



**"What really happened to the Lost Army of Cambyses?  
An answer from the recent excavations at Amheida, Dakhla Oasis."**

Dr. Olaf E. Kaper, Leiden University, Netherlands  
(2017 Getty Scholar)

Lecture Saturday June 10, 2017 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Free for ARCE-OC and Bowers Members.  
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Bowers Museum, Santa Ana - Norma Kershaw

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An army of 50,000 Persian soldiers was sent into the Egyptian desert and disappeared in a sandstorm, never to be heard from again, according to a story told by Greek Historian Herodotus. This tale has always captured the imagination of archaeologists, and many expeditions have searched for the remains of this army. Recent excavations at Amheida, Dakhla Oasis, have unexpectedly shed light on this mythical event. An Egyptian insurgency in 522 BCE or 521 BCE, led by a certain Petubastis, may have been much more important than was previously believed. We may have to search for a battlefield rather than the remains of an army buried in sand.



Dr. Olaf E. Kaper is Professor of Egyptology at Leiden University, the Netherlands, and Associate Director of the mission of New York University at the site of Amheida, Dakhla Oasis. His research is focused on three themes: Egyptian kings and cultural history; the oases of the Western Desert, in particularly Dakhla; and religious iconography.

Dr. Kaper received his PhD in Egyptology from the University of Groningen, the Netherlands, in 1997. He began teaching Egyptology at Leiden University in 2003 and became Full Professor there in 2005. He is currently in LA as part of the Getty Scholars Program.

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