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Ethos, Circumcision, and the Egyptian Priests. Law between the Centre and the Periphery

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Second century papyri document procedure to allow circumcision of boys from priestly families. This measure developed to evade the universal ban on circumcision introduced by the Roman authority possibly as a means of anti-Jewish repression following the so-called Diaspora Revolt. The requests are made and granted 'according to the custom', which seems to have a normative value. If so, this case-study, confronted with other papyrological evidence, may contribute to the research on application of the local laws by the Romans: the first question of the juristic papyrology since its foundation, and thus elucidate the tension between the centre and the periphery in the world of a legal plurality.

You are cordially invited to the guest lecture and the subsequent convivial get-together.

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