



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Socio-Economic Interconnections between Mesopotamia and Iran: Archaeological Evidence from the Garmian Region (KRI, Iraq)

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Abstract

The Autonomous Region of Iraqi Kurdistan is experiencing a period of stability, which has facilitated a significant revival of field archaeology also in the Garmian area, located in the southern part of the region. This revival has led to noteworthy archaeological discoveries that underscore the historical significance of the area. Recent findings, including the identification of several new sites, have fundamentally revised our understanding of the anthropic evolution of the region.

Notably, discoveries related to architectural structures and material production—including those associated with a Parthian-period tomb and the multi-phase settlement in Sarqala, alongside recent excavations at Gawr Tepe—confirm that this region was not only a vital crossroad where converged major communication routes, but also a key hub for cultural and economic exchanges between the primary heartlands of Central and Western Asia: Mesopotamia and the Levant, on one hand, and the Iranian Plateau, on the other. This strategic role persisted even after the Islamic conquest, maintaining its importance in the early centuries of the Islamic era.

Keywords

Iraqi Kurdistan, Garmian Area, Mesopotamia, Iranian Plateau, Socio-Cultural Exchanges

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