



**URBAN AND NATURAL LANDSCAPES OF AN ANCIENT SYRIAN CAPITAL  
SETTLEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT AT TELL MISHRIFEH/QATNA  
AND IN CENTRAL-WESTERN SYRIA**

**International Conference**

**University of Udine, Italy**

**December 9-11, 2004**

**PROGRAMME**

**Sala Convegni – Palazzo Antonini – Via T. Petracco, 8 – UDINE**

**Thursday, Dec. 9**

**Morning Session**

**09.30 Opening of the Conference**

Furio HONSELL (Rector of the University of Udine)

Arnaldo MARCONE (Director of the Department of Cultural Heritage, University of Udine)

Simonetta PONCHIA (Co-ordinator of the scientific co-operation agreement between the Universities of Udine and Verona, University of Verona)

Tammam FAKOUCH (Director General of Antiquities and Museums of Syria, Damascus)

**09.50 Introduction to the Conference**

Daniele MORANDI BONACOSSO (University of Udine)

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**THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF TELL MISHRIFEH AND ITS REGION**

*Chairman Tammam FAKOUCH*

**10.00-10.30**

Michel AL-MAQDISSI (Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums, Damascus)  
*D'Amurru à Qatna. Quelques idées des axes de communication*

**10.30-11.00**

Peter PFÄLZNER (University of Tübingen)  
*The Archaeology of the Royal Palace of Qatna*

**11.00-11.30 Coffee break**

*Chairman Bernard GEYER*

**11.30-12.00**

Mirko NOVÁK (University of Tübingen)  
*The Morphology of the Ground and the Foundation of the Royal Palace - Some Technical Approaches*

**12.00-12.30**

Marta LUCIANI (University of Vienna)  
*Qatna in the Late Bronze Age*

**12.30-13.00**

Daniele MORANDI BONACOSSO (University of Udine)  
*Tell Mishrifeh and its Countryside During the Bronze and Iron Ages. A Preliminary Reconstruction*

**13.00-15.00 Lunch break**

**Thursday, Dec. 9**

**Afternoon Session**

**THE ENVIRONMENT OF TELL MISHRIFEH AND ITS REGION**

*Chairman Jean-Paul THALMANN*

**15.00-15.30**

Mauro CREMASCHI (University of Milan)

*The Geoarchaeology of Tell Mishrifeh. From Site to Landscape*

**15.30-16.00**

Luca TROMBINO (University of Milan)

*A Micromorphological Approach for the Reconstruction of the Palaeoenvironment of Tell Mishrifeh*

**16.00-16.30**

Christine PÜMPIN (University of Basel)

*Preliminary Micromorphological Analyses of the Soil in the Royal Tomb at Qatna*

**16.30-17.00 Coffee break**

*Chairman Corinne CASTEL*

**17.00-17.30**

Mauro CREMASCHI (University of Milan) – Verushka VALSECCHI (University of Bern)

*Vegetation and Environment During the Middle-Late Holocene at Tell Mishrifeh. Climate Versus Land Use*

**17.30-18.00**

Leonor PEÑA-CHOCARRO (University of Madrid) – Mauro ROTTOLI and Michela COTTINI (Archaeobiology Laboratory, Como Archaeological Museum)

*Agriculture and Plant Food at Tell Mishrifeh in the Bronze and Iron Ages. The Evidence from Operation J*

**18.00-18.30**

Simone RIEHL (University of Tübingen)

*Environment and Economy in the North-Western Levant: First Archaeobotanical Results from Bronze and Iron Age Alalakh and Qatna*

## Friday, December 10

### Morning Session

Chairman Karin BARTL

#### 09.30-10.00

Otto CICHOCKI (University of Vienna)

*Actions and Reactions - A Complex Relationship to Climate*

#### 10.00-10.30

Emmanuelle VILA (Maison de l'Orient, CNRS, Lyon)

*Archéozoologie à Tell Mishrifé, quelques apports de la faune à l'environnement*

#### 10.30-11.00

Alessandro CANCI (University of Pisa)

*Troubled Times! Hard Work and Poor Nutrition of the Low Social Classes in Ancient Qatna Between the Middle Bronze Age and the Iron Age*

#### 11.00-11.30 Coffee break

Chairman Michel FORTIN

#### 11.30-12.00

Carsten WITZEL – Kerstin KREUTZ (University of Giessen)

*First Results of the Anthropological and Palaeopathological Examination of the Human Bones from the Royal Grave of Qatna*

#### 12.00-12.30

Richard EVERSLED – Anna MUKHERJEE (University of Bristol)

*Plans and Prospects for Organic Residue Analysis at Qatna (Royal Tomb)*

#### 12.30-13.00

Lara MARITAN – Claudio MAZZOLI – Veronica MICHIELIN – Gianmario MOLIN (University of Padua)

*Provenance and Production Technology of Bronze and Iron Age Pottery from Tell Mishrifeh/Qatna (Syria)*

#### 13.00-15.00 Lunch break

**Friday, Dec. 10**

**Afternoon Session**

**SETTLEMENT AND LANDSCAPE IN CENTRAL-WESTERN SYRIA:  
THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

*Chairman Peter PFÄLZNER*

**15.00-15.30**

Jean-Paul THALMANN (Université de Paris 1-Panthéon Sorbonne)  
*Bronze Age Settlement Patterns and Agriculture in the Akkar Plain*

**15.30-16.00**

Graham PHILIP (University of Durham)  
*Landscape Development in the Orontes Valley West of Homs: Natural and Cultural Aspects*

**16.00-16.30**

Bernard GEYER (Maison de l'Orient, CNRS, Lyon)  
*Occupation du sol et mise en valeur de la région au Nord-Est de Qatna à l'âge du Bronze*

**16.30-17.00 Coffee break**

*Chairman Mauro CREMASCHI*

**17.00-17.30**

Corinne CASTEL (Maison de l'Orient, CNRS, Lyon)  
*Stratégies de subsistance et modes d'occupation de l'espace dans la micro-région d'al-Rawda au Bronze ancien final (Shamiyeh)*

**17.30-18.00**

Karin BARTL (German Archaeological Institute, Damascus) – Michel AL-MAQDISSI (Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums, Damascus)  
*Ancient Settlements in the Middle Orontes Region Between ar-Rastan and Qal'at Shaizar*

**18.00-18.30**

Michel FORTIN (University of Laval, Québec)  
*The Geoarchaeological Survey of the Tell 'Acharneh Depression to the South of the Ghab Valley*

**Saturday, December 11**

**Morning Session**

**SETTLEMENT AND LANDSCAPE IN CENTRAL-WESTERN SYRIA:  
THE TEXTUAL EVIDENCE**

*Chairman Michel AL-MAQDISSI*

**09.00-9.30**

Nele ZIEGLER (CNRS, Paris)

*Les données des archives royales de Mari sur le milieu naturel et l'occupation humaine en Syrie centrale*

**09.30-10.00**

Cinzia PAPPI (University of Udine)

*The Religious Landscape of Qatna and Western Syria in the Mari Period*

**10.00-10.30**

Jesper EIDEM (Carsten Niebuhr Institute, University of Copenhagen)

*Notes on the Topography of Late Bronze Age Qatna*

**10.30-11.00**

Thomas RICHTER (University of Frankfurt)

*Qatna and Its Neighbours in the Late Bronze Age*

**11.00-11.30 Coffee break**

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**TOWARDS A GENERAL RECONSTRUCTION**

*Chairman Graham PHILIP*

**11.30-12.30**

**Summary of themes**

Mauro CREMASCHI: *Mishrifeh and its Area. A Local Environmental Perspective*

Bernard GEYER: *Central-Western Syria. A Regional Environmental Perspective*

Michel AL-MAQDISSI: *The Archaeology of Mishrifeh and its Region. Plans and Prospects*

Jesper EIDEM: *Central-Western Syria. A Textual Perspective*

**12.30-13.00**

**General discussion**

**13.00-14.30 Lunch break**

**Saturday, Dec. 11**

**Afternoon**

**14.30-19.00 Visit to the Roman city of Aquileia**

The Basilica with the mosaics, the Forum, the Port Area, and the Archaeological Museum  
(presentation by Marina RUBINICH, University of Udine)