Title: Human Life in Early Bronze Age I Jericho: A Study of the Fragmented Human Skeletal Remains from Tomb A61

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Abstract: This Honours research thesis takes an in-depth look at the human skeletal remains from an Early Bronze Age I Jericho tomb, excavated by Kathleen Kenyon in the 1950’s. Tomb A61 contains highly fragmented and commingled human bones, and has remained unstudied until this year. A sample of the tomb has been analysed in order to study the demographics and health of the occupants. In doing so, it is not only the intention to create a picture of human life in Jericho at this time, but also tie the human skeletal remains back into the archaeology of Jericho, and the Southern Levant. The Southern Levant in the Early Bronze Age I is a region undergoing socioeconomic transition. The non-urban Chalcolithic period makes way for the fortified and walled settlements of the Early Bronze Age II. The impact of this transition on the populations of the Early Bronze Age I is so far understood from the archaeology of the architecture and artefacts from settlements and corresponding funerary structures. Yet there is little study of the human remains themselves, and the stories they can tell about the populations of the Early Bronze Age Southern Levant. This lack of study is just a branch of a greater problem, however, which is the little uniformity across the study of human remains on an international level. Issues include varying global approaches to ancient human remains in the 19th and 20th Centuries, as well as the compromised state of fragmented and commingled human remains. This osteoarchaeological study of a tomb from Jericho, which is representative of the Early Bronze Age I Southern Levant, aims to contribute to these discussions and debates, whilst providing further published data for human skeletal remains for future research.

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Human remains, after careful mechanical cleaning, were subjected to anthropological analysis by J.T. according to the Standards for Data Collection from Human Skeletal Remains [4]. Sex was determined basing on the Phenice method and morphology of the skull (cf. [4]). Biological age was estimated using morphology changes within pubic symphysis [5] and standards for topography changes of auricular surface (cf. [4], [6]). To confirm biological age cranial suture closure, epiphyseal closure [7] and surface wear scoring systems for the anterior [8] and posterior teeth [9] were used. This report is concerned with fragmented skeletal remains dating to the Middle Bronze Age that were excavated in the 2001 campaign at Sidon, Lebanon. From 19 discrete burial units a total of by a mass of muscular tissue in life. There is extensive arthritic lipping on one right humeral capitulum. A. OGDEN and H. SCHUTKOWSKI Human Remains from Middle Bronze Age Burials at Sidon, Lebanon: the 2001 Season 163. Figure 7. Age distribution of skeletal finds from the 2001 campaign. The mortality pattern resembles those frequently. The oldest fragments of the Bible. A huge collection of ancient manuscripts was found in several places along the north-western shore of the Dead Sea.
Studies showed that the scrolls are 1,000 years older than the earliest dated manuscript of the Old Testament. Thanks to these texts, we clearly know what life was really like in those ancient times. Behistun Inscription. © img-fotki.yandex.ru. Researchers think that humans didn’t live there but visited it periodically just for the purpose of depicting images. Rosetta Stone. © inma.org.