A collection of five fully peer-reviewed series dedicated to the archaeology and history of a region spanning from the Southern Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean, via the Near and Middle East, the Persian Gulf, and the Caucasus, to Central Asia, Pakistan, and Xinjiang.

Together, these five companion series examine the concepts of Identity, Diversity, and Contact over time and distance. In doing so, they not only cut across geographical and chronological borders, but also those between disciplines, encouraging new collaborations between different scholarly communities.

Stretching from the early Palaeolithic to the time of Alexander, the series explore the cultures and technologies that saw a hunter-gatherer society transform into sophisticated civilisations of the Bronze and Iron Ages.
Studies in the SUBARTU series, founded in 1995, take an interdisciplinary approach to Upper Mesopotamia from Prehistory up to the end of the Iron Age. Drawing on fields as diverse as archaeology, geography, environmental studies, history, epigraphy, and heritage, the series brings scholars from different disciplines into dialogue and opens up new approaches to our understanding of a region that has for millennia been at the crossroads between different cultures and civilizations. The series takes an open and exploratory approach to a geographical area that encompasses Iraq, Syria, and Southern Turkey, and which forms a bridge linking Mesopotamia to the Mediterranean, while its broad time frame encourages a focus on long-term change, and a reappraisal of established chronologies for this region. The editors of the series are proud to present SUBARTU as part of The East collection, which, together with its companion series – LEMA, ARAXES, ARATTA and OXUS – provides a broad geographical and chronological scope for international research from the Southern Balkans to Xinjiang, shedding light on the importance of identity, diversity, and cultural contact in Western and Central Asia from the early Palaeolithic to the end of the Iron Age.
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This series engages with archaeology and ancient history centered on the greater Iranian plateau, extending west to southern and central Mesopotamia, south to western Arabia and the Persian gulf, east to the Indus Valley and north to western Central Asia. The series focuses on the place of the highland region and its interconnected relations with the surrounding lands linked through both overland and maritime routes. It thus seeks to move beyond a Mesopotamian-centered focus for understanding the ancient world towards one that engages with the complexity of mutual interaction that allowed riverine, steppe, mountain and oases cultures to flourish. The chronological frame (from the Palaeolithic through the end of the Iron Age) allows for contributions from a wide range of disciplines, from archaeology and archaeological sciences to ancient history and epigraphy, heritage, and environmental studies, and it encourages interdisciplinary research. The Editorial Board also welcomes specialized studies within the defined region that contribute new data and interpretations useful for documenting and understanding the impact of long-distance relations. The series encourages the integration of distinct area studies into a synthetic consideration of interactions both regionally and at a distance. Together with the complementary series SUBARTU, LEMA, ARAXES, and OXUS, ARATTA seeks to illuminate and specify the variety of relations among and between communities that were connected through long-distance networks.
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This series will focus on the developments of cultures and civilisations in a part of Middle Asia and Central Asia, from the Palaeolithic to the conquest of Alexander. The Oxus basin forms the central area but of equal importance are the region’s relationships with Iran and India, as well as permanent contacts with the steppe world. Situated at the crossroads of Middle Eastern, Iranian, Indian, and Chinese cultures, this region nurtured the original models of Neolithisation, and of Chalcolithic, Bronze, and Iron Age cultures up to the Achaemenid empire and the Scythian cultures. At the interface between agrarian societies and steppe stock breeding cultures, and at a time long before the Silk Road, this area played a central original role in long-distance exchange networks across Eurasia. The exploitation of unique local natural resources, from lapis lazuli, tin, and jade, to camels and horses, boosted trade, migrations, and conquests. The sometimes-amazing conservation of organic material in arid deserts or in frozen burials in the region enables us to study such developments in an exceptional manner. Contributions to the series may try to explore the evidence for such big pictures and long-range phenomena, providing the reader with important and original material of archaeological excavations. The Editorial Board also welcomes monographs and edited collections devoted to inter-related topics such as paleo-economics, biological archaeology, or ancient art history, and studies of methodology and theory are also encouraged.
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The LEMA series (for Levantine & Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology) is devoted to the archaeology of the Eastern Mediterranean (Northern Egypt and the North-Eastern African Coast, the Sinai Peninsula, Israel/Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, Western Syria, Cyprus, Western and Central Anatolia, Greece and the Southern Balkans) from the Lower Palaeolithic up to the beginning of the Hellenistic Period. This series aims to bring together regions that have traditionally been treated as separate entities by different disciplines, but that from at least the Bronze Age onwards – if not before – were in fact closely linked mostly through maritime contacts. These contacts are not only attested by the exchange of material culture, but more importantly also through the exchange of ideas and technology transfer. Fields covered by this series include archaeology, archaeological sciences, art history, ancient history, epigraphy, heritage and environmental studies. LEMA welcomes both studies of individual sites within the geographical and chronological boundaries, as well as synthetic overviews covering smaller or larger parts of the study area. Studies focusing on interregional contacts within the Eastern Mediterranean (and beyond) are particularly welcome. Together with its companion series SUBARTU, ARATTA, ARAXES and OXUS, LEMA aims to foster interdisciplinary approaches and thus contribute to a more holistic understanding of the Ancient Near East in its widest sense by breaking up the traditional boundaries between Egyptology, Near Eastern Archaeology, Classical Archaeology, and their various sub-disciplines.
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This series is devoted to exploring the archaeology and ancient history of the vast region of highlands that extends between Mesopotamia, Iran, the Anatolian peninsula, and the Eurasian steppes, from the Palaeolithic era to the beginning of the Hellenistic period. This region, crossed by the Caucasus range, has often been considered as a mosaic of different cultures, to be studied in isolation from one another. In contrast, this series highlights the importance of the area as a bridge that connected Eurasia with the Near East, both geographically and culturally, and thus explores common elements and interconnections across the region. Drawing together scholars working on areas including the northern portions of the Near East (Turkey and northwestern Iran), the newly independent countries of the Southern Caucasus (Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan), and the Northern Caucasus and Black Sea areas, the series encourages an interdisciplinary approach.

Monographs and edited collections from fields including archaeology and archaeological sciences, ancient history, epigraphy, environmental studies, and heritage are all welcomed. Together with its companion series (ARATTA, LEMA, OXUS, and SUBARTU), ARAXES sheds light on the importance of identity, diversity, and cultural contact in Western and Central Asia from the early Palaeolithic onwards.
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