

Special Issue

Situating Eurasia in Antiquity: Objects, Places and Interactions in the Western Scythian World

Message from the Guest Editor

For millennia, the mobile people of the Eurasian steppe played a pivotal role in world history through contacts with neighboring sedentary civilizations in China, India, West Asia and Europe. Often portrayed as destructive raiders and 'barbarians' by external observers, their impact was in fact far more nuanced than these representations suggest. Beyond mere conduits of material goods and technologies, the steppe people were active participants in shaping the cultural landscapes of the regions they inhabited, frequently transforming social and economic structures and innovating forms of material and artistic expression beyond the steppe.

In this Special Issue, we aim to reevaluate the dynamics of interaction and change between mobile and sedentary populations in western Eurasia during the era of the Scythians. We invite scholars to contribute to a multi-vocal and interdisciplinary exploration of cultural agency and transformation in the northern Black Sea area and adjoining regions to the west, with a particular focus on the material and textual evidence of exchange, reception, technological transmission and shifting social structures.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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