

ANATOLIAN STUDIES

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Transanatolia

Proceedings of the conference held at the British Museum, 31 March to 1 April 2006



Edited by Alexandra Fletcher and Alan M. Greaves

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Contents

| | |
|---|-----|
| Trans-Anatolia: examining Turkey as a bridge between East and West, <i>Alan M. Greaves</i> | 1 |
| Amidst Mesopotamia-centric and Euro-centric approaches: the changing role of the Anatolian peninsula between the East and the West, <i>Mehmet Özdoğan</i> | 17 |
| An arena for cultural contact: Paphlagonia (north-central Turkey) through prehistory, <i>Roger Matthews</i> | 25 |
| Ancient mountain routes connecting central Anatolia to the upper Euphrates region, <i>A. Tuba Ökse</i> | 35 |
| The theories of the 'Great Caravan Route' between Cilicia and Troy: the Early Bronze Age III period in inland western Anatolia, <i>Turan Efe</i> | 47 |
| Anatolia as a bridge from north to south? Recent research in the Hatti heartland, <i>Thomas Zimmermann</i> | 65 |
| Hirbemerdon Tepe: a late third to mid second millennium BC settlement of the upper Tigris valley, <i>Nicola Laneri, Stefano Valentini and Anacleto D'Agostino</i> | 77 |
| At the crossroads: prehistoric settlement in the Maeander valley, <i>Daniel Thompson</i> | 87 |
| The Malatya-Elazığ region during the Middle Bronze Age: a re-evaluation of the archaeological evidence, <i>Tevfik Emre Şerifoğlu</i> | 101 |
| Social transformations in the Late Neolithic and the Early Chalcolithic periods in central Anatolia, <i>Arkadiusz Marciniak and Lech Czerniak</i> | 115 |
| The emergence of different social systems in Early Bronze Age Anatolia: urbanisation versus centralisation, <i>Özlem Çevik</i> | 131 |
| The ceramics of centralisation and dissolution: a case study from Rough Cilicia, <i>J.N. Postgate</i> | 141 |
| The Anatolian Middle Bronze Age kingdoms and Alalakh: Mukish, Kanesh and trade, <i>K. Aslihan Yener</i> | 151 |
| New discoveries concerning the relationship between the upper Tigris region and Syro-Cilicia in the Late Neolithic, <i>Halil Tekin</i> | 161 |
| Obsidian as an indicator of inter-regional contacts and exchange: three case-studies from the Halaf period, <i>Elizabeth Healey</i> | 171 |
| The prehistoric ceramic assemblage from Horum Höyük, <i>Alexandra Fletcher</i> | 191 |
| Strategies for future success: remembering the Hittites during the Iron Age, <i>Lynn Swartz Dodd</i> | 203 |

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Transanatolia: Bridging the gap between East and West in the archaeology of ancient Anatolia

A conference sponsored by the British Academy, the British Institute at Ankara
the Turkish Embassy in London, the British Museum
and the University of Liverpool
31 March to 1 April 2006

Introduction

The papers in this edition of *Anatolian Studies* were first presented at the *Transanatolia* conference in 2006. The conference brought together scholars from different countries and traditions to discuss inter-regional interactions across Anatolia from the Neolithic period to the Late Bronze Age. These papers reflect their dialogues and include contributions of new data, perspectives and insights.

Turkey's position as a bridge, both physical and cultural, between Europe and the Near East is highly relevant to a number of contemporary debates. The papers in this collection discuss the cultural, methodological and theoretical interactions between the archaeologies of east, west and central Turkey and also the region's position within larger dialogues between the East and the West. Together, they contribute to a wider appreciation of the archaeology of Anatolia and show how the ancient cultures of Turkey were not peripheral to developments within Mesopotamia, the Levant, the Aegean and the Caucasus, but are central to any discussions of those regions.

The papers in this volume are arranged according to four themes. Initially, theoretical approaches to the East-West divide are analysed by Greaves and Özdoğan. This section is followed by examinations of the archaeologies of different regions and their interaction with one another; with papers from Matthews, Ökse, Efe, Zimmermann, Laneri, et al., Thompson and Şerifoğlu. Papers by Czerniak and Marciniak, Çevik, and Postgate then focus on social structures as represented by the material culture and settlement patterns of different periods. Finally, there are discussions of intra- and inter-site dynamics drawing on different aspects of material culture assemblages by Yener, Tekin, Healey, Fletcher and Dodd.

The *Transanatolia* conference brought together scholars from a wide range of backgrounds. This resulted in lively discussions, shown here within these papers, which are a testimony to the participants' generosity in sharing their data and ideas. We hope this will provide readers of this volume with valuable new perspectives concerning the study of Anatolia.

Acknowledgements

The editors are very pleased to acknowledge the contributions of the many institutions and individuals involved in making the *Transanatolia* conference a success.

The conference itself would not have been possible without the generosity of the British Museum, which hosted the event and provided stewards and technicians in support. The British Academy funded delegates' travel and accommodation via the British Conference Grants scheme. The University of Liverpool and the British Institute at Ankara also provided financial and practical support. The Turkish Embassy in London generously sponsored the opening evening's reception and it was a great honour that His Excellency Mr Akın Alptuna, the former Turkish Ambassador to Britain, was able to attend.

The continued professionalism of Gina Muskett, conference administrator, and Gina Coulthard, executive editor of *Anatolian Studies*, ensured the smooth and timely operation of the conference and the production of this volume.

The editors are also grateful to the many colleagues who have given their time to act as referees.

Alexandra Fletcher
Alan M. Greaves
November 2007