



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The Social Evolution of the Late Prehistory of the Southern Levant Through the Lens of Pottery production. A Dialectical Perspective.

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Abstract

This paper adopts a dialectical materialist framework to examine the social evolution of the southern Levant from the Pottery Neolithic to the Chalcolithic period, with a particular focus on pottery production. Drawing on insights from previous research, the analysis highlights the dialectical interplay between material conditions and social relations, illuminating the processes involved in pottery production. We will explore the roles of pottery vessels and potters during the Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods, while also considering the different socio-economic conditions of these communities. We will consider advancements in pottery technology, such as workshops, tournette kilns, craft specialization, and labour division, as well as the symbolic elements found on pottery vessels which can be related to the process of production. This considerations will be set against the background of production, exchange, and consumption processes throughout these periods in the southern Levant, spanning the 7th to the 5th millennia BC.

Keywords

Pottery, Southern Levant, Neolithic, Chalcolithic, Dialectical materialism

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