



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Preliminary data from Qasr Shemamok and its region in the 3rd millennium BCE: Between Ninevite 5 and Post-Akkadian occupations.

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Abstract

The excavations carried out at Qasr Shemamok by the French archaeological Mission have revealed the presence of a Ninevite 5 settlement within the northern part of the citadel, an information that had not appeared during the Italian operations in the 1930s, nor during the initial surface surveys. The ceramic evidence attested in this context can be ascribed to ARCANE phasing ETG 3 (roughly between 2900 and 2750 BCE), whilst no finds from the second half of the 3rd millennium have been discovered so far on the mound. On the contrary, the nearby complex of Kandara Qal, about 2 km east of Qasr Shemamok, seems to have been occupied more continuously, attesting also several ceramic specimens corresponding to ARCANE phasing ETG 8?9, in the last quarter of the 3rd millennium. This ceramic evidence, most probably associated with a workshop for pottery production, could point to a shift of the local focus of settlement from Qasr Shemamok to Kandara Qal during this period. While, for security reasons, field operations have been suspended during last years, this presentation will attempt to clarify the existing data through comparison with other EBA occupations in the Transtigradian region and recent publications.

Keywords

Qasr Shemamok, Transtigradian region, Ninevite 5, Post-Akkadian, pottery

Session

7. Characterizing culture ?

Workshop

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