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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Soil micromorphological sampling: challenges, insights and research perspectives from the Late Chalcolithic sites of Tell Helawa and Logardan.

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Abstract

This paper will introduce the methodological challenges, key questions and broader research insights raised by the preliminary micromorphological samplings carried out at two Late Chalcolithic mounded sites in Northern Mesopotamia: Tell Helawa in the Erbil Plain (MAIPE) and Logardan in the Qara Dagħ (FARMQaD). These settlements are characterised by tight, superimposed occupational sequences, with frequent floor refurbishing and architectural reconfigurations spanning the first half of the 4th millennium B.C. Micromorphological samplings at the sites have then focused on a range of research objectives such as the understanding of formation processes of specific archaeological contexts, especially within mounded settings, on earthen building materials and the different types of floors and surfaces found at the sites and on the recognition of activity areas and their distribution within internal and external spaces. The main goal is to unveil different patterns of use and spatial association of activities within a period of complex socio-cultural transformations to assess the degree of segmentation, specialization or aggregation of activities.

Keywords

Micromorphology, Late Chalcolithic, Activity areas

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