



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Beads as chronological markers: A case study of Banahilk (Soran, Iraq)

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Abstract

Personal ornaments, especially beads, were often classified as a neglected objects or were described superficially in archaeological excavations. However, recent studies have demonstrated that they are essential elements for understanding and interpreting the behavioural patterns of prehistoric societies located in the Near East. They have been used to express social status, wealth, gender and other symbolic connotations associated to their colours. Nevertheless, this small finds consumed by fully established societies based on agriculture and livestock, has been a determining factor considering them as possible chronological markers.

The aim of this communication is to determine, as much as possible, how the small artifacts recovered from Banahilk (Soran, Iraq) in terms of raw materials and shapes, how a typology of beads can estimate a relative chronology at the end of the Halaf phenomena (mid sixth millennium cal BC).

Keywords

Beads, chronological marker, Halaf, Near East, Banahilk

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