



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Jund al-Urdunn under the early Umayyads- reexaminations of materials on the ground

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Abstract

This proposal aims to contextualize the early steps of Islam in Palaestina Secunda and the first decades of Jund al-Urdunn, emphasizing the material culture that emerged during this transformative period. The two sides of the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan River have revealed significant evidence regarding settlements and projects from the early Umayyad period. Materials uncovered in previous excavations can also provide valuable insights into this era. I propose to reexamine the publication of both old and new excavations in order to reconstruct the material evidence of Umayyad interventions in the Jund. One notable site is al-Hamma (Hammam Gader), excavated in the mid-1990s, which exposed a dedication inscription from Mu'awiya b. Abi Sufyan. However, while the inscription has been contextualized, the associated construction phase has not been adequately addressed, and some phases may have been misinterpreted. Beyond imperial or leisure projects, recent excavations are enriching our understanding of the strata, particularly at sites like Hippos on the eastern side of the lake and Tiberias on the western bank. Additionally, new evidence from al-Sinnabra, on the southern shore of the lake, where I have been excavating in recent years alongside Donald Whitcomb, sheds light on Mu'awiya's activities in the region.

Keywords

Urdunn, Umayyad, Mu'awiya, Sinnabra, sites

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