

Death as Archaeology of Transition: Thoughts and Materials

Papers from the II International Conference of
Transition Archaeology: Death Archaeology
29th April – 1st May 2013

Edited by

Leonor Rocha
Primitiva Bueno-Ramirez
Gertrudes Branco

BAR International Series 2708
2015

Published by

Archaeopress
Publishers of British Archaeological Reports
Gordon House
276 Banbury Road
Oxford OX2 7ED
England
bar@archaeopress.com
www.archaeopress.com

BAR S2708

Death as Archaeology of Transition: Thoughts and Materials
Papers from the II International Conference of Transition Archaeology: Death Archaeology,
29th April — 1st May 2013

© Archaeopress and the individual authors 2015

ISBN 978 1 4073 1359 7

Printed in England by Information Press, Oxford

All BAR titles are available from:

Hadrian Books Ltd
122 Banbury Road
Oxford
OX2 7BP
England
www.hadrianbooks.co.uk

The current BAR catalogue with details of all titles in print, prices and means of payment is available free from Hadrian Books or may be downloaded from www.archaeopress.com

CONTENTS

PREFACE	v
DEATH IN THE CAVE. HUMAN REMAINS FROM THE UPPER PALEOLITHIC IN THE IBERIAN PENINSULA	1
Rodrigo de Balbín Behrmann	
A LAPA DO SONO (SESIMBRA, PORTUGAL) – NEWS ABOUT A NEOLITHIC FUNERARY CONTEXT	29
Rosário Fernandes, Pablo Arias, Mariana Diniz, Frederico Tátá, Paulo Rodrigues, Leonor Rocha	
LE MÉGALITHISME ATLANTIQUE : UNE ILLUSOIRE TENTATIVE DE DOMESTICATION DU TEMPS ET DE L'ESPACE ?	35
Luc Laporte, avec la collaboration de Yan Bernard	
GRAPHIC PROGRAMMES AS IDEOLOGICAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE MEGALITHS: THE SOUTH OF THE IBERIAN PENINSULA AS CASE STUDY.	51
P. Bueno Ramirez, R. de Balbín Behrmann, R. Barroso Bermejo	
TIEMPO Y PAISAJE EN LA NECRÓPOLIS MEGALÍTICA DE GUADANCIL (CÁCERES)	71
Enrique Cerrillo Cuenca, Raquel Licerias Garrido, Jairo Naranjo Mena, Alicia Prada Gallardo, Ivo Santos	
ANTHROPOMORPHIC IMAGES AS ORIGINS OF ANCESTOR'S "CAVES". THE STELE-MENHIR OF ANTA DO TELHAL, ARRAIÓLOS. EVORA. PORTUGAL.....	83
P. Bueno Ramirez, R. de Balbín Behrmann, L. Rocha, J. Oliveira	
SITES DE PASSAGE (3). LA REPRÉSENTATION DE L'ARC AU COURS DU VE MILLÉNAIRE D'APRÈS LES STÈLES DE BRETAGNE, DES ÎLES ANGLO-NORMANDES ET DE L'ALENTEJO	95
Serge Cassen, Laurent Lescop, Valentin Grimaud, Pedro Alvim, Philip de Jersey	
THE ROLE OF CHILDREN IN LATE NEOLITHIC. MULTIPLE BURIALS IN RATZERSDORF/AUSTRIA.....	127
Karin Wiltshcke-Schrotta	
LES PRATIQUES MORTUAIRES DU NÉOLITHIQUE RÉCENT EN ALSACE: L'EXEMPLE DU SITE DE GOUGENHEIM (FRANCE, BAS-RHIN)	131
P. Lefranc, H. Réveillas, Y. Thomas	
DES TRIBUS AUX CHEFFERIES DANS LES ÎLES ORCADES (ECOSSE)	145
Christophe Sévin-Allouet	
ENTERRAMIENTOS INDIVIDUALES Y ENTERRAMIENTOS COLECTIVOS EN NECRÓPOLIS DEL MEGALITISMO AVANZADO DEL INTERIOR: LA CUEVA 9 DE VALLE DE LAS HIGUERAS. TOLEDO.....	165
Rosa Barroso Bermejo, Primitiva Bueno Ramírez, Antonio Vázquez Cuesta, Armando González Martín, Leonor Peña Chocarro	

CHILDREN OF THE GRAVE: CONTRIBUTION OF NON-ADULT INDIVIDUALS IN SOME HUMAN OSTEOLOGICAL SERIES FROM COLLECTIVE BURIALS IN THE LATE PREHISTORY OF THE IBERIAN PENINSULA.	177
Claudia Cunha, Ana Maria Silva, Daniela Pereira, Tiago Tomé, Joana Paredes, Catarina Cabrita	
“AJUARES A LA MUERTE DE LOS NIÑOS”: EVOLUCIÓN DE LAS OFRENDAS FUNERARIAS EN LAS TUMBAS INFANTILES ENTRE EL NEOLÍTICO Y EL CALCOLÍTICO DEL INTERIOR PENINSULAR.....	189
Ana Mercedes Herrero-Corral	
DÓLMENES, CISTAS Y MENHIRES EN LA ESTACIÓN MEGALÍTICA DE GORBEIA (PAÍS VASCO): DISTRIBUCIÓN GEOGRÁFICA Y SECUENCIA FUNERARIA	197
Juan Carlos López Quintana	
THE FUNERARY MEGALITHIC OF HERDADE DAS MURTEIRAS (ÉVORA, PORTUGAL): THE (RE) USE OF THE SPACES	221
Leonor Rocha	
THE FUNERARY SETTINGS OF SEZIMBRA’S NATURAL CAVES (ARRÁBIDA, PORTUGAL)	231
Rosário Fernandes	
FUNERARY PRACTICES AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL DATA FROM THE NEOLITHIC HIPOGEA FROM OUTEIRO ALTO 2 (PRELIMINARY RESULTS)	239
Ana Maria Silva, Ana Isabel Fernandes, António Valera, Vítor Filipe	
LATE NEOLITHIC PIT BURIALS FROM PERDIGÕES ENCLOSURE (PORTUGAL): PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE PALEOBIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF THE EXHUMED HUMAN BONES	245
Ana Maria Silva, Inês Leandro, António Valera, Daniela Pereira, Cristina Afonso	
LA NECRÓPOLIS DE CUEVAS ARTIFICIALES DE LOS ALGARBES (TARIFA, CÁDIZ). ALGUNAS REFLEXIONES SOBRE ARQUEOLOGÍA FUNERARIA EN EL ÁMBITO DEL ESTRECHO DE GIBRALTAR.....	251
Vicente Castañeda Fernández, Iván García Jiménez, Fernando Prados Martínez, Yolanda Costela Muñoz	
VARIABILIDAD FUNERARIA EN LAS SOCIEDADES DEL III MILENIO EN EL SECTOR SEÑORÍO DE GUZMÁN DE VALENCINA-CASTILLEJA (SEVILLA).....	257
Pedro Manuel López Aldana, Ana Pajuelo Pando, Juan Carlos Mejías-García, M ^a Rosario Cruz-Auñón Briones	
LA NECRÓPOLIS DEL III MILENIO DE “EL SEMINARIO” (HUELVA). ORGANIZACIÓN ESPACIAL, CONTEXTOS Y PRÁCTICAS FUNERARIAS.....	275
José Antonio Linares Catela, Juan Carlos Vera Rodríguez	
THE TUMULI OF SELADO DO CAVALO (SERRA VERMELHA, COUNTY OF OLEIROS, DISTRICT OF CASTELO BRANCO).....	291
João Carlos Caninas, Fernando Robles Henriques, José Luis Monteiro, Francisco Henriques, Mário Monteiro, Emanuel Carvalho	

CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT BURIALS AND FUNERARY PRACTICES IN GEOMETRIC ARGOS, GREECE (FROM CA. 900 TO 700 B.C.E.)	307
Camila Diogo de Souza	
PRATIQUES ET MONUMENTS FUNÉRAIRES PROTOHISTORIQUES EN ALGÉRIE: UN PATRIMOINE PLURIEL EN PÉRIL	319
Hocine Rassoul, Mohamed Dahli	
THE OLIVAL DO SENHOR DOS MÁRTIRES NECROPOLIS (ALCÁCER DO SAL, PORTUGAL) IN THE CONTEXT OF THE IRON AGE FUNERARY PRACTICES OF THE SOUTHWESTERN IBERIAN PENINSULA.....	327
Francisco B. Gomes	
THE PREFERENCE FOR INHUMATION AT THE ROMAN NECROPOLISES FROM THE THIRD AND FOURTH CENTURIES A.D. IN PENAFIEL MUNICIPALITY (NORTH OF PORTUGAL)	343
Teresa Soeiro	
CIMETIÈRES ET PRATIQUES FUNÉRAIRES DES COMMUNAUTÉS JUIVES MÉDIÉVALES : CONFRONTATION DES DONNÉES ARCHÉOLOGIQUES ET TEXTUELLES	357
Philippe Blanchard, Patrice Georges	
ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN ALENTEJO - PORTUGAL	367
Jorge de Oliveira, Ana Cristina Tomás	

ANTHROPOMORPHIC IMAGES AS ORIGINS OF ANCESTOR'S "CAVES". THE STELE-MENHIR OF ANTA DO TELHAL, ARRAIOLOS. EVORA. PORTUGAL

P. Bueno Ramirez,¹ R. de Balbín Behrmann,¹ L. Rocha,² J. Oliveira²

SUMMARY

It is a fact that in Europe menhirs, stelae and statues and their origin, configuration, and maintenance in funerary megalithic spaces play an important role. The wealth and variety of anthropomorphic expressions in the Portuguese Alentejo form an interesting case study. The documentation of the engraved Anta de Telhal stele-menhir opens a new line of investigation. This is useful to reflect on the connectivity between open and closed architectures in Southern European megalithism. The movements of stones between them indicate a *longue durée* process, of which the manipulation of images on the ancestral stones is one of the clearest arguments for the creation of the past's ideology.

Key words: Megaliths. Stele. Menhirs. Engravings. Neolithic. Iberian Peninsula

RESUMEN

El papel de menhires, estelas y estatuas en el origen, configuración, refacturas y mantenimiento de los espacios funerarios megalíticos, es un hecho en toda Europa. La riqueza y variedad de las expresiones antropomorfas del Alentejo portugués constituye un interesante caso de estudio. La documentación de la estela-menhir grabada del Anta de Telhal, abre una línea de investigación para reflexionar sobre la conectividad entre arquitecturas abiertas y arquitecturas cerradas en el megalitismo del Sur de Europa. Los movimientos de piedras entre unas y otras apuntan procesos de *longue durée* que tienen en la manipulación de imágenes en piedra de los ancestros uno de sus más claros argumentos de creación de ideología de pasado

Palabras clave: Megalitos. Estelas. Menhires. Grabados. Neolítico. Península Ibérica

INTRODUCTION

The undeniable role of menhir, stelae and statues in open areas, with possible agricultural links, is completely different from the hiding of these pieces during the megaliths' construction (Bueno & Balbín, 2006). The image of darkness and basically being a cave is sought after in the artificial construction of megaliths. The use of anthropomorphic objects is one of the basic references for this. This way the past's value is transferred to the area where the ancestors are deposited. Moreover, probably the past of the lineage that holds the funerary space is reclaimed. The different evidences that have been found in the Iberian Peninsula (Bueno et al. 2007a) show the importance of gathering images from the past in the "cave" where the ancestral remains of a family or lineage will rest forever. This process of taking decorated elements that come from visible areas, in order to take them to a world that will never be seen is one of the references of the ancestral sepulchre's symbology.

Collective effort has always been analysed through studying megalithic monuments, however it should be extended to the wide group of stones that form groups in the open air. They were amplified, re-shaped and altered, including transfers of stones probably to other precincts and surely to megalithic monuments. The "connectivity" between them is a convincing argument for the establishing

of symbolical relations between both cultural products. The precincts could be areas for collective gatherings and the dolmens funerary areas for specific lineages or families. Segregation from what is public, in order to maintain private prestige, was used to create and sustain a mythical past.

These processes have got *longue durée* evidences that suggest the social acceptance of the moving of collective pieces to the funerary spaces of certain groups. Mentioned acceptance implies that the decorated objects in the megalithic precincts were open to access. It also implies physical help in the dragging and re-positioning of the menhir, stelae and statue-menhir and finally, an agreement regarding their use in funerary areas of more restricted access.

These mechanisms can easily be connected to management systems of the very funerary remains. The stones are moving just as much as the human remains are. In fact, the close relationship between the stone as an element and the human body contributes to a convincing image of every element being valued and interpreted as a body and, therefore, as an ancestor (Bueno et al. 2005a, 2008).

The origin of understanding the funerary universe in this way, associated with bug stones, is perfectly perceivable during the first moments of production groups' settling. The increase of data available for the analysis of megalithic statuary in Alentejo is inseparable from the abundant presence of old menhir in the area. The generation of

¹ Prehistory. University of Alcalá. Spain.

² Department of Archaeology. University of Evora. Portugal