



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Shifting Funerary Practices in Late Neolithic talhk: Insights into Societal Transformation

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Abstract

This paper explores the shift in funerary practices at Çatalhöyük, focusing on the Late Neolithic transition from domestic interments to distinct funerary structures, exemplified by Spaces 327, 248, and 685. The study combines archaeological evidence with demographic data to analyze changes in burial rituals, particularly the clustering of adult burials and the spatial differentiation within these chambers. This shift from in-house burials to dedicated structures—like a charnel house with over twenty individuals and varied burial arrangements—reflects a significant cultural transition. By examining architectural features and the simplified ornamentation in these spaces, the research reveals evolving socio-cultural dynamics and shifting beliefs surrounding death and community identity. These findings emphasize the need for interdisciplinary approaches to understand the societal impact of burial customs at Çatalhöyük, contributing to a deeper comprehension of prehistoric funerary traditions during the Neolithic period.

Keywords

Late Neolithic, talhk, funerary practices, burial structures, burials

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