ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Rural Fortitude at d?r Hk: The 5.9 and 5.2 kya Climate Events on the Anatolian Plateau.

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Abstract

As part of the Tracing Transitions and Connecting Communities in the Archaeology of Western Asia workshop we examined the continuous Late Chalcolithic fourth millennium BCE into Early Bronze Age third millennium archaeological evidence revealed at the north central Anatolian site of Çad?r Höyük. During this time frame two major climate change events occurred that made the climate of the region significantly more arid, the first just after the beginning of the fourth millennium (5.9 kya), and the second near its end (5.2 kya). In this paper, the authors trace the evidence of the Çad?r residents' experience through four phases: the Recovery Period after the 5.9 kya Event (3900 BCE), the Mid-Fourth Millennium BCE Humid Intermission (ca. 3700–3400 BCE), the Lead-up to the 5.2 kya Event (3400–3200/3100 BCE), and the 5.2 kya Event (3200/3100–2900 BCE). We present detailed analyses of archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological data, as well as evidence from other distinct assemblages of material culture, demonstrating how this rural population chose to shift their socioeconomic practices. By comparing the archaeological data with archaeological and ethnographic risk management models, we paint a picture of a highly adaptable and resilient population keenly in tune with a changing climate.

Keywords

Anatolia, Climate Change, Archaeobotany, Zooarchaeology

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