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Preface

Holocene climate and cultural evolution in late prehistoric-early historic West Asia

This special issue of *Quaternary Research* is the result of the workshop "Paleoclimate Proxy Data for Reconstructing Holocene Environments of West Asia" held at the 4th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East in Berlin, March 20 to April 3, 2004. The objective of the workshop was to gather scientists from the usually separate archaeological and geoscience communities to stimulate discussion in the interdisciplinary field of climate change in late prehistoric– early historic times. Although *Quaternary Research* is a highly interdisciplinary journal, the task of editor is especially challenging when two such traditionally different fields are involved. I thank the guest editors, Michael Staubwasser and Harvey Weiss, for their hard work in bringing this issue to completion.

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