

المرحلة الثالثة

النص 3

الجزء 4

## Archaeological Survey of Al-Hira/Iraq:

### Fieldwork campaign 2015

With respect to Maqbarat Abu Sukhair, a chronological outline from the 1st to the 5th century AD has been proposed, whereas the majority of graves belong to the 4th and 5th centuries. The sites further to the west revealed finds indicating a dating between the 6th and 8th century. Finally, the re-examination of the material from the brief French expedition and the finds from the Oxford excavations kept in the Ashmolean Museum revealed that the pottery from the survey dates to the 7th and 8th centuries exclusively. In addition to this the Oxford

excavations produced pottery-types datable to the 8th century as well as types that are characteristic for the 9th and 10th centuries. This preliminary synopsis seems to indicate a shift of settlement activities from east to west.

One of the objectives of the survey is the testing of the working hypothesis by enlarging the investigated area. For the survey, four areas were defined in advance: the area on the edge of the Bahr Najaf, the zone around the archaeological sites in the area of al-Najaf International Airport, the area around the Tulul Kunaidira and the area of the former French expedition. Due to the limited time, not all of the predefined areas were surveyed completely during this campaign.