



## A PROFILE OF AN IDEAL RULER IN THE HELLENISTIC WORLD

Conference – November 9-10, 2022

Organizing committee: **Peter Dubovský, Luigi Santopaolo**

Advisory board: **Agustinus Gianto, Joseph Sievers, Daniela Scialabba**

This conference addresses a topic that has been discussed since the birth of humanity. What is the profile of an ideal ruler? How did the image of a model king change over the centuries? How was the model of an ideal king instantiated in different cultures? To this end, we will focus our attention on the Hellenistic period (4th–1st c. BCE). Moreover, this conference aims to create space for an interdisciplinary dialogue among scholars. Scribes that wrote in Egyptian, Akkadian, Greek, Aramaic, and Hebrew both assimilated traditional paradigms from their cultural milieus and adapted them to new circumstances. Thus, specialists in Egyptology, Assyriology, classics, and the Bible will have an opportunity to compare the results of their research. On the one hand, we hope that this discussion will individuate features of an ideal ruler that cut across different cultural and religious spheres. On the other, we will discuss how the model of an ideal ruler was incarnated in various geographical areas and historical periods. Finally, the hope is that this study, even though it deals with ancient cultures, can also inspire modern leaders.

**Wednesday, November 9 (Introduction)** [*moderator: Craig Morrison*]

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**17:00-17:30** **Holger Gzella** (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München)  
*Reframing Royal Ideology in the Aramaic Sections of Daniel*

**17:30-18:00** **Agustinus Gianto** (Pontificio Istituto Biblico, Roma)  
*The “Ideal Ruler”: Some Perspectives in the Book of Daniel*

*Venue: Aula Magna of the Pontifical Biblical Institute  
[Piazza della Pilotta 35 - Rome]*

*Admission free*

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Thursday, November 10 (a.m.)

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08:30-09:30 **EGYPTIAN** (moderator: Anthony SooHoo)

**Federico Contardi** (Università degli Studi di Firenze)

*The Profile of the Ideal King from the Egyptian Perspective*

**Stefan Pfeiffer** (Martin-Luther Universität Halle-Wittenberg)

*The profile of the Ideal King according to Ptolemaic Royal Self-Presentation*

10:00-11:00 **AKKADIAN** (moderator: Mark Avila)

**Rocío Da Riva** (Universidad de Barcelona)

**Paola Corò** (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia)

*Between Nostalgia and Realpolitik: Forging the Image of the Ideal Ruler from the Neo- to the Late- Babylonian Period through Intercultural Debate*

11:30-12:30 **GREEK** (moderator: Federico Giuntoli)

**Laurent Pernot** (Université de Strasbourg)

*Formes de l'idéal monarchique en Grèce (IV<sup>e</sup> - I<sup>er</sup> siècle av. J.-C.)*

**Michael Tilly** (Eberhard Karls Universität, Tübingen)

*Between Biblical Tradition and Hellenistic Ideology: A Profile of an Ideal Ruler in 1 Maccabees*

**p.m.**

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15:30-16:30 **JEWISH HELLENISM** (moderator: Benedetta Rossi)

**Hindy Najman** (University of Oxford)

*Ensouled Laws, Self-Taught Rulers, and Philosopher Kings: Ideal Teacher and Exemplary Leaders*

**Luigi Santopaolo** (Pontificio Istituto Biblico, Roma)

*Melchizedek, King and Priest: A Profile of an Ideal Ruler in the Apocalyptic Literature*

17:00-18:30 **SEPTUAGINT** (moderator: Paola Mollo)

**Daniela Scialabba** (Pontificio Istituto Biblico, Roma)

*The Greek Book of Esther - Models of Kingship at the Crossroads of Hellenism and Judaism*

**Martina Korytiaková** (Pontificio Istituto Biblico, Roma – Comenius University Bratislava)

*Knowing One's Place: Loyal Servitude as a Key Aspect of a Good Ruler according to the Book of Judith*

**Peter Dubovský** (Pontificio Istituto Biblico, Roma)

*Solomon: The Model of an Ideal King in the Greek Versions of the Books of Kings*