



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# Why should I get myself a modern seal?' Reconsidering the Early Dynastic I-II seal styles based on new results from the "Seal Pit" in Fara / Suruppak

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## Abstract

The first excavations at Fara / Suruppak in 1902-1903 were crucial in defining the iconography and styles of the earlier Early Dynastic glyptic arts. However, the dating of the seal styles was controversial because neither the context nor the stratigraphy of the sealings in "Graben Id/Ie" were recorded. During renewed excavations since 2022, contextualised material was uncovered that allows new investigations into seal styles, sealing types and material analyses. All the evidence suggests that different seal styles from the ED I - II periods can no longer be interpreted merely as chronological differences, but that the choice of a seal in a traditional or a modern style was closely linked to the position of the seal user within the administration and society.

## Keywords

Seal style, Sealing, Early Dynastic period, Fara-Shuruppak

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