



Journey to the Copper Age: Archaeology in the Holy Land

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF MAN DISPLAYS 6,000 YEAR OLD ARTIFACTS OF ARTISTIC, RELIGIOUS AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The San Diego Museum of Man and the Israel Museum (Jerusalem), in partnership with the National Geographic Museum and the University of California, San Diego, have developed a landmark exhibit "Journey to the Copper Age, Archaeology in the Holy Land."

The San Diego Museum of Man invites you to view the creations and artistic expression of a people from 6,000 years ago. Recently discovered artifacts from this time period are some of the earliest known examples of smelted copper, and undoubtedly some of the most striking and well preserved artifacts from the ancient world. The San Diego Museum of Man is fortunate to have the opportunity to exhibit some of the finest pieces from archaeological expeditions in the Holy Land. The attention to detail in these pieces is still visible and artistically significant, thousands of years after their creation.

Most of this material has never been seen outside of Israel and is on display now in this groundbreaking, collaborative exhibit. The objects are notable not only for their historical significance but also for their intrinsic artistic value. These exquisite artifacts are on display at the Museum of Man through February 4, 2008.

The Copper Age occurred 4,000 years before the Dead Sea Scrolls were created. It represents the earliest period of metalworking in human history. The objects in this rare exhibit represent the beginnings of the use of metal, and are very early examples of artistic expression. These ancient artisans were highly skilled and proficient in the arts of metalwork, ceramics, stonework, and textiles.

On display are beautifully created metal pieces, symbolic ceramic figurines, meticulously shaped stone bowls, miraculously preserved textiles, and delicate jewelry, including a beaded necklace still on its original cord thousands of years later.

The exhibit is based on a National Geographic expedition led by Prof. Thomas Levy, archaeologist at the University of California, San Diego. Dr. Levy assembled a group of international scientists and archaeologists to follow an ancient trade route into the heart of the Holy Land and learn about the ancient technology of smelting copper. Providing a dramatic backdrop to this exhibit are 60 stunning photographs from National Geographic's renowned photographer Kenneth Garrett. These photographs mirror the color and beauty of the artifacts while giving context to the story of Dr. Levy's archaeological expedition.

Admission to the exhibit is \$14 for adults and \$10 for members, students, military and seniors. Admission for children, aged 6-17, is \$8. Discounted tickets and packages are available for groups 10 and above; call the Museum's group sales office at (619) 239-2001 for details. Ticket admission includes Journey to the Copper Age: Archaeology in the Holy Land, as well as general admission to

all other exhibits at the San Diego Museum of Man, a museum dedicated to *teaching people about people*. The Museum of Man is open from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily and is located in Balboa Park, in the historic California Quadrangle, including the 1914 California Building, the symbol of San Diego. For further information, please call (619) 239-2001 or visit the Museum of Man's website at www.museumofman.org.