THE UPPER PALEOLITHIC AND EARLY HOLOCENE TIME HORIZONS OF ARABIA: RESULTS AND PROSPECTS

JURIS ZARINS

Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri 65804 USA

With the recent reevaluation of the appearance of modern man in Africa, a myriad of other problems has arisen, concerning the archaeology of the Middle East. Of particular interest here is the definition and identification of the Upper Paleolithic in Arabia within the context of the earlier Middle Paleolithic. Archaeological and geological data may be used to help resolve the debate over industry and species within the Arabian peninsula. Radiocarbon dating, climatological and sea-core data will be used to focus particularly on southwest Arabia.

The early Holocene record for the same region can also be examined, especially in relationship to the Paleolithic and the later climatological and geological record. A wealth of diverse archaeological data can also be brought to bear on examining population adaptation in the peninsula since 10,000 BP.