Tell el-Burak excavation project (Lebanon)

The Tell el-Burak excavation project is in cooperation with Dr. Jens Kamlah (University of Tübingen) and Dr. Margarete van Ess (DAI).

Description

This project aims at studying the formation process of ancient settlements on the Lebanese coast with special emphasis on the Iron Age. Its main objective is to try and explain the origin, growth and decay of these ancient cities mainly during the so-called period of Phoenician expansion (9th-6th century BC). The first six seasons (2001-2003, 2005, 2008 and 2009) have uncovered a Middle Bronze Age palace with well preserved wall paintings in its largest room. The paintings show strong Egyptian influence and striking similarities with 12th and 13th Dynasty Egyptian tomb paintings. This is a spectacular discovery that is shedding light on the history of the kingdom of Sidon in the Middle Bronze Age.
The excavations have also uncovered an Iron Age fortification wall as well as domestic buildings. Complete Phoenician house plans have been excavated and documented for the first time in Lebanon.
Houses dating to the Late Mamluk-Early Ottoman period have also been excavated on the Tell summit.

Collaborators

Uwe Finkbeiner and Jens Kamlah, University of Tübingen
Margarete van Ess, German Archaeological Institute

Publications

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