
Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel - Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte -

Vortrag

Das Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte, Kiel, lädt im Rahmen des Archäologischen Kolloquiums zu einem Vortrag mit anschließender Diskussion ein am

Montag, den 24. Oktober 2016,
18.30 Uhr, Johanna-Mestorf-Hörsaal
(Eingang 4, Erdgeschoss), Johanna-Mestorf-Straße.

Prof. Dr. Gary Rollefson, Walla Walla, Washington, USA,
spricht zum Thema:

The "Green Desert" of Eastern Jordan in the 7th and 6th Millennia BC

During the 10th to 6th millennia cal BC in southwestern Asia, the region enjoyed remarkable population growth due to the "Levantine Wet Period", when rainfall c. 25% higher than current conditions supported abundant agricultural and pastoral production. But around the middle of the 8th millennium there was a short but notable decrease in precipitation that resulted in a massive relocation of farming populations from Israel and the Jordan Valley up to the Jordanian highlands, resulting in the formation of "mega-sites" with areas 12-15 hectares and populations around 3,000 inhabitants. Unprecedented pressure on local resources accumulated in its effects until, after some 500 years, another sudden decrease in rainfall resulted in the collapse of the megasites, forcing thousands of farmers and herders to migrate elsewhere once again. One area that was able to absorb many of these climate-change refugees was the eastern steppe of Syria and Jordan, where the newcomers relied on a new subsistence strategy: hunting-herding of wild and domesticate animals and the foraging of wild plant resources. Recent excavations in the Black Desert of Jordan have provided pollen and charcoal evidence of a region that was much better watered and more heavily vegetated than the Stygian landscapes today, one that lasted throughout the 7th to early 4th millennia cal BC.



(gez. Die Dozenten des Instituts für Ur- und Frühgeschichte)