



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Unearthing Assur: New Insights into Material Culture from the Late Bronze Age to the Parthian Period

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Abstract

In 2023, new archaeological excavations resumed in Assur under the direction of Prof. Karen Radner from LMU Munich, yielding significant findings that enrich our understanding of the site's material culture across various historical periods. This paper presents an analysis of the newly uncovered artifacts, which range from the Late Bronze Age to the Parthian period. Key discoveries include a diverse collection of pottery, alongside workshop materials such as metal and pottery production waste, indicating the area's industrial activities. Notably, we have unearthed sarcophagi of the bathtub type from the Parthian period, as well as two inverted-type sarcophagi, one of which features an Aramaic inscription dated to 159/158 BCE. This inscription is crucial as it confirms Assur's occupation during this time. Additionally, the excavation has revealed glass objects and figurines, contributing to the understanding of socio-cultural practices in ancient Assur. By situating these artifacts within their archaeological and chronological contexts, this paper aims to illuminate the complexities of Assur's material culture and its implications for our comprehension of ancient societal developments in the region.

Keywords

Field report, Assur, material culture , production, finds

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