



Neanderthals and Anatomically Modern Humans in Italy

Palaeogeography, ecology and culture in the isotopic stage 3

A Session organised by AAI and AIQUA
XVIII Congress of the Anthropology Italian Association
Florence, Sunday morning, 4th October 2009

Conveners

Marco Peresani & Cesare Ravazzi

Presentation and program

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The ever topical debate on the *Homo neanderthalensis* - *Homo sapiens* substitution in Eurasia and in the Near East during the isotopic stage 3 and on the Middle – Early Upper Paleolithic shift also involves the area of the Mediterranean rim including Italy, a country in which research has produced in recent times new data on the chronology, ecological contexts and cognitive development of these human species.

An opportunity to discuss these arguments will be provided by a dedicated session promoted by the **Italian Anthropology Association** and the **Italian Quaternary Association**, in the frame of the XVIII Congress of the Italian Anthropology Association which will be held in Florence from 2nd to 4th October 2009.

The listed below oral and poster contributions will provide a synthetic view of the current available information about the geography of the Alpine Chain and the Tyrrhenian and Adriatic shore-lines and about the past ecological conditions and their modifications in function of climatic variability and of volcanic catastrophic events. Other improvements concern radiocarbon dating and its successfully experienced application in solving uncertainties using new treatment techniques on samples collected from finely stratified archaeological sequences.

The second part of the session will be dedicated to Neanderthals and Anatomically Modern Humans with special focus on the Uluzzian and its behavioural innovations compared to the Mousterian period readable in flint knapping and the appearance of new types of lithic and bone tools and ornaments before the abrupt change occurred with the spread of the Aurignacian.

The session will be held on Sunday, 4th October 2009, from 9.00 to 13.00, before the congress closing ceremony. Details on registration and payment of the attendance fee fixed at 30,00€ are available at the Congress web site (www.unifi.it/aai2009). Colleagues willing in attending the session are welcome and are invited to present a poster or provide a paper to be included in a monographic supplement of the most relevant Italian anthropological journal.

Oral contributions

9.00-9.05 *Marco Peresani & Cesare Ravazzi*
Introduction.

9.05-9.25 *Giuseppe Orombelli*
The climate of MIS 3 as shown by polar ice cores and by the isotopic composition of marine successions.

9.25-9.40 *Fabrizio Antonioli*
Italian coastlines during the isotopic stage 3.

- 9.40-10.00** *Cesare Ravazzi*
Vegetation changes in Central and Southern Europe during the middle part of the last glaciation: climate forcing and regional features.
- 10.00-10.20** *Biagio Giaccio, Francesco G. Fedele & Roberto Isaia*
Tephrostratigraphy: a key tool for the assessment of the timing and paleoclimatic context of the Middle/Upper Palaeolithic change in southern Italy and eastern Europe.
- 10.20-10.40** *Thomas Higham*
Dating the Italian Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition using new radiocarbon techniques.
- 10.40-11.00** **Coffee break**
- 11.00-11.20** *Silvana Condemi, Francesco Mallegni, Stefano Ricci & Annamaria Ronchitelli*
The human remains of the Transition (Chatelperronian and Uluzzian) and the first Anatomically Modern Humans in Europe.
- 11.20-11.40** *Marco Peresani, Julia Chrzavzez, Matteo Romandini, Antonio Tagliacozzo, Sara Ziggiotti, Fabio Gurioli & Ivana Fiore*
From the last Mousterian to the Uluzzian in the North of Italy: settlement dynamics at Grotta di Fumane.
- 11.40-12.00** *Mario Dini, Giovanni Boschian, Kemplererová Helena & Carlo Tozzi*
The different aspects of the anthropic activity in the Uluzzian at Grotta La Fabbrica (Grosseto).
- 12.00-12.20** *Valentina Borgia, Paolo Boscato, Jacopo Crezzini, Paolo Gambassini, Helena Kemplererová, Laura Longo, Filomena Ranaldo, Ursula Wierer & Annamaria Ronchitelli*
The last Neanderthals in the South of Italy: new data and research perspectives.
- 12.20-12.40** *Alberto Broglio, Mirco De Stefani & Thomas Higham*
The Emergence of Anatomically Modern Humans in the South of the Alps: Evidence from Fumane Cave.
- 12.40-13.00** **Discussion**

List of posters (not definitive):

Julien Riel-Salvatore

Uluzzian, Proto-Aurignacian and Late Mousterian mobility strategies in Italy.

Carlo Peretto, Marta Arzarello, Paolo Crocco, Ornella De Curtis, Annalisa Di Nucci, Sara Guglielmi, Giuseppe Lembo, Maria Angela Rufo, Ettore Rufo, Benedetto Sala, Ursula Thun Hohenstein & Annalisa Minelli

About the Last Neanderthals: the site of Grotta Reali at Rocchetta a Volturno (Isernia, Molise).