



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Identifying Local Ceramic Production in Northwestern Arabia

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Abstract

Archaeological research in Northwestern Arabia has shown the importance of the region's ceramic traditions. Key oasis sites, like Qurayyah, Taymā and Hegra (Madīnat al-ʿUla), have long benefited from sustained excavation efforts, yielding rich ceramic assemblages. However, recent years have witnessed a surge in archaeological activity in the southern part of Northwestern Arabia, particularly at Al-Ula and Khaybar. This renewed focus has shed new light on the ceramic repertoire of this previously understudied area.

In the framework of this workshop, our focus centers on understanding and identifying local ceramic production across Northwestern Arabia from its emergence to the Islamic period. We aim to explore the multi-faceted approaches used in this field. Established methods such as chrono-typology, quantitative analysis, Chaîne opératoire, stylistic and archaeometric (petrography and geochemistry) analyses have proven efficient in distinguishing local ceramics from imported ones. By examining the shape, manufacturing techniques, surface treatment, decoration, and function over time, we aim to define the characteristics of local production for each chronological period, potentially revealing cultural and technological shifts in the region's pottery traditions. Case studies from several sites will showcase the choice of techniques and their application in practice, providing valuable insights into local production and potentially aiding in the reconstruction of inter-site circulation in the region.

This workshop seeks to foster a focused collaborative discussion among ceramologists specializing in pottery in the Northwestern Arabian region. By utilizing excavation data supported by absolute dating, we aim to refine the ongoing debate on local ceramic production and define its characteristics and evolution over time.

Keywords

Northwestern Arabia, Pottery production, Local Pottery, Methods

Program

Workshop Program

1. The ANAPAN Project. A New Approach to Pottery of Arabia and its Neighbors. Understanding Technology and Commercial Networks in the Greater Levant.

Marta LUCIANI (University of Vienna, Dept. of Prehistoric and Historical Archaeology)

2. Pottery Traditions at Dumat al-Jandal, from the Ancient Adummatu to the Islamica Era.

Romolo LORETO (Università di Napoli L'Orientale – Italy)

Teodoro COCOZZA (Università di Napoli L'Orientale – Italy)

Simona BERARDINO (Università di Napoli L'Orientale – Italy)

3. A Diachronic Overview of the Pottery from The Fourth Millennium BCE to the First Millennium CE in Al-Bad' Oasis.

Guillaume CHARLOUX (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée. Paris – France)

Delphine DIXNEUF (CNRS, LA3M)

Guillaume CHUNG-TO (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, CNRS UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée)

4. Pottery from Tayma in the Context of Recent Regional Research

Francelin TOURTET (Freie Universität Berlin, Institut für Vorderasiatische Archäologie / Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Orient-Abteilung)

Malgorzata DASZKIEWICZ (Freie Universität Berlin, Institut für Prähistorische Archäologie / ARCHEA Warsaw)

Arnulf HAUSLEITER (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Orient-Abteilung – Germany)

5. Pottery on the Margins: the Neolithic to Iron Age in AlUla and Khaybar

Melissa KENNEDY (University of Sydney, Australia)

6. Bronze and Iron Age Pottery from Tell Saq (al-'Ula)

Christine KAINERT (Freie Universität Berlin, Institut für Vorderasiatische Archäologie / Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Orient-Abteilung)

Malgorzata DASZKIEWICZ (Freie Universität Berlin, Institut für Prähistorische Archäologie / ARCHEA Warsaw)

7. Between Local and Regional Traditions: A Comparative Study of the Bronze and Iron Age Pottery from Dadan (AlUla) and Khaybar Oases

Shadi SHABO (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée. Paris – France)

Jérôme ROHMER (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée. Paris – France)

Guillaume CHARLOUX (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée. Paris – France)

8. Fifteen Years of Excavations by the Saudi-French Project in Hegra: An Overview of Local Pottery Production

Yvonne GERBER (University of Basel – Switzerland)

Caroline DURAND (CNRS, UMR 5189 HiSoMA, Lyon – France)

9. Exploring Local Pottery Production at the Early-to-Middle Islamic Site of Qurh / Al-Mabiyat (Al-'Ula)

Mustafa AHMAD (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Orient-Abteilung / Goethe-Universität Frankfurt – Germany)

Carla CARIA (Independent Researcher)

10. Late Antique – Early Islamic Local Ceramic Traditions from Dadan, Alula

Julie MONCHAMP (CNRS, UMR 5648 CIHAM. Lyon – France)

Bertrand RIBA (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée. Paris – France)

Jérôme ROHMER (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée. Paris – France)

Shadi SHABO (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée. Paris – France)

Francelin TOURTET (Freie Universität Berlin, Institut für Vorderasiatische Archäologie / Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Orient-Abteilung)

11. Local and Regional Ceramic Traditions from Late Antiquity to Late Islamic Khaybar

Stephen MCPHILLIPS (CNRS, UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée. Paris – France)

Guillaume CHUNG-TO (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, CNRS UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée)

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