

# Exploring the Shahrizor Plain

## New research in Iraqi Kurdistan

University College London, Institute of Archaeology  
31-34 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PY, Room 612 (6<sup>th</sup> floor)  
Monday 19 December 2011, 2-5:30 pm, followed by a reception

At a crossroads between the flood plain of southern Mesopotamia, the Assyrian heartland to the north and Western Iran, the Shahrizor Plain in the province of Sulaymaniyah (Kurdish Autonomous Region of Iraq) constitutes one of the most fertile agricultural regions of the Middle East.

This conference presents new work in the Shahrizor, kick-started by the regional survey conducted in 2009 by the University of Heidelberg and the Sulaymaniyah Board of Antiquities and Heritage. The recent geomorphological fieldwork of a team from UCL forms part of a larger project on the environmental and land use history of the Shahrizor, in collaboration with Heidelberg. We are especially pleased to introduce the site of Gurga Çiya where UCL plans to start excavations in 2012.

### Speakers:

Simone Mühl (Heidelberg): Mesopotamia east of the Tigris: the Shahrizor plain and beyond

Mark Altaweel & Anke Marsh (UCL): Environmental and geomorphological research in the Shahrizor

Karen Radner (UCL): The Shahrizor in the 3rd to 1st millennium BC: from Simurrum to Mazamua

David Wengrow (UCL): Prehistory in the Shahrizor: some opening thoughts

Peter Miglus (Heidelberg): Excavations in Bakr Awa

All welcome. No need to register.

For maps and directions see [www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/contact](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/contact)

For further enquiries contact [m.altaweel@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:m.altaweel@ucl.ac.uk)

Organised on behalf of the British Institute of the Study of Iraq ([www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/iraq](http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/iraq)) and the London Centre for the Ancient Near East ([www.soas.ac.uk/nme/ane/lcane](http://www.soas.ac.uk/nme/ane/lcane)) by Mark Altaweel, Karen Radner and David Wengrow as part of UCL's Grand Challenge of Intercultural Interaction ([www.ucl.ac.uk/intercultural-interaction](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/intercultural-interaction)).



LCANE