**Beyond Slavery and Freedom in the Ancient Near East**

Workshop organised by Vitali Bartash (BCDSS, Bonn, vbartash@uni-bonn.de) at the at the 68th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, University of Leiden, 17.07.2023

The workshop addresses the social groups in the ancient Near East that were not slaves but whose freedom was strongly restricted by law, economic conditions, patronage, religious institutions and other factors. Contributions highlight the differences between these groups from citizens with full rights, on the one hand, and from slaves, on the other. Why, how and on whom were they strongly dependent? Finally, the papers find out if there were ways out of these dependent statuses.

When? Monday, 17 July 2023, 14:30-18:00

Where? Cleveringaplaats 1, Leiden, Room Lipsius 003

Speakers:

14:30 Vitali Bartash (Bonn), Humans as donations to temples in Sumer

15:00 Cornelia Wunsch (Dresden), The hoax of semi-freedom

15:30 Andrew Pottorf (Harvard), The lives and work of the serflike UN-IL2 in the Ur III period

16:30 Annunziata Rositani (Messina), Inequality in the bīt asīrī (“the house of war prisoners”)

17:00 Nicholas Reid (Orlando), Prisoners as in-betweeners of society (Middle Babylonian period)

17:30 Jules Jallet-Martini (Paris), Freeborn vs freed heirs in some Old Babylonian texts

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