

## **Yigal Shiloh, William Dever, Carol & Eric Meyers and David Noel Freedman to present illustrated talks about recent archaeological findings to honor appointment of David Noel Freedman to endowed chair**

**January 29, 1987**

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### ARCHAEOLOGISTS GATHER TO HONOR JUDAIC STUDIES PROFESSOR

Four distinguished Biblical archaeologists will present illustrated talks about their recent findings during a gathering to honor the appointment of David Noel Freedman to the Endowed Chair in Hebrew Biblical Studies at the University of California, San Diego.

The public is invited to the free, day-long event Sunday, Feb. 22, in 108 Peterson Hall on the UCSD campus. The first talk, by Israeli archaeologist Yigal Shiloh, begins at 10 a.m.

The public is also invited to attend a luncheon at La Casa near Peterson Hall. There will be a charge of \$8. Checks should be made payable to the UC Regents and sent to Laurel Mannen, Judaic Studies Program, C-004, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA, 92093 by Feb. 16.

From 4:15 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. there will be a free, one-hour wine and cheese reception in La Casa.

The four guest speakers will be Shiloh, professor of archaeology at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, William Dever professor of archaeology at the University of Arizona, and Carol and Eric Meyers, both professors of archaeology at Duke University.

Freedman will speak at 5:15 p.m. on "The Intersection of Archaeology and the Bible." He will discuss how archaeological discoveries have affected our interpretation of the Bible and how the Bible has influenced our understanding of material remains.

Shiloh will discuss "The Relations Between Israelite Jerusalem and Neighboring Cultures," and Dever will talk at 11:15 a.m. about "Solomonic and Assyrian Period Defenses at Gezer."

Following the lunch break Carol Meyers will speak at 2 p.m. on "Discovery of the Oldest Holy Ark" and at 3:15 p.m. Eric Meyers will discuss "Jews and Christians at Ancient Sepphoris, 'Ornament of All Galilee.'"

Freedman, one of the world's most distinguished Biblical scholars, was named to fill the Endowed Chair in Hebrew Biblical Studies last year. He is the editor-in-chief of the Anchor Bible, a 40-volume work regarded as the most authoritative translations and commentaries on the Bible. Freedman is the author or co-author of numerous books including: "Early Hebrew Orthography," "The People of the Dead Sea Scrolls," "The Secret Sayings of Jesus," "Ancient Yahwistic Poetry," and "Archaeology of the Bible, Book by Book."

He is also the editor of the "Anchor Dictionary of the Bible," "The Computer Bible," and "The Computer Bible Series." He served as the associate editor and then editor of the Journal of Biblical Literature from 1952-59. Since 1974 he has been editor and director of publications for "The Biblical Archaeologist."

Freedman is a past president of the Society of Biblical Literature and a former director of the Albright Institute for Archaeological Research in Jerusalem.

He entered the City College of New York at the age of 13 and subsequently transferred to UCLA where he earned his B.A. in history in 1939 at the age of 17. In 1948 he received a Ph.D. in Semitic Languages and Literature from Johns Hopkins University.

He has taught at the University of Michigan where he was Arthur F. Thurneau Professor of Biblical Studies, Director of the Program in Religious Studies and professor in the Department of Near Eastern Studies. He has held visiting professorships in Israel, Japan, and Australia, as well as at various universities around the United States.

The event is sponsored by the UCSD Judaic Studies Program, the Revelle College Humanities Program and the Department of History.

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