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# Back to Heis: New data on long-distance trade in Somaliland (1st-2nd c. AD).

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## Résumé

Somaliland was an important area in the Indian Ocean network both in Antiquity and in the Middle Ages. Unlike other areas that have seen intensive fieldwork during the last three decades, very little is known about the impact of long-distance trade in the Somali coast. Since 2015 a team from the Spanish National Research Council has been exploring this topic from a long-term perspective and paying particular attention to the role of local nomads. In this paper, we will present new data coming from our research in Heis, a site discovered in the late 19th century which yielded an interesting assemblage of Roman finds. We have mapped in detail the ancient necropolis where the imports were originally found, conducted a systematic survey and sondages, and documented many other exotic wares and glass coming from Italy, Nubia, Arabia and India during the 1st-2nd centuries AD. We have also studied the hinterland to better understand the trade routes with the interior and how the nomad landscape was impacted by an expanding, connected world.

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