



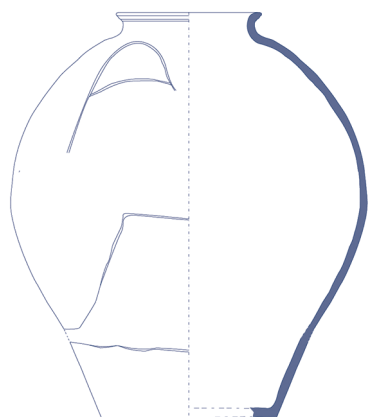
TELL TUQAN EXCAVATIONS AND REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN INNER SYRIA
FROM THE EARLY BRONZE AGE
TO THE PERSIAN/HELLENISTIC PERIOD

Proceedings of the International Conference
May 15th-17th 2013
Lecce

edited by

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Preface

The International Conference “Tell Tuqan Excavations and Regional Perspectives. Cultural Developments in Inner Syria from the Early Bronze Age to the Persian/Hellenistic Period” was held in Lecce from May, 15th to 17th 2013 and involved Italian and foreign scholars who have worked in Syria until the revolts and uprisings still afflicting the country, and many others in the Near East, erupted.

The meeting was organized by Università del Salento and by Libera Università di Lingue e Comunicazione IULM, with Francesca Baffi, Lucio Calcagnile and Luca Peyronel members of the scientific organizing committee. Thanks to the hospitality extended by Città di Lecce, the conference was held in Museo Storico della Città di Lecce and was supported by Ministero dell’Istruzione, dell’Università e della Ricerca (PRIN 2009), Ministero degli Affari Esteri (DGSP VI) and Dipartimento di Beni Culturali - Università del Salento. Of special importance was the collaboration with CEDAD, Centro di DATazione e Diagnostica - Università del Salento, whilst ArcheoFrame Lab IULM prepared the graphics and photographic content.

During the conference, an exhibition was held on the Archaeological Expedition at Tell Tuqan, with photographs documenting the fieldwork, the life of the mission, the village and its surroundings, and panels gave explanations of the scientific activity from the excavations to restoration. A video on the scientific dating methods employed, created by CEDAD, Centro di DATazione e Diagnostica was shown during the exhibition. The official website of Tell Tuqan (www.telltuqan.it) was also presented during the conference by Daniele Bursich (ArcheoFrame IULM).

Very warm thanks go to those involved in organizing the conference, and especially to Alessandra Enea and Agnese Vacca, and to the administrative office of Dipartimento di Beni Culturali - Università del Salento, which worked so hard to make the event a success.

Following greeting by academic, political and administrative authorities, the work was introduced by Prof. Paolo Matthiae, dean of Archaeology of the Ancient Near East in Italy and Director of the Italian Archaeological Expedition at Ebla.

Francesca Baffi - Roberto Fiorentino - Luca Peyronel