



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The tell in its landscape: first results of archaeobotanical analyses from Gird i Dasht, Soran, Iraqi Kurdistan

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Abstract

Since 2021, archaeological excavations have been taking place at the Tell Gird i Dash in Soran, in the autonomous region of Kurdistan in Iraq. The tell is the main settlement on the Delzian Plain. The joint project of the University of Mainz, the University of Kiel and the University of Stavanger, in close cooperation with the University of Soran, the Directorate of Antiquities of Soran and the Directorate General of Antiquities, focuses on the evolution of the landscape as driven by economic practices throughout the Holocene. Our first aim was to establish a standard profile for the region, combining pottery, stone tools, plant and animal use, and absolute dating.

To date, approximately 6m of stratigraphic layers have been uncovered, dating to the period of use of the tell and predominantly to the Chalcolithic. Extensive scientific analysis of the deposits is an important part of the project. The first results of the archaeobotanical analyses are presented here.

All samples from the layers of the tell contained charred plant remains, which allow accurate ¹⁴C dating, as well as first conclusions about economic activities. In addition, different plant use strategies can be identified during the Chalcolithic. Investigations at Gird i Dash will continue.

Keywords

Kurdistan, Iraq, Archaeobotany, Chalcolithic, land use

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