A two-day Workshop

Archaeology of Warfare; Teaching and Studying warfare in Archaeology of East Europe and West Asia, Late Bronze Age and Iron age

A joint event by
Archéorient- UMR 5133
Institute for Advanced Study-Collegium of the Université de Lyon
The complex history of warfare across different periods and culturally diverse regions is an excellent source of information about the conflict in the human past. Warfare’s history chronicles events (e.g., battles, invasions, sieges, post-wars) and simultaneously explores cultural milieux and related social variables that influenced when, how, and on what scale warfare was conducted in the past.

The study and teaching of warfare in the archaeological record require a level of synthesis, temporal depth, and rational analysis that challenges the abilities and knowledge of all archaeologists. Indeed, it is a field of study that merits an intensive investigation. The Collegium, Institut d’études avancées de Lyon, and Archéorient (UMR 5133), in collaboration with the University of Lyon, Pars Institute of Art and Architecture, and Metropol Grand Lyon financial help, have organized a two-day workshop on the Archaeology of Warfare to provide the mechanism for such a multi-disciplinary inquiry.

This two-day event will bring together specialists and scholars from various institutions and universities with varying experiences to discuss and analyze multiple aspects of studying and teaching archaeology of warfare in the East Europe and West Asia, during the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age.

The primary aim of this workshop is to explore the development of warfare in mentioned geography at different times and in different regions due to the multidimensional nature of war in human society. This workshop will address different questions focused on six critical themes concerning warfare in archaeological studies:

- The theories and approaches relevant to the study of warfare and warfare-related material in archaeology.
- The study of weaponry and related technological and metallurgical research (e.g., metallography, elemental, and isotopic analysis).
- The constitution of armies, their warfare strategies, infantry and cavalry practices and techniques, recruitment, military hierarchies, and mobilization procedures.
- The study of artistic iconography relevant to warfare and the development of weaponry.
- The study of warfare and its historical record as known from textual sources.
- The study of cultural experiences and rituals associated with warfare in the societies under discussion in the workshop.

Presentations and related discussions will address the fundamental question of “how frequent warfare affects the basic choices people make about where to live, whom to fight, how to defend themselves, on whom to confer power, and how to form social groups.” These communications will provide a non-linear perspective to characterize the nature of warfare as encountered in research and teaching from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age in the East Europe and West Asia.
Two-day workshop in teaching and studying:

**First day: 2nd March 2023**

**13:30-14:00**  
*Opening quotes*  
Dr. Sébastian Gondet - CNRS-Archéorient (UMR5133)  
Dr. Jean-Michel Roy - Director of Collegium-Advanced research institute of Lyon

**14:00-14:40**  
*Warfare and violence in theoretical and comparative perspectives*  
Dr. Helle Vandkilde,  
Professor, School of Culture and Society, Department of Archaeology and Heritage Studies, Arhus University, Denmark.

**14:55-15:35**  
*What the study of weapons can tell us about warfare in prehistory: Or can we say anything about Bronze Age martial arts?*  
Dr. Barry Molley, Associate Professor, University College Dublin, School of Archaeology, Ireland.

**15:50-16:10**  
*Coffee pause*

**16:10-16:50**  
*Displaying war and peace in the Ashmolean Museum*  
Dr. Paul Collins, Department of Middle East, The British Museum, United Kingdom.

**17:05-17:45**  
*Dynamics of warfare and society: How warfare and social structures interact and survive, a look through Ancient SW Asia*  
Dr. Zahra Kouzehgari: Associate Researcher, Archéorient Laboratory (UMR5133), France.

**18:00-20:00**  
*End of the First day- followed by a buffet*
Two-day workshop in teaching and studying:

Second day: 3rd March 2023

9:00-9:40  **Militarised societies on the move: Viking raiding fleets in Western Europe during the 9th century CE.**

Dr. Benjamin Raffield: Associate Professor, Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Uppsala University.

10:00-10:40  **Examining warfare through microscopes: Archaeometallurgy of ancient weaponry** (online presentation)

Dr. Ümit Güder: Senior Researcher, Institute of Classical Archaeology, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic and Max-Planck-Institut für Eisenforschung, Düsseldorf, Germany.

11:00-11:40  **More than numbers - Approaching ancient violence and warfare through interdisciplinary bioarchaeological investigations.**

Dr. Anna Tornberg: Researcher, Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Lund University, Sweden.

12:00-12:30  **Concluding remarks**