

In a quote from <https://thetorah.com/what-is-the-bibles-calendar/> we read:

*... A number of very small artifacts, discovered in the area of ancient Judah and dating from Iron Age II (early first millennium), have been convincingly identified as calendars.*

*These pocket-size, animal-bone plaques are all perforated with three rows of ten holes, which were probably designed for tracking the days of the month: a peg would be inserted and moved along the holes on a daily basis, so as to keep track of the current date. ...*

*This common artefact might tell us something about the calendar of ancient Israel or the Hebrew Bible. ...*



Tel Fara Plaque. Courtesy of UCL Institute of Archaeology

While the author was trying to validate the lunar calendar, this artifact actually seems to be a strong advocate for the Zadokite Sabbath calendar. The author also states: *"One such plaque from Aroer, contains an additional twelve-hole row, for tracking the twelve months of the year."* If there were frequently thirteen-month years, would there not have been thirteen holes for the months? We would also note that there are thirty peg holes for thirty day months with an extra peg hole (identical in size) at the end that would accommodate a peg for the tekufah day each season – the day out of time.

Applicable footnotes at the end of the article read:

Sacha Stern, "Counting Time with Peg Holes," in *Conversation Pieces: Inspirational Objects in UCL's Historic Collections*, ed. M. Carnall (Oxford: Shire Publications, 2013), 68–69. Nili Fox, "A Bone-Carved Calendar," in *Tel 'Aroer: The Iron Age II Caravan Town and the Hellenistic-Early Roman Settlement; The Avraham Biran (1975-1982) and Rudolph Cohen (1975-1976) Excavations*, Annual of the Nelson Glueck School of Biblical Archaeology 8, ed. Yifat Thareani (Jerusalem: Hebrew Union College, 2011), 255–58.