

Radiocarbon

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ALGIERS RADIOCARBON MEASUREMENTS II

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The following series of dates contains most of the measurements obtained since our last list. Procedures of measurements and calculation are as previously described (R., 1970, v. 12, p. 353-357).

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SAMPLE DESCRIPTIONS

Crique des Pêcheurs series, Algeria

Various shells in archaeological layer enclosed in sand hills at Bou Aïchem, Kristel, Willaya Oran (35° 48' N Lat, 0° 29' W Long), Algeria. Coll. 1968 and subm. by F. E. Roubet, C.A.R.A.P.E.

ALG-25. Crique des Pêcheurs 136 **10,215 ± 400**
8265 B.C.
Various shells, remains of food.

ALG-26. Crique des Pêcheurs 140 **9700 ± 400**
7750 B.C.
Ostrich egg shells.

General Comment: controversy over industry; some authors consider these layers Neolithic culture. Previously estimated Epipaleolithic age was confirmed (Roubet, 1947).

ALG-27. Sidi Tosni-Columnata **10,800 ± 425**
8850 B.C.

Soft water shells from Columnata, Sidi Hosni, Willaya Tiaret (35° 27' 30" E Long, 1° 31' 41" N Lat), Algeria. Coll. 1969 and subm. by C. Brahimi, C.A.R.A.P.E. *Comment:* layer presents a lateral and vertical stratigraphy for Epipaleolithic and Neolithic culture. Ibero-Maurusian culture never dated in this area (Brahimi, 1970).

ALG-28. El Haouita I **8220 ± 820**
6270 B.C.

Charcoal from embankment at El Haouita, in Saharian Atlas, Willaya Laghouat (37° 41' N Lat, 0° 11' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1968 and subm. by G. Aumassip, C.A.R.A.P.E. *Comment:* expected age of em-

bankment: Würm period; it could have dated a new industry. Error was caused by mixing of the gas from the sample with a gas of known activity because of the small quantity of charcoal (Aumassip, 1970).

7200 ± 280

ALG-29. Guentis 146

5250 B.C.

Terrestrial shells (*Helix*) from upper level, 50 cm, in a snailery at Guentis, Nemenchas country (30° 0' N Lat, 7° 18' 15" E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1968 and subm. by Roubet. *Comment*: in this layer were found implements comparable to Typical Capsian. This Epipaleolithic culture extending from Gafsa, Tunisia to Tebessa, Algeria had already been dated in Tunisia. First age value in Algeria (Roubet, 1968).

80 ± 110

ALG-31. Djorf Torba

A.D. 1870

Charcoal from Djorf Torba, Béchar, Willaya Saoura (31° 30' N Lat, 2° 10' W Long), Algeria. Coll. 1967 by H. Lhote and subm. by G. Camps, C.A.R.A.P.E. *Comment*: this sample could have dated a pre-Islamic funeral monument. Unexpected age remains difficult to explain.

5300 ± 230

ALG-32. Assech 3

3350 B.C.

Charcoal from Assech, Oued Mya, Willaya Oasis (31° 0' N Lat, 4° 40' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1969 and subm. by G. Aumassip. *Comment*: Neolithic culture (Aumassip, 1970).

6600 ± 250

ALG-33. Botma Si Mamar

4650 B.C.

Terrestrial shells (*Helix*) in a deep level (80 to 100 cm) from Botma Si Mamar, Sidi Khaled, Willaya Batna (34° 22' N Lat, 4° 53' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1967 and subm. by D. Grébenart, C.A.R.A.P.E. *Comment*: Neolithic culture without pottery (Grébenart, 1970).

5500 ± 125

ALG-34. Les Deux Oeufs

3350 B.C.

Ostrich egg shells in deepest level of layer, at Les Deux Oeufs, Ouargla, Oasis area (31° 58' N Lat, 5° 8' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1966 and subm. by G. Aumassip. *Comment*: Neolithic culture (Aumassip, 1970).

5550 ± 225

ALG-35. Les Deux Mamelles

3600 B.C.

Various shells from Les Deux Mamelles near Mostaganem, Willaya Oran (36° 3' 12" N Lat, 0° 10' 32" E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1968 and subm. by F. E. Roubet. *Comment*: purpose was to date a particular aspect of Neolithic layers on sea-side of Oran Country (Roubet, 1947).

1480 ± 130

ALG-36. Tin Hinan 3

A.D. 470

Wood from building material of monument at Abalessa, Taman-

rasset, Oasis area (23° N Lat, 5° 0' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1930 and subm. by M. Mammeri and G. Camps. *Comment*: date of a proto-historic funeral monument.

Hafir series, Algeria

Charcoal from Hafir, Terni, Willaya Tlemcen (34° 45' N Lat, 3° 40' W Long), Algeria. Coll. 1968 and subm. by M. Couvert, C.A.R.A.P.E.

ALG-38. Hafir 6 **7530 ± 170**
5580 B.C.
Charcoal.

ALG-49. Hafir 7 **6680 ± 175**
4730 B.C.
Charcoal.

General Comment: scarce lithic, bone industry, and pottery mingled with plentiful charcoal from 7 varieties of trees. Their analysis proved past existence of species now extinct in area, such as *Cedrus atlanticus* and *Pinus nigra* (Couvert, 1970).

ALG-39. Bou Zabaouine 168 **4375 ± 145**
2425 B.C.

Charcoal from shelter in rocks at Bou Zabaouine Aïn M'lila, Willaya Constantine (36° 1' N Lat, 6° 3' 24" E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1967 and subm. by C. Roubet. *Comment*: Neolithic of Capsian tradition. Excavation, teeming with arrow points, corroborates that of B. Dedieu (Dedieu, 1965; Roubet, 1968).

ALG-40. Kristel Jardins **7760 ± 190**
5810 B.C.

Sea shells, remains of food, from Sta. des Tavertins, Willaya Oran (35° 48' 24" N Lat, 0° 29' W Long), Algeria. Coll. 1969 and subm. by F. E. Roubet. *Comment*: this archaeological layer, presently mostly cultivated, is close to Criques des Pêcheurs (ALG-25); thus, date is interesting for comparisons and proves the real existence of an ancient Neolithic culture in this country (Roubet, 1947).

ALG-41. Tipasa 2 **2630 ± 105**
680 B.C.

Snail shells from Matares, Tipasa, Willaya Algiers (36° 30' N Lat, 2° 26' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1969 and subm. by M. Bouchnaki, Service des Antiquités, Alger. *Comment*: sample from sand-hill near Roman tomb. Age older than expected.

ALG-42. El Hadjar Sebkra **6160 ± 150**
4210 B.C.

Ostrich egg shells from El Hadjar Sebkra, Oued Mya, Oasis area (30° 52' N Lat, 5° 18' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1970 and subm. by G. Aumassip. *Comment*: Neolithic culture (Aumassip, 1970).

- 6460 ± 180**
4510 B.C.
- ALG-43. Hassi Chambi 3**
Ostrich egg shells from Hassi Chambi, Oued Mya, Oasis area (30° 52' N Lat, 5° 18' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1970 and subm. by G. Aumassip. *Comment:* Neolithic without pottery. Oldest age known for Neolithic samples in this part of Sahara (Aumassip, 1970).
- 5150 ± 140**
3200 B.C.
- ALG-44. Adrar Tioueiine 4**
Charcoal from Adrar Tioueiine, 35 km NW of Silet Oasis area (28° 48' N Lat, 4° 16' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1968 and subm. by G. Camps. *Comment:* Neolithic of Sudanese tradition with plentiful implements for grinding, stone bracelets, arrow points, and pottery.
- 5270 ± 140**
3320 B.C.
- ALG-5. Hergla**
Various terrestrial shells from Hergla, Gouvernorat de Sousse (36° 1' N Lat, 10° 28' E Long), Tunisia. Coll. 1970 and subm. by Harbi, Dept. de Préhistoire, Tunis. *Comment:* Neolithic culture.
- 7270 ± 165**
5320 B.C.
- ALG-46. Rabah 19**
Fragments of ostrich egg shells from Rabah, Oued Djellal, Willaya Batna (34° 26' N Lat, 5° 8' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1970 and subm. by D. Grébenart. *Comment:* sample from level, 20 to 30 cm, of Upper Cap-sian layer (Grébenart, 1971). This age follows our preceding date for this layer, ALG-17, -22, -23 (Grébenart, 1971).
- 13,330 ± 280**
11,380 B.C.
- ALG-47. Chenoua (Rolland)**
Various terrestrial and sea shells, remains of food, from a cave, Grotte Rolland, at Chenoua, near Tipasa, Willaya Algiers (36° 30' N Lat, 2° 26' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1970 and subm. by F. E. Roubet. *Comment:* sample of upper level of archaeological layer. Ibero-Maurusian industry: Mouilien, Abris de la Mouilah.
- 1870 ± 100**
A.D. 80
- ALG-48. Tipasa 2**
Charcoal from Matares, Tipasa, Willaya Algiers (36° 30' N Lat, 2° 26' E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1969 and subm. by M. Bouchnaki. *Comment:* sample from Roman cupula tomb with an incineration urn, an oil lamp, and a Roman coin dated approx. from the end of 1st century to beginning of 2nd.
- Grotte Capeletti series, Algeria**
Charcoal from Neolithic layer in a cave at Khanghet Si Mohamed Tahar, Bou Ahmar, Willaya Batna (35° 20' 21" N Lat, 6° 26' 5" E Long), Algeria. Coll. 1968 and subm. by Roubet.

- ALG-30. Grotte Capeletti 142** **4340 ± 200**
2390 B.C.
Charcoal from upper 35 to 40 cm in Neolithic of Capsian tradition layer of cave.
- ALG-37. Grotte Capeletti 26** **6530 ± 250**
4580 B.C.
Charcoal from basal Neolithic level, 314 to 317 cm, 1st occupation of cave.
- ALG-50. Grotte Capeletti B3** **4670 ± 130**
2720 B.C.
Charcoal, 40 to 45 cm deep, in Neolithic of Capsian tradition layer.
- ALG-51. Grotte Capeletti 143** **540 ± 90**
A.D. 1410
Charcoal from uppermost platform in front of cave. Coll. with pottery of historic period, Berber manual trade.
General Comment: dwelling place of Neolithic of Capsian tradition searched for and excavation according to modern methods for marking and locating documents (Roubet, 1969).

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