

Community Mapping at Husban: Is the Narrative of Tall Husban Accessible to the Local Population?



Introduction

- Community mapping at Tall Husban in the summer of 2024
- Part of my thesis research on how to make the narrative of the site more accessible
- This portion of my thesis answers questions about the current accessibility of research to the local population and how that accessibility can be improved upon



Methodology

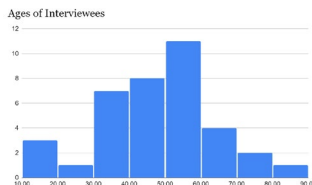
- Ethnographic interviews with local villagers on different themes:
 - Relations with the researchers
 - Knowledge about the site
 - Connection to the site
 - Hopes for site engagement development

Example Questions

- How are your relations with the archaeologists? How can these relations be improved on?
- If there were to be a recurring archaeology festival, how would you envision it?
- How do you see Tall Husban and the village in 10 years? What are your hopes for the future of the site?

Interviewee Demographics

- 21 women and 15 men were interviewed



Topics Discussed by Interviewees

- The lack of archaeological information available to them
- The lack of knowledge about what happens during the excavation
- Confused at the difference between excavation and conservation
- More site engagement, such as website, signage, better maintenance, more contact with the researchers, recurring archaeology festival and Bazaar



The Importance of ART

The Eppley Foundations of Interpretation course teaches the importance that knowledge of the Audience, knowledge of the Resource, and appropriate Techniques (ART) has in interpreting tangible resources. This experience allowed researchers to gain knowledge of the audience (local villagers), which in turn, can help bring more site engagement to Tall Husban.

Future Plans

- Recurring Archaeological Festival and Bazaar held in June
- Grant Proposals
- Web-based site engagement
- Translation of information to Arabic

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