



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The Transition from Late Chalcolithic to Early Bronze Age at Gird-i Begum

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Abstract

The site of Gird-i Begum in the Shahrizor Plain was first settled by the Halaf period and occupied, with gaps, until at least Sasanian times. Occupation may have been continuous from late Ubaid through Late Chalcolithic (LC) 4. Radiocarbon dates as well as ceramic evidence suggest that this was followed by a hiatus of some centuries and a reoccupation in the Early Bronze Age (EBA).

I examine (a) resource procurement and (b) practices of distribution of food/drink across the temporal gap from LC 4 to EBA. To what extent did resource procurement strategies change in the EBA, following the settlement gap and in the context of substantially different socioeconomic configurations in surrounding regions? I consider in particular the raw material sources used for chipped stone tools and the use of molluscs as a food source. I examine the second question in terms of practices associated with pottery vessels, with a primary focus on large-scale food/drink distributions. Were the well-known Mesopotamian practices in terms of distribution of food and drink carried over into the Shahrizor Plain, and if so, what forms did they take?

Keywords

Chalcolithic, Early Bronze Age, food & drink, resource procurement, Shahrizor Plain

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