



K O N I N K L I J K E N E D E R L A N D S E
A K A D E M I E V A N W E T E N S C H A P P E N

Academy Colloquium

**“The efficiency of Markets in Pre-industrial societies: the case of
Babylonia (c. 400-60 BC) in comparative perspective”**

Programme*

Thursday, 19 May 2011

A. Discussion of research topic and methodology

9.00 – 10.50h.

- Introduction to the corpus of Babylonian prices. Introduction to research topic and method
R.J. van der Spek; B. van Leeuwen; K.G. Persson
- Statistical analysis of time series: the Babylonian price data
S.J. Koopman, VU University Amsterdam
- Market integration and welfare
K.G. Persson, Copenhagen University

10.50 – 11.20h. Break

B. Market and Prices in Babylonia (first millennium)

11.20 – 12.40h.

- Babylonia in the Pre-Hellenistic period
M. Jursa, Vienna
- Documents on regional and international trade
K. Kleber, VU Amsterdam

12.40 – 13.40h Lunch

C. Hellenistic Babylonia

13.40 – 15.40h.

- Mutual influence of prices of barley, dates and other products
B. van Leeuwen and P. Földvári, VU Amsterdam
- Early Hellenistic administrative documents
J. Hackl, Vienna; J. Monerie, Paris
- Exogenous shocks and prices
R. Pirngruber and J.A.M. Huijs, VU Amsterdam



15.40 – 16.00h. Break.

D. Declining and emerging markets

16.00 – 17.30h.

- Early Islamic Egypt
P. Sijpesteijn, Leiden
- Early Mediaeval Iraq
*B. van Bavel, Utrecht; Maya Shatzmiller, University of Western Ontario;
Jessica Dijkman, Utrecht*

17.30 – 19.30h. Reception at the Trippenhuys.

Friday, 20 May 2011

E1. The role of money and market: the Hellenistic World

9.00 – 10.20h.

- Money and taxation in the Seleucid empire
G.G. Aperghis, Athens/London
- Circulation of money in the Hellenistic period
F. Duyrat, Orléans

10.30 – 11.00h. Break

11.00 – 12.30h.

- Ptolemaic Egypt
S. von Reden, Augsburg
- Delos and the eastern Mediterranean
G. Reger, Hartford, Trinity College

12.30 – 13.30h Lunch

E2. The Role of money and market: the Roman world

13.30 – 15.00h.

- Circulation of money in the Roman Empire
J. Aarts, VU Amsterdam
- Prices and inflation: the case of Roman Egypt
D. Rathbone, King's College London

15.00 – 15.30h: Break



E3. *The role of money and market after Antiquity*

15.30 – 17.40h

- Circulation of money and prices in Mediaeval and early modern England
N. Mayhew, Oxford
- Coinage and money 18th-19th century China
Debin Ma, London School of Economics
- The history of silver. The purchasing power of silver in comparative perspective
R.J. van der Spek, VU Amsterdam

20.00h. Dinner for speakers.

Saturday, 21 May 2011

F. *Market efficiency in pre-industrial societies after Antiquity*

* 9.00 – 10.30h.

- Single/dual/triple crop economies and seasonality in Asia and Europe 1700-1900
J.L. van Zanden, Utrecht, and B. van Leeuwen, VU Amsterdam
- Dual crop economy in Ireland in the 19th century
L. Kennedy, Belfast

10.30 – 11.00h break

G. *Concluding discussion*

*11.30 – 13.00h.

Inventory of results. Publication of lectures (Presidency: Persson, Van der Spek, Van Leeuwen, Van Zanden).

13.00 – 14.00h. Lunch.

* Speakers are expected to send in their paper at the latest by 20 April 2011. At the conference there are 10 minutes per person for comments. Discussion of the papers will take place per session.