



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Archaeobotany as a practice, discipline and the missing link in archaeology in Türkiye

ERGUN M. ¹*

¹ University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

*Corresponding author

Abstract

Archaeobotany is not a recent research discipline in Türkiye. Instead, its roots can be traced back deep into history: as far as the origins of the discipline in the 19th century. The increasing number of projects in the mid-20th century, as in other parts of southwest Asia, had a particularly influential impact not only on our understanding of the past but also on the theoretical and practical development of the discipline itself. In today's Türkiye, archaeobotanical research comprises different time periods from prehistory to the Ottoman era, and studies diverse geographic regions. However, archaeobotany is still not a widely applied or established field within institutional capacities, which causes 'missing links' within the archaeological record and research. Besides outlining the current status of the field, this paper focuses on the speaker's personal experiences in the development of archaeobotany in Türkiye from the perspectives of education, training, research and fieldwork, as well as collaborations with field archaeologists and other specialists in environmental archaeology. While discussing restraints, the paper also aims at drawing attention to future perspectives and objectives which may contribute to the development of the discipline and its importance in archaeological and biocultural heritage studies.

Keywords

Archaeobotany, Education and Training, Research, Future Perspectives, Southwest Asia

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