The project ›Hethitische Festrituale‹ (HFR) at the Academy of Sciences and Literature | Mainz, which dedicates its work to a comprehensive edition of all Hittite festival texts, including cultural, religious, palaeographic and economic studies, will hold its First International Symposium entitled ›Cult, Temple, Sacred Spaces. Cult Practices and Cult Spaces in Hittite Anatolia and Neighbouring Cultures‹ from June 3rd until June 5th 2019 at the Academy of Sciences and Literature | Mainz.

The symposium aims to discuss recent developments regarding the interpretation of philological and archaeological sources from Anatolia and adjacent areas in the 2nd mill. BCE. It focuses on questions concerning the archaeology of temples and other sacred places, differentiation of sacred spaces according to written sources, the organization of festivals with a focus on spatial aspects, participation in festivals, and possibilities of interpretation thanks to insights into the cult practices of areas like Northern Syria, the Levant, Mesopotamia or Egypt.

HFR (›Das Corpus der hethitischen Festrituale: staatliche Verwaltung des Kultwesens im spätbronzezeitlichen Anatolien‹) is a long-term project conducted at the Academy of Sciences and Literature | Mainz, the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg and the Philipps-Universität Marburg. Objectives of HFR include the editorial reconstruction and indexing of the extensive corpus of Hittite cult festival texts from the 2nd mill. BCE in the form of web-based text editions as well as the investigation of core questions associated with the corpus in the context of overarching studies.

Registration deadline is May 1, 2019.

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Online Registration:

Photos:
Front: reliefs depicting deities, Yazılıkaya Chamber A (courtesy of J. Seeher, DAI Istanbul); inside, left: stag-rhyton, Schimmel Collection (1989.281.10, Metropolitan Museum of Art); right: aerial photo of Temple I, Boğazköy (DAI Istanbul); back: bull-rhyton, Boğazköy (courtesy of A. Schachner, DAI Istanbul)
Mo 3 June 2019
14.00–14.15 h Welcome
14.15–15.45 h Session 1
14.15–15.00 h Joachim Friedrich Quack
Festrituale im Alten Ägypten: ein Überblick mit dem Versuch einer Systematik
15.00–15.45 h Herbert Niehr
Kult und Heiligtum in den Ritualtexten aus Ḫattuša
15.45–16.15 h Coffee break
16.15–17.45 h Session 2
16.15–17.00 h Claus Ambros
Babylonian Temple Rituals of the 1st Millennium BC
17.00–17.45 h Nils P. Heeßel
The King in Ritual Action: The Assyrian Royal Temple Rituals
17.45–18.15 h Coffee break
18.15–19.15 h Evening keynote lecture
Gary M. Beckman: >He has made the Labarna, the King, his administrator: The Role of the Hittite Monarch in Festival Performance
19.15 h Reception

Wed 5 June 2019
9.00–10.30 h Session 7
9.00–9.30 h Carlo Corti
>He has made the Labarna, the King, his administrator:< At the Table with the Hittite King
9.30–10.00 h Francesco Barsacchi
The King goes up to the Roof: Hittite Nocturnal Rites Performed During the New Moon
10.00–10.30 h Charles W. Steitler
Offerings to the ›loci numinosi‹: Distinctive Features of Sacred Spaces and Cult Practices
10.30–11.00 h Coffee break
11.00–12.30 h Session 8
11.00–11.30 h Piotr Taracha
Remarks on Old Hittite Local Cults: A Spring Festival Celebrated by the Crown Prince in Ḫana and Vicinity (CTH 668)
11.30–12.00 h Susanne Görke
Ḫatti, Pala und Luwiya: Zu den Kulttraditionen der palaischen Texte aus Ḫattuša
12.00–12.30 h Conclusion of the conference