

The Joint Iranian Expedition: Chogha Mish Excavations

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The resumption of the field work at Chogha Mish by the Joint Iranian Expedition of the Oriental Institute and the University of California, Los Angeles, which had been planned for January, 1969, had to be postponed until October, 1969, because unforeseeable circumstances made it impossible for the Oriental Institute to contribute its share to the Expedition during the 1968/69 fiscal year. Consequently the coming campaign in Khuzestan will be a double season, planned to last through the autumn of 1969 and the winter of 1970. Such a lengthened season is more economical from the point of view of overhead expenses, especially those of travel from and to the United States. The staff will be considerably larger than in previous campaigns as a result of grants from the Ford Foundation Archaeological Traineeship Program which are available to both the University of Chicago and the University of California, Los Angeles. In addition several students who have been awarded travelling fellowships by

the University of Chicago have requested permission to join the Expedition.

During the interval between the field campaigns the abundant materials from the previous seasons have been the subject of intensive studies, the result of which will be a substantial preliminary report now nearing completion. The generous loan of materials of the second season which were allocated in the division to the National Museum of Iran in Teheran has greatly facilitated our work. Hundreds of specimens have been restored, drawn, and photographed as the basis for thorough study and the scholarly presentation of the results. The drawings illustrated here are but a minute sample of the variety of the Expedition's finds.

The directors of the Joint Iranian Expedition, Helene J. Kantor and P. P. Delougaz, went to Iran at the end of May in order to attend to all the varied arrangements which must be made ahead of time in order that the Expedition may begin its work promptly according to plan.

