W O R K S H O P

# »Ancient MOBILE & SEDENTARY interactions in INNER ASIA«

17—19/01/2023

RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS

| 17/01/2023 | 18/01/2023 | 19/01/2023 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 12:00–17:30 | 14:00–17:30 | 14:00–16:45 |

ROOM: V14

or VIA ZOOM

FHCD

MPI GEA

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
OF GEOANTHROPOLOGY

# *Roundtables Speakers Schedule*

**To join online please see the zoom link** https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/67869969416

| **Tuesday 17 January 2023: Research Roundtable Day 1: MPI-GEA V14/ zoom** | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Time** | **Speaker** | **Title** |
| 12:00–12:30 | Rob Spengler | Ongoing Central Asian Archaeological Research In the Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution Research Group |
| 12:30–12:50 | Christian Leipe | Mid- to late Holocene climate change in Inner Asia: A short review of available proxy records |
| *13:00–14:00* | *Lunch Break* | *Library area* |
| 14:00–14:20 | Barbara Zach | Prunus morphology 2.0: A new approach to morphological and evolutionary differentiation in large stoned Prunus species. |
| 14:20–14:40 | Rita Dal Martello | Mapping the Domestication and Dispersal of Large-Seeded Prunus fruits: A metadata analysis of archaeobotanical material |
| 14:40–15:00 | Madelynn von Baeyer | Sogdian Fruits: fruit cultivation from early Antiquity to the Medieval Period at Paykend, Uzbekistan |
| 15:00–15:20 | Traci Billings | Through an archaeobotanical lens: Contextualizing Bronze Age plant use in the Murghab Alluvial Fan within broader Central Asia |
| *15:25- 16:30* | *Coffee break* | *V14 (please note: Institute Meeting in the Library Area)* |
| 16:40–17:00 | Basira Mir Makhamad | Agriculture in the Middle Zarafshan River during the first millennium AD: the archaeobotanical evidence from Kainar, Panjakent, Sanjar-Shah, Kok-Tosh, and Afrasiab |
| 17:00–17:20 | Li Tang | Isotopic evidence reveals heterogeneous dietary adaptations across the high-altitude Tibetan Plateau |
| 17:20–17:40 | Rasmus Bjorn | Words of change: Linguistic evidence for ancient interactions |
| *17:40–18:00* | *Discussion* | *V14* |

| **Wednesday 18 January 2023: Research Roundtable Day 2: MPI-GEA V14/ zoom** | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Time** | **Speaker** | **Title** |
| 14:00–14:40 | Barbara Cerasetti | Sedentary farmers or mobile shepherds? New research for long-standing question in Inner Asia |
| 14:40–15:20 | Sonja Kroll | New insights on mobility and subsistence according to isotopic results from Bronze Age societies in southern Central Asia |
| *15:20–15:40* | *Coffee Break* | *V14* |
| 15:40–16:10 | Roberto Arciero | Water strategies and changing hydrological system in the Murghab (southern Turkmenistan) between the 3rd and 2nd millennium BCE |
| 16:10–16:40 | Luana D'Ippolito | A perspective on the ceramic production of Togolok 1 (Southern Turkmenistan) |
| 16:40–17:10 | Luca Forni | Treasures from the black sands. The material cultural of Togolok between Middle and Late Bronze Age |
| *17:10–17:40* | *Discussion* | *V14* |

| **Thursday 19 January 2023: Research Roundtable Day 3: MPI-GEA V14/ zoom** |
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| Time | Speaker | Title |
|---|---|---|
| 14:00–14:30 | Giedre Motuzaite-Matuzeviciute | Pioneer sedentary farmers at the highlands of the Central Tien Shan |
| 14:30–15:00 | Kai Kaniuth | The BMAC site of Tilla Bulak (Southern Uzbekistan) and its macroremains. A preliminary view |
| *15:00–15:20* | *Coffee Break* | *V14* |
| 15:20–15:50 | Mike Fisher & Jamsranjav Bayarsaikhan | Monuments and Mobility in the Mongolian Steppe: The MAPSS Project |
| *15:50–16:30* | *Discussion* | *V14* |
| *17:00–19:00* | *Distinguished Guest Lecture by S. Stark* | Eternal Silk Road? New Archaeological Data from Bukhara and its Hinterland |

**Dr. Robert N. Spengler III**
*Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution (DAE) Independent Research Group,*
*Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology*,

Dr. Spengler is currently the Paleoethnobotany Lab Director at the Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology, Director of the FEDD Project (Fruits of Eurasia: Domestication and Dispersal), Co-PI on MAPSS (Mongolian Archaeological Project: Surveying the Steppe), and the Director of the Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution (DAE) Independent Research Group. He is the author of *Fruit from the Sands*, published with the University of California Press in 2019 and *Domesticating Earth*, published with Cambridge University Press in 2023. He has authored more than 60 scholarly articles, many in top peer-reviewed journals, and conducted archaeological studies in more than ten countries in his quest to seek out the routes of crop dispersal along the ancient Silk Road.

**Dr. Christian Leipe**
*Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution (DAE) Independent Research Group,*
*Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology*;
*Institute of Geological Sciences, Free University Berlin*

Dr. Leipe is interested in palaeoenvironmental change, subsistence economies of pre- and early historic societies, the spread of agriculture and human-environment interactions. His studies employ palynology, pollen-based quantitative reconstruction methods, archaeobotany, and archaeological data. He has worked in various parts of Eurasia with a focus on East Asia.

**Barbara Zach**
*Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution (DAE) Independent Research Group,*
*Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology;*
*Ancient Oriental Studies Department, Friedrich Schiller University, Jena*

Barbara Zach is the director of the Archaeobotanik Laboratory in Bernbeuren, Bavaria, and a PhD candidate at MPI-GEA. She has worked as archaeobotanist at numerous sites across Europe and has collaborated with Prof. Dr. Koerber-Grohne at University of Hohenheim when she was compiling her reference book on modern and archaeological Prunus finds in Germany. She is currently collaborating with Dr. Spengler on his ERC-funded project FEDD and with Dr. von Baeyer and Dr. Dal Martello on the PARIS project. With her research she contributes Big Data and statistical approaches, through the IsoMemo initiative with Dr. Fernandes.

**Dr. Rita Dal Martello**
*Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution (DAE) Independent Research Group,*

*Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology*

Dr. Dal Martello is a post-doctoral research fellow working with Dr. Spengler for the FEDD project. She has a background in Chinese Neolithic Archaeology and has received her PhD from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, where she analysed macro- and micro-remains from early sites in Yunnan to reconstruct the development of agricultural practices in the region. Her main research interests focus on understanding the development of complex agrarian societies and she is especially interested in the investigation of the secondary domestication of local plant species as well as the dispersal of domesticates to ecological frontier zones. She also supports Dr. von Baeyer as co-PI for the PARIS project.

**Dr. Madelynn von Baeyer**

*Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution (DAE) Independent Research Group,*
*Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology*

Dr. von Baeyer recently completed her stay as a post-doctoral research fellow on the FEDD project at the MPI-SHH. Prior to that she was a research fellow at the Harvard University Herbaria and studied macrofossils form Turkey and Greece as part of her PhD project at the University of Connecticut. Madelynn is an archaeobotanist with particular interests in human resilience in the face of climate change. She investigates how environmental conditions and climate change impact agricultural systems and how changes in the human-environment relationships can foster cultural resilience in both ancient and modern populations. She works mainly in the Eastern Mediterraean and Central Asia. Her current research, for which she is a recipient of the Gerda Henkel Grant, focuses on the TREE project, Tracing the Ecology of Eurasia where she analyzes the wood charcoal assemblages of sites in Central and Southwestern Asia to identify evidence for woodland modification and deforestation in response to long distance trade in the regions. Madelynn is also the PI of the PARIS (Prunus Archaeological Research Initiative and Survey) project.

**Traci N. Billings**

*Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution (DAE) Independent Research Group,*
*Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology;*
*Institute for Prehistoric and Protohistoric Archaeology, Christian-Albrechts University of Kiel*

Traci is an anthropologically trained archaeologist and a palaeoethnobotanist in-training. She is interested in plant/human relationships and how they shaped past environments, human subsistence choices, and cultural practices in early proto- and prehistoric societies. Her work has relied on a variety of proxies to explore plant use in the past including macrobotanical remains, stable isotopes from human, faunal, and plant sources, and residue analysis from ceramic vessels. Most of this research has focused on Central Asia and North America.

**Basira Mir Makhamad**

*Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution (DAE) Independent Research Group,*
*Department of Archaeology, 1Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology;*
*Ancient Oriental Studies Department, Friedrich Schiller University*

Basira Mir Makhamad is interested in the medieval trade routes through Central Asia and the origins and dispersal of arboreal crops. Her current work is dedicated to archaeobotanical studies of the medieval period in southwestern Central Asia, I analyze data from nine archaeological cities in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan.

**Li Tang**

*Domestication and Anthropogenic Evolution (DAE) Independent Research Group,*
*Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology;*
*Institute for Prehistoric and Protohistoric Archaeology, Christian-Albrechts University of Kiel*

Li Tang is a doctoral researcher at the Max Planck Institute for the Geoanthropology. She is interested in how human societies could have occupied high-altitude environments. Her current work investigates the adaptation mechanisms of prehistoric food production and consumption on the interior Tibetan Plateau by the application of proteomics, isotope, and archaeobotany.

**Rasmus G. Bjorn**

*Archaeolinguistic Research Group, Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology*

Rasmus Bjorn uses comparative linguistics to analyze the spread of ideas and material culture in prehistory by examining loanwords with reference to auxiliary data such as archaeology and genetics. His PhD project 'Crops, Fruits, and Words' researches this phenomenon in Central Asia, departing from Dr. Spengler's work on assembling the archaeobotanical data for the region. I particularly look at the interfaces between the various language groups, e.g. Iranian, Turkic, Burushaski, and Tocharian.

**Dr. Barbara Cerasetti**
*ISMEO – The International Association for Mediterranean and Oriental Studies*

Ph.D. in Archaeology, Barbara Cerasetti is since 2006 the Project Director of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Turkmenistan and, since 2014, of the TAP - Togolok Archaeological Project at the Bronze Age site of Togolok 1. She is an expert in Bronze Age Central Asia, with the main focus on mobile pastoralism, and the settlement dynamics that characterized the transition to the Iron Age. She participated in numerous field research projects in collaboration with European and U.S. institutes, in Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Oman, Turkey, Syria, Algeria, Tunisia, and Italy.

**Dr. Sonja Kroll**
*Muséum National d´Histoire Naturelle (MNHN), Paris*

Dr. Kroll studied Biology in Regensburg and Near Eastern Archaeology in Munich and Tübingen. She completed her DPhil in Archaeological Science, entitled 'Mobility and Subsistence of Prehistoric Societies in southern Central Asia and Iran: A multi-isotopic Approach' at the Muséum National d´Histoire Naturelle in Paris and the University of Bern. Her research is focused to apply stable isotope analyses within multidisciplinary approaches on the mobility and diet of humans and animals, the paleoenvironment, as well as paleoecology and human - animal - landscape interactions in southern Central Asia, Iran and adjacent regions from Neolithic to Bronze Age.

**Roberto Arciero**
*Faculty of Archaeology, Leiden University;*
*The International Association for Mediterranean and Oriental Studies*

Roberto Arciero is a Ph.D. candidate at Leiden University. He is currently investigating the water and agricultural management system of the Murghab region during the Bronze Age and early Iron Age. For his project, he aims to apply a holistic approach combining geoarchaeology, remote sensing analysis, and classic survey methodologies.

**Luana D'Ippolito**
*Scuola Interateneo di Specializzazione in Beni Archeologici (SISBA), University of Trieste;*
*The International Association for Mediterranean and Oriental Studies*

Luana D'Ippolito is an archaeologist with a Master's Degree in Archaeology at the University Sapienza of Rome and currently a post-graduated student of the 'Scuola Interateneo di Specializzazione in Beni Archeologici (SISBA)' at the University of Trieste'. Her main research focus is the study of the ceramic production and material culture of Near East and Central Asia regions. She has been a senior member of TAP Project and ceramic specialist with specific interest in the study of ceramic remains from Bronze Age site of Togolok1 since 2019.

**Dr. Luca Forni**
*The International Association for Mediterranean and Oriental Studies; Alma Mater Studiorum-Università di Bologna*

Luca Forni holds a postgraduate Specialization Degree in Archaeological Heritage at the Universities of Venice, Udine and Trieste. Since 2014 he has been a member of the Togolok Archeaological Project, focusing his efforts on the study of the BMAC material culture during the Bronze Age.

**Dr. Giedre Motuzaite- Matuzeviciute**
*Lithuanian Institute of History and Vilnius University*

Dr. Motuzaite- Matuzeviciute is a bioarchaeologist that studies past food and foodways in various regions of Eurasia using archaeobotany and stable isotope methods.

**Dr. Kai Kaniuth**
*Dept. of Culture Studies, LMU Munich*

Dr. Kaniuth has studied Near Eastern Archaeology, Prehistory and Assyriology. Since 2005, he is lecturer in Archaeology at LMU Munich. His fieldwork projects take place in Central Asia, the Southern Caucasus, Turkey, Syria and Iraq.

**Dr. Jamsranjav Bayarsaikhan**
*Mongolian Archaeological Project: Surveying the Steppes (MAPSS),*
*Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology*

**Dr. Mike Fisher**
*Mongolian Archaeological Project: Surveying the Steppes (MAPSS),*
*Department of Archaeology, Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology*

Mike Fisher is a Group Leader of Digital Archaeology at MPI-GEA, where he uses digital methodologies to investigate and document ancient human societies at both the landscape and site-level scales. As the research group leader for the Mongolian Archaeology Project: Surveying the Steppes (MAPSS), he implements a semantic graph geospatial database to integrate and analyze archaeological data from a wide variety of sources including remote sensing and pedestrian survey. As co-director of the Archaeological Mission to Surezha, Kurdistan, he oversees digital recording of the excavations of a Chalcolithic town in northern Mesopotamia, exploring the development of agropastoral economies, social inequality, and their impact on the natural environment.

**Dr. Sören Stark**
*The Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University*

Dr. Stark is a world leading expert in the early history and prehistory of Central Asia, with more than three decades of experience working with both ancient texts and archaeological material.

**For any additional info and questions please contact Rita Dal Martello:**
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