Slavery in the Late Antique World, 150–700 CE

Slavery in the Late Antique World, 150–700 CE investigates the ideological, moral, cultural, and symbolic aspects of slavery, as well the living conditions of slaves in the Mediterranean Basin and Europe during a period of profound transformation. It focuses on socially marginal areas and individuals on an unprecedented scale. Written by an international team of scholars, the volume establishes that late ancient slavery is a complex and polymorphous phenomenon, one that was conditioned by culture and geography. Rejecting preconceived ideas about slavery as static and without regional variation, it offers focused case studies spanning the late ancient period. These case studies provide in-depth analyses of authors and works, and consider a range of factors relevant to the practice of slavery in specific geographical locations. Using comparative and methodologically innovative approaches, this book revisits and questions established assumptions about late ancient slavery. It also enables fresh insights into one of humanity’s most tragic institutions.


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Slavery in the Late Antique World, 150–700 CE

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Preface

This volume has its origins in the seminar on Slavery in Late Antiquity held in the Tvärminne zoological station of the University of Helsinki in November 2016. The symposium was the twenty-fourth in the series of *Finnish Symposia of Late Antiquity*, and it was organized by Maijastina Kahlos, Ulla Tervahauta, and Ville Vuolanto. The theme of slavery was chosen as the research on slavery in the late Roman Empire and in the post-Roman kingdoms has been expanding and evolving in recent decades, with many of the self-evident truths cherished in previous studies having been challenged. We aimed to approach late antique slavery from a wide perspective, including social, economic, political, legal, ideological, and religious levels. With these viewpoints in mind, we had three key-note speakers in the symposium: Chris L. de Wet (University of South Africa), Marianne Bjelland Kartzow (University of Oslo), and Marja Vierros (University of Helsinki).

The symposium exceeded our expectations, both intellectually and socially, and we decided to organize this edited volume on late antique slavery, with contributors to the symposium, along with other researchers of slavery in Late Antiquity, in order to enrich the volume even further. In this endeavour, our aim has been to involve and bring together contributors with different backgrounds, both geographically and intellectually. Even if in today’s global academic world one’s scholarly and national backgrounds are no longer as significant as they used to be, we hope that this variety present in our volume will be visible in a positive way and provoke new research in previously unconsidered directions.
Preface

We wish to thank the Finnish Academy Centre of Excellence in Reason and Religious Recognition, Faculty of Theology, Department of World Cultures, Faculty of Humanities, University of Helsinki, and Jaakko Frösén Fund, University of Helsinki, for supporting the symposium. Many thanks are also due to the research assistants Irinja Bickert and Riikka Juntunen at Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies for their meticulous work with systematizing the notes and bibliography.
A Note on Abbreviations and Sources Used

Texts in standard editions and reference works are used. Works of Latin and Greek literary authors have been abbreviated by the Latin title. The full list of these abbreviations and editions can be found in *Oxford Latin Dictionary* (rev. ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press 2012, www.oxfordscholarlyeditions.com/page/abbreviations) and *Lewis and Short Latin Dictionary* (Oxford: Clarendon Press 1879) (see also https://perseus.uchicago.edu/LewisShortAbbreviations.html), for the Latin texts, and in *Liddell-Scott-James Greek Lexicon* (ninth ed., Oxford: Oxford University Press 1940) (see also http://stephanus.tlg.uci.edu/lsj/01-author_s_and_works.html) and *Diccionario Griego-Español* (Madrid: CSCI 2019) (http://dge.cchs.csic.es/lst/lst-int.htm), for the Greek texts. For papyri, see the Checklist of Editions of Greek, Latin, Demotic, and Coptic Papyri, Ostraca, and Tablets, founding editors John F. Oates and William H. Willis, online at https://papyri.info/docs/checklist. The following list gives the information for some lesser-known publications and editions, especially for the early medieval period and for the Arabic sources, as well as abbreviations for inscriptions, for legal material, and for some other abbreviations that may need further specification.


AE = *L’Année Épigraphique*. Paris (1888–).
Allen and Datema 1987 = Pauline Allen and Cornelius Datema (eds.),
_Leontii Presbyteri Constantinopolitani Homiliae_. Turnhout: Brepols
1987.

al-Andalusi, Bahr = al-Andalusi Abū Ḥayyān Muhammad ibn Yūsuf, _al-
al-Bayḍāwī, Ṭafsīr = al-Bayḍāwī, Nāṣir al-Dīn, _Al-Ṭafsīr al-musammā
awdīr al-tanzil wa-asrār al-ta wil_. Two volumes. Beirut: Dār al-

Binazzi 1989 = Gianfranco Binazzi, _Inscriptiones christianae Italiae sept-

CE = _Codex Enricianus_, in _Leges Visigothorum. Monumenta Germaniae
Historica, Leges Nationum Germanicarum_ 1, K. Zeumer (ed.).
Hannover 1902, 1–32.

CIL = _Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum_. 1863–.

C. Th. = _Codex Theodosianus_.

Cod. Iust. = _Codex Iustinianus_.

Conc. = La colección canónica Hispana: _Concilios hispanos, segunda
parte_. Volumes 4–6. Monumenta Hispaniae sacra. Serie canónica

Constas 2003 = Nicholas Constas, _Proclus of Constantinople and the Cult
of the Virgin in Late Antiquity: Homilies 1–5, Texts and Translations_.

CSLA = _Cult of Saints_, a database, see http://csla.history.ox.ac.uk.

Dagron and Feissel 1987 = Gilbert Dagron and Denis Feissel, _Inscriptions

Daley 2017 = Brian E. Daley, _Leontius of Byzantium: Complete Works_.

Datema 1978 = Conelius Datema (ed.), _Amphilochii Iconiensis Opera_.

Divjak 1987 = J. Divjak (ed.), _Oeuvres de Saint Augustin 46B: Lettres 1°-


A Note on Abbreviations and Sources Used


ICVR = Inscriptiones Christianae Urbis Romae. Nova series. Rome 1922–.


IMS = Inscriptions de la Mésie Supérieure. Belgrade 1976–.


Inst. Iust. = Institutiones Iustiniani.


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LCL = Loeb Classical Library. Cambridge MA 1912–.

LGPN = Lexicon of Greek Personal Names, www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/index.html.


MAMA = Monumenta Asiae Minoris Antiquae. Manchester 1928–.


NRSV = New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.


A Note on Abbreviations and Sources Used

SC = *Sources Chrétiennes*. Paris: Cerf 1943–.
A Note on Abbreviations and Sources Used


*TAM* = *Tituli Asiae Minoris*. Vienna 1901–.


