



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# The Shomu-Shulaveri cultural complex: origins and diversity? A view from the chipped stone industries

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## Abstract

During the last decades, the intensification of archaeological research in South Caucasus brought new evidence on the birth and development of the Neolithic. So far, the late phase of the Mesolithic is documented only in a handful of sites. The way of life and the material culture of the last hunter-gatherers of the region is not well known. The first phase of the Neolithic, with the earliest phase of the so-called Shomu-Shulaveri culture, have been characterised in several occupations through recent excavations. Significant variations in the material culture between the sites were noticed, notably considering architecture and pottery. The chipped stone industries produced and used by these ancient populations bring important data to discuss of the origins and the diversity of the Neolithic. We propose here a synthesis of the strategies related to the production of lithic artefacts from the acquisition of the raw materials, the knapping technics and methods, to the toolkit composition.

## Keywords

Lithics, Technology, Obsidian, Neolithic, Caucasus

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