“A Road Well-Travelled? Exploring Late Pleistocene Hunter-Gatherer Practices, Networks and Mobility in Eastern Jordan”

With a specific focus on eastern Jordan, the Epipalaeolithic Foragers in Azraq Project explores changing hunter-gatherer strategies, behaviours and adaptations to this vast area throughout the Late Pleistocene. In particular, we examine how lifeways here compare to surrounding areas and what circumstances drew human and animal populations to the region. Integrating multiple material cultural and environmental datasets, we explore some of the strategies of these eastern Jordanian groups that resulted in changes in settlement, subsistence and interaction and, in some areas, the occupation of substantial aggregation sites. Five years of excavation at the aggregation site of Kharaneh IV suggest some very intriguing technological and social on-site activities, as well as adaptations to a dynamic landscape unlike that of today.

Lisa A. Maher is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley. Her work focuses on the interplay between social practices and environmental change at the transition from hunter-gatherer to farmer in the Near East and North Africa. She has been directing field projects in Jordan since 2001 and involved in projects in the UK, Syria, Libya, Arabia, Azerbaijan, Israel, Canada and the US. She currently co-directs the Epipalaeolithic Foragers in Azraq Project.

Location:
Building 500
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Terman Labs

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