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# Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel - Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte -

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## Vortrag

Das Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte, Kiel, lädt im Rahmen des Archäologischen Kolloquiums zu einem Vortrag mit anschließender Diskussion ein am

**Montag, den 14. Dezember 2015,**  
18.30 Uhr, Johanna-Mestorf-Hörsaal  
(Eingang 4, Erdgeschoss), Johanna-Mestorf-Straße.

**Herr Dr. Quentin P.J. Bourgeois, Leiden,**  
spricht zum Thema:

### **Exploring the networks of communication in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium BC - Identifying *communities of praxis* in the Corded Ware world**

The early 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium BC in north-western Europe is one of the most transformative periods in European prehistory and is characterized by the emergence of pan-European networks. Particularly puzzling are the Corded Ware groups, recognized primarily through their highly standardized burial ritual. Over vast areas people buried their dead in a semi-flexed position (often) underneath a barrow and added a very restricted set of artefacts – such as a cord-decorated pot or a battle-axe – to the grave.

This rigidly structured way in which these groups buried their dead hints at the existence of a conceptual network, where group affiliation with an idea was expressed over great distances through a highly standardized burial ritual. While it is certainly true that much of this burial ritual is highly standardized and homogeneous – certainly from the perspective of the artefacts contained within them – there is still much variation to be accounted for. Detailed inspection of the rituals involved in these burials reveals sets of practices that are usually idiosyncratic to specific regions.

This paper aims to adopt a practice perspective – i.e. by looking at the series of actions involved in the burial ritual – and to combine it with a network-analysis to highlight how the shared concept of the burial ritual was implemented within a particular region. This technique can then highlight how certain groups of people adopted and put into practice a shared concept of how someone ought to be buried.

(gez. Die Dozenten des Instituts für Ur- und Frühgeschichte)