

14th ICAANE



2-7 June 2025
Lyon - France



14th International Congress on the Archaeology
of the Ancient Near East

2-7 JUNE 2025



Université Lyon 2
Maison de l'Orient et de
la Méditerranée

<https://14icaane.inviteo.fr/>



Designed by Karyn Mercier (MOM)



The Logo and the banner proposed together to reflect about the archaeological sciences conducted in Maison de l'Orient et la Méditerranée (MOM) and University Lyon 2.

The logo has several elements combining the ancient Near East and the city of Lyon.

- Near Eastern Archaeology: The image is based on the Assyrian relief from facade M of the Khorsabad palace in Mesopotamia (in Modern Iraq). It depicts a hero- which may refer to the legendary king Gilgamesh- overpowering a lion in an Assyrian style with the curly hair and beard and the bracelets. It is currently exhibited at the Musée du Louvre (AO 19861)- reign of Sargon (721-705 BCE), Botta excavations (1843-1844). Under the 14th ICAANE, the blue waves represent water courses of the two rivers (Euphrates and Tigris) of Mesopotamia and the Mediterranean sea.
- Lyon: In parallel, the lion has been the symbol of the city of Lyon through its ancient history since it was the ancient capital of the Gauls – Lugdunum and through times. A white lion was represented as part of blazon on the coat of arms of Lyon created in 1320. A different version of this lion can still be seen today on the Lyon logo's and everywhere in the city. In the 14th ICAANE's logo, the waves show similarities with the confluence of the Rhône and the Saône rivers in Lyon. <https://www.lyon.fr/> <https://www.onlylyon.com/>
- In addition, the banner illustrates real archaeologists of the Maison de l'Orient working on different Near Eastern excavation sites: Francis Hours, Jacques Cauvin, Jean Pouilloux, Margerite Yon, Olivier Aurenche... These painted canvases, done in pastel tones were produced in 2000 by the "Cité de la Création"- experts from Lyon in monumental mural designs and creator of "trompe-l'oeil". These aquarelle paintings decorate the facade glass of the ground floor of the MOM library building.

The link with Lyon along with the scientific communities based in Lyon and working on the archaeology of ancient Near East, prompted our wish to host the 14th ICAANE in Lyon.



Iron Age settlement patterns and land development in the northern area of the Alborz Mountains

ARIMATSU Yui

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Abstract: In Iran, agricultural intensification, woodland development, and increasing settlements around the 8th century BCE have been observed in certain areas. These developments were possibly influenced by climate change and have attracted attention as continuous changes during the Achaemenid Period. While the Gorgan Plain is the main study area in the northern Alborz Mountains, there is room for accumulating further archaeological data. Subsequently, this study re-examined comprehensive surveys of the Gorgan Plain conducted in the 1970s. Although these surveys have been cited in previous studies, pottery shard dating has not yet been considered. I analysed the pottery to date at each site and ascertained the chronological changes in settlement patterns. The results were compared with settlement patterns along the Sefid Rud in the northern Alborz Mountains, which differ in geographical and environmental conditions. In both regions, significant increases in sedentary settlements and the expansion of habitat zones to non-farming suitable land with saline soil or Hyrcanian forest were confirmed from the 8th century BCE onwards, indicating that new patterns of occupation and exploitation developed over a wide area across the northern Alborz Mountains during this period. Regional trends likely reflected differences in the economy and modes of life were identified.

Keywords: saline soil|farming suitability|sedentary|Hyrcanian Forest|Achaemenid

Session: 1. Advances in Near Eastern Archaeology

Workshop:

Type of Presentation: Oral presentation

Time of Presentation: 03-06-2025 17:30 **Room:** Amphithéâtre Jean-Baptiste Say (DEM.036)

Embodiment of human sacrifice in the Ancient Near East: a case study on the 'Royal tomb' at Arslantepe

ARKLEY Olivia

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Abstract: Sacrifice is integral to the study of human behaviour and ritual theory as a means of social construction; however, the sacrificial body has largely been ignored. This research will examine the role of the body in human sacrificial rituals in the Ancient Near East, particularly the 'Royal Tomb' at Arslantepe, using embodiment theory. Embodiment recentres the materiality of the sacrifice through the body, while alive and after death. This has become an important perspective when it comes to concepts of the body and constitutions of personhood that are in constant renegotiation and sacrificial context are prime arenas for this. This research will emphasise the significance of the individual's embodiment and how the ritual changed the body in the process. Results from the application of embodiment on data from osteology and material culture from within sacrificial contexts will show how concepts of the body inform and are manipulated by sacrificial rituals. The project aims to fill the gap of the previous academic work and provide a data set in which embodiment can be applied to 4th to 3rd millennium Near Eastern contexts to illuminate variations in the practice and attitudes to the body.

Keywords: Sacrifice|Mortuary|Embodiment|Materiality|Ritual

Session: 6. Life and death: Human behaviour and practices

Workshop:

Type of Presentation: Oral presentation

Time of Presentation: 06-06-2025 11:30 **Room:** Clío006