



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# Diet and animal husbandry at Khrami Didi Gora, a Neolithic site in Georgia

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## Abstract

Khrami Didi Gora is one of the largest Neolithic settlements in Georgia, dating back to the sixth-fifth millennium BCE. It is a part of the Shulaveri – Shomu Tepe Culture, that spans the territories in modern-day Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Northern Iran. The significance of the settlement lies in its potential to shed light on key aspects of Neolithic archaeology, particularly the transition from foraging to farming within the specific environmental context of high mountain region. Archaeological discoveries offer valuable insights into dietary patterns, socio-economic structures, animal husbandry practices, crop selection, and environmental conditions.

The purpose of this paper is to investigate dietary patterns and subsistence strategies at the settlement which will be achieved by employing a robust methodology for stable isotope analysis, including collagen extraction from dentin using a modified Longin procedure. This process involves cleaning, demineralization, gelatinization, filtration, and freeze-drying.

This paper examines archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological data from the Shulaveri-Shomu Tepe culture in the context of evidence from other sites in the South Caucasus region, including Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. Available data suggest a reliance on C3 plants throughout the region, alongside the archaeobotanical presence of wild millet seeds (C4), and a focus on animal husbandry, particularly ovicaprids.

## Keywords

Animal husbandry, Biochemistry, Neolithic settlement, Paleodiet, Stable isotopes

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