THE EXCAVATION AT MESOLITHIC DAMNONI
THE DISCOVERY OF A NEW CULTURE ON CRETE

The Site of Damnoni

The Damnoni Cave is located on the Cretan coast in the northernmost part of Crete, near the sea. The site has been extensively excavated, revealing a rich Mesolithic habitation. The cave is notable for its well-preserved artifacts, which provide insights into the lives of the people who lived there.

Previous Field Research

The site was discovered in 2008 during a surface reconnaissance. In 2011, we began excavations to understand the site's occupation history. The 2013 season was dedicated to the site, and a new excavation was undertaken.

The 2013 Field Season

The 2013 season was dedicated to the site's excavation. The site was divided into three areas: the central area, the southern area, and the northern area. The central area was the focus of the excavation, and the southern area was used for additional research.

The Lithic Assemblage

The lithic assemblage at Damnoni is one of the richest in the Cretan region. The site contains a large number of obsidian工具s, which are typically found in Mesolithic sites. The tools are well-preserved and provide evidence of the site's occupation.

Obсидian Tools

Of greatest importance in the 2013 season was the discovery of obsidian tools. These tools are typically found in Mesolithic sites and provide evidence of the site's occupation. The tools are well-preserved and provide evidence of the site's occupation.

Implications and Future Work

The discovery of obsidian tools at Damnoni is significant. The tools are well-preserved and provide evidence of the site's occupation.

Raw Materials

The lithic materials discovered in 2013 present us with fascinating questions and greatly expand our understanding of Mesolithic technology in Crete. The materials include stone, bone, and antler.

Absolute Dating and Scientific Analyses

We are conducting absolute dating using optically stimulated luminescence and obsidian hydration. The results are being analyzed using the latest techniques to gain a better understanding of the site's occupation.

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Figure 1: Map of Crete showing location of Damnoni Cave

Figure 2: Schematic drawing of the central area of the site

Figure 3: Damnoni tools used for obsidian hydration dating

Figure 4: Obsidian tools from the site

Figure 5: Lithic assemblage from the site

Figure 6: Quartzite tools from the site

Figure 7: Flint tools

Figure 8: Obsidian tools from the site

Figure 9: Flint tools

Implications and Future Work

We are conducting further research using obsidian archaeology, with the unraveling of a whole new phase of its early development. We hope to lay the groundwork for future scholars to discover and study other Mesolithic sites on Crete.

Figure 10: Perspective view of the site

Figure 11: Lithic assemblage from the site

Figure 12: Flint tools

Figure 13: Quartzite tools from the site

Figure 14: Obsidian tools from the site