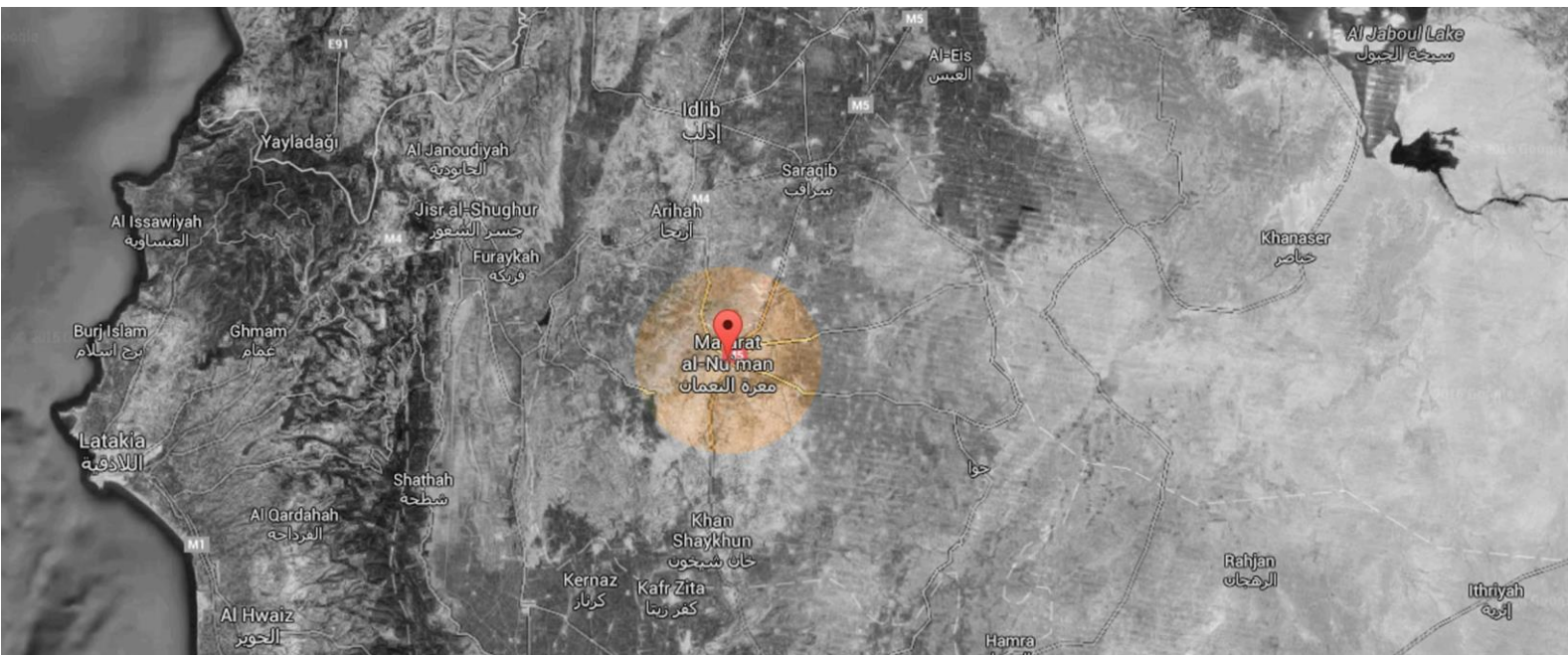


The Day After Heritage Protection Initiative

Development and Education Project

Clay Making Workshop Report

Idlib March 2020



Name of Workshop: Teaching Clay Making

Location: Center for Syrian Cultural Heritage Protection in Idlib, Idlib Governorate

Implementing Agency: Center for Syrian Cultural Heritage Protection, The Day After-Heritage Protection Initiative

Sponsor: Institute for Digital Archaeology

Start Date: 19/3/2019

End Date: 22/3/2019

Workshop Duration: 4 days only



The Workshop Agenda

Day 1

There were 20 participants in this workshop and included children from the local community as well as displaced members from the town of Al-Bara. In order to prepare for the workshop, the participants were assessed on their previous knowledge of clay making. The initial average score of the questionnaire was 68%.

Instruction began with a brief history of the appearance of clay and its uses in the ancient world.

This was followed by a comprehensive definition of clay itself, and the most important types of clay.

The trainer spoke about the first people who used clay and its significance to their societies. He explained its most important uses, especially in building clay houses, pointing out that the most important household tools were also made of clay. Finally, trainer described the cuneiform clay tablet, examples of which have been discovered on numerous archaeological sites in Syria.

Attendance Sheet

NO	Name	First day	Second day	Third day	Fourth day
1	Maha Matoq	a	a	a	a
2	Sham Kanoun	a	a	a	a
3	Nour Selo	a	a	a	a
4	Hammam Miri	a	a	a	a
5	Abdul Rahman Kanoon	a	a	a	a
6	Fouad Ghossum	a	a	a	a
7	Abdel-Qader Shoaib	a	a	a	a
8	Muhammad Deeb Al-Khidr	a	a	a	a
9	Nabih Al-Omar	a	a	a	a
10	Ahmed Jalqa	a	a	a	a
11	Mustafa Adoum	a	a	a	a
12	Ahmed Al-Omar	a	a	a	a
13	Ahmed Kerdouche	a	a	a	a
14	Ahmed Hazem	a	a	a	a
15	Youmna Afara	a	a	a	a
16	Mohamed Selo	a	a	a	a
17	Adel Miri	a	a	a	a
18	Hamid Darkoush	a	a	a	a
19	Ghaith Adoum	a	a	a	a
20	Raghad Al-Hosr	a	a	a	a





Day 2

The participants learned about the stages of development within clay curation and the most important materials used in its manufacture.





The trainer outlined the soils used in making clay placing particular emphasis on the most important soils that are ideal for this industry. He included an explanation of the various clay colors and then described the most important tools used in making clay forms.

(thread - obelisk - knife - plastic base, etc.)



Day 3

The trainer explained how to make tools, shapes, and solids from clay. The participants attempted to make some of the shapes and solids through an interactive demonstration supervised by the trainer.







Day 4

After completing the instruction portion of the workshop, participants were given clay to complete their own clay figures. They performed all of the steps to preserve the tools and clay that they learned in the workshop.

The trainer explained the most important methods and materials used to preserve the shapes that were made of clay for a maximal amount of time. He took particular care in explaining the process of firing, where the clay is baked at a certain temperature and is turned into solid pottery.









Finally, the trainer explained the significance of using clay as a medium not only for amusement, but also as having a role in developing children’s creativity, mental capability, and dexterity.

After completing the theoretical and technical training, the workshop participants were reassessed on their knowledge and understanding of clay making. The results of the final questionnaire yielded an average of 95%.

Conclusion

Through this workshop, 20 children were enriched with theoretical and practical experience in the field of clay making. They were introduced to the basic principles and methods of making clay and its uses.

Suggestions were received from the children, most of which requested to repeat the workshop for a longer period of time. They also proposed to repeat the workshop for a second time and hold an exhibition of the items made by the participants.

Team Members:

Abdul Rahman Al Yahya - Naif Al Qaddour - Ahmad Al Anan -
Muhammad Al Battal - Akram Al Qassoum - Firas Al Yahya - Fatoum
Shaheen



Reported by:

Eng. Abdul Rahman Al-Yehia (Syrian Heritage Centre)

Arch. Khaled Hiatlih

Project Coordinator

Dr. Amr Al-Azm

