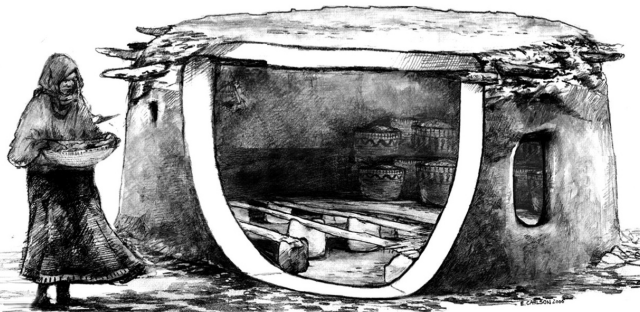


Beginnings of Agriculture

There is strong archaeological evidence that suggests that the people of PPNA were among the first humans to develop a domestic relationship to plants. Archaeologists have since uncovered numerous examples of purpose-built granaries for storing pre-domesticated crops, designed with suspended floors that allowed for air circulation and protection from rodents. In addition, the presence of mortars, grinding stones, and plant remains suggest that the Levantine people developed food processing methods. The “pioneer” crops found in PPNA sites have been further linked as the precursors to the more domesticated versions of barley, lentil, and oats found in later periods.



About the Project

Pre-Pottery Neolithic: VR is a virtual-reality experience that lets you explore a 3D recreation of a small settlement from 11,000 years ago. Navigate through an audio-rich diorama of an ancient civilization rebuilt to life-like scale, and interact with various points of interest to uncover how our ancestors thrived in the prehistoric world.

THE AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION OF SOUTHWEST ASIA

**PRE-
POTTERY
NEOLITHIC:
VR**



The Dawn of Civilization

Today, we enjoy many luxuries that come with being a part of modern civilization – access to people, places, and a wide variety of goods and services. However, this kind of lifestyle was not always the case for our ancestors. For most of their history, humans lived nomadically in small groups as hunter-gatherers, moving wherever their food sources went.

Human life remained like this until about 12,000 years ago, when humans first began cultivating crops in a transition towards agricultural societies known as the Neolithic Revolution. One of the starting locations of this lifestyle shift can be traced back to a time in Southwest Asia known as Pre-Pottery Neolithic A, a period characterized by subterranean pisé buildings, large-scale food storage, and a shifting egalitarian culture. It is from these humble beginnings that mark the path towards advanced civilization as we know it today.



WELCOME TO THE PRE-POTTERY NEOLITHIC

A VIRTUAL REALITY EXPERIENCE

Resourceful Architecture

The Pre-Pottery Neolithic A (PPNA) period began around 11,600 years ago in the Levantine region of Southwest Asia and lasted for about 1,400 years. During this time, the Levantine people settled in arid valleys as small communities, where they built circular, semisubterranean structures for housing and communal activities. The construction process would consist of digging pits into the ground, before plastering the floors with mud and lining the walls with rammed

earth, or pisé. The exposed top would then be covered by a layer of reeds and mud to form a flat roof. During this time, the oldest known megaliths were also constructed in the PPNA area; their purposes, as well as the sheer amount of labor required to construct them, continue to puzzle archaeologists.

