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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Living and dying at Tell Gomel (Kurdistan Region of Iraq) in the Early and Middle Bronze Ages

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Abstract

Italian-Kurdish excavations at Tell Gomel in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq have uncovered the remains of a medium-sized urban centre situated in the fertile Navkur Plain, a previously unexplored area along the route connecting Erbil and the Greater Zab Valley to the Upper Tigris region. This paper outlines the findings from the excavation of a residential neighbourhood that developed throughout the Middle Bronze Age, as well as evidence of continuous settlement from the third to the second millennium at the site. The presentation will also address a remarkable series of superimposed elite burial grounds from the Early and Middle Bronze Ages, which are unique in Upper Mesopotamia for their diverse funerary architectures, typologies, burial goods, and rituals. By integrating archaeological evidence with bioarchaeological analyses of human remains, as well as artifacts from both residential and funerary contexts, this study offers new perspectives on the living conditions and mortuary practices in this lesser-known area of Upper Mesopotamia during the third and second millennia BCE.

Keywords

Residential architecture, Funerary archaeology, Early and Middle Bronze Age, Kurdistan Region of Iraq, Tell Gomel

Session

6. Life and death: Human behaviour and practices

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