

Editorial

The editorial of this *Res Antiquitatis* could not fail to mention and mourn the death of Jean-Claude Margueron, that enormous and outstanding figure in Near Eastern Archeology, connected to several of the most relevant archaeosites of that geography, of which Mari stands out, where he worked around fifty years and directed for twenty-five.

Studies on Archeology and History of the Near and Middle East in Portugal owe him immensely for having been and continue to be an inspiring figure. I especially remember the occasions when he was in Portugal and when crowded auditoriums absorbed each of his words, fill with meaning. From each of his words, which were a pleasure to hear, transpired wisdom and emotion. He knew and talked about Mari, about its architecture and its urbanism, indeed in three dimensions.

Jean-Claude Margueron impressed any audience for being the intellectual reference that he was, but also for being someone who constantly questioned himself, who questioned us, who challenged us and who led us to critically think about each new problem he identified.

He called us, the Portuguese and Spanish colleagues, passionate about his Mesopotamia, his “Iberian friends”. We must, therefore, continue to honor his memory and continue *Res Antiquitatis*, a journal dedicated to the various antiquities and their reception, in permanent dialogue with Jean-Claude Margueron.

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