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Posters



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KHIRBERT AL-BATRAWY (JORDAN): PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Preliminary data on the archaeozoological and taphonomic analysis of the faunal remains from the Early Bronze Age site of Khirbet al-Batrawy will be presented. The animal bone assemblages from different areas of the settlement and different occupation phases will be compared in order to evidence possible variations within the site as well as changes through time in subsistence strategies, diet, and economic exploitation of animal resources. Finally, comparisons will also be made with other coeval sites of the Southern Levant.

C. Alvaro

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MALATYA-MELID: A NEW LOOK AT THE 20TH CENTURY'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH.
SOME REMARKS ON THE TOPOGRAPHICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL EVIDENCE

In the 1930's Louis Delaporte brought to light several Medieval, neo-Assyrian and neo-Hittite structures on the mound of Arslantepe, near Malatya, Turkey. Among these, the neo-Hittite Lions' Gate was dismantled and reconstructed in the Ankara Archaeological Museum.

This poster shows the results of a re-analysis of this area carried on during the 2006-2007 field work. This re-analysis allowed the archaeologist to identify several traces of the structures brought to light during the French excavations. According to this traces it was possible to point out the exact location of the neo-Hittite gate, and after an accurate cleaning of that area, it was possible to analyse the structures still preserved, which were in use at the same time as the Lions' Gate. Moreover, during the 2007 field research, the archaeologists discovered an imposing mud brick and stone wall built before the construction of the Lions' gate.

C. Alvaro^a, P. Ardisson^b, F. Balossi^a, A. Banni^c, G. Sanna^c^a"Sapienza" Università di Roma^bDITAG, Politecnico di Torino^cUniversità di Cagliari1961-2008. FROM PAPER RECORDS TO COMPUTER DB, CAD, GPS, AND WEB SOLUTIONS
FOR THE DOCUMENTATION, ANALYSIS AND FRUITION OF EXCAVATION RESULTS
AT THE SITE OF ARSLANTEPE (TURKEY)

The MAIAO (Missione Archeologica Italiana in Anatolia Orientale) of the "Sapienza" Università di Roma, the Land, Environment and Geo-Engineering Department of the Politecnico di Torino, and the Department of Structural Engineering, Section of Topography, of the Università di Cagliari are involved in a research project (ARCHEOMEDSAT), with the aim of defining the architecture and components of a suitable information system for the acquisition, management and analysis of excavation data from the site of Arslantepe. Topographic data, referred to a global datum as WGS84, Open Source management software and web accessibility are considered a priority for the fulfilment of such an aim. This system also has to be designed to facilitate research activities in these sites and the complex elaboration of the retrieved data. It should become a fundamental tool for archaeologists and other researchers, and permit complex queries and multifactorial analyses between topographical, stratigraphic and architectural data, and the information that can be collected from finds. Here too, web accessibility has again proved useful for a multidisciplinary international collaboration between researchers.

Paolo Ardisson see C. Alvaro

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE SURVEYING THROUGH CLOSE RANGE DIGITAL PHOTOGRAMMETRY

Surveying of archaeological sites represents today a very interesting contest where the potentialities of the new digital technologies of close range photogrammetry can be fruitfully expressed.

During the 2007 summer campaign at the archaeological site of Arslantepe, in the south-eastern area of large Malatya plain (Eastern Anatolia), the researchers of the University of Rome “La Sapienza” with the researchers of the University of Cagliari carried out various topographical and photogrammetric survey. A typical case study is the photogrammetric survey of the Royal Tomb, dating back to the beginning of the 3rd millennium BC, using low cost digital photogrammetric techniques and software.

The images required to obtain two blocks of 3 stereopairs were acquired by digital non-metric camera FUJIFILM FinePix S3 Pro mounted over a professional photographic tripod Manfrotto. In particular, the vertex coordinates (WGS84) of around 60 targets were determined both by topographic survey using Leica total station and by GPS RTK survey using Topcon GPS receiver. Orientation and restitution of each stereopair has been reached using the photogrammetric digital software GcartoGDS produced by Geosoft s.r.l. Results show that low cost digital photogrammetric techniques can be used efficaciously in archaeological surveying when the survey has to be performed in a short time and the metric precision of the survey has to be guaranteed.

Ali Atabaki

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DISCOVERING AND STUDYING THE PAINTINGS OF THE PREHISTORIC AGE IN THE ESHKAFT AHOO ROCKY SHELTER (CAVE) IN BASTAK, SOUTH OF IRAN

Eshkaft Aho rocky shelter is located 4 km from Bastak, at the end of the southern Zagros Mountains, not very far away from the northern margin of the Persian Gulf. Archeological surveys in this region discovered one-color paintings in this rocky shelter. Images of hunter men with arrow and bow, a picture of a hand, images of wild animals along with a lot of unknown signs are interesting and noticeable examples of rocky painting art. The aim of this poster is not only to introduce and declare the discovery of this rocky shelter, but also to study, interpret and analyze these paintings. Comparisons with paintings from other regions, especially from western Europe and Africa, will be used to date them.

In this way the study and analysis of the paintings of this rocky shelter in the northern margin of the Persian Gulf, which is located in the South of Iran, can clarify the social behavior of hunting societies of the Epipaleolithic Era.

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EXCAVATIONS AT GODEDZOR (SOUTHERN ARMENIA). NEW INSIGHTS ON THE EMERGENCE OF THE (PROTO) KURA-ARAKS PHENOMENON IN THE LESSER CAUCASUS MOUNTAINS

The transition between the Late-Chalcolithic and the Kura-Araks culture still is one of the most enigmatic and poorly documented phases of cultural and social development in the prehistory of Southern Caucasus which, according to the few ¹⁴C datings available so-far, must have taken place around the middle of the 4th millennium BC.

From the ceramic point of view, this transition is marked by the appearance of a new grit-tempered tradition in a cultural context which is basically dominated by the typical Late-Chalcolithic *Chaff-Faced* production.

Excavations at Godedzor (Southern Armenia), 1800 m asl in the Lesser Caucasus range, have brought to light levels of occupation dated 3520-3350 cal. BC which witness this transition and the appearance of a ceramic group which foreshadows (from the technological, functional and typological point of view) many of the typical traits of the Kura-Araks pottery tradition.

Data from the excavations (ecological and geographical setting, wattle and daub architecture, faunal data) suggest that these ancient villagers were in fact specialized transhumant pastoralists moving around the highlands of the Lesser Caucasus during the summer season. The new Proto Kuro-Araks data from Godedzor add an important set of information for the construction of a new chronology of Southern Caucasus in the 4th millennium and also suggest new hypotheses on the dynamics related to the first emergence of the Kura-Araks phenomenon in the region.

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USING GROUND-PENETRATING RADAR INVESTIGATIONS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES IN AN URBAN AREA (İSTANBUL, TURKEY): PRELIMINARY RESULTS

The ground penetrating radar (GPR) technique has been used to investigate the sub-surface archaeological remnants in an urban area, located in İstanbul (Turkey). The GPR survey was carefully conducted at selected location (dating from Neolithic age) adjacent to Küçükçekmece Lake, which is near the Prehistoric Yarımburgaz cave. The main measurements are collected using a Mala Geosciences RAMAC system, equipped with 250 MHz centre frequency shielded antennae. The selected area (300 x 100 m) was surveyed along parallel 1 m spaced profiles using 250 MHz antennae.

Our GPR survey revealed a significant archaeological layer (with a thickness of 50 cm), which is located approximately 2 meters below the surface. The layer systematically displays a characteristic signature in GPR profiles. And the layer seen by GPR were 200 meters * 70 meters. The excavated areas near our study side showed us the layer that we determined with GPR has some archaeological remnants like ceramics and hand-instruments. In the light of new exciting preliminary results, a big scale archaeological excavation will take place in the area. And also geophysical surveys will continue for larger areas.

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İZMİR REGION EXCAVATIONS AND RESEARCH PROJECT (IRERP) - TURKEY. LIMAN TEPE, BAKLA TEPE, ÇEŞME - BAĞLARARASI AND KOCABAŞTEPE EXCAVATIONS

The Izmir Region Excavations and Research Project (IRERP) is a regional archaeological project which aims to shed light on the prehistory of the Izmir region. Excavation of four Bronze Age sites (Liman Tepe, Bakla Tepe, Çeşme – Bağlararası and Kocabaş Tepe) and surveys of the region have continued throughout the course of the project. The excavations of Bakla Tepe and Kocabaş Tepe have been completed and the finds are currently under study for publication.

The Izmir Region is located in the heart of the western Anatolian coastline and forms a natural bridge between the Anatolian mainland and the western Aegean. The region is connected to central Anatolia via deep valleys and is linked to the Aegean Sea via many harbour sites along the coast. The region has been continuously inhabited from the Neolithic until modern times. Excavations and surveys carried out during the IRERP project have started to yield valuable information about the important role of the Izmir Region within a wider Aegean-Anatolian perspective throughout the Bronze Age. The region has proved to be the "meeting point" of Anatolian and Aegean cultures, acting as a valuable laboratory for analysing the relative chronologies of both regions, as well as facilitating investigations into the changing nature and degree of interaction between them during the Bronze Age.

Özlem Aytek
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TECHNOLOGY AND TYPOLOGY OF THE EARLY LOCAL POTTERY OF MEZRAA-TELEILAT

The poster will be a presentation of the early local pottery of the early Neolithic horizon recovered during the Mezraa-Teleilat excavation on the Euphrates. The site has revealed an uninterrupted cultural sequence from the Pre-Pottery Neolithic to the beginning of the Halaf Culture; thus it is one of the few sites where the emergence and the development of pottery can be detected. The earliest pottery recovered at Mezraa-Teleilat belongs to the latest stage of the Pre-Pottery Neolithic, though as it is extremely rare and includes well-finished specimens it might have been imported from another area, implying that while Mezraa-Teleilat was still in the Pre-Pottery Neolithic stage, elsewhere pottery was already in use.

The earliest local pottery at Mezraa-Teleilat is extremely crude and technologically primitive, suggesting that it is a local development and not a derivation from the earlier wares. Most of the local pottery is organically tempered, though in time being simultaneously used with mineral temper wares. The present study covers, besides the fabric, the shapes and their functions, mainly the distinct technology used in the manufacturing of these wares. A general assessment of the Mezraa-Teleilat Neolithic pottery will also be presented in the context of emergence and development of early pottery traditions in the Near East.

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THE NEOLITHIC-CHALCOLITHIC TRANSITION IN TRANSCAUCASIA:
THE EXAMPLE OF AKNASHEN (ARMENIA)

In Transcaucasia, the transition between the Neolithic (Shulaveri-Shomutepe culture) and the Early Chalcolithic (Sioni culture) is still poorly understood. In the Kura basin and the northern part of the steppes of Azerbaijan, the end of the Shulaveri-Shomutepe culture (transition 6th-5th millennium BC) is marked by the abandonment of almost all the sites and the establishment of new villages belonging to the Sioni culture in more diversified environments, valleys and high plateaus. In the basin of the Arax, the only two large sites excavated so far, Kültepe in Nakhichevan and Aratashen in the plain of Ararat, were also abandoned.

The site of Aknashen (formerly Khatunarkh) established a few kilometers from Aratashen in the Kasakh valley, is the first site to clearly present a continuous stratigraphic sequence covering the two phases. The older, with architecture in pisé or mud brick and having a rich bone tool industry, belongs to the Shulaveri-Shomutepe culture. The second, marked by the abandonment of constructed architecture, the rarity of ground stone and bone industry, the appearance of pottery with a combed surface decorated with rows of perforations, is characteristic of the Sioni culture and is evidence of progressive development towards a more pastoral and mobile economy.

A. Balasescu see R. Badalyan

Semra Balci

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OBSIDIAN SOURCE-TECHNOLOGY-SETTLEMENT RELATIONS:
AŞIKLI HÖYÜK (CENTRAL ANATOLIA) CASE

Aşıklı Höyük, situated in Central Anatolia (West Cappadocia), is a Pre-Pottery Neolithic site dated to the 8th mill. BC. The excavation, going on since 1989, reveals three main phases up to now, with well preserved mud-brick architecture and a rich obsidian industry.

Western Cappadocian region is rich in obsidian sources and workshops used by the prehistoric people. Aşıklı Höyük being near these sources employed obsidian extensively for the rich chipped stone industry. Obsidian arrived to the site in form of blocks or tablets where the whole process of knapping took place. The obsidian technology mainly displays blades produced by direct percussion. The blades had been knapped by means of unipolar and bipolar system.

Kömürcü Kaletepe workshop (Göllüdağ) dated 10-8th mill. BC was excavated between 1997-2002. The workshop displays obsidian products belonging to two different processes: standardized unipolar and bipolar cores. Bipolar Naviform cores are used to obtain long, regular pointed blades most probably to be utilised as blanks for projectiles. Kaletepe is considered to be a specialised workshop where the standardized blades were produced to be exported. These cores are also found on other workshops but not yet recovered at the prehistoric sites in this region. This technology has parallels with Levantine Pre-Pottery Neolithic B but it is not known or practised in Aşıklı Höyük. However a few products were found at the site, probably imported.

Nur Balkan-Ath

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ONE OF THE EARLIEST CENTERS OF OBSIDIAN TRADE:
GÖLLÜ DAĞ (CENTRAL ANATOLIA)

Obsidian, volcanic glass, was one of the valued raw materials by prehistoric men. Its homogenous glassy texture and varied colours (black, grey, green, brown or red) and its rarity, compared to the flint, were probably the reasons of this appreciation.

Anatolia is one of the richest regions in obsidian sources of the Near East, concentrated mainly in western Cappadocia and in the eastern Anatolia. Anatolian obsidian was largely spread in the settlements since 14000 BP (non cal.) till, at least, to the end of the Chalcolithic.

Recent researches in Central Anatolia at Göllü Dağ displayed new information on obsidian: new sources, different kinds of workshop, various types of products as well as its short and long distance distribution.

F. Balossi see C. Alvaro

A. Banni see C. Alvaro

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DOWN-UP SAMPLING CLASSIFICATION OF POTTERY FROM OMAN USING MGR-ANALYSIS

The pottery studied here originates from an extended survey in Oman. In 1998, a project was initiated entitled 'Transformation Processes in Oasis Settlements in Oman'. Specialists of different disciplines were involved in the project. The project was undertaken with the financial support of the State of Baden-Württemberg, the University of Muscat, the German Institute of Archaeology, and of the German Research Foundation (DFG). When dealing with the large number of samples, a *down-up sampling classification* strategy is used to classify the material according to the wares (fabrics). It enables a statistically significant number of pottery fragments to be classified into raw material groups with the help of low-tech methods, thus reducing to an essential minimum the use of expensive high-tech methods. Systematic refiring (MGR-analysis) allows to classifying sherds according their thermal behaviour and was carried out on all 500 samples selected for laboratory analysis. Thereafter only 70 samples were taken for chemical analysis, thin section studies and determinations of ceramic properties, like apparent density and water absorption. The 70 samples represented all raw materials groups detected from MGR-analysis and therefore all 500 samples are classified according their composition. Comparison with previous macroscopically determined fabric groups demonstrated the limits of pottery classification in the field.

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ARCHAEOCERAMOLOGICAL STUDIES OF POTTERY FROM LATE URUK TO SELEUCID/PARTHIAN PERIODS IN URUK

Subject of laboratory analysis have been 250 pottery sherds of different wares covering the whole range of pottery from 4th to 1st millennium BC in Uruk (Late Uruk to Seleucid/Parthian periods). The samples originate from many years of German excavations in Uruk. All samples were first classified macroscopically. Laboratory analysis started with a classification according the firing behaviour of the fragments (MGR-Analysis), which yields also the range of firing temperatures. Chemical analysis by WD-XRF of major and trace elements, thin section studies and determination of the ceramic properties (apparent density, open porosity and water absorption) followed. The archaeometric project was financed by the German Archaeological Institute (DAI) and Free University of Berlin. The results show the variability of local and regional pottery and the use of distinct temper technology for differing function of the vessels. Data were compared with those from pottery from other southern Mesopotamian sites, e.g. Larsa, Tell ed Deir, Nippur, Ur, Djemdet Nasr, Bahireh Zahireh, Kheit Qasim.

Alessandro Canci

Università degli Studi di Udine

A POSSIBLE CASE OF TRAINING TO CRANIAL SURGERY IN ANCIENT QATNA

Among the graves brought to light by the Italian team in the large cemetery, containing monumental shaft graves and simple pit and jar burials located in the northern part of the acropolis, under the Royal Palace, an atypical pit burial (Grave 21) and radiocarbon dated 3455 ± 50 BC, was uncovered. The grave consisted of a pit containing a skeleton in anatomical connection placed in supine position with upper

limbs flexed and legs absent. No grave goods were present. The skeleton belonged to a male, aged 25-35 years and 162.7 cm tall.

The cranial vault on the parietals and occipital bones showed a set of lesions carried out by a metal blade. These lesions are compatible with trephination of the skull carried out by cutting technique. As documented by image magnifications, the scalp was probably reflected backwards, subsequently repetitive cutting of the bone probably made by a coarse-toothed saw was carried out. No evidence of healing was observed thus suggesting death of the subject during or immediately after the operation. Interestingly, X-ray in lateral projection shows marked “hair-on-end” appearance and porotic aspect of the cranial vault indicating previous pathologic condition probably due to anaemia or infection.

Nevertheless, the several trephinations observed could also suggest uncertainty of the surgeon about the appropriate place to cut or training on a fresh cadaver as well.

Cranial trephination was the most ancient form of surgery of the history of medicine and this practice is worldwide diffuse and documented beginning from the Neolithic in several ancient cultures. In ancient Near East several cases of trephination observed in human skulls from Palestine were reported by literature, more occasionally in Anatolia and Iran. The practice of trephination was not commonly observed in human remains from Syria (Dastugue 1062, Ramos 2007, Wolska 1994). At present the operation described here, together with a similar case from Ebla (Mogliazza personal communication), represent another significant documentation from ancient Syria.

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Università del Salento, Lecce

ARCHAEOBOTANICAL INVESTIGATION AND FOOD HABITS
FROM NEOLITHIC TO MEDIEVAL MERSIN-YUMUKTEPE

In this study we present a synthesis of the archaeobotanical analysis carried out at Mersin-Yumuktepe. The site is one of the main archaeological settlements in Turkey, located between the Taurus Mountain system, the Anatolian plateau and nearby Syrian coast, it was occupied from Early Neolithic until the Middle ages. Archaeobotanical investigation was aimed at identifying agricultural practices and eating habits during the different phases occupied.

The results here proposed refer to the plant remains collected in 1996 and 2002-2006 excavations and concerning different contexts of finds (silos, houses, storehouses and religious buildings).

Our researches underline several changes in eating habits from Neolithic to Medieval period which are related to both cultural and/or environmental variations, confirming the great importance of the pluri-stratified site of Mersin-Yumuktepe related to its topographical and geographical position.

V. Caracuta, G. Fiorentino

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PLANT REMAINS IN A MIDDLE BRONZE AGE VOTIVE WELL AT EBLA

The discovery of a deep votive well full of pottery, idols of clay, animal bones and charred plant remains along the wall of the Temple of the Rock at Ebla, raised new questions on the character of the Middle Bronze Age cults in the town.

Considering the importance of this particular kind of findings and the lack of archaeobotanical analysis for these types of contexts, a detailed investigation of the charred assemblage was carried out to define the role of plant elements in these specific rituals.

The investigation started defining the stratigraphical contexts of findings: the ritual fuel discharging was distinguished from the deposition of charred seeds in pots.

The identification of plant found led to shed light on the type and the geographical origin of the archaeobotanical assemblage.

Triticum aestivum/compactum and *Hordeum vulgare* caryopses, *Olea europaea* stones enter into the traditional pattern of the deity offering, and they probably have a local origin, while other plant remains, not locally available, should be carefully interpreted.

More information on the length of the cults was inferred from the growing period of the majority of crops found (annual life cycle) which led to hypothesize a seasonal pattern in the ritual activity.

V. Caracuta see I. Caneva

Pinar Cayli, Sevil Gülcür, Celine Wawruschka-Firat
Istanbul University

CHALCOLITHIC LANDSCAPES OF SETTLEMENT IN NORTH-WESTERN CAPPADOCIA

The Chalcolithic hilltop settlement of Güvercinkayasi in north-western Cappadocia has been detected within a long-term survey of the districts Aksaray, Nevşehir and Niğde. Since 1996 the site of Güvercinkayasi is under excavation, which could prove several settlement layers and a distinct development of settlement traditions. During six years of surveying the landscape of this region, a sound amount of Chalcolithic sites could have been located. Together with the known Chalcolithic sites from other surveys or excavations in north-western Cappadocia, we are able to draw a first picture of Chalcolithic settling in the region, considering the site of Güvercinkayasi as a regional model of this period.

J. Chabot see R. Badalyan

Christine Chataigner see Pavel Avetisyan

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GIS OF THE NECROPOLIS OF ANCIENT CYRENE (LIBYA)

Cyrene presents one of the largest and most spectacular necropolis of the Mediterranean basin, but at the same time it is the less known by the scholars. Recent studies of the scholar J. Thorn have presented a preliminary view of the architectural monumentality, especially for the rocky chamber tombs, showing the need of new survey projects in the area. The team of Chieti University started in 1999 a project of surveying and mapping of the southern and eastern necropolis, giving birth to a GIS using differential GPS and Robotic total station for positioning and recording of the tombs and multispectral HD satellite images, previously ortho-rectified and geo-referenced, combined with RADAR images for highly detailed topographic base, DEM and DTM. From 2004, the survey and the GIS have been extended also to the western and northern necropolis, counting at the moment about 1500 mapped and recorded tombs. From the large amount of results is now possible to create models of the evolution of the necropolis, looking to its landscape assessment, to its growth in combination with the urban context, to the development of the architectural typologies of the tombs, in order to contextualize more properly, chronologically and topographically, the progresses of this monumental city of the dead. This contribution is dedicated to the Late Jim Thorn, who devoted his life in mapping and saving the tombs of Cyrene, and introduced and involved our team in this project.

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SURVEY IN ADAM (SULTANATE OF OMAN): BETWEEN THE OASIS AND THE DESERT

The last contemporary oases at the door of the large sand deserts Umm al-Samin and Rub al-Khali are situated in the Adam region. Two campaigns led by France and Oman in 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 uncovered numerous archaeological sites. Those sites can be dated from the Neolithic period to the Islamic period. For centuries, this area has been the last shelter before entering the desert, being the last oasis and the last crossroad at the same time. It is thus possible to study the interrelations between the oasis and the desert. On the long term, these will be studied together with environmental studies and surveys. The results obtained after a two-year study have already allowed us to get some results.

Alessandro Colantoni, Stefania Paradiso
"Sapienza" Università di Roma

CLAY FIGURINES OF THE LATE BRONZE AGE FROM NORTHERN INNER SYRIA: TYPOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONTEXTUAL RELATIONS OF A TYPICAL CRAFT PRODUCTION.

The present poster attempts at furnishing a summary exposition about the Late Bronze Age clay figurines of the Middle Euphrates and Northern Inner Syria.

The study of the material coming by the stratified archaeological contexts of various sites, allows to recognize the drastically differentiation from the Middle Bronze traits, with the introduction of a mould-made production and with the consequent standardization of shapes. The analysis of the figurines will allow to identify the recurrence of same models and their distribution in different archaeological contexts.

The poster will try to deduce some considerations about iconographical and stylistic aspects and typological development within the subphases of a regional periodization of the Late Bronze period.

Chiara Condoluci, Marco Iamoni
Università di Pisa

SALUT, AN IRON AGE SITE IN THE CENTER OF OMAN

The archaeological mission of the University of Pisa in the Sultanate of Oman (IMTO) has started since 2004 the excavation of the mound of Salut in the district of Nizwa. A monumental Iron Age cultic structure has been uncovered: this consisted of a large terraced area with a massive stone wall surrounding the site. Traces of cult activities have been identified thanks to the recovery of a number of bronze plaques and pottery shards with applied snakes' representations, which point at the occurrence of a snake cult in the site. The latter is attested also in other Iron Age sites in the Emirates and the Salut's evidence seems thus to support a widespread occurrence of this cult also in the Oman Gulf. Target of the poster is to show the results of the last excavation seasons, with a specific focus on the monumental structures as well as on the most significant cultic finds discovered by the Italian mission.

Roberto Dan
 “Sapienza” Università di Roma

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL LANDSCAPE OF URARTU

The capability of using satellite photography and GIS softwares has brought about new perspectives in the field of ancient near eastern archaeology and, more specifically, in the study of Urartu's kingdom: it is in fact able to provide useful information on its historical development and on the relations with neighbouring countries during the period in which the Urartu was a fierce rival of Assyrians.

Our satellite survey has allowed to recognize almost all the settlements of the kingdom and has thrown light on the Urartean system of managing and supervising the lands. In this way we have been able to identify: the main citadels with administrative and economic role; the shrines; the places in which inscriptions, whether on stones or rupestrians, were found; the main garrisons placed along the lines of communication or along boundaries.

The purpose of the poster is to shed light on the relations between Urartu's historical development and the geographical features of its territory; it tries also to provide a link between some outstanding war episodes against Assyrian power and the morphology of the land in which those battles were fought.

Zohar Daniel see Amani Abu Hamid

Maria D'Angelo
 Università degli Studi di Napoli “L'Orientale”

A.D.A.M.J.I. PROJECT 2003-2007: THE FINDS

The project is aimed at cataloguing all the “diagnostic” materials collected from the excavated areas of the MASJED-E JAME ISFAHAN in order to achieve a full knowledge of all the possibly reconstructed “productions”.

- Pottery: this represents the most largest amount of finds in the monument in course of study (unglazed pottery, about 50.000 fragments; glazed pottery, about 40.000 fragments);
- Glazed Tiles (a very large amount of fragments, more than 10.000);
- Stuccoes (about 300 fragments);
- Painted wall paintings and plasters (about 100 fragments);
- Glasses (about 3.000 fragments);
- Varia: metals, wood, smoking pipes, papers, etc. (about 1000 fragments);
- Coins (about 40).

Maria D'Angelo
 Università degli Studi di Napoli, l'Orientale

A.D.A.M.J.I. PROJECT 2003-2007:
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIGITAL ARCHIVE OF THE MASJED-E JAME, ISFAHAN

Friday Mosque is one of the most important building of Islamic world: the monument was founded at first in 155 H/772 CE (al-Mansur caliphate) and was rebuilt in 225 H/840-41 CE (al-Mutasim caliphate). Current façades go back to Seljuk times (Malik Shah, 465-485 H/1072-1092 CE). The presence of earlier layers in various excavated areas of the mosque (during the excavation by IsMEO 1972-1977), strengthened the hypothesis of the existence of an older village, already known by the ancient sources (different authors give descriptions of a village - Yahudiye - which, step by step, became the most important of the area of the future Isfahan city, because it became the new centre of the city, which at the origin was located in the South-East of the present area). Present work, instead, wants to organize all the data of the excavation aimed at creating a digital archive: the result will be a RDBMS system (Access

format), in which all the intrinsic and extrinsic information of all the selected materials was inserted, together with photos, drawings (objects) and maps, aimed at creating a final GIS system.

Malgorzata Daszkiewicz see Ewa Bobryk

Julie Delmotte see Serge Cleziou

Saeed Ebrahimi

Islamic Azad University Central Tehran Branch

SARMASHHAD ANCIENT CITY SURVEY

Sarmashhad ancient city is located in the South of Iran, in Fars province. This city is about 75 km Southeast of Kazeroon city. The area of this city is about 600 ha and is the largest city comparing to the other similar ancient cities in Iran. The survey was conducted in a systematic way and through random sampling. As the area of the city was so vast, the sample of this survey involved only 5 percent of the city. The pottery classified is dated from the Sasanian period till the 13th century AD. It seems that this city has been founded at the beginning of Sasanian period and was inhabited till 13th century AD. The variation of the potteries, belonging to different periods in this city, enjoys a specific pattern, and most of the identified potteries belong to Sasanian period and 11th and 12th centuries.

**Holger Eichberger^a, Friedrich Schipper^b, Franz Schuller^c, Karl von Habsburg-Lothringen^c,
Hubert Szemethy^b**

^a UMIT & Austrian Society for the Protection of Cultural Property

^b University of Vienna & Austrian Society for the Protection of Cultural Property

^c Austrian Society for the Protection of Cultural Property

ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT
AND UNDER OCCUPATION: SITUATIONS COVERED AND NOT COVERED BY THE HAGUE CONVENTION

Practical experiences in recent years prove that, despite international conventions and public awareness, archaeological heritage and cultural property in general is a target of increasing priority in the event of armed conflict. As clearly demonstrated by its reception at recent NATO/PfP-symposia and by the UNO, the Austrian model for the "Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict" has gained international attention. At the same time, the protection of cultural property is beginning to develop into a major issue within military planning.

This poster deals with the protection of archaeological heritage and cultural property in the event of armed conflict and under occupation - as a military issue as well as an issue of Civil/Military Cooperation. Against the backdrop of the recent conflicts in the Near East and on the Balkan, and based on the experiences of the Austrian military and Austrian NGOs, a gap between the ideals of international conventions and the hard facts of military "Rules of Engagement" is evident. This poster series strengthens the need for an explicit political mandate for the protection of cultural property for the military in action. It also strengthens the obligation of the scientific community to advocate for this explicit mandate in a most effective way and in cooperation with politicians, law enforcement officers, the military and other experts dealing with the protection of cultural property. It concludes that the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict is first of all a political commitment of all society and that society has to mandate the military explicitly to observe a set of protocols that protect cultural heritage in the event of armed conflict.

Hayat Erkanal see Ayşegül Aykurt

Alessandra Enea
 “Sapienza” Università di Roma

THE *FAVISSA* P.9301+P.9308 IN AREA HH AT EBLA. STRATIGRAPHY AND POTTERY:
 PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS”

In 2005 in Area HH a votive well, named *Favissa* P.9301+P.9308, was found to the south of the sacred area of the temples of Middle Bronze Age. Two different hollows formed it: P.9301 was the real votive well, whereas P.9308 was probably the shaft used to empty the *favissa*.

A large number of pottery shards and complete vessels were found, all belonging to the Middle Bronze Age horizon.

The purpose of the preliminary analysis of this material will be to draw the stratigraphy of the inner layers of the *Favissa* P.9301+P.9308 and locate the chronological period of use of the votive shaft. Finally, a typological study of the pottery put down as an offering in the well, will be done to supply information about frequency of particular pottery shapes.

Margarete van Ess see Ewa Bobryk

C. Di Fede see F. Alhaique

Caterina Feletti, Sara Pizzimenti
 “Sapienza” Università di Roma

THE HUNTING SCENE IN THE LATE BRONZE AGE GLYPTIC. A GENERAL VISION OF THE HUNTING THEME
 IN SYRIAN-MESOPOTAMIAN WORLD. ICONOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS AND QUALITY CRAFT PRODUCTION

The glyptic is one of the most representative art styles of the whole Ancient Near East period. It reflects the social, economical and political influence of the moment and the features of the world at that time. In the Late Bronze Age the study of the glyptic art could be used to understand the complex situation of the various states. They are characterized by their own cultures and they are influenced by previous traditions. In fact in this period there were continuous economical and political relationships among the states that deeply influenced each other's cultural aspect.

Our purpose with this poster is to study the hunting scene of the Late Bronze glyptic to pull out different type scenes and through the distribution of these scenes in the Syrian-Mesopotamian area we wish to show differences and analogies between the various cultural aspects and traditions. To help us in this purpose we'll contemplate also the quality craft production.

Daniela Ferro^a, Silvia Mogliazza^b, Luca Peyronel^c

^a“Sapienza” Università di Roma

^bMAIS and Soprintendenza Archeologica del Lazio

^cMAIS and Università IULM di Milano

EBLA FINAL SIEGE:
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL EVIDENCES FROM THE DEFENSIVE URBAN SYSTEM

The Western Fort is located on the defensive rampart of Ebla and it was destroyed at the end of the Middle Bronze Age, during the final siege of the town, as testified by thick layers of burnt debris and collapsed walls which cover the architectural structures. In front of the entrance to the main bastion of the Fort two well-preserved burnt skeletons were found lying over the floor. They are a sound proof of the battle which marked the last days of Ebla. The first results of the anthropological analysis of this meaningful evidence will be presented together with the archaeological description of the primary context. The skeletons belong to two male adults 30-35 and 40-45 years old. The diagnosis of sex was based on the morph-anatomical characteristics of cranium and pelvis and the degree of obliteration of the cranial sutures and dental pattern indicated the age at death. Pathologies and muscular skeletal markers

are examined in order to reconstruct the health and the activities carried out by the individuals. Samples of organic burnt materials stuck to the bones were subjected to electron micro-analysis energy dispersion (EDS) and to a new scientific methodological approach for estimate the temperature of the combustion.

G. Fiorentino see I. Caneva

G. Fiorentino see V. Caracuta

Roberto Fiorentino, Alessandra Enea, Giovanna Marinelli, Ada Vallorani, Alessandro Colantoni
“Sapienza” Università di Roma

AFTER THE DESTRUCTION. THE LATE BRONZE AGE AT TELL MARDIKH-EBLA: THE CASE OF AREA Z

After Ebla's destruction at the end of Middle Bronze Age, many areas and buildings of the large town of the old-Syrian period were adapted and reused by the Late Bronze Age settlement: this is the case of a new occupation of the Middle Bronze Western Residence, close to the western rampart in Area Z. In the area two different settlements, dating to Late Bronze Age, were identified: the first, related to Late Bronze I, has restored, with a new architectural arrangement, the southern area of the large Middle Bronze Age residential complex; the second, smaller than the first, dating to Late Bronze II, was built on the layers which covered the structures of the former Late Bronze phase, or directly on the ruins of the Middle Bronze Age.

Preliminary data from this area can be related to a general view of a reconsideration of the importance of the Late Bronze Age settlement in Ebla: in fact, during 2007 excavations in the collapsed layers of the Late Bronze II phase, very interesting was the finding of a bulla with the impression of a Hittite stamp seal, property of a royal official.

Domenico Fossataro see Luca Chertstich

Shadi Ganji
Tehran University

THE 5TH MILLENNIUM CULTURAL INTEGRATION IN NORTHERN PART OF THE IRANIAN PLATEAU

As one of the well-know prehistoric cultural period in North of the Iranian Central Plateau, Cheshmeh Ali Period owes its name to a mound, now in suburb of Tehran, which was excavated extensively by E. Schmidt in 1930's. The main manifestation of this culture is its beautiful, fine black on red ceramic assemblage which was found on many sites of the Iranian Central Plateau since Schmidt's work. The time range of this period is roughly late 6th to mid-5th millennia BC. During this period a high homogeneity in ceramic assemblages is seen among contemporary sites scattered over a very vast region, never seen in preceding and succeeding periods. In fact, many identical examples exist in ceramic assemblages of the sites more than 500 km apart. The geographical distribution of sites with such ceramics stretched from Gonbad-e Kavus, in South-East of the Caspian Sea, to Zanjan plain, on eastern foot of the Zagros Mountains. Based on current data it is difficult to explain reasonably the factors responsible for such extensive cultural integration in northern part of the Iranian Plateau. In this poster we try to integrate the current data, especially new data from surveys and excavations not yet published in non-Persian languages, and put forward some suggestions to dealing with such phenomenon.

Siham Garci
Lyon2 University

THE SYRIAN COASTAL PRODUCTION AND THE CRAFT TECHNIQUES IN THE MIDDLE BRONZE AGE (2000-1550 BC): INTERACTIONS AND CONTACTS BETWEEN DIFFERENT CULTURAL AREAS

In the poster, I present briefly the conclusion of my DEA's work dealing with the material culture and the craft techniques of twelve sites of the Coastal Syria during the Middle Bronze Age.

I want to show that the coastal Syrian's production is marked by various technical and stylistic influences. In fact, pottery, metallurgy, stone, faïence and ivory crafts were influenced by Egypt (stone vessels and statuary, scarabs, faïence objects and also ivory furniture), Cyprus (Cypriot ceramics), Anatolia (faïence seals) and Mesopotamia (jewellery and stone statuary). This culture seems to be the result of the different contacts which lead mainly to the reinterpretation of the Mesopotamian and Egyptian stylistic repertory.

Guillaume Gernez see Serge Cleuziou

Nimrod Getzov vd Amani Abu Hamid

Jessica Giraud see Serge Cleuziou

Ahmet Görmüş
Mustafa Kemal University, Antakya (Turkey)

NEW APPROACHES FOR INTERPRETATION OF EASTERN ANATOLIAN EARLY IRON AGE PITS:
SEMI-SUBTERRANEAN COOKING FACILITIES FROM SALAT TEPE

In the Upper Tigris Region and its wide environment, the Early Iron Age is represented by simple dwellings containing characteristic handmade ceramics. In several excavations within the region, no architectural remains dating to the Early Iron Age are observed, though some materials are found in large pits. The excavations at Salat Tepe revealed large rounded pits which were dug on the mound summit. These pits contain Early Iron Age pottery and are filled with ash. Two pits are ca. 5 m in diameter and ca. 1 m deep, and others are ca. 3 m in diameter. The pits' walls weren't built up or covered by plaster, though all the pits have white-plastered floors. On the floors of two pits we found Horse-shoe shaped hearths, with diameters of ca. 5 and 3 m. There are no parallels of such pits in other Early Iron Age sites of Eastern Anatolia. These finds depict a semi-subterranean dwelling type, probably used as cooking places. Since no other architectural remains with Early Iron Age material are available at Salat Tepe, these cooking places might well have been used by a nomadic or semi-nomadic community in the 9-8th centuries BC.

Marie Grousset see Serge Cleuziou

Emre Guldogan
Istanbul University

MEZRAA-TELEILAT SETTLEMENT "IMPRESSO" WARE AND TRANSFERRING NEOLITHIC LIFE STYLE?

The contexts and attributes indicating village life vary in time and space as this new Neolithic "way of living" spread to the Mediterranean coast, to Europe and to Asia. Specifically, one of the basic properties of the Mediterranean Neolithic is a kind of pottery known for its specialized decoration called "Impresso". Although this type of pottery is prevalent in Western Mediterranean regions, it is rare elsewhere except for some parts of the East Mediterranean coast and certain parts of Anatolia. The

geographical expansion of “Impresso” pottery has been used for a long time as a tool for discussions on the origin and the spread of the Mediterranean Neolithic.

Discovering a type of pottery that is technically, aesthetically similar to “Impresso” pottery will help to answer some of the issues mentioned previously. This poster discusses the properties of this ware, both generally around the Mediterranean and specifically within the site of Mezraa-Teleilat, in South-East Anatolia.

As mentioned previously, “Impresso” pottery can be simply defined as pottery with a special kind of decoration made by pressing an object, such as bamboo, a comb, a nail, a shell onto the wet surface of a vessel.

Sevil Gülcür see Pinar Cayli

A. Harutyunyan see R. Badalyan

Jutta Häser see Ewa Bobryk

Sandra Heinsch, Walter Kuntner
University of Innsbruck - Austria

DIGITAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL DOCUMENTATION (ELEARNING PROJECT)

The eLearning Project "Digital Archaeological Documentation" was sponsored as part of the eLearning Project¹ of the University of Innsbruck - Austria in 2007. The project provides 23 virtual and interactive tutorials for students and anyone interested in archaeology. The tutorials specifically relate to the Software Package ArcheOS, which was developed by ArcTeam² in cooperation with the “Aramus Excavations and Fieldschool Project”³.

The Software Package contains 20 OS/FS programs, which cover the complete range of digital archaeological documentation: from measurement and recording techniques to data transformation, processing and management up to the ready construction of layouts for printed and electronic publication.

The tutorials are designed for users to find easy access into the digital archaeological documentation. The tutorials follow a sequence that is based on their degree of difficulty as well as the course of documentation during excavations. This allows for flexibility during teaching.

ArcheOS is accessed via the open platform FDL (Free Documentation Licence) “uni-wiki”⁴ and is distinguished from other tutorials through the possibility to work with original archaeological data. Moreover, the tutorials are created with a FDL licence to provide an open and international participation in the con-design and further development of the project as well as the exchange of knowledge.

Because ArcheOS is linked to the “Aramus Excavations and Fieldschool” the material used in the exercises is regularly updated with original excavation data and results.

Sandra Heinsch, Walter Kuntner
University of Innsbruck - Austria

“TONTAFEL 3D” (ELEARNING PROJECT)

The Project „Tontafel 3D“ was initiated within the eLearning Project⁵ of the University of Innsbruck/Austria in 2007. The aim was a three dimensional scanning of the cuneiform tablets in

¹ <http://www.uibk.ac.at/elearning/> and <http://www.uibk.ac.at/elearning/projekte/ws0607ss2007/ws0607ss2007.html> for further project details.

² http://www.arc-team.com/html_en/home_en.html

³ <http://www.classicorient.at/aramus>, <http://www.uibk.ac.at/alte-geschichte-orient/>

⁴ <http://wiki.uibk.ac.at/>

⁵ <http://www.uibk.ac.at/elearning/> and <http://www.uibk.ac.at/elearning/projekte/ws0607ss2007/ws0607ss2007.html> for further project details.

possession of the Department of Ancient History and Near Eastern Studies, University of Innsbruck. This served as a starting point for the creation of an “e-library” and enables users a direct and direct access of the data. The scanned cuneiform tablets are conducted by tutorials and an Open Source Software package to make handling better and easier. These tutorials give information about the cuneiform tablets themselves, such as transcriptions, readings, historical background, finding context etc., but also of the technical part of the three dimensional scanning.

The project “eLearning Tontafeln 3D” can be accessed via the open Source platform uniwiki⁶.

The platform was created with a FDL licence to provide an open and international participation in the con-design and further development of the project as well as the exchange of knowledge.

Samineh Hajjami^a, Sara Safari^b

^a Sistan and Balouchestan University

^b Bishapoor Research Center Expert

STUDYING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE COMMERCIAL CITIES AND THE NORTHERN PORTS
OF THE PERSIAN GULF AND THE ARABIAN SEA BASED ON THE POTTERIES FOUND
DURING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES AND STUDIES

The commercial relationship between the cities and ports of the northern edge of the Persian Gulf with the regions of the Persian plateau, the other ports and cities of Oman Sea and the western Indian coasts can be studied through the archaeological researches about the potteries found in these regions, specially those belonging to the beginning of the 3rd century AD and to the time of the establishment of the Sassanian era in Persia. A lot of objects of different cultures, such as glazed and plain potteries, were found during the excavation and study of the important historical places like Bishapoor, Goor, Estakhr, Sarmashhad (Ghandjan) and the Siraf Port.

Some of the different questions about trade routes and their cultural effects during the 3rd and the 4th centuries AD, in the area of the Persian Gulf, the Send Coach and the Indian western regions, can be answered studying these potteries which were worthy to export. This poster deals with the commercial relationship between cities in this important geographical place by comparing the potteries of the northern edge of the Persian Gulf with the other ancient places from the Oman Sea to the East of the Arabian Sea, which is situated at the west of India, regions such as Chaoul and Sanjan.

R. Hovsepyan see R. Badalyan

Marco Iamoni see Chiara Condoluci

Aurélie Jouvenel
UMR 5133 Archéorient, Lyon

SETTLEMENT FACTORS IN THE NEGEV HIGHLANDS: A GIS CASE OF STUDY

At the beginning of the Iron Age, many settlements are founded in the Negev Highlands. Why choosing an arid area to settle? How has it been chosen? Several factors can explain this choice like political reasons, the proximity to a trade road, to water sources, the availability of pasture land etc. With a modelling by GIS, we can test the different environmental and geographical factors to understand which one was most important. The results allow classifying the factors to understand what the principal population's concerns are.

Levent Keskin see Ayşegül Aykurt

Hamoudi Khalaily see Amani Abu Hamid

⁶ <http://wiki.uibk.ac.at/>.

Walter Kuntner see Sandra Heinsch

Piotr Kurzawski

Institute of Prehistory, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan

LIVING IN A *DUNNU*:

SPATIAL ORGANISATION AND ACTIVITY AREAS OF THE MIDDLE ASSYRIAN TELL SABI ABYAD, SYRIA

The poster aims at presenting preliminary results of spatial-functional analysis of the Middle Assyrian settlement at Tell Sabi Abyad. The analysis is carried on in the framework of PhD dissertation project. A focus of the research is tracking activity areas within levels 6 and 5. During this period, the fortress belonging to secondary branch of Assyrian royal family played an important role in the region as a centre of local agricultural production, military and watching outpost, and sort of “customs point”. Various activities, including food preparation, storage, pottery production and administration were observed in different parts of the settlement. Their spatial organization shifted throughout the time, which corresponded to certain rebuilding and renovations and possibly interrelated with community organisation as well.

G. Liberotti see C. Alvaro

Federico Manuelli

Università degli Studi di Trieste

MALATYA - MELID: A NEW LOOK AT THE 20TH CENTURY’S ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCHES.
SOME REMARKS ON THE LATE BRONZE AGE POTTERY ASSEMBLAGES FROM ARSLANTEPE

In view of the resumption of work on the Hittite levels at Arslantepe, some preliminary observations have been done on the Late Bronze Age pottery assemblages excavated by the Italian Archaeological Mission on that site more than forty years ago.

Malatya’s plain represents a crucial area during the Late Bronze Age. Actually, the valley formed an unstable political zone where the Hittite’s conquest was a progressive act, characterized by the gradual appearance of typical features of the Central Anatolian cultures. The study of pottery is a fundamental element of analysis for this period, absolutely necessary to clarify the relations between distant and different areas under the Hittite influence and the level of subordination or independence of local societies from the more organized Central Anatolian political power.

Nicolò Marchetti, Peter Steier, Eva Maria Wild

THE END OF THE MBA IN THE LIGHT OF 14C DATINGS OF STRATIFIED SAMPLES
FROM TILMEN HÖYÜK

Almost thirty stratified samples, from the 2003-2007 Turkish-Italian joint excavations at Tilmen Höyük, were dated by means of radiocarbon at the VERA Laboratory in Wien, in the framework of the SCIEM 2000 chronology project coordinated by Manfred Bietak on behalf of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. The great majority of the samples comes from late MB II contexts, thus contributing to the crucial issue of an absolute dating for the end of the MBA in the region. The LB I reoccupation, following a massive destruction occurred at the site, has also given a few measured datings.

Michele Massa
University College of London

THE POTENTIAL OF SPATIAL AND STATISTICAL ANALYSES IN A GIS-LED CONTEXT:
THE EARLY BRONZE AGE NECROPOLIS OF DEMIRCI SARIKET REVISITED

The Early Bronze Age necropolis of Demirci Sariket is one of the most important burial grounds of Western Anatolia up to date, and the only one extensively published (Seeher 2000). In the frame of a rigorous investigation over a large number of graves (around 500), a detailed analysis of spatial correlations between tombs, grave goods and sex/age of the buried has been made possible. The aim was, on one side, to identify potential subgroups in the record, and on the other side to single out anomalies in the rituals and/or goods. The results are here presented, together with a comparison with those of the excavation of the nearby settlement of Demirci Hüyük.

Inna Mateiciucová
Masaryk University, Brno

TELL ARBID ABYAD, NEW LATE NEOLITHIC SITE IN THE UPPER KHABUR BASIN,
NORTH-EAST SYRIA: A PRELIMINARY REPORT

Tell Arbid Abyad is located ca. 12 km to the East of the famous Halafian site of Chagar Bazar in north-eastern Syria. It is a small mound, approximately 1,5-2 m high and about 1,5 ha wide, owing to intensive agricultural activities and erosion, almost indistinguishable from the surrounding landscape. The investigation of Tell Arbid Abyad is the main aim of a Czech Prehistoric Archaeological Project joined to the Syrian-Polish Archaeological Expedition to Tell Arbid.

The investigations of Tell Arbid Abyad yielded architectural remains, pottery, stone tools, sealing fragments, tokens and other objects. Dating of the settlement based on analyses of pottery suggest the Transitional and Early Halaf periods. The poster makes acquainted with first results obtained during the surveys and field works in 2005-2007. Additionally results of chemical, petrographical and further archaeometric studies of pottery, soils and stone artefacts are presented.

Olivia Menozzi see Luca Chertstich

Amani Abu Hamid, Omry Barzilai, Zohar Daniel, Nimrod Getzov, Hamoudi Khalaily, Ianir Milevski, Howard Smithline, Varda Shlomi, Omar Zidan
Israel Antiquities Authority

RENEWED EXCAVATIONS AT YIFTAHEL: A LATE PREHISTORIC SITE IN THE SOUTHERN LEVANT

Due to the construction of the Trans-Israel highway, salvage excavations on behalf of the Israel Antiquities Authority are presently being conducted on the site of Yiftahel (Khirbet Khalladiya). The site is located in the Lower Galilee, ca. 8 km West of Nazareth. Yiftahel is well known from previous archaeological investigation undertaken at the site during the 1980's and the 1990's. It was populated mainly during the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B (Pre-Pottery Neolithic B; ca. 7,800 BC) and the Early Bronze Age IA (Early Bronze Age IA; ca. 3,500 BC). This season, remains and finds from the Lodian and Wadi Rabah cultures of the Pottery Neolithic period (ca. 6,500-5,000 BC) have been uncovered as well. The Pre-Pottery Neolithic B is characterized by rectangular houses with plastered floors and stone and mud-brick walls. There is evidence that one of the staples of the diet was the cultivation of lentils, probably the earliest occurrence of this domesticated pulse in the Levant. Faunal remains indicate that the inhabitants of Yiftahel domesticated ovicaprines, bovines and pigs. The Pre-Pottery Neolithic B lithic industry is outstanding because of the "naviform" technology utilized for blade manufacture. The Early Bronze Age IA is characterized by large oval houses with stone foundations and probable mud-brick superstructures. The houses contained large ceramic jars and fine bowls (Gray Burnished Ware).

Cornelius Meyer

Eastern ATLAS Geophysical Prospection, Meyer&Ullrich, Berlin

GEOPHYSICAL PROSPECTING IN THE ARCHEOLOGY OF ANCIENT NEAR EAST:
RESULTS AND PERSPECTIVES

During the last decade a steadily increasing number of archeological sites in the Near East was investigated by means of geophysical prospection methods. Due to the technical development of multi-sensor techniques and on-site processing software those methods can help archeologists to recognize the context of excavation results and yield information on the general structure of the investigated sites. In our times characterized by limited financial resources and restricted time frames for excavations a further enhancement of geophysical prospection methods as well as processing and visualization techniques is urgently needed.

The presented data samples come from several important sites mainly in Syria, e.g. Tell Mardikh (Ebla), Tell Sheikh Hamad and Tell Gindaris and were collected between 1999 and 2006. Here we applied first geomagnetic mapping but also 3D geoelectrics and GPR (ground penetrating radar). The obtained results broadened the knowledge on the urbanistic structures of these sites and lead to important discoveries like an important temple in Ebla.

Recent technical developments of geophysical prospection techniques allow both a higher efficiency and precision of measurements. Now geophysical sensors often are coupled with DGPS or automatic terrestrial survey systems to guarantee a simultaneous data collection of both geophysical and topographical data. Driven systems, by hand or by vehicles, boost the daily output, in case of geomagnetic mapping with a measuring grid of 0.5 m by 0.05 m up to 5 hectares per day or even more.

The state-of-the-art geoelectric systems provide reasonable time frames to obtain dense 3D data sets. In combination with 3D inversion algorithms especially deeper archeological structures can be visualized. Furthermore, providers of GPR systems have designed a considerable quantity of antennas and control units to localize archaeological structures in different depths. Especially the very dense GPR data allow the application of sophisticated visualization techniques primarily developed for the display of architectural models. Data sets and visualizations will illustrate those recent developments. Large scale geomagnetic mapping data come from archeological sites in Córdoba (Spain) and Ukraine. The possibilities provided by geoelectrical measurements are demonstrated by way of example from Ain al-Hajar (Morocco) and southern Spain. Finally the way from raw GPR data to a realistic reconstruction of archeological structures is shown, resulting in virtual models of architectural structures.

The given examples demonstrate the potential of improved geophysical methods in archeological prospection not only in general but considering the special measuring conditions in the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East such as large and complex multi-layer sites, serious contaminations in urban environment or arid climate.

Ianir Milevski

Israel Antiquities Authority

VISUAL EXPRESSIONS OF CRAFT PRODUCTION IN THE CHALCOLITHIC OF THE SOUTHERN LEVANT

The Chalcolithic period in the Southern Levant (ca. 4,500-3,600 BC) has produced an intricate system of visual expressions. These expressions, originated mainly in the Ghassulian-Beersheba and Golanian cultures, are related to fertility and appear in cultic and burial contexts; they were manufactured on several kinds of visual media. Among them are the known figurines from Gilat, Ein Gedi and Quleh, the metal objects of the Nahal Mishmar cave, the numerous ossuaries discovered in the Mediterranean coastal plain and the Upper Galilee, the frescoes from Teleilat Ghassul, and the basalt pillar figures from the Golan Heights. Some of the motifs are related to husbandry and relative crafts, as dairy production, and some of them are probably related to agriculture. The poster shows and analyzes these iconographic expressions, and their relationship with the craft production and the society of the Chalcolithic of the Southern Levant.

Ianir Milevski see Amani Abu Hamid

Silvia Mogliazza, Andrea Polcaro
 “Sapienza” Università degli Studi di Roma

DEATH AND CULT OF DEAD IN MIDDLE BRONZE AGE II EBLA: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDY ON SHAFT TOMB P.8680, NEAR SOUTHERN PALACE (AREA FF)

Preliminary report about shaft tomb P.8680, discovered along the external southern street of Southern Palace in Ebla (Area FF). The shaft was the entry of a more complex tomb: a small tunnel starts from the bottom of the shaft and reaches a subterranean funerary chamber cut in a Middle Bronze Age I cistern. The excavations were stopped inside at seven meter deep, due to a structural collapse of the roof in the burial chamber. All the pottery and other funerary gifts as well as the human remains were recovered inside the shaft and in the small tunnel that after the closer of the burial chamber, were used for burials. The finds dated the structures to the end of Middle Bronze Age II, the same period of Southern Palace. The anthropological remains of upper layers show that last bodies were buried in primary position, while all the human bones discovered in the lower levels and in the small tunnel were rearranged when the tomb was reopened for new burials. The anthropological analysis had recognized at least 56 bodies deposited in P.8680.

Lorenzo Nigro, Marta D’Andrea, Elisabetta Gallo
 “Sapienza” Università di Roma

THE EB II CITY-GATE AT KHIRBET AL-BATRAWY, JORDAN

Recent excavations at Khirbet al-Batrawy by Rome “La Sapienza” University, an EB II-III town in north-central Jordan, brought to light a long stretch of the fortification all around the site and especially on the northern side in Area B, where the earliest city-gate was uncovered. This gate, its structure and location, represents a perspicuous example of defensive architecture in Southern Levant during the Early Bronze Age.

Lorenzo Nigro, Maura Sala, Daria Montanari, Valentina Tumolo
 “Sapienza” Università di Roma

THE EB IV VILLAGE AT KHIRBET AL-BATRAWY, JORDAN

Recent excavations at Khirbet al-Batrawy by Rome “La Sapienza” University, revealed a sparse village arisen on top of the ruins of the EB II-III town during the Early Bronze IV. Such a village, consisting of several clusters of domestic units, has provided a wide range of materials and several examples of domestic units illustrating the local horizon of the EB IV Jordanian culture.

Lorenzo Nigro, Antonio Di Michele, Ilaria Salimbeni, Priscilla Vitolo
 “Sapienza” Università di Roma

EB IV FOOD TRANSFORMATION AND STORAGE INSTALLATIONS AT KHIRBET AL-BATRAWY, JORDAN

Recent excavations at Khirbet al-Batrawy by Rome “La Sapienza” University, brought to light in several spots of the site domestic units and related devices belonged to an EB IV rural village, which hosted a variety of installation for food production and storage. Their examination and study provide interesting insights into subsistence economy and social organization

Yoshihiro Nishiaki

MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY OF A LATE PPNB CLAY FEMALE FIGURINE
 FROM TELL SEKER AL-AHEIMAR

Chiara Omodei Zorini

L'INTERVENTION D'URGENCE SUR LA FOUILLE ARCHEOLOGIQUE: LE CAS DES PETITES STATUES DE EBLA

Pendant la dernière fouille archéologique qui a eu lieu à Ebla, la mission italienne, sous la direction de Monsieur le Prof. Paolo Matthiae (de l'Université de Rome, «La Sapienza») parvient à l'heureux dégagement et récupération de deux petites statues de plusieurs matériaux. La première trouvaille est caractérisée par une lame d'or et la deuxième par une lame d'argent, toutes les deux en pierre avec une structure en bois à l'intérieurs (dont on trouve seulement des restes). Les conditions de conservations instables des matériaux en pierre demandent une pré-consolidation très soignée pour aboutir à l'adhésion des débris. De la même façon la lame en argent est l'une des rares trouvailles de ce genre parvenue à nos jours, malgré le grave degré de corrosion (une forme de corrosion généralisée uniforme, avec de pustules rependues, peut-être chlorures). En dépit des conditions de conservation instables et du réel intérêt technologique, toutes fois l'opportunité et la difficulté de la recomposition des éléments est le passage qui présente le principale intérêt spéculatif de cette «intervention d'urgence». La recomposition, choix nécessaire et à la fois indispensable pour la conservation des trouvailles, marque encore un compromis dans l'horizon de la philosophie de la restauration italienne.

Eylem Özdoğan

Istanbul University, Faculty of Letters

SETTLEMENT PATTERN IN MEZRAA TELEILAT

Mezraa Teleilat is the site on the south-eastern Turkey. It is excavating by Prof. Dr. M. Özdoğan (Istanbul University-Prehistory Department) from the 1999. The site was inhabited from the end of the Pre-Pottery Neolithic to the Pottery Neolithic. The differences between this two periods show that the Neolithic way of life was changing during the time, both from the technological and social points of view. Each periods has own features and also settlement patterns. In the Pre-Pottery Neolithic period houses were ordered as a regular row and around the houses used as an open court. But in the latter, house plans changed and the buildings were more connected each others and most of them had small and numerous rooms. Between the houses there were narrow roads. It seems that the settlement was made up from few blocks of houses. This is also a general characteristic of Near Eastern Neolithic period as demonstrated by Çayönü in the Pre-Pottery Neolithic period or by Umm Dabagiyah, a later and more developed example.

Alessio Palmisano

“Sapienza” Università degli Studi di Roma

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MAP OF DHI QAR PROVINCE IN SOUTHERN IRAQ

The purpose of the relevant poster is to show an updated archaeological map of the Dhi Qar province, in southern Iraq. This work is possible thanks to the operations of the Carabinieri Italian Force for the defence and the preservation of the Iraqi artistic heritage. During the mission “Old Babylon” the Carabinieri’s soldiers took a census of 621 archaeological sites, realized 25 air recognitions and sequestrated 1636 archaeological finds. These operations have provided a series of new and unpublished data, indispensable for the comprehension of actual status of the southern Iraq’s artistic heritage. Therefore, my aim is to offer an update detailed map based upon the archaeological sites identified and preserved by the Carabinieri’s staff.

Giulio Palumbi see Pavel Avetisyan

Stefania Paradiso see Alessandro Colantoni

Alexia Pavan
Università degli Studi di Pisa

CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION ON THE SITE OF KHOR RORI, SOUTHERN OMAN

The site of Khor Rori lies on the southern Oman, in the region called Dhofar. It was a wealthy port, founded at the end of the 4th century BC and gradually abandoned on the 5th century AD.

The architecture was made in dry-stone masonry, using the materials available in place (sandstone and limestone). The characteristic of this technique, together with the atmospheric conditions, imposed the necessity of a program of restoration and conservation, developed with the collaboration of the Department of Structural Engineering of Pisa University. The poster will illustrate the adopted procedures and the obtained results.

Sara Pizzimenti see Caterina Feletti

Andrea Polcaro see Silvia Mogliazza

Paola Poli
Università degli Studi di Pavia

NEW WALL PAINTING FRAGMENTS FROM THE NEO-ASSYRIAN LEVELS OF TELL MASAikh

Wall painting fragments coming from the Neo-Assyrian palace in Tell Masaikh, in the Syrian Lower Middle Euphrates valley, and discovered during recent excavations, have been already published. The aim of the present poster is to show in particular the wall painting fragments found during the last two seasons, still unpublished, trying to reconstruct the evolution of this kind of decoration of the palace walls. The better preserved fragments, found *in situ*, conserve black geometrical motifs on a white background. In general, they look similar to the decorations of some other residences in North Syrian sites, however later, though, at the same time, they present some unusual features. In fact, as the wall paintings presented here belong to the first phase of construction of the palace, dated at the beginning of the 8th century, they represent for the moment one of the most ancient examples of a "provincial" taste. Also polychrome fragments have been found in other parts of the palace and of the acropolis, probably belonging to a later period, after Tiglat-pileser III's reorganization of the Middle Euphrates region, when the local palace has been abandoned.

Emilie Portat see Serge Cleuziou

M. Primavera see I. Caneva

Sabrina Rigetti see Serge Cleuziou

Vasif Şahoğlu see Ayşegül Aykurt

G. Sanna see C. Alvaro

Gerwulf Schneider see Ewa Bobryk

Guillaume Sence
Université Michel de Montaigne, Bordeaux 3

KHORSABAD: IMAGERY ANALYSIS AND 3D RESTITUTION

We present here a spatial and semiological analysis of low-reliefs from the palace of Dur-Sharrukin, built by Sargon II from 713 to 707 BC, which has been carried out in association with a 3D restitution, without an aesthetic and iconographic approach. The 3D restitution allows the distribution of the images

in the architectural space and thus the perception of their special organization. Indeed, it allows the understanding of the structure of the decoration by means of a global overview of the monument. The results are different from both schematic drawings and photographs published in academic papers: the former ones generally show only the images best preserved, and the latter ones the “beautiful ones”. The spatial and semiological analysis of these images shows that they form, when they are studied in their architectural context and as a whole, an ideological portrait of the king put in scene on the walls of the palace and that they are the subject of a strong investment symbolic system. When one analyzes the ideology, one can say that these low-reliefs, the texts of the palace and the city itself, don’t recount the life of the king, but the king himself, in the way it represents himself and not how it really is.

Christophe Sévin-Allouet see Serge Cleuziou

Varda Shlomi see Amani Abu Hamid

Howard Smithline see Amani Abu Hamid

P. Steier see N. Marchetti

Y. Tonoike

BEHIND THE STYLE: PETROGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF DALMA CERAMICS IN TWO REGIONS OF IRAN

İrfan Tuğcu see Ayşegül Aykurt

Rıza Tunnel see Ayşegül Aykurt

B. Ulas see I. Caneva

G. Vacca see C. Alvaro

Ada Vallorani

“Sapienza” Università di Roma

ZINCIRLI: A RENEWED ANALYSIS

Since its discovery, Zincirli continues to stand out for its particular relevance in various branches of archaeology. Being known as one of the important excavations where Archaeology of the Ancient Near East started its studies, this site bares some of the peculiar marks both in art and architecture of neo-Syrian culture. Especially well studied right from the beginning, its carvings and architectural typology continue to represent an important part of modern archaeological research for the determination of the exact chronology of neo-Syrian culture.

The purpose of this poster is therefore to present a renewed analysis of Zincirli’s architectural remains and its stratigraphical sequence that will add new evidence to the study of neo-Syrian culture in general, particularly focusing on its outstanding architectural typology: the khilani. This poster will thereby underline the importance of this archaeological site throughout the history of Near Eastern Archaeology and stress in how far it continues to be one of the crucial discoveries of this science.

Gabriele Vescovi

Università degli Studi di Genova

“COMPLEX CONTENTS AND REPRESENTING TECHNIQUES”. NOTES ABOUT THE COMPUTER GRAPHIC APPLICATIONS TO THE RESEARCH AND SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION

The contribution of the digital technologies essentially allowed the organisation, classification and management of great quantities of data, making possible simplified access modes, from which derives then the possibility to formulate extremely complex outcomes through the synthetic output indispensable

at first for those having the target to elaborate original contents and transmit and spread them. The problem becomes more and more interesting, then, as much complex and uncertain is the field in which it is applied. The excavation campaign which interested the archaeological site of Tilmen Hoyuk (Turkey) brought to the acquisition of an incredible amount of data, which were objectively remarkable on site, and of many others obtained by comparison and resulting from other similar researches by subject, time, locality. In the research activity, then, before the spreading moment, the digital elaboration of these two main classes of data (inductive and deductive), exploiting specific software for the realisation of study three-dimensional and picture reconstruction, revealed a tool absolutely indispensable for the global reconstruction of a scene that through a synthesis result simultaneously put at system in a priority order the information class spreading and the possibility to communicate them in an intuitive way and then exploitable.

Representative techniques as instruments and synthesis tools of complex and redundant data.

Instruments Cad, Cam, virtual rooms, cross-sectional applications of the Graphics Computer from industrial engineering instrument to applications for surveying and the spreading of scientific data.

Virtual reconstruction of the archaeological site of Tilmen Hoyuk, digitalization of the geometric data finds in site: use of the information for research and elaborations of study hypothesis, representation modality, approach to many visualization techniques and planning of the visual communication, implementation of interactive elements and management of the feed back.

A. Vivant see C. Alvaro

Celine Wawruschka-Firat see Pinar Cayli

E. M. Wild see N. Marchetti

C.C. Yalciner see Ş.G. Aydingun

Omar Zidan see Amani Abu Hamid

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