

CONSCIOUSNESS, CREATIVITY, AND SELF AT THE DAWN OF SETTLED LIFE

Over recent years a number of scholars have argued that the human mind underwent a cognitive revolution in the Neolithic. This volume seeks to test these claims at the Neolithic site of Çatalhöyük in Turkey and in other Neolithic contexts in the Middle East. It brings together cognitive scientists who have developed theoretical frameworks for the study of cognitive change, archaeologists who have conducted research into cognitive change in the Neolithic of the Middle East, and the excavators of the Neolithic site of Çatalhöyük who have over recent years been exploring changes in consciousness, creativity, and self in the context of the rich data from the site. Collectively, the authors argue that when detailed data are examined, the theoretical evolutionary expectations are not found for these three characteristics. The Neolithic was a time of long, slow, and diverse change in which there is little evidence for an internal cognitive revolution.

Ian Hodder is Dunlevie Family Professor at Stanford University and Director of the Stanford Archaeology Center. He is the author and editor of many books, most recently *Religion and the Emergence of Civilization*, *Entangled: An Archaeology of the Relationships between Humans and Things*, and *Religion at Work in a Neolithic Society*.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-48492-3 — Consciousness, Creativity, and Self at the Dawn of Settled Life

Edited by Ian Hodder

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UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

79 Anson Road, #06-04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.orgInformation on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108484923

DOI: 10.1017/9781108753616

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First published 2020

Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ International, Padstow Cornwall

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.**Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data*

NAMES: Hodder, Ian, editor.

TITLE: Consciousness, creativity, and self at the dawn of settled life / Edited by Ian Hodder, Stanford University, California.

DESCRIPTION: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY : University Printing House, 2019.

IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2019013845 | ISBN 9781108484923 (hardback) | ISBN 9781108718875 (paperback)

SUBJECTS: LCSH: Neolithic period—Turkey. | Neolithic period—Middle East. | Excavations (Archaeology)—Turkey. | Excavations (Archaeology)—Middle East. | Consciousness—Research. | Cognition and culture.

CLASSIFICATION: LCC GN776.32.T9 C66 2019 | DDC 939/.21—dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019013845>

ISBN 978-1-108-48492-3 Hardback

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This volume results from research conducted by the Çatalhöyük Research Project between 2015 and 2017 and funded by a grant (Number 52003) from the John Templeton Foundation as well as by the British Institute at Ankara and commercial sponsors (Yapı Kredi, Boeing, Koçtaş, and Shell). The project involved research at Çatalhöyük and culminated in a conference held at the McDonald Institute of Archaeological Research in Cambridge on July 27–30, 2017. Some of the speakers and participants at the conference then came together to produce this volume.

Apart from those already listed, I am very grateful to the British Institute at Ankara, the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism in Ankara, and Konya Museums, as well as to the many hundreds of archaeologists who have worked at Çatalhöyük between 1993 and 2018. I am also very grateful to the McDonald Institute in Cambridge for help in housing and organizing the conference. The organization of the conference was handled very efficiently by Bilge Küçükdoğan.

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