Canon CARKIR

Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations

Evidence for fish processing in the Eastern Mediterranean and a new case from Iron Age Thasos (Greece). (Eliyahu, Levy)

Archaeological evidence for fish processing in the Eastern Mediterranean is sparse. A newly discovered Iron Age deposit at Ksele-Rhodhos presents evidence on systematic flaking and pruning of kappa (vivaceae) and protozoa. This method, which involves the use of raw material and a consistent pattern, is well suited to modern vertebrates. The relationship between the site and the fish remains is virtually absent in the assemblage. Other archaeological evidence from contemporary deposits at Ksele-Rhodhos implies a whole new tradition of aquatic resource exploitation at the settlement. The contemporaneity of these different lines of evidence raises intriguing questions about the nature of this processing site and its relation to the Eastern Mediterranean prehistory as well as the cultural and environmental context of this deposit within a general historical and archaeological framework.

Jawna CHAHOUD and Emmanuelle VILA

UA9 1513, Archéologue, Maison de l’Orient et de la Méditerranée, Lyon, France.

Study of the faunal remains from Ugari (Maison du Littoral) and from Qarnina (Palace K): Animal use during the Late Bronze Age in Syria.

Recent studies have been conducted on the faunal remains from Ugari and Qarnina, the two fortified urban cities in the last half of the Second millennium B.C. These sites are located in the north of the country, near the coast. This paper focuses on the analysis of faunal remains from two private residences (Maison du Littoral and Palace K) at the site of Ugari and Qarnina, respectively. The archaeozoological data, architectural and structural remains, these two sites were occupied by similar classes of the society. The study of these bone remains provides insight on the food economy, on the consumption of animals of the Wild-animal diet in the study site. The data will be discussed in terms of environmental, social and economic conditions that may have an influence on the behavioral patterns regarding the diet and the exploitation of animals as known by the inhabitants of this area during the Late Bronze Age.

Alice M. CHOYKE

Medieval Studies Department, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.

Bone-working in the Northern Middle Euphrates: Harun Kőyük and Tebrilı Ridge

Work on sites in the northern Middle Euphrates river terraced belt sites in the region. Harun Kőyük, dated mostly to the Late Uruk but with Bones Age and Mesopotamian components, was actually occupied only by the top of the hillside from 1986 to 1989. Excavations are still going on at Tebrilı Ridge, a small coastal tell close to the river. Material is available at this time from the Late Bronze Age levels of the site at as well as some Roman and Byzantine materials from the fortifications of the tip of the mound. The intention here is primarily to directly compare the assemblages from the Late Uruk levels at Harun with the subsequent SBA levels at Bel Nafis Ridge. Manufacturing traditions in bone-working during their traditional periods between the Late Chalcolithic and beginning of the Early Bronze Age are very poorly researched. This period for working bone materials will be discussed in light of some bone assemblages. This region seems to have been, not surprisingly, especially influenced by imports from south to the north (Assyrians) and south to Syria. This will also be a brief discussion of changes in bone manufacturing traditions from later prehistoric and protohistoric times as far as these are available in these two sites materials. The discussion will focus on bone material selection, manufacturing techniques, functional and stylistic variability over time and within this region.
Julie DAUJAT and Marjon MASIKOUR

CNRS, UMR 5197: Museum national d’histoire naturelle MNHN - Paris, France

Found remains from Middle Neolithic site of Gajah Rostam, Zagros [Iran]

The site of Gajah Rostam, located in the modern Bakhtiari region in western Iran, was excavated by a German team in 1974 and directed by H. Nissen and A. Ruppers. There is no clear evidence of architectural building except a defensive terrace, but only two smallbuildings were excavated. The analysis of faunal remains (NHM 1982-8) in 2008-2009 provides evidence of an ovicaprid-based subsistence economy. It is noteworthy that sheep is absent in earlier phases of the site. Thus, at the very beginning of the 6th millennium B.C., Gajah Rostam seems to be a transhumant community of the process of goat domestication, on the one hand, recognized as an independent center in the Zagros after A. Nissen and Z. Nissen (3rd Millennium of Gajah Rostam). On the other hand, the new zooarchaeological data from Gajah Rostam, highlight the diffusion of sheep, firstly domesticated in the western Fertile Crescent. Moreover, demographic data based on a deep analysis of bone survivor and wear indicate that ovicaprids economic hierarchy is almost at a mixed exploitation of animal products (meat, milk and wool). The evidence for milk exploitation in such early phase is one of the most interesting results of the study. Coupled with other factors (palaeoenvironmental, geographical and archaeological), Gajah Rostam economy can be defined as a transhumant pastoralism which sheds a new light on the long history of this social system, long time before that has been documented archeologically for this region. Interestingly the Bakhtiari region houses still today nomadic communities.

Beatrice DE CUPERE, Anton ERYVYNCK, Mirek IDEBSKI and Johnny DE MIDDENSTEE

Belgium

Archaeological research at the castle of Aradus (Red Sea coast, Jordan): preliminary results

Excavation at the castle of Aradus, located at the Red Sea Coast, has revealed a large amount of animal remains, during the 6th century AD up to post-Medieval times. The archaeozoological analysis of the material has led to a better understanding of the site’s economy, more specifically the organization of the animal part of its food supply. A diachronic comparison between the consumption patterns of the different chronological occupation periods of the site is carried out.

POSTER:

Beatrice DE CUPERE (1), Wim VAN NIER (2), and Hannelore VANKAYVEREKE (3)

(1) Belgium
(2) Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Leuven, Belgium
(3) Belgium

Animal exploitation during the Early Iron Age at the settlement of Tepe Döşemen/Sw-Turkey

About 2 km to the southwest of Sagalassos, on the other side of a dry-fleeced, the presence of another settlement was discovered as a wide flat area, called Tepe Döşemen (Bolmula province, SW Turkey). Fragments remains of structures extended over the whole site area of ca. 120 ha and showed to be from an Iron Age I center with a large defensive system. The pottery is preliminarily dated to the 8th-6th century BC (Achaemenian-Early Classical period), and its settlement is considered as the predecessor of Sagalassos, in which the earlier etymological layers only date back to the 7th century BC. After three campaigns of excavation, the fauna remains collected of Tepe Döşemen allow to get a first glimpse of the animal man relationship during the Early Iron Age within the immediate vicinity of Sagalassos. Further archaeological data of both sites inform about the animal exploitation from the Early Iron Age onwards. Though imperial, Late Roman and Early Byzantine times, with some sporadic data from the Mid- and Late Byzantine periods.
New data on domestic and wild camels [Camelus dromedarius] in Soqotran Yemen

Recently studied hamas from central, dated Soqotran archaeological contexts provide information on the presence of both domestic and contemporary wild camel in the 4th-9th century BC time range in Yemen. Although still very limited, this evidence may be of interest. The wild or aral dromedary status was determined on the basis of both osteometric data and archaeological context. Domestic Camass dromedarius was occasionally but rarely for household meat consumption at Tell Mudawla (Jabal, southwestern Iraq), a site dated to the 4th to 3rd centuries BC (A. de Magalhães excavations). Al Musaylaf, in the West-Jawf region of northwestern Yemen, dates stratigraphically earlier and the family of the 2005-06 has revealed a long sequence of occupations spanning the whole 3rd millennium BC. (G. de Pauw’s excavations). The domestic camel is frequent throughout the series, increasing in numbers during the final phase, and suggests the existence of wild Camass dromedarius populations in the area.

Eva-Maria GEGG (1), Malinne PRIVOZT, Reinhard SCHWARZ, Marie LIGOUVILLE, Camille BETHIVEL, Sophie CHAMPLOT, Thierry GRANGE, Michael HOFREITER, Lennn HACHEM, Hilmun HUNGO, Sebastian BRANQUIER and Hans-Peter UERMANN (2)

(1) Institut Jacques Monod CNRS UMR 7197, Universités Paris 6 & 7, Tour 43, 2, Place Jussieu, 75252 Paris cedex 05, France.
(2) Rheinland-Kats Universitätsklinikum, Ulm, Germany.

The palaeogenetic analysis of mitochondriall DNA from Neolithic and Bronze Age bones points to Southwest Asia as the center of cattle domestication.

The episoding of the domestication of animals needs a multidisciplinary approach including archaeology, osteology, genetics and palaeogenetics since each approach suffers from inherent limits that can be complemented by the others. A most powerful approach combines genetic studies of extant animal populations with palaeogenetic analysis of bone remains of animals that had been directly subjected to the domestication process and of their preceding and contemporaneous wild ancestors. In the case of cattle, the latter approach is hampered by technical difficulties due to poor DNA preservation in the majority of bones and teeth preserved in Neolithic sites in southwest Asia, the presumed center of cattle domestication, and in Middle Europe where the domestication had been introduced along the Neolithic migration routes. Indeed, extant DNA is heavily degraded in bones preserved in open air sites in the Late Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age and in the hot climatic zones of Southwest Asia. The presence of ancient DNA extracts extremely susceptible to contamination with trace amounts of modern DNA. This is present in most of the archeological and osteological samples used to obtain ancient DNA. These overcome this problem by combining various treatments, starting of the extraction, and applying destruction methods for contaminating DNA. This allowed to obtain a considerable number of reliable ancient skintones and cattle DNA sequences from both Southwest Asia and Europe and to reconstruct the domestication process of cattle domestication. Our data characterize late-Pleistocene populations identify Southwest Asia as the center of cattle domestication and show that the mitochondrial diversity of cattle during the Neolithic and Bronze Age was considerably higher than nowadays.
Lionel GOUCICHON

LUMI 5133 – Architecte, Maison de l'Ort de et de la Méditerranée, 7 rue Raulin, F-34007 Lyon, France.

The Neolithic site of Seidetshuk Cove (Northern Syria)

Remains settlements are particularly well known in the southern Levant, centre of birth and expansion of this culture, but they are relatively scarce in other regions where they correspond to early occupations (Late Final Neolithic) dating to the 11th millennium BC. In this sense, the recent discovery of habitation levels of Seidetshuk Cove in the Arif region (northern eastern Syria), gives a chance to complete our knowledge about the development of this culture in the northern part of the Near East. The mountain gazelles and the fossil deer are the main human remains in the Southern Levant, while the existence of animal bones suggests that, in the Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, Middle East, 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Daniel HEMER (1) and László GOURICHON (2)

(1) LIAR 5333 - Archehoin, Manson de l'Orient et de la Mediterranee, Antenne de Jolies, 1-07400 Belleg, France.
(2) LIAR 5333 - Archéologie, Manson de l'Orient et de la Méditerranée, 7 rue Rivalin, F-75007 Paris, France.

The fauna of Tell Arawad (Damascos, Syria), new refugium. Relations with the northern and southern Levant sites.
Carpathian Mammals of Holocene in Armenia

Taking into consideration the fact that current area of species is a centre of the ancient settlement within the region of Armenian plateau, there has been made an attempt to observe the changing of the number of carnivorous mammals as well as the factors influencing their overall number and number during the Holocene.

The remains of carnivores are mention "Khatagan" gitayot of Paleolithic man and in Urartian towns of later periods. The earliest bone remains of carnivora mammals in Armenia refer to the remains of Stenocyon (Yerevan) and "Lazar" cave (Voskepar, Armavir, Armenia). Mammals, remains of bones, remains of the above mentioned monkeys defined the presence of representatives from Canines, Mustelids and Felidae families (M. Gavryukevich, 1971). In the chronologically older Holocene fauna of Armenia there are 12 species: Cynis lupus, Cynis dingo, Vulpes vulpes, Usus arctos, Vulpes varipes, Meles meles, Lynx lynx, Uncia uncia, Panthera pardus, Acrasius jubatus, and Ictis livida. Four of them are on the verge of extinction (Vulpes vulpes brown bear - Ursus arctos, South-Russian wolf - Vulpes varipes, Caucasian wild cat - Lycaon pictus, Peppered black panther - Panthera pardus), while others have persisted through the Holocene period.

POSTER

Marjan Mashkour (1), William Rendu (2) and Fereydoun Biglar (3)

(1) CNRS, UMR 5197, Museum national d’histoire naturelle MNHN - Paris, France.
(2) Faculté de lettres et sciences humaines, Université libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium.
(3) Research Center of Biology and Ethnology, Yerevan, Armenia.

A functional analysis and a description of the modern and late Holocene fauna as well as their environmental setting are presented. The results obtained indicate that the biological diversity in the late Holocene was lower in comparison to the earlier Holocene periods. The observed changes in the species composition of the modern fauna are attributed to changes in the environmental factors, the level of human activity and the recent climatic changes. The results of this study will be useful for understanding the present-day animal diversity and its relationship with the environment.

NINO MANASYAN
Laboratory of Vertebrates, Institute of Zoology, Yerevan, Armenia

Carpathian Mammals of Holocene in Armenia

The paleontological record of the Carpathian Mammals of Holocene in Armenia is presented. The findings indicate that the fauna of the Carpathian region was similar to that of the surrounding regions during the Holocene period. The absence of large carnivores, such as the brown bear and the wolf, is noteworthy. The results of this study will be useful for understanding the present-day animal diversity and its relationship with the environment.

Medyan Mashkour and Jean-Denis Vigne
CNRS, UMR 5197, Museum national d’histoire naturelle MNHN - Paris, France.

Neolithic in south-western Iran through the animal remains

Recent investigations in Southwest Iran on the region of Fars bring a new light to the understanding of the Neolithic period on the Iranian Plateau and the adjacent regions. To understand and study the sites under investigation for a better understanding of the Neolithic in the region. The main issues are the data from sheep and cattle during the seventh millennium BC.

Sophie Meré (1), Martin Recht (2) and Vincent Charpentier (3)

(1) CNRS UMR 7674, Paris, France.
(2) National Environment Department, Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage (ADACH), Abu Dhabi, UAE.
(3) IRAN, Paris, France.

New evidence for deep-sea fishing in the Neolithic settlement of Al-Qub, Umm al-Galwah

New excavation seasons directed by the British Archaeological Mission on the island of Al-Qub in the invasion of Umm al-Galwah in the UMM have revealed traces of large-scale nefrache fishing settlement during the between 3700 to 3400 BC. Structure built on the post revealed a remarkable culture of Al-Qub includes represents the most complete of the several characteristic artefacts, in particular the appearance of objects produced is dated to a special cultural level production. The Neolithic populae largely exploited the resources of the surrounding landscape but also for trade to the upper coast. Although the site has been published within the context of a substantial digging remains, there is much emphasis on the deep-sea fishing technologies revealed from the site. An important archaeological discovery of the site was the presence of shell flake tools which may have been used in the capture of large pelagic fish like tuna.

LIBI MIRZOYAN (1) and NINO MANASYAN

(1) Institut d’Histoire des Civilisations du Cercle Ancien, Université Mario Belloch, Strasbourg I, France.
(2) Research Center of Biology and Ethnology, Yerevan, Armenia.

New excavated bone remains and representations of animals from Urartian site (Trebin)

Tribal circles with its ribot culture, temple, shrines and surrounding buildings provide an very important site located on the southeastern part of modern Yerevan city. At the excavators of ten years have known a multi-phase site located by the Urartian ties Acts 1:7 and 1:8. Starting from early in 1980 excavations was held the revealed many interesting points of the life of Urartian people. Today excavations continue and archaeological material is part of the most interesting from the site. The results recorded the site and the context of bone remains from the 1980s excavations 1999-2007 which never before published. Besides the list of identified species, measurements of skeletal elements, topographic map and use of animal bone as raw material by bone for purposes, in addition, the representation of animals in the art of the show will be discussed.
POSTER:

Azarneh MOHAZER, Jean-Denis VIGNE and Marjan MASHIKOUR

CNRS, UMR 5197 - Muséum national d’histoire naturelle - Paris

Bronze Age fauna assemblage from Marvan Tepeh (Azerbaijan - Iran)

The faunal assemblage from Marvan Tepeh has been largely rediscovered in the basement of the British Council in Tehran 40 years after their excavation by Charles Burney. Part of this assemblage was also housed at the University of Manchester and now at the Natural History Museum of Paris. A preliminary re-examination of the archaeological data was necessary to be able to select the well documented contexts prior to the faunal analysis. In order to have a better chronological control of the assemblage, a program of direct AMS dating of faunal bones was developed, building on the established relative chronology of the site. The fauna from Marvan Tepeh located in the basin of Azerbaijan is one of the largest faunal assemblages for the Bronze and Iron Age of the region of the Khorasan. This assemblage provides a rich document on the subsistence economy of the site. Cattle and Fig are very well represented at the site besides the Caprids and the presence of large mammals and birds provide the opportunity to investigate demographic aspects of its management.

A regional comparative approach between the Bronze Age sites of Anarostagi and this part of Iran will give a larger scale picture of the characteristics of subsistence economy between the relatively well documented Anarostagi and the less well known Iranian Khorasan.

Hervé MONCHOT (1) and Guillaume CHARLOUX (2)

(1) Muséum national d’histoire naturelle - 56, quai Saint-Benoît, 75005 Paris, France
(2) CNRS - UMR 8167 - France

The Copti Temple Courtyard excavations: A zooarchaeological reference study for Kamak (Egypt)

The archaeological excavations undertaken in 2006 and 2007 in the courtyards of the Copti temple of Kamak (Luxor, Egypt) revealed, through thirteen soundings, nine phases of occupation and/or going construction dating from the Middle Kingdom to the present. In addition to an abundance of artifacts (ceramics, stone tools, seeds, impressions, shells, etc.), there were more than 5000 faunal remains belonging to the most part to the classic lists of three of domestic animals (sheep, cow, pig) and wild ruminants. Zooarchaeological study shows that the majority of bones are burnt and that the Egyptians preferentially consumed of young animals, lambs, kids, calves and piglets. This new study constitutes the first one on Kamak, and will allow us to better understand the way of life and the behaviour of Theriakos, at the same time as the remains of the Amenhot Egyptian.

Les fouilles de la cour du temple d’Opet: une référence pour les études archéozoologiques du site de Kamak (Égypte)