

RJ Hall

Subject: FW: TeHEP UPDATE 28 DECEMBER 2009

Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project

Trinity Southwest University,
Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

in a Joint Scientific Project with the

Department of Antiquities,
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

TeHEP UPDATE

28 December 2009

An Exclusive Report for TeHEP Alumni, Financial Supporters, and Friends

[GLOSSARY OF CHRONOLOGICAL TERMS FREQUENTLY USED IN TeHEP UPDATES:

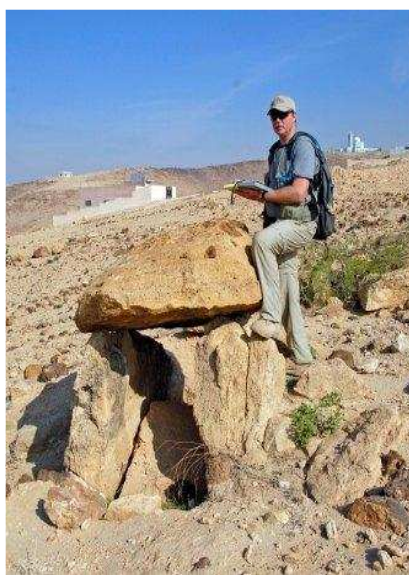
Chalcolithic Period = Copper/Stone Age, 4400-3300 BCE; EBA = Early Bronze Age, 3300-2350 BCE; IBA = Intermediate Bronze Age, 2350-2000 BCE; MBA = Middle Bronze Age, 2000-1550 BCE; LBA = Late Bronze Age, 1550-1200 BCE; IA1 = Iron Age 1, 1200-1000 BCE; IA2 = Iron Age 2, 1000-586 BCE; IA3 = Iron Age 3/Persian Period, 586-332 BCE; HP = Hellenistic/Greek Period, 332-63 BCE; ERP = Early Roman Period, 63 BCE-168 CE]

Hello All:

Today was another exploration day for Steve McAllister, Mike Luddeni, Hussien, Ken Schath, and me. Hussien's dolmen survey in the area a few years ago registered 223 of the Early Bronze Age funerary monuments, but there were several areas that he didn't include. So today we covered that additional territory. In the process we added 137 new dolmens to the survey. We GPSd, photographed, and wrote a verbal description of each one. I think this is a new world record in registering dolmens in a single day (actually, in the space of about 4.5 hours!). We covered a lot of rugged terrain to the south of Tall el-Hammam. We've now identified these dolmen groups collectively as the Tall el-Hammam Dolmen Fields, and have now registered all of them with our own HD (= Hammam dolmen) registration number (example: HD.267).



DR. COLLINS AND DOLMEN



DR. MCALLISTER RECORDING A DOLMEN

Needless to say, we were really tired when we were finished. It was a very warm day, and we were moving at a pretty rapid pace with three "spotters," Mike taking photos, and Steve M. doing the GPS and recording duties. In our absence, the dig back at the site went forward under the able direction of Gary Byers, and some very exciting things happened, including an interesting new wall going under the EBA city wall.



GIANT MILLSTONE FOUND DURING OUT DOLMEN SURVEY

God bless you all.

Digging the Bible,

Steven Collins, TeHEP Director
Dean, College of Archaeology, Trinity Southwest University

P.S. Please forward this to whomever you like!

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Donations can be mailed to: TSU; 5600 Eubank NE, Suite 130; Albuquerque, NM USA 87111.

For detailed information about the Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project, visit the official TeHEP website: www.tallelhammam.com.