

Bridging History

Development of Urban Societies

Look at the photographs taken of archaeological sites and discuss these questions with a partner:



GODDESS STATUETTE FROM
ÇATALHÖYÜK,
TURKEY

- Historians use archaeological evidence such as plant and animal remains, the layouts of settlements, and the sizes and numbers of pots to study the development of the earliest settlements. What kind of changes over time do you think historians expect to see in archaeological results from any particular site?

- What conclusions about urban life can historians draw from that evidence? There are signs of distinct areas designated for specialized functions, such as communal food processing and cooking, ceramic and bead production, and the crafting of decorated figurines. By 4000 BCE, Mehrgarh had gradually emerged as a highly specialized and prominent craft and trade center.

- In what ways is archaeological evidence limited? The technologies archaeologists currently use cannot capture and analyze all available material at a site.

- What other kinds of evidence might help broaden the picture of early urban life?

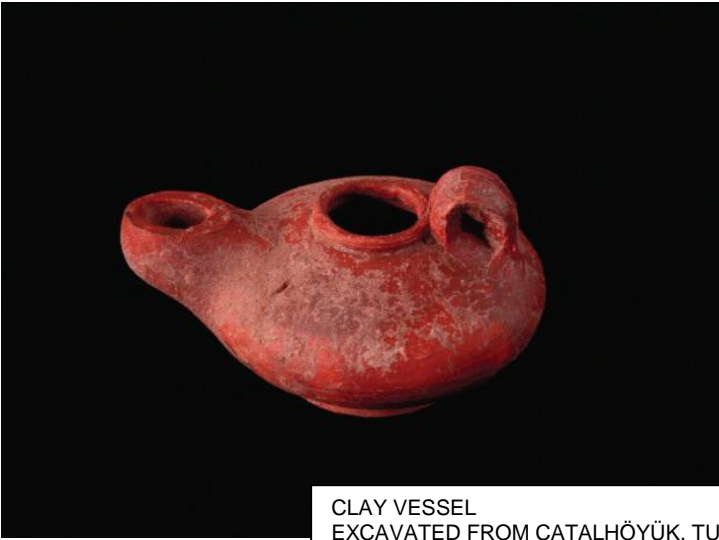
- How do interpretations change when new evidence is found? Since archaeological evidence is limited, the conclusions that historians draw from pre-historical sites are not fully supported. As new evidence emerges, new conclusions must be made.



UC BERKELEY
TEAM EXCAVATING A
NEOLITHIC HABITATION AT
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ARCHAEOLOGIST
REMOVING SOIL FROM EXCAVATED HUMAN
BONES, ÇATALHÖYÜK, TURKEY



CLAY VESSEL
EXCAVATED FROM ÇATALHÖYÜK, TURKEY



EXCAVATED
GRAVE AT ÇATALHÖYÜK, TURKEY



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