
Spatial distribution of the Upper Pleistocene in the region of Assilah

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Abstract

Al Manzla and Arbaa Ayacha regions (next to Assilah, Morocco) have yielded many prehistory artefacts from many different ages (ESA/MSA/LSA/Neolithic), and this during two seasons of a Moroccan-Quatarian mission.

The first season (2000) have uncovered more than 40 open-air sites, mainly on Al Manzla region. Tanged tools, foliated pieces, bladelets and various cores were many other types of objects were found.

The second season (2018) have established a larger excavation area (Al Manzla, Assilah and Arbaa Ayachaa) in order to find out more about those different human cultures and industries.

The present research will focus on studying typological and technological aspects of some uncovered lithic artefacts from the second season, in the interest of revealing what cultures/ages are beneath those objects. The geographical aspect, considering its importance, will also be discussed.

We will process a geographical analysis of the research region, as well as an LCA (Least Cost path Analysis) in order to understand paths and routes token by prehistoric humans through this area.

We will also present the typo-technological aspects of each site (AM: Al Manzla; and AY: Arbaa Ayacha). Correlations -based on multiple variables- between those sites will also be discussed.

Keywords: Prehistory, GIS, Archeology, Assilah, Morocco, Lithics, Spatial distribution, Correlations

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