

BAR Open Access in Archaeology Award 2021



Winner Announcement

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNER OF OUR FIRST OPEN ACCESS AWARD

Katie Campbell

for her proposal

Cities and the Mongol Conquest
Urban Change in Central Asia from 1200-1400 AD

This work looks beyond the historical narrative of the Mongol Conquest itself to identify and consider long-term urban changes from the 12th to the end of the 14th century. The archaeological examination of urban change in the cities of Otrar, Kazakhstan, Barda, Azerbaijan, and Merv, Turkmenistan, challenges accepted narratives of traumatic conquests and Mongol destruction and slaughter in Central Asia. Detailed archaeological analyses found no evidence of cities razed or populations slaughtered. The lack of archaeological evidence for destruction attributable to intentional human actions in the conquest period does not correlate with historical reports of widespread devastation. Instead, the evidence demonstrates shifting occupation patterns and a complexity in urban dynamics that have not previously been recognised. This innovative work will be of widespread interest to archaeologists and historians across the region and further afield.

We aim to publish before the end of 2022.

SPECIAL RECOMMENDATION

The Judges would also like to make special recommendation of **Alessia Frassani's** entry ***Mesoamerican Codices: Calendrical Knowledge and Ritual Practice in Indigenous Religion and History.***

This promises to be an interesting and important study bringing together the ancient traditions of the Mesoamericans with the modern world. It translates, records, and transcribes ceremonies, chants, prayers, using ancient imagery, pre-colonial manuscripts, colonial text, rock art, imagery, rituals in order to reinterpret them as seen by its own people. The multidisciplinary study of history, archaeology, anthropology, mysticism and more, presented in text, images and audio makes Frassani's work a unique type of study that successfully put the culture, history, and beliefs of the Mazatec' indigenous people in a position to challenge the misinterpretation of colonial accounts.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all entrants who submitted their work. The number, quality and diversity of projects was exciting, and we hope to continue to work with many of the authors.

Thanks also to our judging panel – **Timothy Darvill, Hatoon al Fassi, Cat Jarman, Innocent Pikarayi, Claire Smith.**

BAR OA Programme

If you would like to know more about BAR Open Access programme please contact Editor-in-Chief, **Jacqueline Senior** (Jacqueline.senior@barpublishing.com)



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