

Rock Art as Prehistoric “History”

A Deeper Understanding of Prehistoric Rock Art

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While many may consider human history to begin with the appearance of writing a mere 3000 to 4000 years ago, our story actually begins millions of years earlier in the past. Human history is deeply rooted in the distant past known as “prehistory”. This time period, which lacked all forms of writing, can only be studied directly through archaeological remains.

The purpose of this report is to familiarize readers with rock art and the important role played by these kinds of archaeological remains in studying human history before the appearance of writing. The current work is divided into three parts: the first part defines rock art and its characteristics, the second explains the importance of this kind of material culture in shedding light on the long, mysterious period of early human history that lacks written records and historical documents; and the third and final part, which is the most essential, presents a photographic record to provide a deeper understanding of prehistoric rock art, one of the most important archaeological sources from which we gather information about prehistoric “history”.