

# **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION**

## Variability and variation in the Kura-Araxes and Bedeni pottery assemblages from Irmis Rka, Georgia

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#### Abstract

The settlement of Irmis Rka, located in the Samtskhe-Javakheti region in Georgia, is undergoing significant excavations and serves as a key site for studying the development of Kura-Araxes and Bedeni communities in this area over the 3rd millennium BCE. This paper will examine the specific characteristics of ceramic materials from both periods through a comparative lens. We will describe and discuss the elements of variability and variation present in the Kura-Araxes and the Bedeni assemblages. The study aims to highlight potential shared pottery-making designs and practices, along with their social implications across the Kura-Araxes and Bedeni periods. Ultimately, we will explore the concept of tradition as both an opposing and complementary phenomenon to change, thereby reviewing the transition between Kura-Araxes and Bedeni cultures over the long term.

#### **Keywords**

Pottery, Georgia, Kura-Araxes, Bedeni, Irmis Rka

#### Session

7. Characterizing culture ?

### Workshop

A16069MI - Kura-Araxes Cultural Phenomenon: Variability, Continuity and Dissolution

### Type of paper

Oral presentation