PROJECT TITLE: Amorite Onomastics in the Middle Euphrates and the Habur Areas during the Middle Bronze Age: the Feminine and Masculine Anthroponomy, an Anthropological and Linguistic Analysis

SUMMARY

The aim of our project is to make the whole inventory of the personal names that we can find in the Mari Archive, in the Chagar Bazar Archive and, eventually, in other archives of the Habur area as Tell Leilan, etc. Next, we will proceed to the organization in records of this material to udertake its philological study. The philological study will consist in, first: to identify every proper name. Second: we will organize them in linguistic groups, and, third: we will arudy the proper names than correspond to the semitic languages spoken in those places, the so called Amorita language (or languages), and accadian. Later on, our aim is to undertake a demographic and prosopographic study of those names.

A parallel study of the identification of the amorite substrate of the lexic compound of the proper names will be the anthropologica study of the feminine and masculine names. This study has to answer the simple question: How is a feminine and masculine name built in the Mari, Chagar Bazar and Tell Leilan Archives? The answer has to be adescriptive one, and consists in the identification of the features used to build the feminine and masculine amorite proper names correspondig to the Middle Bronze Age:

A. Family semantic field: ahātum (/ aha), ahum, abum, hālum, dādum (y dadātum?), binu, bintu, mārtum, hammu (i hammatum?), ummum, dāmum.
     B. Hierarchy: bahlum, bahaltum, bēlum, bēltum, amtum, šarrum, šarratum.
     C. Qualities: damqum, Tābum, etc.
     D. Animal names.
     E. Physical defect and descriptives: marāsum, etc.
     F. Nisbe: Amurritum, Barzipayitum, Haburitum, Talhayitum, Alašitum, Akkadîtum, Sam'ulatum, etc.
     G. Professions: taritum, gallabtum, lurakitum.
     H. Proper names:
          relatives;
          personal pronouns;
          deictics;
          interrogative pronouns: ayya ("Where?"), ali ("Where?");
          other: anna ("Yes, certainly!").
     I. Theophoric Personal Names.
     J. Other: moral or phisical qualities, plant or tree names, whether phenomenes, request, etc.