



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

New genomic data of the Levant confirm mobility beyond the regions of West Asia

SAUPE T.^{1*}, MATTIAS J.¹

¹ Department for Organismal Biology, Evolutionary Biology Center, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden, Uppsala, Sweden

*Corresponding author

Abstract

With the exponential availability of ancient human genomes from Eurasia, Africa, and worldwide, researchers of different disciplines have been increasingly interested in linking changes in genetic-related ancestries, socio-cultural-related patterns, and linguistics focusing particularly on West Asia as the bridge between the geographical regions.

Recent ancient DNA (aDNA) studies have shown that genetic-related ancestries in West Asia were introduced mostly in the transition from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age (in)dependently with the rise and fall of civilisations. However, the variety of genetic-related ancestries for the North of the Levant is still unclear.

Here, we want to present newly generated genetic data of archaeological sites located in the Levant and place them in context with published ancient genomes focusing on possible mobility patterns throughout West Asia expanding to Northern Africa and Central Asia. Due to the rather bad preservation of human skeletal remains from this geographical region, we focused firstly on the improvement of the laboratory workflow by applying a target enrichment via in-solution hybridisation on selected individuals. Our first observations of the genetic results have shown a similar picture of the variety in genetic-related ancestries supporting previous findings. Yet, we found evidence of ongoing mobility beyond West Asia.

Keywords

ancient DNA, Levant, Mobility, Bronze Age

Session

1. Advances in Near Eastern Archaeology

Workshop

A16540HW - City Invincible: Middle Bronze Age Urbanism in the Levant

Type of paper

Oral presentation