



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# The later 3rd and earlier 2nd millennia BC in western Syria: the evidence from Tell Nebi Mend and surveys in the Orontes Valley.

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## Abstract

The Upper Orontes Valley is an area that is often considered to have had stronger connections to coastal and southern regions during the Bronze Age than was the case for sites located further north within Syria such as Ebla. If this is correct, then the arguments that have arisen among researchers working in the Southern Levant over the applicability to that context of a 'standard' notion of urbanism derived from the Mesopotamian world, should be of particular resonance for studies of this region. This paper will use a combination of new radiocarbon dates from Tell Nebi Mend (TNM) combined with ceramic and settlement data from TNM and surveys in the Homs region to consider where the Upper Orontes Valley sits in terms of our understanding of urban centres and their hinterlands during the EB IV and MBA periods.

## Keywords

Syria, Urbanism, Middle Bronze Age, Ceramics

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