



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Social and Spatial Networks of Early Bronze IV Mortuary Landscapes

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Abstract

Discussions of urbanization during the Early Bronze Age (EBA) tend to revolve around an urban-rural dichotomy, in which the EB III to IV periods witnessed a stark transition from urban to rural settlement systems. Recent EBA scholarship has advocated for a more nuanced understanding of EBA connectivity, one less defined by division and instead by concepts of integration, communities of practice, and kinship. However, there remains a lack of collaborative, multivariate approaches in which both quantitative and qualitative methods are considered. In applying statistical, social, and spatial analyses to EB IV tomb data, I tackle these disparities at intra- and inter-site scales utilizing tomb material, architecture, and geographical attributes. Data reduction techniques reveal patterns at different spatial scales providing a better understanding of communities of mortuary practice throughout the Southern Levant. This paper aims to contribute to conversations of integration by giving insight into alternative trajectories of connectivity and mobility through the lens of EB IV mortuary practices.

Keywords

Landscape, Southern Levant, Spatial Analysis, Network Analysis, Mortuary

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