

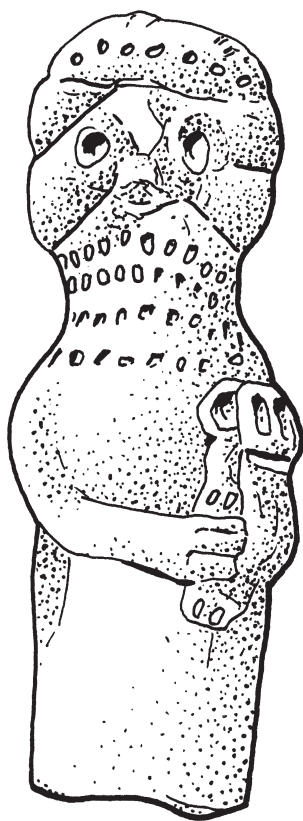
House and Household Economies in 3rd Millennium B.C.E. Syro-Mesopotamia

Edited by

Federico Buccellati

Tobias Helms

Alexander Tamm



BAR International Series 2682
2014



Published by

Archaeopress
Publishers of British Archaeological Reports
Gordon House
276 Banbury Road
Oxford OX2 7ED
England
bar@archaeopress.com
www.archaeopress.com

BAR S2682

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ISBN 978 1 4073 1328 3

Printed in England by CMP (UK) Ltd

All BAR titles are available from:

Hadrian Books Ltd
122 Banbury Road
Oxford
OX2 7BP
England
www.hadrianbooks.co.uk

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Preface

It is a great joy for me to write a few introductory words to the publication of the papers from the workshop *House and Household Economies in 3rd Millennium B.C. Syro-Mesopotamia*. This workshop took place in Frankfurt am Main from the 27th to the 28th of October, 2012, and was organized by two members of the Research Training Group 1576 *Value and Equivalence* (Tobias Helms, Federico Buccellati) as well as a member of the Tell Chuera Project (Alexander Tamm). Further help for the workshop was given by students of the Institute for the Archaeology and Cultural History of the Near East in particular Sarah Nina Mann, Patrick Biedermann, Lanah Haddad and Nicole Zelsmann. The Workshop was supported primarily by the Research Training Group, while the board was provided by ENKI, a support association. For their initiative and willingness I would like to warmly thank the organizers and participants. Additionally, I would like to thank again the Research Training Group for their financial support of the typesetting and publication of this volume as well as the editors of BAR for accepting it in their series, as well as Benjamin Richer for typesetting the volume.

Not all of the workshop participants could convert their papers into articles for publication, as the material used for those papers are part of ongoing research leading to qualification theses. Thus the papers of Taos Babour (Paris/Lyon/Frankfurt) on ceramic production and Olesia Kromberg (Frankfurt) on the monumental constructions at Tell Chuera (Syria) as well as Catherine Higél und Sandrine Wasser (both Strassbourg) on the work of Jean Lauffrey in Tell Chuera and the surrounding area; additionally, the paper of Ahmad Sultan (Raqqā/Strassbourg) on the Japanese excavations at Ghanem al-Ali (Syria) is also not present in this volume.

The introductory lecture on the potential and limits of anthropological parallels relating to the topic of the workshop was presented by Federico Buccellati (Frankfurt). Caitlin Chaves Yates (Boston) spoke on her work at Tell Mozan (Syria). The majority of the papers were presented by team members from the excavations at Tell Chuera in Syria (Anne, Binder, Lanah Haddad, Tobias Helms, Olesia Kromberg, Alexander Tamm, Nicole Zelsmann) or Kharab Sayyar (Patrick Biedermann). Additionally Elmira Ibragimova (Moscow) spoke on material from the Russian excavations at Tell Hazna (Syria).

More general themes were presented by Juliette Mas (Lyon) who spoke about house-types in the 3rd millennium in Northern Mesopotamia, and Stefan Smith (Durham) who discussed a reconstruction of the natural ecosystem. Finally Vitali Bartash (Frankfurt) presented the philological evidence relating to households.

With this publication on House and Households a constant theme in our field has been further explored. The individual papers reflect the different moments of research by the authors, be they in the beginning or end of their graduate studies. It is important to give young scholars a forum in which they not only have the opportunity to discuss their ongoing work with their peers, but also that they are given the opportunity to document their own research within a scientific publication. I think this goal has been amply reached in the workshop and this publication. Again, my warmest thanks to everyone involved.

Jan-Waalke Meyer (Frankfurt)

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