

1145-01-595      **Annette Imhausen\*** ([warner@em.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:warner@em.uni-frankfurt.de)), Cluster "Normative Orders",  
Max-Horkheimer-Straße 2, 60323 Frankfurt, Germany. *Mathematics and Justice in Ancient  
Egypt.*

Mesopotamia and Egypt were the earliest cultures that developed writing systems and notations for numbers. Both were used by their rulers (kings) to administer the country and to govern available resources. In addition, they were also employed to structure and justify formal collections of knowledge. These early formal systems include explicit and implicit elements of the normative orders that structured their respective societies, e.g. by prescribing the work-load (measured in quantities of produce) that had to be delivered in set time periods. Furthermore, at least for Mesopotamia, a relation between mathematical and legal procedure texts has been established by Jim Ritter based on the verbal structures in each of these texts. A similar case can be made for Greco-Roman Egypt based on the Demotic mathematical problem texts and the Demotic Legal Code of Hermopolis West. The case for Egypt before Greco-Roman times, however, is not as straightforward. The talk will explore additional sources for his earlier part of Egyptian history to indicate the role that mathematics may have had in establishing normative orders and justice in ancient Egypt. (Received September 11, 2018)