



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# A study of the wall paintings of Dja'de el-Mughara (Syria, 9th mill. cal BC)

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## Abstract

This paper presents an original study of the geometric and polychrome wall paintings of the community building 'House of Paintings' at Dja'de el-Mughara (Syria, 9th mill. cal BC). The first part gives a detailed presentation of the structure of the painted decor, their construction principles and the relationship between polychromy and geometry. We then question its textile inspiration : the structure of these paintings seem to have been inspired more by woven basketry. Our experiments with weaving paper strips reveal significant differences and technical impossibilities inherent to basketry: the transposition from one material to another provides an opportunity for creativity in terms of the play of colours and the proportions of the motifs. Finally, we place these paintings in the longue durée of the geometric graphic manifestations in prehistory. They belong coherently within the culture of the Syrian Middle Euphrates at the end of the PPNA, which seems to attest to a marked interest in geometry, both in architecture and in architectural decoration.

## Keywords

Paintings, Colours, Geometry, Basketry, Prehistory

## Session

5. Neolithic paths

## Type of paper

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