



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Gemmology at the service of archaeology. Study of unpublished materials from tomb F4 at Jericho, Early Bronze Age

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Abstract

In 1960, Kenyon published the first volume of her excavation report on the Bronze Age necropolis at Jericho. In the description of Tomb F4, she lists the artefacts present, with the exception of the beads. Nevertheless, this is one of the most important assemblages of personal ornaments found in the necropolis, both in terms of quantity and diversity. This corpus is being analysed in order to identify the technical production processes and to provide insights into the gems used. I had the opportunity to access and study those beads, conserved in UCL Archaeology Collections. Based on a corpus of 167 finished beads, the study presented applies a non-destructive methodology based on gemmology. This study highlights the value of systematic approaches to the study of beads in order to better understand exchange networks in the Levant.

Keywords

Levant, Early Bronze Age, beads, gems, archaeogemmology

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