



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# Reading archaeozoology in Tehran; An account of the bioarchaeological developments in Iran.

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## Abstract

This talk aims to trace the genesis of the Bioarchaeology Laboratory of the University of Tehran (BALUT) established in 2011. This was made possible through a Ministry of Science, Research and Technology ICRP funded research program, granted to Dr Haeedeh Laleh (Prof. Univ of Tehran) and the author. This initiative followed a period of seventeen years of theoretical and practical training of Iranian students, during which archaeozoological research could be conducted in Iran. Initial efforts began in 1993 for gathering modern osteological collections through collaborative programs with local actors (the department of environment, natural parks and protected areas) and exchange with natural history museums at national and international levels, while involving doctoral and post-doctoral projects. Today more than 800 reference specimens of vertebrates, mainly from the Iranian Plateau are accessible in BALUT. The osteological collection includes domestic and wild animals of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians. The existence of these collections has stimulated training in archaeozoology in Iran and production of a massive quantity of well quality raw data for this region of the world. An important number of international publications on human-animal interactions on the Iranian Plateau in the longue durée were produced by the members of BALUT.

## Keywords

Bioarchaeology, Archaeozoology, Training, Iran, specialised Laboratory

## Session

6. Life and death: Human behaviour and practices

## Workshop

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## Type of paper

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