



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The context of rurality. Reconstructing the rural village biography of Gird-i Shamlu in the Shahrizor Plain, KRI

ML S. 1*

¹ German Archaeological Institute, Berlin, Germany

*Corresponding author

Abstract

This study reconstructs the rural village biography of Gird-i Shamlu (Shahrizor Plain, KRI) to explore the dynamics of rurality in a long-term perspective. Surveys and excavations revealed a complex occupation history spanning from the mid-4th millennium BCE to the late 1960s, characterized by spatial shifts and interruptions. The research examines how the nature, function, and spatial use of this multi-mounded site changed over time, reflecting historical events and socio-economic transitions.

Analysis of the site's material culture and spatial organization demonstrates that its inhabitants primarily relied on diverse resources from its immediate surroundings and the wider hinterland. While direct material connections to regional urban centers appear limited, the study reveals that urban contexts significantly impacted the site's economy through social and economic hierarchization.

The village biography of Gird-i Shamlu provides insights into the complex relationships between rural settlements and urban hubs, the adaptation strategies of rural communities to changing environmental and political landscapes, and the resilience of rural lifeways in the region. This contributes to a more nuanced understanding of rurality in ancient Western Asian contexts and highlights the importance of studying small-scale settlements in reconstructing regional historical narratives beyond urban sources.

Keywords

rural site, LC, Bronze Age, excavation, survey

Session

1. Advances in Near Eastern Archaeology

Workshop

A16096RP - Rethinking Rurality Taking a Non-Urban Perspective on the Archaeology of Villages

Type of paper

Oral presentation