



**HAL**  
open science

# EXCAVATIONS AT SHAHI-TUMP (MAKRAN) AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Aurore Didier, David Sarmiento Castillo

► **To cite this version:**

Aurore Didier, David Sarmiento Castillo. EXCAVATIONS AT SHAHI-TUMP (MAKRAN) AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES: MAFM Mission, direction: Roland Besenval Cooperation: Department of Archaeology and Museums of Pakistan. International Seminar on "French Contributions to Pakistan Studies", Feb 2014, Islamabad; Karachi; Banbhore, Pakistan. , 2014. halshs-02986876

**HAL Id: halshs-02986876**

**<https://shs.hal.science/halshs-02986876>**

Submitted on 3 Nov 2020

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

# EXCAVATIONS AT SHAHI-TUMP (MAKRAN) AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES 6

MAFM Mission, direction: Roland Besenval

Cooperation: Department of Archaeology and Museums of Pakistan

## SHAHI-TUMP EXCAVATIONS (1997-2006)

The site of Shahi-Tump (10km south from Miri Qalat) is located on the left bank of the Kech River. The objective of the field-campaigns was to broaden our knowledge of the Chalcolithic occupation (5<sup>th</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC) in Makran. Circular hut basements dated to period I (5<sup>th</sup> millennium BC) were excavated in Trench I, while several Period II (1<sup>st</sup> half of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC) architectural levels with quadrangular rooms built in stone and mudbricks were unearthed in Trench II on the top of the site. The period II occupation is also characterized by the discovery of burials which form the "oldest cemetery of Shahi-Tump". A later cemetery, dated to period IIIa (2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium/beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC), has also provided the remains of 120 individuals buried with rich funerary deposits which included numerous painted pottery and highly elaborated craft products: metal objects (seals, tools, mirrors...), beads, stone vessels, etc.



Period II architectural levels in Trench II (1<sup>st</sup> half of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC).



Period II grave  
(1<sup>st</sup> half of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC).



Period II pottery and fish-pendant in mother-of pearl (1<sup>st</sup> half of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC).



A period IIIa grave with the 'leopard weight' (2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium /beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> mil. BC).



At right: detail of the 'leopard weight' analyzed in the Center for Research and Restoration of the French Museums (C2RMF, Paris, France).



Funerary pottery from period IIIa (2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium/beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC).

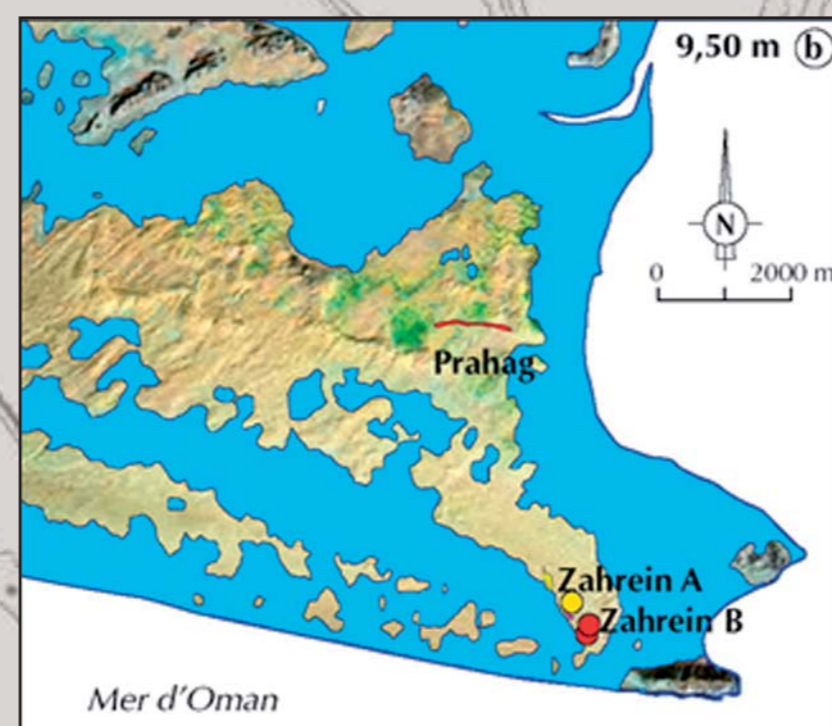


Metal seals and necklace (beads in fired and unfired steatite, cornelian and lapis-lazuli) discovered in period IIIa graves (2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium/beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC).



## ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

In parallel with the work carried out at Miri Qalat and Shahi-Tump, the MAFM mission has conducted environmental studies for reconstructing the ancient economy in Makran. The study of the exploitation of ancient marine resources and of protohistoric fishermen settlements were conducted by J. & N. Desse (CNRS-CEPAM) in accordance with ethnographic observations and with a reference sampling of fish bones and sea-shells in the Pasni, Gwadar and Pishukan areas. Archaeobotanical studies (by M. Tengberg, University of Paris 1) and archaeozoological studies (by J. & N. Desse) have allowed to determine the species of cereals, plants, fruits and animals exploited by the protohistoric population in Makran. The results of the palaeoclimatological studies suggest a more humid phase in the region between 8000-4000 BC, linked with an increasing of the monsoon rains, before a continuous regression towards barrenness with a maximum around 2000-1800 BC. The palaeogeographical reconstruction of the ancient coastline of Makran (by G. Davtian, CNRS-CEPAM) also shows important modifications since the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC.



Current view of Pasni area and reconstruction of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millenium BC coastline.



Protohistoric grape seed and flotation treatment processed by M. Tengberg to collect archaeobotanic remains.



Studying mammal and fish bone remains.



INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON « FRENCH CONTRIBUTIONS TO PAKISTAN STUDIES »  
ISLAMABAD, KARACHI, BANBHORE. FEBRUARY 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> - 2014  
A. DIDIER, D. SARMIENTO CASTILLO / PHOTOS: MAI -MAFM ©

