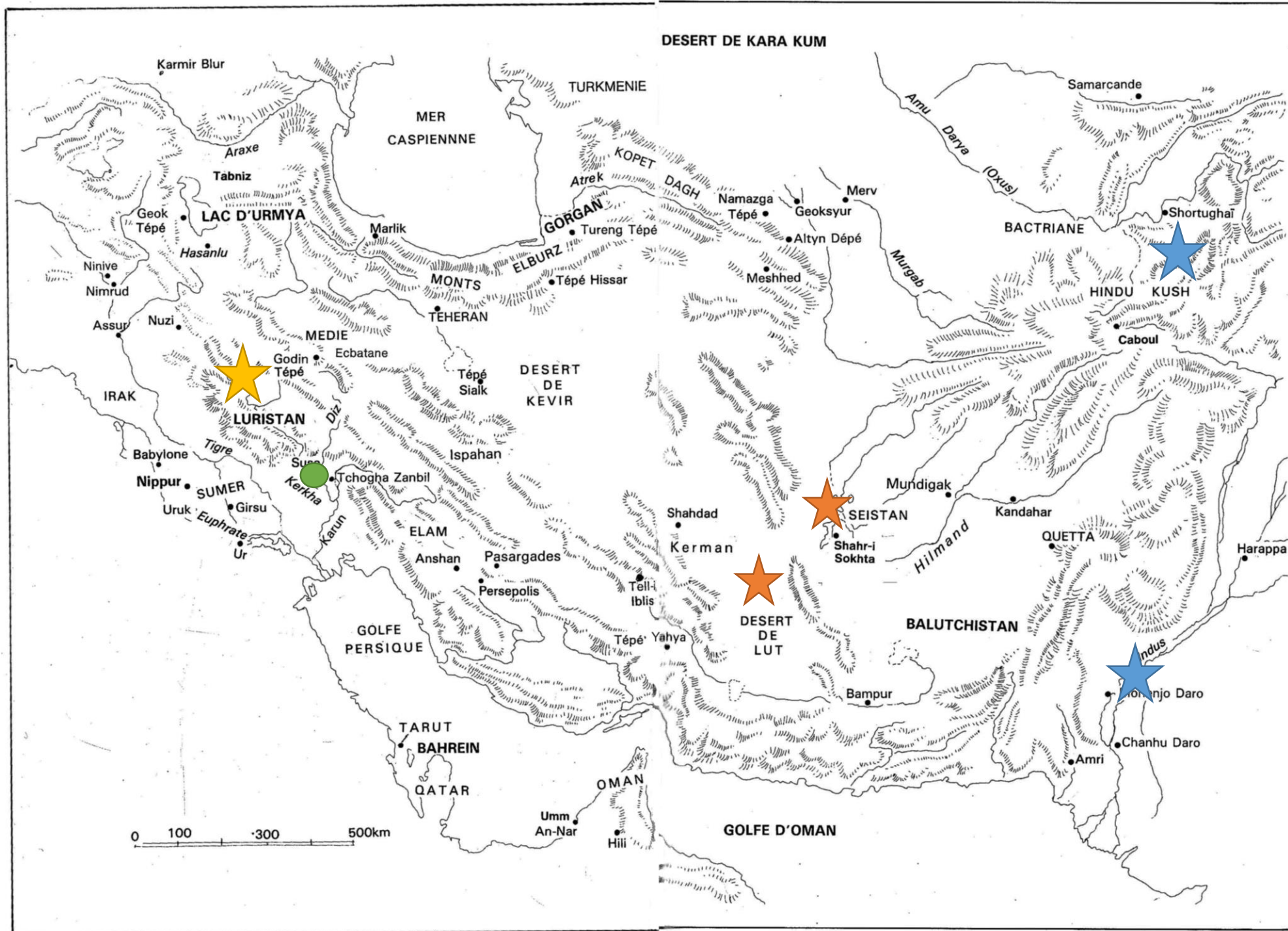


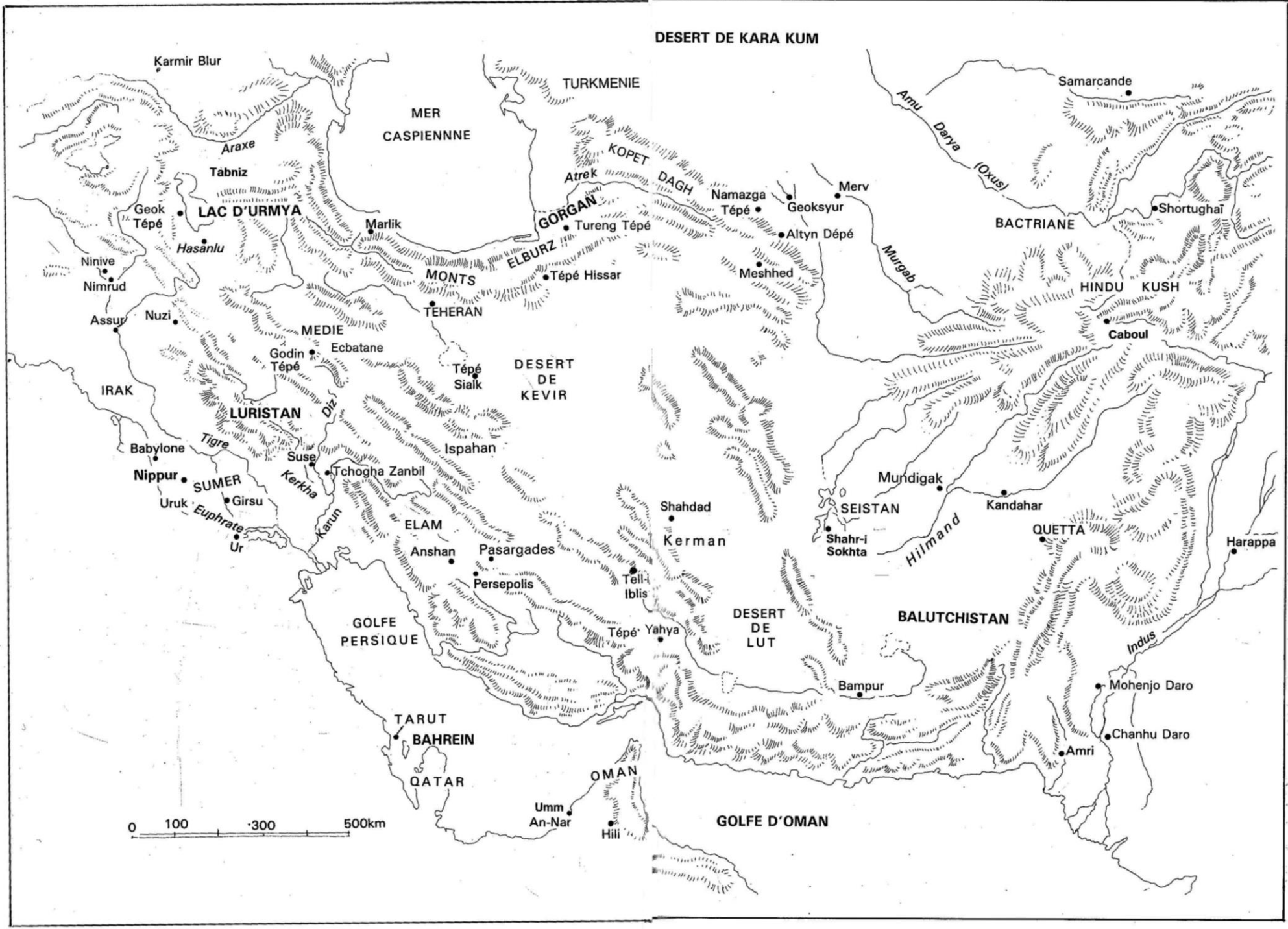
# Luristan, Jiroft e Sistan

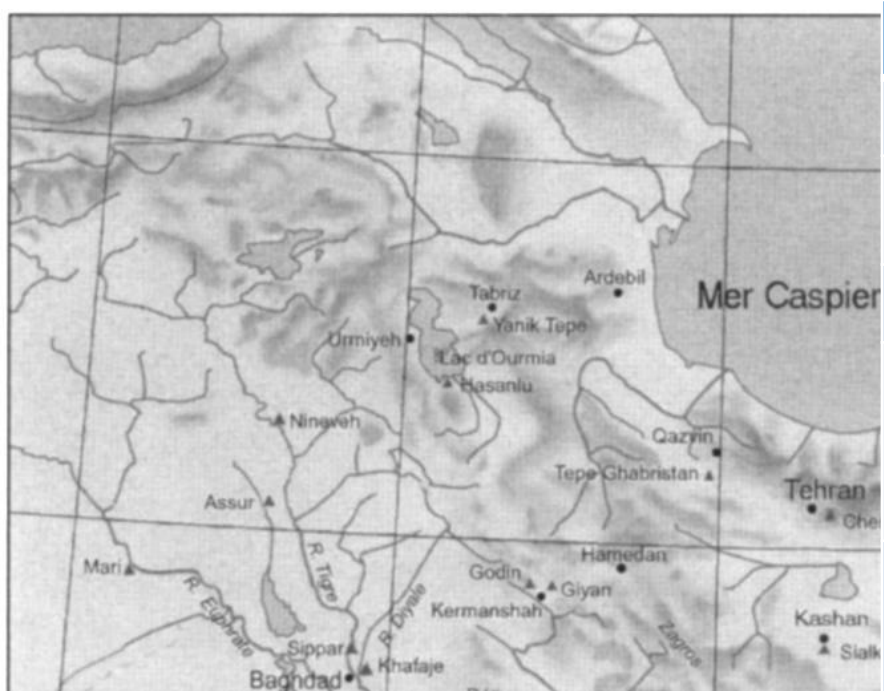
Nel 3 millennio a.C.



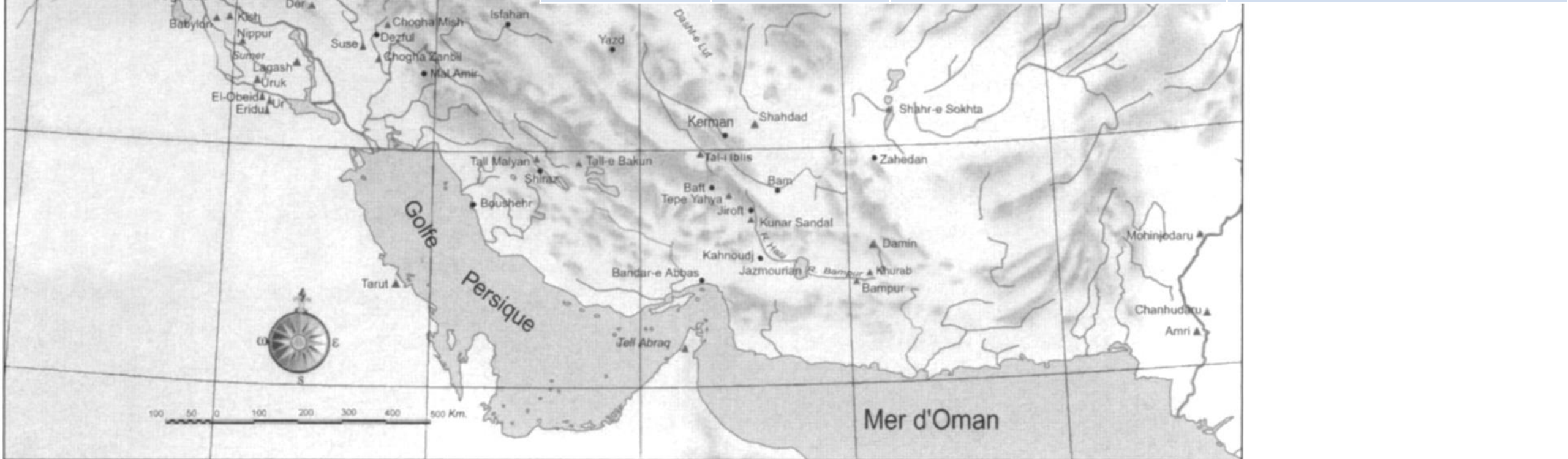
- ★ Metalli Lavorati
- ★ Alabastro
- ★ Lapislàzzuli

# La zona di Jiroft e Sistan





Data (a.C.)	Lowland	Highland	Mesopotamia
4300	Susa I	Tal-i-Bakun A III-IV	Ubaid III-IV
3800-3100	Susa II	Tal-i Bakun A (Lapui) Tal-i Malyan early Banesh	Uruk medio e tardo
3100-2900	Susa III	Tal-i Malyan late Banesh	Uruk Tardo/Jemed nasr
2900-2350	Susa IIIc, Susa IVa	Godin Tepe III Abbandono di Tal-i Malyan <b>Konar Sandal South (Citadel and lower town)</b>	Protodinastico I-III
2330	Susa IVb	Conquista accadica <b>Konar Sandal South (Citadel and Lower town)</b>	Impero di Akkad Conquista di Susa





Google Earth

US Dept of State Geographer  
© 2018 Google  
Image Landsat / Copernicus  
© 2018 ORION-ME



Dschiroft

(Konar Sandal North/ Jiroft)

(Konar Sandal South / Jiroft)

(Teppe Yahya)

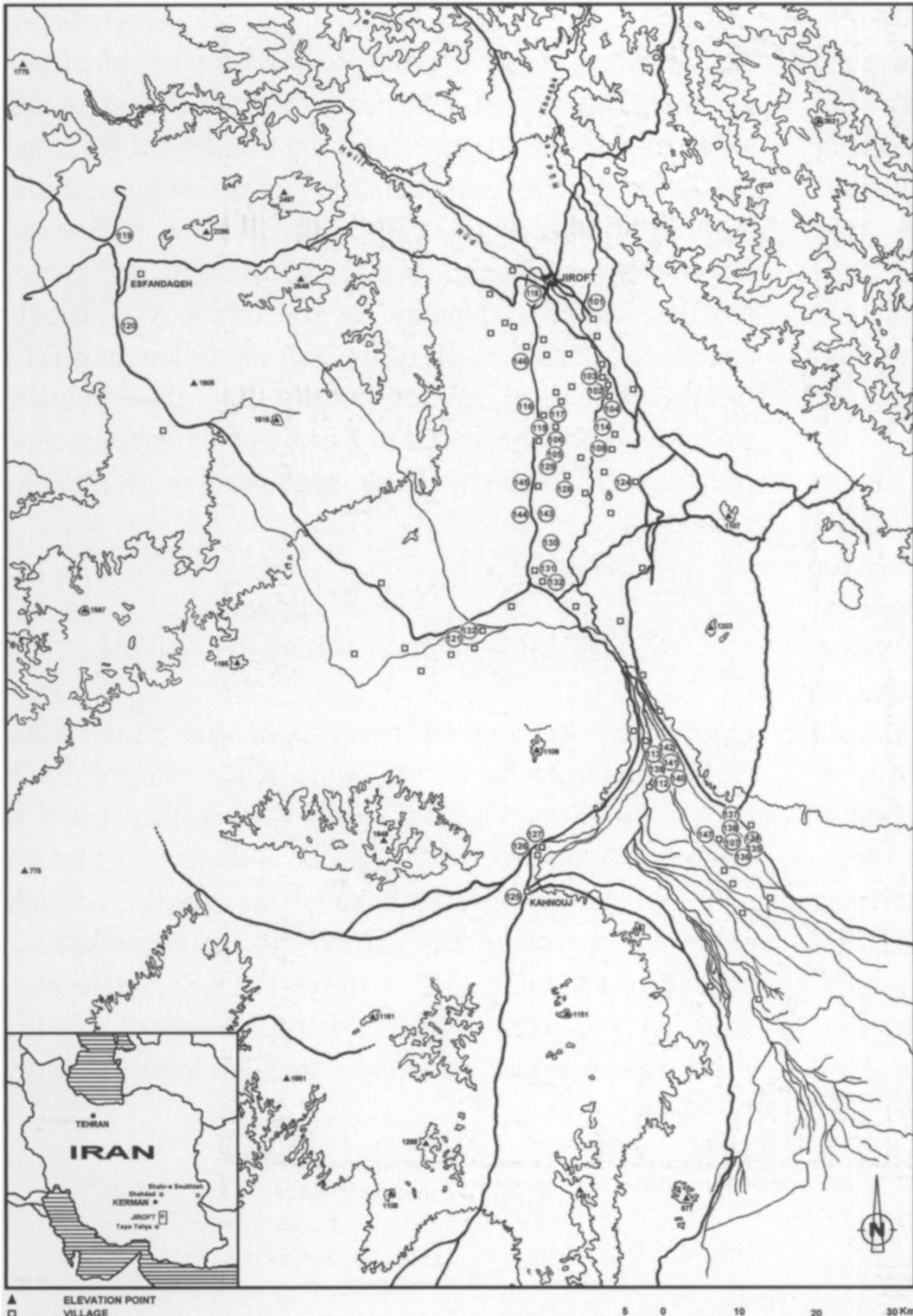
Google Earth

© 2018 Google  
Image Landsat / Copernicus

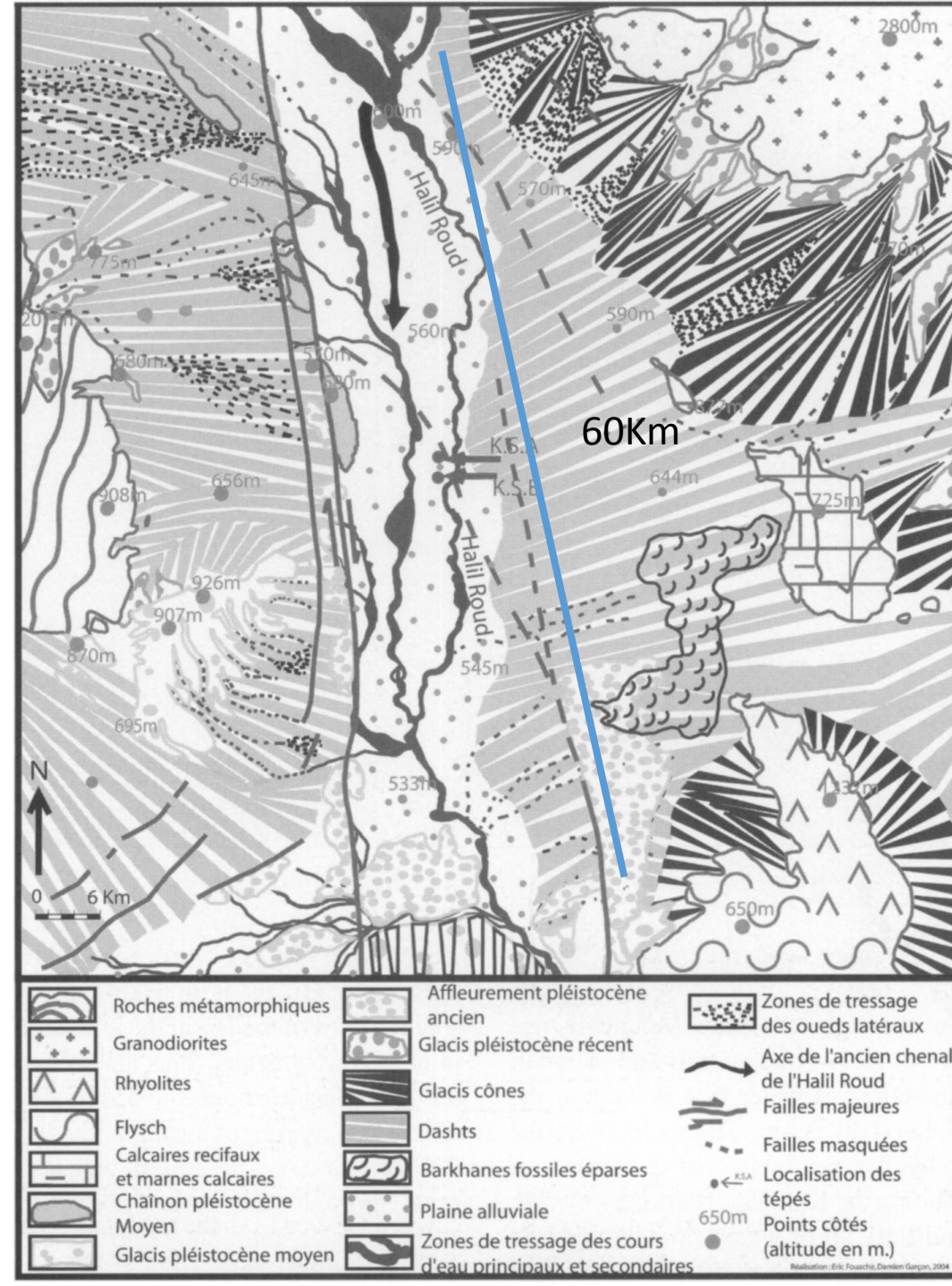


40 km





- Ca. 650 m asl
- Clima caldo e umido
- Pozzi artesiani
- 750 siti identificati
- + 170 collocati a nord di Jiroft (III mill. a. C.)
- Cave di steatite, clorite e serpentinite
- Picco di occupazione durante il terzo millennio. Probabile abbandono nel secondo.

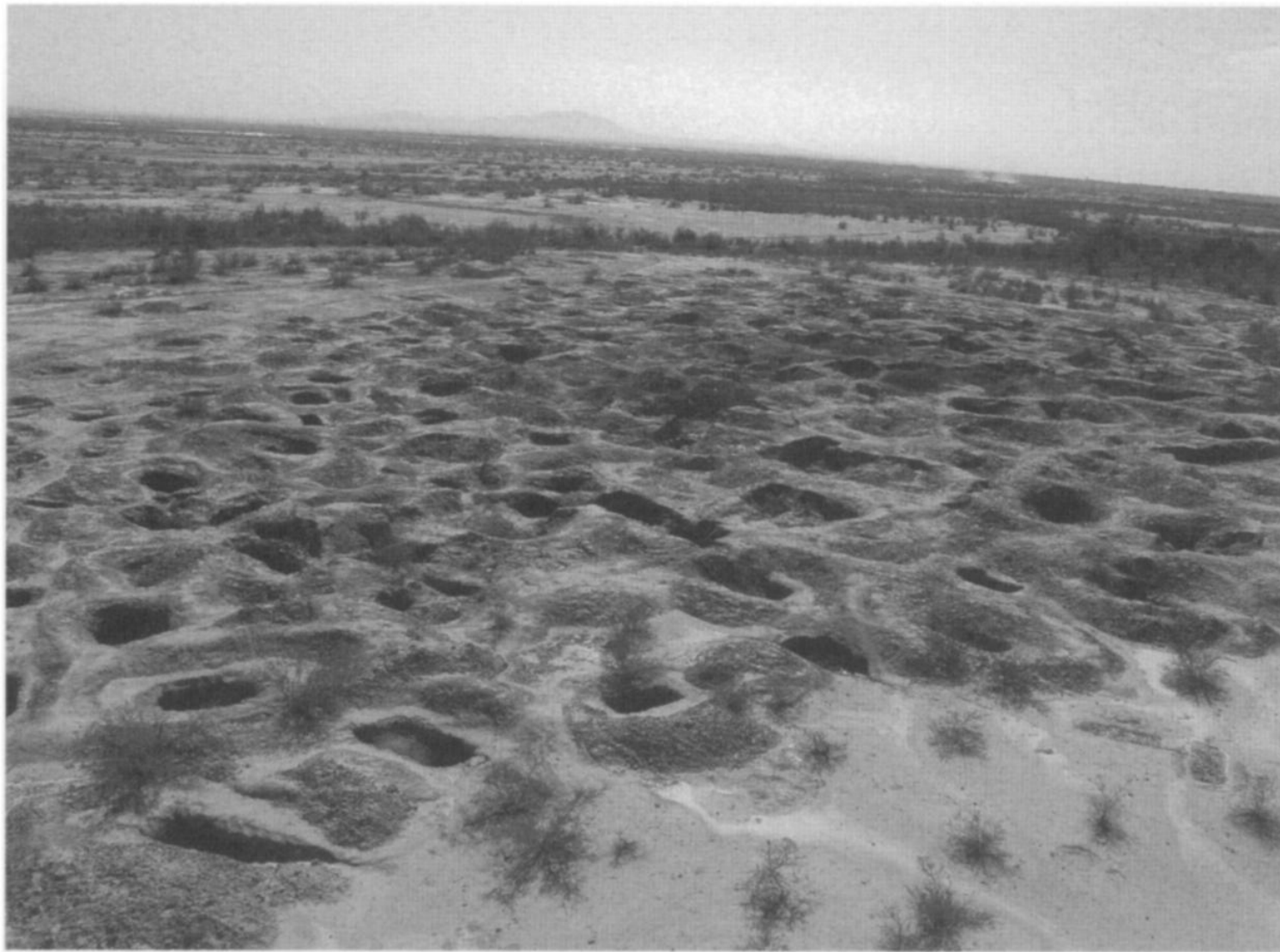






Cimitero di Mahtoutabad





Cimitero di Mahtoutabad



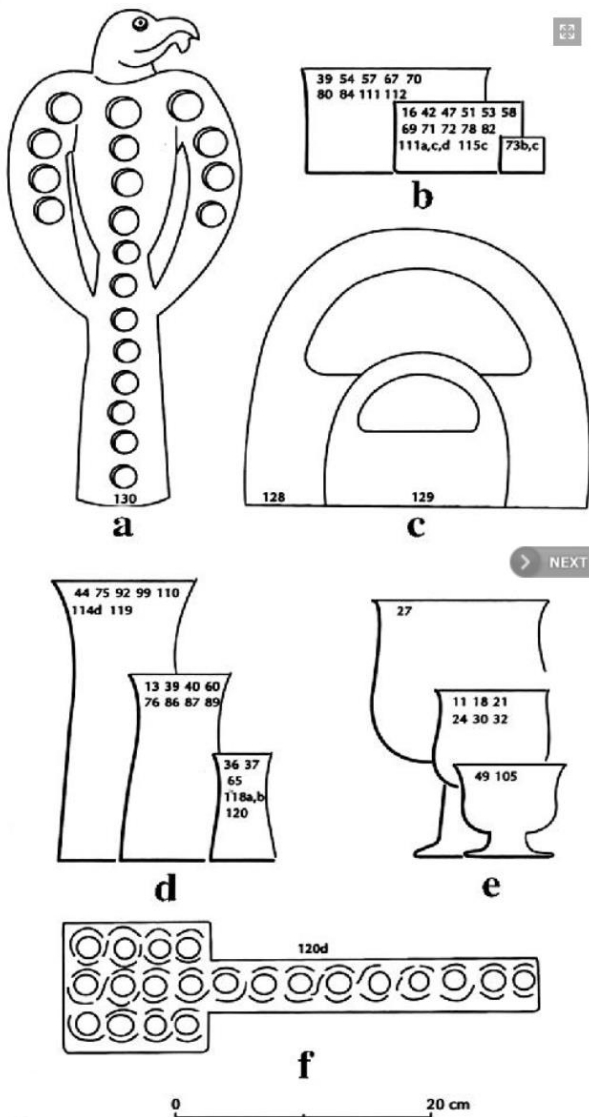


Figure 3. Relative scale of the types of vessels and artifacts. a and f: "gameboards"; b: small cylindrical vessels; c: "handbags"; d: high triconical vessels; e: cups.



Plate I. Cups: a–b (h 14.5 cm ; diam 11.5 cm); c (h 17.5 cm; diam 12.2 cm); d (h 14.7 cm; diam 10.7 cm); e (h 16 cm; diam 12.3 cm). Cylindrical boxes: f (h 6.5 cm); g (h 10.5 cm; diam 16.5 cm); h (h 7.4 cm; diam 11 cm).

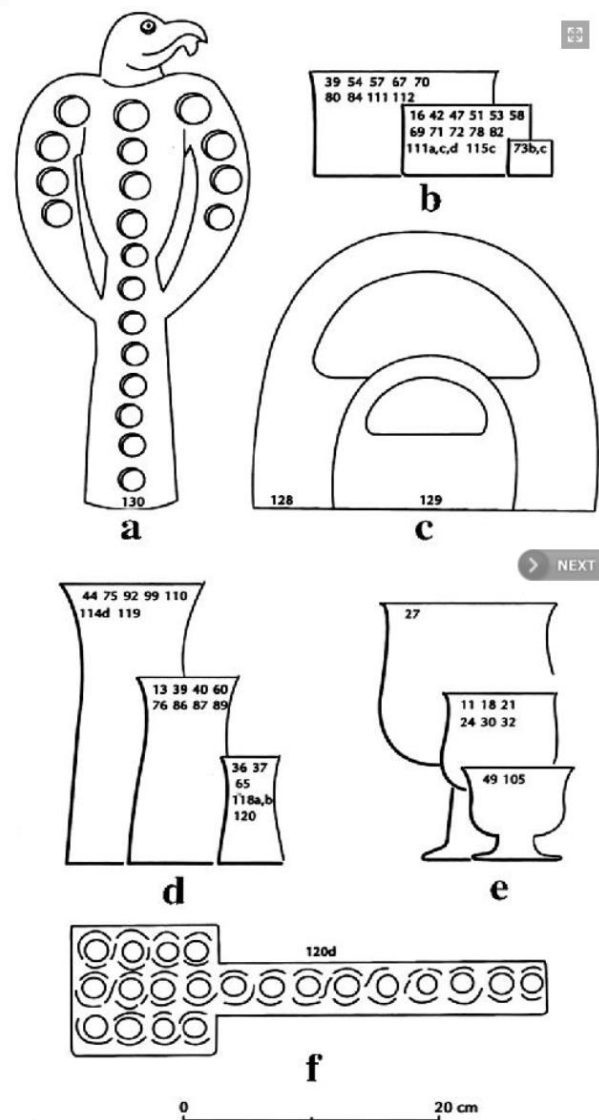


Figure 3. Relative scale of the types of vessels and artifacts. a and f: "gameboards"; b: small cylindrical vessels; c: "handbags"; d: high tronconical vessels; e: cups.



Plate II. High tronconical vessels: a (h 14.6 cm); b (h 16 cm); c (h 27.8 cm); d (h 17.5 cm); e (h 19.7 cm). "Handbags": f-g (w 24 cm, thks 4.8 cm); h (w 19.5 cm; h 19.4 cm, thks 4 cm); j (w 28 cm; h 25 cm, thks 3 cm); k (w 18.5, h 18.3 cm, thks 3.2).

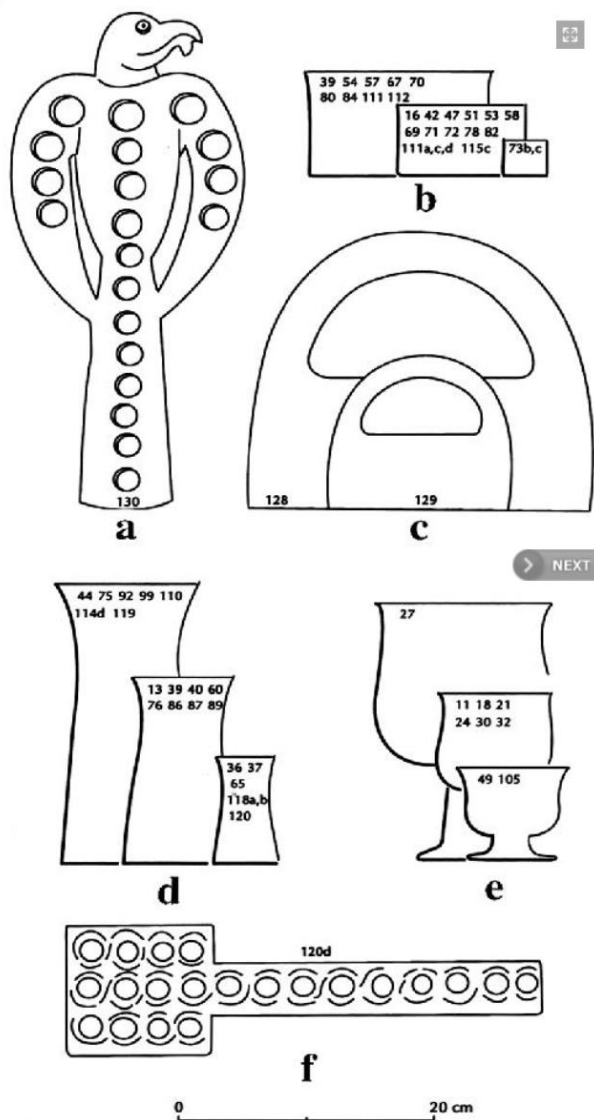


Figure 3. Relative scale of the types of vessels and artifacts. a and f: "gameboards"; b: small cylindrical vessels; c: "handbags"; d: high tronconical vessels; e: cups.

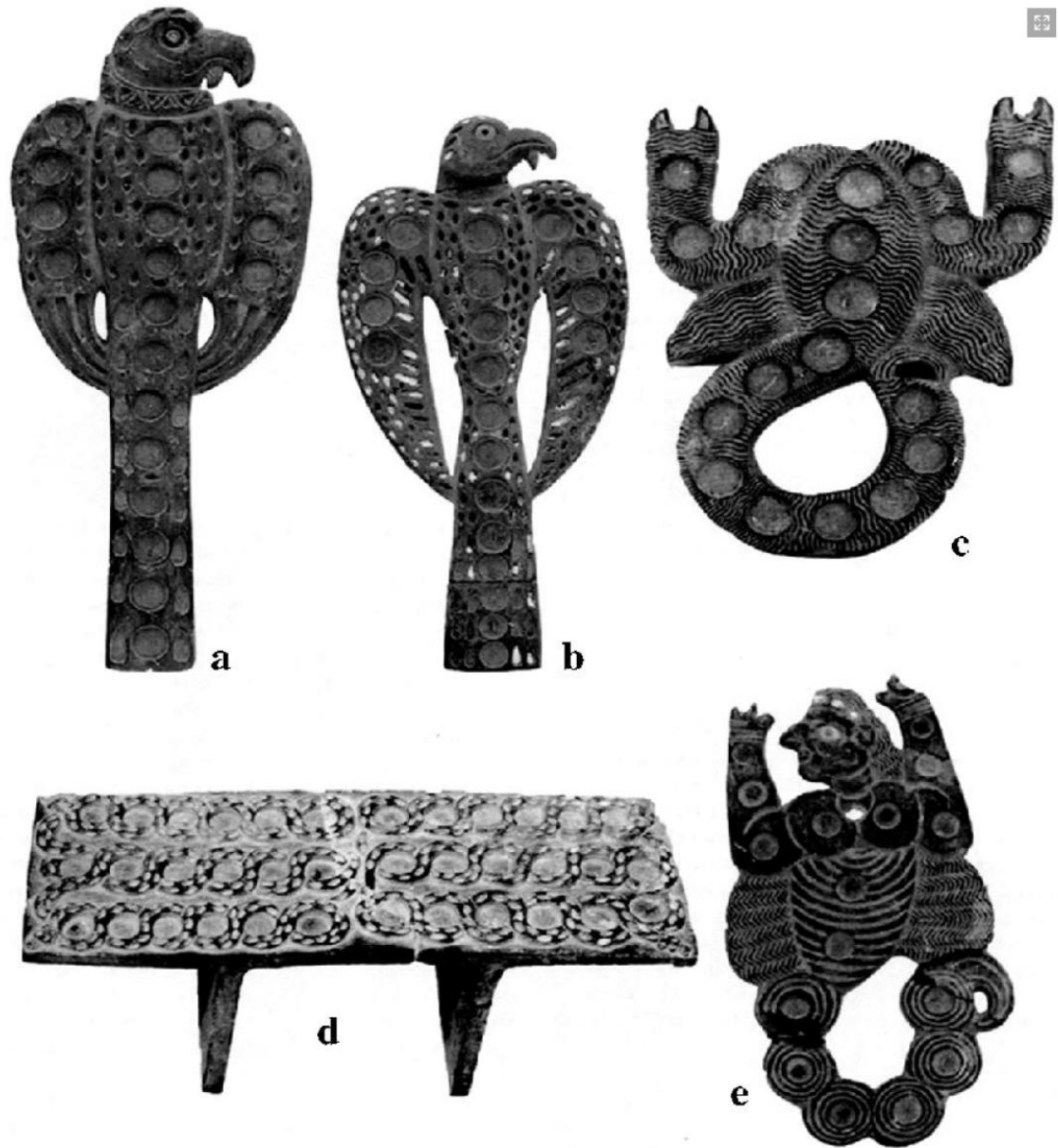


Plate III. "Gameboards": a : eagle (l 41 cm); b: eagle (l 35 cm); c: scorpion (l 28 cm); d: table on legs (l 35 cm); e: scorpion-man (27 cm).

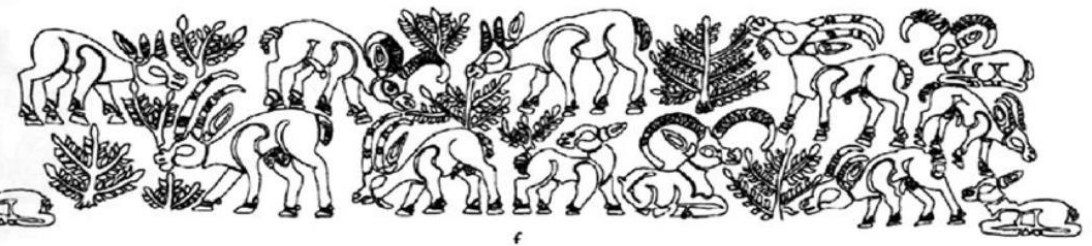
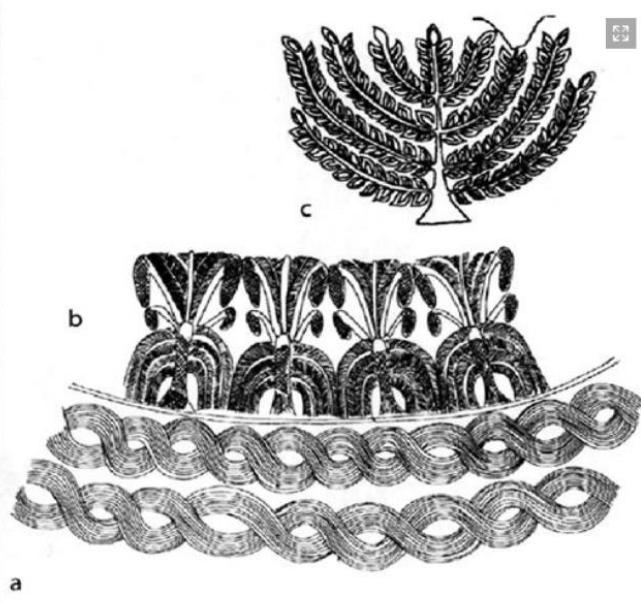


Figure 4. a-b: typical landscape of the Jiroft area and ornamentation of a chlorite vessel; c: candelabrum tree; d: bush; e-f: bushes and ibexes.

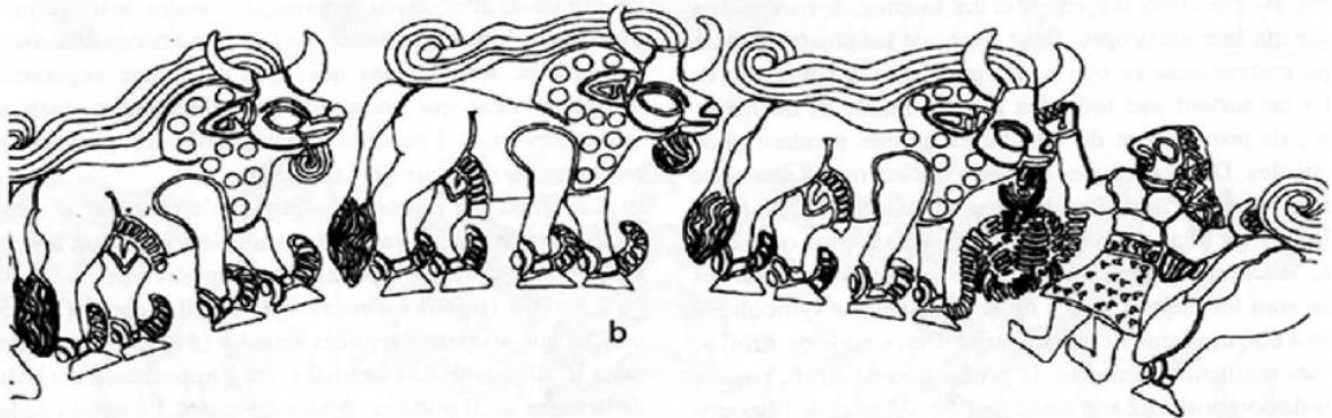


Figure 6. Zebus: a: details of decoration on a tronconical vessel; b: line of zebus led by a man; c-d lying zebus.

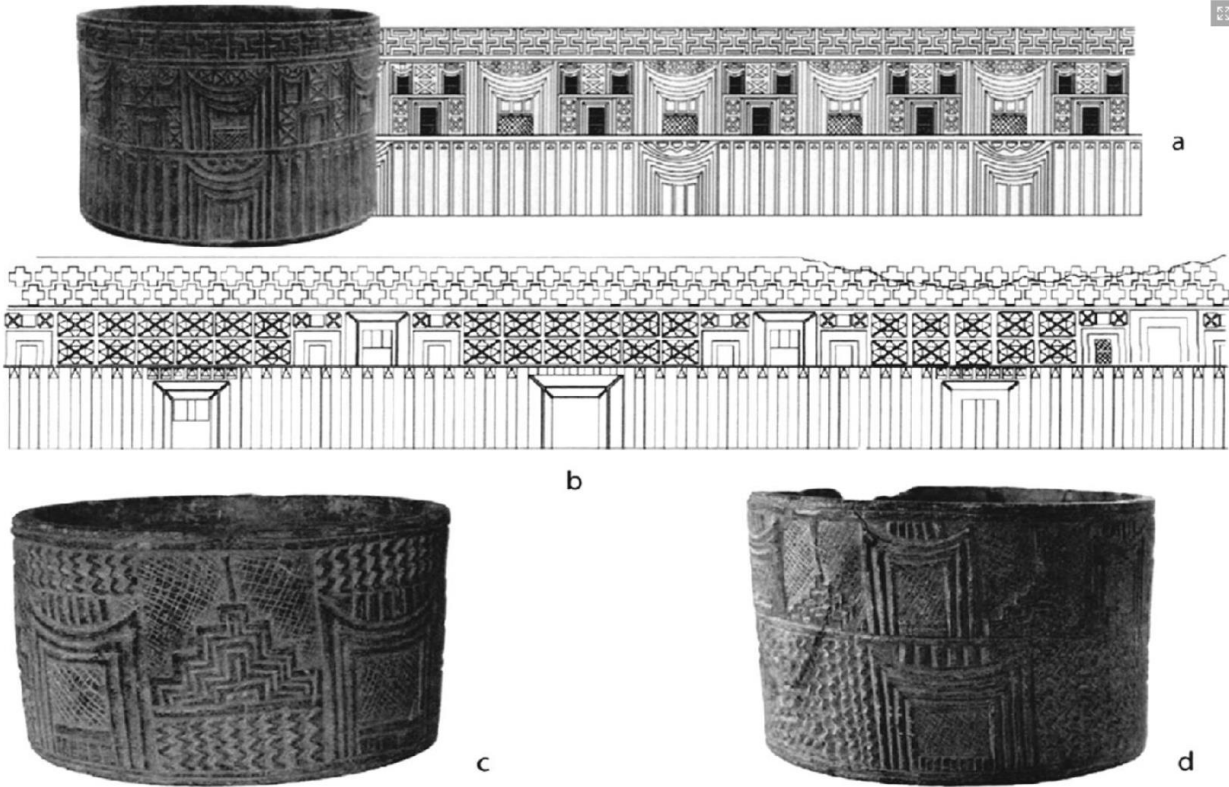


Figure 10. Architectural motives with gates and windows, on cylindrical vessels.

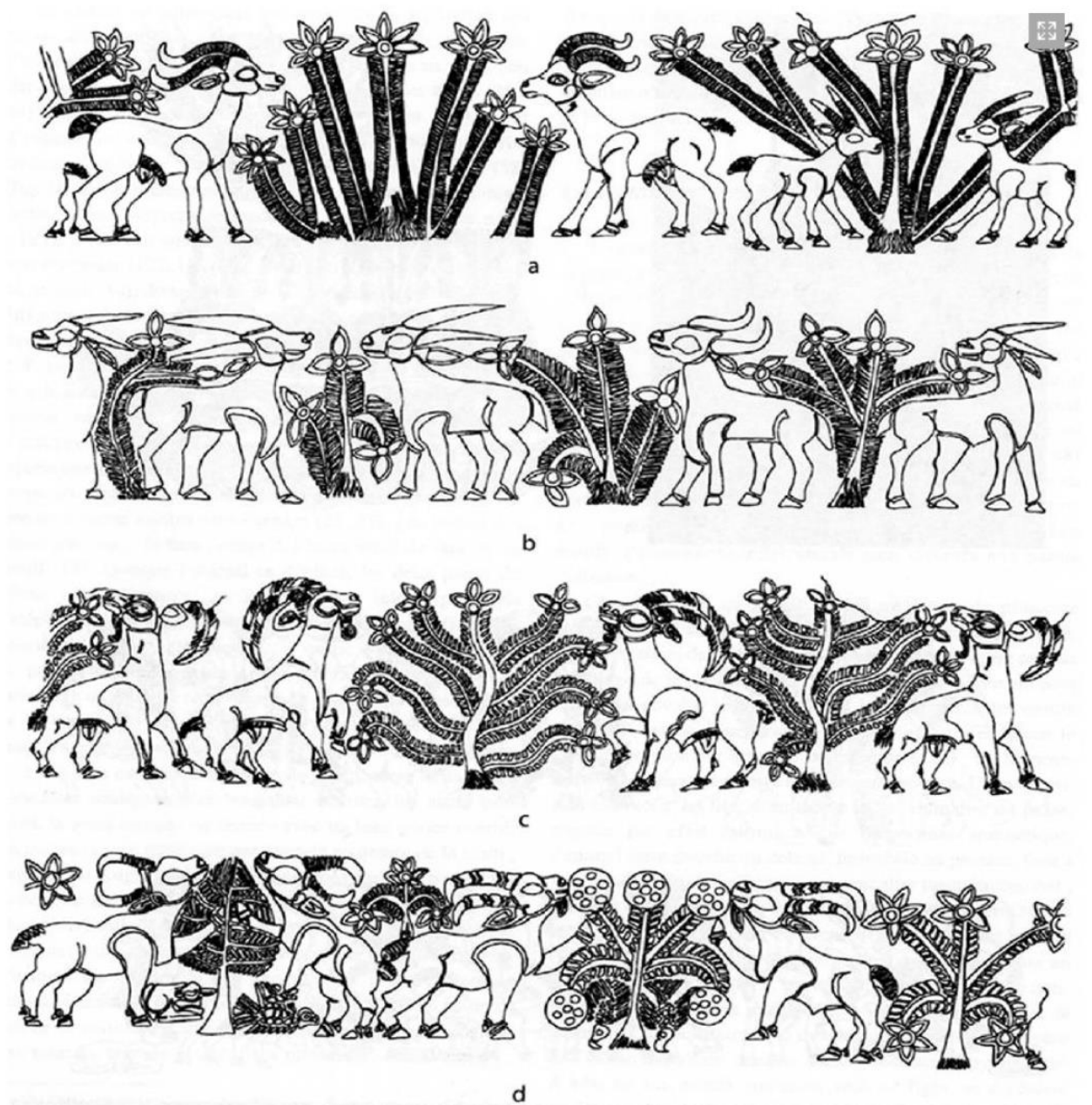


Figure 5. a-d: ibexes and bushes.

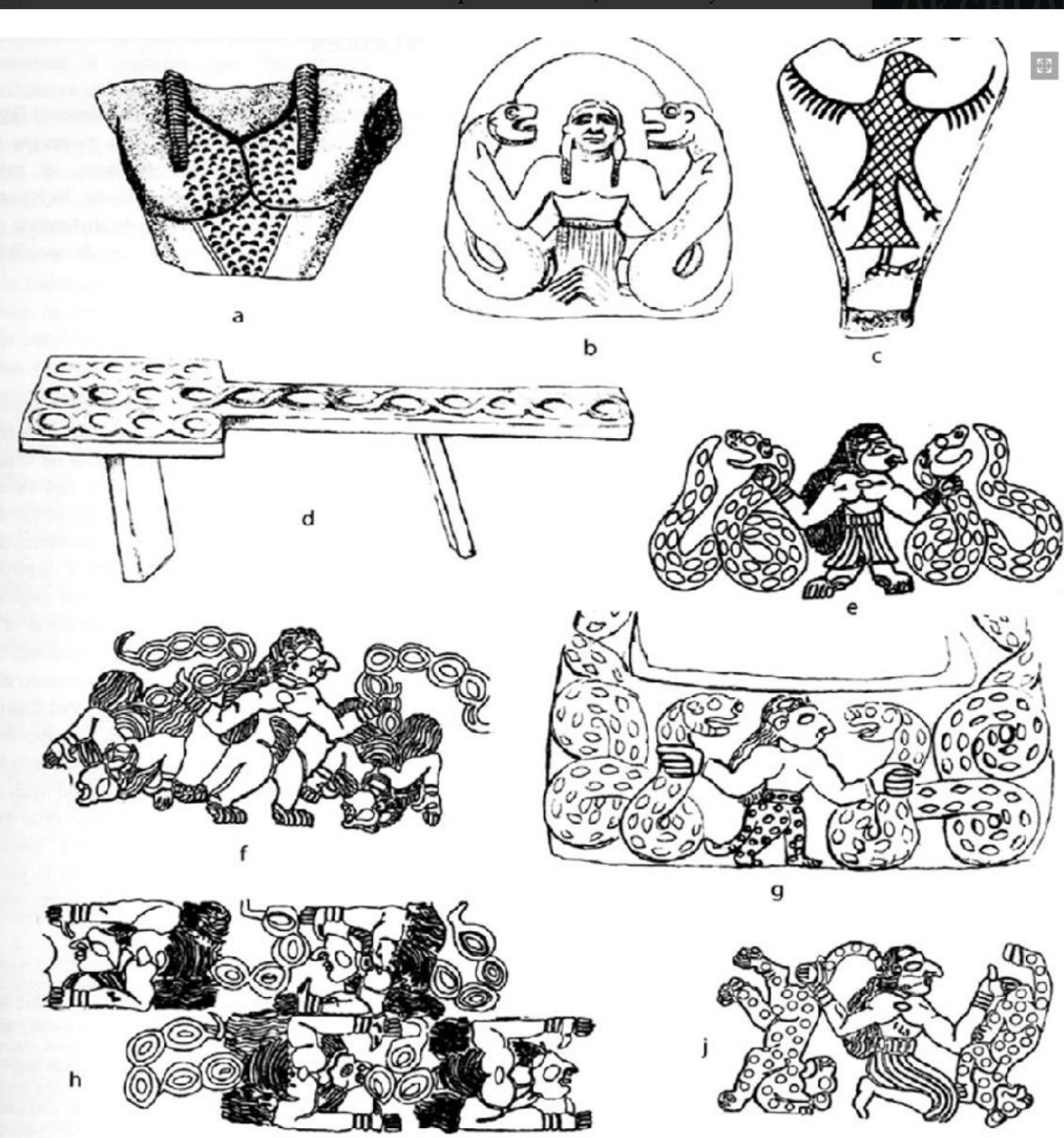


Figure 12. a-c: fragments from Tepe Yahya; d: "gameboard" on supporting tablets; e: man with claws holding two snakes; f: lion-man holding down two scorpion men; h: files of scorpion-man; j: man seated on his heels playing with cheetahs.

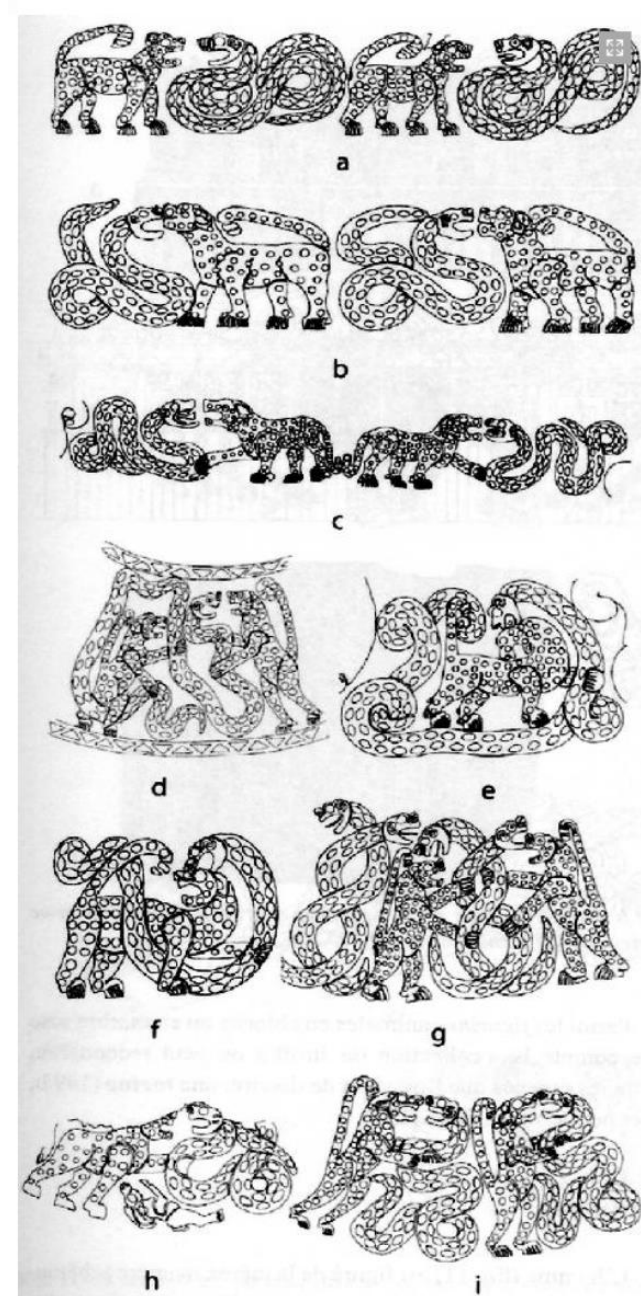


Figure 8. Cheetahs fighting snakes.

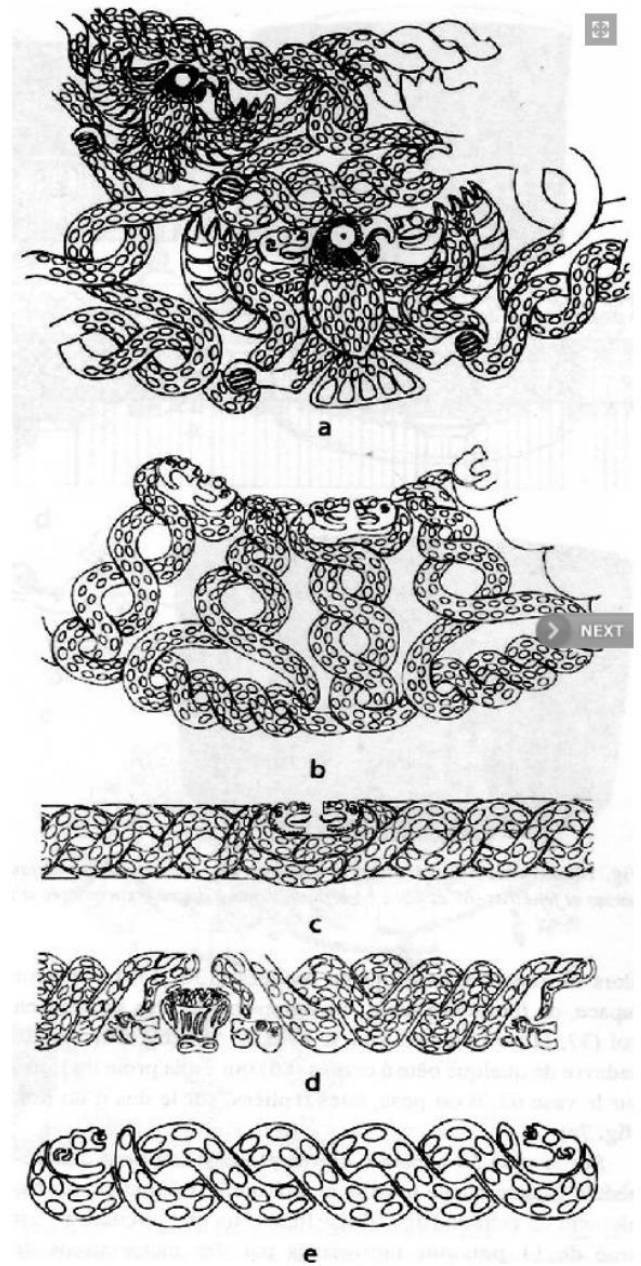


Figure 9. Eagles and snakes. a: two eagles and two snakes, on a tronconical vessel; b-e: intertwined snakes.



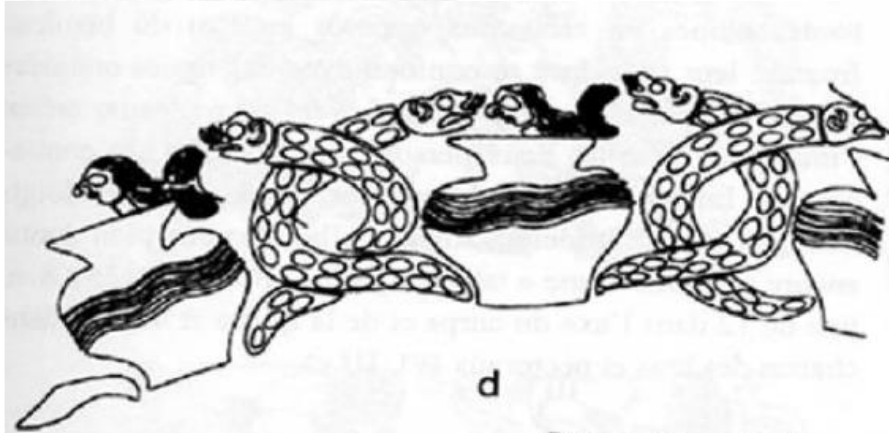
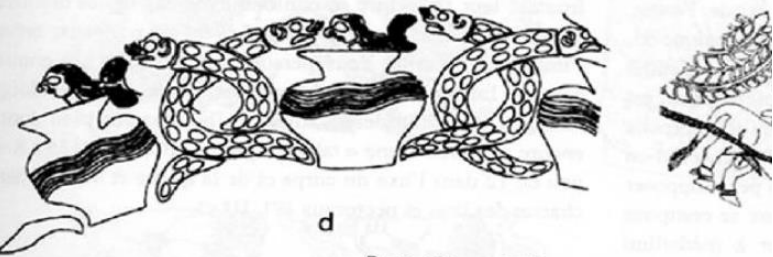


Figure 11. a: mountains landscape and waters; (upper part) a man and zebus; (lower part) man seated on his heels holding zebus; b: man and zebus, on a small cylindrical vessel; d: head of woman protruding from a tree to the trunk of which a zebu is tied; f: man with claws and scorpion in the center (on a cylindrical vessel).

SHAHDAD MARI

UR

KISH KHAFAJAH

SUSA

TARUT

TEPE YAHYA  
IV B

BAMPUR

MOHENJO-  
DARO



Hakemi 1997:  
pag.617, Fm.3



Durrani 1964:  
Pl.2,1



Durrani 1964:  
Pl.1,14



Miroschedji de 1973:  
Fig.5,9



Zarins 1978:  
Pl.69,141



Lamberg-Karlovsky 1970:  
Fig.21,D



De Cardi 1967:  
Pl.III,b



Durrani 1964:  
Pl.1,2



Hakemi 1997:  
pag.707, Wa.4



Parrot 1935,  
Pl.XXVII,3



Durrani 1964:  
Pl.III,4



Miroschedji 1973:  
Pl.IV,a



Zarins 1978:  
Pl.66,568



Lamberg-Karlovsky 1970:  
Fig.21,A



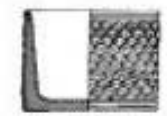
De Cardi 1967:  
Pl.II,13



Hakemi 1997:  
pag.694,Rz.1



Durrani 1964:  
Pl.2,5



Miroschedji de 1973:  
Fig.5,7



Zarins 1978:  
Pl.66,145



Lamberg-Karlo  
Pl. 23, H



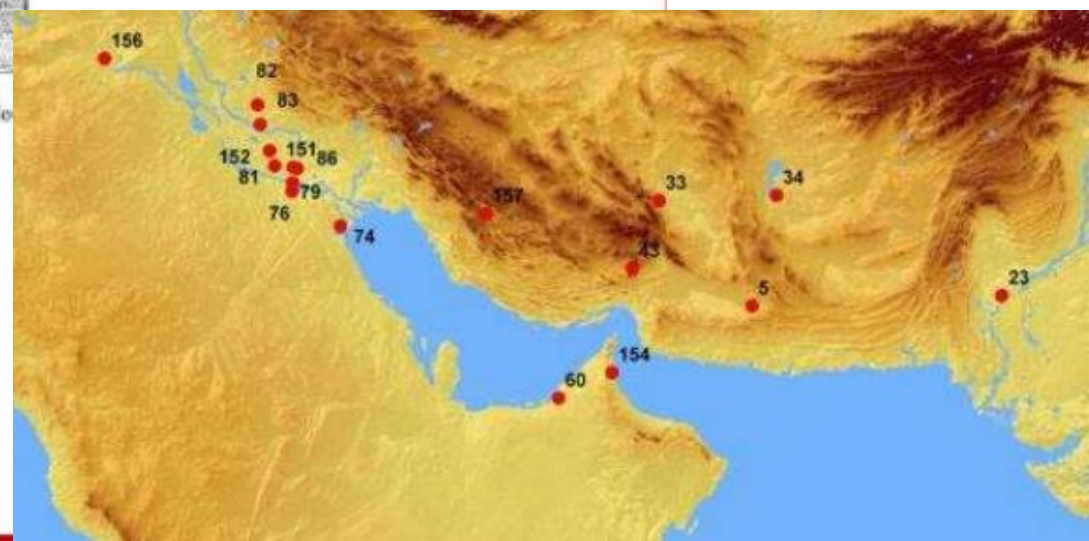
Miroschedji 1973:  
Fig.5,8



Hakemi 1997:  
pag.617, Fm1



Hakemi 1997:  
pag. 609, Fl.1



(Konar Sandal North/ Jiroft)

(Konar Sandal South / Jiroft)

Konar Sandal

Google Earth

Image © 2018 DigitalGlobe  
© 2018 Google

1 km

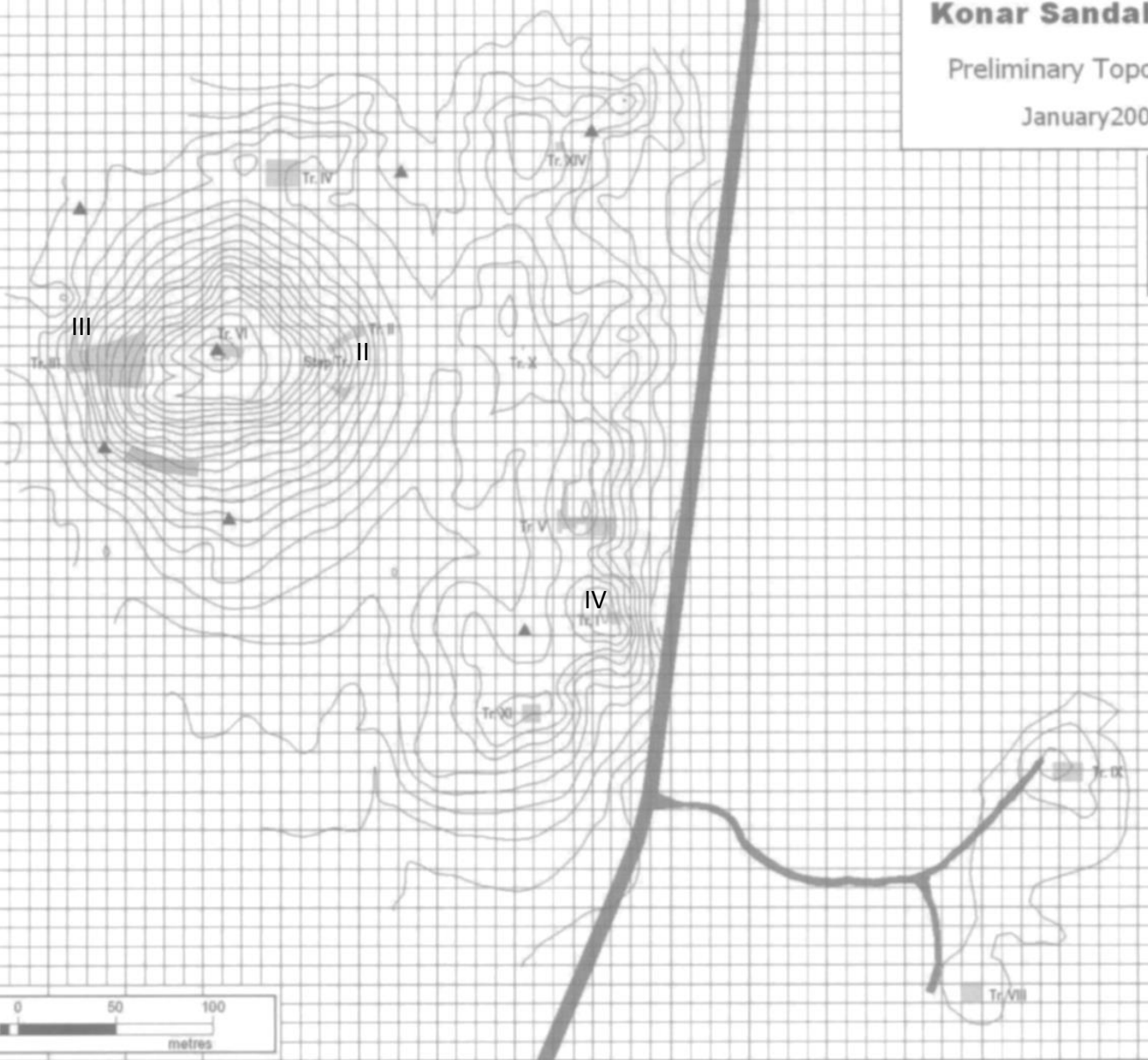


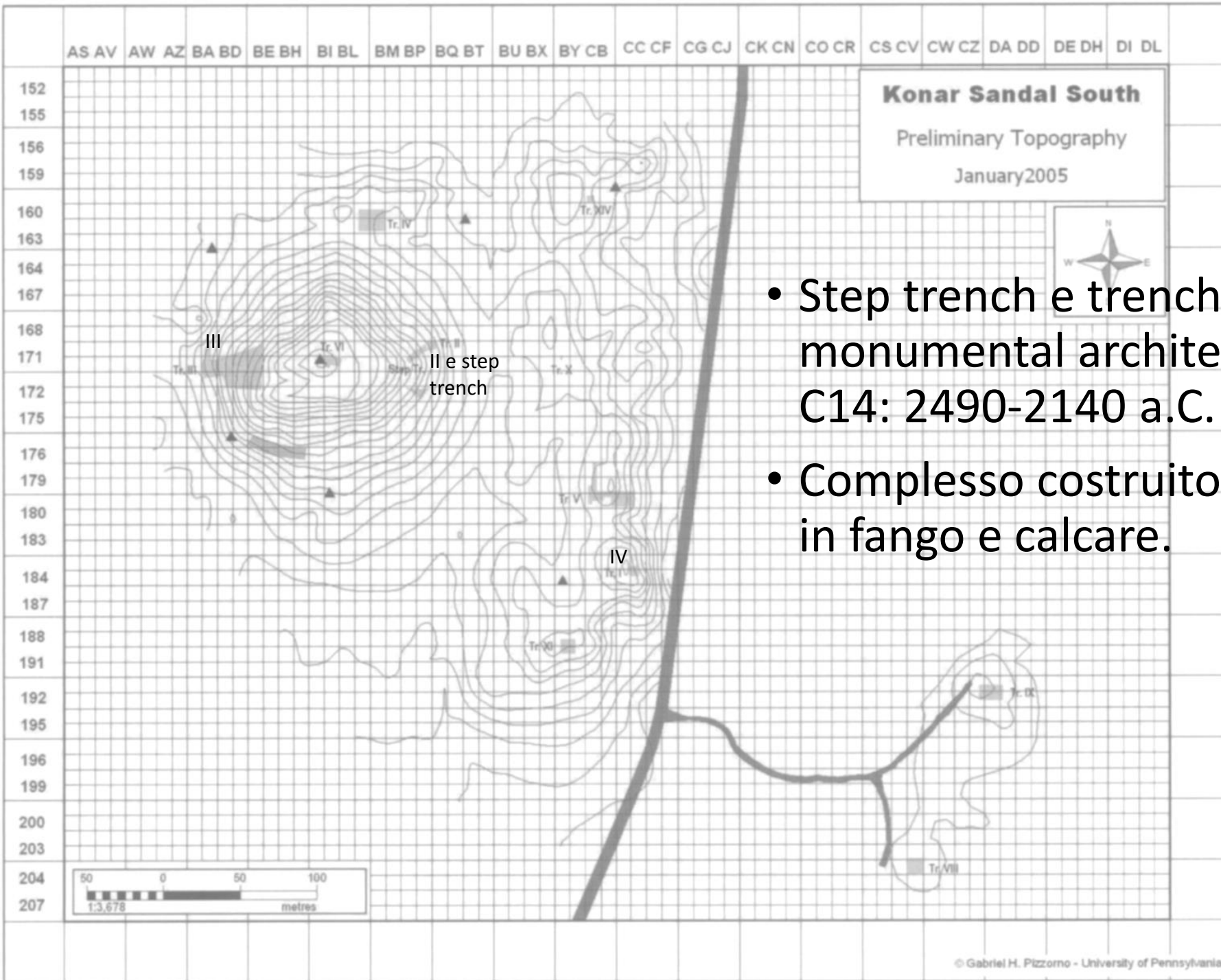
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# Konar Sandal South

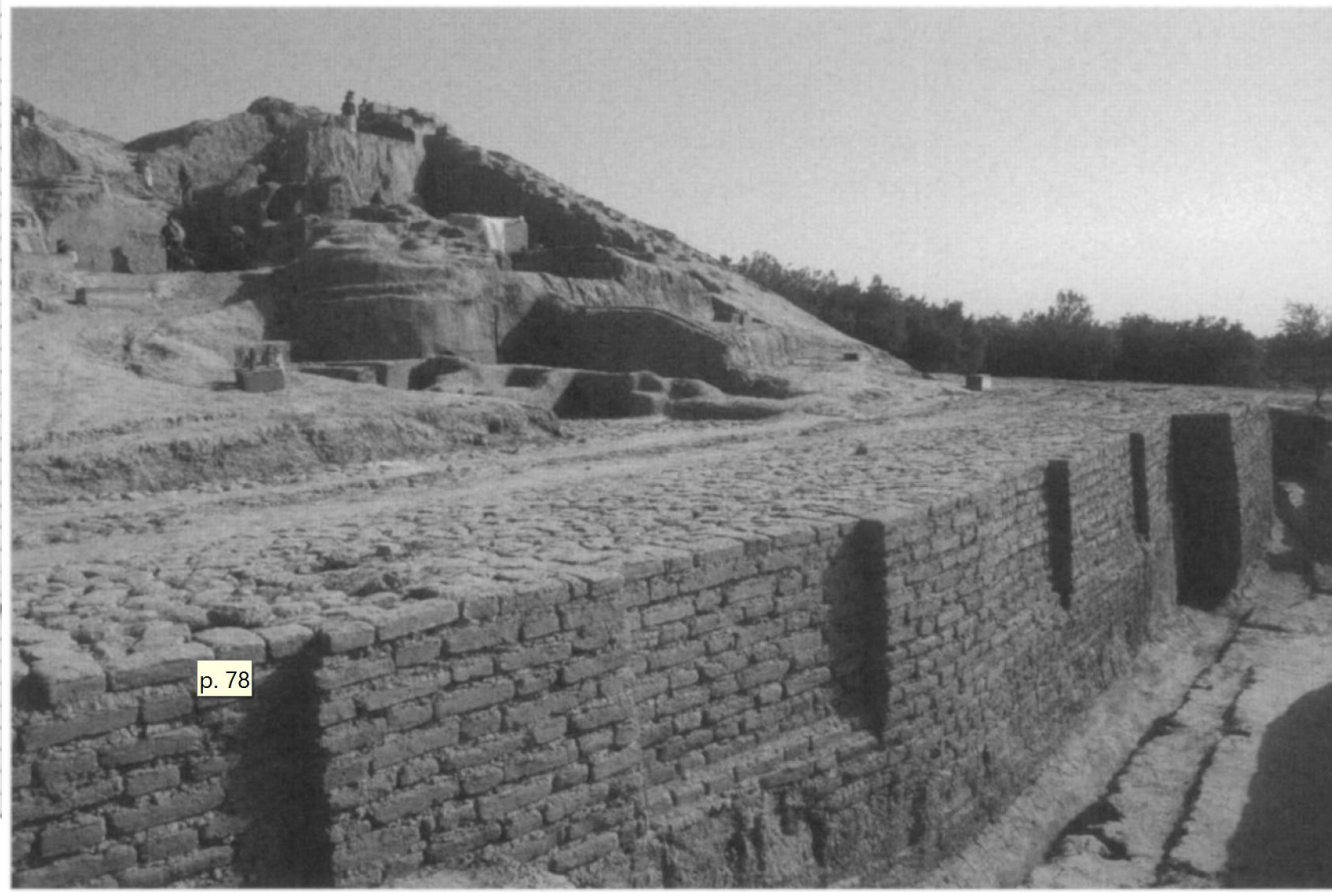
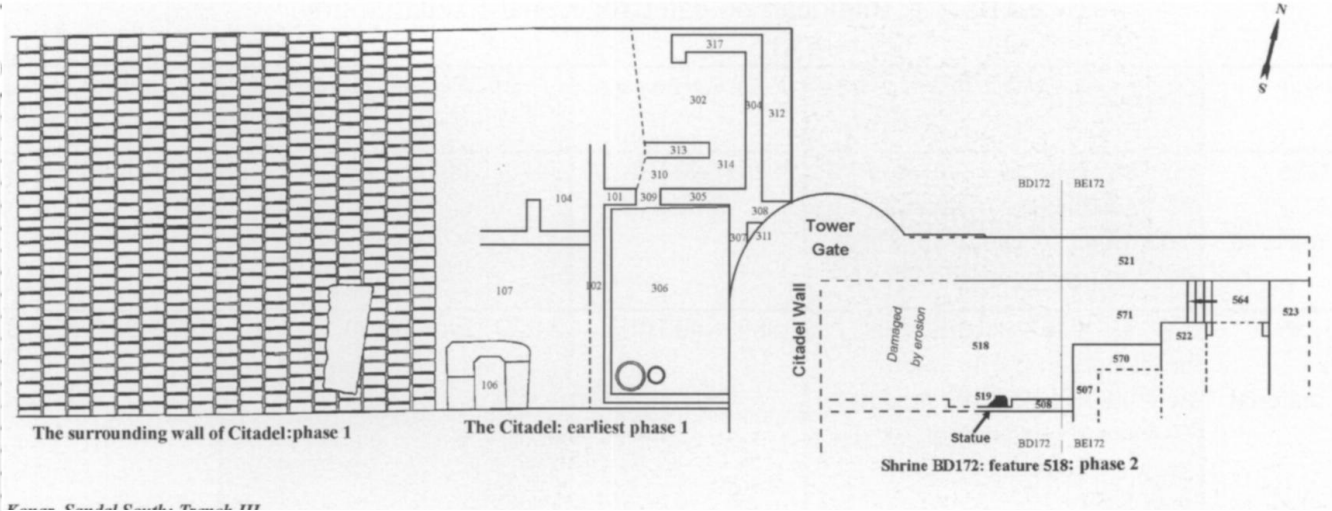
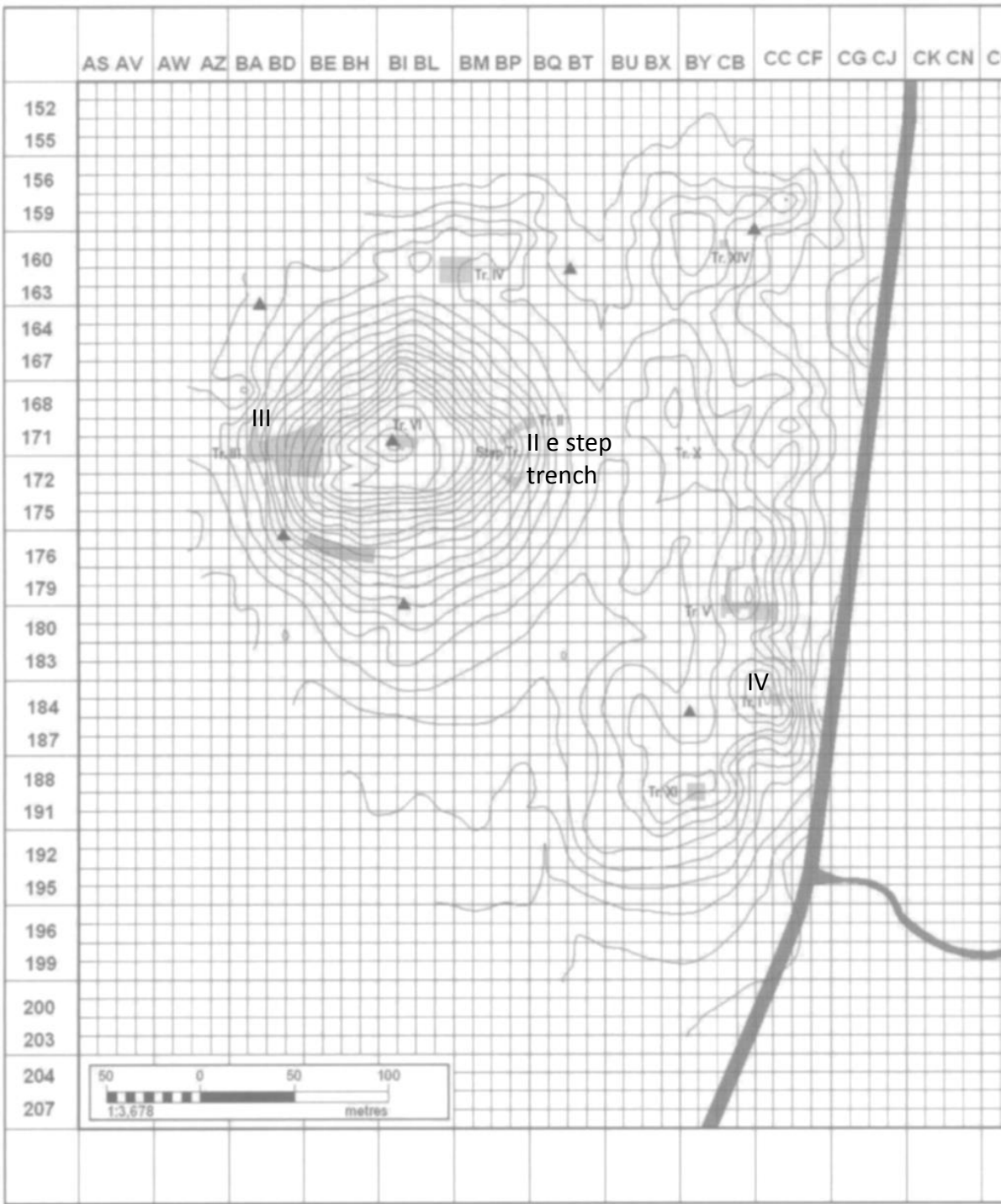
Preliminary Topography

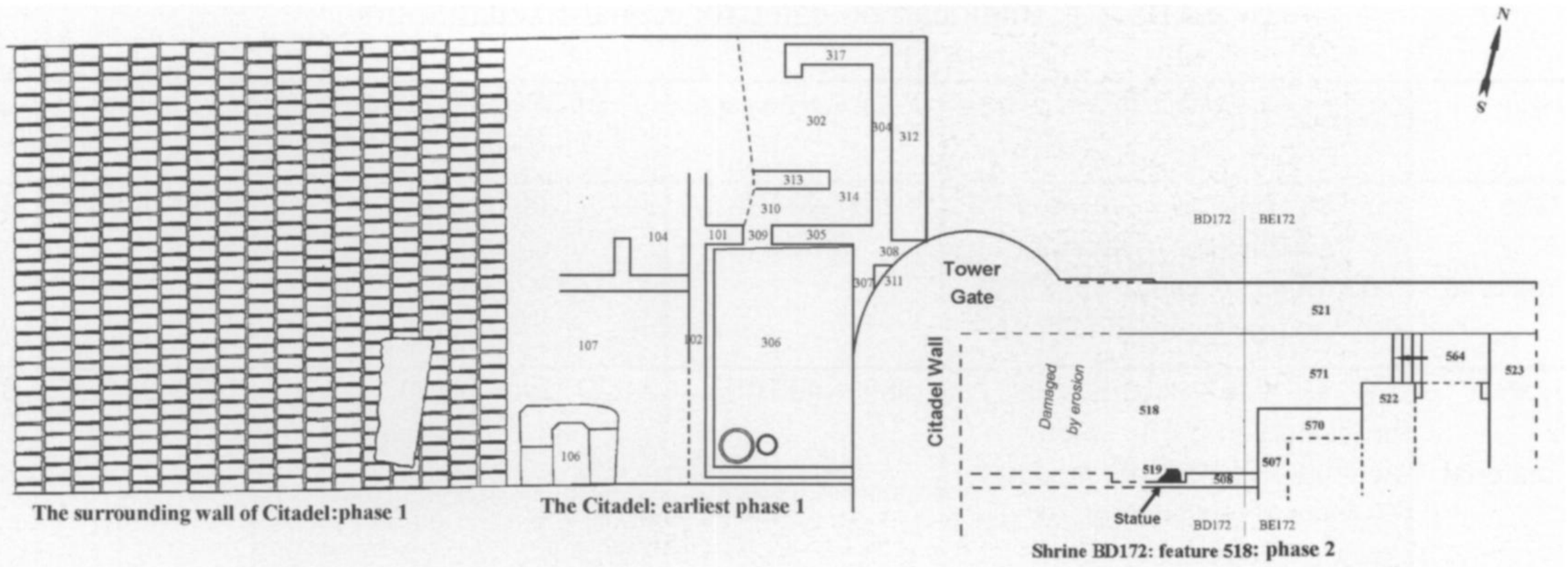
January 2005





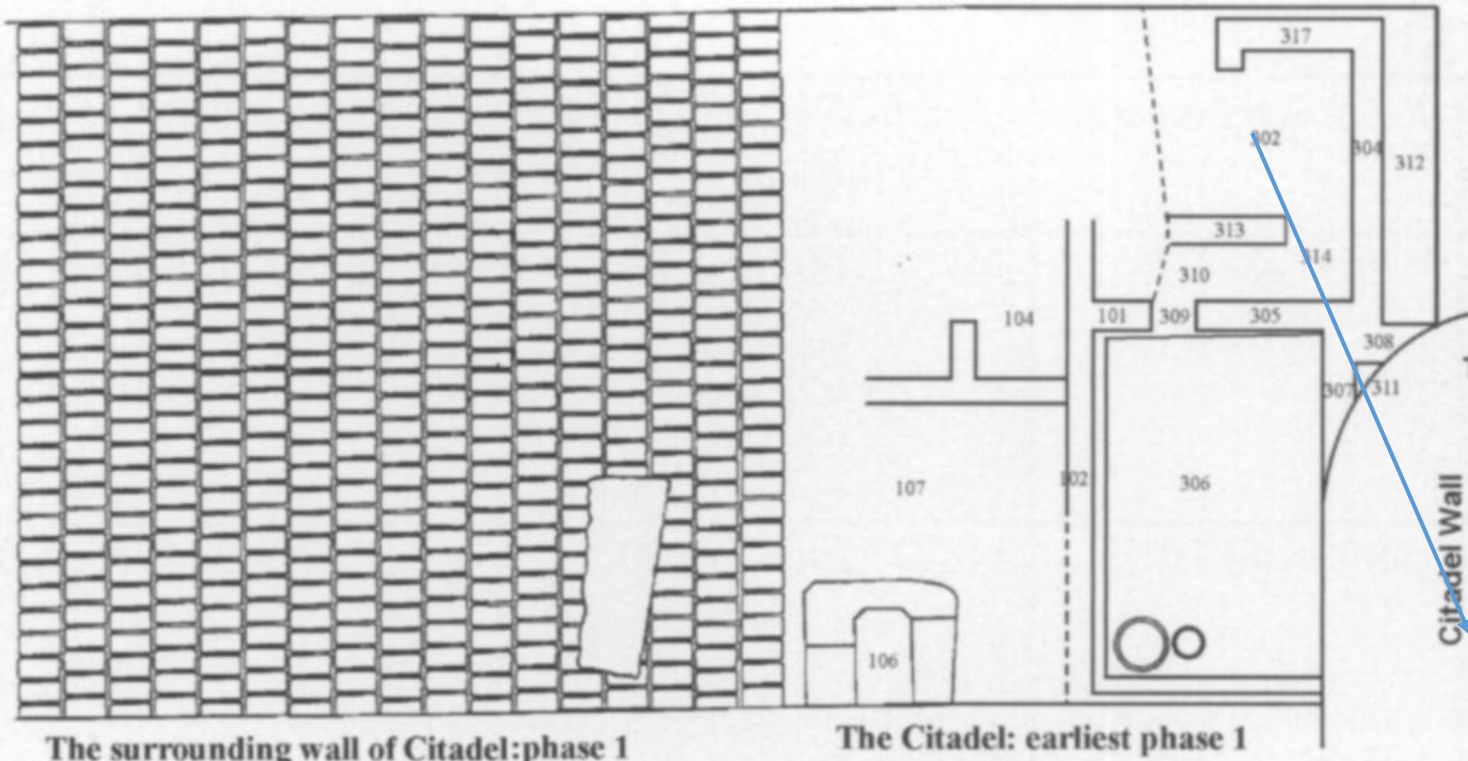
- Step trench e trench III: 11 m di monumental architectural complex. C14: 2490-2140 a.C.
- Complesso costruito su una fondazione in fango e calcare.





*Konar Sandal South: Trench III*

Scale: 1:100



The surrounding wall of Citadel: phase 1

The Citadel: earliest phase 1

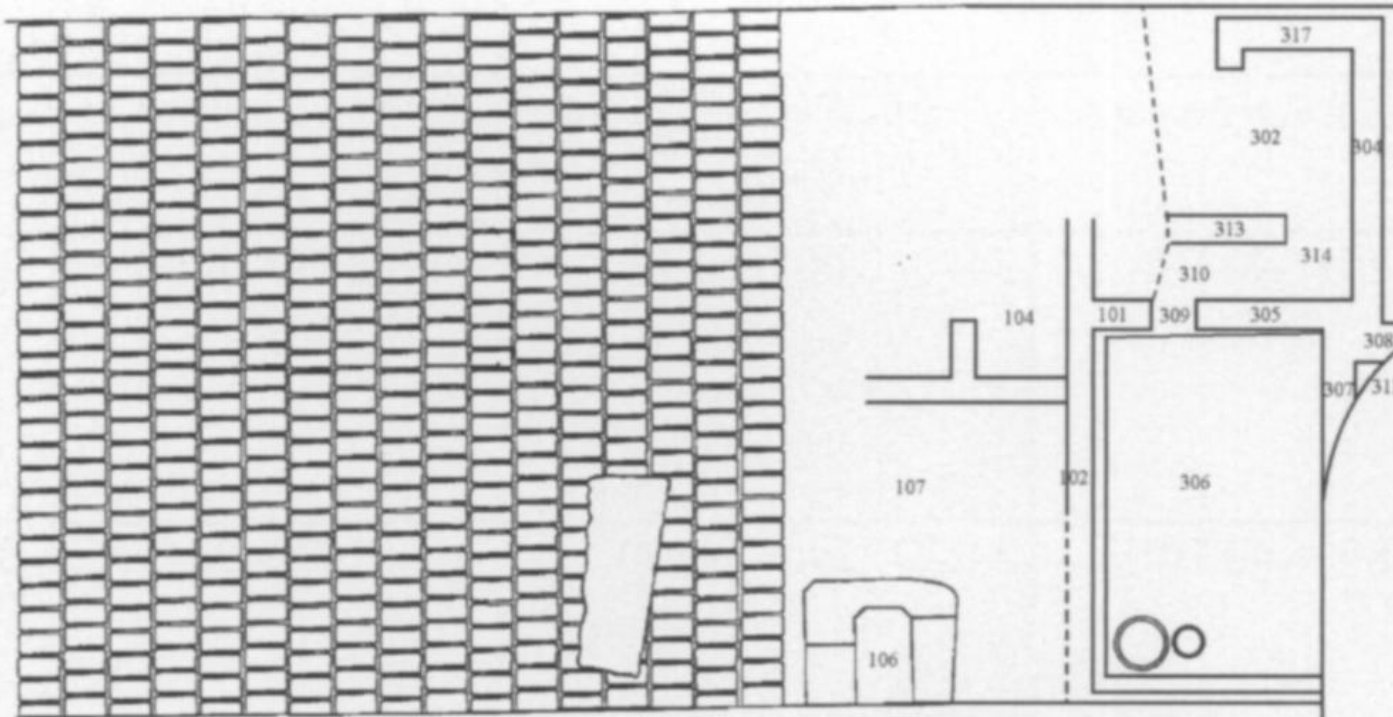
Citadel Wall

*Konar Sandal South: Trench III*



Fase 1





The surrounding wall of Citadel:phase 1

The Citadel: earliest phase 1

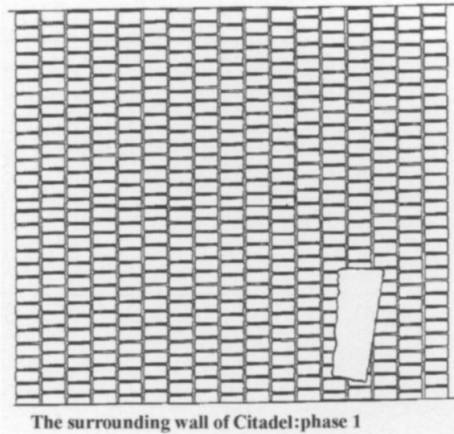
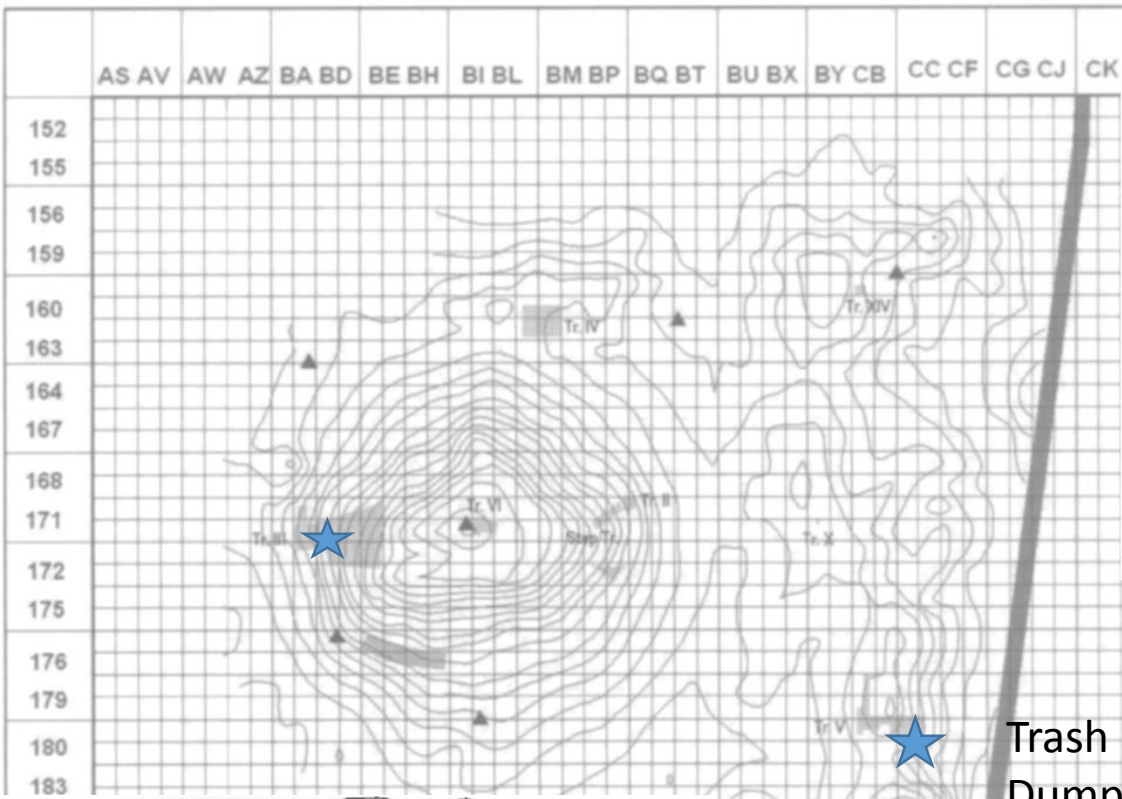
*Konar Sandal South: Trench III*



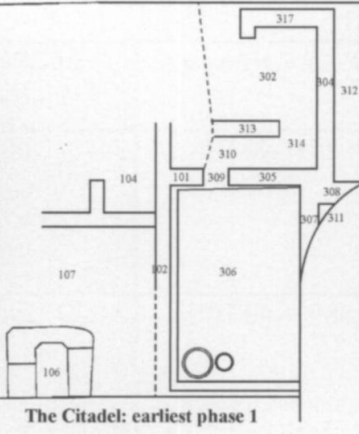
1cm

g.

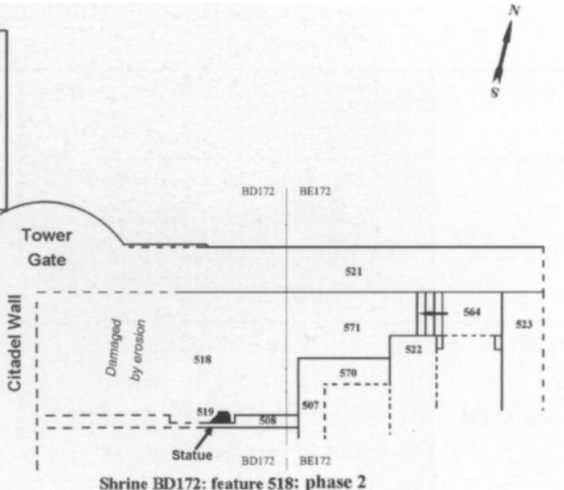
2005III114



The surrounding wall of Citadel: phase 1



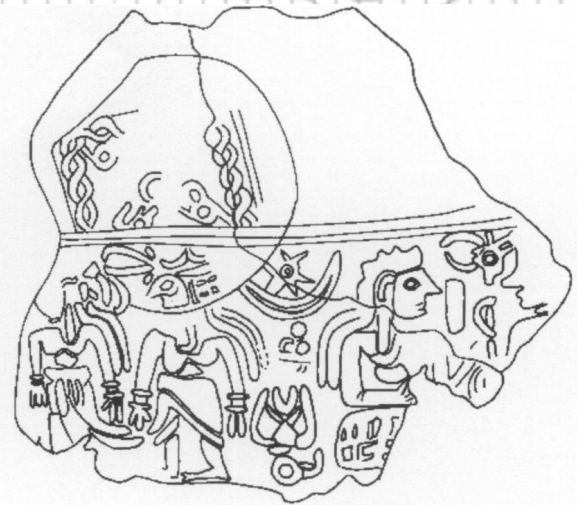
The Citadel: earliest phase 1



Shrine BD172: feature 518: phase 2

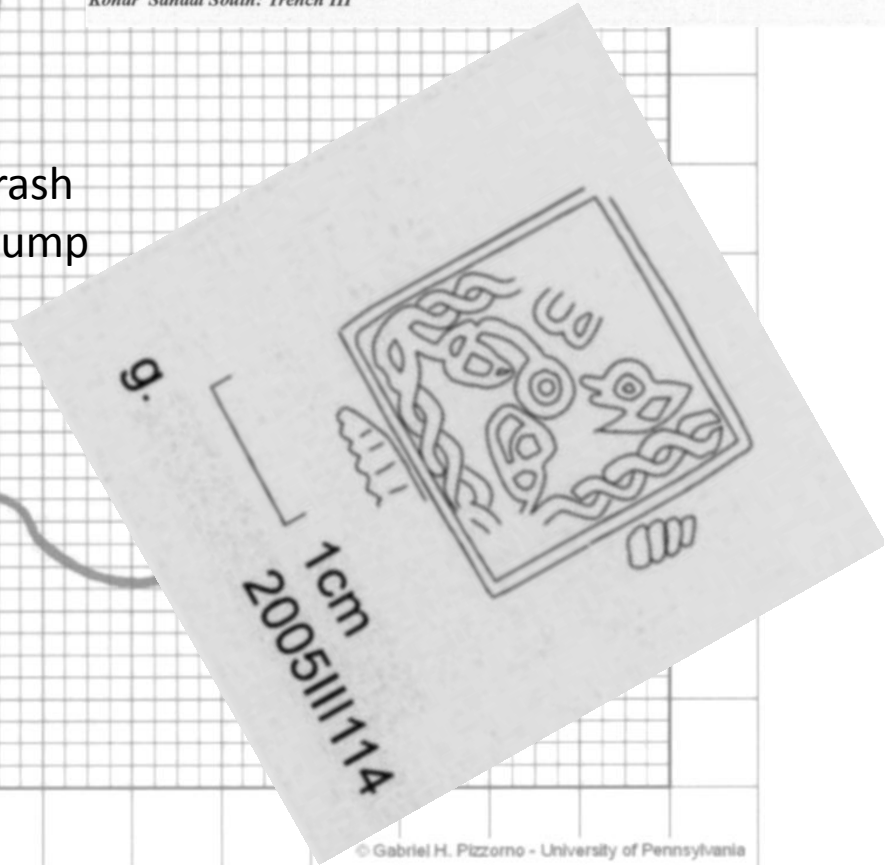
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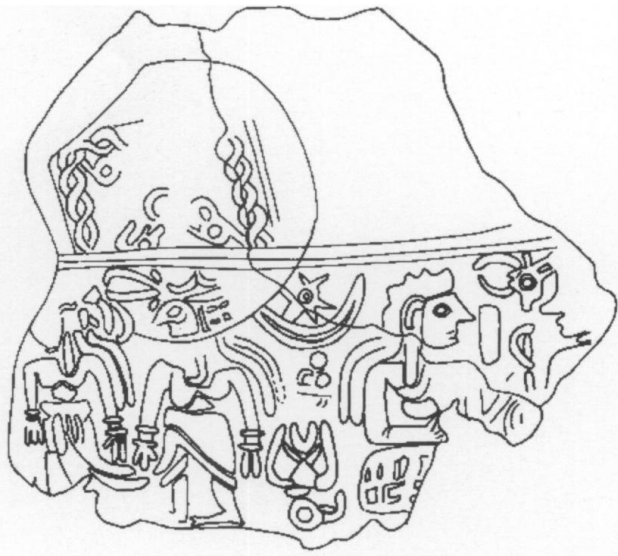
Konar Sandal South: Trench III



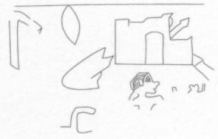
1cm

★ Trash Dump





a. 1cm  
038V402



c. 1cm  
2005V005



d. 1cm  
073V402



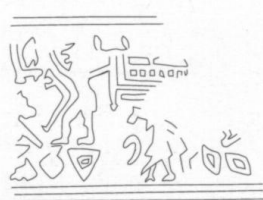
e. 1cm  
008III103



1cm  
173III306



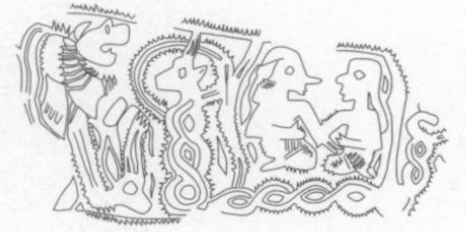
1cm  
154V402



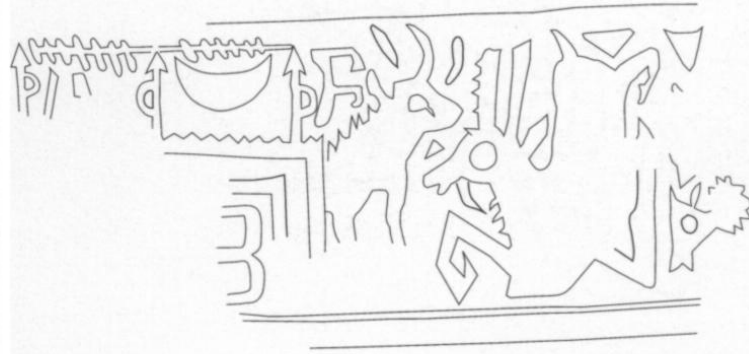
h. 1cm  
006III103



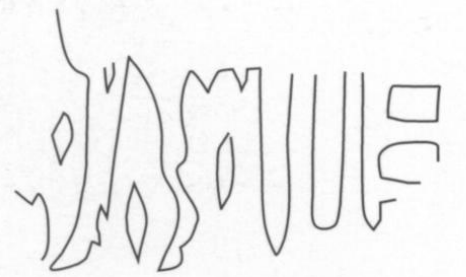
a. 1cm  
148aIII306



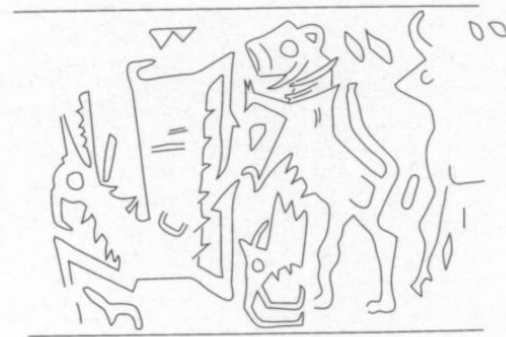
b. 1cm  
2005III101



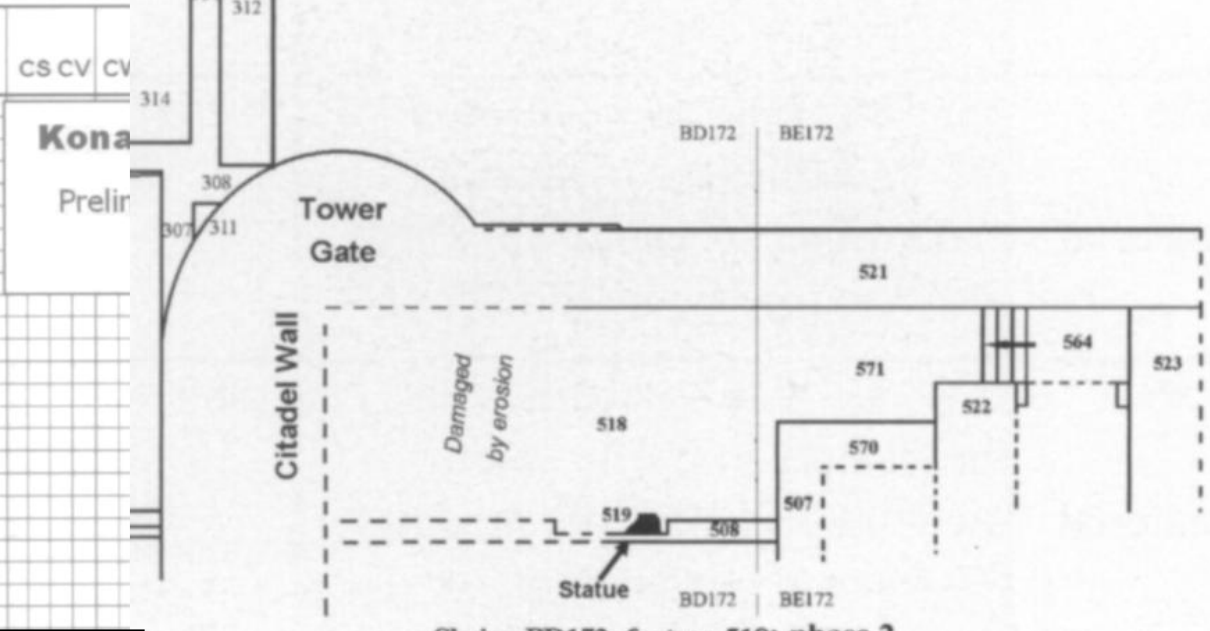
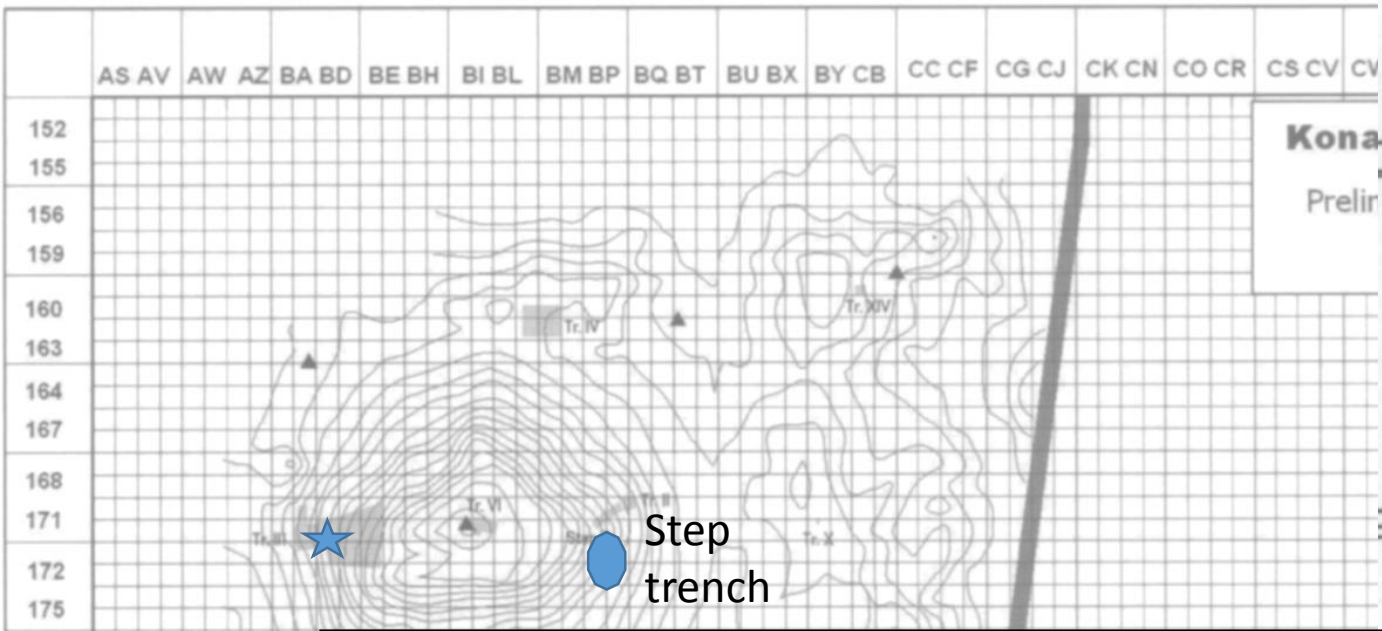
c. 1cm  
130III306



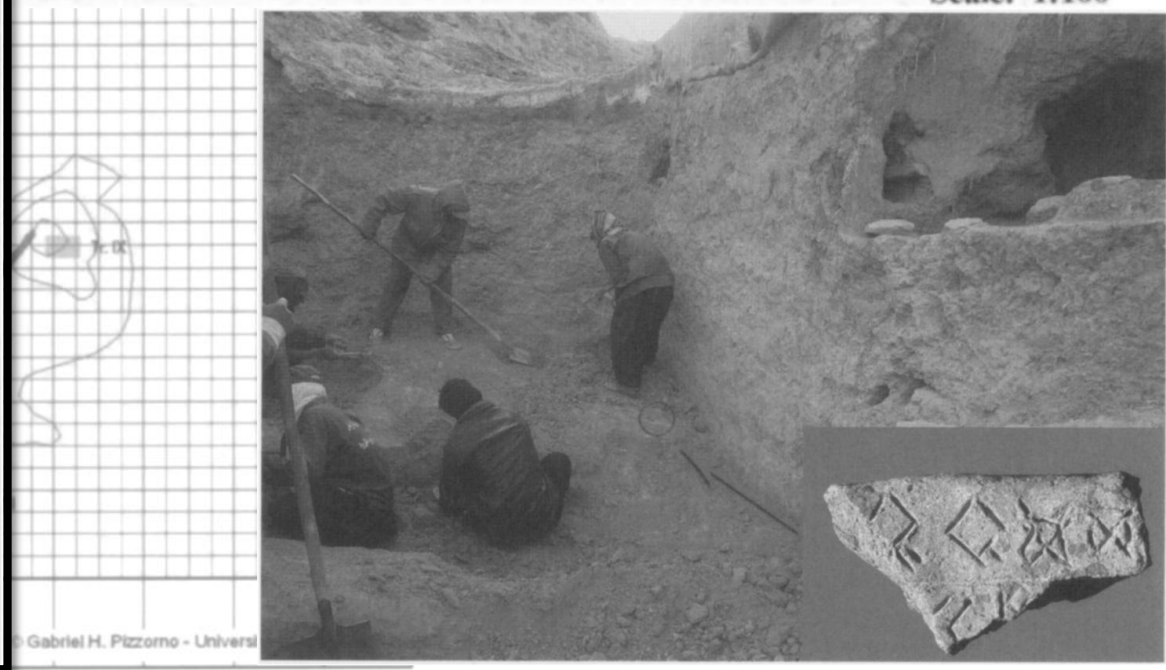
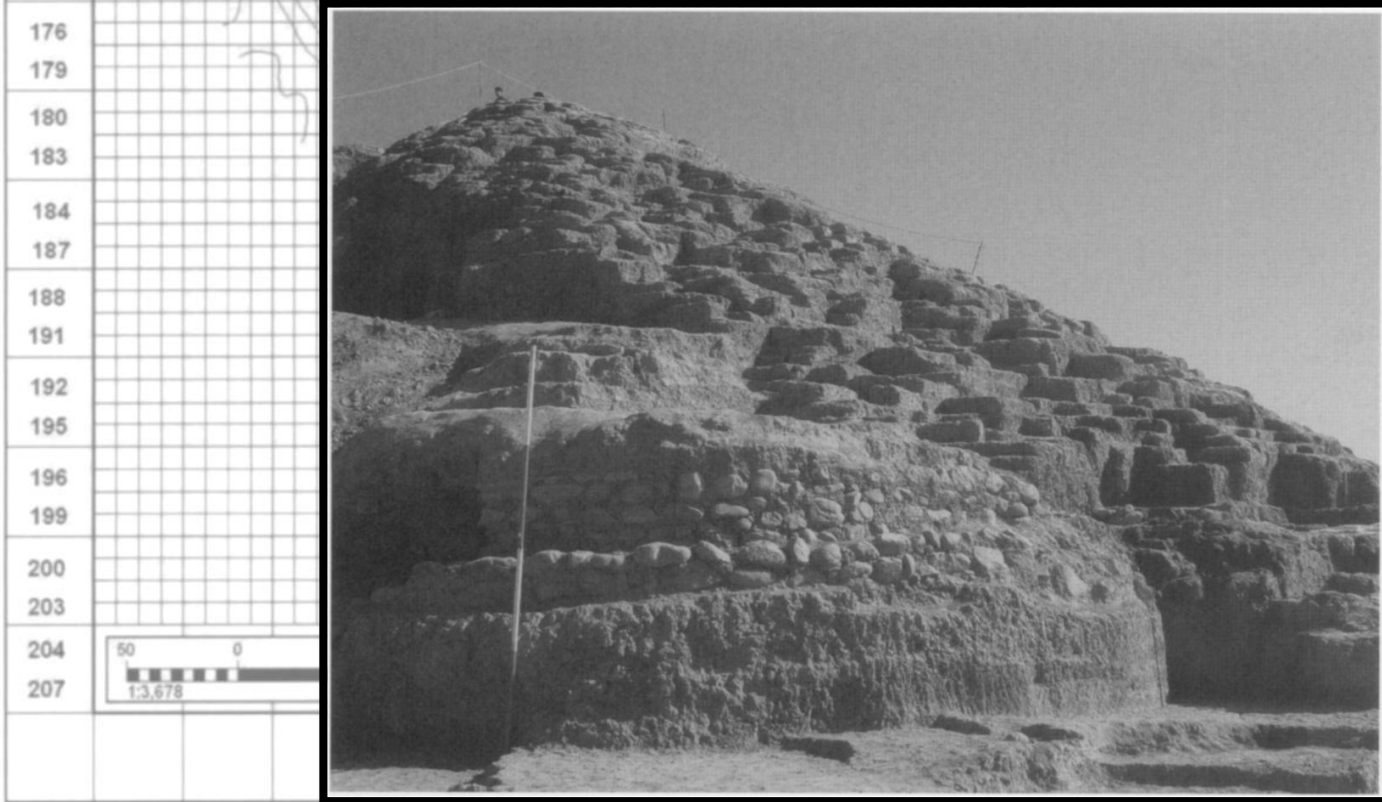
c. 1cm  
103III002

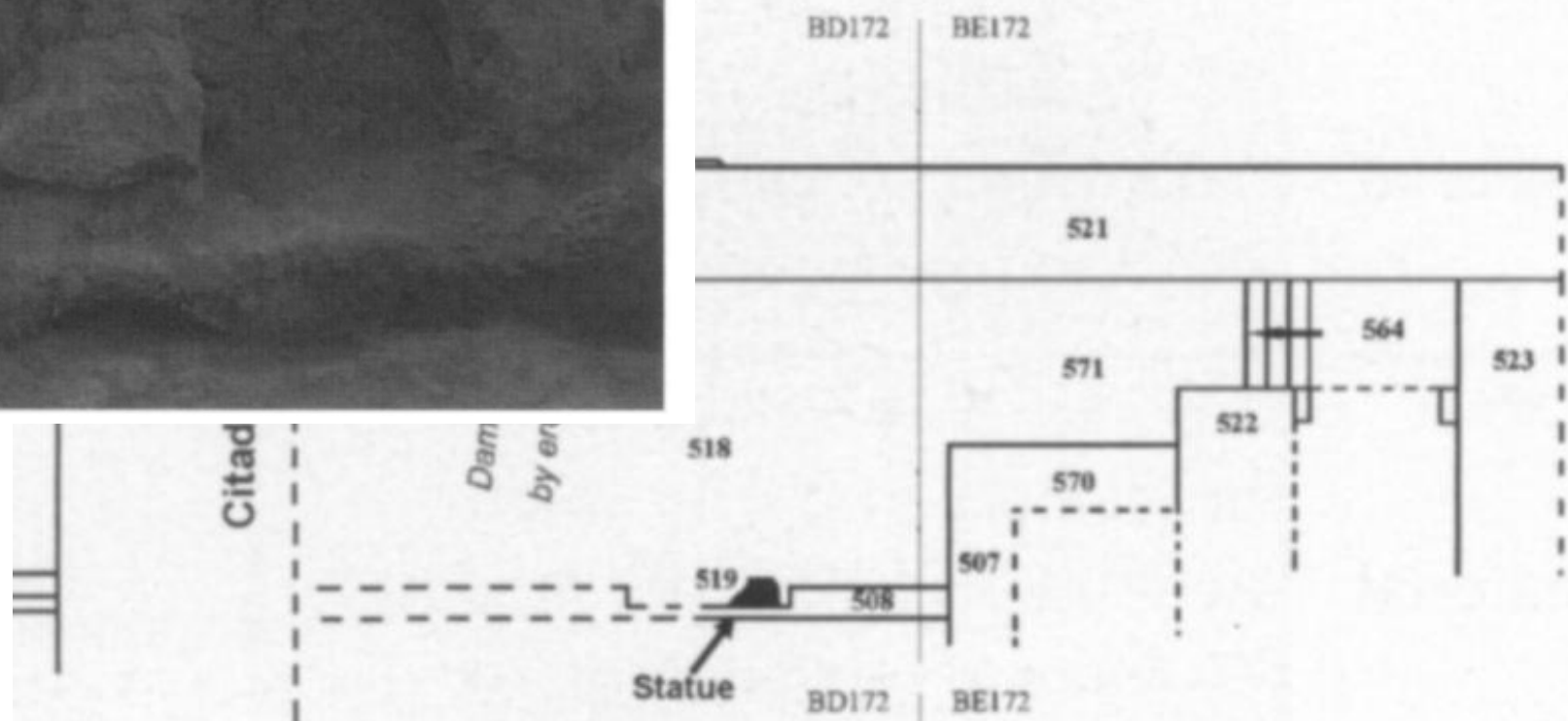
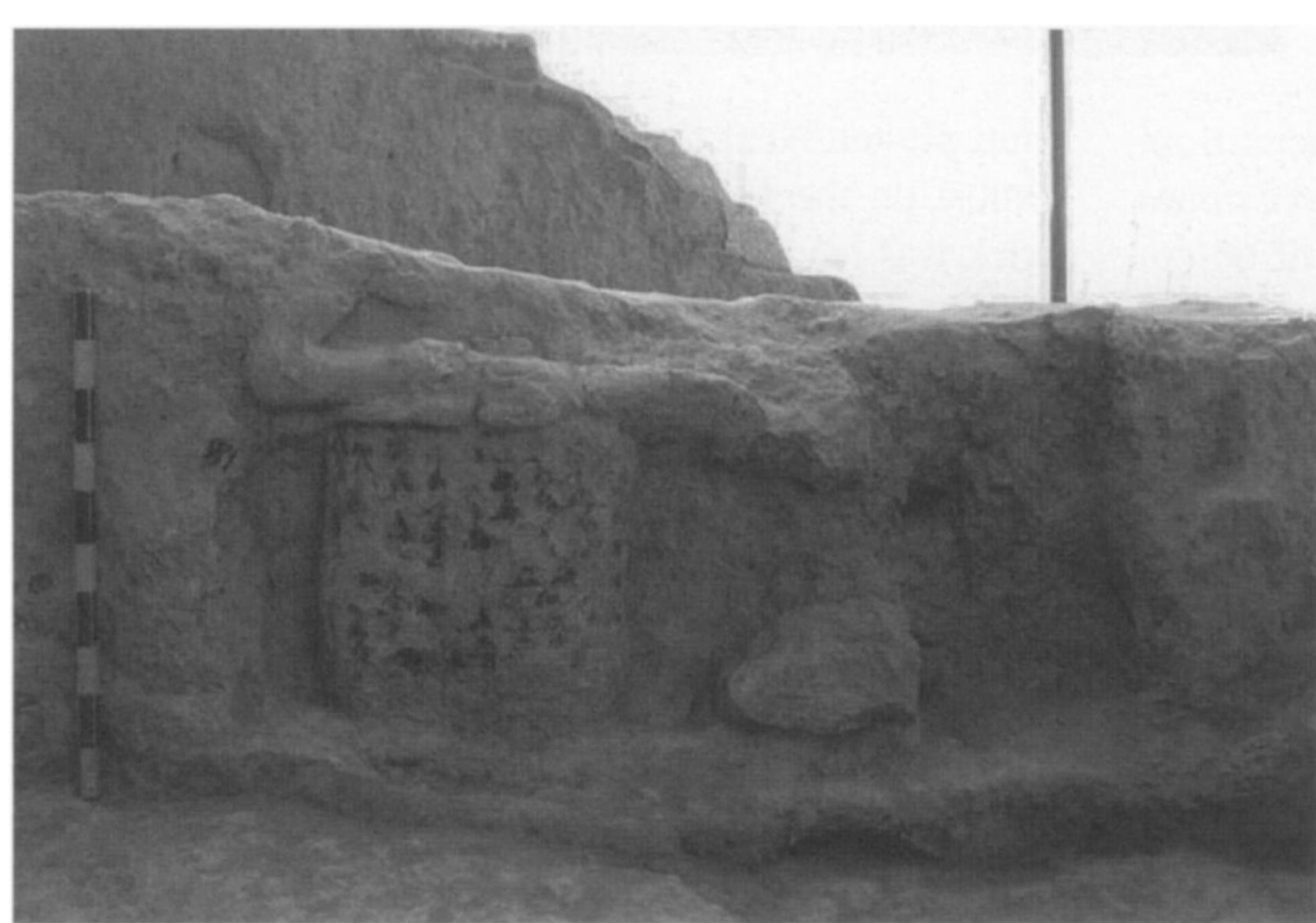


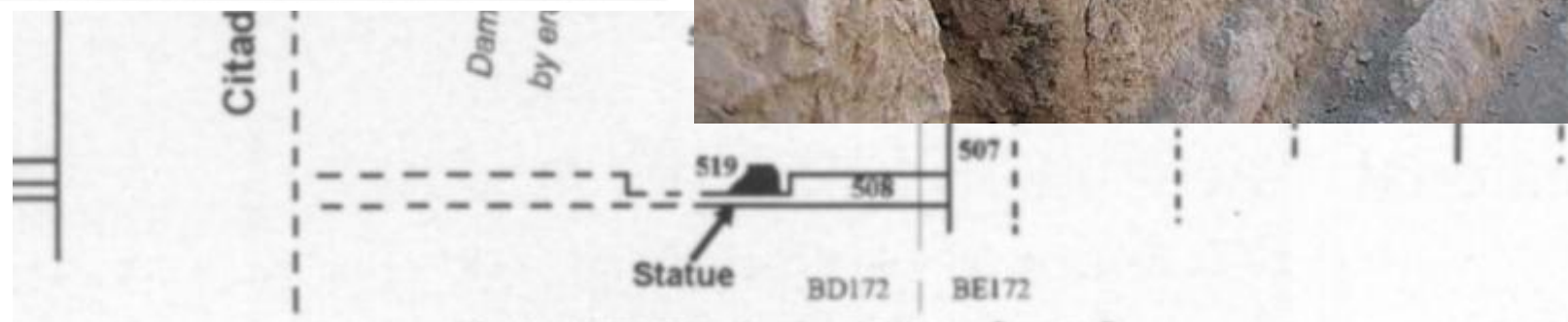
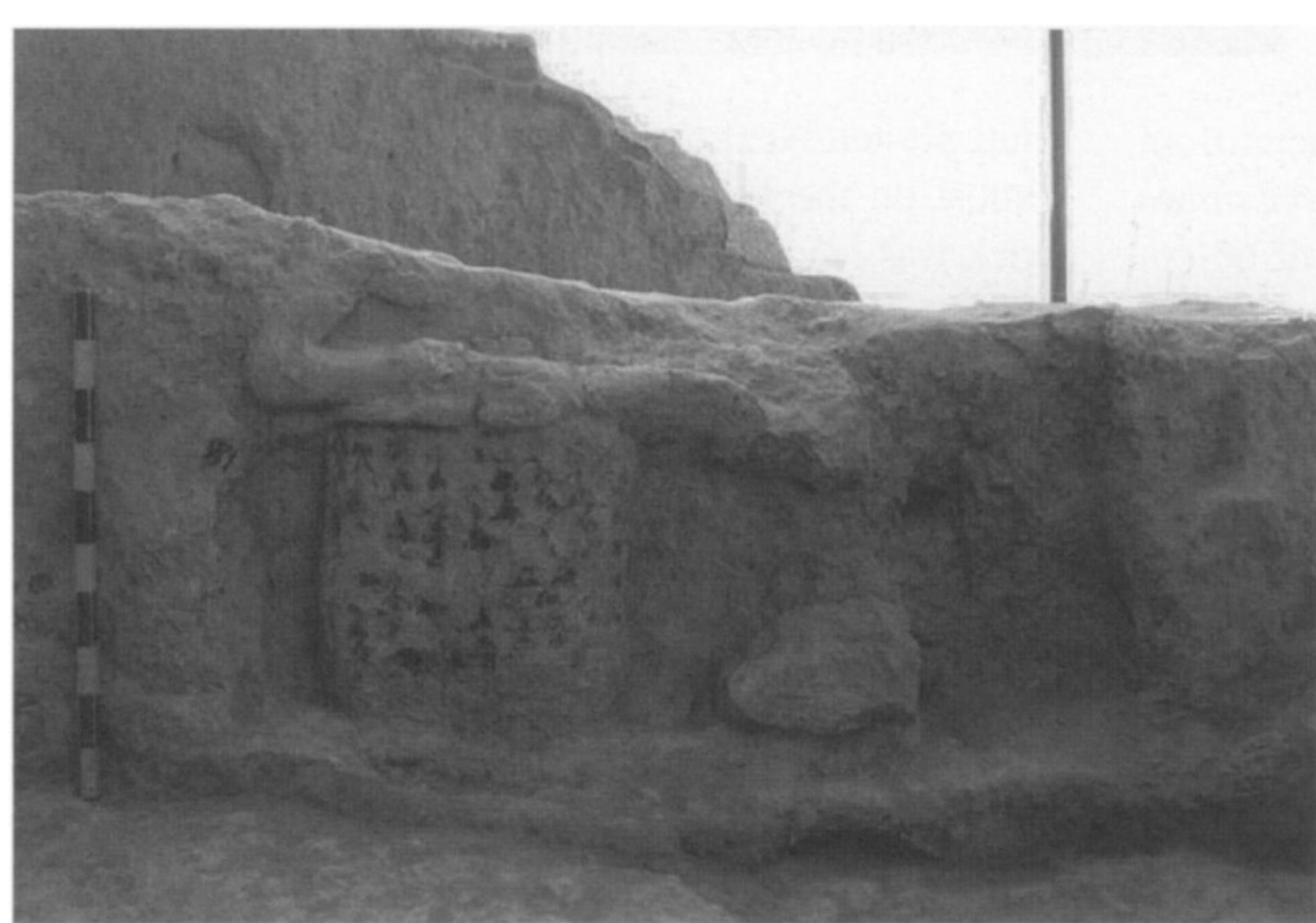
c. 1cm  
0007III103



Shrine BD172: feature 518: phase 2

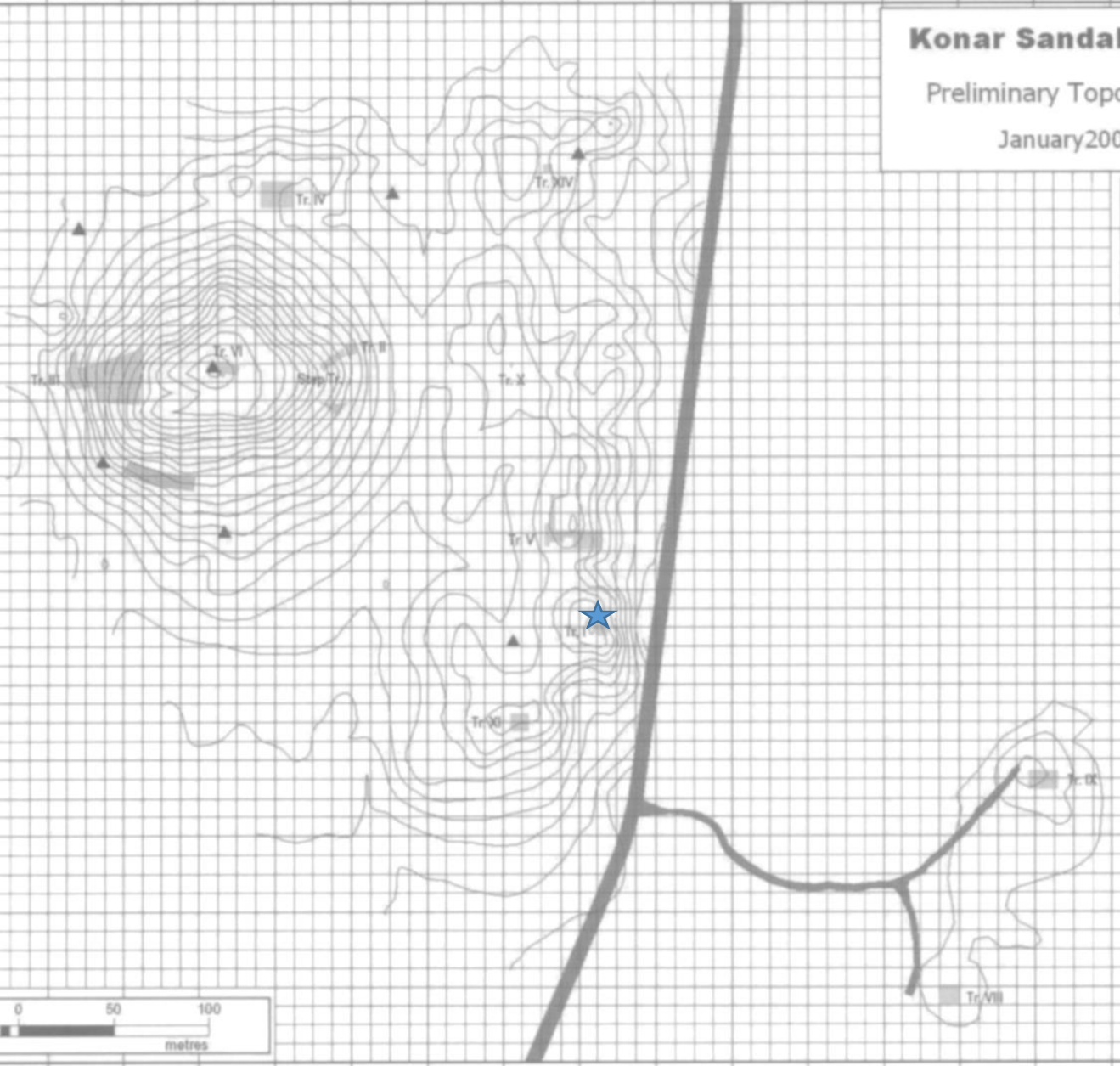
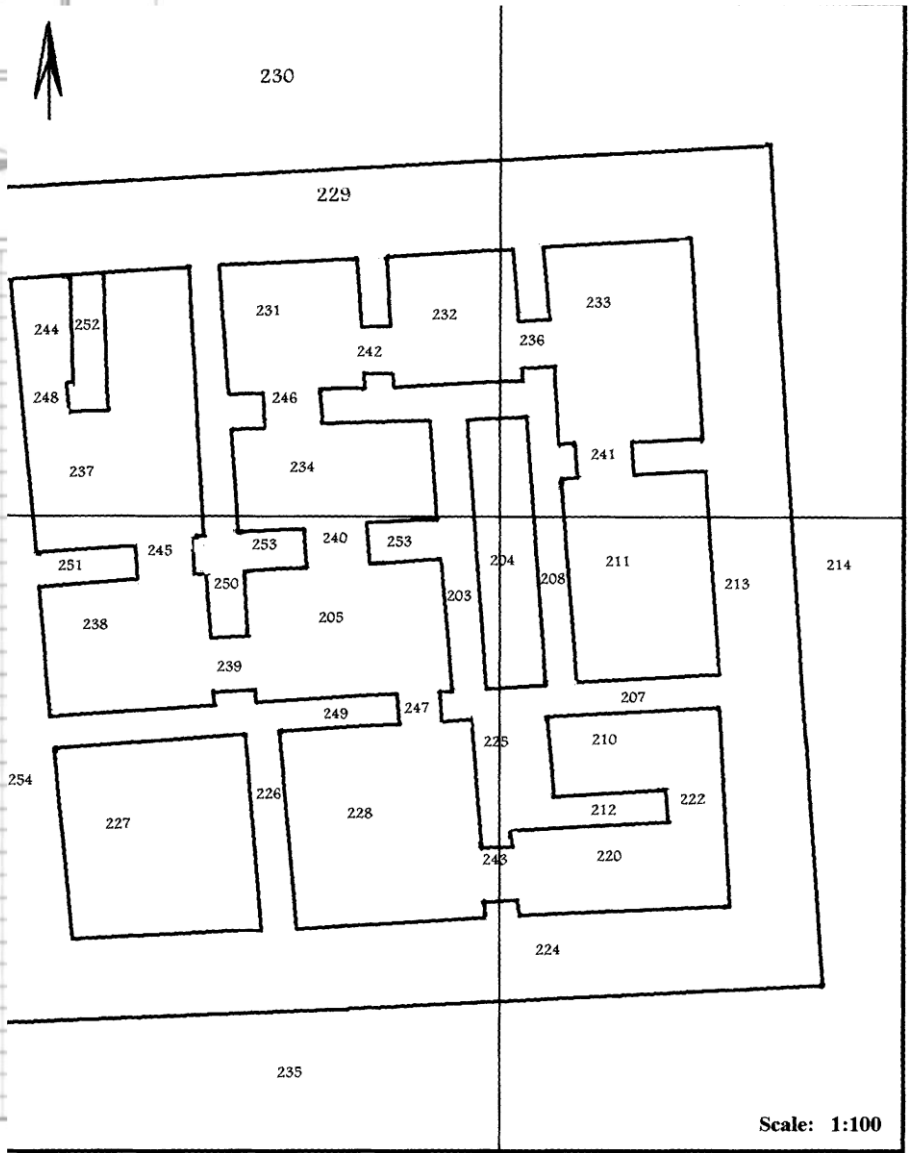




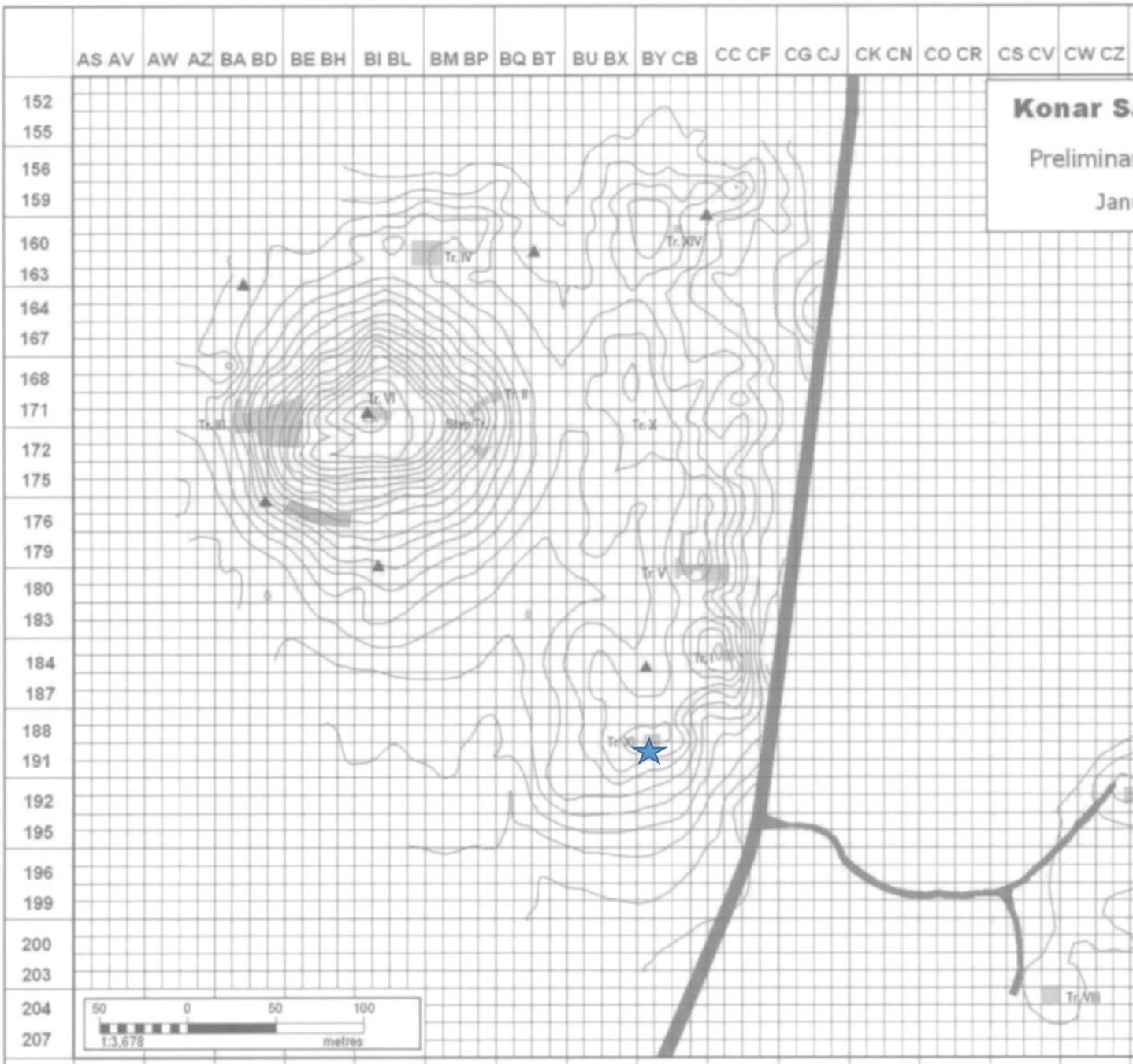


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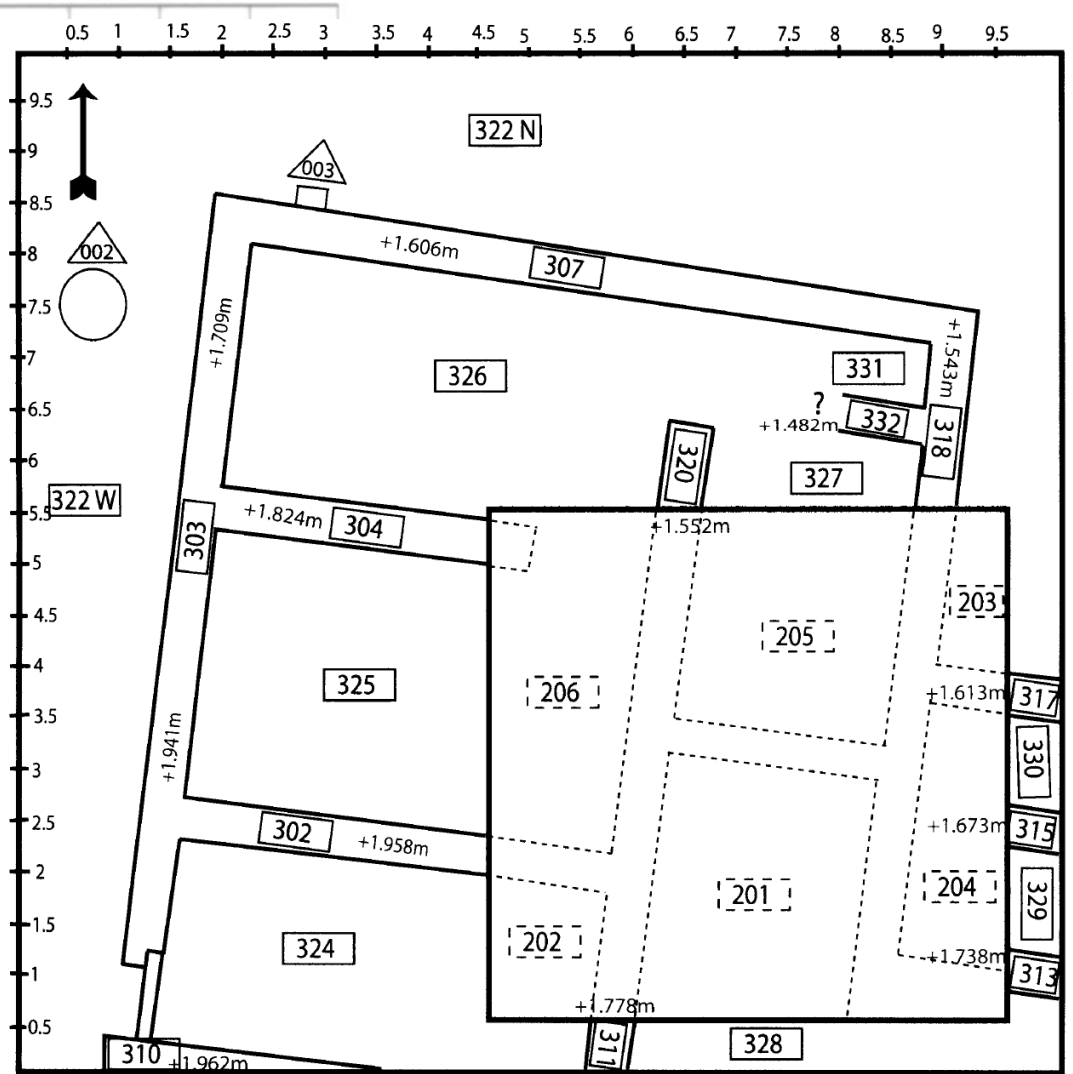
**Konar Sandal South**  
Preliminary Topography  
January 2005



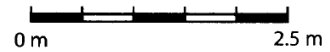
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**Konar S.**  
Prelimina  
Jan



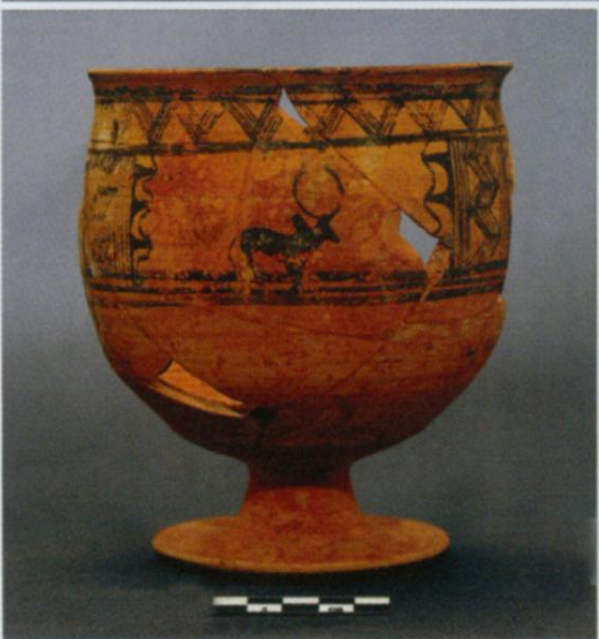
**Konar Sandal South: Tr. XI (Phase 2)**





# ceramica

- Tornio
- Ingobbiate
- Ben cotta



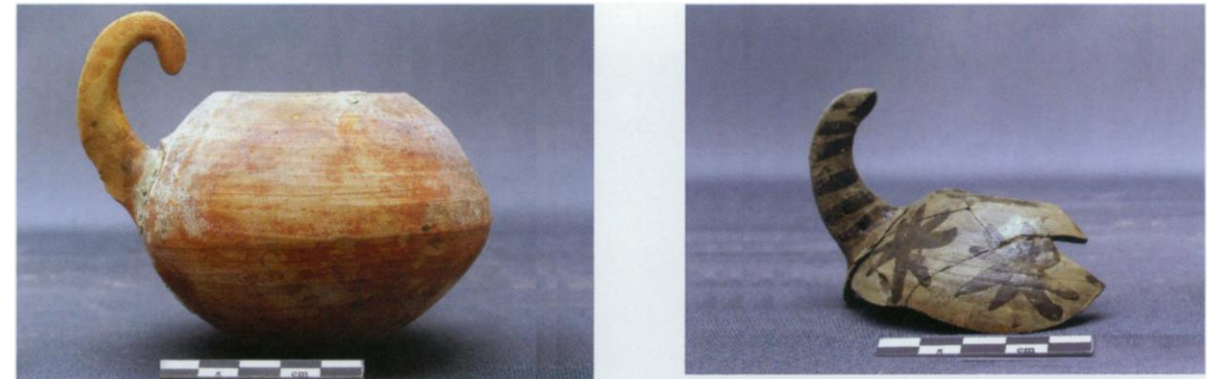
Konar Sandal south. 2880-2580 BC



Konar Sandal south. 2880-2580 BC



Konar Sandal south. 2500-2380 BC



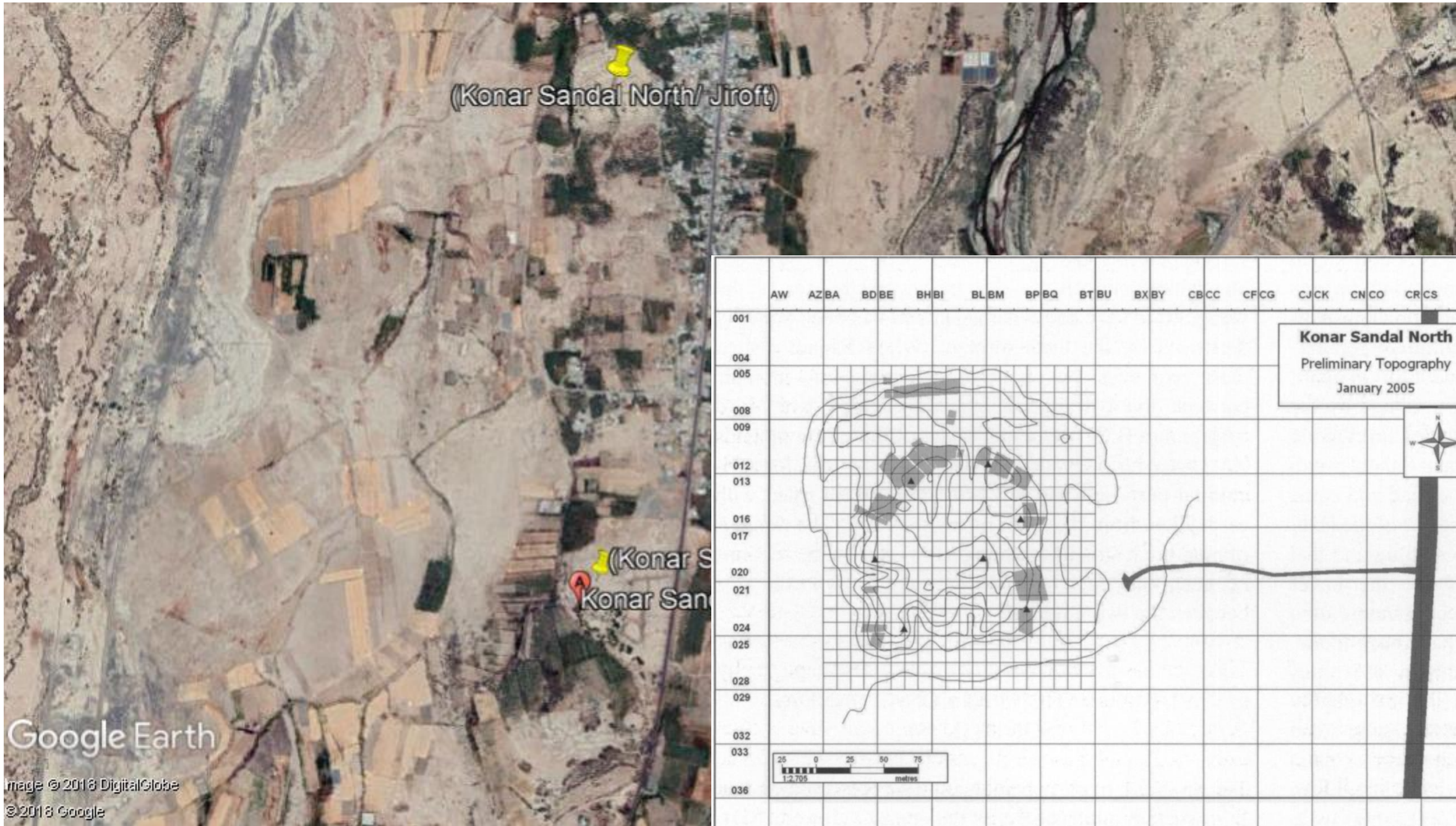


Konar Sandal south. 2500-2380 BC



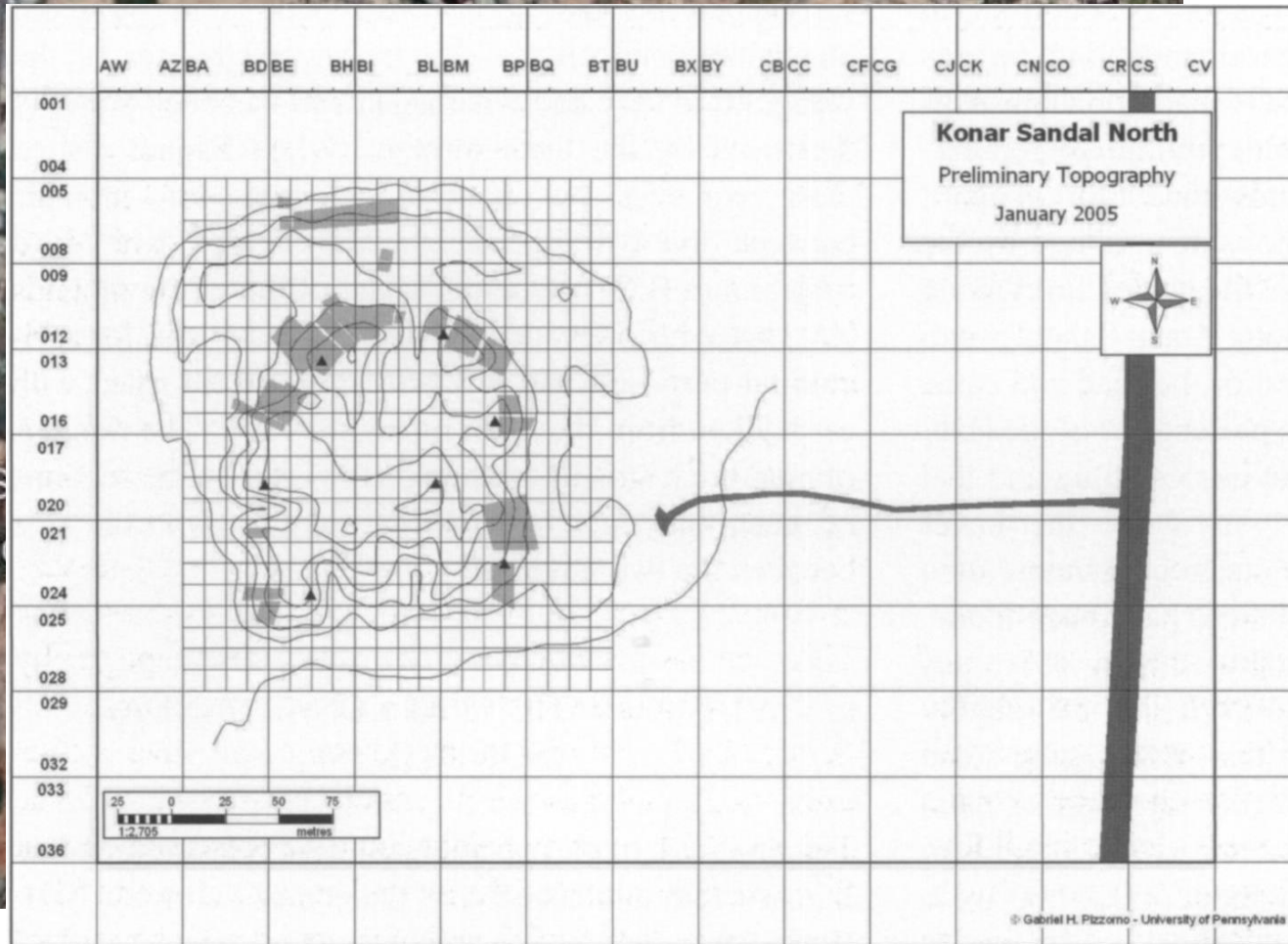
Konar Sandal south. 2500-2380 BC, cittadella





Google Earth

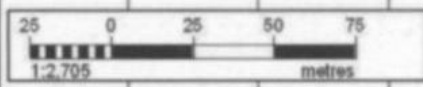
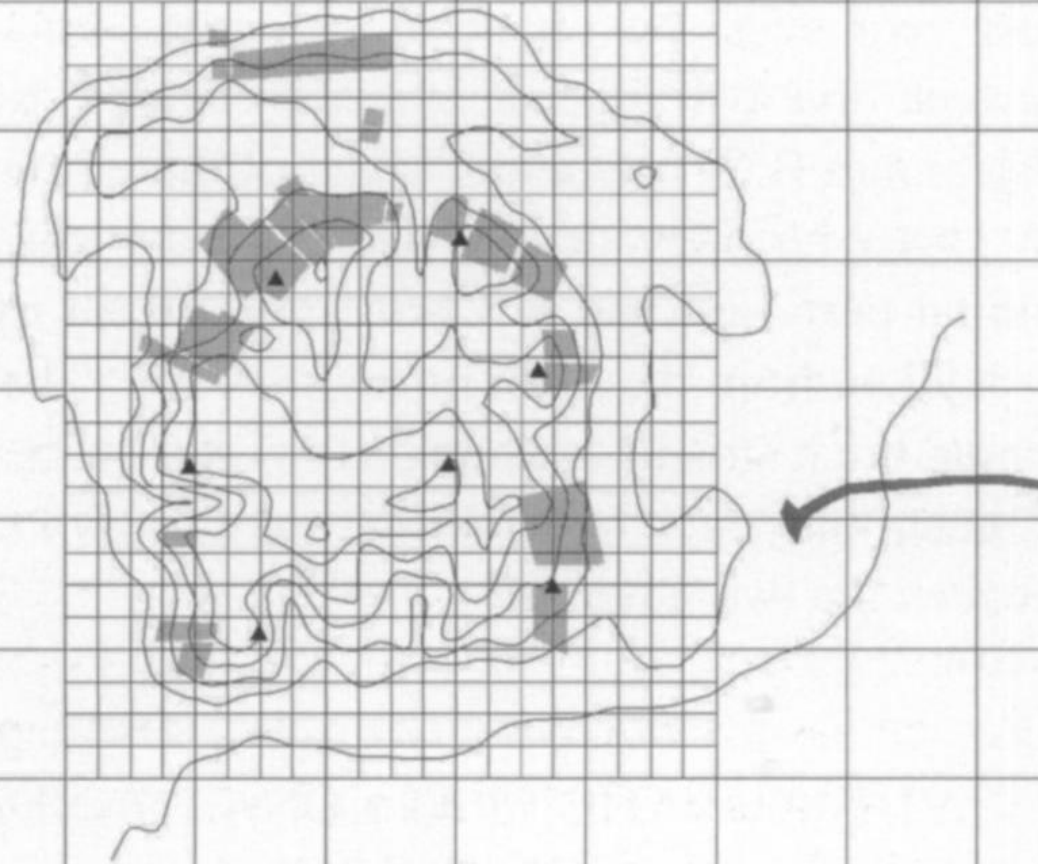
Image © 2018 DigitalGlobe  
© 2018 Google



AW AZBA BDBE BHBI BLBM BPBQ BTBU BXBY CBCC CFCG CJCK CNCO CRCS CV

001  
004  
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008  
009  
012  
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032  
033  
036

**Konar Sandal North**  
Preliminary Topography  
January 2005







1cm

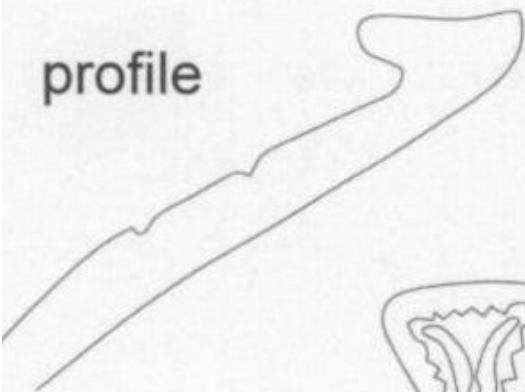
001VIII201



1cm

001VII201

profile



1cm

001VI201

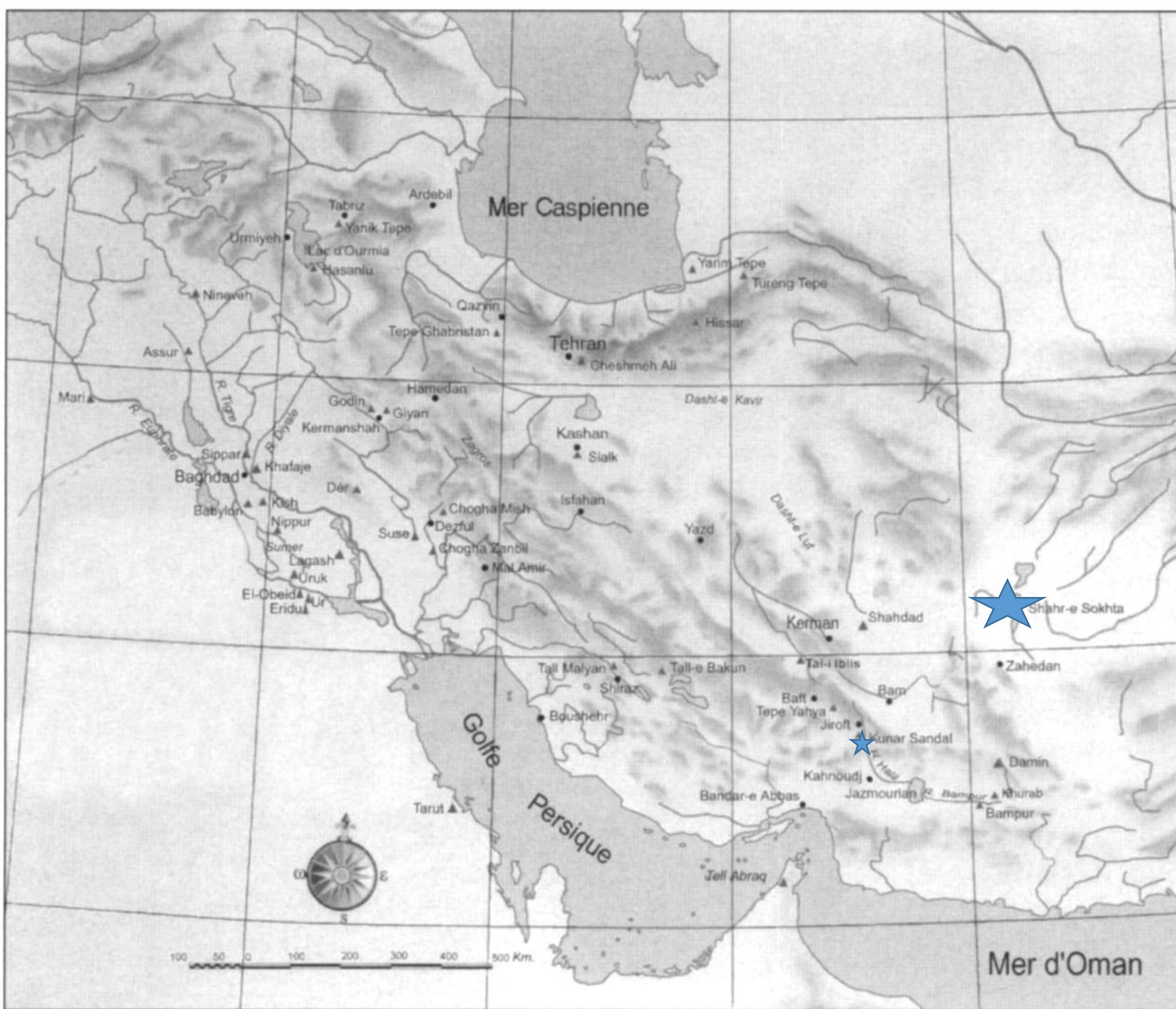


profile



1cm

001II201



Data (a.C.)	Lowland	Highland	Mesopotamia
3800-3100	Susa II	Tal-i Bakun A (Lapui) Tal-i Malyan early Banesh Konar Sandal north? Terrazza?	Uruk medio e tardo
3100-2900	Susa III	Tal-i Malyan late Banesh	Uruk Tardo/Jemed nasr
2900-2350	Susa IIIc, Susa IVa	Godin Tepe III Abbandono di Tal-i Malyan Konar Sandal South, <b>Shahr-i Sokhta I-II</b>	Protodinastico I-III
2330	Susa IVb	Conquista accadica Konar Sandal South (Citadel and Lower town). <b>Shahr-i Sokhta III</b>	Impero di Akkad Conquista di Susa
2100	Puzur Ishushinak	Konar Sandal South (Citadel and Lower town)	Caduta di Akkad, dinastia Gutea



# Shahr-i Sokhta



# Shahr-i Sokhta





Years BC	Shahr-i Sokhta	Tepe Yahya	Bampur	Mesopotamia (lower chronology)	Amri	Nausharo	Mundigak	Miri Qalat	
1500				Old Babylonian					
	IV 0			Isin-Larsa					
	GAP			Ur III					
2000	IV 1		VI	late Akkad	III B			IV	Connections with Bampur V-VI
			V	early				III C	
	III 2	6		ED III b	III A	III			Connections with ED III and pre-sargonic Mari
	III 3	5	IV.3	ED III a		II	IV.3		
	III 4		IV.2			I D	IV.2		Late NMZ IV pottery
2500	II 5		IV.1	ED II		I C			Kot Dijian pottery
	II 6				II B	I B	IV.1		
	II 7	1		ED I		I A			
	I 8						III.6		
	I 9			Jemdet Nasr			III.3-5		Jemdet Nasr, ED I, ED II glyptic
3000	I 10	IV C					III.2		Nal pottery, Shahi Tump (Miri Qalat)
	Pre-10 ?								
3500									

Fig. 13 – Chronological table according to the proposed synchronic links between Shahr-i Sokhta and adjoining areas.

# Shahr-i Sokhta, cimitero

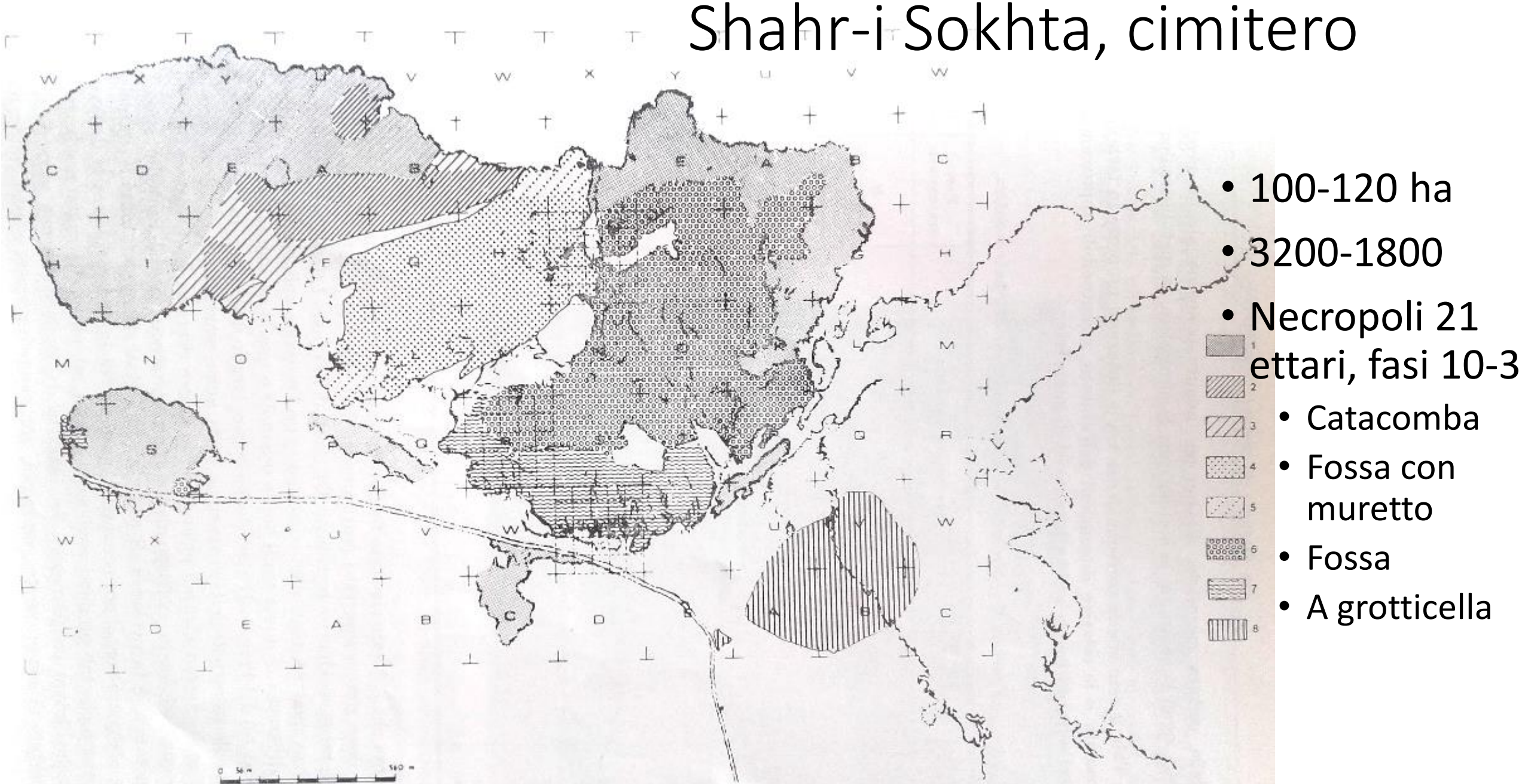


FIG. 7 - Shahr-i Sokhta. Pianta generale del comprensorio archeologico: (1) tratti sterili della superficie del terrazzo; (2) zone meridionali sparsamente insediate nelle fasi 2 e 3; (3) aree di possibile insediamento nelle zone meridionali; (4) necropoli; (5) aree possibilmente utilizzate per la necropoli; (6) estensione dell'insediamento nelle fasi 3-7; (7) zona residenziale est, per buona parte ascrivibile alle fasi 5-10; (8) zone settentrionali insediate nelle fasi 3-4. I tratti bianchi al centro dell'insediamento sono depressioni riempite da sedimenti argillosi, che coprono altri resti dell'insediamento.

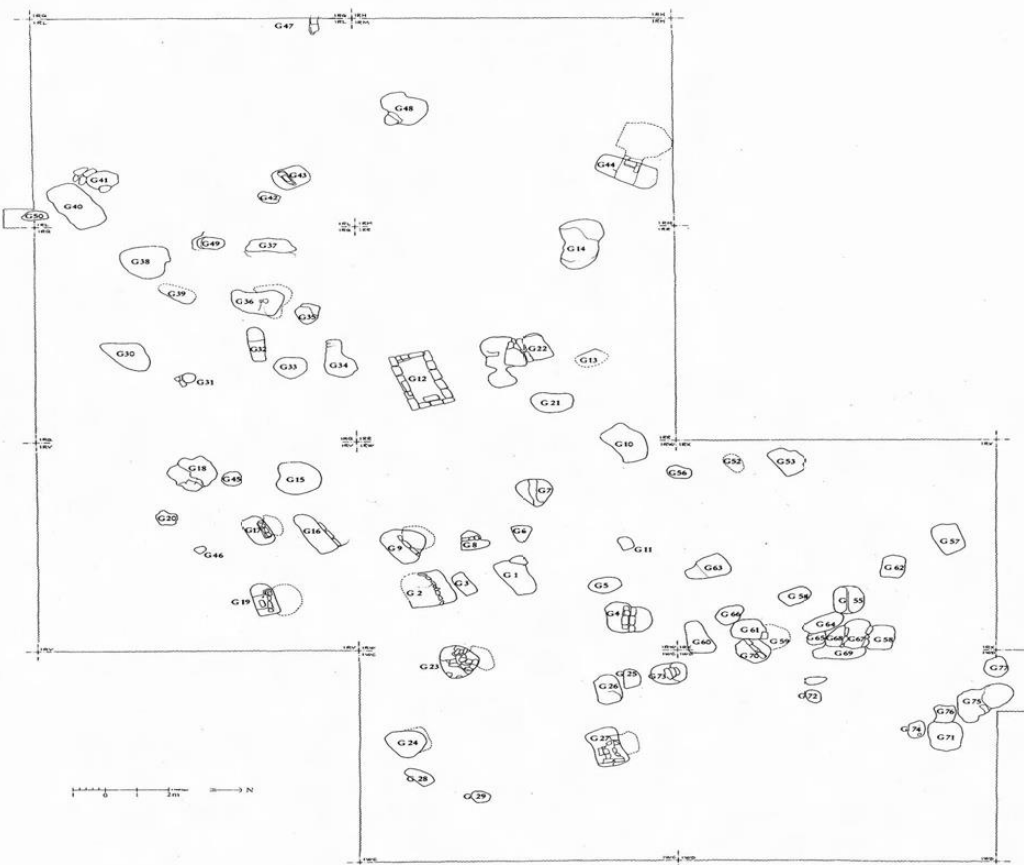
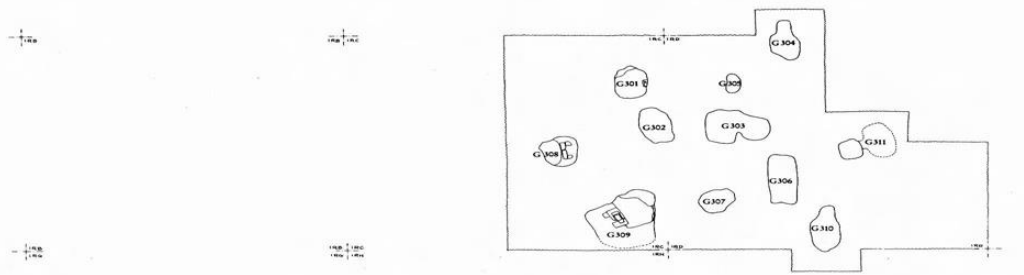


Fig. 1 - Map of the extensive excavation in the IR sector towards the northern boundary of the graveyard. The illustrated graves are of various types: simple pit, partitioned pit and pseudocatacomb, mostly datable to phases 5-6 (2700-2500 BC)

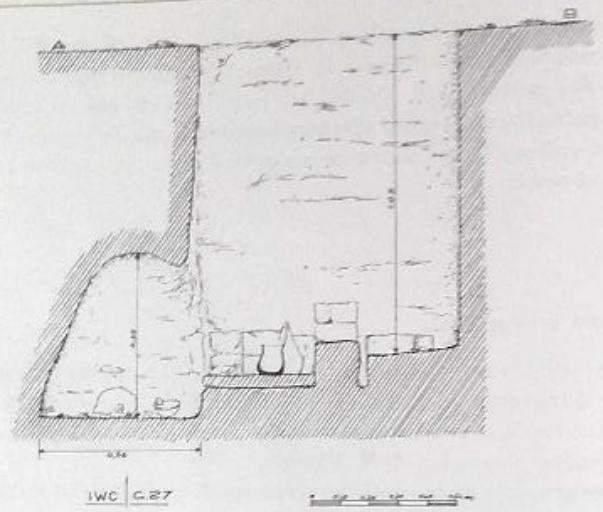
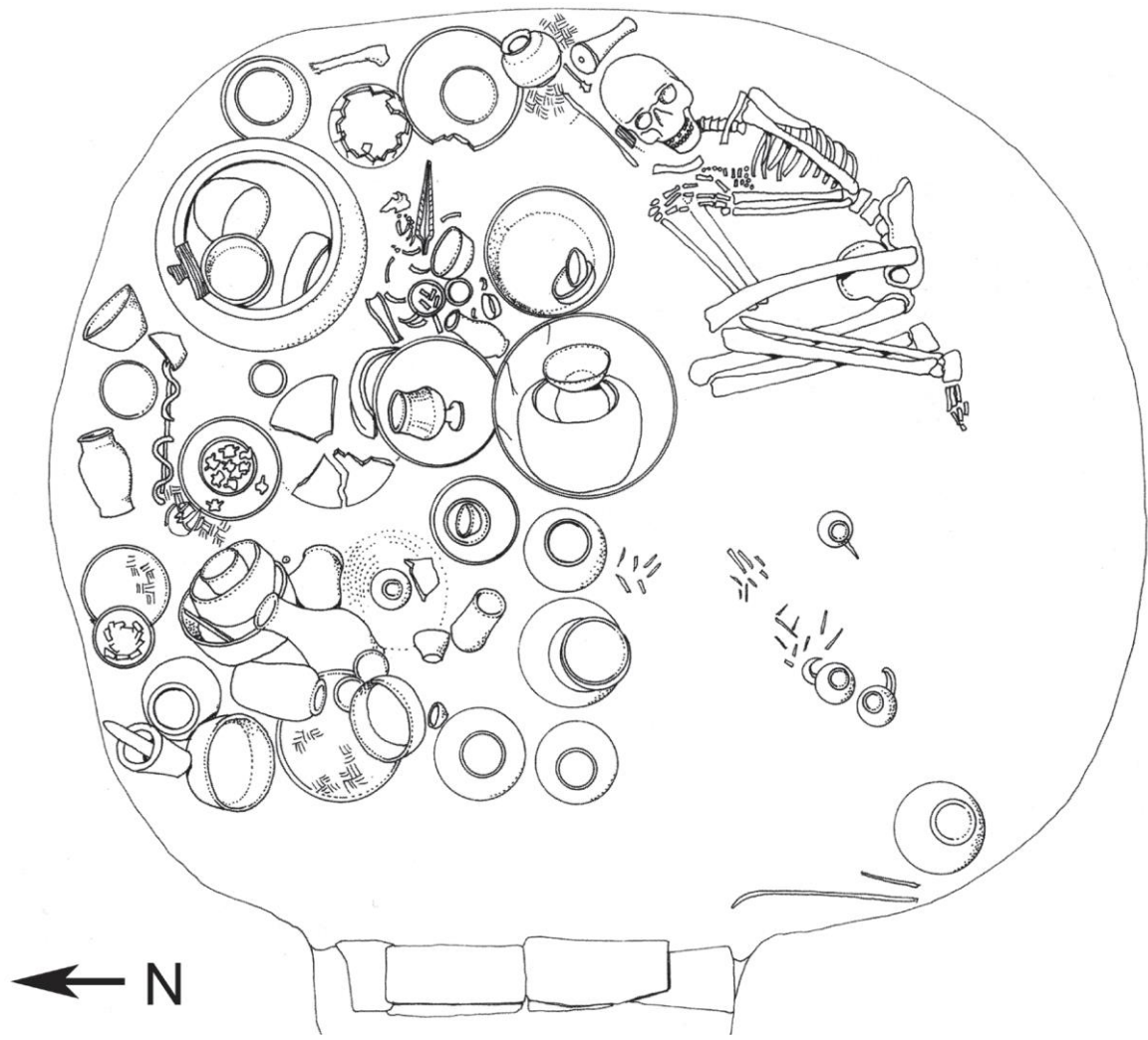
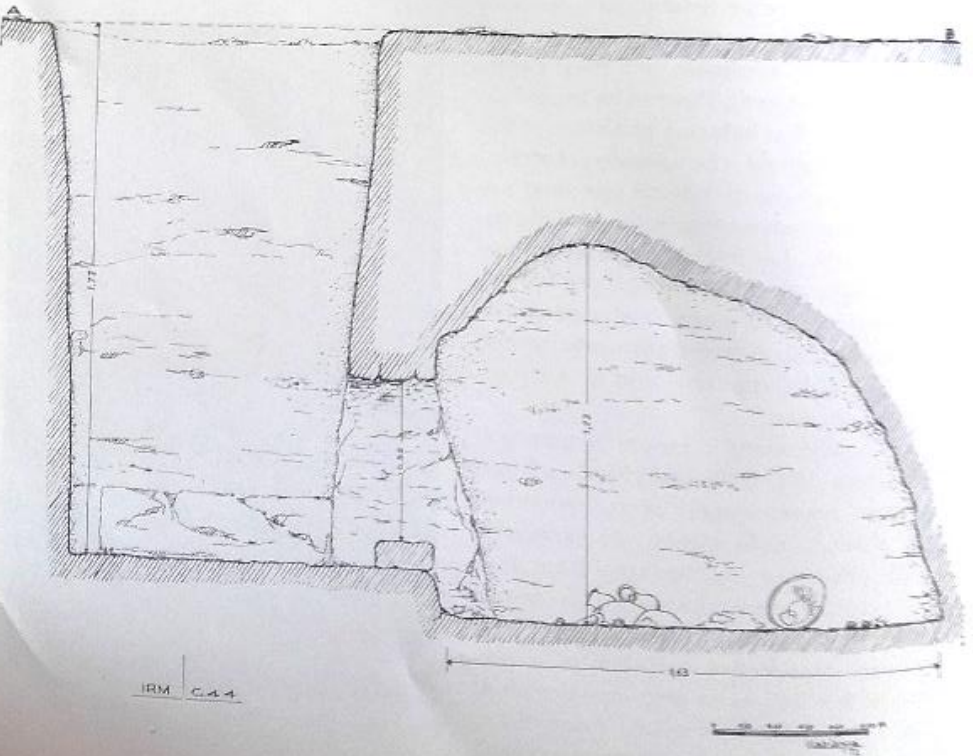
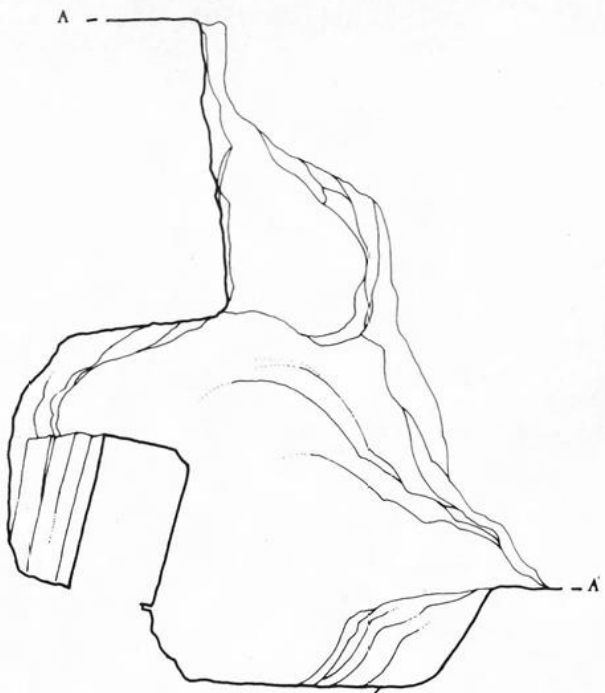
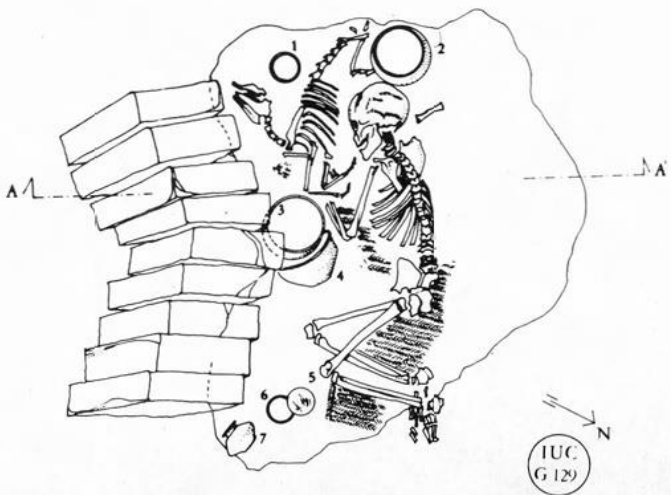


FIG. 16 - Shahr-i Sokhta. Sezioni trasversali delle Tombe a catacombe n. 27 + 44, databili alle fasi 6 e 7 rispettivamente.



Plan of Grave 725 Inf, at Shahr-i Sokhta (Period III, c. 2500–2200 BC). Note the rich furnishings, including a stone vial and the attached cap near the head of the deceased.



Grave 118 of phase 3 in sector IPV. The inhumed was placed on a plastered level inside a structure defined by a small semicircular wall of bricks placed on edge resting on a segment of rectilinear wall running E-W. A more recent grave (IPV G. 102) disturbed part of the structure in a subsequent period.

Partitioned pit grave of phase 8 in sector IUC. The inhumed had been placed on a straw mat with a kid positioned near the head



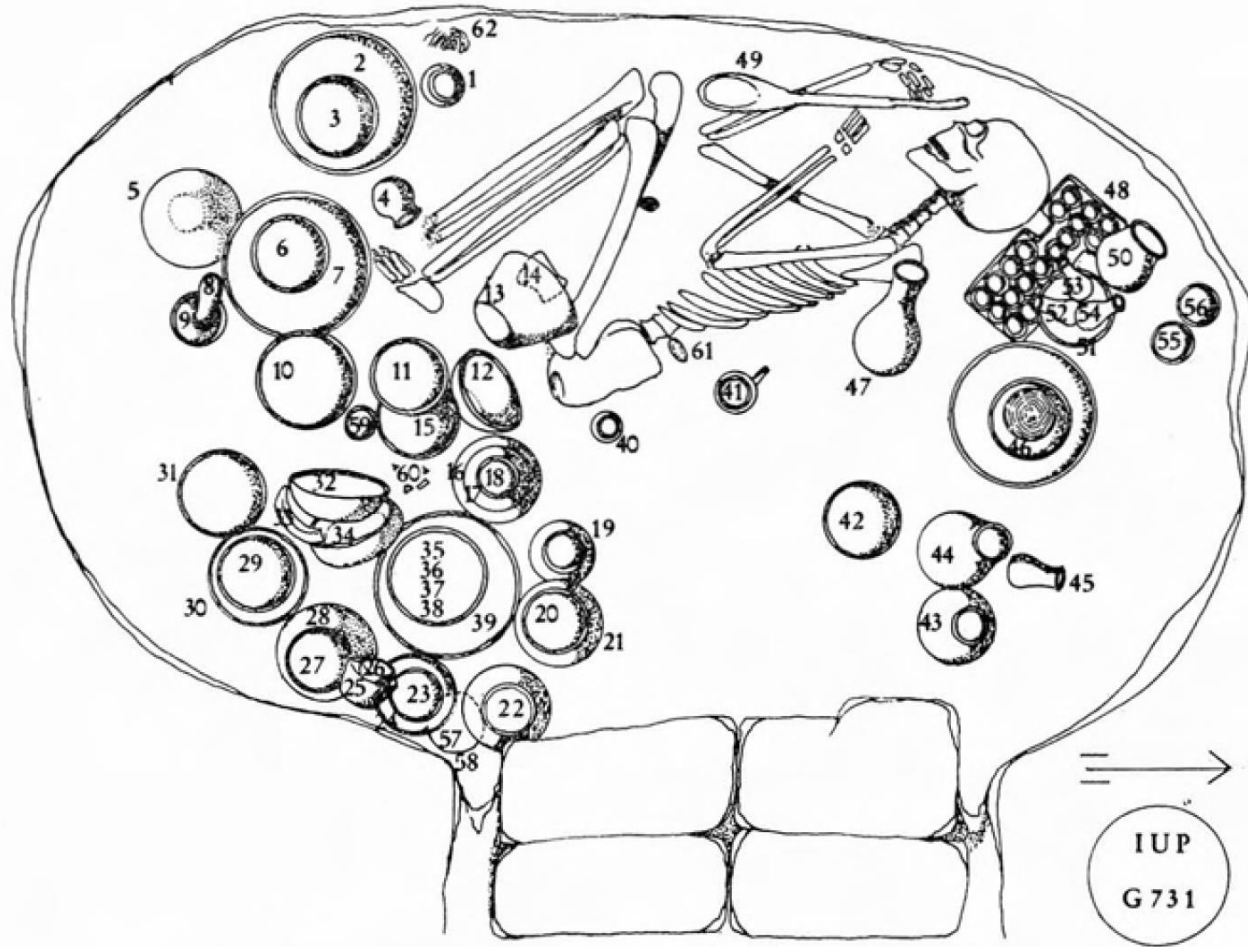


Fig. 5 – Plan of the funerary chamber of grave IUP G. 731, one of the pseudo-catacomb type, phase 3. The wooden gaming board had been placed next to the head. A basket containing the pieces and dice was lying in close proximity to No. 60. The structure of the grave, its topographical position as well as numerous elements of the grave goods indicate a strong resemblance to grave IUP G. 725. (Drawing by L. Mariani)

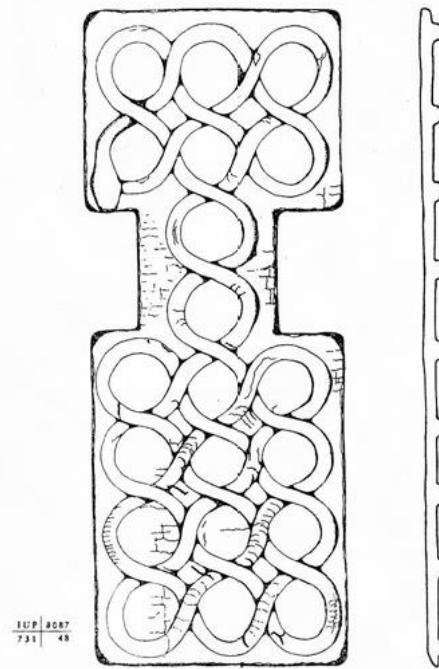


Fig. 6 – Wooden gaming board from grave 731 (Drawing by L. Mariani). See pl. V.

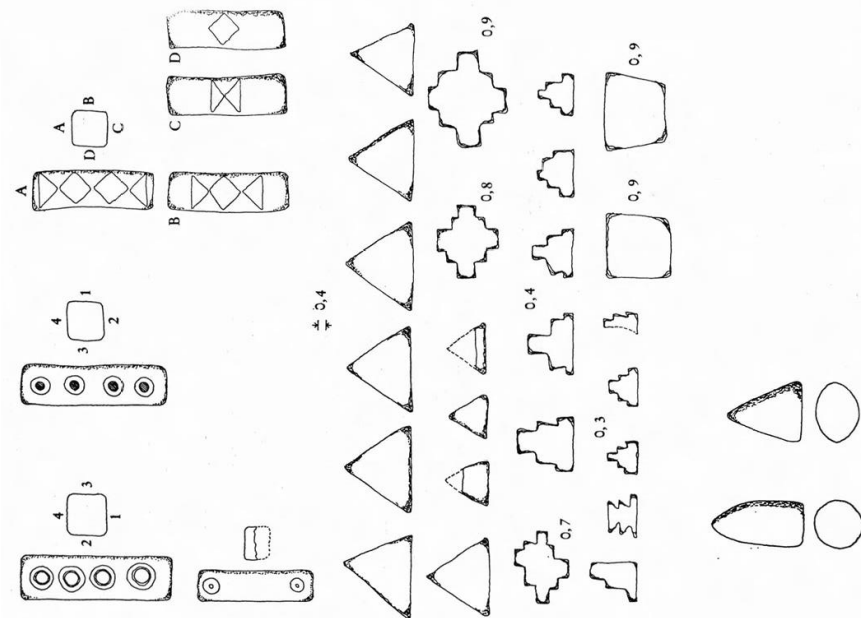


Fig. 7 – Dice and pieces of the gaming board from grave 731. (Drawing by L. Mariani)

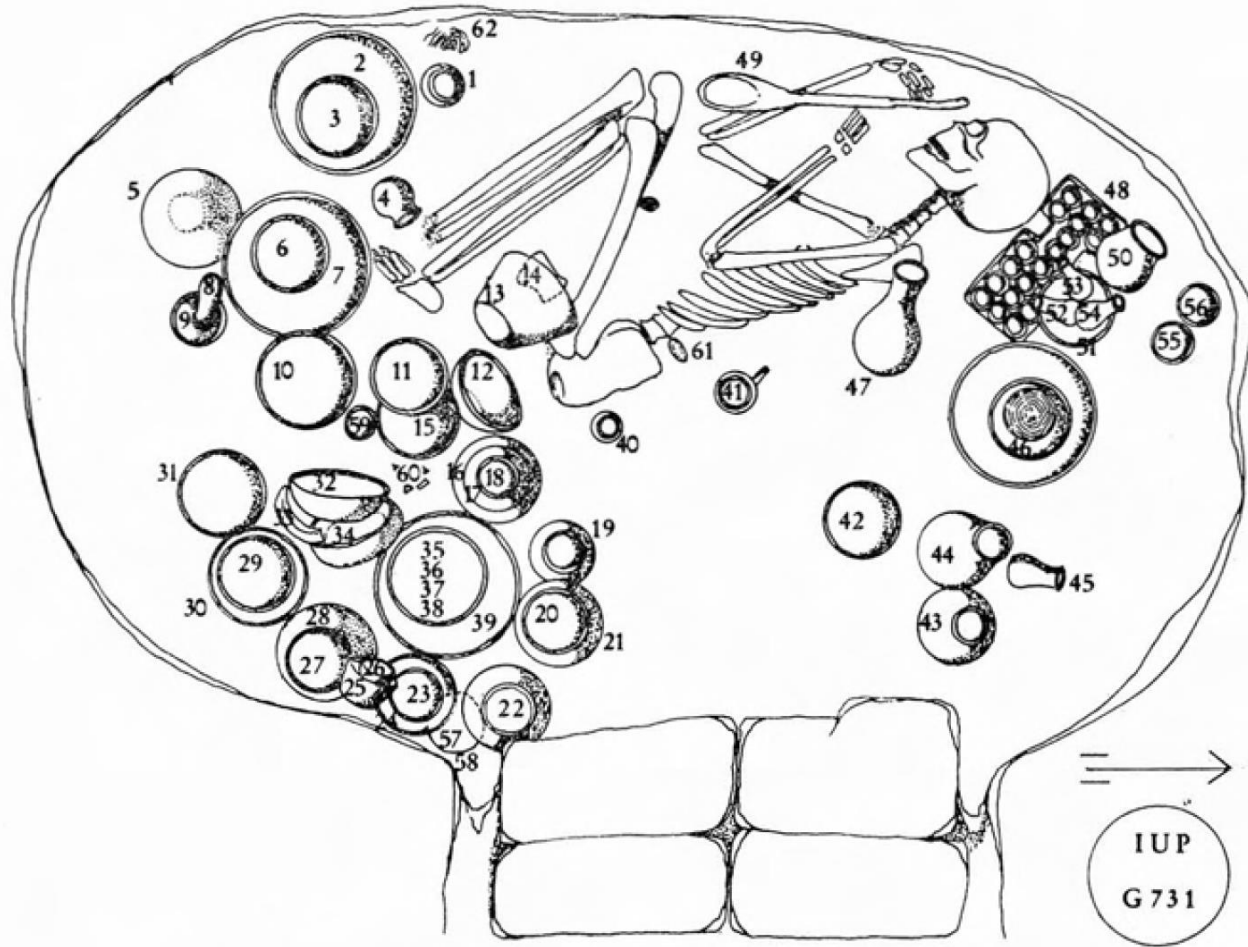


Fig. 5 – Plan of the funerary chamber of grave IUP G. 731, one of the pseudo-catacomb type, phase 3. The wooden gaming board had been placed next to the head. A basket containing the pieces and dice was lying in close proximity to No. 60. The structure of the grave, its topographical position as well as numerous elements of the grave goods indicate a strong resemblance to grave IUP G. 725. (Drawing by L. Mariani)

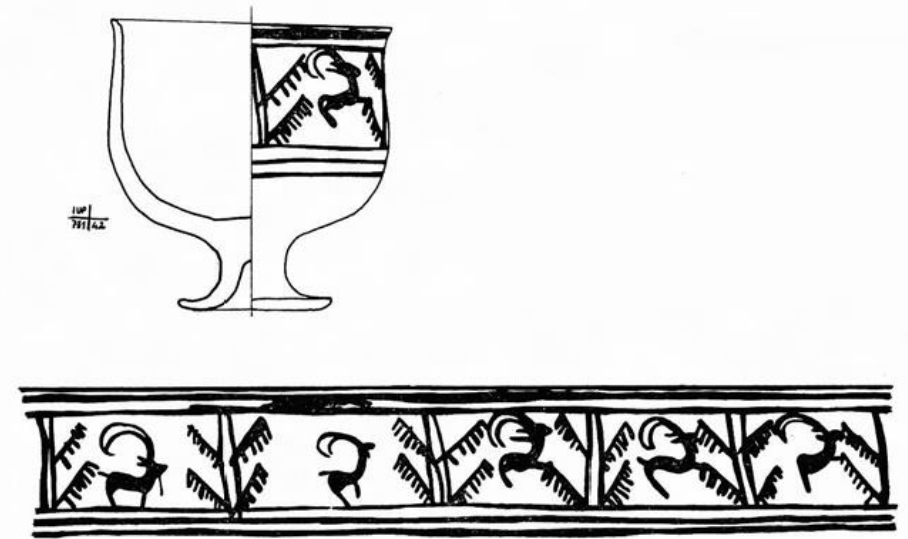


Fig. 13 – Cup of grave 731. (Drawing by L. Mariani). Scale 1:4.

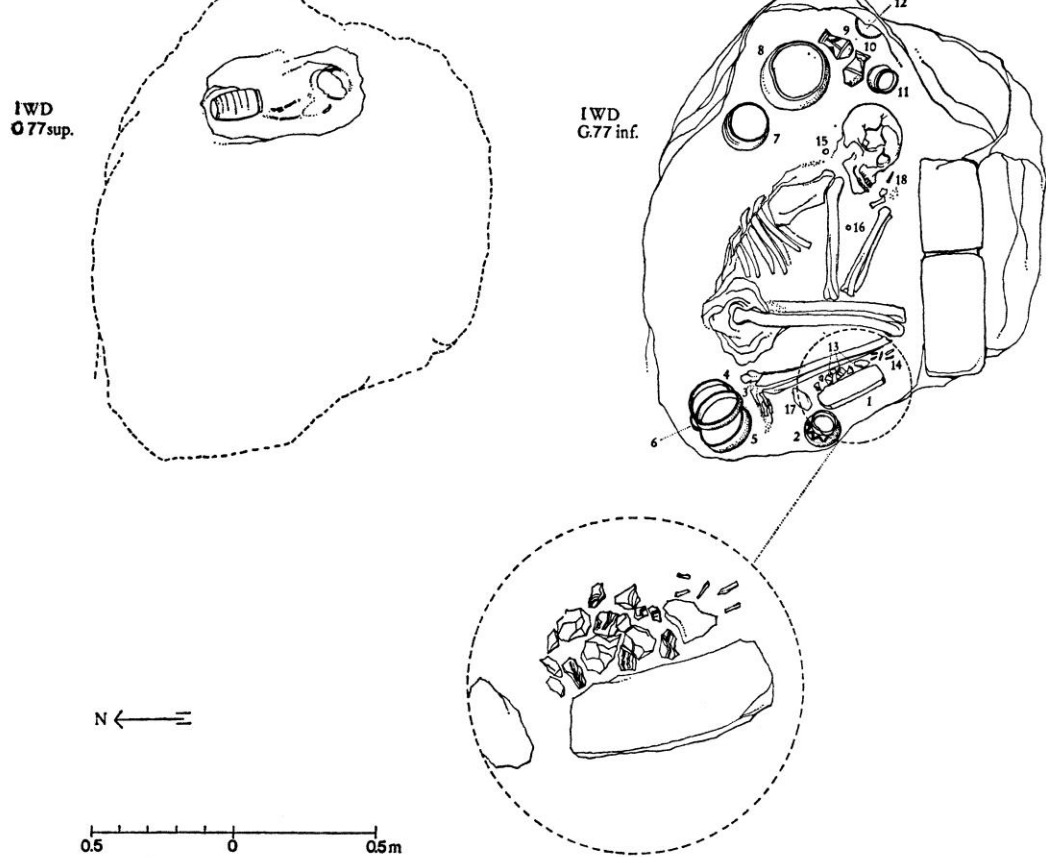


Fig. 1 - Shahr-i Sokhta: *above*, IWD G.77 upper and lower burial; *below*, detail showing the set of implements for working calcite beads.

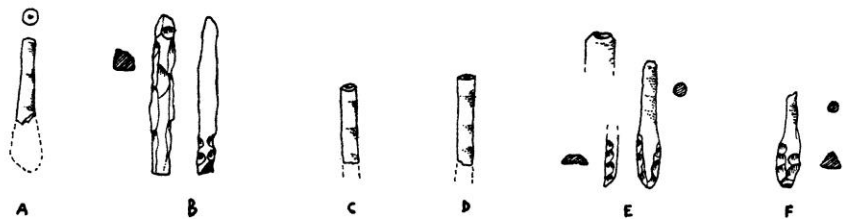
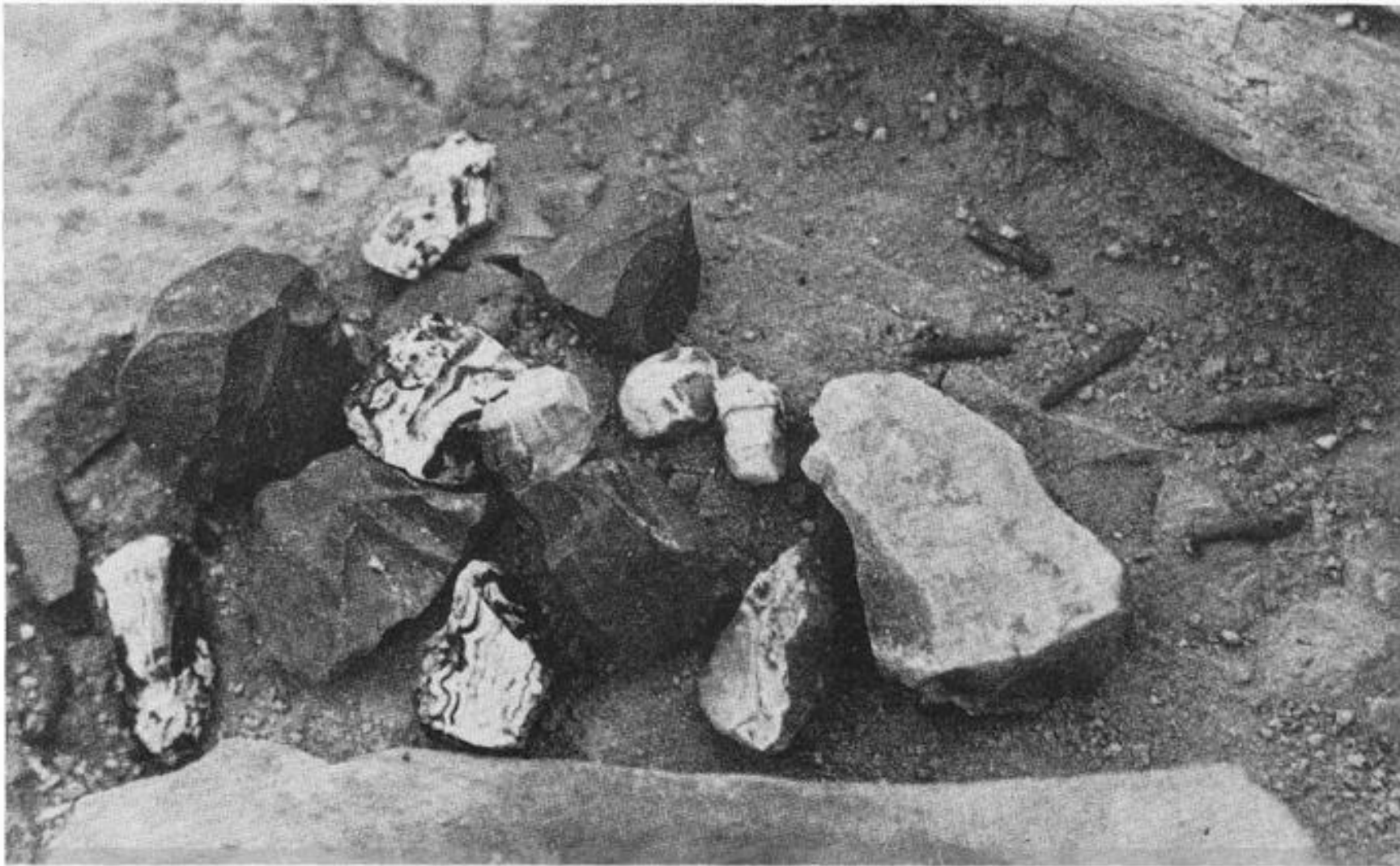


Fig. 2 - Shahr-i Sokhta: drill-heads from IWD G.77 (scale 1:1).



Fig. 5 - Shahr-i Sokhta: furnishings from the lower burial of IWD G.77 (Neg. no. Den. CS 11704/12)

G.77 is one of the graves which were dug in a clay sediment within grid sectors IR/IW on the northern edge of the cemetery area and belong mostly to Period III (phases 4-3 dated about 2400-2300 B.C.) (3). It is a pit grave divided by a partition wall made of a single course of mud-bricks superimposed in alternating stretches and oriented E/W. On top of the filling there was the disturbed burial of a child, of which are left just a few skull bones associated with a small jar placed upside down



1) a rectangular sandstone grinder; 2) five drill-heads (a sixth one was found separately near the head); 3) a convex scraper made from a first flake of a pebble; 4) four partly used jasper cores; 5) three flakes of the same stone. The raw material consists of eight small blocks of chalcedony on which can be seen signs of chipping which document various stages of removal of the cortex and bead manufacturing process. One of these unfinished pieces is in a final stage of preparation and already presents the shape of an elongated cylindrical bead with its entire surface chipped out to be polished and drilled

*a)* A detail of the grave goods from G. 77, phase 5. Cylindrical drill heads, cores of flint and little blocks of chalcedony in the various stages of manufacture constitute the key apparatus of a lapidiarist. A similar functional instrument, except for use in the manufacture of lapis lazuli, was found in grave 12.

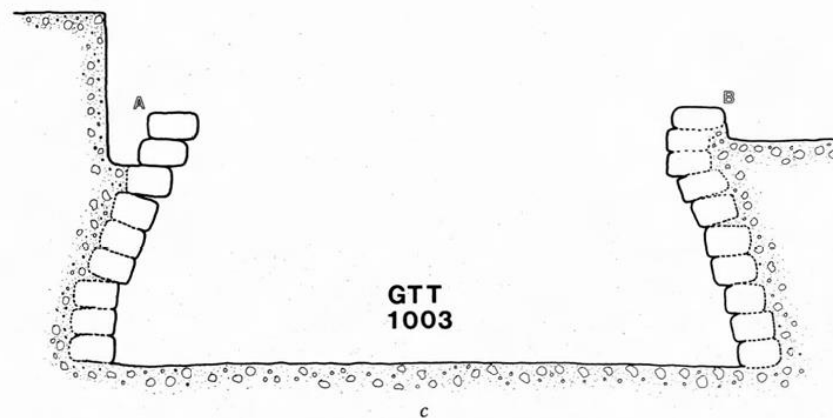
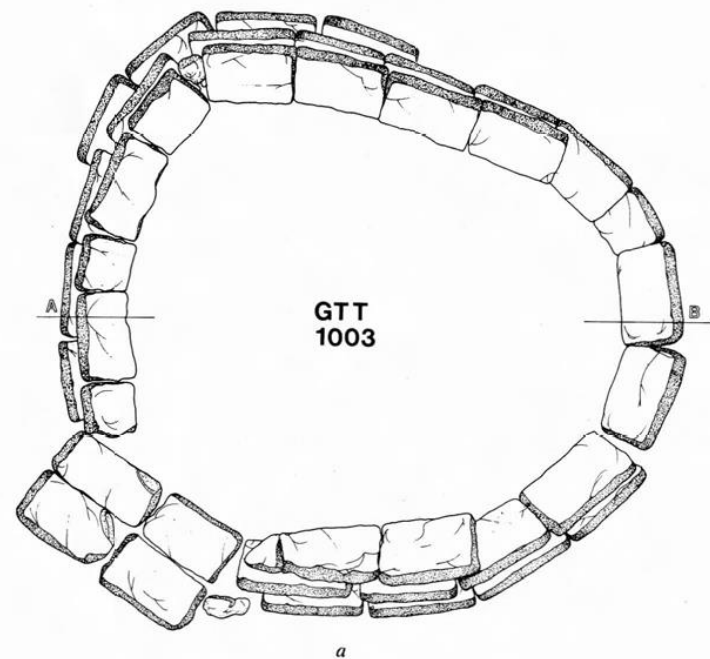
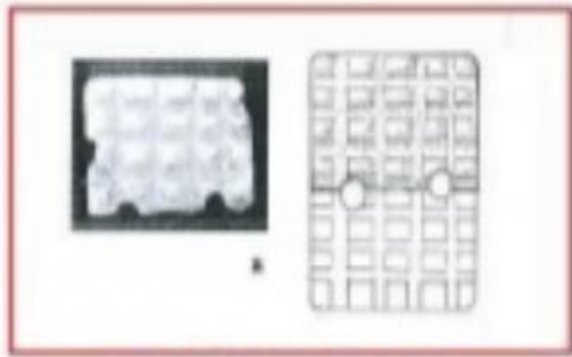


Fig. 3a-c - Section and plans of the impressive circular structure of grave 1003 in the southern sector GTT. This collective grave was utilized at different times for the disposal of more than 13 individuals. Only the most recently inhumed (centre) are anatomically connected. The remains of three dogs were placed next to the inhumed. (Drawing by L. Mariani) Scale 1:30.



**Shahr-i Sokhta**

Sigilli provenienti dall'area del Pakistan e India



Banawali



Rehman-dheri



Tarakai Qila



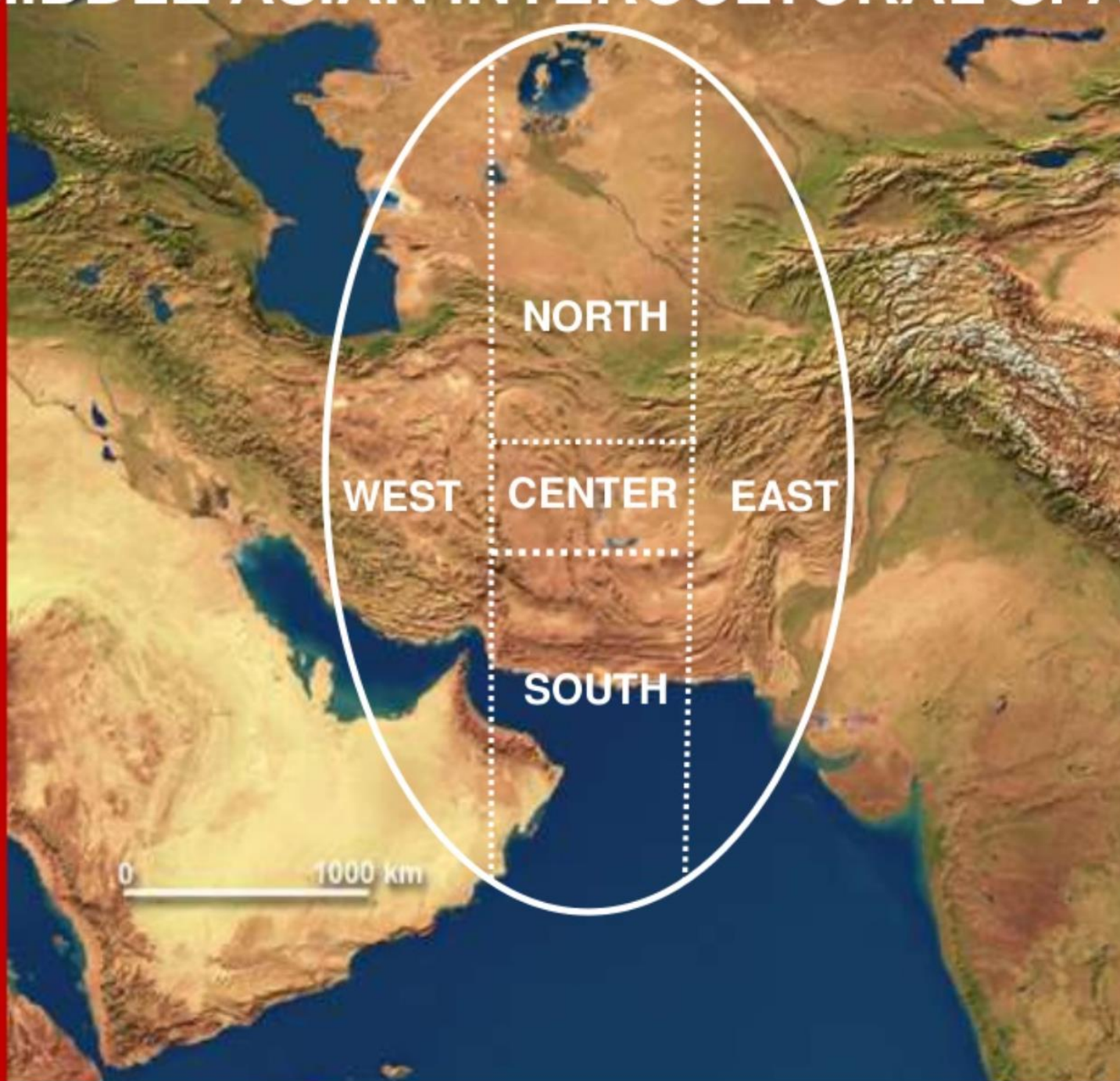
Ra's al-Jinz



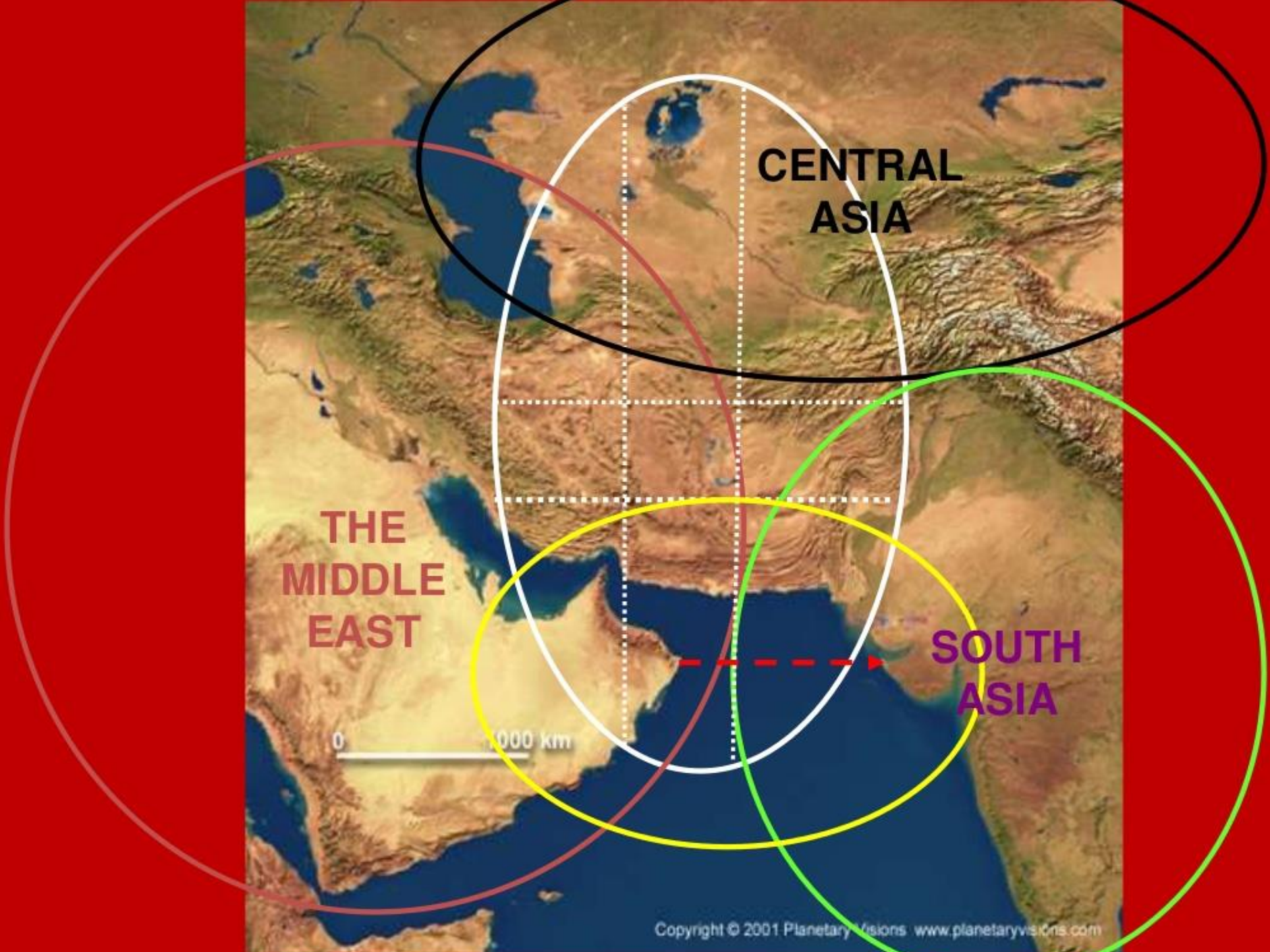
Mohenjo-daro



# THE MIDDLE ASIAN INTERCULTURAL SPACE







**CENTRAL  
ASIA**

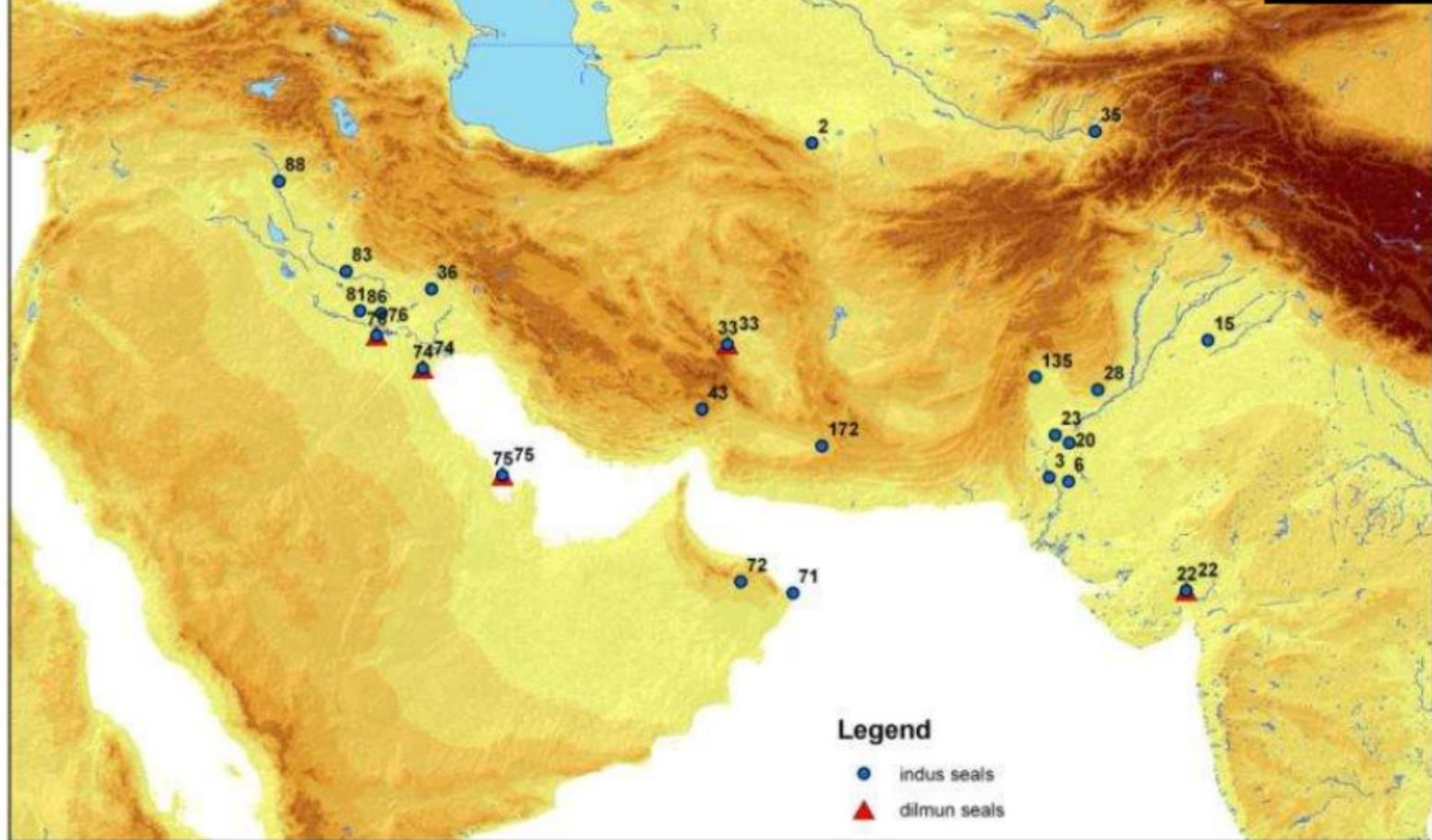
**THE  
MIDDLE  
EAST**

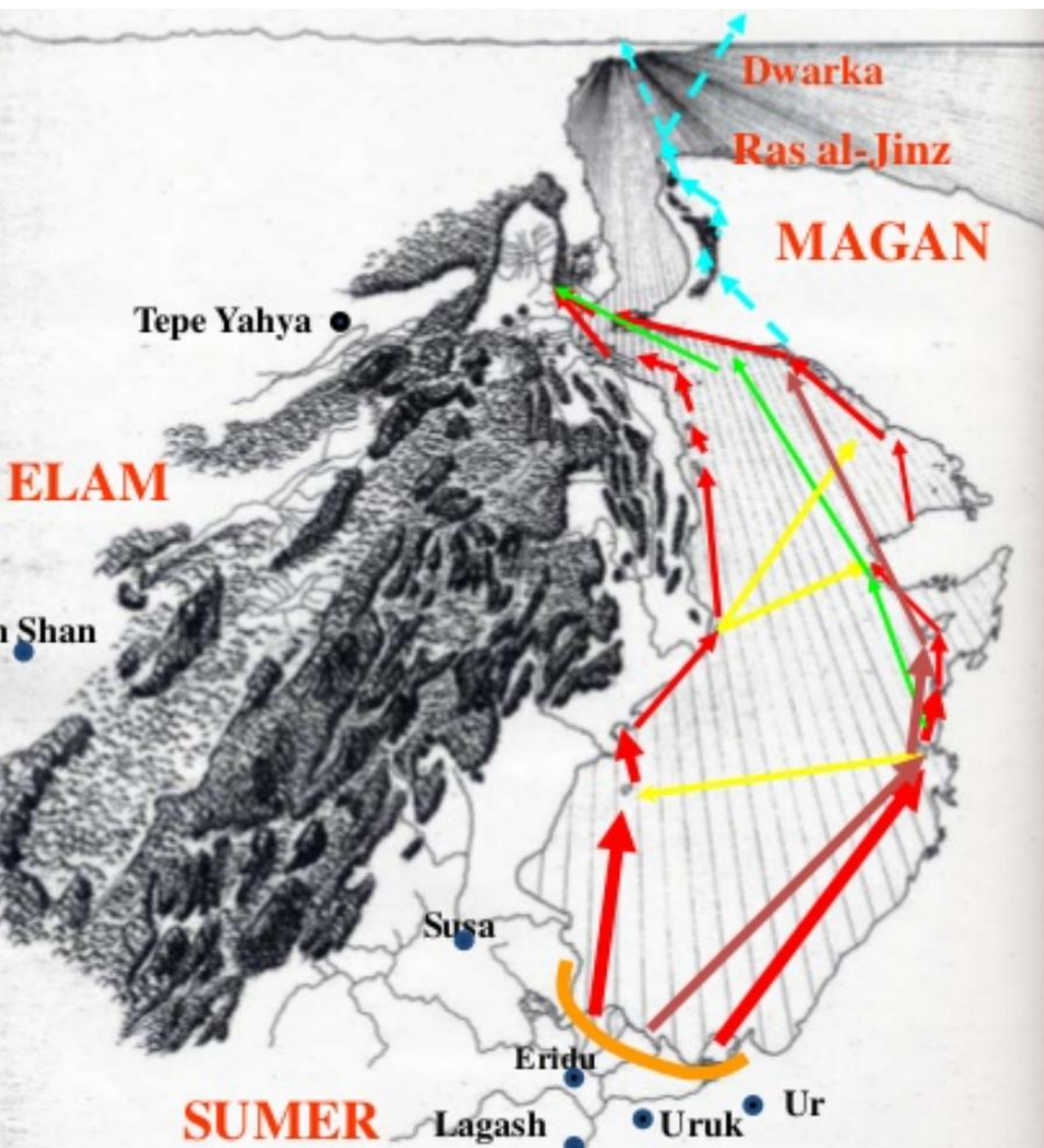
**SOUTH  
ASIA**

0 1000 km



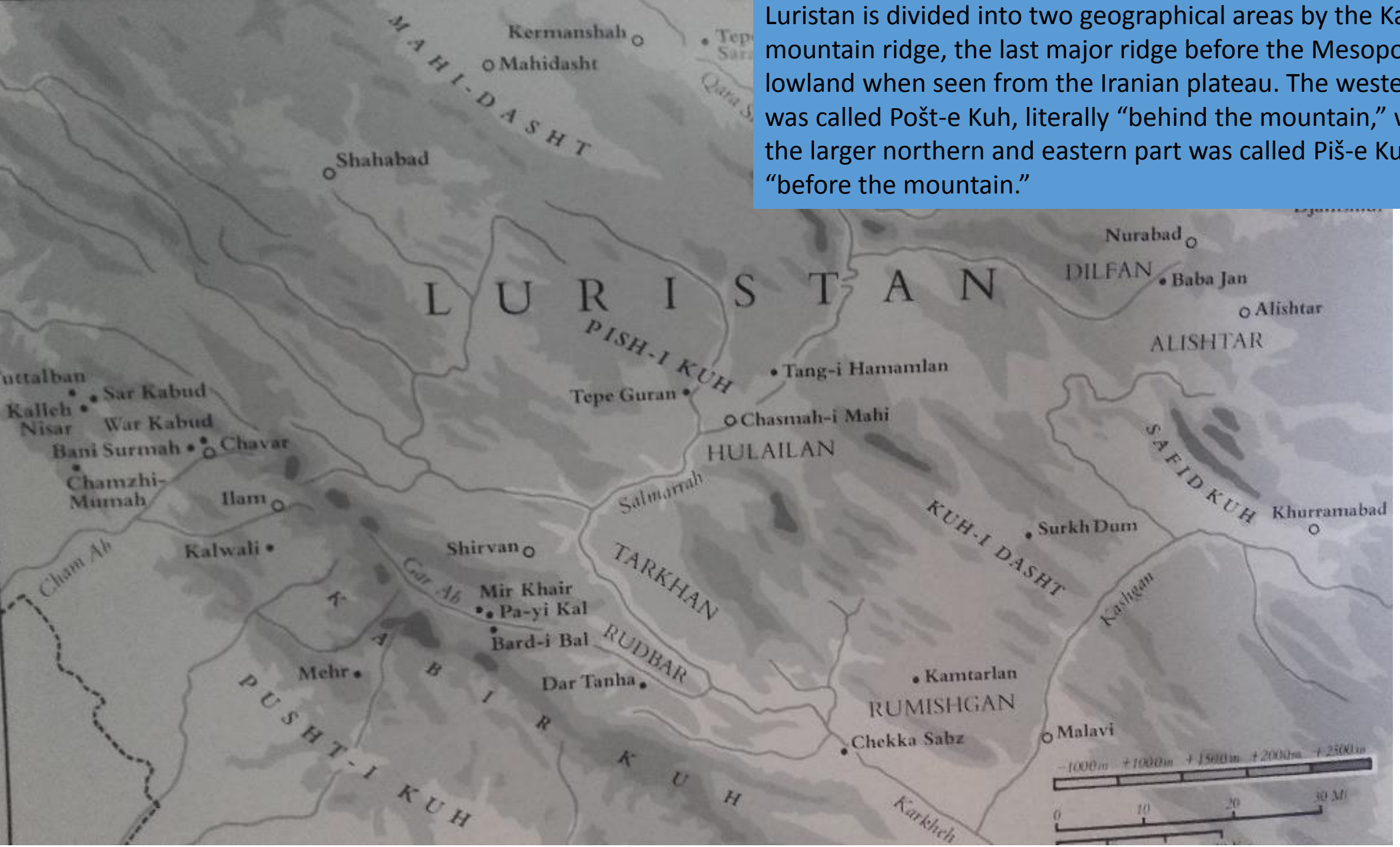
## TRADE ROUTES AND MAIN COMMODITIES

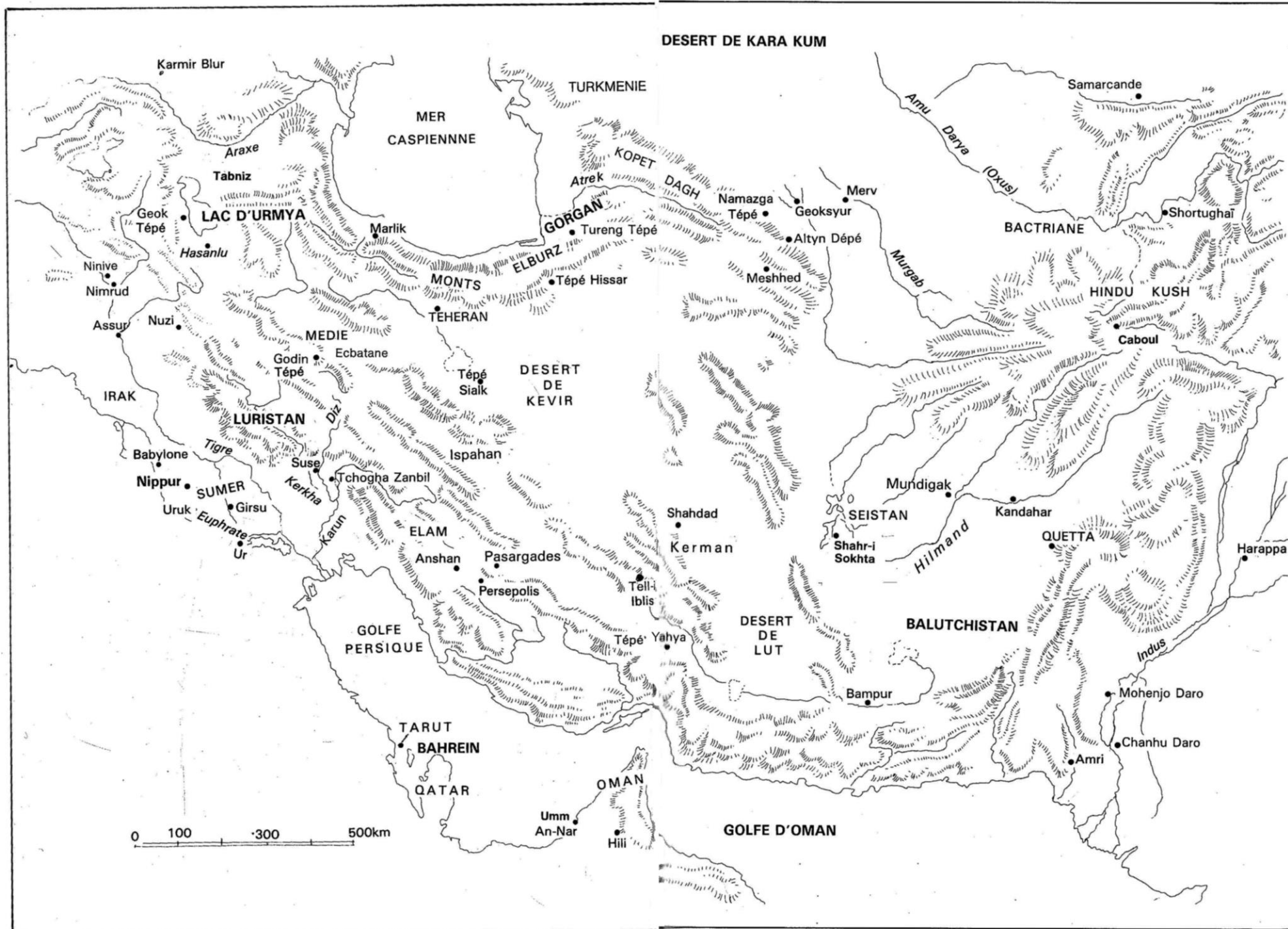




Luristan

Luristan is divided into two geographical areas by the Kabirkuh mountain ridge, the last major ridge before the Mesopotamian lowland when seen from the Iranian plateau. The western part was called Pošt-e Kuh, literally “behind the mountain,” while the larger northern and eastern part was called Piš-e Kuh or “before the mountain.”

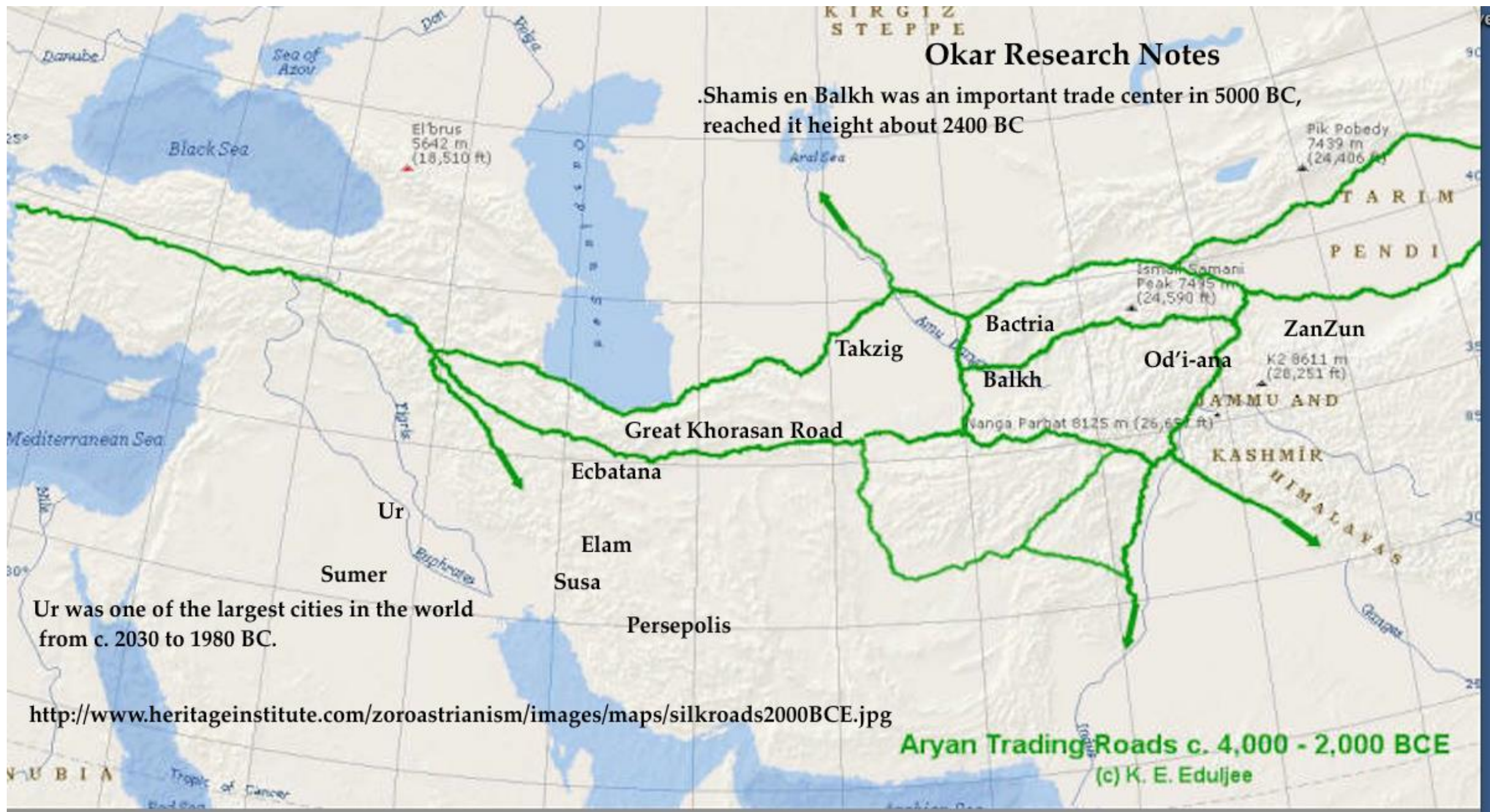




**LURISTAN:**  
 the region sits between three major cultural areas of the ancient Near East, namely Central Western Iran, Mesopotamia and Elam. Moreover, at its north-western edge, it borders on the “Great Khorasan Road” which linked the Mesopotamian world to central Iran.

## Okar Research Notes

.Shamis en Balkh was an important trade center in 5000 BC,  
reached it height about 2400 BC



Ur was one of the largest cities in the world  
from c. 2030 to 1800 BC.

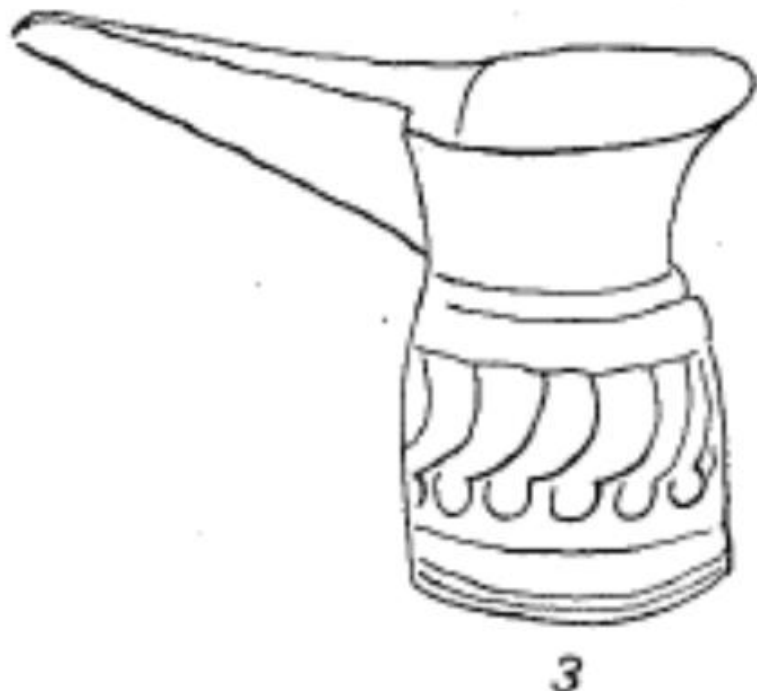
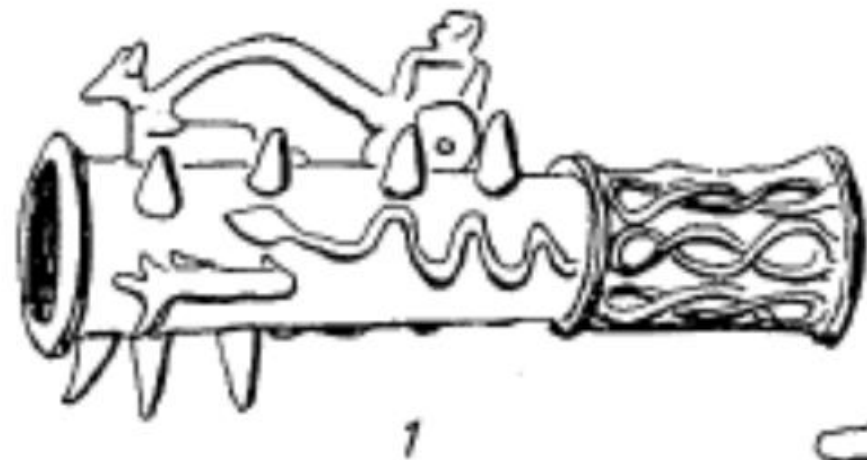
<http://www.heritageinstitute.com/zoroastrianism/images/maps/silkroads2000BCE.jpg>

Aryan Trading Roads c. 4,000 - 2,000 BCE

(c) K. E. Eduljee



# I Bronzi del Luristan



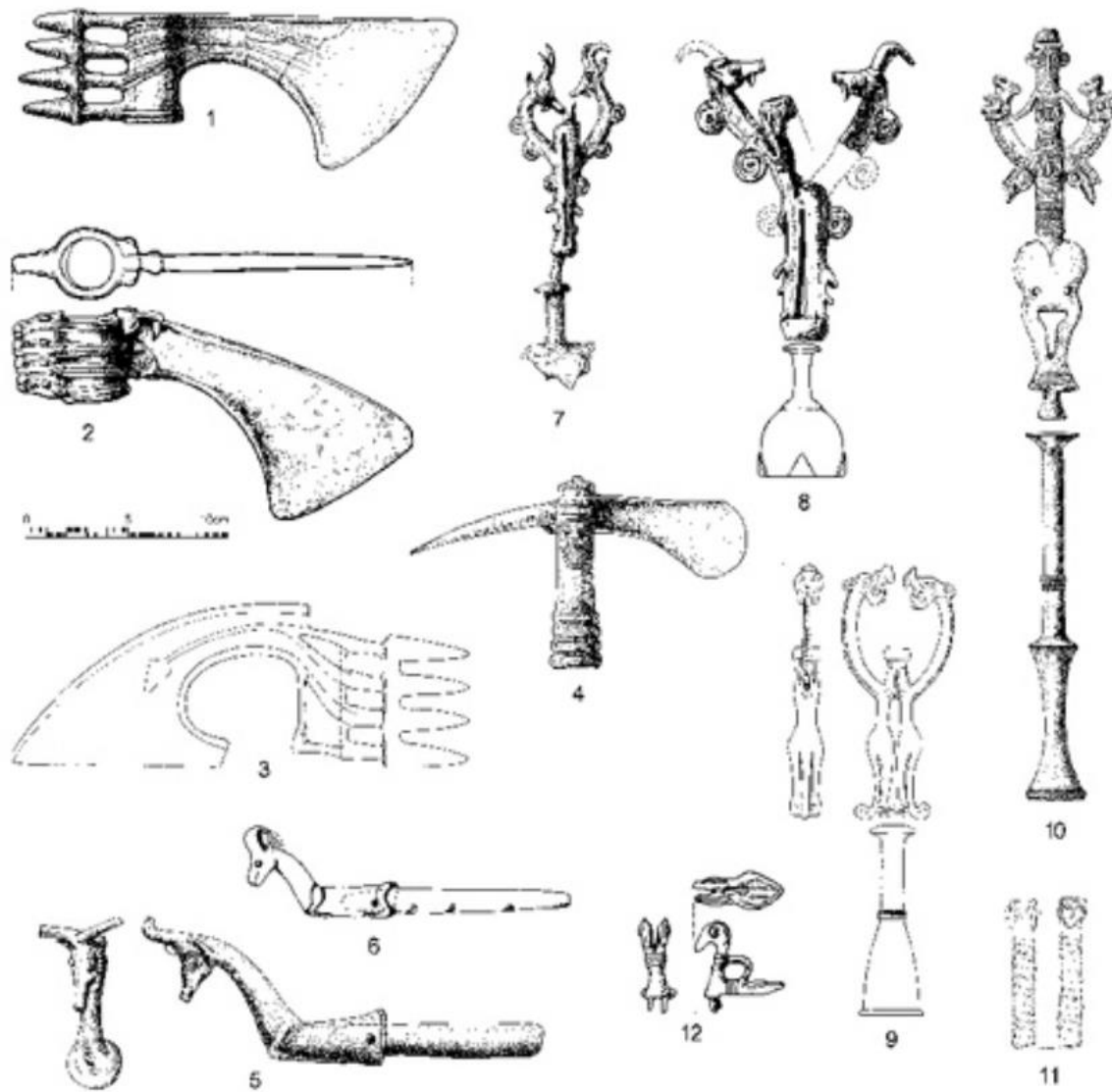
2. Luristan. « Bronzes » du milieu du III<sup>e</sup> millénaire. Voir p. 130, 131, 196.

# I Bronzi del Luristan

- Prime vendite dette dalla Cappadocia agli inizi del 900
- Stark 1932: prima attribuzione degli oggetti lavorati in Bronzo alla regione del Luristan. (I primi scavi di frodo sono da attribuirsi agli anni 20 del novecento).
- Il termine viene impiegato in due modi
  - Ad indicare un gruppo di Bronzi con iconografia specifica trovati solo nel Luristan
  - Ad indicare tutti i prodotti in Bronzo con provenienza dalla regione del Luristan e in stile „classico del Luristan“

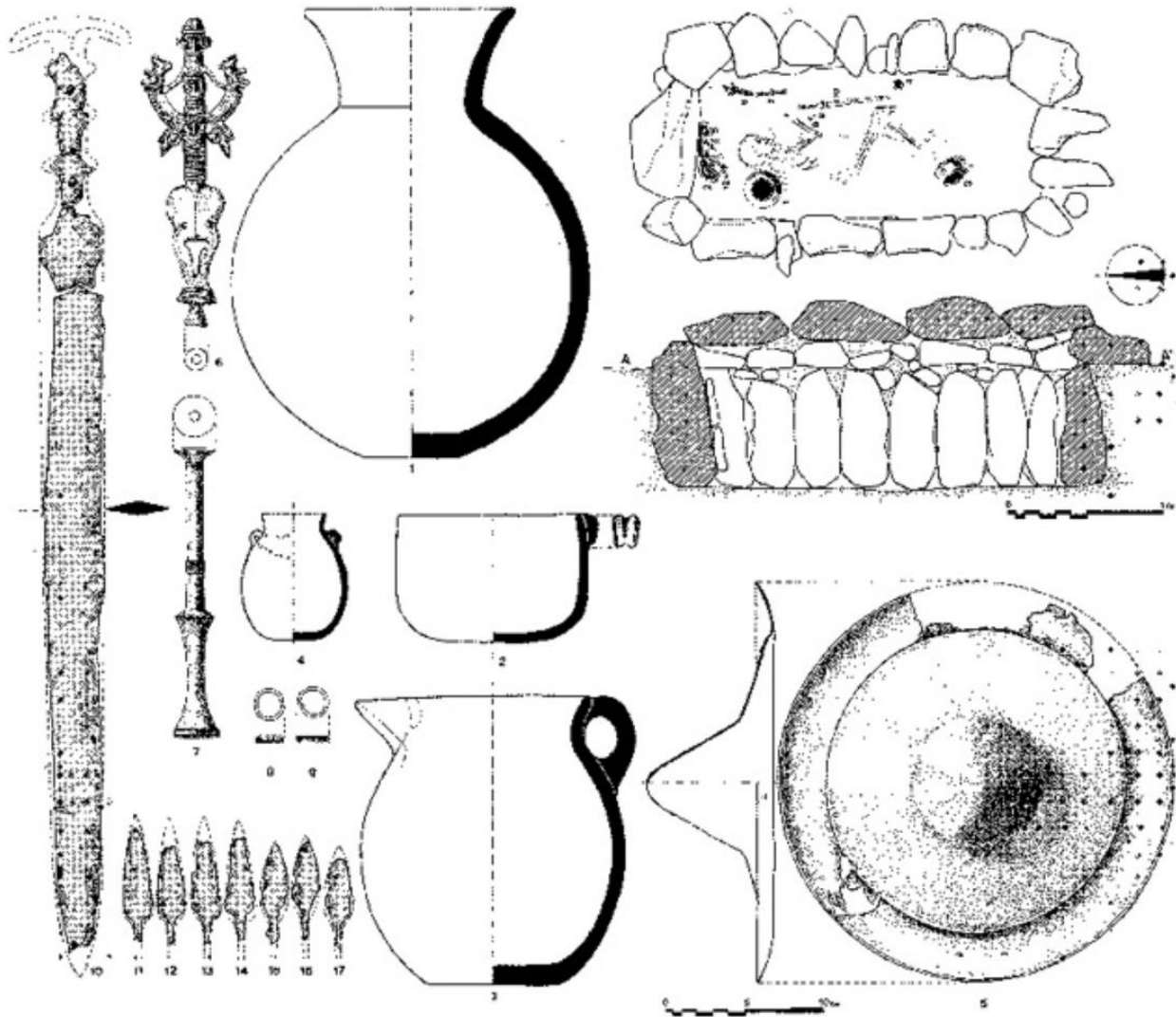
# Stile Classico del Luristan

- (Muscarella 1988)
- Oggetti quali finimenti e stendardi, morsi (cavallo), spilloni decorati e finial (an ornament at the top of a piece of furniture)... pinnacolo
- Forme molto stilizzate in maniera fantastica di umani e animali e creature fantastiche molto spesso combinate tra di loro.
- Tecnica: **casting** (a getto) usando stampi è la tecnica più comune ma compare anche il **repoussé** (a sbalzo)



Oggetti quali finimenti e stendardi, morsi (cavallo), spilloni decorati e finial (an ornament at the top of a piece of furniture)... pinnacolo, armi

Figure 2. Luristan bronzes discovered during excavations at Bard-i Bal (axe 1, whetstones 5-6, idols 7-8, pendant 12), Kutal-i Gulgul (axe 2), War Kabud (axe-adze 4), Tattulban (idol 10), Khatunban B (axe 3, idol 9) and Baba Djan (idol 11).



La maggior parte dei bronzi in contesto archeologico proviene da cimiteri, l'unica eccezione I ritrovamenti di Surkh Dum (tutti dell'età del Ferro)

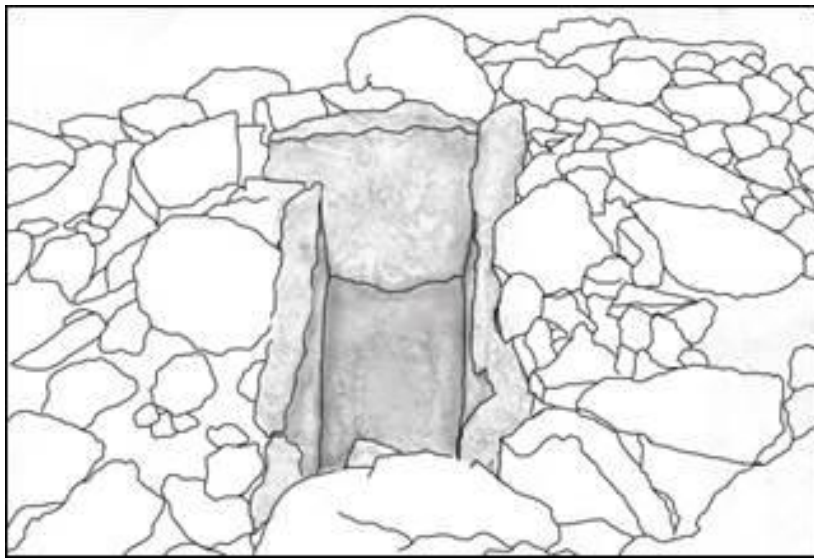
**Figure 9. Plan and burial goods, including an idol, of a tomb at Tattulban (Pusht-i Kuh) dating from the beginning of the Iron Age III.**

Figure 9. Plan and burial goods, including an idol, of a tomb at Tattulban (Pusht-i Kuh) dating from the beginning of the Iron Age III.

# I cimiteri del Luristan

- Godard 1931: i cimiteri ritrovati erano vicini agli insediamenti
- Van den Berghe 1968: i cimiteri sono isolati e non in connessione con gli insediamenti.

- Problemi di Datazione:
- Gruppo tardo (Ferro) dal 10 al 5 sec. A.C. per connessioni con la produzione sciita
- Gruppo antico (terzo millennio, quindi Bronzo Antico) molto più difficile da datare se non sulla base di confronti stilistici.
- Per questo gruppo si presupponeva che facessero parte di un'ampia rete commerciale di scambi di oggetti in bronzo Fleming et al. (2005), che includeva la Mesopotamia e l'Elam.



Serie di cimiteri a inumazione (tombe a cista) con materiali da tradizioni legate a

- Godin Tepe III
- Diyala
- Susa
- Nord del Khuzestan

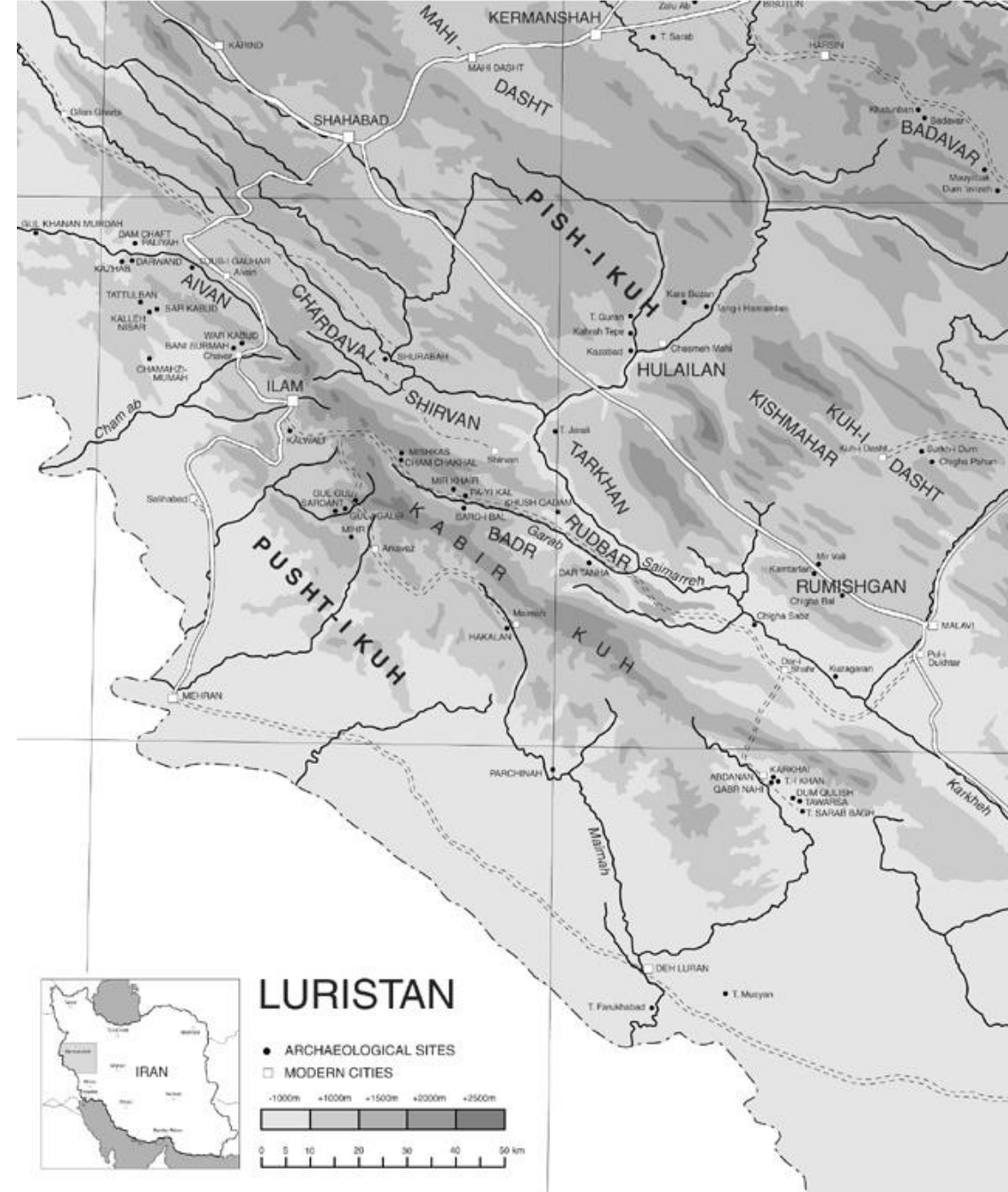


Figure 1. Map of Pošt-e Kuh (drawing Erik Smekens).



# An Archaeo-Metallurgical Study of the Early and Middle Bronze Age in Luristan, Iran

Article in *Iranica Antiqua* · January 2008

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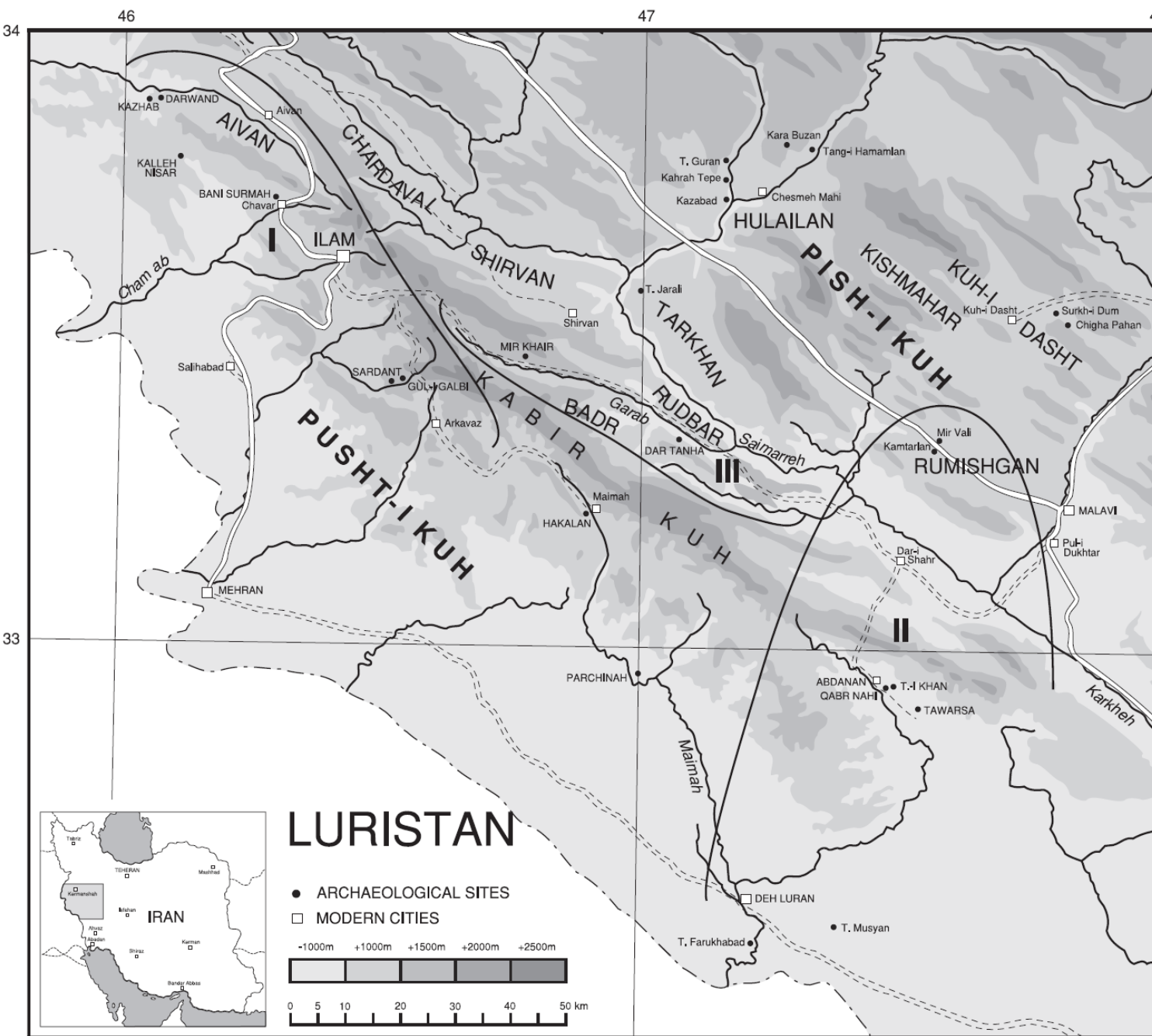


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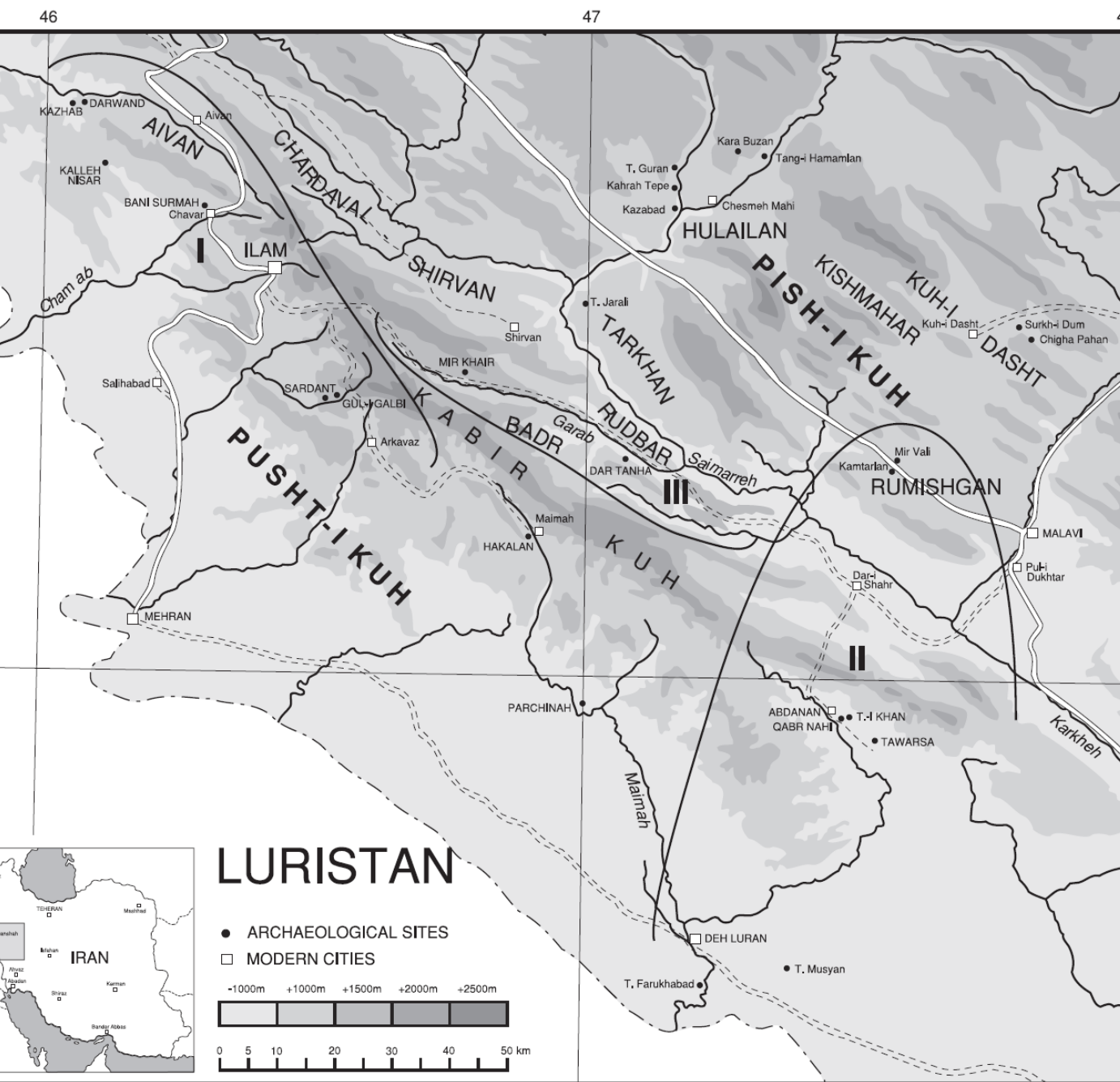
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*Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods.* Limited evidence is available from Pošt-e Kuh. An early Neolithic site was discovered at Amirābād near Mehrān (Khaliliān) and Middle Chalcolithic graveyards were located along the Meyma River at Hakalān and at Dum Gār Parčina (Haerinck and Overlaet, 1996). Uruk period finds are not yet reported from Pošt-e Kuh. More than 200 individual stone-built Middle Chalcolithic tombs were excavated. No anthropological research on the human remains was made, but trepanation was noted. Pottery and stone vessels, button-seals, armament (mace heads, axes, hammer-axes), hand stones, and grinding slabs were prominent among the burial goods. Noteworthy are a cast copper mace head and pottery figurines of a standing woman and a bull. The painted pottery repertoire included goats and stylized goat heads, as well as vegetal and geometric motifs.

Fig. 1. Map of the Pusht-i Kuh with its three cultural zones during Phase II-III.



Regionally, three different zones can be distinguished during Phases II and III, mainly by their painted pottery (figs. 1 and 3). The Mesopotamian-related “zone I” has by far the largest tombs in Pusht-i Kuh. They are up to 16 m long, are well built with large boulders and are covered with large flat stones (Pl. 1). A strong Mesopotamian influence in this part of the Pusht-i Kuh is obvious from its pottery. Among the plain pottery are imports and imitations of Mesopotamian types. Polychrome vessels with animals on the lower part are inspired by the Mesopotamian scarlet ware of the Hamrin and Diyala. Zone I tombs are known from Bani Surmah, Kalleh Nisar (area C) and Mehr War Kabud. Objects from all three sites are included in the present study.

The Deh Luran-related “zone II” in southern Pusht-i Kuh is characterised by 6 to 10 m long tombs with flat roofs. The monochrome ware shows simple geometric decorations. Shapes and decorations are particularly related to finds from Susa, Godin III:6 and Mir Vali, in Rumishgan. On the polychrome pottery metopes on the shoulder are characteristic, which frame trees or goats with elongated bodies and birds on their back. This polychrome style has particular parallels in the Deh Luran and the Rumishgan valley and thus seems to be confined to the southern part of Luristan. Such tombs were excavated at Pusht-i Qaleh-i Abdanan, Qabr Nahi, Takht-i Khan and Tawarsa. Metal is very rare in the tombs. No metal artefacts of this zone II were investigated in the present study.

The tombs in the Pish-i Kuh-related “zone III”, to the North of the Kabir Kuh, are similar to those in the central part of the Pish-i Kuh. They are also corridor-shaped and measure between 6 and 8 m in length, but they have a gabled roof (Pl. 7). Monochrome painted jars are related to the central Pish-i Kuh, particularly to Godin III:6 pottery. The rare presence of zone I-related polychrome pottery in association with zone III monochrome ware testifies to existing interzonal contacts. Five metal objects from zone III tombs at Dar Tanha were included in the study.<sup>12</sup>

Fig. 1. Map of the Pusht-i Kuh with its three cultural zones during Phase II-III.

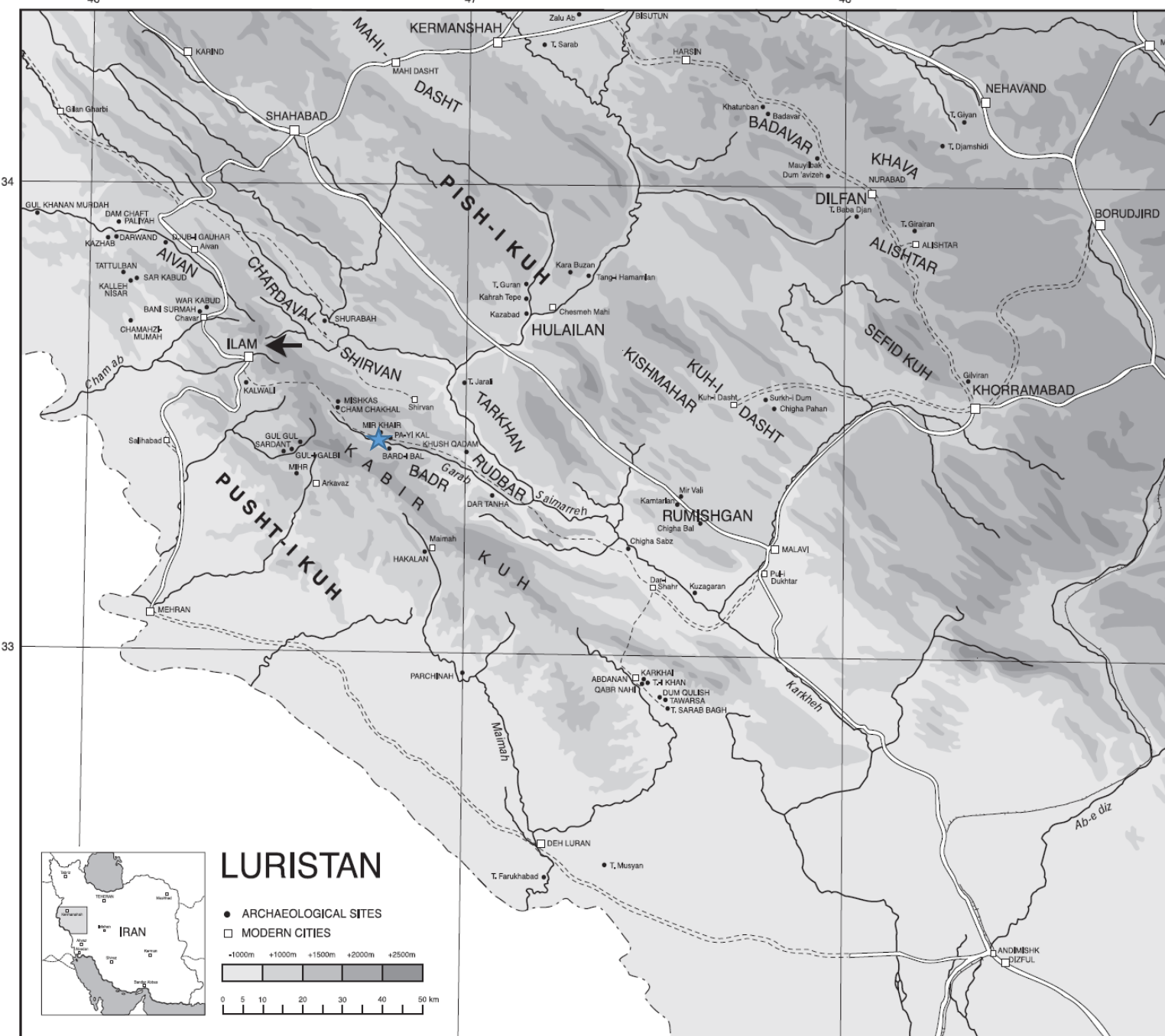
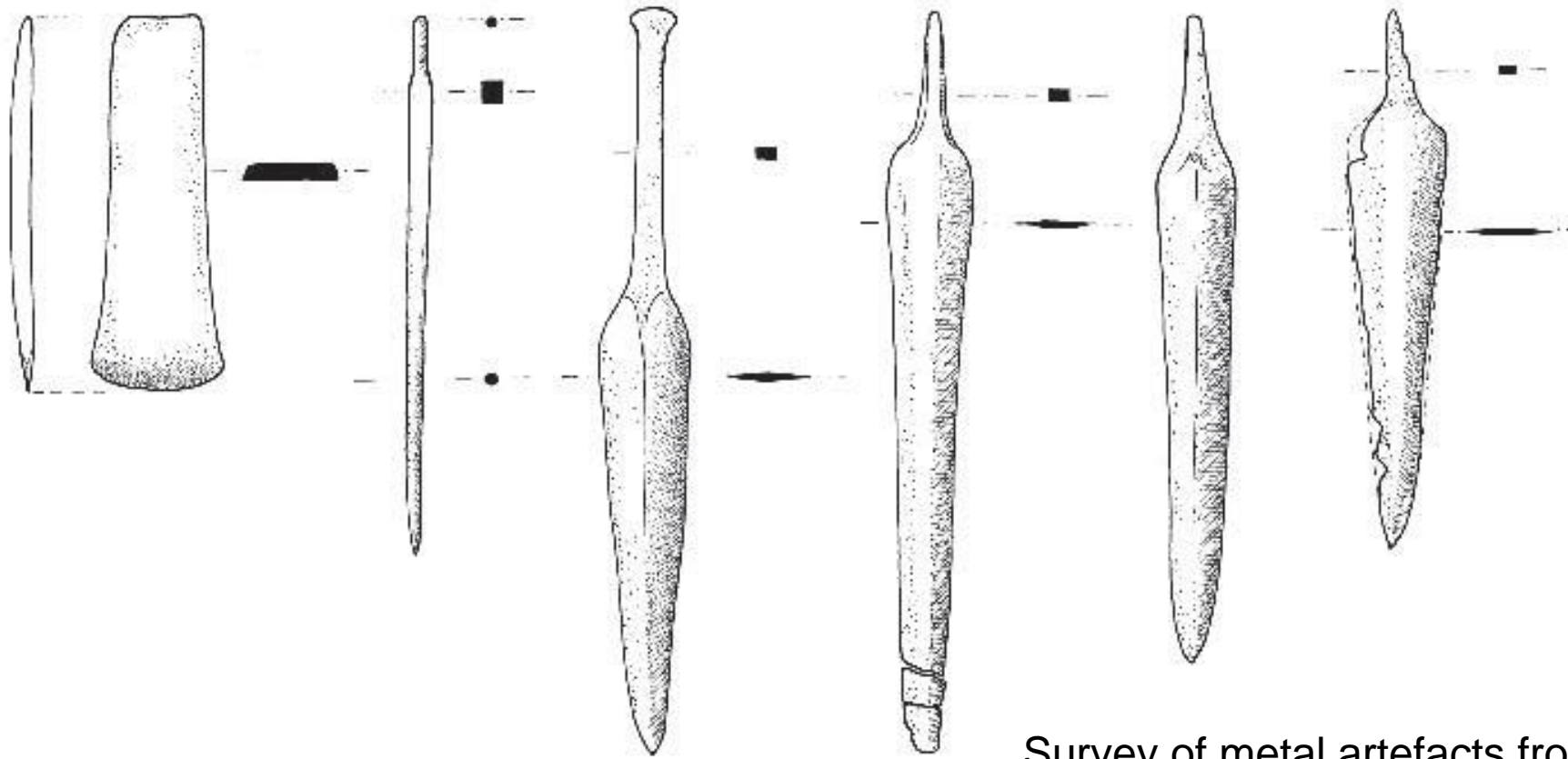


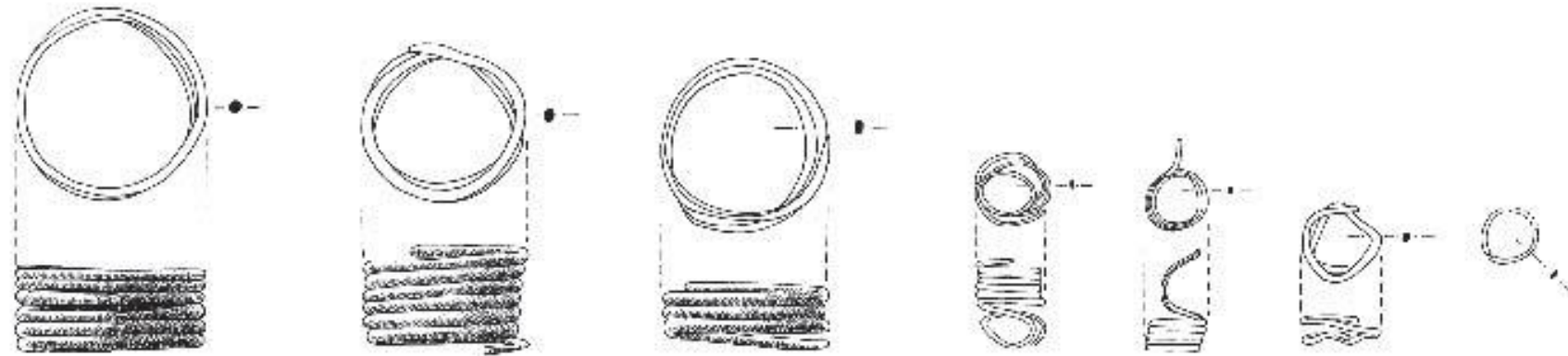
Fig. 1. Map of Luristan.

The third millennium BCE in Pusht-i Kuh is divided into three stages, an “Early” (Phase I), “Middle” (Phases II and III) and “Late” (Phase IV) Early Bronze Age.

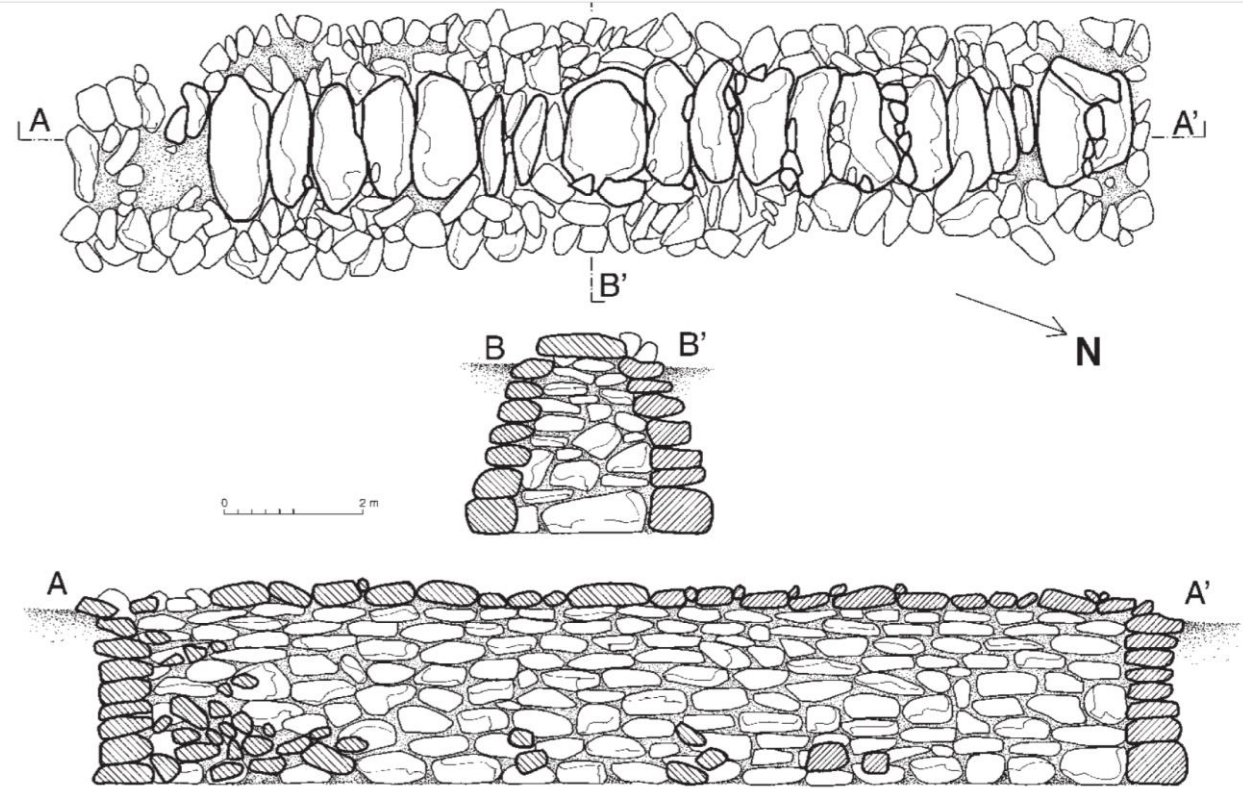
Phase I, the earliest stage of the Early Bronze Age (late 4<sup>th</sup>/early 3<sup>rd</sup> mill. BCE = Djemdet Nasr and early Early Dynastic I in Mesopotamia) is characterised by small, mainly individual tombs. This phase is present at Mir Khair and at Kalleh Nisar, area AI. Metal is still rare in this phase and it is confined to simple items such as awls, flat axes, tanged knives, coiled bracelets and coiled finger rings.



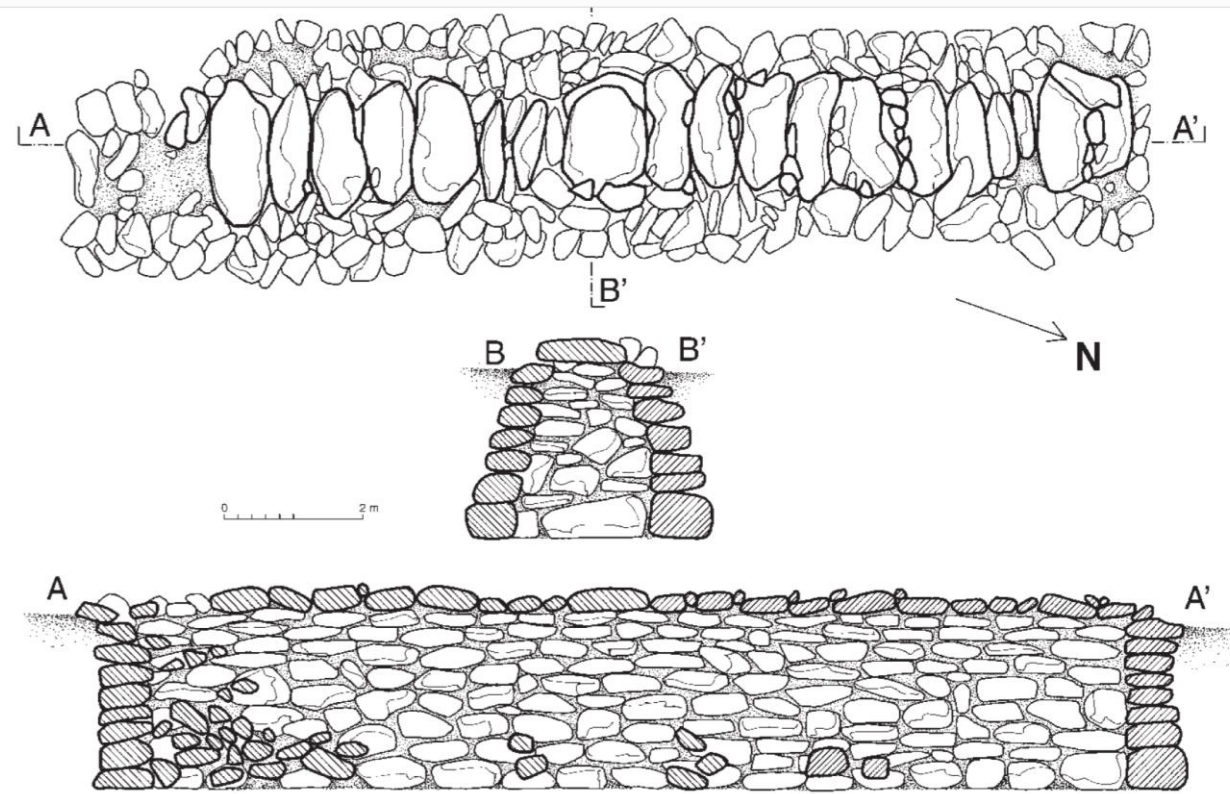
Survey of metal artefacts from the Phase I graveyard at Mir Khair.



Phases II and III of the Early Bronze Age cover a large part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BCE (ED I to somewhere in the Akkadian period in Mesopotamia). Phase II is characterised by the construction of large communal corridor-shaped tombs (Pl. 1). Based on the evidence at hand it seems as if the construction of such tombs is limited to Early Dynastic I and II in terms of Mesopotamian chronology. There is at present no evidence for the construction of tombs during Phase III (Early Dynastic III and beginning of the Akkadian period in Mesopotamia).



Pl. 1. Phase II corridor-shaped communal tombs in zone I of the Pusht-i Kuh, Luristan. Top: tombs at Bani Surmah. Bottom: Plan of tomb C3 at Kalleh Nisar (objects of tomb KN.C3 have been analysed, see BAMI-27 and 29). (Photographs and drawings by E. Smekens)



Pl. 1. Phase II corridor-shaped communal tombs in zone I of the Pusht-i Kuh, Luristan. Top: tombs at Bani Surmah. Bottom: Plan of tomb C3 at Kalleh Nisar (objects of tomb KN.C3 have been analysed, see BAMI-27 and 29). (Photographs and drawings by E. Smekens)

Since the tombs were used by many generations and individuals during which time objects were broken, displaced, removed and discarded, it is extremely difficult to attribute secure dates to single objects (see table 4). Often, only a broad and somewhat blurred picture emerges, based mainly on parallels with sites in other regions where more precise dates are available. Even so, simple objects, such as rings, can not be precisely dated, particularly when found in large communal tombs. This leaves the excavators in the frustrating and extremely unsatisfactory situation that objects acquired on the antiquities market, more often of unknown provenance and dubious origin, are generally “dated” more precisely than is possible for genuine artefacts procured with considerable efforts.

Several objects can roughly be attributed to the Early Dynastic III/Akkadian period, based on comparisons with finds from Mesopotamia or SW-Iran. One should be aware, however, that this comparative dating may easily distort our understanding of early metalwork. One has to realise that much more excavated material is available from these periods than from ED I/II. This may be partly due to chance, but probably also reflects a change in burial customs. It seems more metal artefacts were placed in tombs in the later part of the Early Dynastic period. Metal may simply have become more available or less costly, resulting in more metal artefacts being removed from circulation through deposition in tombs. As the known variety of ED I/II is consequently limited and incomplete, there is a general tendency to compare metal items to better documented Early Dynastic III/Akkadian artefacts. Most likely, several types commonly attributed to these periods, were already produced at an earlier date





Louvre-1



Louvre-2



Louvre-5



Louvre-3



Louvre-4



Louvre-6

Pl. 12. Analysed metal objects from the Louvre collection (Louvre 1 to 6).  
(Photographs kindly supplied by the Réunion des Musées Nationaux © / nr. 3,  
©Photo RMN - Les Frères Chuzeville)



Louvre-7



Louvre-8



Louvre-9



Louvre-10



Louvre-11

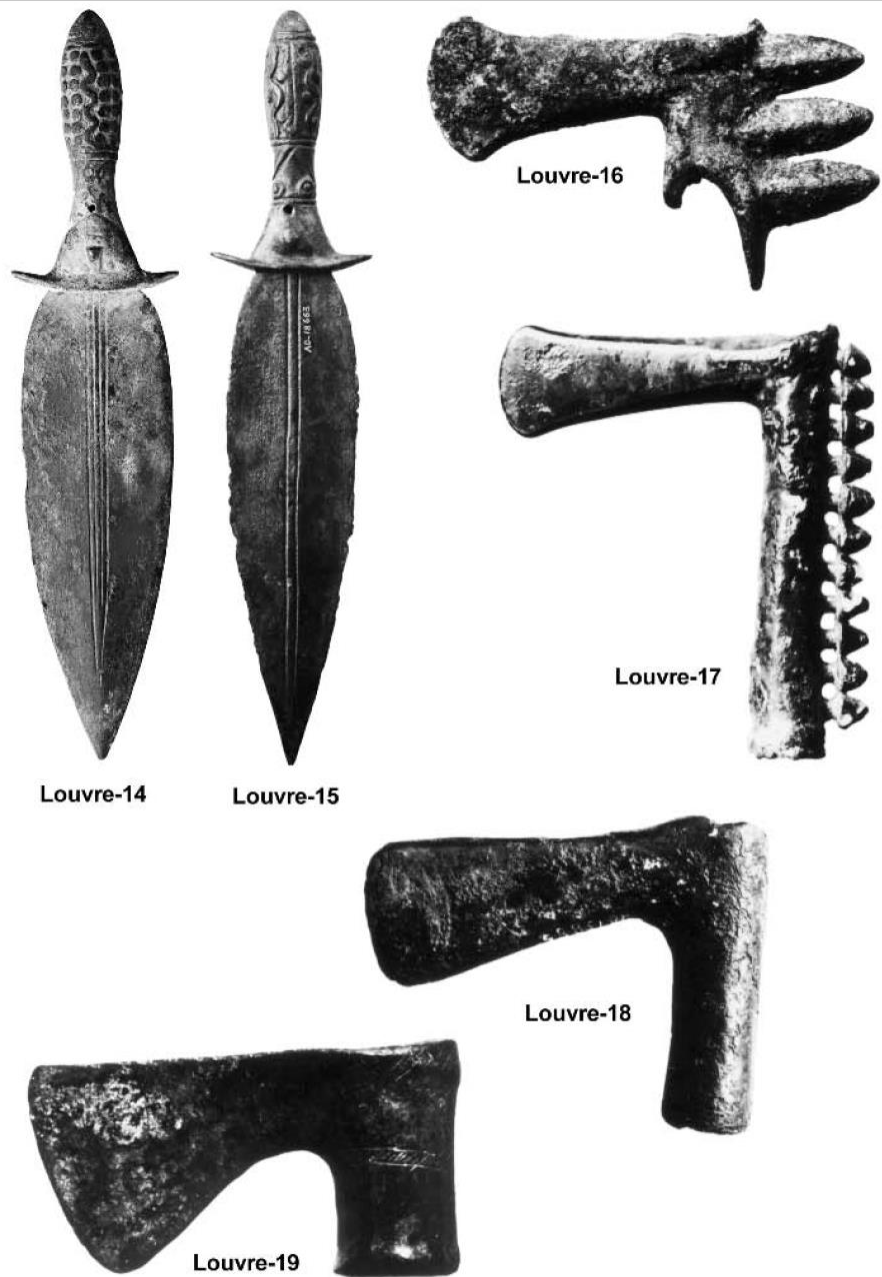


Louvre-12

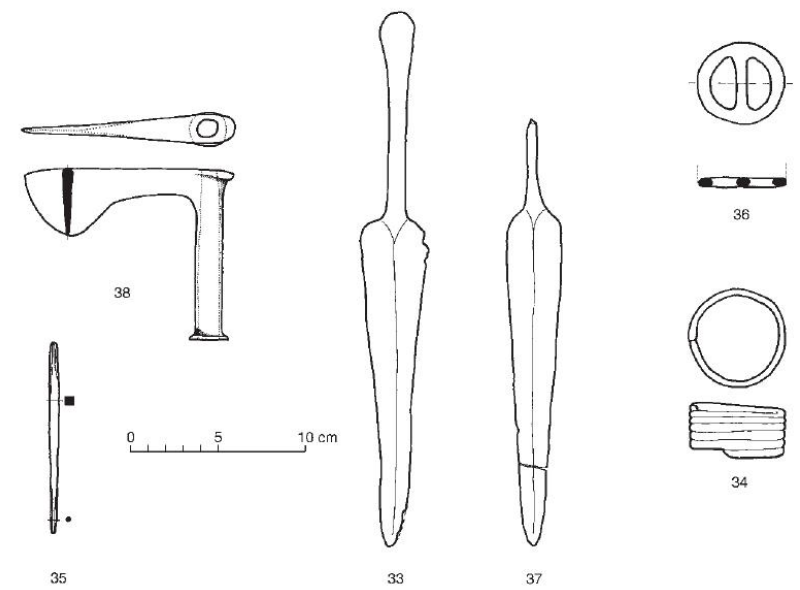


Louvre-13

Pl. 13. Analysed metal objects from the Louvre collection (Louvre 7 to 13).  
(Photographs kindly supplied by the Réunion des Musées Nationaux © / nr. 13,  
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Pl. 14. Analysed metal objects from the Louvre collection (Louvre 14 to 19).  
 (Photographs kindly supplied by the Réunion des Musées Nationaux © / nrs. 14-15,  
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Pl. 7. Analysed metal objects from zone III tomb at Dar Tanha (BAMI-33 to 38) and  
 view of the tomb with its gabled roof during the excavations. (Royal Museums of Art  
 and History, Brussels-Collection Iran; plate by E. Smekens.)

# Bronzo: lega di Rame (Copper ) e Stagno (Tin)

- I materiali di oggetti al Louvre provenienti dal mercato e quelli da scavi controllati è identica ( identificazione su basi stilistiche è confermata dalle analisi chimiche).
- Non ci sono differenze tra gli oggetti della zona III e quelli della I: lo stile non riflette la composizione..
- Miniere collocate nella zona orientale dello Zagros centrale era fondamentali per il Luristan ma non per la produzione locale mesopotamica
- Le tre zone del Pusht-i Kuh possono essere considerate zone tribali: stile nomadico o seminomadico con un economia basata su un'agricoltura su base irrigua e pastorizia coesistente con piccole sacche di comunità sedentary è una situazione che appare verosimile per il bronzo Antico in questa zona.
- Ceramica mesopotamica è presente nella zona I ma nessun metallo viene importato (importanza della produzione locale)



- \* Ancient Mine
  - Archaeological Site
- 500 Km

30 40 50 60