

# Nocturnal ciphers - the allusive language of dreams in the ancient Near East

American Oriental Society - Boekbespreking [Review of: S.B. Noegel (2007) Nocturnal Ciphers: The... (2008)]

Description: -

Table I Summary of studies in support and against the REM scanning hypothesis.	
Against Hypothesis	Supporting Hypothesis
Mechanical properties of REMs	
In cat, bulls & bats are active in REM sleep and have no eye movements, whereas most of the primates showing a target in the visual field (Jennings et al., 1985).	Isolated and grouped REMs have a similar pattern and speed during REM sleep and during the wake state (Jennings et al., 1985).
Dream bimodality REMs are not categorized, they lack a bimodal point. It argues against the idea that REMs actually "have dream images, unless each eye is watching its own dream" (Zhu and Jing, 1997).	
Neurophysiological properties of REMs	
PGO waves (involving the visual brain area) and REMs are simultaneously generated (in parallel, not in series) (Van Meteren and Beets, 1989).	
Light and REM	
Reptiles and insects that do not have eyes (e.g. snakes and spiders) also have REMs, although they have no light, therefore cats and spiders who do visual cortex have REMs (Jouvet, 1982; Jouvet et al., 1989).	
Congenital blind people have REMs, although they have no "visual" dreams (Kerr et al., 1982).	Congenitally blind people have "visual" dreams (Kerr et al., 2003).
Visual dreams are also reported in non-REM sleep (Favazza et al., 2001).	
The direction of fixation point argues against the idea that REMs actually "have dream images, unless each eye is watching its own dream" (Zhu and Jing, 1997).	
Heterophasic connection (after awakening the subject) between REMs direction and direction of gaze in the dream.	
Positive in 70.8% of awakenings (Mouloua and Koenig, 1986).	
REM's direction during REMs direction and direction of limb action during REM.	
When present 94.9% of gaze oriented actions, 92% of REMs are directed in the same end-side of the line vector (Suzuki/Konno et al., 2003).	

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Puns and punning

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Dream interpretation -- Middle East -- History Nocturnal ciphers - the allusive language of dreams in the ancient Near East

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Tags: #Dream #interpretation #plays #an #important #role #in #the #Bible, #with #figures #like #Joseph #and #Daniel. #What #do #we #know #about #dream #interpretation #and #divination #in #the #ancient #Middle #East, #especially #the #Levant #and #Egypt? #: #AskHistorians

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Nevertheless, temple iconography consistently depicts Pharaoh performing the duties, for all such rites were performed in his name.

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Expressions of thanks or praise should be sent directly to the reviewer, using the email address in the review. Targum Pseudo-Jonathan **הִנֵּה נְפִיק** Behold, he comes forth to observe divinations at the water as a magician lit. **למִפְטוֹר קָסְמַן עֲלֵיו מֵאָה כְּאַמּוֹשָׁא וְתִיעַתָּה עַל גַּיְנָה רָא**. These are minor bumps along an otherwise exceptionally pleasant journey.

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