



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Empire and the Margins: Rethinking Hazor's Place in Assyria's Imperial Network

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Abstract

Tiglath-Pileser III's campaign in 732 BCE brought widespread destruction to the Southern Levant, leaving cities like Hazor in ruin. Conventional interpretations suggest Hazor was later re-established as an Assyrian administrative centre after a period of abandonment. This paper re-evaluates this perspective, combining results from earlier excavations with recent findings from Neo-Assyrian levels at Hazor.

The evidence points to a swift resettlement after the destruction, likely by local inhabitants. Remains scattered across the acropolis, some with two construction phases, imply an occupation lasting several decades. Notably, monumental structures traditionally assigned to the Neo-Assyrian period appear to belong to a later phase, suggesting Hazor was a rural, unfortified settlement rather than an administrative hub.

This reassessment provides a fuller view of the reaction of Hazor's inhabitants to the imperial forces of the Assyrian administration. By examining Hazor's remains in their regional context, this paper offers new insights into local settlement dynamics, highlighting the response to the Assyrian expansion in the Hula Valley.

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Hazor, Neo-Assyrian period

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