
Last foraging activities vs productive economics: A gradual transitional system of food production from Neolithic sites in Tunisia.

Nabiha Aouadi*†¹

¹National Heritage Institute, Tunis, Tunisia – Tunisie

Résumé

Since the second half of the 8th millennium cal BP, humans groups from Neolithic sites in Tunisia changed gradually their economic strategies. We note from different stratigraphic sequences progressive shifts from mostly foraging activities (Early Neolithic groups) to mainly breeding system. Hunting activities are still mainly practiced as shown from the beginning of the archaeological sequences, and they are associated with few caprine (sheep and goats) breeding; later on, during the (Late/Final Neolithic), breeding activities of caprines, cattle, and dogs increase, while some occasional hunting activities are still practiced. Some complementary resources shared with their predecessor Capsian groups still remains, such as gathering and consuming land snails and wild plants. Some technological innovations, such as pottery, lithic and bone tool manufacturing, already set up by Capsian groups such as pottery, increase during the Neolithic groups. This paper will discuss all the transitional features detected at some Neolithic sites from Tunisia.

Mots-Clés: foraging activities, food production, Neolithic, Capsian, Tunisia.

*Intervenant

†Auteur correspondant: aouadi73@yahoo.fr