

13th International Conference for Meroitic Studies

9.-13. September 2024

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Fourth circular

Dear Colleagues,

sadly, the situation in Sudan has not improved since our last newsletter in the autumn. We can only hope that you and your loved ones are all safe! Therefore, we still have to assume that the conference will be a hybrid one, which can be attended in Münster and in parallel via Zoom. This format poses a number of challenges, not only for us in our preparations, but also for all the speakers. Therefore, we would like to use this letter to provide support and guidelines for the preparation of posters and presentations.

Registration is still open until June 30th, please visit

<http://meroiticstudies2024.info/registration/>

Not everyone whose abstract was accepted for presentation has also registered yet. We would very much appreciate timely registration from persons who plan to present a lecture or poster (or, alternatively, announcement that they want to withdraw).

Poster

Proposals for **posters** (including short oral presentation during the poster slam) are still accepted until 31st May 2024, please send them to the conference address:

meroiticstudies2024@uni-muenster.de

We recommend that all field projects are present with posters to enable a fruitful discussion during the poster session.

As long as the print-ready posters are sent to us as a pdf two weeks before the conference, we can print them free of charge for the poster authors. This is also possible for authors who cannot attend personally.

A short guideline for preparing the posters:

- If you want us to print the posters for you, please provide a print-ready layouted pdf to us.

- All posters should be in DIN (or EN/ISO 216) A0 format: height 1189 mm, width 841 mm.
- The poster title should be legible from a distance of 5 meters; body text should be legible from a distance of 1.8 meters.
- Use charts and graphs to illustrate data; avoid large tables with raw data for print. Most appreciated is a QR code at the printed poster linking to a technical online attachment for your raw data sets. Use high resolution images or, wherever possible, vector graphics embedded into your pdf for illustrations.
- It is the responsibility of the poster presenter to include copyright information for images used.
- Have a native speaker of the language of the poster review the text.
- All authors of the poster should be mentioned including their affiliation.

Poster Slam

Posters will be on display throughout the whole duration of the conference. However, on Wednesday afternoon there will be a poster slam (without parallel lectures), which is a short presentation of each poster in 2 minutes by the respective author. This is followed by the poster session, so that everyone has the opportunity to talk at the posters directly.

For the poster slam we will show each poster at the screen and the author has the chance to summarise the most necessary and exiting news in not more than 2 minutes. To prepare this short contribution, we recommend writing it down and test it. The essential information is:

- Location and time horizon (1 sentence)
- Category (cemetery/settlement/temple/fort/...) (1 sentence)
- Highlights, exiting news (rest of the time)

There is no need to repeat the headlines on the posters, the acknowledgements, or anything else that is written on the poster – these are visible to the audience. In the Poster-Slam you will have the attention of the whole audience and it is your chance to make a lateron visit of your poster attractive (where you can explain and discuss in detail without any time limit).

In the poster session we will arrange the posters regionally (south, including Island of Meroe / region of Jebel Barkal / Third cataract and beyond) and we hope that discussions will arise among the teams and researchers working in these regions.

Lectures

Presentations will be 20 minutes + 10 minutes for discussion. We are aware that within such a time limit it is only possible to point out the main topics of your research, but since we appreciate a lively debate, we ask you not to use the 10 minutes as an optional extra time for your presentation but reserve it for questions and remarks. Due to the parallel nature of the sessions and the resulting movement between rooms, strict time management will be emphasised, so please prepare your presentation well in advance. In order to keep to the schedule strictly, feel free to pre-record your contribution in advance

even if you attend personally, but to be present at the lectern to answer questions and discuss remarks with the audience. PowerPoint presentations can be sent in advance, but must be uploaded to the conference computer no later than the break before your presentation.

If you are unsure whether you will be able to travel (visa), please record your presentation in advance and send it to us. This allows you to confidently present your findings at the conference even if you are unable to attend in person. Due to variable network stability, we prefer to play the recorded presentations rather than the live presentation via Zoom. However, you will be able to join the discussion live.

To record your lecture, proceed as it is explained here:

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/record-a-presentation-2570dff5-f81c-40bc-b404-e04e95ffab33>

Presentations with many images can result in large amounts of data that cannot be sent by email. Please use the file server of our university with this link:

<https://uni-muenster.sciebo.de/s/B7ZNkCI9cAGGzKT>. Please do NOT use Dropbox, Google Drive or Google Presentations!

Due to the current situation in Sudan and the problems of travelling abroad for many of our colleagues, we will arrange a livestream for each room. This is a complex task as we have parallel sessions; the specific links will be distributed with the final program. However, we want to inform the speakers about the livestream and hope that there are no hesitations. All recorded data will be handled according to the strict EU and German national laws on information privacy.

Travel

Since some international airlines (e.g. Egypt Air) do not offer any direct connections to nearby airports, we recommend flights to Frankfurt/Main (Germany's central airport) or Munich with connection flight to Muenster/Osnabrueck Airport (FMO). From there, transport to the conference venue can be organised.

Our conference webpage will be updated regularly <http://meroiticstudies2024.info/>

All questions and requests regarding the conference should be addressed to the organizers at meroiticstudies2024@uni-muenster.de

We look forward to seeing you in Muenster,

Sincerely,

Angelika Lohwasser

Tim Karberg

Andrea Beermann

Anika Kalinasch

Jana Eger-Karberg

Lukas Egger

Florian Brenner

& the Team of the Institute for Egyptology and Coptology