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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Burial studies on the protohistoric Arabian Peninsula: current trends and perspective for future investigation

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Abstract

Unlike some neighboring regions, such as the Middle East, for which extensive research has been performed, the knowledge of the protohistoric Arabian populations remains very fragmentary. However, over the past decades, archaeological research in the Arabian Peninsula has undergone a new development and has attracted increasing interest from the international scientific community, as evidenced by the many ongoing research programs. In particular, the existence of thousands of megalithic tombs made of dry stone throughout the Arabian Peninsula has led to a great deal of research combining different approaches and various disciplines: burial archaeology, bioanthropology and geoarchaeology.

For a long time, research focused on the architecture and grave goods of the tombs and neglected the often poorly preserved human remains. They were routinely attributed to the Bronze Age, despite the unreliability of the absolute dating sometimes carried out. The advent of GIS led to the development of spatial approaches to the distribution of tombs in relation to their surroundings. More recently, the development of funded projects largely dedicated to the integrated study of these tombs, combined with the exploration of unexplored areas, has dynamized research with the development of new multidisciplinary approaches and revealed the potential of these monuments for understanding the way of life of past populations in Arabia. The aim of this workshop is to bring together researchers working on this topic, to take stock of our knowledge, to discuss what is at stake for the future, and to engage in joint reflection to further develop collaborative research. Synthetic presentations based on a multidisciplinary approach are therefore encouraged. For example, studies on funerary practices (architecture, deposition methods, furniture, etc.), bioanthropological analyses in the broadest sense (including isotopes, DNA and proteomics), dating methods, spatial analysis and conservation and restoration issues are welcome.

Keywords

Arabian Peninsula, mortuary archaeology, bioanthropology, Neolithic, Bronze Age

Program

- **Funerary Practices on the Fertile Coast: the buildings and burials of MR11.**

Noura Hamad Al Hameli (Department of Culture and Tourism, Abu Dhabi), **Kevin Lidour** (Department of Culture and Tourism, Abu Dhabi), **Baptiste Pradier** (CNRS, UMR 8068, TEMPS, Technologie et Ethnologie des Mondes Préhistoriques)

- **Death, burial, and marking the landscape: Reanalysis of the collective burials of northwest Saudi Arabia**

Hugh Thomas (The University of Sydney, School of Humanities (SoH)| Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences), **Melissa Kennedy**, **Jarvis McMahon** ((The University of Sydney, School of Humanities (SoH)| Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences), **Fahad Bagdadi** (UCLA, University of California, Los Angeles) , **Lauren Swift** (University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia), **Daniel Franklin** (University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia).

- **A multidisciplinary investigation of funerary structures in Northwestern Saudi Arabia: Insights from the Khaybar region (Late Chalcolithic to Late Bronze Age)**

Noisette Bec-Drelon (CNRS, Université de Lyon, Archéorient UMR 5133, Maison de l'Orient et de la Méditerranée, Lyon, France), **Modwene Poulmarc'h** (CNRS, Université de Lyon, Archéorient UMR 5133, Maison de l'Orient et de la Méditerranée, Lyon, France)

- **Contextualizing Bronze Age burials at Tayma, north-west Arabia: Space, Time, and Identity**

Arnulf Hausleiter (German Archaeological Institute, Orient Department, Berlin), **Anne Kremmer** (German Archaeological Institute, Orient Department, Berlin), **Monice Timm** (University of Tübingen), **Alina Zur** (German Archaeological Institute, Orient Department, Berlin), **Majed Alonazi** (Heritage Commission at the Ministry of Culture, Riyadh)

- **EBA Funerary Structures as a Window to Understanding the Settlement Process in Central Arabia.**

Jérémy Schiettecatte (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée, Paris).

- **Unveiling the Funerary Cairns of Jabal Khuraybah: Bronze Age Discoveries on the Heights of Dadan (al-ʿUyaynah?).**

Josselin Pinot (CNRS – UMR 8167 – Orient & Méditerranée, Mondes Sémitiques ; Paris 1 University – Panthéon Sorbonne, UMR 7041 – ArScAn, VEPMO), **Chloé Girardi** (Eveha International), **Shadi Shabo** (CNRS – UMR 8167 – Orient & Méditerranée, Mondes Sémitiques).

- **Mapping the distribution of protohistoric funerary structures from al-Jawf northern Arabia region to the Levant and Mesopotamia**

Romolo Loreto (University of Naples l'Orientale), **Carmine Andrea Falco** (University of Naples l'Orientale)

- **The Arabian Cairns project : a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to protohistoric monumental tombs in the Arabian Peninsula**

Olivia Munoz (CNRS UMR 8215 « Trajectoires, Paris, France)

- **Architecture and archaeoethnology of two Hafit tombs at Al-Arid (Sultanate of Oman)**

Bérénice Chamel (Institut Français du Proche-Orient, Beirut / Laboratory Archéorient, UMR 5133 CNRS, Lyon), **Elsa Ciesielska** (Institut National des Recherches Archéologiques Préventives, France / Laboratory Archéologie des Sociétés Méditerranéennes, UMR 5140 CNRS, Montpellier), **Blandine Besnard** (Laboratory Archéorient, UMR 5133 CNRS, Lyon / Éveha International), **Corinne Castelain** (Laboratory Archéorient, UMR 5133 CNRS, Lyon).

- **Collaborative Mortuary Archaeology at the Site of Dahwa, Al-Batinah Coast, Sultanate of Oman**

Kimberly D. Williams (Department of Anthropology, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA USA), **Gwen Robbins Schug** (Department of Biology, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC, USA), **Dennys Frenez** (Department of History and Culture, University of Bologna, Ravenna, Italy), **Maryann Calleja** (SNA International, Alexandria, VA USA), **Matthew Walsh** (Department of Anthropology, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA USA), **J. Mark Kenoyer** (Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI USA), **Randall W. Law** (Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Madison, WI USA), **Maya Muskhelishvili** (Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Pavia Italy), **Sangeeta Mahajan** (Department of Biology, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC, USA), **Michelle Semaan** (Department of Biology, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC, USA), **Emma Love** (Department of Biology, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC, USA), **Iris Jonnalagadda** (Department of Biology, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC, USA), **Alexandra Leach** (Early College, Guilford College, Guilford, NC, USA), **Savannah Carter** (North Carolina Leadership Academy), **Jasmine Sprigle** (Department of Biology, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC, USA), **Darius Thompson** (Department of Biology, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC, USA), **Marta Magalini** (Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Torino Italy), **Laura Guidorzi** (Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Torino, Italy)

- **'Late decadent stuff' in OmanPaul**

A. Yule (Ur- und Frühgeschichte und Vorderasiatische Archäologie, SKVO - Semitistik, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg).

- **Hypothesizing a conservation-restoration project: how to develop an affordable and practical plan for the intervention on burial mound structures, the case of the Oman peninsula**

Paula Gómez Sanz (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid), **Pablo Guerra García**, **Carmen del Cerro Linares** (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)

Type of paper

Workshop