



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# Iron Age transition at Tell al Assara Jordan: complexity at the margins of Empires

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## Abstract

This presentation explores the Iron Age transition at Tell al-Assara, Jordan, shedding light on the complexity of life at the margins of larger empires during the 1st millennium BCE, specifically focus on the passage Iron Age I and Iron Age II. As part of a broader investigation into the complexity of polities in Transjordan, the presentation will highlight Tell al-Assara's monumental features, including its massive enceinte walls and sophisticated water systems. Preliminary pottery analysis from surface surveys and initial excavation seasons reveals that the site was intensively occupied throughout the 1st millennium BCE, particularly during the Iron Age I-II. Combining building archaeology, excavation data and pottery analysis, we aim at shedding light on network of Iron age polities in Northern Jordan. The strategic location and architectural sophistication of Tell al-Assara suggest it played a significant regional role, possibly as a defensive or administrative hub at a time of political upheaval and shifting imperial boundaries. By contextualizing this site within broader regional dynamics, this talk will provide valuable insights into the interplay between local autonomy and imperial influences in the final centuries of the Iron Age.

?\*NOTE this submission is a workshop submission

## Keywords

Jordan, Polities, Monumental architecture, Network science, Iron Age

## Session

1. Advances in Near Eastern Archaeology

## Workshop

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