

# SCHEDULE OF TALKS

**SUDAN  
STUDIES**

RESEARCH CONFERENCE

MUNICH EDITION

**25 JUNE**



22

**HYBRID**  
*Programme*

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## **ORGANISERS**

Dr. Samantha Tipper  
*Conference Director*  
*Anglia Ruskin University*

Sofia Kakembo, MA  
*Director of Communications & Design*

## **MUNICH ORGANISING TEAM**

Prof. Dr. Julia Budka  
*Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich*

Dr. Rennan Lemos

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*Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich*

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# 6<sup>TH</sup> SUDAN STUDIES RESEARCH CONFERENCE

MUNICH EDITION - SATURDAY 25 JUNE 2022  
CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

**08:30**

**REGISTRATION\***

\*FOR ATTENDEES ON-SITE IN **MUNICH**

**09:00**

**WELCOME ADDRESS**

CHAIR:

Prof. Dr. Julia Budka

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**09:05 - 09:50**

**OPENING LECTURE**

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Prof. Dr. Angelika Lohwasser

*The Benefits Of Doing Archaeology In Remote Areas.*

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CHAIR: Dr. Rennan Lemos

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**09:50 - 10:50      SESSION ONE**

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09:50                      Stephano Costanzo:

*Geomorphology of Mahal Teglinos (Kassala, Eastern Sudan):  
past, present and future of a Sahelian site.*

10:05                      Mohammed Nasreldein:

*Landscape and Distribution Patterns of the Archaeological  
Vegetation Mounds in El-Ga'ab Paleolake – Western Dongola, Sudan.*

10:20                      Elizabeth Eltze:

*Is the Nubian landscape female*

**10:35 - 10:50      QUESTIONS**

**10:50 –11:30      COFFEE BREAK**

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CHAIR: Dr. Samantha Tipper

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**11:30 - 12:45      SESSION TWO**

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11:30 Ahmed Nassir:

*Neolithic Archaeology In The Eastern Desert Of The Lower Atbara River (EDAR), Eastern Sudan.*

11:45 Kimberley Watts:

*The Cultural Identity Of The Rock Inscriptions' Producers In Nubia During The New Kingdom.*

12:00 Mohamed Bashir and Osman Karar:

*Rock Art in Kedurma of the Third Cataract, Sudan.*

12:15 Azhari Mustafa Sadig:

*Re-Examining The Neolithic Of Central Sudan Beyond The First Nubian State. The Excavation Results Of Es-Sour North Of Meroe.*

**12:30 - 12:45      QUESTIONS**

**12:45 - 14:25      LUNCH BREAK**

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**14:25 - 14:30**

**PLEASE BE SEATED WITHIN THIS TIME\***

**\*FOR ATTENDEES ON-SITE IN MUNICH**

CHAIR:

Prof. Dr. Julia Budka

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**14:30 - 15:15**

**KEYNOTE LECTURE**

Dr. Friederike Jesse

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*Explorations In The South-Eastern Sahara And Their  
Contribution To Sudan Archaeology.*

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CHAIR: Dr. Rennan Lemos

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**15:15 – 17:00      SESSION THREE**

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15:15      Diego Capra & Elena D'Itria:

*New Insights Into The Social Complexity In Kassala Region Through The Techno-Typological Study Of Personal Ornaments.*

15:30      Loretta Kilroe:

*A Christian World? Motifs Of Nature and Religion at Medieval Kurgus.*

15:45      Carl Walsh & Rennan Lemos:

*Kohl Wearing Practices in Second Millennium Nubia.*

16:00      Hamad Hamdeen:

*Preliminary Observation on the Plants Remains from the Christian Mud-building in the Third Cataract Region, Northern Sudan.*

16:15      Cornelia Kleinitz:

*Multisensory Approaches to the Archaeology of Ancient Sudan: Re-investigating the Ceremonial Centre of Musawwarat Es-Sufra.*

16:30      Hanaa Hafiz:

*More in Using Pottery in Funerary Practices as Reflected by El Kurru Royal Cemetery.*

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**16:45 - 17:00**

**QUESTIONS**

**17:00 - 17:30**

**COFFEE BREAK**

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CHAIR: Dr. Samantha Tipper

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**17:30 – 18:45      SESSION FOUR**

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17:30                      Francesca Iannarilli, Federica Pancin,  
Martino Gottardo & Silvia Callegher:

*2021 and Beyond: the Integrated Promotion Project of the Italian  
Archaeological Mission in Sudan at Jebel Barkal.*

17:45                      Adelaide Marsilio & Francesco Michele Rega:

*"The Quest for Raw Material. Part II". Geological Analysis of the  
Granitic Sources Exploited in the Area of Kassala (Eastern Sudan).*

18:00                      Robert Stark & Kendra Sirak:

*Bioarchaeology and Backgrounds:  
Initial Insights From the "People of Ghazali" Project.*

18:15                      Ismail Elnour:

*Intangible Cultural Heritage around Gebel Elbarkal and  
Napatan Region Archaeological Sites.*

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18:30 - 18:45

QUESTIONS

18:45 - 18:55

CLOSING REMARKS

19:00 - LATE

BEER GARDEN VISIT

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THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

# 6<sup>TH</sup> SUDAN STUDIES RESEARCH CONFERENCE

THE MUNICH EDITION

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## NB: BONUS EVENT

A GUIDED TOUR

FREE ENTRY FOR PARTICIPANTS TO

TIME:

DATE:

MEETING POINT:

## (FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDEES)

WITH JULIA BUDKA

SMÄK STATE MUSEUM OF EGYPTIAN ART

11:00AM

SUNDAY 26 JUNE 2022

THE MUSEUM GABELSBERGERSTRASSE 35.

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# ABSTRACTS

## SESSION ONE:

***Geomorphology of Mahal Teglinos (Kassala, Eastern Sudan):  
Past, Present and Future of a Sahelian Site***

*Stefano Costanzo*

*Department of Asia, Africa and Mediterranean,*

*University of Napoli "l'Orientale", Naples - Italy*

*Geomorphological assessment of archaeological sites and archaeologically prosperous regions is a tool that is increasingly being employed in heritage research, because it contributes to the understanding of palaeoenvironments and to the evaluation of the conservation status. The site of Mahal Teglinos (Kassala, Eastern Sudan), a small valley secluded within granite domes, represents a noteworthy case-study: therein, the natural palimpsest testifies a highly dynamic succession of morphogenetic and pedogenetic processes, which in turn tell a story of Holocene climate changes and human adaptation. Today, the site is subjected to severe soil loss, mainly driven by hydric erosion triggered by hillside-channelled rainfall and soil destabilisation induced by human and animal agency. The processes caused surface rilling and badlands that ultimately converged into large gullies, with an estimated current yearly soil loss of 200 m<sup>3</sup>. Stratigraphic analyses suggest the erosional processes may have been in place for the past 2500 years. Nevertheless, contemporary plastic objects found within relict gullies spotlight a seemingly increasing erosional pace that will soon critically endanger the remaining archaeological record. Therefore, the processes reshaping Mahal Teglinos are admonitory of the threats to known and still undiscovered Sahelian sites that are enduring similar climatic and anthropogenic constraints.*

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***Landscape and Distribution Patterns of the Archaeological  
Vegetation Mounds in El-Ga'ab Paleolake – Western Dongola, Sudan***

Mohammed Nasreldein

University of Tübingen, Germany.

*The vegetation mounds in El Ga'ab paleolake are natural phenomena that attest to human activities in an environment considered marginal. Detailed archaeobotanical investigations have reconstructed both the mounds and their relationship with nearby archaeological sites. This research seeks to reconstruct the ancient environment of the area and understand the history of vegetation mounds. Archaeological and archaeobotanical field surveys were conducted. A total of 1,219 vegetation Mounds were counted across the surveyed areas, of which 57% were live mounds. The results indicate that the vegetation mounds were a favourable habitat for some insects and small animals. Amongst other things, research has identified salt-tolerant plant species, indicating old areas of salinity in the region. Pollen studies show a diverse environment, including the presence of underground water. Prior to this, the mounds were overlooked by archaeologists investigating the El Ga'ab. This ongoing project reveals the importance of these mounds for understanding an environment that has previously been seen as hostile and demonstrates the need for an integrated heritage management plan that takes into account natural phenomena.*

***Is The Nubian Landscape Female?***

Elizabeth Eltze,

University of Auckland, New Zealand

*Landscapes are multifaceted and can be geographical, social, or cultural, or a combination of many factors. In general, landscapes become gendered by social constructs that link the landscape with actions of traditionally binary-gendered individuals who consistently interact with it. This paper approaches the issue of gendering the Nubian landscape from an interdisciplinary angle, using methodologies including gender studies and identity work, anthropology, and archaeology. While academic works in many disciplines have focussed on men, considerably fewer works have examined the role of women in everyday activities essential to the fabric of societal groups. Moving away from this “male as standard or norm” in Nubian society, this paper analyses two sets of evidence, from both ancient and modern Nubian societies. I examine archaeological evidence for female-gendered behaviours in the traditionally geographic region of ancient Kush/Nubia, and anthropological evidence for female-gendered behaviours in modern Nubian communities, specifically those Nubian groups in Aswan, Egypt. Inspired by Agha (2019) and Elcheikh (2016 and 2018), this paper adds to the discourse of the gendering of Nubia's landscape and the context of Nubian women as the transmitters of Nubian culture, arguing that the Nubian landscape is and has always been female.*

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## SESSION TWO:

### ***Neolithic Archaeology in The Eastern Desert of the Lower Atbara River (EDAR), Eastern Sudan.***

Ahmed Nassr

Department of Tourism and Archaeology,  
University of Ha'il, College of Arts, Saudi Arabia

*EDAR is an archaeological research project conducted in the eastern desert of the Lower Atbara river in collaboration with University of Al Neelain, Sudan, University of Wroclaw, Poland and NCAM from 2016 – 2019. Archaeological survey covered the area southeast of Atbara town from Hudi depression to 60 km south along the eastern river bank and up to 60-80 km in the eastern desert. Several Prehistoric sites documented from the surface, gold mine shafts, excavations and sediment profiles. About 35 Neolithic sites presented Early Khartoum and Shaheinab types close to the river and mainly on the margin of Atbara Holocene Paleo-lake. During July 2021 some of the Neolithic sites were revisited by the Author for more ground survey and the site of EDAR11 tested by excavation, this is being funded by BEIA (British Institute of East Africa). This presentation aims to report EDAR Neolithic archaeological sites landscape, settlement diversities, artefacts quantity and quality, C14 dating and compare them with Neolithic context in the Sudan. The archaeological sites geographical setting and artefacts distributions on the surface and stratifications presented a rich new face of Neolithic archaeology from eastern part of Sudan.*

### ***The Cultural Identity of The Rock Inscriptions' Producers in Nubia During the New Kingdom***

Kimberley Watt

Scientific Office,  
Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Cairo, Egypt

*Thanks to the 1960s UNESCO's preservation campaign, the hillsides between the First and Second Cataracts have been surveyed. These records, completed with the latest discoveries of other sites, including Kurgus and Dal, range from the First to the Fifth Cataracts. They reveal an epigraphical landscape whose typology differs significantly from the one at the First Cataract and further north in Egypt. The inscriptions of these Nubian sites lack the customary lines and frames found in contemporary inscriptions in Sehel at the First Cataract, and in the rest of Egyptian sites, such as Sinai and Wadi Hammamat. This minor detail in the sources challenges the Egyptian cultural identity of their authors and makers. Furthermore, this absence appears alongside a low incidence of figurative scenes in the same body of evidence. Given the distribution and absence of such elements, one may suggest the existence of a visual code proper to the Nubian and local populations, different from the one expressed north of the First Cataract in Egypt. This question is explored through this epigraphic evidence, as well as the archaeological and architectural materials of New Kingdom sites.*

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### ***Rock Art in Kedurma of the Third Cataract, Sudan***

Mohamed Bashir & Osman Karar

Department of Archaeology

University of Khartoum, Sudan

*This paper aims at studying and analysing the rock scenes encountered during the University of Khartoum survey of Kedurma at the Nile Third Cataract in northern Sudan, during season 2021. The approach followed in this study focuses on the identification of the sites, numbering the sites, measurements, pencil drawings of the scenes and detailed photographic documentation of rock art scenes. It is an attempt to redrawn the scenes to highlight and focus the images. Moreover, recording the sites with GPS coordinates, plotting them in distribution map, and finally general description of their landscape and surrounding contexts. The identified rock art sites were (4 complexes) and the number of individual petroglyphs was (23), the majority belong to Bovines. Preliminary results of our new season have revealed the main features of cultural sequences. Graves, rock shelters, tethering stones and lithic tools, apparently from the Paleolithic or Mesolithic period were recorded at surface level in a considerable number of Sites.*

### ***Re-Examining the Neolithic of Central Sudan Beyond the First Nubian State. The Excavation Results of Es-Sour North Of Meroe.***

Azhari Mustafa Sadig

Department of Archaeology,

King Saud University, Saudi Arabia

Department of Archaeology,

University of Khartoum, Sudan

*The site of es-Sour is located c. 35km from Shendi and 1.5km from the right bank of the modern Nile channel. The site has been excavated by the Department of Archaeology of the University of Khartoum since 2005. The results of these excavations were extremely positive, demonstrating the existence of Neolithic occupation deposits up to 80cm deep in some places, although affected by water and wind erosion and by some later graves (Meroitic and mediaeval) which were cut into the site. Material from the site is similar to that recovered from el-Kadada, which lies about 30km upstream, but no associated cemetery has yet been identified at es-Sour. However, as at el-Kadada, burials of infants contained in large pots were found within the settlement site. The settlement debris included large quantities of shells, domestic and wild animal bones, lithics, sandstone and granite grinder fragments, pottery sherds, as well as a small number of bone and ivory tools and some human figurines. The first radiocarbon dates for the site placed it between 5330±54BP and 5180±48BPB. In this paper, further data are presented on the excavation results and the place of es-Sour within the central Sudan Neolithic map, and its importance beyond the first Nubian state in the north.*

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## SESSION THREE:

### ***New Insights Into the Social Complexity in Kassala Region Through the Techno-Typological Study of Personal Ornaments.***

Diego Capra<sup>1</sup> & Elena D'Itria<sup>2</sup>

Institut Català de Paleoecologia Humana i Evolució Social

(IPHES-CERCA), Spain<sup>1</sup>

University of Naples "L'Orientale", Italy<sup>2</sup>

*The excavations at Mahal Teglinos (K1) have led to the discovery of several tombs and a large amount of beads has brought to light among the grave goods. Interest in ornaments by past local communities coincided with the increasing complexity of the social structures highlighted in the funerary practices. The deposition of these small finds in graves indicates that they had further symbolic or socio-cultural values related to the identity of the deceased. We present the results of a preliminary techno-typological study focused on a few selected beads coming from the Gash Group settlement and funerary areas at Mahal Teglinos. The aim is to identify manufacturing techniques, raw materials and to reconstruct their chaîne opératoire to understand if these items were locally manufactured or exchanged by people that occupied the Nile Valley or the Northern Horn of Africa. Our research focuses on the involvement of human groups of Kassala region and the neighbouring areas such as the Eastern Desert, Red Sea coast, the region of Kerma, in broad exchange networks. This study will contribute to a better understanding of the great agency of material culture, focusing on technologies and economic investments of the local communities to outline their social complexity.*

### ***A Christian World? Motifs of Nature and Religion at Mediaeval Kurgus***

Loretta Kilroe

Project Curator: Sudan and Nubia

The British Museum, UK

*The site of Kurgus was located on the southern fringe of the Kingdom of Makuria, beside the Nile river between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Cataracts. This fortress was in use across the Mediaeval period, and excavations indicate that it was clearly a strategic settlement at this time. Ceramic remains at Kurgus clearly point to local participation in Christian ideology, which was an important part of broader Makurian identity, and much of the repertoire shows clear parallels with fine wheelmade material from the capital of Old Dongola. However, it also included large quantities of handmade vessels, most notably beer jars decorated with incised and impressed decoration and a stylised palm frond. This symbol only appears on handmade pottery and is likely an important iconographic element in regional practice. Decoration often acts as a significant marker in community behaviours and broader habitus practices. This paper will explore how the palm frond motif relates to the range of decorative styles and Christian graffiti visible in mediaeval Sudan, before discussing how this enhances our understanding of the handmade industry in the Mediaeval period – an industry often overlooked.*

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### ***Kohl Wearing Practices in Second Millennium Nubia***

Carl Walsh<sup>1</sup> & Rennan Lemos<sup>2</sup>

Brown University, USA<sup>1</sup>,

Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich, Germany<sup>2</sup>

*This paper examines the practice of wearing kohl - a black eye cosmetic - during the Classic Kerma (c. 1650–1550 BCE) in Upper Nubia. Through an examination of the archaeological contexts of kohl equipment at different Kerma sites, it is argued that this cosmetic practice was introduced from Egypt, as part of an assemblage of material culture and courtly habitus transmitted through diplomatic relations between Kerma and Egypt. Kerma courtiers and elite made decisions to engage with these forms of court habitus through constructing personal relationships with Egyptian diplomats. The wearing of this cosmetic by both Kermans and Egyptians allowed the expression of shared forms of court identity that transcended cultural boundaries. Building from these findings, a new collaborative and scientific study of Nubian kohl is also introduced. This study will perform residue analysis of kohl equipment found in Lower and Upper Nubia dating from the Kerma to New Kingdom periods. The results will work to determine possible kohl recipes and will be diachronically compared to better understand patterns of production, consumption, and use in identity construction across second millennium Nubia.*

### ***Preliminary Observation On The Plant Remains from the Christian Mud-Building in the Third Cataract Region, Northern Sudan***

Hamad Mohamed Hamdeen

University of Al Neelain, Sudan

*The study of earthen construction materials is very rare in Sudan, mud-bricks were and still are widely used as building materials in many regions, the material that was used include the Nile mud, chopped, straw and sand. Mud bricks provide a source of environmental data to aid in understanding the diversity of local sediments and flora, also can be studied as chronological markers, technology as social practice, as indicators of social class or cultural identity, also are a good source of botanical evidence, including desiccated chaff, straw, fruits, and seeds, chaff impressions, phytoliths, diatoms, and pollen. This paper will present the preliminary results of the analysis plant remains extracted from the Christian mud-brick building from sites TMB 16, MAS 02, DFF 008, and DFF 009 at the Third Cataract Region in northern Sudan, the results of plants identified include; Triticum sp., Hordeum sp. Sorghum bicolor, Setaria sp., Cyperus rotundus, Acacia nilotica, and there are undefined plant remains. These plant remains from the mud bricks provide to us evidence about the building techniques, landscape, Palaeoenvironment, and Palaeoeconomy during the Christian period in the Third cataract region.*

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***Multisensory Approaches to the Archaeology of Ancient Sudan:  
Re-Investigating the Ceremonial Centre of Musawwarat Es-Sufra***

Cornelia Kleinitz

Humbolt University, Berlin, Germany

*Current research on Musawwarat es-Sufra is incorporating multi-sensory approaches into the study of the archaeology of this exceptional ceremonial site of the later Kingdom of Kush. Attention is paid to sensory effects possibly sought by the placement of structures in the valley of Musawwarat, by architectural solutions permitting, directing or restricting views and movement, by the interplay between light/shadow/darkness, by the choice of specific materials, colours and tactile properties in building materials and (cult-related) objects, or by the exploitation of sound properties of the valley of Musawwarat and its built components in a seasonal perspective. The talk highlights the potential of these approaches to enrich our understanding of the unique site of Musawwarat, and of the Kushite world more generally, and points to future directions of research.*

***More in Using Pottery in Funerary Practices as Reflected By El Kurru Royal Cemetery***

Hanaa Hafiz

University of Bahri, Sudan

*Pottery is one of the most common artefacts recovers in archaeological sites mainly, because it usually does not decay easily. It played the main role in Kushites funerary practices. its appearance was documented in three locations within the tombs: Digging tools, Ceremony Rituals, and grave goods. This paper aims to examine the role of the pottery in Kushite funerary practices by studying some of the graves at EL kuru royal cemetery identifying pottery types, features, functions, and contents the latter will be subjected to detailed analyses. The study considers the simulation of funeral practices and the stage of pottery use from the process of preparing the grave, through the funerary rituals to the end of the burial process.*

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## SESSION FOUR:

### ***2021 and Beyond: The Integrated Promotion Project of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Sudan at Jebel Barkal***

*Francesca Iannarilli, Federica Pancin, Martino Gottardo, Silvia Callegher  
Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy*

*The two years of pandemic caused obvious and shared difficulties for archaeological activities, to which the current unstable political situation in Sudan has been added. Yet, the work of archaeologists is not to a standstill. The Italian Mission at Jebel Barkal has taken this time to build a research, teaching, and dissemination project, which was funded by the Italian Embassy in Khartoum. It includes a series of long-distance activities that have been completed in 2021 and others to be implemented on site during the upcoming archaeological season. Among the former: the publication of a guide, aimed not only at scholars but above all at tourists and travellers; the publication of an Italian-English-Arabic comic book, which tells the children what the Jebel Barkal is and how an archaeological mission works, to involve schools and local communities in their country cultural heritage. Among the latter, a joint exhibition on the Meroitic Jebel Barkal and Napatan Sanam Abu Dom, which should see the light of day in Khartoum next spring. This presentation aims to showcase these and other activities, with a view to a fruitful dialogue on what we as archaeological missions can do to fully support and engage the Sudanese host community.*

### ***“The Quest for Raw Material. Part II”. Geological Analysis of the Granitic Sources Exploited in the Area Of Kassala (Eastern Sudan).***

*Adelaide Marsilio and Francesco Michele Rega*

*University of Bari “Aldo Moro”;*

*The Institute of Heritage Sciences (ISPC) – CNR, Italy*

*Italian Archeological Expedition to the Eastern Sudan (IAEES), Sudan<sup>2</sup>.*

*During the two 2019 field campaigns of the Italian Archeological Expedition to the Eastern Sudan (IAEES), some granitic samples have been collected from both geological sources and archaeological artefacts. The geological samples came from two areas, Mahal Teglinos and a modern quarry known as Jebel Tareg. The archaeological samples have been detached from both funerary stelae and macro-lithic tools found in Mahal Teglinos, except for one stone instrument discovered in UA 50. The samples have been studied through a petrographic approach: 30-µm thin sections have been realised from the rock fragments and observed through a Polarised Light Optical Microscope. Furthermore, a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) has been used for punctual observations on a selected number of thin sections, by using Energy Dispersive X-ray (EDX) in order to better observe the grain and recognize the minor minerals composing the rocks' texture. Therefore, this presentation aims to show the results of the geological analysis, and the matchings, as much as the differences, between the distinct analysed samples. Evaluation about the rock sources and the use of different granites for the archaeological materials will be provided too, together with some consideration concerning the possible socio-economic implications.*

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***Bioarchaeology and Backgrounds:  
Initial Insights from the “People Of Ghazali” Project.***

*Robert Stark and Kendra Sirak*

*University of Warsaw, Poland<sup>1</sup>*

*Harvard Medical School, USA<sup>2</sup>*

*The mediaeval Makurian site of Ghazali is situated on the edge of the Bayuda desert within the Wadi Abu Dom, ca. 15 km. from the Nile river. In addition to a large monastery located at this site, a settlement site, iron works, and four cemeteries have been identified, with Cemetery 2 being utilised by the monastic community, while Cemeteries 1, 3, and 4 are believed to have been primarily utilised by lay groups in the area. As part of a National Geographic Society Exploration Grant project entitled “The People of Ghazali: Tracing the Human Experience in a Nubian Desert Monastic Community (680–1275 CE)” a subset of individuals was sampled from the four cemeteries at Ghazali for the purpose of conducting palaeogenomic analyses. This presentation focuses on the research conducted to date as part of this project and discusses future directions for ongoing research syntheses and public engagement.*

***Intangible Cultural Heritage Around Gebel Elbarkal and Napatan Region  
Archaeological Sites***

*Ismail Hamid Mohamed Elnour*

*University of Birmingham, UK*

*The relation between the two components of cultural heritage, namely the tangible heritage and the intangible heritage, is intertwined and complex. It is difficult to draw a distinction between the two, as the tangible asset is part of cultural expression while the intangible heritage also needs physical manifestation. Currently, there is, on the one hand, a lack of intensive action in integrating cultural heritage in its totality. On the other hand, the archaeological site as a tangible heritage aspect has met with an additional challenge, explicitly the lack of involving local communities and their conceptualizations such as their assigned value and their interpretations to this heritage. This research investigated and examined the intangible cultural heritage of the local communities of the Merowe region associated with Gebel Elbarkal archaeological and Napatan archaeological sites, particularly their oral history, oral literature, traditions, customs, storytelling and their cultural practices, to identify the cultural values and the ways of seeing the archaeological sites of the region. At the top of that, as an identity, self-identity formation and social reality always are embodied by and within a discourse, which controls and is produced by cultural and social structures is presented through intangible culture, this research investigated how the Jebel Elbarkal local communities intangible culture provides them with a sense of identity.*