



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

A new 3rd millennium BC periodization for the Middle Tigris Region

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Abstract

The excavations at Bassetki (Duhok Province of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq) yield a long sequence of 3rd millennium BC layers, consisting of levels A31 to A20, with various sub-layers. To avoid misleading period attributions such as "Akkadian" or "Ur III" and in view of the weakness of the overarching Early Bronze Age chronology subdivided into non-uniform phases varying from region to region, an independent regional periodization system was designed. It is referred to as the Middle Tigridian (MT) Periodization being applicable to the regions on both sides of the middle course of the Tigris in Northern Iraq. The Early Middle Tigridian period (EMT) covering the 3rd millennium BC is subdivided into phases EMT 1 to EMT 5. It is correlated to previously applied designations: Early Ninevite V (EMT 1), Late Ninevite 5 (EMT 2), mid-3rd millennium (EMT 3a and 3b), "Akkadian" (EMT 4) and "Ur III" (EMT 5). The lecture presents the major contexts of the archaeological sequence of Bassetki, which forms one of the pillars of the new periodization, in connection with the pottery assemblages from the various layers and a series of 14C-datings from Bassetki which help to anchor the new periodization in terms of absolute chronology.

Keywords

Bassetki, Early Bronze Age, Ninevite 5, Middle Tigris, Akkadian

Session

7. Characterizing culture ?

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