

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910954629303321
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Titolo	Letters of the great kings of the ancient Near East : the royal correspondence of the late Bronze Age / / Trevor Bryce
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York, : Routledge, 2003
ISBN	1-134-57585-8 0-203-59883-0 1-134-57586-6 1-280-05083-7 0-203-50498-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (254 p.)
Classificazione	15.51
Disciplina	935/02
Soggetti	Middle East History To 622 Sources Middle East Kings and rulers Correspondence
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 237-243) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Setting the scene. The main players: the five great kingdoms. The interaction of the players: imperial administration and international relationships -- The letters and their themes. Letters and messengers. The club of royal brothers. Gift-exchanges. The marriage market. Sending for the doctor -- Historical episodes. The Syrian principalities. The warlords of Amurru. Hittite frontier correspondence. An extraordinary request. Letter to a Mycenaean king. The elusive Urhiteshub -- Last days.
Sommario/riassunto	Offering fascinating insights into the people and politics of the ancient near Eastern kingdoms, Trevor Bryce uses the letters of the five Great Kings of Egypt, Babylon, Hatti, Mitanni and Assyria as the focus of a fresh look at this turbulent and volatile region in the late Bronze Age. Numerous extracts from the letters are constantly interwoven into the fabric of narrative and discussion, and this lively approach allows us to witness history through the eyes of the people who lived it, revealing the personalities and reactions of kings, queens, princes, princesses and royal offici

