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978-0-521-19162-3 - The Philistines and Aegean Migration at the End of the Late Bronze Age

Assaf Yasur-Landau

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**THE PHILISTINES AND AEGEAN MIGRATION AT THE END  
OF THE LATE BRONZE AGE**

In this study, Assaf Yasur-Landau examines the early history of the biblical Philistines who were among the Sea Peoples who migrated from the Aegean area to the Levant during the early twelfth century BCE. Creating an archaeological narrative of the migration of the Philistines, he combines an innovative theoretical framework on the archaeology of migration with new data from excavations in Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, Syria, Lebanon, and Israel and thereby reconstructs the social history of the Aegean migration to the southern Levant. The author follows the story of the Philistine migrants from the conditions that caused them to leave their Aegean homes to their movement eastward along the sea and land routes, to their formation of a migrant society in Philistia and their interaction with local populations in the Levant. Based on the most up-to-date evidence, this book offers a new and fresh understanding of the arrival of the Philistines in the Levant.

Assaf Yasur-Landau is Senior Researcher at the Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies, University of Haifa. He has edited three volumes and published numerous articles on the archaeology of the Levant and interactions between the Aegean world and the Levant, including the Philistine migration, with an emphasis on the investigation of the personal lives of ancient people.

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**ASSAF YASUR-LANDAU**

University of Haifa



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TO ARIEL AND YONATAN

*Als das Kind Kind war,  
ging es mit hängenden Armen,  
wollte der Bach sei ein Fluß,  
der Fluß sei ein Strom,  
und diese Pfütze das Meer.*

from Peter Handke *Lied vom Kindsein*

When the child was a child  
It walked with its arms swinging,  
wanted the brook to be a river,  
the river to be a torrent,  
and this puddle to be the sea.

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