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Title: Human-environment interactions at Hala Sultan Tekke, SE Cyprus: changing landscapes, human impact and sustainability

The archaeological site of Hala Sultan Tekke has been excavated for more than 40 years by the Swedish archaeological expeditions, in cooperation with the Vrije Universiteit Brussel since 2001. The site had its floruit in the Late Cypriot IIC and IIIA periods (13th and 12th centuries BCE), when Cyprus played a crucial role within the Late Bronze Age East Mediterranean exchange networks. During this time the SE of Cyprus was dominated by major coastal sites among which Hala Sultan Tekke and its fertile and Cu-rich hinterland. However, very little systematic research has been carried out on this hinterland. We are initiating an archaeological survey within the Tremitos river valley and the Troodos foothills in order to understand the settlement system developments and human activities in general over time. To support this survey project we are looking for researchers to set up and carry out geoarchaeological research in the area. This would comprise the study of sedimentation and erosion processes within the river valley in order to assess the changes within the landscape and its possible causes, among which human impact. In addition, we plan to assess the environmental records of the region with pollen and isotope data to document the environmental changes. By combining all these data we aim to achieve the ultimate goal of the project: to reconstruct the diachronic human-environment interactions of the region.

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