

## Middle Euphrates (RG 07)

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### Second Regional Workshop in Agrigento

12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2008

### Scientific Report

The team of the Regional Group 07 met this year in Agrigento following an invitation by Gioacchino Falsone, Palermo University. The workshop was planned for 2 days only. The following topic coordinators and guests attended the meeting:

#### TOPIC COORDINATORS

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Function</i>	<i>Institution &amp; Country</i>	
1	Bouso, Mónica	Burial customs	Univ. of Barcelona	E
2	Choyke, Alice	Bone objects	Central European Univ., Budapest	H
3	Felli, Candida	Glyptics	Pisa University	I
4	Finkbeiner, Uwe	Team leader and Stratigraphy	Tuebingen University	D
5	Novák, Mirko	Architecture, city-planning	Tuebingen University	D
6	Sakal, Ferhan	Terracotta figurines	Tuebingen University	D
7	Sconzo, Paola	Pottery	Tuebingen University	D

#### GUESTS

8	Cooper, Lisa	RG02 topic coordinator, pottery	Uni. of Brit. Columbia, Vancouver	CAN
9	Falsone, Gioacchino	Excav. Tell Shiyoukh Taht.	Palermo University	I
10	Helwing, Barbara	research in the Karababa area	DAI, Eurasienabteilung, Berlin	D
11	Piccione, Paola	Excav. at Zeytinli Bahce H.	Univ. "La Sapienza", Rome	I
12	Sertok, Kemal	Istanbul	(Gaziantep Müzesi)	TR
13	Valdés Pereiro, Carmen	Excav. T. el-Amarneh & Qara Q	Univ. of Barcelona	E

The following topic coordinators had to cancel their participation

Coqueugniot, Eric	Lithics	CNRS, Lyon	F
Deckers, Katleen	14C-Dating	Tuebingen University	D
Squadrone, Fausta	Metal objects	Istanbul	TR

Among the Topic Coordinators of the Middle Euphrates Group I have the pleasure to welcome two new colleagues. Instead of Yasmine Yilmaz, Mónica Bouso from Barcelona is now in charge of funerary customs; and Fausta Squadrone has taken over from Juan Luis Montero the metal objects.

The second and, actually, last meeting was to be based upon the groups of objects pre-sorted by a well functioning database. But the database was to emerge out of the inventories that are being entered as so-called standalone files. But only some of the inventories were delivered in time and had, partly, to be corrected. Obviously the time span granted for this step was too short and, as a postponement of the meeting was impossible, we changed the programme introducing some lectures followed by the reports and statements of the topic coordinators.

There is one problem that I should like to address right away: for his region, the Jazirah, Marc Lebeau is so lucky as to have found a periodization that his team agrees upon; I am talking of the periods Early Jazirah I to V, which roughly correspond to the Early Bronze Age. I am not acquainted with all details upon which this particular subdivision is founded. On our hand, we must ask ourselves whether, for our region, the Middle Euphrates, we rest content with the periodization from EB I to EB IVA/B that we have used so far, or whether we must think about a new terminology.

## 2. Description of the scientific content and discussion

The programme consisted of three main parts:

- a. Presentation of different lectures adding new insights for our region Middle Euphrates.
- b. Statements by the Topic Coordinators as to the actual state of the art concerning research on their respective find categories and the data published so far.
- c. The general discussion was mainly devoted to the question of a new periodization for our region and the future proceeding heading for the publication.

### 2a The lectures

To start with, Paola Sconzo reported about The Woolley - Lawrence Collections from the Carchemish Region. There followed contributions about investigations in our region, some presenting recent excavation results that are of immediate relevance to our project. Here are the individual lectures:

PAOLA SCONZO (TUEBINGEN), *The Woolley - Lawrence Collections from the Carchemish Region.*

FRANCESCA BALOSI (ROME), *Excavations at the site of Zeytinli Bahce: The stratigraphic sequence.* (paper presented by P. Piccione)

PAOLA PICCIONE (ROME), *The Early Bronze Age I sequence at Zeytinli Bahce: The Emergence of a Ceramic Horizon starting from the Late Uruk Period.*

GIORGIA FRANCOZZI (ROME), *Developments in the Ceramic Assemblage at the end of the Early Bronze Age.* (paper presented by P. Piccione)

CARMEN VALDÉS PEREIRO (BARCELONA), *New Project of excavation at Tell el-Amarneh.*

KEMAL SERTOK (ISTANBUL), *A statistical analysis of the Ceramic assemblage of the Birecik Dam EBA Cemetery and its meaning.*

BARBARA HELWING (BERLIN), *The Middle Euphrates in the Early Bronze Age – Some contributions from the Karababa Basin excavations.*

ATTILA ENGIN (SIVAS), *Late Early Bronze Age material from Oylum Höyük* (paper read by Barbara Helwing in connection with the pottery section)

## 2b Reports and Statements by the Topic Coordinators:

The late afternoon was devoted to topics dealing with findings rather than finds. The following morning started with material groups and a general introduction to the Pottery which was continued with a contribution by Lisa Cooper, TC for pottery, about the situation in her regional group Northern Levant.

MIRKO NOVÁK (TUEBINGEN) *Architecture and City planning*

UWE FINKBEINER (TUEBINGEN), *Stratigraphy*

KATLEEN DECKERS (TUEBINGEN), Radiocarbon Dating (list of Radiocarbon dates sent by mail)

MONICA BOUSO (BARCELONA), *Burial Customs*

CANDIDA FELLI (FLORENCE), *Glyptics*

ALICE CHOYKE (BUDAPEST), *Bone Objects*

FAUSTA SQUADRONE (ISTANBUL), *Metal Objects* (Paper read by K. Sertok)

FERHAN SAKAL (TUEBINGEN), *Terracotta Figurines*

LISA COOPER (VANCOUVER), *The relations between the pottery of the Northern Levant (RG02) and the Middle Euphrates region (RG07): A preliminary study.*

UWE FINKBEINER (TUEBINGEN), *The distribution of the Blaubeuren pottery types by region and period.*

## 2c The general discussion and conclusion of the meeting

With Kemal Sertok as chairman three main subjects had to be discussed:

- Further procedure concerning the inventories (see Annex 1). Workflow before and after the database is completed.
- Elaboration of a new periodization for the ME Region.
- Additional workshop in Blaubeuren in 2009 after the grouped data from Siena will be evaluated.

## 3. Assessment of the results

The General Discussion led to the following results and decisions:

- The evaluation as planned is not possible before the database has arrived. For the time being, work for ARCANE must concentrate on steps preparatory of the evaluation and of the redaction of the manuscript. In the next days the team leaders will try to make the tardy colleagues hand in the promised inventories and to ask for further inventories from, for example, the excavations of Titirish, Hassek Höyük, Halawa B (see below Annex 1, p. 8-9). The Topic Coordinators have also agreed to look at and evaluate recent publications.

- The elaboration of a new periodization for the Middle Euphrates region is particularly urgent. M. Novák and U. Finkbeiner will take on the task of working towards a preliminary result by evaluating the architecture and stratigraphical peculiarities. This preliminary periodization will still be very coarse and must be modified and supported by an investigation of the development of certain index fossils among the ceramics and the small finds. At the same time radiocarbon dates from stratified contexts will be integrated.
- The slow arrival of the inventories has caused a delay in the use of the database with its possibilities of evaluation; therefore a third meeting has become necessary. We are, of course, aware that the budget does not foresee the financing of a third workshop. But we hope that it may yet be enabled by thrifty planning. With that aim in view we decided to hold the workshop of RG 07 from February 5 to 9 in Blaubeuren, at the same time when Clemens Reichel (RG 10) will hold his second meeting there. As the Fabri Institut offers enough rooms at that time, Margarete van Ess (RG11) would like to hold her second meeting then and there as well so that we may count upon reduced travel costs and on the happy effects of joined forces working for the goals of our project. Within short, we shall hand in a preliminary application for our group.
- According to my wish, PD Dr. Mirko Novák, Tuebingen University, was elected as second team leader and partner. He is mainly going to look after affairs in Tuebingen, something I found it increasingly difficult to manage from France, where I stay habitually.

**FINAL PROGRAMME**  
(as realized in Agrigento)

**Monday, 12 May**

ARRIVAL AT AGRIGENTO (Hotel Villa Athena)

16:00 Tour of Agrigento. Possible visit to the Temple Hill, the Pirandello House and other sites in the old town.

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**Tuesday, 13 May (09:00)**

WORDS OF WELCOME BY ANTONINO GIUFRIDDA VINCENZO GUARRASI,  
DIRECTOR OF CENTRO GESTIONE, PALERMO UNIVERSITY SET IN AGRIGENTO  
introduced by our host, Gioacchino Falsone

**MORNING SESSION**

(Chairperson: Lisa Cooper)

09:45 – 10:45 Introduction to the Scientific Meeting (U. Finkbeiner)

PRESENTATION OF LECTURES

10:45 – 11:15 Paola Sconzo (Tuebingen), *The Woolley - Lawrence Collections from the Carchemish Region*

11:15 *Coffee break*

(Chairperson: Barbara Helwing)

11:45 – 12:15 Francesca Balossi, *Excavations at the site of Zeytinli Bahce: The stratigraphic sequence*. (Paper presented by P. Piccione)

12:15 – 12:45 Paola Piccione, *The Early Bronze Age I sequence at Zeytinli Bahce: The Emergence of a Ceramic Horizon starting from the Late Uruk Period*.

12:45 – 13:15 Giorgia Francozzi, *Developments in the Ceramic Assemblage at the end of the Early Bronze Age*. (paper presented by P. Piccione)

13:15 *Lunch*

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

*(Chairperson: Candida Felli)*

15:30 – 16:00 Kemal Sertok (Istanbul), *A statistical analysis of the Ceramic assemblage of the Birecik Dam EBA Cemetery and its meaning.*

16:00 – 16:30 Barbara Helwing (Berlin), *Burials in the Karababa Basin area.*

17:00 *Coffee break*

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS BY THE TOPIC COORDINATORS I

*(Chairperson: Kemal Sertok)*

17:30 – 18:00 I.1 Architecture and City planning (M. Novák)

18:00 - 18:30 I.2 Stratigraphy (U. Finkbeiner)

18:30 – 19:00 I.3 Radiocarbon Dating (paper sent by K. Deckers) and “New Radiocarbon data from Shiyukh Tahtani” (Gioacchino Falsone)

19:00 – 19:30 I.4 Burial Customs (M. Bouso)

20:00 *Dinner*

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**Wednesday, 14 May**

**MORNING SESSION**

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS BY THE TOPIC COORDINATORS II

*(Chairperson: Carmen Valdés)*

09:00 – 09:30 II.1 Glyptics (C. Felli)

09:30 – 10:00 II.2 Bone Objects (A. Choyke)

10:00 – 10:30 II.3 Metal Objects (Paper sent by F. Squadrone)

10:30 – 11:00 II.4 Figurines (F. Sakal)

11.00 *Coffee break*

*(Chairperson: Mirko Novák)*

12:00 – 12:30 II.5 Paola Sconzo, General Introduction to the Pottery

12:30 – 13:00 II.6 Attila Engin, *Keytypes of EB pottery assemblages from the Karababa Dam area and Keytypes of the Upper Qoueiq* (paper read by Barbara Helwing)

13:00 *Lunch*

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

(Chairperson: *Gioacchino Falsone*)

- 15:00 – 15:30 Lisa Cooper, *The relations between the pottery of the Northern Levant (RG02) and the Middle Euphrates region (RG07): A preliminary study.*
- 15:30 – 16:00 Uwe Finkbeiner, *The distribution of the Blaubeuren pottery types by region and period.*

GENERAL DISCUSSION

(Chairperson: *Alice Choyke*)

- 16:00 – 17:30 Guidelines how to proceed and planning the structure of the publications and conclusion of the meeting

19:00 **Dinner**

20:00 Evening in the *Valley of the Temples* organized by Gioacchino Falsone.  
"Songs and dances of Sicilian Folklore." Evening show offered by "Progest: Azienda Speciale Camera di Commercio). It will take place at Stoai, a fabulous building in the heart of the Agrigento Temple Hill.

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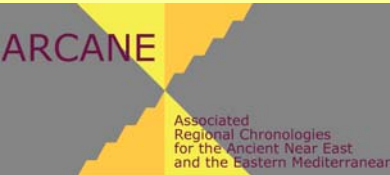
**Thursday, 15 May**

09:00 Departure after breakfast

**F-67510 Obersteinbach, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

**Uwe Finkbeiner**

## ANNEX 1

ARCANE ESF PROGRAMME Middle Euphr. (RG 07) Inventories					
Site name	Arcane site code	Nr of inventories	EB Phases	Date Range	Arcane contact person + email
Horum Höyük	ME005	5	EB I-II, IV Transition	3100?-2000	Catherine Marro
Gre Virike	ME006	2	EB II-IV	2800?-2000?	Tuba Ökse
Zeytinli Bahce Höyük	ME007	12	EB I, III		Marcella Frangipane, Francesca Balossi
Tilbeshar	ME008	3	EB III-IV		Christine Képinski
T. Shiyoukh Fawqani	ME009	3 ?			Daniele Morandi-B. Philippe Quenet
T. Shiyoukh Tahtani	ME010	8	EB I-IV	3000-2000	Gioacchino Falsone Paola Sconzo
Tell Ahmar	ME011	2 ?			Guy Bunnens
Qara Qozaq	ME012	6	EB I-II, IV	3000-2000	Carmen Valdés Pereiro
Tell Bazi	ME013	3	± EB IV	≅ 2500-2000	Berthold Einwag, Adelheid Otto
Jerablous Tahtani	ME016	2 ?			Eddie Peltenburg
Tell Sweyhat	ME018	2 ?	TSW Phase 4 late EBA	2200 -	Richard Zettler /Michael Danti
Tell el-Abd	ME020	3			Paola Sconzo Uwe Finkbeiner
Halawa A	ME023	3			Winfried Orthmann, Ralph Hempelmann
Halawa B	ME024	2 ?			Friedrich Lüth



SCIENTIFIC REPORT

Tell Habuba Kabira	ME027	1 ?			Eva Strommenger, Adelheid Otto
Tell Qannas	ME028	2 ?			Guy Bunnens
Selenkahiye	ME029	2	EB IVA-B	2500-2000	Diederik Meijer
Emar	ME031	1	EB IVB	2150-2000	Uwe Finkbeiner Ferhan Sakal
Tell Bi'a	ME032	6	EB (II) III-IV		Adelheid Otto, Berthold Einwag
T. Hammam et-Turkman	ME033	2	EB IV	2300-2100?	Diederik Meijer
Terqa	ME035	3	EB III-IVA?		Olivier Rouault Juliette Mas
Şaraga Höyük	ME038	2			Kemal Sertok
Birecik Cemetery	ME039	2			Kemal Sertok
Tell Hajji Ibrahim	ME042	6 ?			
Middle Euphrates Reg. Group	total	83	---	---	---

	<b>Delivered (54)</b>
	<b>Delivery confirmed (9)</b>
<b>?</b>	<b>Delivery expected or probable (20)</b>