













14th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Unexpected identities: the methodological challenges of EBA grave contexts at Ba?ur Hk, southeast Trkiye

BAYSAL E. 1*

¹ Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

*Corresponding author

Abstract

The Early Bronze Age I graves of Ba?ur Höyük in the Upper Tigris region pose some exceptional archaeological challenges. The post Uruk collapse period in the region is sparsely researched and the quantity and quality of grave goods at Ba?ur has caused a re-think of previous interpretations of the social structure of the time. The personal ornaments in a number of discrete grave contexts are playing a key role in this process, offering exceptional insights into the unexpected wealth and complexity of the period in terms of trade, technology and identity. This paper looks at how ornaments have shaped the way that we think about the people buried at Ba?ur and the intimate picture of relationships, embodied identities and violence that has been built through contextual analyses. Methodological challenges and creative solutions have shaped the recording and interpretation of the huge data set. The results are used to think about social differentiation and status, contacts and control and the personal experience of individuals at micro and macro scales in artefact biographies and mass production, in clothing and ornamentation and in age and sex.

Keywords

Ornaments, Grave goods, relationships, identities, context

Session

7. Characterizing culture?

Workshop

A16293GT - Not Just Pretty Objects: Personal Adornments and the Social Persona

Type of paper

Oral presentation