



Contribution ID: 243 Contribution code: AAC-2

Type: Oral Presentation

Introducing 'Horsepower: China, Mongolia and the steppe'

Tuesday, 22 October 2024 09:40 (20 minutes)

From the second millennium BC, two great cultures formed, traded and fought across Eurasia –one based on horses and herding that stretched from Mongolia to the European steppe, and the other, to the south that consisted of established and newly formed states from the Middle East to the Chinese Central Plains.

Horsepower: interactions between China, Mongolia and the steppe 2000–0 BC studies these relationships between China and neighbouring Mongolia and Central Asia by exploring the trade in horses. It also looks at the associated material culture associated with horseback riding or the driving of vehicles, and the metal supply from China to the north and northwest.

Combining scientific techniques in genetics (DNA analysis), radiocarbon chronology and metallurgical analysis with theories of cosmology, aesthetics and performance plus new archaeological excavation in Mongolia and China, this project examines early state formation in Mongolia and China in the first two millennia BC.

The current presentation serves two purposes: firstly, introducing the 'Horsepower' project to the international community; and, secondly, presenting a database intended to contain ALL 14C dates thus far produced pertaining to archaeological sites within the boundaries of modern day China.

Student Submission

No

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Session Classification: Applications in Archaeology

Track Classification: Applications in Archaeology