

Ziyan Li

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Tibetan prehistory; Hunter-gatherers; High altitude adaptation; Lithic analysis; Zooarchaeology; Stable isotope analysis

EDUCATION

- Sep 2021 – Sep 2024 Department of Archaeology M.A, Archaeology, Sichuan University, China.
Supervised by Prof. Hongliang lu
Thesis Title: Intra-site Spatial analysis of lithics from high-altitude western Tibet enables insights into regional diversity in foragers' approach to the plateau (西藏西部全新世早期狩猎采集者的空间利用: 以夏达错遗址为中心)
- Sep 2017 - June 2021 Department of Archaeology B.A, Archaeology, Sichuan University, China.
Thesis Title: Human occupation of western Tibetan Plateau in the early Holocene (西藏西部全新世早期的人类活动)

PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Lu, H., **Li, Z.**, Ciren, C., Cao, D., Gao, X., & Li, L. (2022). Sding Chung: An early multi-burial cave site on the Tibetan Plateau. *Antiquity*, 96(387), 745–753. <https://doi.org/10.15184/aqy.2022.42>
- 2024 Chen, X., **Li, Z.**, Xu, H., Zhang, Z., Wu, J., Tstring, T., & Lü, H. (2024). Long-term prehistoric human occupation in Western Tibet: excavations and surveys at the Xiada Co site. *Antiquity*, 98(401), e25. doi:10.15184/aqy.2024.128
- Lu, H.; **Li, Z.** (2024) Permanent Human Occupation of the Western Tibetan Plateau in the Early Holocene. *Land* 13, 1484. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land13091484>
- Chen, Y., Hu, Y., Li, Z., Zhao, Z., Li, M., Ciren, C., & Lu, H. (2024). The world's earliest ground stone needles: Archaeological evidence from the early Holocene of the Western Tibetan Plateau. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, 57, 104610. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jasrep.2024.104610>

LABORATORY WORK

- 2023-2024 Spatial analysis of artifacts from the Xiadaco site.
- Master's degree project, supervised by Prof. Hongliang Lu
 - Working on the lithic artifacts from the Xiadaco site in western Tibet, a well-preserved and continuously re-occupied site dating back to ca. 8700-5700 cal BP.
- 2023-2024 Analysis of obsidian artifacts from sites on the Western Tibetan Plateau using ED-XRF and LA-MS-ICP
- Working on the archaeological obsidian from the several sites in west Tibet.
- 2022-2024 Analysis of lithic artifacts from the Zhongba site (ca. 7000 BP)
- 2022 Assisting the OSL analysis of the Zhongba site
- Acquired basic skills of pretreatment of OSL samples.
- 2022 Analysis of Ground stone artifacts of Haimenkou site (ca. 4500-3800 BP)
- Acquired basic skills of ground stone analysis.
- 2022 Assisting the analysis of phytolith of Baodun site
- Acquired basic skills of identifying phytolith
- 2021 Assisting the analysis of ceramic remains from Haimenkou site
- Acquired basic skills of the typology and technology of ceramic artifacts
- 2020-2021 Analysis of lithic artifacts from the three sites of the western Tibetan Plateau, including Xiadaco, Qusongguo, and Dingzhonghuzhuzi (ca. 10000-8000 BP)
- Acquired systematic training of theory and methods in lithic analysis. Based on the homogenous material exponents of lithic technology, raw material procurement, and travel cost models of site location, we proposed a model of permanent occupation. Additionally, we infer that interaction networks of hunter-gatherers might have existed in western Tibet during the early Holocene.
- 2018-2019 Assisting the analysis of human skeletal remains from Laoguanshan site
- Acquired basic knowledge of identifying and recording human skeletal remains.

FIELD WORK

- 7/2024-8/2024 *Excavator and surveyor*: Excavation and survey in Rutog, western Tibetan Plateau, Tibet Autonomous, China
- 7/2023-8/2023 *Excavator and surveyor*: Excavation and survey at the Xiadaco site, Tibet Autonomous, China
- 7/2022-8/2022 *Excavator and surveyor*: Excavation and survey at the Xiadaco site, Tibet Autonomous, China
- 3/2022 *Surveyor*: Excavation at the Dashanpo site, Sichuan Province, China
- 8/2021 *Surveyor*: Excavation at the Shizidong site, Guizhou Province, China
- 8/2021 *Excavator and surveyor*: Survey in the Upper reaches of the Yarlung Tsangpo River, Tibet Autonomous, China,

- 7/2021 *Excavator and surveyor*: Excavation and survey at the Sding Chung cave, Tibet Autonomous, China
- Acquired basic skills of documenting human remains and faunal remains on field
- 3/2021-4/2021 *Excavator and Supervisor of mapping*: Excavation at the Sanxingdui site, Sichuan Province, China
- Acquired basic skills of excavating graves and sacrificial pits
 - Acquired basic skills in protecting artifacts made of gold, bronze, and ivory
- 7/2020-9/2020 *Excavator and surveyor*: Excavation and survey at the Xiadaco site, Tibet Autonomous, China
- 9/2020 *Excavator and surveyor*: Survey of Lhasa River Valley, Tibet Autonomous, China,
- Acquired basic skills of field surveys on the Tibetan Plateau
- 9/2019-2/2020 *Field School*: Excavation and survey at the Haimenkou site, Yunnan Province, China
- Acquired basic skills in conducting field surveys, excavations, and mapping of Neolithic to Early Bronze Age settlement sites.
 - Assisted the team in aerial photography, GIS mapping, and flotation.
- 7/2018-9/2018 *Field School*: Fieldwork at the Zhaoguo Cave, Guizhou Province, China
- Acquired basic skills of excavation and mapping at paleolithic sites

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2023-2024 First-class Scholarship for Graduate students at Sichuan University
- 2023 National Scholarship for Postgraduates
- 2022 “Exploring China” Liji Scholarship for Archaeology (“发现中国” 李济考古学奖学金)
- 2021 The First Prize of Sichuan University's 2018 Undergraduate Excellent Graduation Thesis
- 2021 Xubangda Art Education Scholarship (徐邦达艺术教育奖学金)
- 2021-2023 First-class Scholarship for Graduate students at Sichuan University
- 2021 The Outstanding Graduate of Sichuan Province
- 2021 The Outstanding Graduate of Sichuan University
- 2017-2021 Comprehensive Scholarship of Sichuan University
- 2020 Outstanding Undergraduate academic paper, title: *Research on the Utilization of Early Cannabis Remains Excavated within China*
- 2018-2020 Outstanding Student Award of Sichuan University

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant, Sichuan University

Summer 2023 Food Globalization in Prehistory
Spring 2022 Human Civilizations and Social Evolution
Fall 2021 Introduction to Archaeology

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

3/2019 The "Sichuan University-Harvard University Archaeological Site Study Camp of Ancient Shu Civilization, "sponsored by the Fairbank Centre for Chinese Studies at Harvard University and the Research Centre for the Study of Western China at Sichuan University, undertaken by the Archaeology Department, Sichuan University

SKILLS

Software

ArcGIS Pro for basic spatial analysis; Photoshop; Adobe illustrator; Microsoft Office; Agisoft Photoscan

Instruments

Total Station; RTK; WD-XRF &ED-XRF (Trained through the Analytical and Testing Center of Sichuan University)

Language

Chinese (Mandarin &Cantonese): Native Speaker | English: Proficient | French: Basic reading