



MAKE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE

## RESEARCH

### Tel Shikmona Excavations

Research indicates that Tel Shikmona, dating back to the Omride period, was an Israeli-controlled site for purple dye production—the largest of its kind in the Levant. It supplied this prestigious dye to regional kingdoms and likely to the Temple's curtain. [The study](#) is conducted by the Institute of Archaeology at the University of Haifa, with support from various organizations, including the President's Office at the University of Haifa and the Haifa Municipality. A new excavation has just concluded, with collaboration from several entities, including the Nature and Parks Authority and the Israel Antiquities Authority, aimed at restoring the site and enhancing public access.

### The Lost City of Tel Kabri

In the latest episode of [National Geographic's 'Lost Cities'](#), Albert Lin explores new discoveries at the ancient Canaanite palace of Tel Kabri. These findings reveal the civilization's resilience to climate change, both on land and at sea. Researchers from the School of Archaeology and



New Sculpture Garden at the Hecht Museum (Credit: Hilla Klor)

Maritime Cultures, led by Prof. Assaf Yasur-Landau, collaborated with top scientists, including Profs. Eric H. Cline, Alexandra Ratzlaff, and Tom Levy. Recent scientific volumes published by Brill and Equinox, co-edited by the team, further enhance our understanding of Tel Kabri's complex history.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### Mysteries of the Cities

The Department of Israel Studies, in collaboration with the School of Tourism, hosted a day-long [seminar](#) for tour guides for the Ministry of Tourism. The course was led by Dr. Assaf Selzer, Dr. Nurit Shtober-Zisu, Dr. Judith

Bronstein, Dr. Elia Etkin, and David Barak-Gorodetsky. During the seminar, faculty members of the program presented their research and new sources of information.

### Human Rights Clinic

Following the Freedom of Information request by Attorney Reut Cohen, the instructor of the Human Rights Clinic in the Faculty of Law, data regarding the Enforcement and Collection Authority's committee for state debt write-offs [has been revealed](#) for the first time. The data indicates that the committee handles a very limited number of requests each year.

## LEARNING AND STUDENTS

### Automated Learning Tools

[Evgeny Shnyr, an MA student in the Department of Information Systems](#), supervised by Prof. Tzvi Koplik from the Department of Information Systems and Dr. Tzilla Eshel from the School of Archaeology and Maritime Cultures, examined the use of automated learning tools to identify metal sources based on their chemical composition. This involves the relative isotopic identification of lead and comparing it to existing samples from different geographical locations.

### Sustainable Urban Development

[A new course](#) by Dr. Yardena Shaul: Sustainable Urban Development in the World and

in Israel—Their Environmental, Economic, and Social Importance. This course addresses one of the key issues on the international, global, and local agendas.

## OPERATIONS

### Sculpture Garden

The famous Sculpture Garden of Tefen has been relocated to the University of Haifa, situated behind the Hecht Museum, with a breathtaking view of Haifa Bay. Officially opened in June 2024, [the garden features](#) around 30 sculptures by prominent Israeli sculptors. It is positioned on the museum's lawn, overlooking the bay and the surrounding northern landscape.

## Past and Future

A [new podcast](#) from the School of Archaeology and Maritime Cultures was launched. The school is the only one in the country and among the few in the world that covers all areas of archaeology—on land, at sea, in the lab, and in conservation.

### 'Embroidered in the Body'

Batia Shani, Honorary Doctorate Recipient, opens a [new exhibit](#) in the Art Gallery of the Younes & Soraya Nazarian Library. This captivating new exhibition, curated by Prof. Sharon Poliakine. The exhibition is set in our new gallery space, overlooking a serene sculpture garden.



New exhibit by Batia Shani, Honorary Doctorate Recipient (Credit: University of Haifa).