

PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA SETS

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PDS 1

**MOZAN:
SOUNDINGS ON THE HIGH MOUND
DURING THE FIRST TWO SEASONS**

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This is an updated edition of the 1986 version; additions are to be found only in the narrative portion; the slide set as such is identical to the original edition.

INTRODUCTION

The first two seasons of excavations at Tell Mozan were carried out in 1984 and 1985, under the joint direction of the authors. They were preliminary soundings, aimed at ascertaining the desirability of full-fledged excavations at the site. The results fully supported the initial impression that Mozan corresponded to a major third millennium site. Circumstantial evidence suggested that it might possibly be the site of the ancient city of Urkish, particularly since our own reconnaissance at the nearby site of Tell Shermola (generally called Tell Amuda in the literature) indicated that the latter site could not possibly be ancient Urkish, as generally assumed. But regardless of whether or not the identification with Urkish will ultimately prove correct, Tell Mozan has yielded evidence of a sophisticated urban civilization, flourishing in the third millennium, and coming to an end by the middle of the second millennium B.C. This culture was to a large extent independent from the Sumerian urban culture of the South, while it did at the same time have important connections with it. The privileged geographical location of Tell Mozan (highlighted in slide *PDS* 1.1) places this site in the hub of a network of commercial routes, and makes of it a major gateway for the transshipment of goods from the Anatolian plateau to the southern cities.

Work at the site during the first two seasons (Fall 1984 and Spring 1985) were aimed at identifying the nature of the occupation at various points of both the High Mound and the Outer City. A topographical map of the High Mound was prepared by our surveyor, Stephen M. Hughey, and a preliminary map of the Outer City by J. Thompson-Miragliuolo: a combined map is given as slide *PDS* 1.2, where one will also find the location of the major area of work at the site during the first two seasons. The area covered by the ancient settlement is very large, some 18 ha. for the High Mound, and some 135 ha. for the entire site

An extensive surface survey was conducted over the High Mound by M. Kelly-Buccellati, and over the Outer City by J. Miragliuolo. Soundings were carried out in four distinct parts of the site. At the top of the tell, we exposed the edge of a large stone construction of the mid to late third millennium which we have identified as a **temple (Area B)** ; excavations there were conducted by the authors with the assistance of Daniela Buia Quinn (see *PDS* 1.7-8). On the Eastern slope of the tell

Guy Bunnens and Arlette Roobaert Bunnens exposed the remains of a city wall (Area K) which rings the High Mound, also dated in the mid and late third millennium (PDS 1.5-6). On the Western slope of the tell, William R. Shelby, with the assistance of Hamido Hammade, opened a small exposure (Area Q, not documented in PDS 1), which gave evidence of early second millennium occupation, presumably on top of the remains of the same city wall identified in Area K. The results of the survey in the Outer City, conducted by J. Thompson Miragliuolo (not illustrated here, except for the location of the work done during the first season in PDS 1.2), indicated that the Outer City also saw an almost total prevalence of third millennium occupation.

The most interesting **object finds** were made in Area K, where a thick burnt deposit overlayed a glaciis which sloped downwards, presumably towards the ancient bed of the moat. The seal impressions on door sealings are illustrated here in PDS 1.11-15; the metals in PDS 1.20; and a beautiful small horse figurine head in PDS 1.19. The eye socket of a statue (PDS 1.10) was found in the temple.

Third millennium **ceramics** from Area K are illustrated here with examples from the city wall (PDS 1.16-18), while Khabur ware is illustrated by a jar (PDS 1.9) found in an early second millennium stratum which overlayed the remains of the third millennium temple in Area B.

The field photographs were taken by G. Buccellati (PDS 1, 4-5.7-8.11.13-15), G. Bunnens (PDS 1, 6.9-10.12.16.18-20), and Louise A. Hitchcock (17). The aerial photo PDS 1.3 was taken by an amateur photographer from a low flying airplane.

A full report on the work done during the first two seasons has been published as Buccellati and Kelly-Buccellati 1988 (abbreviated as *Mozan* 1), to which PDS 1 serves as a companion slide set. See the following bibliography for a full reference to this and other pertinent publications.

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1990a "Tell Mozan," in *Syrian Archaeology Bulletin* 1.

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1989 "A New Third Millennium Sculpture from Mozan," *Essays in Ancient Civilization Presented to Helene J. Kantor*, ed by Albert Leonard, jr and Bruce Beyer Williams. Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization No. 47. pp. 149-154, and Pl. 26.

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COMMENTARY

Note. Numbers in square brackets are the archival numbers of the Mozan photo archive. Individual items that have been published in *Mozan* 1 are identified by the pertinent M1 number; other items are identified by their field number (e.g. K1.16).

1. Map of the Khabur area, with major routes.

[*S137]

Relief is shown with contour lines of 500 meters (yellow) and 1000 meters (brown). Other sites excavated by IIMAS expeditions (Terqa and Qraya, at the mouth of the Khabur) are shown in red. Major routes affecting Mozan run to the South along the Khabur, to the North across the Tur-Abdin at the Mardin pass and East-West along the Khabur plains. To the North, Mozan is linked via the Mardin pass to the East-West route along the upper Tigris, which leads to the mines of Ergani. For a discussion see *Mozan* 1, 37f; the same map is given as Fig. 2.

2. Site plan of Mozan.

[*S102]

The High Mound is shown in white at the center, with contour lines marking its height of about 25 ms. above plain level, and the two major excavation areas of the first soundings, B on the top, and K in the east. The Outer City is shown in brown, with the areas of surface collection marked by black dots, and the major features with blue dots (O2 is a sounding, and O3 a well; note that the labels O2 and O3 are now replaced by the labels Os2 and Os3 respectively, with the abbreviation standing for Outer City, Special Sounding); the surface collection in the Outer City has been carried out only in the eastern portions. The shaded area represents the most visible part of the outer rise. On the topography of the High Mound, see *Mozan* 1, 47f; on the Outer City survey, see pp. 49-56.

3. Aerial view of site.

[] – Far shot, looking west

Oblique overhead, with the High Mound in the center, the entire area of the Outer City, and surrounding fields. Area K shows at the base of the High Mound, on the side facing the viewer; Area B shows on the top of the mound, to the right of the large central square (an area used as a soccer field by the villagers); the perimeter of the Outer City shows on the right through the disruption of the field patterns. The width along the horizontal axis is of about 1.5 miles. The modern village of Mozan is visible in center right, behind the High Mound. For similar views see *Mozan* 1, Illustr. 2-4.

4. Profile of site.

[MZ1C0112]

Viewed from the North, from a short distance south of the main road Qamishli-Amouda, about 500 ms. away from the tell. The photo was taken in October, and the fields are plowed. To the right of the main mound, the village of Mozan is noticeable, marking the western edge of the Outer City. Notice also the trees on the western slope of the mound.

5. The city wall in Area K.

[MZ1C0613] – Area K, latter part of third millennium.

The brickwork reaches almost to the top of the mound, where work was conducted in K2 during the second season, not shown here (the person at the top is Mr. Hamido Hammad, representative of the Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums). The excavation at the base is Locus A: the person there is standing on the top of the glacis (not visible here.) On Area K, see *Mozan* 1, 61-64; Buccellati 1990, 122-24.

6. Detail of brickwork of the city wall.

[MZ1C0527] – Area K, latter part of third millennium.

The coursing shows clearly, with different colors. In the lower right the edge of Locus A is visible. On details of the brickwork in the city wall see *Mozan* 1, 62.

7. Overhead view of stone building in Area B.

[MZ2C0534] – Area B, latter part of third millennium.

The stone ramp is visible on the right and the beginnings of the stone foundations in the center. The photo was taken at midpoint during the second season, before excavations in this unit were completed. Note the stones of the rest of the building appearing just below the sod on the left. On the stone building in Area B, see *Mozan* 1, 59-61. For more information derived from subsequent excavations in what is now called Temple BA, see Buccellati and Kelly-Buccellati, 1990a, 4f, and b, pp. 20-22; Kelly-Buccellati, 1989 and 1990, 125-29.

8. Detail of stone foundations.

[MZ1C2734] – Area B, latter part of third millennium.

Looking south along the main outer line of the building, the photo shows clearly the alignment of the stones in two separate rows. Excavation unit B2 is visible beyond the baulk on the right. On the detail of the stone foundations see *Mozan* 1, 59 and Illustr. 9.

9. Khabur ware vessel.

[MZ2C1722] – M1 82. Area B, early second millennium.

This painted Khabur ware jar represents a common ceramic type for the Khabur area and is dated to about 1800 B.C. It came from just under the surface in Area B1, in a destruction layer immediately above the stone building of the late third millennium. On the stratigraphic position, see *Mozan* p. 61; for a drawing see Fig. 26, and for a black-and-white photograph see Illustr. 23.

10. Eye socket of statue.

[MZ1C0806] – M1 210. Area B, latter part of third millennium.

This life-size fragment of a statue was found on top of the stone foundations in Area B. Traces of bitumen are clearly visible in the central cavity, which would have held the pupil in place. Because of the obvious connection with the typology of statues of the late third millennium, this fragment is one of the few clues we have about a possible religious function of the building. The same view is found in *Mozan* 1, Illustr. 20 (referred to on pp. 61 and 81).

11. Assemblage of door sealings.

[MZ2C2218] – Area K, mid third millennium.

This is the collection of door sealings with well preserved shape and design. For an identification of each individual piece see *Mozan* 1, Illustr. 24; see pp. 67-81, and Kelly-Buccellati 1990, 124f, for an overall discussion of the seal impressions.

12. Three major components of door sealings.

[MZ2C1728] – M1 182, M1 169, K1.16. Area K, mid third millennium.

The piece on the left (M1 182) shows the full conical shape of the door sealing, with the seal impression on the exterior. Door sealings are only found in this half conical shape because they only covered a portion of the peg. On the lower right (M1 169) one sees the flat impression which the wood of the door panel had left on the sealing (note the slight ridge on the left which curled around the edge of the wood panel). On the upper right (K1.16,

Mozan 1, 69f) one sees the impression of three rope strands on the interior of the sealing. For details of the procedure used in affixing door sealings, see *Mozan* 1, 68f, and the suggested reconstruction on Fig. 18.

13. Detail of the interior portion of a door sealing.

[MZ2C2132] – M1 169. Area K, mid third millennium.

Clearly visible are both the three parallel rope strands and the impression of the peg on which the door sealing was placed. This seal is discussed in detail in *Mozan* 1, p. 71; see also Fig. 33 and Illustr. 33-35.

14. Seal impression: snake coil and quadruped.

[MZ2C2131] – M1 171. Area K, mid third millennium.

The patterned shape of the snake is characteristic of Mesopotamian seals of the ED II and ED III period, but the arrangement is different from other known examples. Note the head of the snake reaching out in the lower left toward the raised left paw of the quadruped, whose head is jerked back as if in response to the snake's attack. For a detailed iconographic description see *Mozan* 1, 72.

15. Seal impression with hero and animal.

[MZ2C2136] – M1 174. Area K, mid third millennium.

A skirted "hero" stands behind an animal holding a stick with a bag (?) hanging down from it. In his other hand he is grasping a stylized plant. See *Mozan* 1, 73.

16. Metallic ware vessel.

[MZ22C1724] - Area K, mid third millennium.

These vessels are typical of the northern Khabur region and were traded as far north as Eastern Anatolia and as far south as Terqa and Mari.

17. Fragment of plastered storage vessel.

[MZ22C1306] - K1q38. Area K, mid third millennium.

This rough vessel base was part of a typical storage jar found in a burnt deposit outside the city wall.

18. Simple ware cup

[MZ22C1723] - Area K, mid third millennium.

A typical drinking vessel.

19. Miniature horse head.

[MZ1C0712] - M1 209. Area K, mid third millennium.

Made from pottery, this horse (?) head is further evidence for third millennium equids in this area. See *Mozan* 1, 64 and 81; Illustr. 1.

20. Toggle pins (copper/bronze).

[MZ22C1611] - M1 202-4. Area K, mid third millennium.

Toggle pins were typically used to fasten garments in the third millennium. These came from the burnt deposit outside the city wall.

give book?

INDEX BY PUBLICATION OR FIELD NUMBERS

K1.16	<i>PDS 1 12</i>
K1.q38	<i>PDS 1 17</i>
M1 82	<i>PDS 1 9</i>
M1 169	<i>PDS 1 12</i>
M1 169	<i>PDS 1 13</i>
M1 171	<i>PDS 1 14</i>
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6-22-94

Revisions of Temple Module

B intro - based on RLA + site plan + Temple plan

MC - longer description of back stick - Commentary

Take from intro as written

Format from PDS,

+ # from orig slide

MC Bibliography

PDS4 Commentary on Slides

1. Statue of Lion: Three-Quarter View

Crouching lion statue made of soft limestone excavated in the third millennium destruction stratum of Temple BA.

2. Statue of Lion: Profile

3. Statue of Lion: Bottom View

4. Statue of Lion: Top View
MZ5.7; B1.164

5. Mozan Stele: Plowman Side

6. Mozan Stele: Animal Herd
MZ3.31; B3. 89 and 90;

7. Mozan Stele: Detail, Base of Stele
MZ3 C31 14

8. Mozan Stele: Detail Showing Dog
MZ3 C22 6

9. Mozan Stele: Feet of Plowman
MZ5 C31 21

10. Mozan Stele: Detail of Plowman's Torso and Head
MZ3 C22 13

11. Mozan Stele: Detail of Animal Heads
MZ3 C22 6

12. Obsidian Bowl: Front View
MZ5 C38 22

Just below the surface of the mound but immediately behind the temple came a large fragment of an obsidian bowl. Obsidian is readily available in the nearby mountains of Turkey where other obsidian vessels have also been found. The surface is patinated from being just under the sod layer for millennia.

13. Obsidian Bowl: Profile
MZ5-C38 34

A profile view shows the usual

14. Mother-of-Pearl Inlay in Shape of Vessel
MZ3 B4.51

15. Tiny Gold Bead
MZ5 C36

16. Ceramic Brazier
V6a P54

17. Wide Lipped Ceramic Bowl
V6a P24

or else sherd with inscription found on the surface Z1.66; MZ5.30

18. Fine Buff Ceramic Bowl

19. Seal Impression on Sherd
MZ5.29; MZ5 29

20. Seal Impression on Sherd
B5q257-1; MZ5 29

J21.3

of the doorway f119. -- k169 shows semi-circular pattern for fallen brick. -- The outline of the new square is still irregular because the exact perimeter has not been marked yet by the surveyor.

v 64

vg the view shows context of the tablet fragment i69 which was in f113. The view also shows levels which compose f113 and f122. Also visible is the strip cut in f113, W of doorway.

v 65

vg shows the emplacement of the human skull found in k168 within the layer of fallen brick, f143.

v 66

vg shows the emplacement of a broken jar (q745) which was found in f145. It also shows the location of a large sherd in the W baulk, which might be part of the same jar. A similar jar was found broken to the E of this, at the same level.

ri FAB

a-lb We are expanding the excavations in AA to the E and W. Due to the large area under excavation, we are splitting the A1 book into three parts: A1, A5, A6. The new A1 book will be controlled by FXX. The A5 book will be controlled by RAH, HC & FAB. The A6 book will be controlled by RK and ST. Area A1 will be the loci k117-121, area A5 the squares dug to the W of A1 and area A6, the squares to the E of A1.

a-sg The main outline of the bldg has already been defined in present A1, except for the small room entered through f119. The major goal for this unit is to remove all the floor accumulation down to the first floor of the building. -- Another possible goal of A1 is to make a deeper sounding to discover what lies beneath the building. It would be interesting to discover if Ninevite V is found below. This would be the logical next step in the work of the step trench (the other alternative would be to open to the S, leaving building AA).

ri RAH

rd C630

a-dy yesterday's work lowered the level of f132, exclusive of the brick wall to the NW. Scraping revealed no clear pattern. In an attempt to further define the area, we cut a small section into the pit S of f132, to a depth of 10cm. No clear pattern emerged, and therefore no linkage between f77, 78 and 148. It should be noted that a previously apparent pattern at approximately r402, of ashy accumulation, contained within a deposit cut by pit f131, is no longer present, nor at least discernible.

a-sf FAB left at 8am to handle residency documents in Hasseke. RAH left at 8am to film pottery kiln segment of ceramic module in Kamishli.

a-sg We shall continue to dig under f131 and the brick fall which rests in it, in order to establish linkage between architectural fs of k117 and k67.

rd C629

ri RK

f 143

di A cranium was discovered just below f129. It was checked if this was a grave and evidence is to the contrary. No definition of a grave. The cranium is in the midst of fallen brick.

MZ/Al-H-000-J1 J20.1

i 68

en This small object which appears to be a signature seal, was found at the extreme W unit of f131. At this time we were excavating f132, & I assume it sits in this deposit, rather than relaying to f 131, which is of an earlier period, as it cuts f132. Check relay pts 400/401, which describe an arc.

dp i 68 sits in f132. (see en)

rd C701

ri FXX

v 67

vg shows the location and context of the seal impression, i71 which sits in f113, the floor ac, and is in front of doorway, f119; and f138 is a higher floor than f113. In the almost same place, another broken object of bone-mae needle was found.

v 68

vg shows the placement and context of the i72, the second fragment of the tablet. This fragment sits in f113, as i69, the first found fragment of the tablet; and i72 is very close to i69 (about 10 cm N). The view also shows distance of it to the placement of i67, the sealing and to the f119, the doorway.

i 69

df tablet fragment

co black

mn ?

wm Clay, seems to have been fire-baked or secondarily burnt

ds it seems to be right half (to the end) of the tablet according to cuneiform signs written on it. The shape of the tablet looks like school tablet or lexical tablet. Some signs are repeated in different lines. It sits in f113, the living floor accumulation which is quite thick and very dark ashy layer, and it overlays on another quite thick, reddish, possibly packed layer. The f113 was exposed in the season MZ6, and started to excavate in this season. The layer f113 contains a lot of sherds, bones, and many items. It seems significant because we also found sealings besides the tablet fragments.

i 70

df worded bone (needle?)

lg ?

wm bone

ds 5 pieces of broken object which is made of bone, those pieces were found at same place, indicating that possibly they are from one object. Its shape looks like needle. Well polished. One short piece appears little burnt.

i 71

df sealing fragment

wm clay

mn ?

ds may be box sealing; cylinder seal rolling on it; its design may be late Akkadian style. It was found in the same layer in which the tablet fragments and bone needle were found.

i 72

df tablet fragment

ds it is a part of left side (the beginning) of a tablet. And we found that it matches i 69 except a very small part which is still not found yet. This fragment was found in the place afar about 10 cm from i69, and in same layer.