

University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of Archaeology
and
Samara State University of Social Sciences and Education

24th Neolithic Seminar

*Neolithisation Processes in
Eurasia: Retrospect and Prospect*

Programme
and
Abstract book

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Population trends in the Central Balkan Early Neolithic (6200–5350 BC): new data and new results

Marko Porčić, Tamara Blagojević and Sofija Stefanović

The Balkan Neolithic demography has become an important research subject in the past few years. In several recent studies an attempt was made to reconstruct population trends by applying the method of summed calibrated radiocarbon probability distributions (SCPD) to the existing corpus of published radiocarbon dates. In this paper we present the preliminary results of the paleodemographic reconstruction of the Early Neolithic (6200-5350 BC) population trends in the Central Balkans based on the entirely new set of radiocarbon dates sampled specifically for the purposes of the SCPD method.

Keeping it in the family? The Neolithic up close and personal

Daniela Hofmann, Olivia Cheronet, Penny Bickle, Zdeněk Tvrđý, Kelly Carlson, Daniel Fernandes, David Reich and Ron Pinhasi

Neolithisation is generally conceived as a large-scale process taking place over an extended period of time and at a continental scale. What is often side-lined in research agendas is that ‘admixture’, ‘interbreeding’ and so on are also always manifested at the local and personal scale of routine relations. In this paper, we use a whole-genome study from the Linearbandkeramik cemetery of Nitra to discuss both long-term and personal dimensions of relatedness, and whether and how these were represented in grave good assemblages. This provides a unique insight into Neolithic community life and how its structure may have facilitated ‘neolithisation’ more widely.

Neolithisation process in the central Zagros: Asiab and Ganj Dareh revisited

Hojjat Darabi, Tobias Richter

Fieldwork in the central Zagros Mountains between the late 1950s and late 1970s produced evidence for early Holocene Neolithic settlements in this mountainous zone along the ‘Eastern wing’ of the Fertile Crescent. Following a long hiatus in fieldwork that lasted until the mid-2000s, new investigations at sites such as Sheikh-e Abad, Jani and East Chia Sabz have highlighted once more the potential of the early Neolithic sequence in this region for understanding Neolithization processes in southwest Asia. We present some initial results of recent fieldwork at two pivotal Neolithic sites in the