



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# Road to Transition: The Development of the Late Chalcolithic Settlement at Gird-i Matrab (Iraqi Kurdistan)

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## Abstract

This paper aims to present the development of the Late Chalcolithic settlement at Gird-i Matrab, with specific attention to the phenomena that characterized the final moments of the LC period and anticipated the Early Bronze Age. Situated in the Erbil Plain of Iraqi Kurdistan, Gird-i Matrab is a multi-period site offering insights into critically relevant periods in the history of this region. Specifically, the excavation of Operation B on the main mound has revealed a stratigraphic sequence featuring Late Chalcolithic structures and abundant in-situ ceramics. Although the main occupational phase is dated at the LC 2 period, evidence of the final moments of the Late Chalcolithic (LC 5/Northern Uruk) points towards the inclusion of Matrab in a wider zone of interaction between large urban-like centers of Southern Mesopotamia and the dispersed rural landscape of its northern fringes. Indeed, the evidence highlights how the settlement was perfectly integrated into the regional cultural horizon of the Erbil Plain between the early 5th and late 4th millennia BCE. This paper will discuss the path undertaken by the community inhabiting Gird-i Matrab through the LC phases, and their response - or lack thereof - to new social, economic, and cultural phenomena.

## Keywords

Gird-i Matrab, Iraqi Kurdistan, Late Chalcolithic, Ceramic, Transition

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