



Middle Euphrates (RG 07)

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First Regional Workshop in Blaubeuren

1st – 4th April 2007

Scientific Report

1. Summary

The team of the Regional Group 07 met in the Heinrich Fabri Institute in Blaubeuren, an institution dedicated to scientific meetings of the Eberhard Karls University Tuebingen. The workshop was planned for 4 days because of the great number of participants. The following excavators and topic coordinators attended the meeting:

TOPIC COORDINATORS

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Function</i>	<i>Institution & Country</i>	
1	Choyke, Alice	Bone objects	Central European Univ., Budapest	H
2	Felli, Candida	Glyptics	Pisa University	I
3	Finkbeiner, Uwe	Team leader and Stratigraphy	Tuebingen University	D
4	Marro, Catherine	Pottery	CNRS, Lyon	F
5	Novák, Mirko	Architecture, city-planning	Tuebingen University	D
6	Porter, Anne	Burial Customs	Univ. of Southern Calif., L.A.	USA
7	Sakal, Ferhan	Terracotta figurines	Tuebingen University	D
8	Sconzo, Paola	Pottery	Tuebingen University	D
9	Deckers, Katleen	¹⁴ C- and other datings	Tuebingen University	D

EXCAVATORS AND GUESTS

10	Eidem, Jesper	Excav. T. Aushariya	Univ. of Copenhagen	DK
11	Einwag, Berthold	Excav. Tell Bazi	L. M.-University, Munich	D
12	Falsone, Gioacchino	Excav. Tell Shiyoukh Taht.	Palermo University	I
13	Hempelmann, Ralph	Excav. Halawa A	Frankfurt University	D
14	Lebeau, Marc	as ARCANÉ chairman	Europ. Center of Upper Mesop. Stud.	B
15	Mas, Juliette	Excav. Terqa	Univ. La Lumière, Lyon	F
16	McClellan, Tom	Excav. Tell Banat	Los Angeles	USA
17	Meijer, Diederik	Excav. Tell Hammam	Leiden University	NL
18	Ökse, AyşeTuba	Excav. GreVerike	Kocaeli Univ., Izmit	TR
19	Otto, Adelheid	Excav. Tell Bazi, Glyptics	L. M.-University, Munich	D

20	Schwartz, Glenn	Excav. Umm el-Marra	Johns Hopkins Univ., Baltimore	USA
21	Thalmann, Jean-Paul	Team leader RG02	Université Paris 1	F
22	Valdes Pereiro, Carmen	Excav. T. el-Amarneh & Qara Q	Univ. of Barcelona	E
23	Werner, Peter	Excav. Munbaqa	TU Hamburg-Harburg	D
24	Zettler, Richard	Excav. Tell Sweyhat	Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia	USA

The following colleagues had to cancel their participation

Coqueugniot, Eric	Lithics	CNRS, Lyon	F
Képinski, Christine	Excav. Tilbeshar	CNRS, Paris	F

The workshop had two main goals: 1. the establishment of benchmark assemblages as the foundation of all future work. – 2. Introducing and explaining the procedure and workflow of the project, especially the input of data (collecting phase) and the later analysis of grouped data. These objectives were successfully discussed and brought to a broad consensus.

2. Description of the scientific content and discussion

The programme consisted of three main parts:

- i. General presentation of the project by Marc Lebeau, chairman; explanation of the database by Jean-Paul Thalmann, designer of the database structure
- ii. Presentation on part of the excavators of those sites that had been chosen as key-sites of the Middle Euphrates Region; preliminary collection of eventual inventories (s. Table of Inventories p. 3 s.), and finally
- iii. 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.

Another important item consisted in the final listing of all key-sites with their ID-number. The list contains 42 excavations of settlements and cemeteries between Hassek Höyük on the Euphrates upstream of the Atatürk reservoir and Terqa south-east of the Syrian provincial capital Der ez-Zor¹. The following sites were presented:

- (1) **Horum Höyük** (ME-005) by the excavator Catherine Marro (Lyon)
- (2) **Gre Virike**, cemetery (ME-006) by the excavator Tuba Ökse (Izmit)
- (3) **Zeytinli Bahce Höyük** (ME-007) power point presentation by the excavator Marcella Frangipane (Rome) read by Uwe Finkbeiner
- (4) **Tilbeshar** (ME-008) power point presentation by the excavator Christine Képinski (Paris) read by Catherine Marro
- (5) **T. Shiyoukh Tahtani** (ME-010) presented by the excavator Gioacchino Falsone (Palermo)
- (6) **Qara Quzaq** (ME-012) presented by Carmen Valdes Pereiro (Barcelona), member of the excavation team and author of the publications on pottery
- (7) **Tell Bazi** (ME-013) presented by Berthold Einwag (Munich), co-director of excavation
- (8) **Tell Kebir** (ME-014) presented by the excavator Anne Porter (Los Angeles)

¹ A complete list of the key-sites will be published in the internet at Regional Groups, RG 07 Middle Euphrates. An updated map of the sites will follow shortly.

- (9) **T. Banat**, settlement (ME-015) by the excavators Anne Porter and Tom McClellan (Los Angeles)
- (10) **Tell Aushariya** (ME-017) presented by the excavator Jesper Eidem (Copenhagen)
- (11) **Tell Sweyhat** (ME-018) presented by the excavator Richard Zettler (Philadelphia)
- (12) **Tell el-Abd** (ME-020) presented by Paola Sconzo (Tübingen), author of the final publication of the pottery, and by the excavator Uwe Finkbeiner (Tübingen)
- (13) **Munbaqa** (ME-021) presented by Peter Werner (Gladbeck), member of the excavation team and co-author of the final publication
- (14) **Halawa A** (ME-023) presented by Ralf Hempelmann (Frankfurt), author of the final publication of the pottery
- (15) **Selenkahiye** (ME-029) presented by Diederik Meijer (Leiden), member of the excavation team
- (16) **Emar** (ME-031) presented by Ferhan Sakal (Tübingen), field director
- (17) **Tell Bi'a** (ME-032) presented by Adelheid Otto (Munich), member of the excavation team
- (18) **Tell Hammam el-T.** (ME-033) presented by the excavator Diederik Meijer (Leiden)
- (19) **Terqa** (ME-035) presented by Juliette Mas (Lyon), member of the excavation team

First results of the presentations are listed in the following list of inventories.

 ARCANE ESF PROGRAMME Middle Euphr. (RG 07) Inventories					Nr of C14 dates in invent.	Nr of C14 dates (total)	Published = yes Unpublished = no Partly published/ Partly unpublished = partly	Arcane contact person + email
Site name	Arcane site code	Nr of inventories	EB Phases	Date Range				
Horum Höyük	ME005	≈ 10	EB I-II, IV Transition	3100?-2000	none	≈ 15	no	C. Marro
Gre Virike	ME006	≈ 5	EB II-IV	2800?-2000?	none	none	yes	T. Ökse
Zeytinli Bahce Höyük	ME007							F. Balossi
Tilbeshar	ME008							C. Képinski
T. Shiyoukh Tahtani	ME010	8	EB I-IV	3000-2000	in process		partly	G. Falsone
Qara Qozaq	ME012	5	EB I-II, IV	3000-2000	no	no	partly	C. Valdes Pereira
Tell Bazi	ME013	3	± EB IV	≈ 2500-2000				B. Einwag A. Otto
Tell Kebir	ME014	2	phase 6	2100-2000	no			A. Porter
Tell Banat	ME015	3?	phase 3-4	2600-2300	no	3?		T. McClellan A. Porter

Tell Aushariye	ME017		level XI, late EB				no	J. Eidem
Tell Sweyhat	ME018	2?	TSW Phase 4 late EBA	2200 -	3		partly	R. Zettler
Tell el-Abd	ME020	2?	EB II-III	2700-2300				P. Sconzo U. Finkbeiner
Munbaqa	ME021	0	EB III-IV				partly	Peter Werner
Halawa A	ME023							W. Orthmann, R. Hempelmann
Selenkahiye	ME029	4-5	EB IVA-B	2500-2000			yes	Di. Meijer, G. Schwartz
Emar	ME031	1	EB IVB	2150-2000	1	2	partly	U. Finkbeiner
Tell Bi'a	ME032	≅ 10	EB (II) III-IV		≅ 6	?	yes	E. Strommenger
T. Hammamet-Turkman	ME033	1-2	EB IV	2300-2100?	1	1	partly	D. Meijer
Terqa	ME035	3	EB III-IVA?		0	2	partly	O. Rouault J. Mas,
Middle Euphr. Reg. Group	current total	max. 61	---	---	11	23	---	---

3. Assessment of the results

3.1 Chronology: As yet there exists no new chronological frame for the Middle Euphrates Region, that would replace the conventional periodization. We decided therefore to continue using the latter for our internal discussion but not for the input into the database. A new periodization will result from the evaluation of historical data and from archaeological criteria supported by ¹⁴C datings.

3.2 Corpus of inventories: The table above lists already a relatively large number of inventories; in the course of the summer they will be supplemented from excavations that have not yet been considered. According to the large number of excavations, the final number of inventories will suffice for our purposes.

3.3 Tasks of the Topic Coordinators: We agreed upon the Topic Coordinators collecting the published information and examining it as to its usefulness for the project, before, from mid of the year, information will be accessible in the database.

3.4 Radiocarbon dating: All participants wished for a larger number of reliable ¹⁴C datings; within the next weeks, possibilities for additional funding will be checked.

4. Final programme

Sunday, 1 April

- 09:30 Words of welcome and opening of the meeting (U. Finkbeiner)
 09:45 – 10:45 Short introduction into the ARCANE modus operandi (M. Lebeau)
 10:45 – 11:15 *Coffee break*
 11:15 – 12:30 Explanation of the database (J.-P. Thalmann) - Discussion
 12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*
 14:00 – 16:30 A short introduction into the ME Region (U. Finkbeiner)
 SITES IN THE TISHRIN DAM REGION:
 Tell Shiyoukh Tahtani (G. Falsone/P. Sconzo)
 Aushariye (J. Eidem)
 16:30 – 17:00 *Coffee break*
 17:00 – 18:30 SITES IN THE TISHRIN DAM REGION (continued):
 Qara Qozaq & 8. Tell el-Amarneh (C. Valdes Pereiro)
 Tell Banat & Tell Kebir (A. Porter / T. McClellan)
 Tell Bazi (B. Einwag)

Monday, 2 April

- 09:00 – 10:30 SAJUR AREA, BIRECIK AND KARKEMIŞ DAM AREAS:
 Tilbeshar H. (C. Képinski) - 2.
 Zeytinli Bahce H. (M. Frangipane)
 Gre Virike (T. Ökse)
 Horum Höyük (C. Marro)
 10.30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*
 11:00 – 12:30 THE TABQA DAM REGION:
 Tell Sweyhat (R. Zettler)
 Tell el-Abd (U. Finkbeiner & P.Sconzo)
 Munbaqa (P. Werner)
 12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*
 14:00 – 16:00 THE TABQA DAM REGION (continued):
 Halawa A (R. Hempelmann)
 Emar (F. Sakal)
 Tell Selenkahiye (D. Meijer/G. Schwartz)
 16:00 – 16:30 *Coffee break*
 16:30 – 18:30 FROM TELL BI'A TO TERQA:
 Tell Bi'a (A. Otto)
 Tell Hammam et-Turkman (D. Meijer)
 Terqa (J. Mas).

Tuesday, 3 April

- 09:00 – 10:45 TOPIC COORDINATORS: I. POTTERY
 1 Presenting the Evidence of Forms and Wares (C. Marro, P. Sconzo)
 10.45 – 11:15 *Coffee break*
 11:15 – 12:30 2 The Data input: What will be entered and how? (J.P. Thalmann)
 3 Discussion of the scientific approach
 12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

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- 14:00 – 16:00 4 Proposals of a strategy and general discussion
16:00 – 16:30 *Coffee break*
16:30 – 18:30 Visit to the town of Blaubeuren, the Abbey and the Prehistoric Museum

Wednesday, 4 April

- 09:00 – 10:30 TOPIC COORDINATORS, II. ARCHITECTURE
Urbanistic features, building techniques and functional analysis of the architecture (M. Novák)
TOPIC COORDINATORS, III. STRATIGRAPHY
Stratigraphy of the sites and periodization (U. Finkbeiner)
- 10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*
- 11:00 – 12:30 TOPIC COORDINATORS, IV. GLYPTICS
The published material (C. Felli)
TOPIC COORDINATORS, V. TERRACOTTA FIGURINES
Typological evidence of the material (after A. Pruss) and regional distribution of the types (F. Sakal)
- 12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*
- 14:00 – 16:00 TOPIC COORDINATORS, VI. BONE OBJECTS
The material published so far (A. Choyke)
TOPIC COORDINATORS, VII. BURIAL CUSTOMS
Typology and regional distribution (A. Porter)
- 16:00 – 16:30 *Coffee break*
- 16:30 – 18:30 FINAL SESSION
1. Schedule of operations and deadlines of RG 07 (U. Finkbeiner)
2. General discussion of further procedure
3. Date of the next meeting and conclusion.

End of the meeting

F-67510 Obersteinbach, 7th of May 2007

Uwe Finkbeiner