

## **The analyses of “abnormal condition”: An Anthropological Archaeology perspective**

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Since 2003, I have focused on and studied the events responsible for creating abnormal conditions from an archaeological perspective. By abnormal condition, I mean a situation or state which is different from the regular routines, such as the occurrence of an earthquake or revolution.

Abnormal conditions have very influential effects on the formation of archaeological contexts and should be considered by archaeologists in stratigraphy and excavation. Otherwise, the archaeologists would lose significant indicators of the events which formed layers or contexts. In addition, the events and the entanglement between archaeological contexts and the material shows if the context has been installed premeditatedly or if an abnormality/disaster/catastrophe has influenced its depositional events.

Generally, conditions which form the contexts can be classified into normal and abnormal—the second group results from short-term events, sudden (natural)disasters or states of exception (social or political). The events follow each other, one after one. In the long run, a spectrum of the events would be recognisable in the layers or contexts, which usually is interpreted as CHANGES, a popular term in traditional archaeology.

In the current presentation, I will discuss four cases from my field studies to highlight the difference between normal and abnormal conditions. These four cases include ethnoarchaeological studies of Bam city (destroyed by an earthquake), Tell-e Atashi archaeological excavation (an A-ceramic site located in Bam), and two cases from recent protests.