa, Cécile Michel, & Marie-Louise Nosch

## Textile terminologies across the ancient Near East and the Southern Levant

2 A Diachronic View on Fulling Technology in the Mediterranean and the Ancient Near East: Tools, Raw Materials and Natural Resources for the Finishing of Textiles ........................................... 24
   Elena Soriga

   Salvatore Gaspa

4 Tools and Crafts, the Terminology of Textile Manufacturing in 1st-Millennium BC Babylonia .......................................................... 91
   Louise Quillien

5 Ordinary People’s Garments in Neo- and Late-Babylonian Sources ........ 107
   Luigi Malatacca

6 Flax and Linen Terminology in Talmudic Literature ................................ 122
   Nahum Ben-Yehuda

7 Jewish Terminologies for Fabrics and Garments in Late Antiquity: A Linguistic Survey Based on the Mishnah and the Talmuds ........................................... 153
   Christina Katsikadeli

8 Sha’atnez – The Biblical Prohibition Against Wearing Mixed Wool and Linen Together and the Observance and Enforcement of the Command in the Orthodox Jewish Communities Today ........................................ 164
   Orit Shamir
9 Armenian *karmir*, Sogdian *karmīr* ‘red’, Hebrew *karmīl* and the Armenian Scale
Insect Dye in Antiquity .................................................. 173
Agnes Korn & Georg Warning

10 Armenian Textile Terminology .................................................. 188
Birgit Anette Olsen

**Textile terminologies in Europe and Egypt**

11 Remarks on the Interpretation of Some Ambiguous Greek Textile Terms .................................. 202
Stella Spantidaki

12 Sabellic Textile Terminology .................................................. 210
Peder Flemestad & Birgit Anette Olsen

13 Beschaffung und Handel mit Farbstoffen .................................. 228
Peter Herz

14 Purple and its Various Kinds in Documentary Papyri. .................................................. 235
Ines Bogensperger

15 Zur Textilterminologie auf römischen Bleitäfelchen: Probleme der Lesung und Interpretation .................................................. 250
Herbert Graßl

16 Observations on the Terminology of Textile Tools in the *Edictum Diocletiani* on Maximum Prices .................................................. 256
Peder Flemestad, Mary Harlow, Berit Hildebrandt & Marie-Louise Nosch

17 Listening for *licia*: A Reconsideration of Latin *licia* as Heddle-Leashes .................................................. 278
Magdalena Öhrman

18 Textile Terminology in Old High German between Inherited and Loan Words .................................................. 288
Roland Schuhmann

19 Χιτών – δαλματική – μαφόρτης – σύνθεσις: Common and Uncommon Garment Terms in Dowry Arrangements from Roman Egypt .................................................. 295
Kerstin Droß-Krüpe

20 *Ars polymita, ars plumaria*: The Weaving Terminology of *taqueté* and Tapestry .................................................. 301
John Peter Wild & Kerstin Droß-Krüpe
## Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tunics Worn in Egypt in Roman and Byzantine times: The Greek Vocabulary.</td>
<td>Maria Mossakowska-Gaubert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Terminology Associated with Silk in the Middle Byzantine Period (AD 843-1204)</td>
<td>Julia Galliker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>A Name of a Private Factory (or Workshop) on a Piece of Textile: The Case of the Document A.L.18 (Vienna)</td>
<td>Anne Regourd &amp; Fiona J. L. Handley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Textile terminologies in metaphorical language and poetry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Zur Bekleidung der Krieger im Avesta: Rüstung und magischer Schmuck</td>
<td>Götz König</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Sasanian Exegesis of Avestan Textile Terms</td>
<td>Miguel Ángel Andrés-Toledo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>“Der Faden soll nicht reißen, während ich meine Dichtung webe...”: Zum metaphorischen Gebrauch von Textilterminologie im Rigveda</td>
<td>Stefan Niederreiter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Der Text als Gewebe: Lexikalische Studien im Sinnbezirk von Webstuhl und Kleid</td>
<td>Oswald Panagl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Weaving a Song. Convergences in Greek Poetic Imagery between Textile and Musical Terminology. An Overview on Archaic and Classical Literature</td>
<td>Giovanni Fanfani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Xie, a Technical Term for Resist Dye in China: Analysis Based on the Burial Inventory from Tomb 26, Bijiashan, Huahai, Gansu</td>
<td>Le Wang &amp; Feng Zhao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>The Textile Terminology in Ancient Japan</td>
<td>Mari Omura &amp; Naoko Kizawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Textile terminologies: examples from China and Japan</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Technical terms of textiles and textile tools and methodologies of classifications**

31  The Textile Term *gammadia* .................................................. 483  
    Maciej Szymaszek

32  The *oscillum* Misunderstanding ........................................... 492  
    Francesco Meo

33  Irritating Byssus – Etymological Problems, Material facts, and the Impact of Mass Media ................................................................. 500  
    Felicitas Maeder

34  Conceptualizing Greek Textile Terminologies: A Databased System .................. 520  
    Kalliope Sarri

35  textilnet.dk – A Toolkit for Terminology Research and Presentation ................ 528  
    Susanne Lervad & Tove Engelhardt Mathiassen