

Jabeen, N. (2018) 'Editorial'

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http://www.rosetta.bham.ac.uk/issue22/editorial.pdf

Welcome to Issue 22 of the Rosetta Journal, which has been produced by a mixture of old and new members of the Editorial Board. As the newly appointed General Editor, I would like to give my thanks to Ellie Bennet for her previous work in the same role and for performing excellently in keeping the Journal above board. As I had acted as the Articles Editor in the previous years, I am excited to take on a more advanced role for the Journal and to encourage its growth and impact for Academic Researchers both at the University of Birmingham, and outside.

I am proud to state that positive changes have already begun for the Journal, with much of our promotional material being largely updated and in sync in terms of appearance. However, the most important announcement to make is that the Rosetta Journal have decided to release a physical copy with each of its released issues. To encourage the accessibility and existence of the Journal, these will subsequently be housed in the Peter Gelling Library at the University of Birmingham. In addition to this, instructions to purchase individual copies (if any contributor or reader wishes to do so), will shortly be made available via our Rosetta website. In addition to this, contributors will also begin to receive letters of confirmation for submitting articles under our Journal, further highlighting our gratitude. All in all, the editorial board hopes that such changes now and hopefully in the future will allow the Rosetta Journal to evolve into a more professional resource for Academic Researchers around the world. I would also like to give my quick thanks to our special editors and copy editors, without whom the journal would not be at its current standard. In addition to this, I would like to also give a special thanks to our new Articles Editor who not only took to the job extremely quickly, but without any compliant.

For this issue, our articles present a surprising focus on the ancient Greek period, with a range of studies and topics bound to gain interest. The journal begins first with Michele Zanobini's 'Choral Odes in the Agamemnon', which looks to compare Aeschylus' Agamemnon to that of Seneca's in the Roman period. The differences in both works strike academics as strange, with the latter lacking stabilisation in terms of structure and language. However, due to the lack of the comprehensive study on this topic, Zanobini aims to highlight her own argument through a close reading of

the four Latin choral odes. Next, we have Francesca's Giovagnorio's 'Dedications for the Hero Ptoios in Akraiphia, Boetia'. Here we have the examination of the sanctuary complex of the hero Ptoios, which remained strongly popular, despite the introduction of new hero cults, such as Apollo. Giovagnorio aims to highlight why such a hero cult remained of such importance to its specific community, and how the idea of 'representation' was essential to the relationship between gods and mortals. Thirdly, we have a very interesting article which looks at the protagonist of the Hunger Game's Catching Fire, Katniss Everdeen, as a representation of a typical Greco-Roman mythological hero. Using a theory popularised by Joseph Campbell, in which the term *monomyth* was coined, Morais' aims to apply this theory towards modern literature, showcases that classical myth is still vibrant in our everyday culture. Next, the journal presents Josh Webb's 'Athenian Amateurs' which looks at development of war preparation during the classical period, using classical Athens as its case-study. In this article, Webb seeks to argue against the scholarly view of citizen hoplites being painted as 'amateurish' in the world of classical warfare. Instead, Greek professionalism is highlight by Webb through their methods of military training, in addition to their conditioning outside of the military, suggesting that hoplite training was taken seriously and professionally. Lastly, we have the return of our previous contributor Nicola Mureddu, who this time has submitted an article looking at the 'Transformation of Dionysus from the Bronze to the Iron Age'. This fascinating article looks at how Dionysus, currently viewed as the God of winemaking, frenzy and drunkenness, had several curious origins in the classical world. The Dervini papyrus, as highlighted by Mureddu, showcases Dionysus to instead be labelled at the God of the Dead, rather than that of Wine. There is, therefore, an evolution that seemed to appear from the Archaic and Classical period, highlighting that there is much more than meets the eye when it comes to the Greek God, Dionysus.

Our current issue also presents three book reviews, which looks at a wider range of classical periods. Firstly, we have a review by Eleanor Bennett on Zsolnay's book on the ancient constructs of masculinity. With the studies of masculinity in the ancient Near East just recently developing, Bennett highlights the importance and impact of such a work, in addition to its successful analysis on the fluidity of masculinity during this period. Next, we have a review given by Guy Middleton, who looks at

Weilhartner's and Ruppenstein's book on the 'Tradition and Innovation of the Mycenaean Palatial Polities'. Here we see papers of interest being highlighted, with the overall volume showing a positive impact through the introduction of up-to-date studies on the Mycenaean Palatial period as a result of recent excavations. The last is a review by Paul Kelly on Lerouxel's work, which goes on to assess the credit market of Roman Campania and Egypt. The review highlights the positive impact such a work has on Roman Egypt studies, especially in terms of economic and financial issues.

Overall, this looks to be an exciting release for the Journal which is sees a surge in the numbers of our contributors and a range of exciting works that have been submitted. I would like to end by thanking the Editorial Board in working quickly to release this issue, despite just freshly jumping into their roles. I wish to also thank our contributors for their hard work and patience, and hope that we have worked together to produce an issue that everyone can be proud of.

Nosheena Jabeen

General Editor