## Engaging young generation in cultural heritage: Urkesh One-on-One Project

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## Abstract

A great deal of the archaeological work is about discovery and interpretation. We discover the physical remains and then develop a narrative of history based on these remains. When the Syrian upheaval started in 2011, the archaeological team of Tell Mozan/ancient <u>Urkesh</u> was no longer able to return to the site to excavate. However, during the years of the physical absence from the site, other discoveries in Syria took place, through the moral and virtual presence of the Urkesh archaeological team. And a whole new narrative of modern history, related to Urkesh and its local communities, has been written in the last decade. This article will present the Urkesh <u>One-on-One</u> project as a model of an outreach program to engage youngsters in cultural heritage. It will then present a reflection on the broader social impact of the program.