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Cover illustration: Impression of a third millennium BC cylinder seal from Tell Arbid in Syria combined with the depiction of a mermaid – a motif from Warsaw's coat of arms. Designed by Łukasz Rutkowski.

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PRELIMINARY RESULTS FROM THE EXCAVATION AT TELL NADER IN THE KURDISTAN REGION OF IRAQ

KONSTANTINOS KOPANIAS,
CLAUDIA BEUGER, SHERRY C. FOX

ABSTRACT

In 2010, the University of Athens obtained permission from the Ministry of Municipalities and Tourism of the Kurdistan Regional Government of Iraq (KRG), the General Directorate of Antiquities of Kurdistan, the Directorate of Antiquities of Erbil, and also the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage and the Ministry of Culture of Iraq to conduct excavations in two important archaeological sites: firstly – in Tell Nader, which lies on the outskirts of the city of Erbil, and then – Tell Baqrta, approximately 28 km to the south of Erbil, near the Minara village. In this paper, we offer a summary of the results of the first excavation season in Tell Nader, which was conducted in April 2011.

INTRODUCTION (KK)

In 2010, the University of Athens obtained permission from the KRG and the SBAH to conduct excavations in two archaeological sites: first in Tell Nader and then in Tell Baqrta.¹ Tell Nader² lies on the outskirts of the city of Erbil (36.173148°, 44.075490°),

1 *Tell Baqrta* lies approximately 28 km to the south of Erbil, near the village Minara, on the road to Makhmour. It is one of the largest archaeological sites in the Erbil region. The site consists of a central mound 27 m high and 3.7 ha. at the base, surrounded by a lower town covering approximately 84 hectares (Ur in: Kopanias *et al. forthcoming*). The mound has two main access points, which are still visible. The surface pottery indicates that the site was in use from the Chalcolithic to the Parthian and Islamic period, i.e. from the 5th millennium BC to the end of the 1st millennium AD. It is probable that Tell Baqrta could be identified with the Neo-Assyrian town Baqarru and the Old-Babylonian town Qabra (MacGinnis in: Kopanias *et al. forthcoming*). Tell Baqrta was brought to our attention by Dr. Narmen Ali Muhamad Amen, Professor of Archaeology at the Salahaddin University-Hawler. In addition, the Governor of the Erbil province, Mr. Nawzad Hadi Mawlood, invited a team from the University of Athens in order to examine old and new theories concerning the location of the Gaugamela battlefield. For more information see <http://arbela.uoa.gr/>

2 We are grateful for the hospitality and assistance which was offered very generously to us by the archaeological authorities of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. We would like to especially thank Mr. Othman Zengin Abubaker (Malawaat), and Mr. Babakr Nader from the General Directorate of Antiquities, Mr. Haydar Hussein and Hasan Hussein Saber from the Directorate of Antiquities of Erbil, Dr. Ahmed M. Mirza from the Salahaddin University-Hawler, as well as the Kurdish archaeologists who participated in our excavation season of 2011: Mr. Swan Ahmed, Mr. Goran Mohammed, Ms. Hazan Latif, Ms. Lavin Jabbar, Ms. Rezna Abdulkadel, Mr. Ramzi Hamed. The site was discovered and also subsequently protected by Mr. Nader Muhammad, an archaeologist of the Directorate of Antiquities of Kurdistan, and was named accordingly after him.

approximately 6.3 km E-NE of the citadel (Fig. 1a). It is *c.* 1 hectare big and *c.* 5 m high. Prior to its discovery, a part of it was destroyed by a bulldozer during construction works (Fig. 1b).

EXCAVATION (KK)

The first excavation campaign in Tell Nader was conducted in April 2011. Time constraints during this first campaign did not allow us to conduct an intensive survey of the site.³ The surface finds indicate that Tell Nader was in use from the Hassuna period down to the Middle (and possibly early Neo-) Assyrian period. The main period of site occupation, judging from the quantity of finds, seems to have been the Late Ubaid/Early Uruk (Vértesalji 1984; Jasim 1985; Henrickson and Thuesen 1989; Gut 1995; Bauer *et al.* 1998; Hammade and Yamazaki 2006; Butterlin 2009; Carter and Philip 2010).

During the first season in April 2011, we began our excavation in the northern part of the *tell*, where the bulldozer had removed the surface layers, and excavated an area of 15x15 m (Fig. 1b). We opted for the *open area excavation method*, which meant that the excavation was done through natural stratigraphic layers on a larger scale without maintaining bulk walls. We found a total of 15,654 pottery sherds (total weight 500 kg) and 2,319 lithics (total weight 24 kg), mainly flint but also 68 obsidian.⁴ The excavation thus far revealed no buildings, although several well-baked bricks were found, which indicate the existence of architectural remains in the area. A number of simple pyrotechnic clay constructions⁵ belong to a single layer, with pottery from the Early Northern Ubaid, as well as of the Transitional period (Kayani 1996) (Fig. 1b). Most significant among these is an oval-shaped earthenware *tannur*, with a thick layer of ashes around it, as well as a two-chambered sun-dried clay construction (Fig. 2a), similar to a two-chambered pottery kiln at Yarim Tepe I (Oates and Oates 1976: 42).

An artificial concentration of small stones was unearthed in the western part of the excavation area. This stone concentration covered the interior of two circular clay constructions (Fig. 2b), probably ovens or kilns.⁶ The western one (*C-I*) was found

3 Prior to the excavation, we surveyed the area, collected characteristic surface pottery and lithics, and noted their coordinates on the topographic plan. Moreover, we collected all surface finds from the 24 grid squares, which were chosen as the starting point of the excavation. From the surface of this 20 x 30 m area, we collected a total of 2,956 pottery sherds with a total weight of 50 kg (each sherd is represented as a randomly plotted red dot on the plan) and 660 lithics, with a total weight of 8 kg.

4 We have also recorded with a Total Station the location of all objects, including animal bones, painted pottery sherds and well-crafted lithics. After the conclusion of the study, we are not only going to be able to look for patterns in the distribution of the finds, but we are also going to know the exact percentage of the decorated pottery in relation to the undecorated ceramics, the percentage of imported pottery in relation to that locally produced, and so on.

5 For the terminology, see Yasim 1985: 53. The term 'kiln' refers to commercial installations used for pottery making; the term 'oven' for those which were used for domestic purposes such as making bread; and 'hearth' for those in the form of shallow pits used for cooking and heating.

6 Such clay constructions with similar dimensions have been found, among other sites: e.g. Tepe Gawra (Square 5-S, Stratum XVI – Tobler 1950: 41, pl. XLIIa), Arpachiyah (Mallowan and Cruikshank Rose 1939: 14) and Tell Zeidan (Stein 2010b: 108, fig. 8; Stein 2011: 124, fig. 3).

partially destroyed. Part of its wall was apparently broken already in antiquity and was moved from its original position. Nevertheless, the eastern circular construction (C-2) was not damaged.⁷ Inside it there was an inhumation burial of an adult woman (Skeleton 2: Kopanias and Fox *forthcoming*) (Fig. 3-4). Her legs were flexed, her hands positioned on her breast and belly, but, strangely, her body was in a prone position and also her head faced the ground.⁸ The circular construction was too small for the body, so her feet stuck out. The female was placed very carelessly inside the kiln and her prone position was intentional. Several pieces of clay were found near her head, an indication that the soil was shoveled very carelessly on the dead body. No funerary offerings were found inside the grave, with the exception of three dog teeth (all from different animals), which were found near the head of the dead person. A similar, still unexcavated clay circular construction (C-3) was unearthed further north of the first two ones. It seems that all three clay circular constructions that have been discovered so far at Tell Nader were also used as ovens or kilns. After their abandonment, one of them was used as an improvised grave for the adult woman.

During the excavation of 2011, we found a total of five clay animal figurines, which probably served as toys and not as votives (Tobler 1950: 165-6). The first one possibly depicting a ram (Fig. 5a) clearly resembles figurines from the Ubaid layer at Tepe Gawra.⁹ The second animal figurine, possibly depicting a sheep (Fig. 5b), is also very similar to Ubaid finds from Tepe Gawra (Tobler 1950: 243, pl. CLIV.18). The fragmentary preservation state of the other three figurines does not allow for an identification of the depicted animal. The excavation also uncovered six so-called clay nails (*Tonnägel*), which are very typical of the Ubaid period (Fig. 5c). There has been some speculation about their interpretation (decorative wall pegs, paint grinders, sickle hand protectors, model bull's horns, nail-shaped mullers) (Tobler 1950: 169), but the matter is still unresolved. These clay nails are found in southern Mesopotamia,¹⁰ but also in sites near Tell Nader, such as Arpachiyah (Mallowan and Cruikshank Rose 1939: 90, pl. 49.8) and Tepe Gawra (Tobler 1950: 224, pl. LXXXIII f-g). Another interesting find is a clay horn-shaped object and a similar cone object with a flattened upper end (Fig. 5d). Such objects could be interpreted as labrets or ear-spools (e.g. from as-Sabiyah: Stein 2010a: 31, fig. 2.5), tokens (Bauer *et al.* 1998: 46ff.) or gaming pieces (Tobler 1950: 170). Close parallels have been found in a tomb from Stratum XVIII at Tepe Gawra (Tobler 1950: pl. LXXXIV.c). At Tell Nader we have also unearthed clay spindle whorls, similar to those known in several north Mesopotamian sites and also

7 Dimensions: N-S 0.90-1.10 m and E-W 1 m, preserved width of clay walls: 0.07-0.28 m.

8 For the burial customs of the Ubaid, see Hole 1989. For Tepe Gawra in particular, see Peasnell 2002.

9 Tepe Gawra: 1) Tobler 1950: 224, pl. LXXXII.c.6; 2) Tobler 1950: 224, pl. LXXXII.c.1; 3) Tobler 1950: 243, pl. LXXXI.b.2, pl. CLIV.12. The figurine cannot be compared with Ubaid figurines from southern Mesopotamia (e.g. from Uruk – Wrede 2003: pl. 14-22), but bears clear similarity with figurines from north Mesopotamian sites, e.g. Arpachiyah (Mallowan and Cruikshank Rose 1939: 88, fig. 48, no. 8) and Choga Mami (Oates 1969: 149, pl. 31e).

10 For example, Uruk – Schmidt 1972: 39, pl. 59, no. 705-706 (I thank Dr. M. Van Esch for pointing out this parallel).

Qalinj Agha,¹¹ terracotta disks perforated through the middle which served as jar stoppers,¹² and also a stone macehead.¹³ Another interesting small find is a clay sling shot (Fig. 5e), which seems very similar to the ones found in Tell Zeidan, Tell Hamoukar, and other sites (e.g. Stein 2010b: 108, fig. 7). During the first excavation season we found no seals or sealings, but a small clay object seems to be a prepared lump of unused sealing clay (Fig. 5f), similar to objects found in Tell Zeidan (Stein 2010b: 110, fig. 11).

The excavation produced a total of 2,979 lithics. The raw materials mainly used for the production of the lithic tools were flint (94%) and obsidian (c. 2%). From the technological point of view, there is evidence of all stages of the reduction sequence, since the finds include many cores, flakes, blades and waste. The flint tools are relatively few, in relation to the volume of lithic debitage (Kopanias *et al.* 2013: 32-33). A sample of the obsidian finds was sent to the McMaster University in Canada for a non-destructive analysis with an *Energy-Dispersive XRF Spectrometer*. The initial analysis shows that the material is largely, if not exclusively, made of obsidian from the Bingöl massif (Kopanias *et al.* 2013: 33-36).

The main botanical species represented included free-threshing wheat, which in some instances was identified as bread wheat, barley, possibly pea (Kopanias *et al.* 2013: 29-30). The bulk of mammalian remains belong to cattle, sheep or goat, pig and dog. According to the Maximum Anatomical Units count, the most abundant species is sheep/goat (47%) followed closely by the pig (39%), while cattle, also taking into account their large size, are also significant with 11% (Kopanias *et al.* 2013: 30-32).

POTTERY (CB)

The survey at Tell Nader in April 2011 and the first excavations of this campaign revealed a sequence from the Late Neolithic to Late Bronze/Early Iron Age.¹⁴ The second campaign of excavations in September 2012 has proven the general outline of the site's chronology, but still the late 4th-early 2nd millennia stay elusive. The recent excavation revealed several smaller Late Neolithic collections – without any distinct younger intrusions – which curiously appeared inside the Ubaid level (Hassuna-Samarra, Fig. 6a-d). Only one clear Halaf sherd was found by Mr Nader Babakr Muhammad (Fig. 6), but the excavated material offers several sherds which should be identified as Transitional Halaf-Early Northern Ubaid (Fig. 7).

11 Arpachiyah – Mallowan and Cruikshank Rose 1939: 88, fig. 49, nos. 15-16. Qalinj Agha – al-Soof 1966; 1968; 1969; al-Soof and Es-Siwwani 1967; Hijara 1973; Gut 1996.

12 E.g. Arpachiyah – Mallowan and Cruikshank Rose 1939: 90, fig. 49, no. 22.

13 Inv. no. U403-BAG8. Tepe Gawra – Speiser 1935: 86-87, pl. XLII, no. 4; Rothmann 2002: pl 66, no. 629 (Level XIA/B) and pl. 66, no. 1181 (Level XI/XA).

14 The Early Chalcolithic date (Northern Ubaid) of the main occupation level was already supposed by Mr Nader Muhammad (Directorate of Antiquities of Kurdistan), who discovered the site in 2010.

The Northern Ubaid material of Tell Nader (Fig. 8) matches well with parallels from Tepe Gawra as well as Hammam et-Turkman in Syria or Eridu and Uruk-Eanna in southern Mesopotamia. Typical bowls of fine clay, greenish colour and with dark painting (most commonly zigzag, Fig. 8a-b) are quite frequent in the excavation. An oval vessel (Fig. 8c) with light reddish painted decoration finds an identical reference in Qalinj Agha (without context) and similar examples are known from Tepe Gawra XVII-XV. Finally, in 2012 some fragments of the characteristic tortoise bottles were documented (Fig. 8d-e).

Still, we lack a stratigraphical basis of the most interesting horizon (see below) of the Ubaid-Uruk transition (LC1-2). Concerning this problem, the assignment of the following types to this date is only provisional. The bowls with a smooth grooving on the rim are the second largest group of vessels at Tell Nader (Fig. 9a-c). They occur in small and large scale, and they are characterized by a coarser fabric with organic temper. References are known only from Qalinj Agha Lev. IV (= Gawra A) and Tell Brak.¹⁵ A second type which occurs frequently is the double rimmed jar (Fig. 9d-e). The form is already known in Ubaid contexts, but one example from the survey at Tell Nader has a dark brown painted decoration which resembles 'sprig ware' and supports a 'terminal Ubaid' date (Gut 1996; Ball 1997: 93). The variant of this type (Fig. 9f-g) is well known at Qalinj Agha Lev. IV and could serve as a fossil type of this horizon.

Just as in Qalinj Agha there are further characteristic Northern Uruk types (LC1-2), such as bowls with drops of paint at the inner rim, jars with grooved inner rims/necks, Coba-bowls, casserole bowls, hole mouth jars and hammer head bowls still missing (Gut 1995: 242; Brustolon and Rova 2007: 11, tab. 2).

An *in situ* find of the excavation is a large dark greenish baked bowl with a lot of organic temper (Fig. 10a). It finds a reference at Tell Brak, HS1, lev. 6 (= Early Middle Uruk, LC3), and is probably indicating a level which is already more or less eroded. Beyond that, Middle and Late 4th-millennium material is not really tangible yet: so-called 'ring scrapers' (Fig. 10b) were documented in a larger number and – referring to Alden (1988) – they can be seen as an indicator of the Uruk period, but the types of Tell Nader show generally the typical Ubaidian fine clay with greenish colour, sometimes with a brownish band painting. A single sherd can be identified probably as 'Red Uruk Ware' (Fig. 10c) because of its orange-red colour with a slight polish.

The Early 3rd millennium as well as the Late 3rd millennium are probably present but not clearly identified. A sherd with a regularly impressed decoration and a painted foot of a chalice-like vessel (Fig. 11a-b) could be assigned to the Ninevite 5 complex.¹⁶ The rims of two bowls (Fig. 11c-d) are reminiscent of the deep bowls with comb decoration from Tempel G in Ashur. The shape of Fig. 11e could be seen within the context of the Early Khabur Ware, but in Tell Brak and in Ashur a longer runtime until the Mittanian time was observed (Beuger 2007: 164), a period that is becoming more apparent in Tell Nader since we found several 'pie crust pot stands' in 2012 (Fig. 11f).

15 The decoration pattern of one example, which is singular at the moment, finds a parallel at Telul eth-Thalathat II, lev. VI (= Gawra B).

16 But note also the foot of the anthropomorphic vessel of Yarim Tepe I (Hassuna period, see Merpert /Munchaev 1999).

The LBA/EIA date of the grave (Fig. 12),¹⁷ uncovered in 2010 during construction works for a water pipeline at the western fringe of the site, is based mainly on sherds found in the vicinity of the grave. Characteristic Middle Assyrian shapes with typical organic temper were found generally at the outline of the Tell, architectural structures are probably completely eroded.

The similarity of the prehistoric pottery of Tell Nader with the published material from Qalinj Agha (Gut 1995: 241-2)¹⁸ – 5 km to the west – is not surprising and at this early stage of pottery analysis we can quote a high relationship with Tepe Gawra. However, except for Qalinj Agha and Tepe Gawra, the most important reference sites of the area (Dunham 1983: 25-6), the region northeast of the Tigris is generally less investigated. Traditionally, southern Mesopotamia is seen as the origin for a homogenous culture and the diffusion to the North is accepted (e.g. Roaf 1990: 53; Weeks *et al.* 2010: 247). Younger investigations in Syro-Anatolia, on the other hand, let us assume that independent developments took place at the same time in the north (Brustolon and Rova 2007: 4-5; Karsgaard 2010). Our work at Tell Nader should help to integrate this region into the broader context of the Chalcolithic.

Future work at Tell Nader intends to create a reference sequence for the north-eastern Mesopotamian prehistoric pottery cultures.¹⁹ The results should give a new basis especially for the complex discussion about the Ubaid-pottery phenomenon (transfer/exchange of technologies and cultural elements) and they should help to define the Chalcolithic pottery tradition in the contact zone between the larger areas of Syro-Anatolia and Central/Southern Mesopotamia.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL ANALYSIS (SF)

To date (2011), two individuals from primary interments have been excavated at Tell Nader. *Skeleton 1*, which will be described first, was uncovered prior to excavations at the site. *Skeleton 2* is the primary focus of this report.

In 2010, a jar burial was struck by a bulldozer during construction works that initially brought the site of Tell Nader to the attention of archaeologists. The jar burial likely dates from the Middle or Early Neo-Assyrian period (Fig. 12a).²⁰ Very little of the skeleton was actually recovered, largely due to the fair-to-poor preservation of the

17 The vessel is only known thanks to the photographs taken by Nader Babakr Muhammad.

18 The citadel of Erbil should be another important bench mark in the eastern Tigridian region, but recent excavations have not revealed any clear prehistoric indicators so far (Nováček *et al.* 2008: 276).

19 Other objectives will be the archaeometrical analysis of the ceramic material and the identification of relevant clay sources, since detailed studies are still limited for prehistoric times in the whole Mesopotamia. Cf. for example, Moorey (1994: 154) for different uses of clay colours.

20 Analysis of Skeleton 1 took place at both the Erbil Civilization Museum and the Iraqi Institute for the Conservation of Antiquities and Heritage in Erbil.

human remains.²¹ Based upon the hyper-flexed position of the adult individual's lower limbs, I am suggesting that the legs had been bound prior to the body's placement in the jar. The feet of the individual were likely placed toward the toe of the jar, while the head was toward the shoulder of the jar, and the body had been placed on its back in a supine position with the head positioned possibly toward the west. Based upon cranial morphology and long bone robusticity, this individual is sexed as a possible male.²² The age of this individual is 25-42 years at the time of his death, based upon the 'phase 4/phase 5' morphology of a sternal rib end. Ten teeth were recovered from this individual (#2, #3, #4, #9, #10, #11, #18, #30, #31, and #32) and all exhibit dental attrition. Two additional alveoli were recovered, without the corresponding teeth. The sockets (alveoli) for both maxillary left premolar teeth have been recovered, but the teeth had been lost postmortem (#12, #13). Non-metric traits are noted among this individual, including partial atlas bridging of the first cervical vertebra, and a double-rooted maxillary right premolar (#4), along with some dental pathological lesions, including antemortem tooth loss with resorption of the socket (alveolus) of the maxillary left 1st molar (#14), dental calculus, periodontal disease and a possible periapical abscess.

Skeleton 2 had been placed into a circular-shaped kiln in a prone position with the legs flexed and arms folded under her body with her fingers extended (Fig. 3a-b, Fig. 4). Her head was directed toward the southeast aspect of the kiln while her legs towards the north.²³ The human skeletal remains were dry-brushed, washed, and inventoried. The study of Skeleton 2, utilizing a similar methodology as outlined for Skeleton 1 above, took place at the Wiener Laboratory of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. In Greece, the cranium was reconstructed, the remains were photographed, pathological material was radiographed, the skull was CT-scanned, and select samples were taken for radiocarbon and stable isotope analyses.²⁴ Following completion of the study of the human remains representing Skeleton 2, the individual has been returned to the Erbil Civilization Museum.

The sex of this adult (Skeleton 2) is female based upon pelvic and long bone morphologies. Her age at death appears to have been between 25-39 years based upon pelvic morphologies as defined by Lovejoy *et al.* (1985). In particular, the auricular surface morphologies of her ilia were examined and it was found that the left auricular surface appears to be a Phase 4 (35-39 years) when compared to the right (Phase 2/3, or 25-34 years at the age of death). She appears older skeletally than the possible adult

21 The human skeletal material was dry-brushed and the soil adhering to the bones was sieved in an approximate 3/8" mesh screen. Most of the bones were washed, although select fragments were not. Reconstructions were made with UHU brand wood glue.

22 The results of analyses of Skeleton 1 are based upon standard accepted morphological means utilizing Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994).

23 Skeleton 2 was excavated by S. Fox, A. Hadjikoumis and M. Koutsoubou. Each bone was numbered and bagged separately upon removal, combined with a sketch and numerous photographs. A computerized reconstruction has been generated by L. Kopania.

24 Provided generously through a grant from Ron Pinhasi.

male represented by Skeleton 1. Her stature could be reconstructed to 163.9 cm + 4.57 cm (5'2¾" – 5'6¼") based upon the length of her left ulna (24.10 cm), using the formula developed by Trotter and Gleser (1958). Thirteen teeth were recovered from Skeleton 2, including eight teeth and an additional root within the mandible (#17-#20, root only of #23 as crown was lost postmortem, #27, #30-#32), along with the following loose teeth: #6, #22, #24, #26, #29. Attrition is not pronounced.

Evidence in the form of dental enamel hypoplasia of the mandibular right canine, which is rotated distally, demonstrates a disturbance in growth during infancy or early childhood, perhaps from malnutrition, fever, or a constitutional disorder. M. Roggenbucke painstakingly reconstructed the poorly preserved cranium of Skeleton 2. This has led to a couple of discoveries, including the presence of extrasutural bones within the lamdoidal suture. What is clearly depicted is evidence that this woman had been headshaped in infancy, most likely during the first two years of her life. Additionally, a well-healed depressed cranial fracture was found on her right parietal near the parietal foramen and the sagittal suture. Both the headshaping and trauma will be described in greater detail in future publications. Unfortunately, the poorly preserved remains, including samples from both mid-shaft cortical bone from a femur and a premolar tooth, have failed to produce C-14 dates at the University of Arizona's radiocarbon lab. Stable nitrogen isotope analysis at the University of Oxford similarly produced no results.²⁵ This analytical technique is useful for helping to reconstruct the diet.

CONCLUDING REMARKS (KK)

The results of the first excavation season in Tell Nader are promising. The preliminary study of the finds shows that all excavated structures so far belong to the same stratigraphic horizon dated to the Ubaid. It seems that the pyrotechnic clay constructions were probably used as ovens or kilns. After their abandonment, one of them was used as an improvised grave for an adult woman. This site could produce a complete stratigraphy not only for the Late Neolithic/Chalcolithic, but also for later periods from the 3rd to the early 1st millennia BC, thus becoming an important reference point for the archaeology of this region.

25 The right lower leg from Skeleton 2 was not recovered as it was likely removed by the bulldozer, and although virtually complete, this skeleton was also in a poor state of preservation.

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Figs.	date	fabric	decoration	reference	reference context
6a	Hassuna	beige, medium hard, fine clay with sand, some lime and organic temper	incised herringbone pattern	Gut 1995, pl. 4.38, 40	Nineveh
6b	Hassuna (or N. Ubaid?)	light brown, medium hard, fine clay, a lot of fine lime, some fine organic temper and fine mica	incised herringbone pattern	Gut 1995, pl. 4.45	Nineveh
6c	Hassuna "husking tray"	brownish, fragile, a lot of coarse organic temper	finger impressions	Gut 1995, pl. 5.58	Nineveh
6d	Hassuna "husking tray"?	brownish, fragile, a lot of coarse organic temper	incised lines	Gut 1995, pl. 6.64-5	Nineveh
6e	Hassuna	beige-greyish beige, medium fine clay, medium hard, black minerals, some medium coarse organic temper	reddish brown clay(?) colour	Gut 1995, pl. 8.91-2	Nineveh
6f	Samarra	beige-greyish beige, medium fine clay, medium hard, black minerals, some medium coarse organic temper	reddish brown clay(?) colour	Gut 1995, pl. 26.441-5	Nineveh
6g	Samarra	light brown slip, smooth surface, medium hard, fine/medium fine clay, sand and lime temper, some fine organic temper and fine mica	red/reddish brown clay(?) colour	Gut 1995, pl. 26.441, 27.450	Nineveh
6h	Samarra	light brown slip, smooth surface, medium hard, fine/medium fine clay, sand and lime temper, some fine organic temper and fine mica	red/reddish brown clay(?) colour	Gut 1995, pl. 24.427, 31.491, 33.518, 42.621	Nineveh
6i	Halaf	very hard, lustrous polish, fine clay with fine lime, some mica and black minerals	dark brown clay colour	Gut 1995, pl. 44.689, 47.723, 48.736	Nineveh
7a-g	Early N. Ubaid	hard, greenish (f, c: light brown), fine with some fine inclusions of minerals, lime and organic temper	dark brown/black (f, c: orange/reddish brown) clay colour	Friefelt 1989, 406 fig. 2	Dosariyah (Saudi-Arab.)
8a-c	Late N. Ubaid	fine clay, greenish, hard	dark painting (most commonly zigzag)	Akkermans 1988, 137 fig. 2.12, 138 fig. 3.32,35,36	Hammam et-Turkman IVA, Tepe Gawra XVII, Eridu VI, Uruk Eanna XVII
8d	Late N. Ubaid	fine clay, beige, hard	light brown clay colour		An oval vessel with light reddish painted decoration finds an identical parallel in Qalini Agha (without context) and similar examples are known from Tepe Gawra XVII-XVI-XV
8e	Late N. Ubaid-Uruk "double mouth jar"	less fine clay, beige, hard		Gut 1995, 232 tab. 21; Rothman 2002, pl. 14.1435, 1444	Tepe Gawra XIII-VIII
8f	Late N. Ubaid-Uruk "turtle jar"	fine clay, greenish, hard	red/reddish brown clay(?) colour		Tepe Gawra Eridu
8g	Late N. Ubaid-Uruk "turtle jar"	fine clay, greenish, hard	light brown clay colour		Tepe Gawra Eridu
9a	LC1/2				
9b	LC1/2		light brown clay colour		
9c	LC1/2			Matthews 2003, 46-7 fig. 3.15.15.31	Tell Brak HS 6 levels 4-2
9d	LC1/2	beige, fine, mineral temper and some lime and organic inclusions		Rothman 2002, pl. 9.723, 750; Al Quntar et al. 2011	Tepe Gawra XIA/B
9e	LC1/2 "sprig ware"	beige, fine, mineral temper and some lime and organic inclusions	dark brown clay colour	Rothman 2002, pl. 9.790	Tepe Gawra XIA/B
9f	LC1/2				Qalini Agha
10a	Middle Uruk "ring scrapers"	thrown of fine clay and baked greenish	sometimes with a brownish band painting	Alden 1988; Matthews 2003, fig. 4.18:4-5	Tell Brak HS1 lev. 6
10b	Middle Uruk "Red Uruk Ware"?	orange-red colour with a slight polish wheel made, hard, very fine clay, some fine organic temper and mica, a lot of very fine lime			
10c	Middle Uruk LC3	dark greenish baked, a lot of organic temper		Matthews 2003, 86-7 fig. 4.22.2	Tell Brak HS1 lev. 5

11a	Ninevite 5? (or Uruk?)	light beige slip, fine clay with some lime and organic temper	fine and regular impression of a V-shaped tool		
11b	Ninevite 5	F6 greenish	black paint	Gut 1995, pl. 83.1183	Nineveh
11c-d	Late 3 rd Mill.	hard, beige, fine, some fine mineral temper		Beuger 2007, 158 fig. 76	Ashur, Ishtar Tempel G
11e	Old Babylon.	hard, beige, fine, some fine mineral temper		Beuger 2007, 164 fig. 84	Ashur, deep trench
11f	Mittanian "Late Khabur Ware"	hard, beige, fine, some fine mineral temper	brown clay colour	Oates et al., 1997, nos. 270-1, 457, 472	Tell Brak
11g	Mittanian "pie crust pot stand"	hard, light beige, fine, some fine mineral temper			
12a-c	Middle/Early Neo Assyrian	hard, beige, good visible organic temper		Beuger 2007, 125 fig. 57, p. 127 fig. 60, p. 198 fig. 99	Ashur, deep trench
12d	Middle/Early Neo Assyrian	grave			

Table 1: Pottery catalogue (C. Beuger)



Fig. 1a: Excavation in Tell Nader, end of excavation season 2011.
(Source: K. Kopanias)

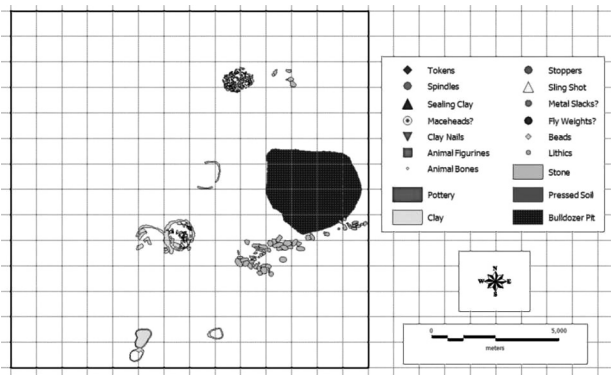


Fig. 1b: Plan of architectural finds in Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.
(Source: K. Kopanias)

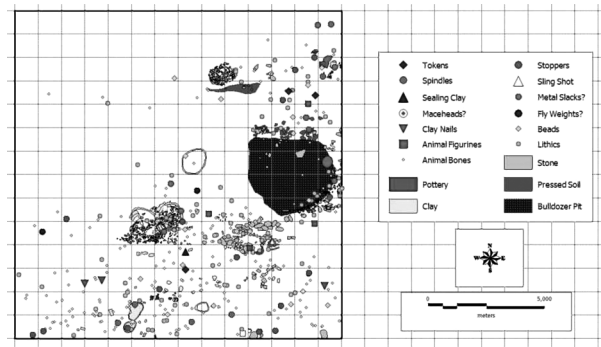


Fig. 1c: Distribution of the finds in Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.
(Source: K. Kopanias)



Fig. 2a: Clay kiln (?) in Tell Nader,
excavation season 2011.
(Source: K. Kopanias)

Fig. 2b: Double clay oven with a female burial.
Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.
(Source: K. Kopanias)

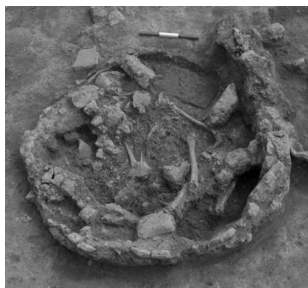
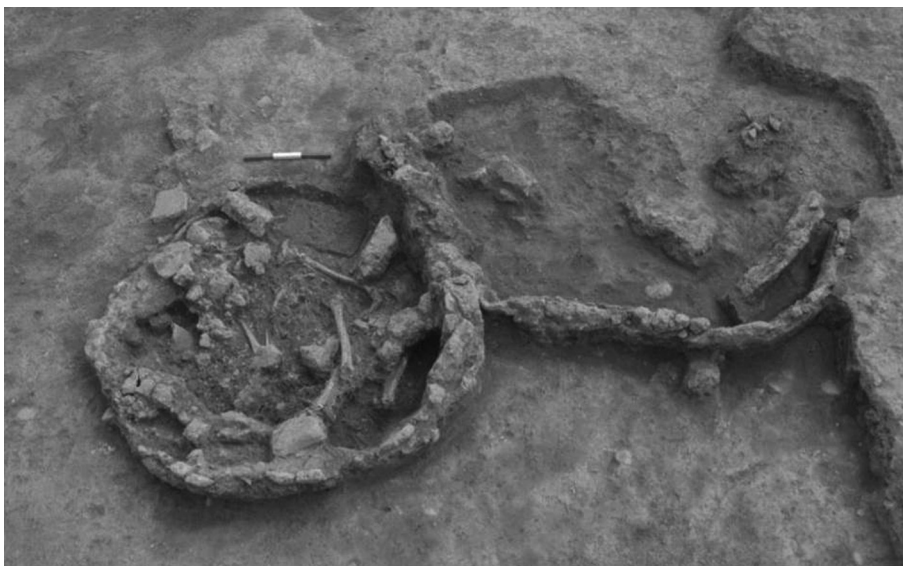


Fig. 3a: Female burial in Tell
Nader, excavation season 2011.
(Source: K. Kopanias)

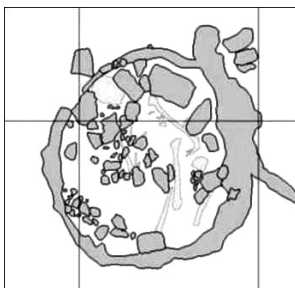


Fig. 3b: Plan of the female burial in
Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.
(Source: K. Kopanias)



Fig. 4: 3D reconstruction of the female burial in Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.
(Source: L. Kopania)

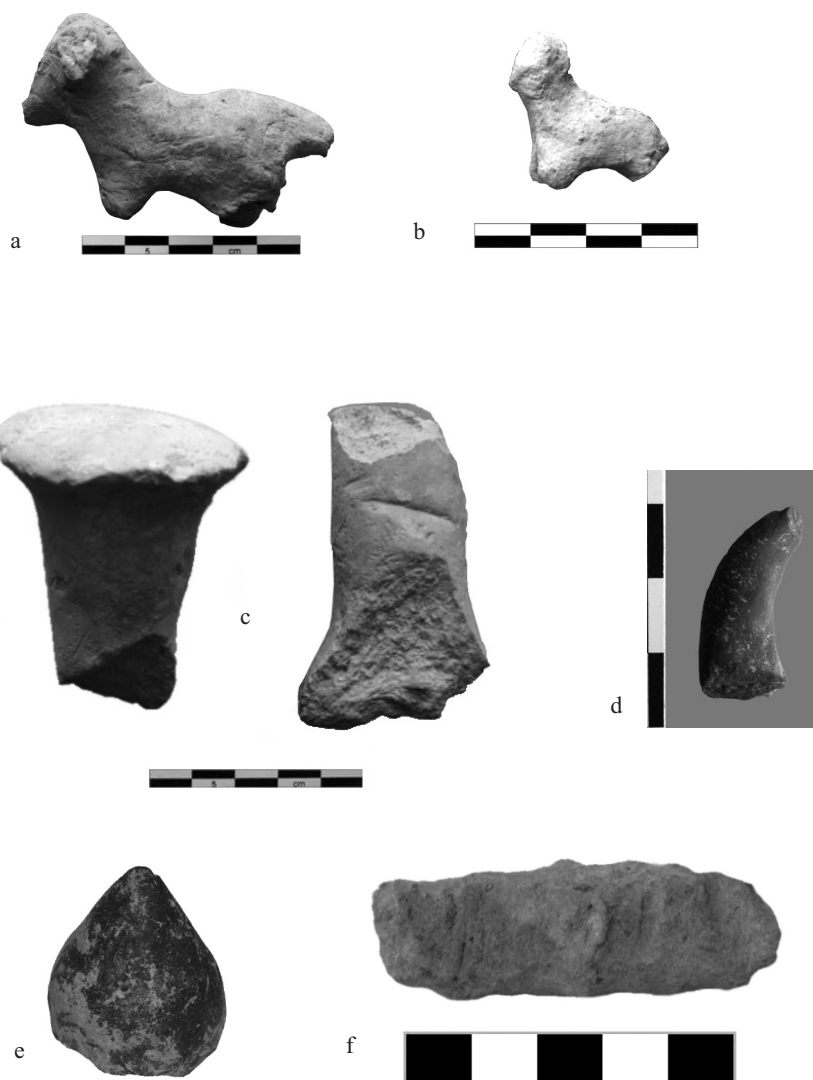


Fig. 5a: Clay animal figurine. Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.

Fig. 5b: Clay animal figurine. Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.

Fig. 5c: Clay nail. Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.

Fig. 5d: Clay horn-shaped 'token'. Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.

Fig. 5e: Clay sling shot. Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.

Fig. 5f: Prepared lump of unused sealing clay. Tell Nader, excavation season 2011.

(Source: K. Kopanias)

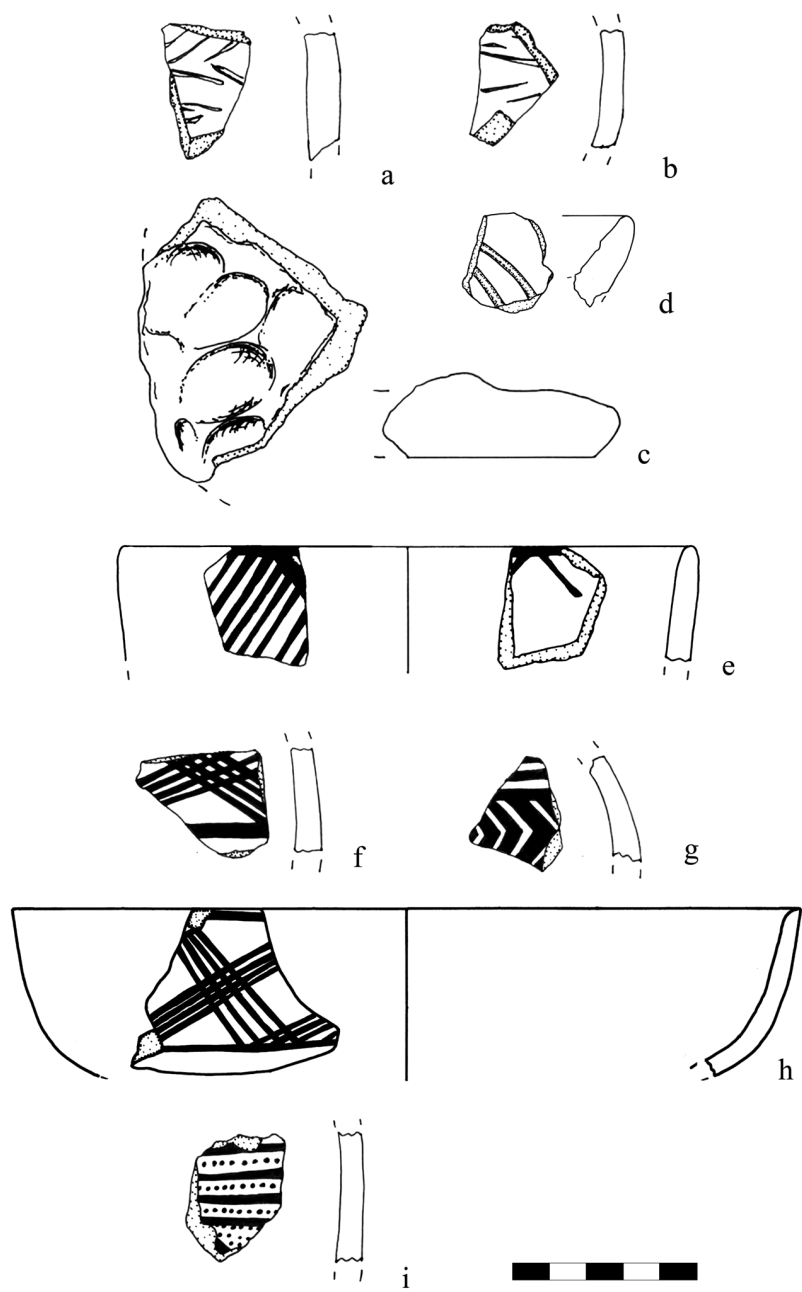


Fig. 6: Pottery from Tell Nader. Excavation season 2011.
(Drawings: C. Beuger)

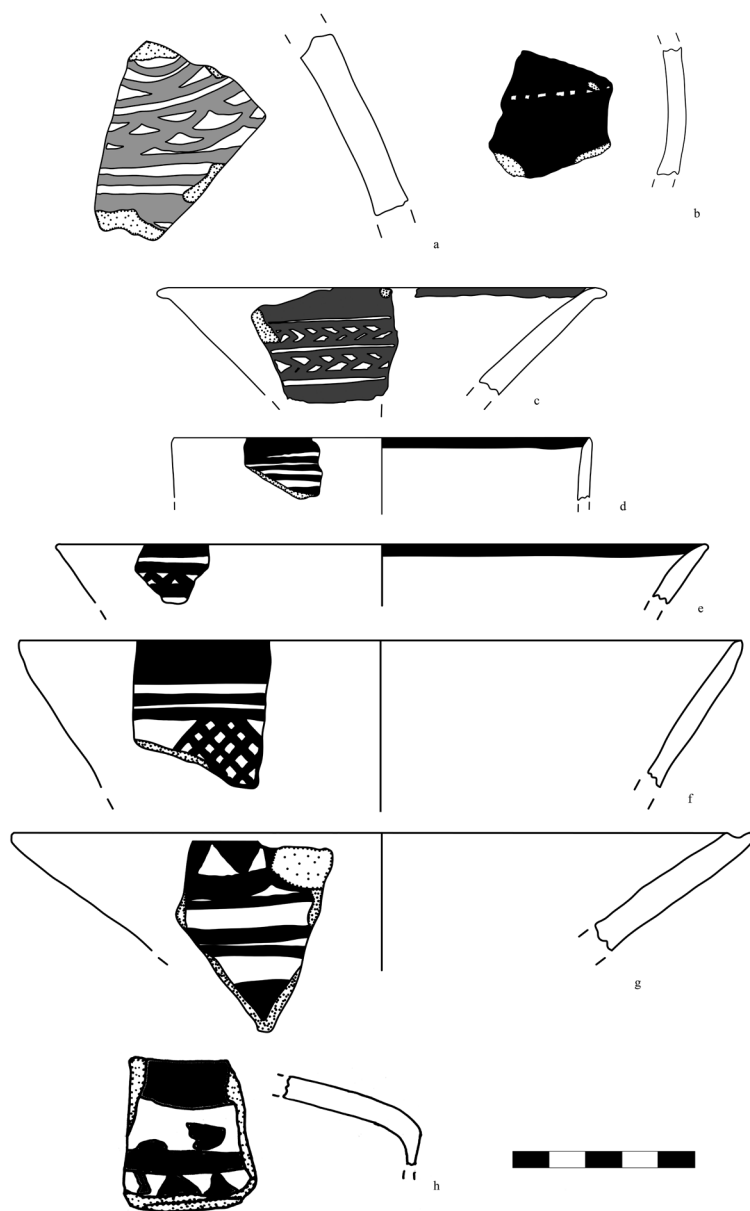


Fig. 7: Pottery from Tell Nader. Excavation season 2011.
(Drawings: C. Beuger)

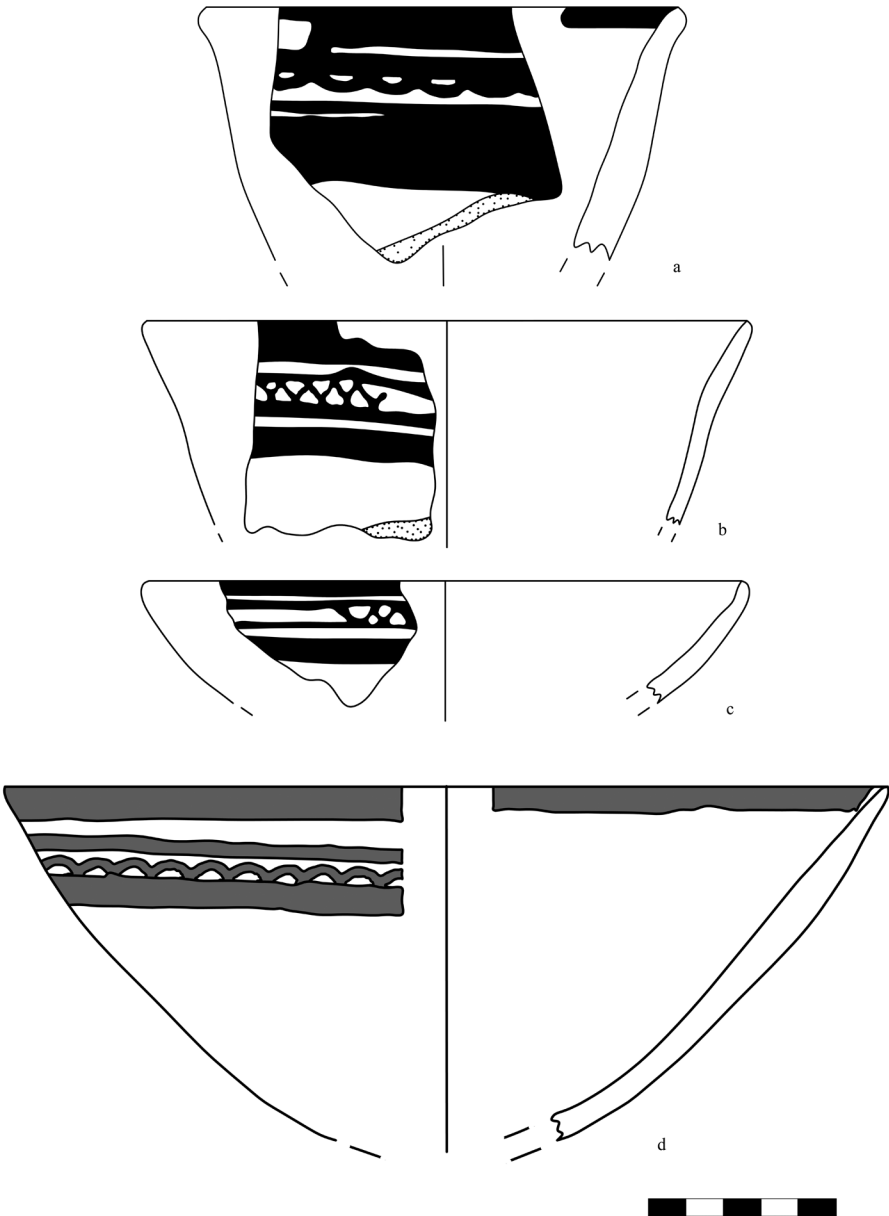


Fig. 8: Pottery from Tell Nader. Excavation season 2011.
(Drawings: C. Beuger)

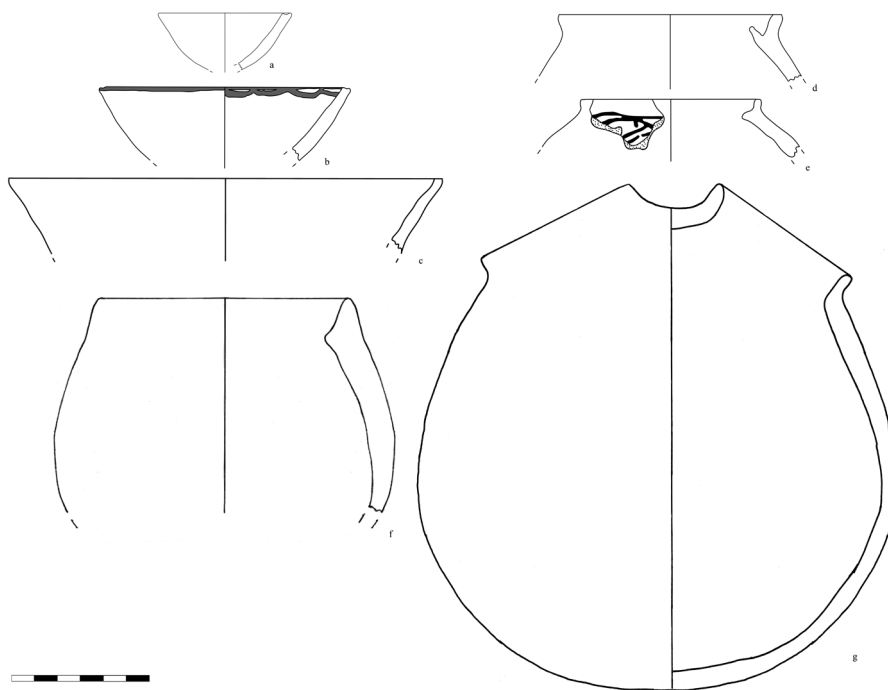


Fig. 9: Pottery from Tell Nader. Excavation season 2011.
(Drawings: C. Beuger)

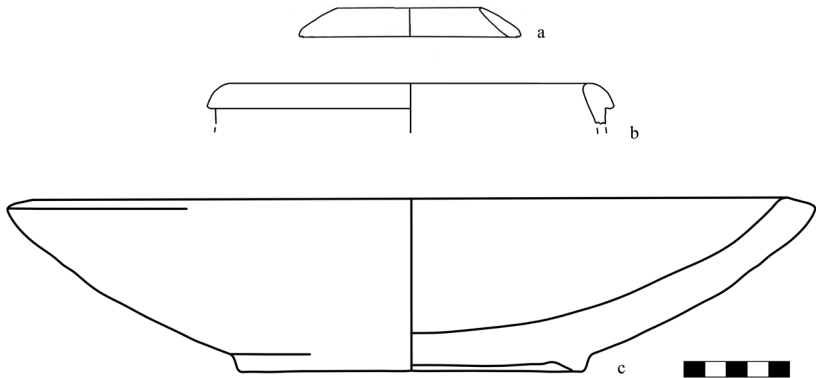


Fig. 10: Pottery from Tell Nader. Excavation season 2011.
(Drawings: C. Beuger)

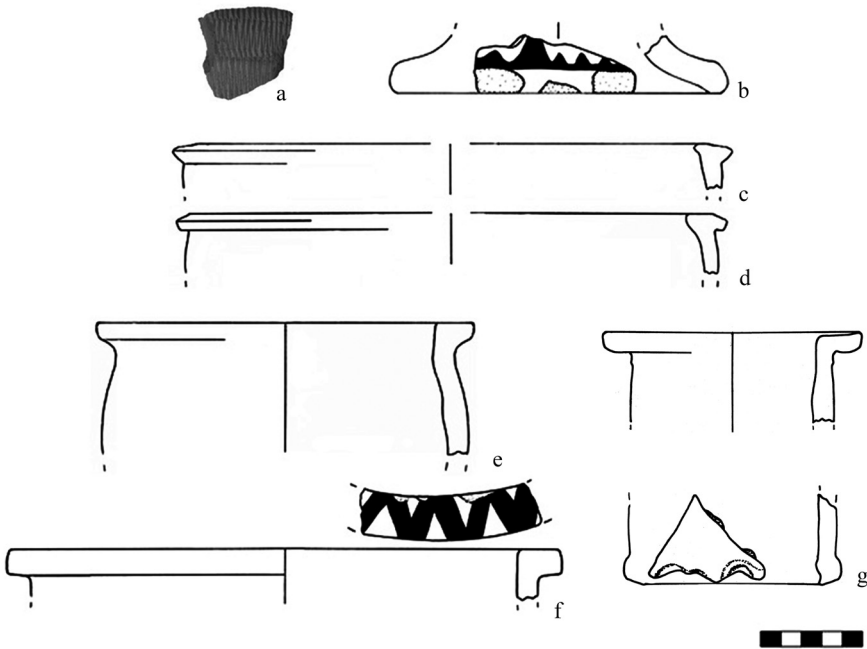
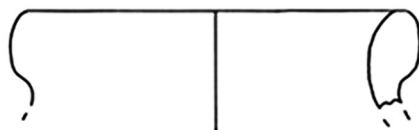


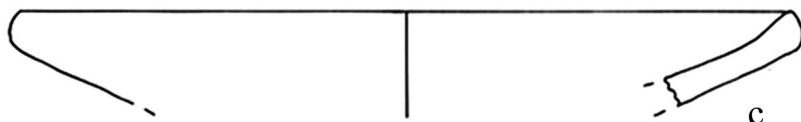
Fig. 11: Pottery from Tell Nader. Excavation season 2011.
(Drawings: C. Beuger)



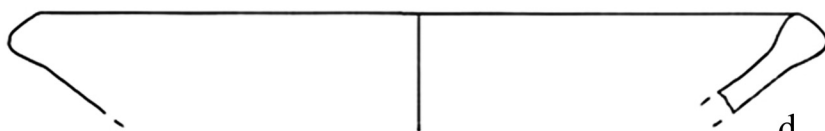
a



b



c



d



Fig. 12: Pottery from Tell Nader. Excavation season 2011.
(Drawings: C. Beuger. Photo: Nader Babakr Muhammad)