













14th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Hazor and Egypt: Political Strategies and Cultural Interactions during the Amarna Period

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Abstract

In the Egyptian universe, the city of Hazor belongs to a group of cities considered either as a threat or as a vassal. Perceived as an essential crossing point to Syria and Lebanon by land, ?various Egyptian sources periodically mention this town. In the 14th century BCE, between the reign of Amenhotep III and that of Tutankhamun (1380-1323 BCE), Hazor communicated with the Egyptian court as shown by several "Amarna tablets". Our communication proposes to study the place of Hazor within this turbulent and crucial period of the Bronze Age, as well as at the evidence of the Egyptian presence and links woven with the pharaohs. In 2022, the discovery of a silver ring engraved with the cartouche of Ankh-kheperu-Ra (Smenkhkara) once again places Hazor as an essential place for research about the Amarna period. Indeed, this king – whose cartouche is found both in Egypt and in the Levant (Ugarit) - probably reigned at the end of Akhenaten's reign as co-regent or as his successor. His identity remains problematic: Nefertiti? Meritaten? The Hittite prince Zannanza called to the Egyptian throne? The ring is a new element to add to the file of Hazor as a strategic place for Egyptians.

Keywords

Hazor, Amarna, Smenkhkara, Ring, Levant

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