



Universität  
Basel

## Research Project

### The Lower to Middle Palaeolithic in Adloun

#### Project funded by own resources

**Project title** The Lower to Middle Palaeolithic in Adloun

**Principal Investigator(s)** [Wojtczak, Dorota](#) ;

**Co-Investigator(s)** [Al Najjar, Mustafa](#) ;

#### Organisation / Research unit

Departement Umweltwissenschaften / Urgeschichte (Le Tensorer)

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**Status** Completed

The position of Adloun within the 'out of Africa' passage and the fact that Acheulian human activities took place at the cave indicate the huge potential of this site for a better understanding of the cultural variabilities between prehistoric populations and their dispersal in the region. Abri Zumoffen and Bezez were discovered and investigated between 1898 and 1908. 1958 saw further major excavations by Garrod and Kirkbride (1961a) who described an archaeological sequence stretching through the Yabrudian, Levallois-Mousterian, and Upper Palaeolithic and into the Neolithic. Three transitional industries, Yabrudian, Amudian and Bezez Industry were distinguished. The final report of Garrod's excavation was finally published in 1983 including a study of some selectively sampled lithic assemblages at Abri Zumoffen (Copeland, 1983). The site still holds information to many questions in view of the new discoveries in the Middle East, it is essential to review and undertake a thorough technological study of lithic assemblages from these sites. Archaeological materials from Garrod's excavations are stored in National Museum of Beirut and a part of Bezez Cave collections is in the Archaeological Museum of Cambridge University. We have received permission from the Lebanese authorities to restudy the lithic complexes from the Adloun sites. These sites comprise many layers with Acheulo-Yabrudian complexes, detailed studies of the Yabrudian and Amudian industries promise further evidence and enhanced interpretations of these cultural horizons and with the comparative sites.

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