

From the *Foreword*:

The essays published in this special issue of *Orientalia* (78/3 [2009]) are written by members of the Faculty of Ancient Near Eastern Studies and scholars closely associated with it in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Pontifical Biblical Institute. [...] The areas of studies represented here include Pharaonic and Christian Egypt (V. P.-M. Laisney, Ph. Luisier), languages and literatures of Ancient Syria-Palestine (A. Gianto, H. Gzella, S. E. Fassberg, M. G. Amadasi Guzzo, R. Althann, C. E. Morrison), and the Mesopotamian world (St. Seminara, P. Dubovský). This range of contributions indicates the long-standing interest of the Pontifical Biblical Institute in the Fertile Crescent and in Egypt, the two main regions of the Ancient Near East which provide an important context for Biblical studies.

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