

PPN9

The 9th International Conference on the
PPN Chipped and Ground Stone Industries
of the Near East



Nov. 12–16, 2019
Tokyo

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the PPN Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Near East
Tokyo, November 12–16, 2019***

FIRST CIRCULAR

We are very pleased to announce that the 9th International Conference of the Pre-Pottery Neolithic Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Near East (PPN9) will be held in Tokyo from November 12 to 16, 2019. The conference will be hosted at the University Museum, the University of Tokyo. This workshop series has enjoyed a considerable development since the first one in Berlin, in 1994, organized by the initiative of Hans Georg K. Gebel and Stefan K. Kozłowski, and it is now one of the most important international meetings for Neolithic archaeologists of the Near East. It is our great honor to organize this meeting for the first time in East Asia, a region far from the Near East but with a research community on this subject.

As in the previous meetings, the PPN9-Tokyo aims to provide a forum to bring together the latest studies of the Near Eastern Neolithic from lithic perspectives, based on field discoveries, material analyses, theoretical considerations, and so on. At the same time, partly reflecting a general research trend, the geographic location of the venue, and the organizers' interest, we plan to hold a session focusing on the Neolithization of the regions situated to the east of the Near East, like the Zagros and Central Asia. There has been a recent trend of increasing research on the regions beyond the Levant, an example being the very successful PPN8 in Cyprus, which focused on the Neolithization of the islands. Whatever the cause, the trend undoubtedly contributes in turn to the Neolithic research in the Levant, the core region of important socio-economic transformation, as well as to interpreting the Neolithic of the Near East from a more balanced perspective. Including this special session, the possible sessions of the PPN9-Tokyo would consist of the following. Proposals for more are very welcome so long as they are concerned with lithic analysis:

- Post-*chaîne opératoire* approaches to the Neolithic lithic analyses
- Cultural and social dynamism in the Neolithic
- Neolithization processes in the Fertile Crescent and Beyond
- Introduction and development of pressure debitage in the Neolithic
- New discoveries from recent fieldwork
- Others

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The conference will include an excursion (November 16, Saturday) to museums and archaeological sites, as well as a hands-on session of examining the Near Eastern Neolithic materials that have been excavated by Japanese teams. All those who wish to participate in the PPN9 are kindly requested to fill in the pre-registration form before **November 30, 2018** at

<https://goo.gl/forms/vNt5AIMoHUFMB0ys2>

The form, asking for your personal information, a provisional title of your oral or poster presentation if any, and accommodation requests, will allow us to draft a preliminary program and a financial plan.

You shall hear from us soon after regarding the acceptance of oral and poster presentations, and a formal call for abstracts will be announced. Information about conference fees, social events, and details about the venue will also be posted in the next circular, February 2019. For further information, please contact the organizing committee at

ppn9tokyo@gmail.com

Please feel free to forward this invitation to any colleagues you think may be interested in.

We cordially look forward to your positive responses.

Faithfully yours,

Yoshihiro Nishiaki
Makoto Arimura
Sumio Fujii
Osamu Maeda

The Organizing Committee

Masashi Abe (Tokyo National Institute of Cultural Properties), Chie Akashi (The University of Tokyo), Makoto Arimura (Tokai University), Sumio Fujii (Kanazawa University), Seiji Kadowaki (Nagoya University), Osamu Maeda (University of Tsukuba), Yoshihiro Nishiaki (The University of Tokyo), Takahiro Odaka (The University of Tokyo)