

CULTURAL EXCHANGES AND  
CURRENT RESEARCH AT KÜLTEPE  
AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

## SUBARTU XLVI

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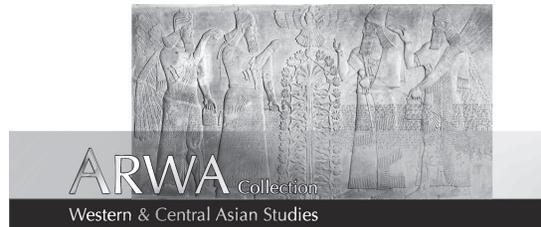
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**Cover image:** Silver pins from Kültepe, early second millennium BC.  
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# CULTURAL EXCHANGES AND CURRENT RESEARCH AT KÜLTEPE AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

KÜLTEPE, 1–4 AUGUST, 2019

Edited by

Fikri Kulakoğlu, Guido Kryszat  
& Cécile Michel

KIM Editors

Fikri Kulakoğlu & Cécile Michel

KIM Editorial Board

Levent Atici, Gojko Barjamovic, Guido Kryszat & Aslihan Yener

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## CONTENTS

List of Illustrations .....	vii
Foreword .....	xv
Acknowledgements .....	xvi

### **FIKRI KULAKOĞLU, GUIDO KRYSZAT & CÉCILE MICHEL**

1. Introduction .....	1
-----------------------	---

## Cultural Exchanges

### **ABDULLAH HACAR**

2. Cultural Exchanges in Cappadocia during the Chalcolithic Period: Recent Results of the Archaeological Survey in South-Western Cappadocia (2017–2019 Seasons).....	7
--	---

### **LUCA PEYRONEL & AGNESE VACCA**

3. When Different Worlds Meet: Exchange Networks in Anatolia and the Northern Levant during the Third Millennium BC .....	23
---	----

### **HIROSHI SUDO**

4. Canaanite Blades from Kültepe (Central Anatolia).....	51
--	----

### **JACOB JAN DE RIDDER**

5. Assyrian–Anatolian Relations Observed through Ethnic Designation .....	65
---	----

## Kültepe Material Culture

### **CÉCILE MICHEL & FIKRI KULAKOĞLU**

6. ‘I Will Fix a Pin on your Breast’: Interdisciplinary Study on Pins during the Old Assyrian Period .....	85
--	----

### **EVREN YAZGAN, FIKRI KULAKOĞLU, NIHAL ÇEVİK & CIHAN AY**

7. Petrographic and Mineralogical Analysis of Stone Objects Excavated at Kültepe.....	131
---	-----

**YILMAZ RIDVANOĞULLARI, FIKRI KULAKOĞLU & EVREN YAZGAN**

8. Lead Ingots and Rings in Central Anatolia during the Assyrian Trade Period ..... 143

**BURCU TÜYSÜZ**

9. Preliminary Assessments of Black-Glazed Attic Pottery Found at Kültepe. .... 161

## Sealings, Writing &amp; History

**NÉHÉMIE STRUPLER**

10. Overview of Sealing Practices at Kültepe during the Anatolian–Old Assyrian Trade Network Period. .... 181

**WIEBKE BEYER**

11. The Transmission of the Scribal Art in the Old Assyrian Period  
— A Palaeographic Approach ..... 197

**JAN GERRIT DERCKSEN**

12. Scribal Education in Assur and Kanesh: The Practical Vocabularies. .... 209

**GUIDO KRYSZAT**

13. Gods, Names, and the Question of Western Elements in Early Assyrian Religion ..... 235

## Anatolia

**AMIR GILAN**

14. A City Shrouded in Myth: Kaneš in Hittite Texts. .... 259

**NANCY HIGHCOCK & ALVISE MATESSI**

15. The Early Bronze Age at Niğde-Kınık Höyük: A Preliminary Analysis ..... 275

**A. NEJAT BILGEN, ZEYNEP BILGEN, M. HAMDI OKATAN, RANA B. USTA & BAYRAM UYGUN**

16. New Evidence of the Cultural Relationship between Inner North-West Anatolia and Northern Syria-Mesopotamia during the Early and Middle Bronze Ages: Exceptional Finds from Seyitömer Höyük. .... 293

**MUSTAFA H. SAYAR**

17. The Connection between Cappadocia and the Mediterranean Coast through the Cilician Plain in the First Millennium BC ..... 325



## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

### 1. Introduction — *Fikri Kulakoğlu, Guido Kryszat & Cécile Michel*

- Figure 1.1. Participants at the fourth Kültepe International Meeting, Kültepe, 1–4 August 2019. .... 1
- Figure 1.2. Participants in KIM 4, visiting Kuşaklı, 4 August 2019. .... 3

### 2. Cultural Exchanges in Cappadocia during the Chalcolithic Period — *Abdullah Hacı*

- Figure 2.1. Map of sites mentioned in the text. .... 8
- Figure 2.2. Aerial view of Hökenez Tepe and Postallı Valley looking north-east. .... 8
- Figure 2.3. View of Kiseçik Mevki, Porsuk Höyük and Ulukışla Valley looking west. .... 9
- Figure 2.4. View of Bekçitepe (with Bor Plain in the background) looking east. .... 9
- Figure 2.5. Selected Late Neolithic and Early Chalcolithic pottery (1–2, 4 Bekçitepe, 3, 5 Senir Sırtı). .... 10
- Figure 2.6. Selected Middle Chalcolithic pottery (1–2 Bekçitepe, 3–5, 10 Mahmatlı-Boztepe, 6 Çardacık-Karatepeler, 7, 9 Hökenez Tepe, 8 Karahavuz). .... 12
- Figure 2.7. Selected Middle Chalcolithic pottery (1–2, 4 Bekçitepe, 3 Aşırlık Tepe, 5, 7, 10 Hökenez Tepe, 6 Karahavuz, 8 Çardacık-Karatepeler, 9 Mahmatlı-Boztepe). .... 13
- Figure 2.8. Selected Late Chalcolithic pottery (1, 4–5 Bekçitepe, 2–3 Adıyaman Mevki 1). .... 14
- Figure 2.9. Selected Late Chalcolithic pottery (1, 2, 5 Bekçitepe, 3–4, 6 Adıyaman Mevki 1). .... 16
- Table 2.1. Comparative Chalcolithic chronology. .... 10

### 3. When Different Worlds Meet — *Luca Peyronel & Agnese Vacca*

- Figure 3.1. Map of the Near East in the Early Bronze Age. .... 24
- Figure 3.2. Plan of the Royal Palace G of Ebla. .... 26
- Figure 3.3. Rock crystal from the Royal Palace G of Ebla. .... 27
- Figure 3.4. Tin bronzes from the Royal Palace G of Ebla. .... 29
- Figure 3.5. Lead ingot or weight from the Royal Palace G of Ebla. .... 30
- Figure 3.6. Composite statuette in silver and steatite of a standing female figure from the Royal Palace G of Ebla. .... 30
- Figure 3.7. Gold sheets from the Royal Palace G of Ebla (L.2892). .... 31

Figure 3.8.	Lapis lazuli blocks from the Royal Palace G of Ebla. ....	32
Figure 3.9.	Scale weights from the Royal Palace G of Ebla related to the Mesopotamian (n. 5) western (nos 1, 3–4, 6) systems and to the unit of c. 5.6–6.7 g (n. 2, 7). ....	32
Figure 3.10.	Map of south-eastern Anatolia, the northern Levant, and the Middle Euphrates sector. ....	35
Figure 3.11.	Syrian bottles and <i>depata</i> from the northern Levant and Anatolia. ....	37

#### 4. Canaanian Blades from Kültepe (Central Anatolia) — *Hirosbi Sudo*

Figure 4.1.	Kültepe and sites registered by KAYAP. ....	53
Figure 4.2.	Canaanian blades from Kültepe 1, light yellow (LY). ....	56
Figure 4.3.	Canaanian blades from Kültepe 2, light yellow (LY). ....	57
Figure 4.4.	Canaanian blades from Kültepe 3, pinkish grey (PG). ....	58
Figure 4.5.	Canaanian blades from Kültepe 4, dark grey (DG). ....	59
Figure 4.6.	Canaanian blades from Kültepe 5, other colours. ....	59
Table 4.1.	Canaanian blades from Kültepe. ....	54

#### 6. ‘I Will Fix a Pin on your Breast’ — *Cécile Michel & Fikri Kulakoğlu*

Figure 6.1.	Kültepe silver pins on exhibit at Ankara Anadolu Medeniyetleri Müzesi. ....	89
Figure 6.2.	Kültepe gold and gold-plated pins on exhibit at the Ankara Anadolu Medeniyetleri Müzesi. ....	90
Figure 6.3.	Mari inlay panel from the middle of the third millennium BC. ....	106
Table 6.1.	Attestations of a single <i>tudittum</i> -pin. ....	88
Table 6.2.	Attestations of <i>tudinātum</i> -pins at the plural with other objects. ....	88
Table 6.3.	Kültepe pins recorded by H. Klein 1992, 339–34. ....	93
Table 6.4.	Kültepe pins published from the late 1950s on or unpublished ones preserved in the Kayseri museum. ....	96

#### 7. Petrographic and Mineralogical Analysis of Stone Objects Excavated at Kültepe — *Evren Yazgan, Fikri Kulakoğlu, Nihal Çevik & Cihan Ay*

Figure 7.1.	(a, b) Two types of saddle quern; (c) thin section under non-polarized light; (d) crossed polarizers. ....	132
Figure 7.2.	Multi-holed ore grinding mortars. ....	132
Figure 7.3.	Thin section of the tetra-holed slag grinding stone; (a) under non-polarized light; (b) under crossed polarizers. ....	133
Figure 7.4.	(a, b) Fine-textured meta-basalt (meta-andesitic basalt); (c, d) thin section under crossed polarizer and non-polarized light. ....	133

Figure 7.5.	(a, b) Fine-textured meta-diabase; (c, d) secondary interstitial quartz minerals. ....	134
Figure 7.6.	(a, b) Reddish brown pestles of fine-grained sandstone; (c) thin section under non-polarized light. ....	134
Figure 7.7.	(a, b) Medium-grained meta-diabase; (c, d) pseudomorphism of pyroxene minerals to amphibole minerals. ....	134
Figure 7.8.	(a, b) Amygdaloidal meta-basalt; (c, d) thin section under crossed polarizers. ....	135
Figure 7.9.	(a, b) Meta-volcanic Breccia; (c, d) thin section under non-polarized light and crossed polarizers displaying hematitic cement. ....	135
Figure 7.10.	(a, b) chert; (c) thin section under non-polarized light; (d) under crossed polarizers. ....	136
Figure 7.11.	(a, b) Meta-sandstone; (c, d) thin section under crossed polarizers. ....	136
Figure 7.12.	(a, b) Quartzite; (c, d) thin section under crossed polarizers. ....	137
Figure 7.13.	(a, b) Pivot stones; (c, d) thin section non-polarized light and crossed polarizers. ....	137
Figure 7.14.	(a) Large whetstone, meta-diabase; (b) thin section non-polarized light; (c) crossed polarizers. .	138
Figure 7.15.	(a, b) Meta-diabase, small whetstone; (c, d) thin section non-polarized and polarized light. ....	138
Figure 7.16.	(a, b) Different sizes of kitchen mortars; (c, d) modern kitchen mortars and pestles. ....	139
Figure 7.17.	(a, b) Fossiliferous sandstone; (c) non-polarized light; (d) polarized light. ....	139
Figure 7.18.	(a, b) Sandstone; (c, d) thin sections under polarized light. ....	140
Figure 7.19.	(a, b) Recrystallized sandstone; (c, d) thin section non-polarized and polarized light. ....	140
Figure 7.20.	(a, b) Coarse-grained sandstone; (c, d) thin section under crossed polarizers displaying quartz, chert, feldspar, and plagioclase mineral grains. ....	141
Table 7.1.	Mohs hardness scale. ....	142
Table 7.2.	Hardness of the Described Minerals. ....	142

## 8. Lead Ingots and Rings in Central Anatolia during the Assyrian Trade Period

— *Yılmaz Rıdvanoğulları, Fikri Kulakoğlu & Evren Yazgan*

Figure 8.1.	Important lead resources in Anatolia. ....	144
Figure 8.2.	Irregular rectangular prism-shaped lead ingot. 3.2 × 2.3 × 9 cm, weight 450 g (Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt. 00/k 134). ....	148
Figure 8.3.	Irregular rectangular prism-shaped lead ingot. 3.9 × 3.2 × 4.9 cm, weight 160 g (Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt. 00/k 136). ....	148
Figure 8.4.	Rod-shaped lead ingot. 5.1 × 0.5 cm, weight 12.29 g (Kayseri Museum No. 5233; Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt. s/?). ....	149
Figure 8.5.	Rod-shaped lead ingot. 11.5 × 0.6 cm, weight 88.225 g (Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt. 81/k. 20). ....	149
Figure 8.6.	Astragal-shaped lead ingot. 1.42 × 1.87 × 0.50 cm, weight 10.3 g (Kültepe Field Find no.: 08-k-1032). ....	149

Figure 8.7.	Astragal-shaped lead ingot. 1.64–1.96 × 2.90 × 1.13 cm, weight 39.0 g (Kültepe Field Find no.: 10-k-02-607). . . . .	149
Figure 8.8.	Disc-shaped lead ingot. 7.6 × 1.1 cm, weight 405 g (Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt.82/k. 180). . . . .	150
Figure 8.9.	Flat rectangular lead ingot. 2 × 0.3 × 3 cm, weight 12.08 g (Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt.08/k.170). . . . .	151
Figure 8.10.	Flat square lead ingot. 1.60 × 0.27 cm, weight 6.2 g (Kültepe Field Find no.: 08-k-966). . . . .	151
Figure 8.11.	Flat oval lead ingot. 1.64 × 2.30 × 0.42 cm, weight 11.8 g (Kültepe Field Find no.: 08-k-810). . . . .	151
Figure 8.12.	Flat amorphous lead ingot. 1.50 × 2.50 × 0.49 cm, weight 12.5 g (Kültepe Field Find no.: 08-k-784). . . . .	151
Figure 8.13.	Photos and drawings showing the ends of the various lead rings. 08-k-01-0109: ring with closed ends; 08-k-01-0494: closed ring with overlapping ends; Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt.97/k.380: ring with open ends; 08-k-01-0326: amorphous ring. . . . .	152
Figure 8.14.	A necklace produced with thirteen lead rings and two frit beads (Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt.78/K 86). . . . .	153
Figure 8.15.	Photo of eight lead rings discovered in the No. 5 pithos grave (Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt. 80/k. 49). . . . .	153
Figure 8.16.	(a–h) Drawing of eight lead rings discovered in the No. 5 pithos grave (Kültepe Inv. No.: Kt. 80/k. 49). . . . .	153
Figure 8.17.	Sites mentioned in the text. . . . .	154

## 9. Preliminary Assessments of Black-Glazed Attic Pottery Found at Kültepe — *Burcu Tüysüz*

Map 9.1.	Cappadocia region and its roads after the mid-fourth century BC. . . . .	162
Figure 9.1.	Kültepe mound: the area where black-glazed pottery was found. . . . .	162
Figure 9.2.	Ceramic samples belonging to the first group. . . . .	163
Figure 9.3.	Ceramic samples belonging to the second group. . . . .	164
Figure 9.4.	Photographs and drawings of black-glazed Attic pottery found at Kültepe: (1–3) rim, body, and base fragment of bowl with outturned rim; (4–5) rim, body, and base fragment bowl with incurved rim; (6–8) base fragment of bowl. . . . .	165
Figure 9.5.	Photographs and drawings of black-glazed Attic pottery found in Kültepe: (1–2) rim, body, and base fragment of saucer-saltcellar; (3–5) rim, body, and base fragment of plate; (6) rim, body, and base fragment of a fish-plate. . . . .	167
Figure 9.6.	Photographs and drawings of black-glazed Attic pottery found at Kültepe: (1–3) rim, body, and base fragment of kantharos; (4) body and base fragment of <i>guttus</i> ; (5–6) nozzle and discus fragment oil lamp. . . . .	169



**10. Overview of Sealing Practices at Kültepe during the Anatolian–Old Assyrian Trade Network Period**  
 — *Néhémie Strupler*

Figure 10.1. Schematic drawing of the hemispheric clay sealing Kt 90/k 111.....	184
Figure 10.2. Schematic drawing of the hemispheric clay sealing Kt 90/k 207.....	184
Figure 10.3. Schematic drawing of the hemispheric clay sealing Kt 90/k 206.....	184
Figure 10.4. Kt 90/k 210, with placement of seal impression on the outer part of the sealing and indication of ‘rope’ on the reverse of the sealing. ....	185
Figure 10.5. Possible interpretation for rounded sealings with parallel rope marks. ....	185
Figure 10.6. Schematic drawing of the clay sealing Kt 91/k 379, with the repetition of the same seal. ....	186
Figure 10.7. Kt 93/k 810: photos of the obverse and reverse. ....	186
Figure 10.8. Kt 93/k 258: photo of the obverse and reverse. ....	186
Figure 10.9. Kt 93/k 259: photo of the obverse and reverse. ....	187
Figure 10.10. Kt 93/k 809: photo of the obverse and reverse.....	187
Figure 10.11. Kt 93/k 812: photo of the obverse and reverse.....	187
Figure 10.12. Kt 93/k 267: photo of the mushroom-type sealing with cylinder and stamp seal impressions... .	187
Figure 10.13. Possible use for mushroom-type sealings used for closing a vessel on top of a piece of fabric fixed with string. ....	187
Figure 10.14. Kt i/t 282: the multiple application of the same seal; the reverse marks indicate the triangle shape left by the beak of a spouted jar.....	189
Figure 10.15. Kt 77/t 85: under the stamp seal, the trace of a ‘rope’ is visible where the sealing is broken.....	189
Figure 10.16. Bo64-153-2: photo of a sealing discovered in a house from the later period of the Anatolian–Old Assyrian Trade Period.....	189
Figure 10.17. Kt t/t 9 (Room 11): this mushroom-shaped sealing is smaller than examples known from the lower city and shows a distinctive ‘rope’ mark on the side.....	190
Figure 10.18. Kt t/t 24: photo from another mushroom-type sealing with stamp seals and ‘rope’ impressions.....	190
Figure 10.19. Sealing c. 2705 from Alişar Höyük, described as ‘Fragment of a pottery stopper with string marks and part of a stamp seal impression with circular base. ....	191
Figure 10.20. A sealing from (Konya) Karahöyük, with almost identical marks to Kt 93/k 809 and Kt 93/k 212.	191
Figure 10.21. A sealing from Boğazköy, with almost identical marks to Kt 93/k 809 and Kt 93/k 212.....	192
Figure 10.22. A sealing from Kayalıpınar with iconography close to the iconography of sealings from the ‘1977 house’ on Kültepe mound.....	192

### 11. The Transmission of the Scribal Art in the Old Assyrian Period — *Wiebke Beyer*

Figure 11.1.	The shape of AI026, a typical example for the tablets of Aššur-idī.....	199
Figure 11.2.	Two variations of the sign DU, AI015:33 and AI040:20. ....	199
Figure 11.3.	The sign TIM on AI014:6.....	199
Figure 11.4.	The obverse of AN051.....	200
Figure 11.5.	The sign IM on ANc361:6 and AI017:41 for comparison. ....	200
Figure 11.6.	The two variants of ŠUR and BA.....	206
Table 11.1.	The letters of the three senders. Each number represents a specific sign variant. ....	202
Table 11.2.	Comparison of the signs AM, DU, IM, and TIM on the tablets of the three men. ....	204
Table 11.3.	Examples of family traits.....	205

### 13. Gods, Names, and the Question of Western Elements in Early Assyrian Religion — *Guido Kryszat*

Table 13.1.	The most popular theophoric elements of the Early Old Assyrian period arranged according to numbers of different name types and different individuals bearing these names.....	239
Table 13.2.	The most popular theophoric elements of the Early Old Assyrian period according to numbers of different individuals bearing these names.....	239
Table 13.3.	The most popular non Aššur-names of the Early Old Assyrian period and the minimum number of people bearing the respective names.....	240
Table 13.4.	The Early Old Assyrian <i>puzur</i> -names. ....	241
Table 13.5.	The most popular Aššur-names of the Early Old Assyrian period and the minimum number of people bearing the respective names.....	242
Table 13.6.	The first part of the oath list of the Aššur-Apûm treaty according to the panthea the gods belong to.....	246

### 15. The Early Bronze Age at Kınık Höyük-Niğde: A Preliminary Analysis — *Nancy Highcock & Alvise Matessi*

Figure 15.1.	(a) Location of N-KH in relation to EBA sites. (b) Location of N-KH in relation to the Cilician Gates.....	276
Figure 15.2.	Site plan of N-KH as of 2019. Operation D located on the western lower terrace.....	277
Figure 15.3.	Sector D2 as of 2019. The 2018 EBA sounding to the north and the 2019 excavation of the IA levels KH-P V–IV to the south.....	279
Figure 15.4.	KIN18D3236f42 after restoration.....	280
Figure 15.5.	(a) <sup>14</sup> C dates from N-KH (Operations A–D); (b) <sup>14</sup> C dates indicating EBA–LBA occupations (Operations Awalls, C, and D).....	281
Figure 15.6.	KIN19D3279, the earliest excavated level in 2018 D2 Sounding; Level KH-P VIII (modern cut and exposed stratigraphy).....	281
Figure 15.7.	EBA burnished ware (BW) samples from N-KH, Level D2.8 (KH-P VIII).....	282
Figure 15.8.	Detail pictures of the red burnished beak-spouted jug (KIN18D.3247.2), with evident traces of its building technique.....	283

Figure 15.9. Repertoire of EBA open forms from N-KH, Level D2.8 (KH-P VIII).....	283
Figure 15.10. Repertoire of EBA closed forms from N-KH, Level D2.8 (KH-P VIII). ....	284
Figure 15.11. EBA ‘Anatolian Metallic Ware’ (AMW) samples from N-KH, Level D2.8 (KH-P VIII).....	285
Table 15.1. Periodization of N-KH as of 2019 excavation results.....	278
Table 15.2. Operation D periodization (as of 2019). ....	280

## **16. New Evidence of the Cultural Relationship between Inner North-West Anatolia and Northern Syria-Mesopotamia during the Early and Middle Bronze Ages**

— *A. Nejat Bilgen, Zeynep Bilgen, M. Hamdi Okatan, Rana B. Usta & Bayram Uygun*

Figure 16.1. Sites mentioned in the text. ....	294
Figure 16.2. Plan of Seyitömer Höyük Early Bronze Age III VC showing the buildings that the moulds were discovered inside. ....	295
Figure 16.3. Mould 1. The lead figurine and trinket mould. ....	296
Figure 16.4. Drawing and impression of Mould 1. Front surface. ....	297
Figure 16.5. Drawing and impression of Mould 1. Back surface. ....	298
Figure 16.6. Photo and drawing of Mould 2. ....	300
Figure 16.7. Mould 3. Front surface. Circular pendant with a five-pointed star motif. ....	300
Figure 16.8. Mould 3. Circular bead moulds and clip holes. ....	301
Figure 16.9. Mould 3. Clip holes. ....	301
Figure 16.10. Mould 3. Needle/pin? model mould. ....	301
Figure 16.11. Early Bronze Age III-VB settlement. ....	303
Figure 16.12. Plan of Seyitömer Höyük Early Bronze Age III-VB showing the leader house/ ruler structure, which contains the cylinder seals. ....	304
Figure 16.13. The leader house/ruler structure’s main room. ....	305
Figure 16.14. Picture showing where the cylinder seals were found in main room. ....	305
Figures 16.15–16.19. Seals nos 5–9. ....	306
Figures 16.20–16.24. Seals nos 10–14. ....	308
Figure 16.25. Sites mentioned in the text. ....	310
Figure 16.26. Plan of Seyitömer Höyük Middle Bronze Age IVC showing the location at which the cylinder seal was discovered. ....	312
Figure 16.27. Hematite cylinder seal. ....	313

## **17. The Connection between Cappadocia and the Mediterranean Coast through the Cilician Plain in the First Millennium BC — *Mustafa H. Sayar***

Map 17.1. Map of Cilicia Plain ....	326
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Karl Hecker pictured on the occasion of Heinrich Otten's ninetieth birthday in Marburg, 16 January 2004.  
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In memory of  
**Karl Hecker**

This volume is dedicated to the memory of Professor Karl Hecker, who definitively closed his tablets and books on 22 November 2017. As early as the 1960s he became interested in the archives of the Assyrians discovered at Kaneš and published a collection preserved at Giessen in 1966 (*Die Keilschrifttexte der Universitätsbibliothek Giessen*), and soon after an Old Assyrian grammar in 1968 (*Grammatik der Kültepe-Texte*, *Analecta Orientalia* 44, Rome). Early on, Karl Hecker understood that Kültepe studies could only be properly maintained in international cooperation without our Turkish colleagues and lived this conviction through his entire career. He travelled to Prague, to work together with Lubor Matouš on the Old Assyrian tablets that were brought back by B. Hrozný and kept at

Charles University (*Kappadokische Keilschrifttafeln aus den Sammlungen der Karlsuniversität Prag*, 1998, published together with G. Kryszat and L. Matouš). Throughout the 1980s and onwards, up until 1995, he went regularly to Ankara to work on a number of archives of merchants that were excavated during the 1959 (Kt k/k), 1961 (Kt m/k), and 1987 (Kt 87/k) seasons; he very generously shared his transliterations with us PhD students, and later on with the Old Assyrian Text Project, based at Copenhagen, even though he never joined the group. Karl Hecker was always very welcoming to young foreign colleagues, not hesitating to open his home to them, and he loved to throw parties, at which the younger generations could listen to the old ones making jokes or singing in Akkadian. The songs will linger on.



Fikri Kulakoğlu, Guido Kryszat & Cécile Michel

## FOREWORD

K. Aslıhan Yener

The systematic excavations of Kültepe, ancient Kanesh, ongoing since 1948 by T. Özgüç and since 2006 directed by Fikri Kulakoğlu have unearthed the most important Early and Middle Bronze Age kingdom in central Anatolia. Aside from the massive, fortified lower town (formerly *kārum*) known primarily from the point of view of non-local merchant documents, now as a result of a shift of research focus, the monumental palatial buildings, local intra-Anatolia trade networks, and material culture of the third millennium BC on the mound preceding these Old Assyrian commercial activities have been highlighted. Furthermore, new projects such as KAYAP (Kayseri Arkeolojik Yüzey Araştırması Projesi) throughout the entire rich hinterland of Kültepe have presented a much more nuanced understanding of the fundamental reasons why Kanesh was so wealthy.

The pioneering KIM (Kültepe International Meetings) conferences held every two years at the excavation quarters give scholars and students the opportunity to exchange findings, debate scientific issues, and plan for future research agendas. The immediate publication of these papers in SUBARTU has in addition made these findings accessible to the scholarly community. The KIM papers have been carefully organized to complement presentations given by historians and text experts with specialists in material culture and archaeology. The meetings have been generously backed by local businesses, government institutions, and private individuals. Local restaurants have donated delicious meals and day-trips have taken the groups to the sites which interacted with Kültepe in antiquity, giving them the opportunity to experience and visit these first hand.

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**K. Aslıhan Yener** (akyener12@gmail.com) Professor Emerita, University of Chicago Oriental Institute and Koç University, Istanbul Turkey; Research Affiliate, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (ISAW), New York University,

No aspect concerning Kanesh has been left out; archaeology, geology, climate, zoology, botany, genetic studies, conservation, archival sciences, network analyses, metallurgy, ceramic science, characterization analyses, and many more topics have been covered in the KIM conferences. Directors of other excavations have also presented papers augmenting the connections between their sites and Kültepe. The intellectual synergy has been palpable with many participants taking away with them ideas for their own projects as well as giving direction to further discoveries for Kültepe. English has been the preferred language of presentation but translations have been available when needed, bringing the findings of Turkish scholars to the international community as well.

Some of the scientific studies have been jaw dropping. Especially critical has been the discovery that Kanesh was submerged by water in the LBA as revealed by the new sedimentary cores. Furthermore, the site was even larger than ever imagined in the Middle Bronze Age: pottery sherds and walls have been discovered one kilometre from the foot of the mound. In terms of settlement landscape, the ever-changing and little-known environment of Kanesh has revealed its complex tiers of state systems and satellite villages. Nearby mineral resources such as the EBA tin source and miners' villages at the foot of the volcano Erciyes has astonished the scholarly community so used to the paradigm of imported tin. Studies into the agricultural potential of the land, the abundant grain surpluses, and animal husbandry have been fine-tuned to reveal the optimum carrying capacity of Kanesh. In other words, the KIM conferences have embedded Kanesh into its vast regional network with the addition of archaeological science to the abundant data from now 23,000 texts.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This fourth Kültepe International Meeting (KIM) would not have been possible without the help of persons and institutions to whom we would like to address our warmest thanks.

The Turkish Republic Ministry of Culture and Tourism (T. C. Kültür ve Turizm Bakanlığı), which has supported the Kültepe excavations since the mid-twentieth century; the General Directorate of Cultural Assets and Museums (Kültür Varlıkları ve Müzeler Genel Müdürlüğü); the Governor of Kayseri; the Rector of Ankara University; the Dean of the Faculty of Languages and History-Geography in Ankara; the President of the Turkish Historical Society; the former and current Presidents of the Kayseri Metropolitan Municipality, Mr Mehmet Özhaseki and Mustafa Çelik for their important moral, material, and financial support; the LabEx Past in Present; the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (SFB 950); the Kültepe team; all contributors and participants of the KIM 4 conference; and the institutions who sponsored the conference, including Ankara University, the Faculty of Languages and History-Geography, the Turkish Historical Society; the French National Centre for Scientific Research; the companies, Metro AG Kayseri Branch provided discounted healthy food and beverages, Hotel Grand Arslan Hotel provided discounted accommodation, Beyaz Ofset Kayseri printed all the banners, posters, and stationery, Murat Ertuğrul Gülyaz, the representative of the Ministry, who documented the meeting as a photographer. We also address our warmest thanks to Vuslat and Andreas Müller-Karpe who reserved a whole day for directing us through their excavations at Kayalıpınar and Kuşaklı and hosted us for a wonderful lunch. Last but not least, we thank the members of the KIM series editorial board; all reviewers and proofreaders who graciously devoted their time to this volume; Dr Elif Genç, Yılmaz Rıdvanoğulları, Cihan Ay, and Çağan Köse for their help finalizing the manuscript; Rosie Bonté, publishing manager at Brepols publishers, Tim Barnwell, copy editor, and Marc Lebeau, editor of the SUBARTU series.



## 9. PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENTS OF BLACK-GLAZED ATTIC POTTERY FOUND AT KÜLTEPE

Burcu Tüysüz

### *Introduction*

Kültepe is located 20 km north-east of the modern city of Kayseri, at the centre of the region known as Cappadocia (Strabo XII.2.7; see Map 9.1).

The first systematic scientific excavations at Kültepe began in 1948 under the direction of Prof. Dr Tahsin Özgüç and have continued since 2006 under the direction of Prof. Dr Fikri Kulakoğlu.

The pottery group discussed in this article was recovered by Prof. Dr Tahsin Özgüç from the Classical-period buildings stratigraphically located above the *Waršama Palace* (Kulakoğlu 2010, 43; Kulakoğlu 2018, 64–65) (Fig. 9.1). These buildings were revealed in Level 3 on the mound, which is dated to the Hellenistic period.<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately, it was not possible to acquire detailed information about these buildings or the archaeological contexts of the associated pottery group. This situation created significant methodological problems for understanding and dating the discussed material. Owing to these difficulties, dating was mainly achieved through typological comparisons with similar examples recovered from different sites.

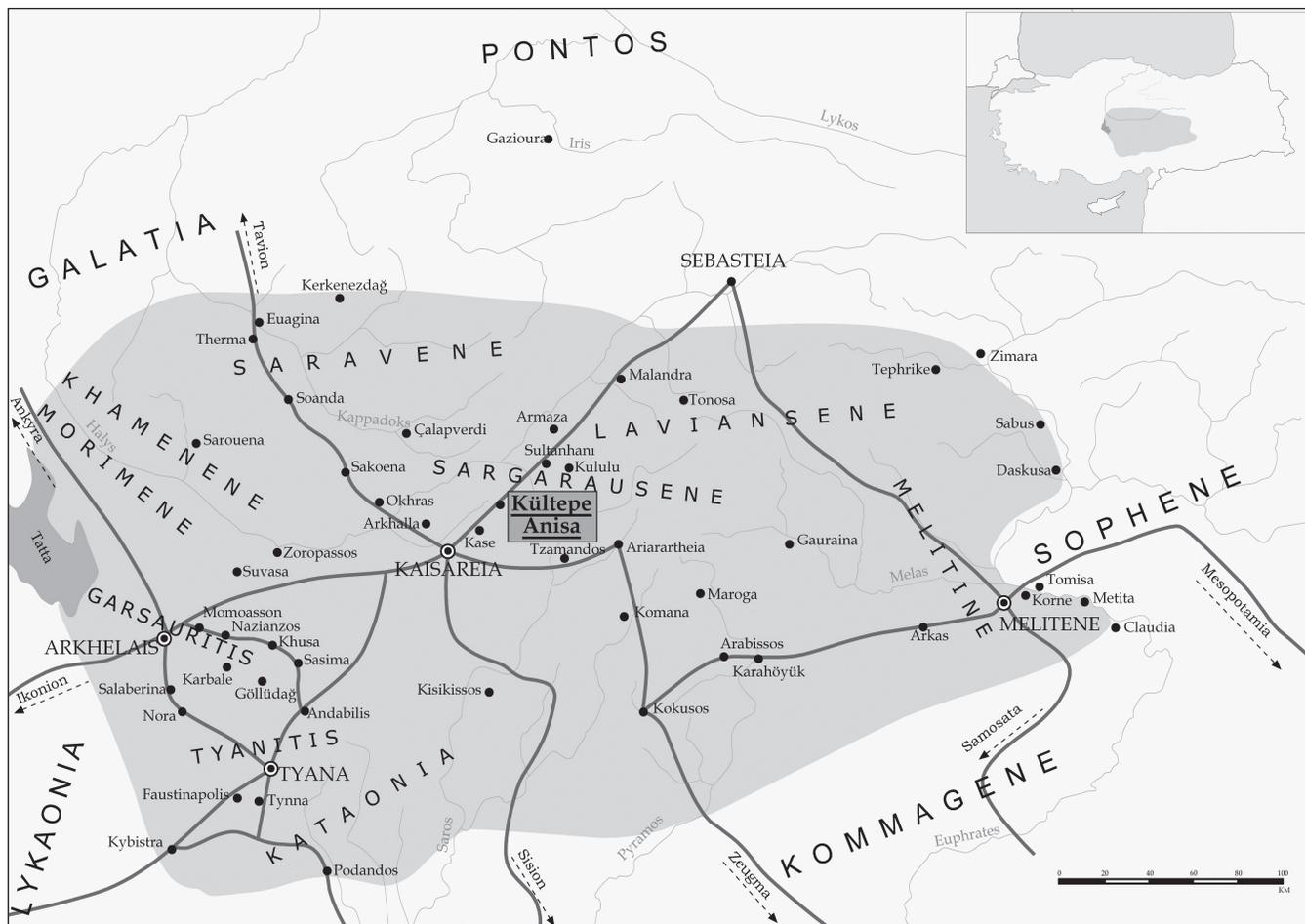
Hellenistic Kültepe was a small city probably named *Anisa* and dependent upon the Kingdom of Cappadocia, whose capital was *Eusebeia* (Barjamovic 2015, 236–38; Kulakoğlu 2017, 13). During the transition until the founding of an independent kingdom by Ariarathes III (255–220 BC) and between the years 325 and 225, the Cappadocian region changed hands in the wars between the generals of Alexander before it was finally dominated by the Seleucids. Although an independent kingdom was established by Ariarathes III, the Ariaratheses first became the close allies of the Seleucids, and then of the kings of

Pergamon and Rome, especially during the reign of Ariarathes IV (220–163 BC). The extensive excavations at Kültepe revealed different Hellenistic buildings and rich archaeological materials (Kulakoğlu 2017). During this period, the mound was a residential area; whereas the lower city was used as a cemetery. One important archaeological document is the *Anisa* tablet dating to the middle of the second century BC. According to Mordtmann, *Kul Tepe* (Kulakoğlu 2017, XV), it was sold to the Berlin Museum by an antique dealer, and came from near Gemerek. The tablet contains an honorary inscription inscribed to honour Apollonios, the ruler of the city. According to this plate, the name of the city is *Anisa*, which is a centre in the Greek city model with its prytan, demos, and boule (Barjamovic 2015). In addition, a coin indicated that the city was actually called *Anisa* during the earlier periods (third century BC) (Barjamovic 2015, 237–38, fig. 5). During the excavations in the lower city, a cemetery was identified dating to third BC–sixth AD (Üstündağ 2009). According to the excavations conducted in the upper city, the mound was surrounded by strong city walls 2.5 m wide. In addition, the amphora found in the south of the mound in a structure remaining within the wall that partially opens, shows the richness of Kültepe's ceramic repertoire (Zoroğlu 1981; Kulakoğlu 2017, 14–15). Recently, a three-phase structure has been found almost at the centre of the mound. A statue of a goddess holding a pomegranate in her hand and a bull protome are prominent finds demonstrating the religious character of this structure. However, with the exception of coins (Taner 1971; 1974; Çizmeli-Öğün 2006) and an amphorae (Zoroğlu 1981; Kulakoğlu 2017, 14–15) discussed in detail, our knowledge of this period is very limited, and usually in the form of brief summaries appearing in publications and excavation reports (Özgüç 1953, 252; Özgüç 1971, 1, 29). This study is the first attempt at analysing the black-glazed pottery of Kültepe, which provides significant information about the Hellenistic pottery repertoire of the mound.

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**Burcu Tüysüz**, (burcuderin@yandex.com) Research Assistant and Ph.D. candidate in the Archaeology Department at Nevşehir Hacı Bektaş Veli University.

<sup>1</sup> For the stratification of the mound, see Özgüç 1999, 4; Kulakoğlu 2010, 41; Kulakoğlu 2017; Kulakoğlu 2018.



Map 9.1. Cappadocia region and its roads after the mid-fourth century BC (the map is a revised version of that in Tekin 1998, 49).



Figure 9.1. Kültepe mound: the area where black-glazed pottery was found (© Kültepe Excavation Archives, by Orhan Durgut, 2006).



Figure 9.2. Ceramic samples belonging to the first group.

### *Black-Glazed Pottery*

Widely distributed and well known, black-glazed pottery is named after its shiny black glaze coating. The black glaze was achieved through the application of diluted clay to the surfaces and certain firing techniques.<sup>2</sup> The black-glazed pottery first emerged in the Attica region in the sixth century BC as a type that the Attic potters produced by drawing inspiration from the metal vessels of the Persians (Miller 1999,

150; Rotroff 1997, 11–13). The main production centre of this pottery is Athens (Cook 1965, 143), as supported by archaeometric analyses (Fillieres *et al.* 1983, 60).

Produced from a high-quality clay unique to the region, this group was one of the most luxurious products of the period and was exported to almost all areas of the ancient world. The most distinctive feature of the vessels produced in Attica is their well-levigated light red and pink fabric with fine sand temper (Rotroff 1982, 14). Furthermore, in some of the examples dating to the late third and early second centuries BC, another fabric with light colour can be seen. Light brown coloured fabrics of this group are tempered with occasional mica particles (Rotroff 1997, 10). The vessels generally have glossy black surfaces. The most preferred decorations are the palmette and roulette especially made on the interior base of the open vessels. While there are concentric circles under the base of some specimens, reserve areas are left on the outer surfaces of some specimens to form a band (Sparkes & Talcott 1970).

In time, demand for the black-glazed vessels increased sharply and local imitations began to appear beside the imported vessels. Pergamon (Schäfer 1968), Ephesos (Mitsopoulos-Leon 1991), Troia (Tekkök-Biçken 1996), Gordion (Stewart 2010), Tarsus (Jones 1950), and Smyrna (Cook 1965) are among the centres where both exported and imitation examples were found together. In addition to the imitations that are relatively simpler and easily distinguishable from the Attic products, there were also high-quality imitation products called ‘Atticizing’ (Berlin-Lynch 2002), which were hardly distinguishable from the Attic products. Their forms and high-quality glazes are almost identical to the Attic examples and these vessels could only be distinguished by their fabric characteristics. They have pale red, brown, and reddish-

<sup>2</sup> For firing techniques, see Noble 1960, 310–11.



Figure 9.3. Ceramic samples belonging to the second group.

refined red fabric covered with thick glossy, black glaze (Fig. 9.3). This study only addresses examples from the second group. This group consists of fifty examples in eight forms. Of these, the following examples have been assessed as representing the form best and providing a complete profile: three bowls with outturned rims; two bowls with incurved rims; three bowl base fragments; two saltcellar-saucers; three plates with rounded rims; one fish-plate; three kantharoi; one guttus; and two oil lamps.

All of the ceramics of the second category are of red and reddish clay. Their clays are very well refined, finely textured, and hard. Their glaze is black and shiny. The *tondos* or interior of the bowls and plates are

brown fabric colours. When the clay of a broken piece is observed, one can generally see variations in the colour of the clay, which is grey or brown at the core and turns to pink or red towards the sides. Clays have porous textures with occasional mica and lime inclusions.<sup>3</sup>

### Black-Glazed Pottery Found at Kültepe

Kültepe yielded ninety pieces of black-glazed pottery. Two different groups have been identified in line with their fabrics and glazes. The examples classified in the first group have a beige and brown fabric with mica and occasional inclusions. They have a deep brown-black glaze (Fig. 9.2). The sherds in the second group have a well-

decorated with either only roulette rows or a combination of roulette and palmette decorations.

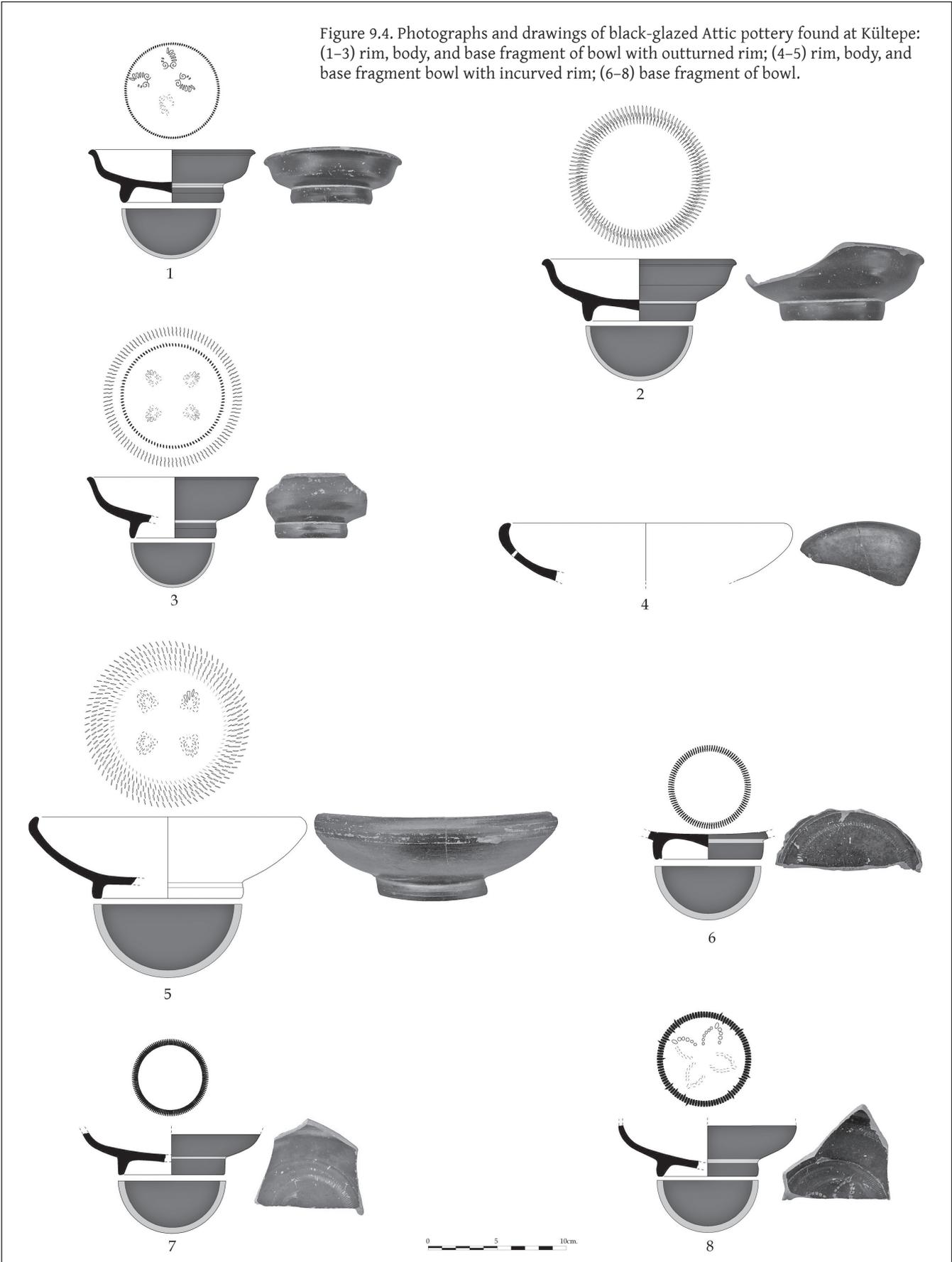
### Outturned Rim Bowls (Figs 9.4.1–3)

Outturned rim bowls are one of the most common bowl forms of the Hellenistic period (Rotroff 1997, 156) and have been found in many centres such as Ephesos (Mitsopoulos-Leon 1991, Taf. 4, 5), Pergamon (Schäfer 1968, Taf. 3), Gordion (Stewart 2010, fig. 202). The production of these bowls first began in the fifth century BC in Athens (Sparkes & Talcott 1970, 128) and it is possible to trace their chronological development to the end of the Hellenistic period.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> For imitation products manufactured in Anatolia see Cook 1965, 143; Gassner 1997, 39; Meriç 2002, 25; Rotroff & Oliver 2003, 19; Berlin-Lynch 2002, 169. Doksanaltı 2006, 181; Ersoy 2009, 34–61.

<sup>4</sup> For the development of the form during the Classical and Hellenistic periods, see Sparkes & Talcott 1970, 128–29, fig. 8.707–808; Rotroff 1997, 157–60, figs 59–61.

Figure 9.4. Photographs and drawings of black-glazed Attic pottery found at Kültepe: (1-3) rim, body, and base fragment of bowl with outturned rim; (4-5) rim, body, and base fragment bowl with incurved rim; (6-8) base fragment of bowl.



Eight examples belonging to this group were identified at Kültepe. These bowls have distinctly outturned rims. The transition from the upper body to the lower body is achieved through a carination. The upper part of the body is slightly inclined outwards, whereas the lower part is almost horizontal. The base's foot is a ring and the resting surface is flat. There are also conical flanges in their centres. The independent palmettes are placed in the rouletted circle in the *tondos* of Figure 9.4.1 and Figure 9.4.3, whereas in the *tondo* of Figure 9.4.2 only a rouletted circle is found. All examples have band-shaped areas reserved in the body-to-base transitions and in the base resting surfaces. Rim diameters vary between 12 and 22 cm and base diameters vary between 6 and 8 cm.

Among the group of outturned rim bowls found in the Athenian Agora, the examples with outturned rims and carination at the transition from the upper body to the lower body are dated to around 300–290 BC (Rotroff 1997, 157, fig. 59.869–71). The flat surfaces of the bases and base-body transitions and the reserve bands in the resting surfaces of the examined examples are characteristics belonging to the year 300 BC (Rotroff 1997, 157). Examples with a similar form found in Anatolia are dated to the early third century BC at İzmir Kadife Kale (Granata 2015, 83, figs 4–5); and to 300 BC at Pergamon (Schäfer 1968, Taf. 3.C5). Similar forms at Gordion, on the other hand, were found in Early Hellenistic plates from the years 333–275 BC (Stewart 2010, 175, fig. 202.95–96). Furthermore, similar examples were discovered at Ephesos (Mitsopoulos-Leon 1991, 27, Taf. 4.A17, Taf. 5.A16, A19 A20; Gassner 1997, Taf. 5.86) and Kerameikos (Knigge 2005, Abb. 41.467, 473, 677, 737, 753). Considering these data, the bowls from Kültepe numbered Figure 9.4.1 and Figure 9.4.2 can be typologically dated to the early third century BC.

A subtype, dating slightly later with its less outturned rim (Fig. 9.4.3) can be considered within this group. According to the chronological development of the form, during the first quarter of the third century and later, the outturned profile of the rim softened and became a simple continuation of the body wall curve (Rotroff 1997, 157, fig. 872). Bowls of similar forms were found at Ephesos as well (Mitsopoulos-Leon 1991, Taf. 6.A24). With reference to similar examples, it is possible to date this type to the first quarter of the third century BC.

### Incurved Rim Bowls (Figs 9.4.4–5)

Bowls with an incurved rim and a flat body tapering to the ring base first began to be produced in Athens in the fifth century as a continuation of bowls with single handles (Sparkes & Talcott 1970, 130–32). Also known as 'echinus bowls' in the literature, the group quickly became widespread in the fourth century BC and was exported to a wide region (Edward 1975, 29; Rotroff 1997, 161).

Nine examples of this form have been found at Kültepe. These bowls have slightly incurved rims, shallow bodies, and ring bases. Some variations could be observed on the rims of vessels. The incurving of the Figure 9.4.4 is more prominent than that of Figure 9.4.5. The body is a bit shallower and flat. Rim diameters range from 13 cm to 20 cm. Figure 9.4.5 has a decoration scheme consisting of four palmette groups placed inside the roulettes. In addition, a reserve area has been left to form a band.

Examples with the same typological characteristics as the Kültepe bowls have been unearthed at the Athenian Agora excavations. As with the sherd in Figure 9.4.4, the examples with distinctively incurved rims have been dated to the early third century BC (Rotroff 1997, fig. 62.970). Similar examples of Figure 9.4.5 are dated to the year 275 BC (Rotroff 1997, fig. 62.972). In addition, similar examples have also been found at Ephesos (Mitsopoulos-Leon 1991, Taf. 3.14), Sardis (Rotroff & Oliver 2003, pl. 5.14), Gordion (Stewart 2010, fig. 199.76–78, fig. 200.82, 85), and Corinth (Edwards 1975, pl. 3.95). Considering these data, the bowl in Figure 9.4.4 from Kültepe can be dated to the early third century BC, whereas the example in Figure 9.4.5 can be dated to the first quarter of the third century BC. Apart from these examples, a large number of base fragments probably belonging to the bowls have been identified. There are decorations consisting of roulette and palmettes of different types in the *tondos* of Figures 9.4.6–8 assessed here. With flat resting surfaces and reserve bands, Figures 9.4–7 and 8 can be dated to the early third century. However, the groove under the base of Figure 9.4.6 and its glazing which is slightly thicker than other finds suggests that this sherd may belong to a slightly earlier date. The tradition of a groove under the base and thick glazing is characteristic of the last quarter of the fourth century BC and disappears at the beginning of the third century (Rotroff 1997, 157, 162). Therefore, it would be correct to date the example in Figure 9.4.6 to the last quarter of the fourth century BC.

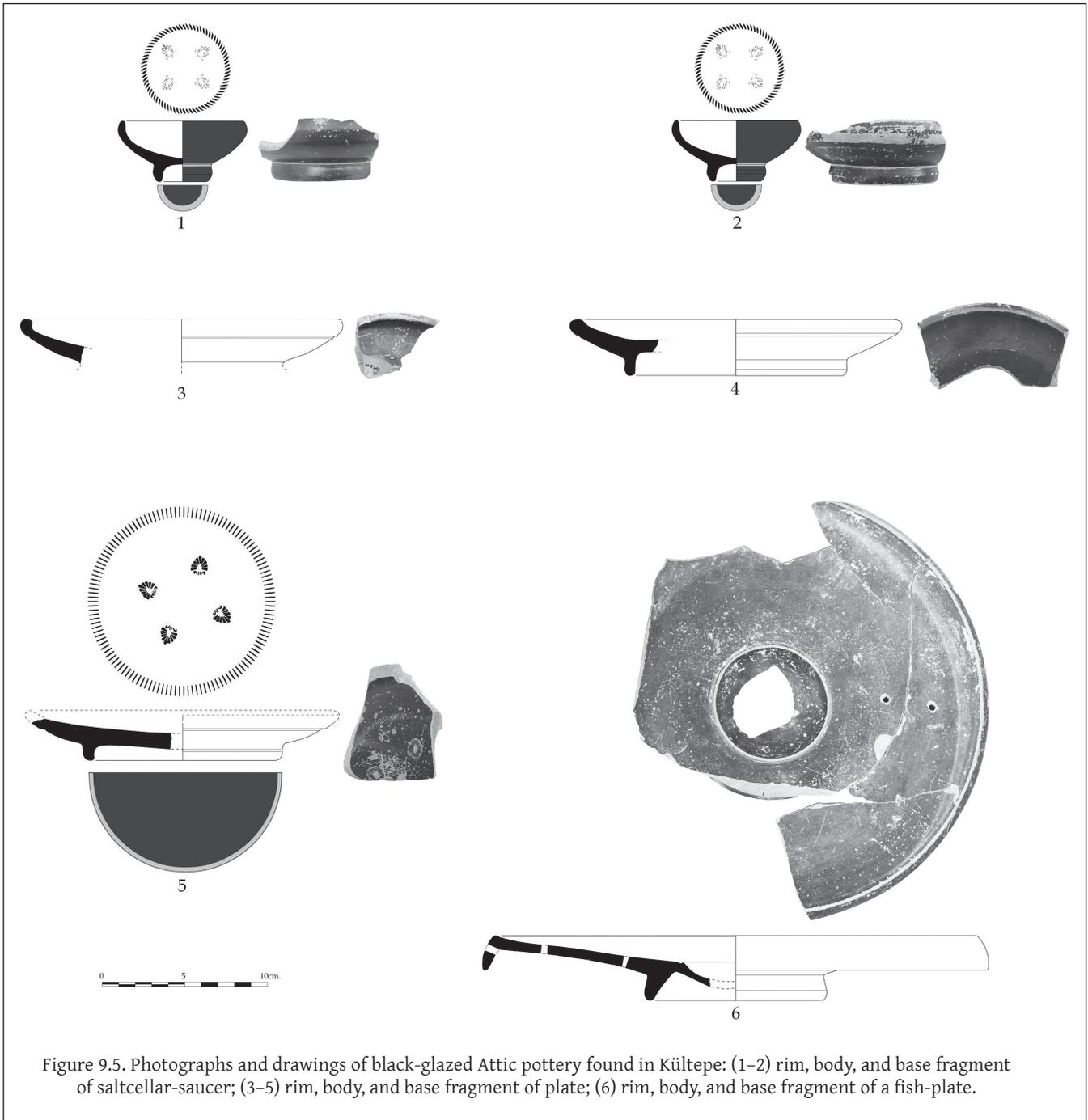


Figure 9.5. Photographs and drawings of black-glazed Attic pottery found in Kültepe: (1-2) rim, body, and base fragment of saltcellar-saucer; (3-5) rim, body, and base fragment of plate; (6) rim, body, and base fragment of a fish-plate.

### Saltcellar-Saucer (Figs 9.5.1-2)

Another form identified among the black-glazed pottery are the small bowls which are thought to have been used as *saltcellars* or *saucers* in the literature (Sparkes & Talcott 1970, 132-33). These forms, with their rim diameters ranging from 5 to 10 cm, were widely used during the Classical period and continued to be used, though they lost their popularity during the Hellenistic period (Rotroff 1997, 165-67).

Five examples belonging to this group were found at Kültepe. The rounded rim of the form has a steep profile. The shallow body narrows down and the ring sits on the base.

Rim diameters vary between 7 and 10 cm. The resting surface of the base and the body-base transition are left as reserve, forming a band. There are one or two roulette rings on the *tondo* of the samples unearthed.

The Kültepe saltcellar-saucers appear to be in line with other examples, dating them to the first quarter of the third century BC. Discovered in the Athenian Agora (Rotroff 1997, fig. 65.083), examples similar to this group were dated to 275 BC. Similar examples were found in the early Hellenistic layers at Gordion dated to 333–275 BC (Stewart 2010, fig. 205.126). Considering these examples, we can date this material (Figs 9.5.1–2) to the first quarter of the third century BC.

### Plates (Figs 9.5.3–5)

The plates with a rounded rim and shallow body, the first examples of which began to appear in early fourth century BC, are the most common plate form of Hellenistic Attica (Rotroff 1997, 143).

Three examples of this type were recovered at Kültepe and these examples consist of rim, body, and base fragments. In the group with rims divided into two subtypes, the rounded rim of Figure 9.5.4 is flattened at the top, while the rounded rim of Figure 9.5.3 is raised and made slightly concave. The bodies are shallow, and the bases are annular. On the outer surface, there is a concave groove under the rim. In the *tondo* of Figure 9.5.5, there are independent palmette decorations placed in the roulette circle and a reserved band in the resting surface of the base. The rim diameters of the pieces are between 18 cm and 20 cm.

The Kültepe finds display the formal features of the Attic plates as seen in their chronological development and are dated towards the end of the fourth century BC. The most prominent feature of this development are the grooves under the rims. The profile was in the form of a relief band at the beginning of the century and turned into a simple groove towards the end of the century.<sup>5</sup>

However, the low number of plastic bands among the plates identified in ‘Z Structure 3’ dated to the last quarter of the century in Kerameikos indicates that the change must have taken place before this date (Knigge 2005, Abb. 44.480, 576, 630, 678). This form has similar counterparts at Bayraklı (Gürsoy 1987, Şek. 15, 84), Ephesos (Mitsopoulos-Leon 1991, Taf. 9.A48, Taf. 10.A54), Labraunda (Hellström 1965, pl. 33.58), Nagidos (Durukan-Körsulu 2007, fig. 78.85), Paphos (Hayes 1991, fig. II.7), and Chios (Anderson 1954, fig. 13.139). When

the formal development of the plates examined is considered, we can date the Kültepe examples to the late fourth century BC and the early third century BC.

### Fish-Plates (Fig. 9.5.6)

Vessels known as ‘fish-plates’ in the literature were also found at Kültepe. Fish-plates received their name from the sea creatures that decorate the *tondo* of such plates in the red figure technique (Rotroff 1997, 146). Sparkes and Talcott note that the first examples of the form were produced from the late fifth century BC onwards (1970, 147–48). These plates have a very characteristic form; with their small depressions on *tondos* used for broth or relish. In addition, the rims of the plates hang down vertically and their shallow bodies sit on the ring base, which opens slightly to the side.

Three examples of this form were recovered at Kültepe. One of the examples is broken and incomplete and provides a full profile, while the others are the rim and base fragments. With reference to the complete example discussed here, this group has a drooping rim, a shallow body with a depressed *tondo*, and a ring base. The resting surface of the base expanding outwards is flat. The transition from the rim to the body outside is sharp. The plates are grooved inside the transition from the rim to the body and around the saucer, and have a thin reserve strip on this groove. In addition, the area where the base touches the ground is also reserved. Rim diameters are between 28 cm and 30 cm.

Fish-plates with similar formal features are encountered in the Athenian Agora from 250–255 BC (Rotroff 1997, fig. 51.720–21). Plates extending outward and with flat resting surfaces began to appear from the second half of the third century BC. Plates with a similar form have also been unearthed at the Sardis, Alişar, Tarsus, and Gordion excavations. Among these examples, the one with the earliest date is from Alişar (Waage 1937, figs 81–82) (fourth century BC). Third century BC and Middle Hellenistic periods are suggested for the Sardis plate (Rotroff & Oliver 2003, pl. 6.30) and the Tarsus Gözlükule example (Jones 1950, fig. 120.23), respectively. The Gordion finds, on the other hand, were unearthed in contexts dated to the years 333–275 BC. In addition to these, plates with similar formal features have been unearthed at Ephesos (Mitsopoulos-Leon 1991, Taf. 8.A41, A44), İzmir Kadife Kale (Granata 2015, 83, figs 9–10), Troia (Tekkök-Biçken 1996, fig. 1.A1), and Pergamon (Schäfer 1968, Taf. 1.C4). Considering the line

<sup>5</sup> While this change is dated to the third quarter of the century, Rotroff suggests the end of the century for this change. See, Sparkes & Talcott 1970, figs 1059, 1060; Rotroff 1997, figs 46, 648, 653.

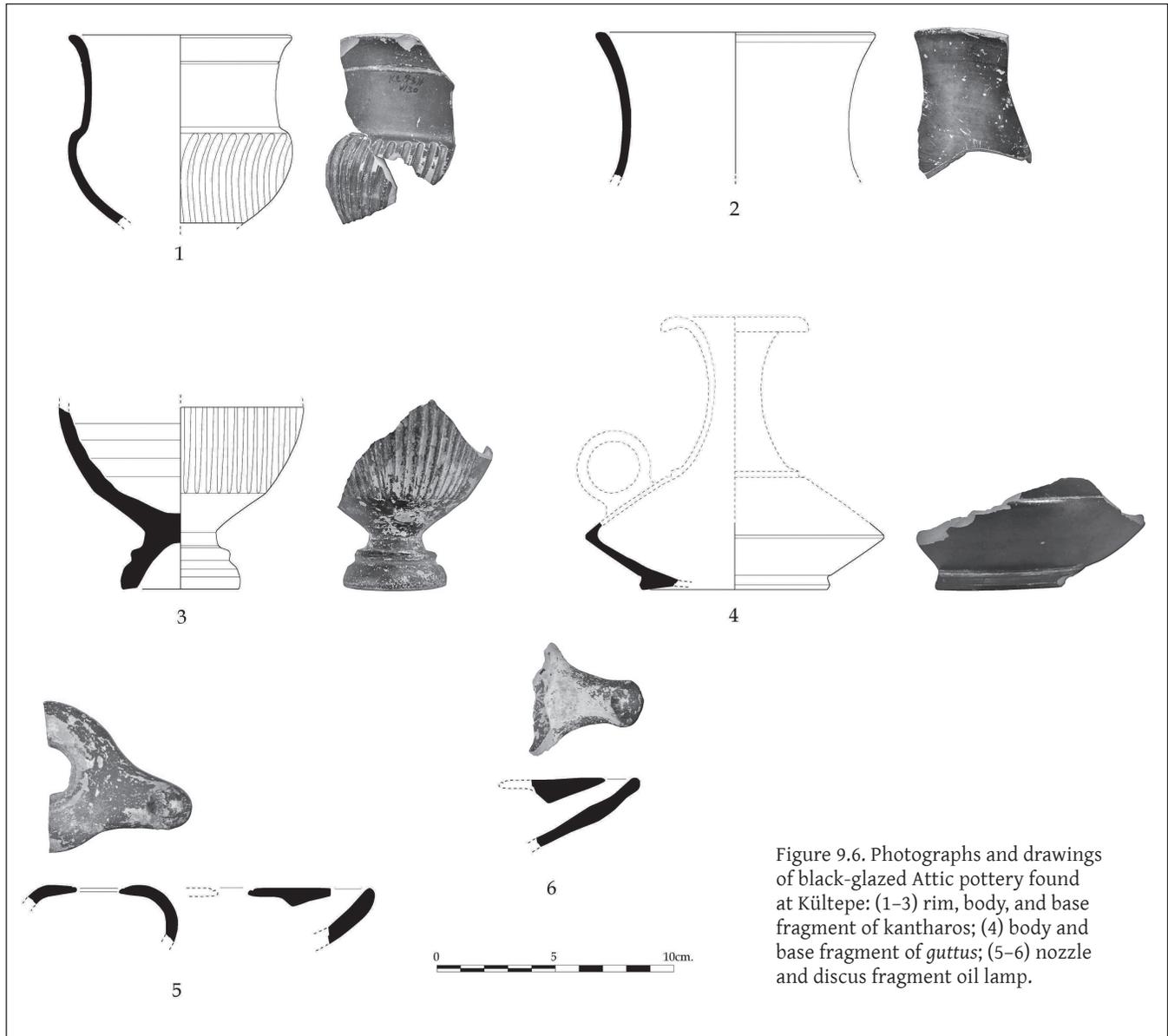


Figure 9.6. Photographs and drawings of black-glazed Attic pottery found at Kültepe: (1–3) rim, body, and base fragment of kantharos; (4) body and base fragment of *guttus*; (5–6) nozzle and discus fragment oil lamp.

of development of similar examples, we can date the Kültepe fish-plates to the third quarter of the third century BC.

### Kantharos (Figs 9.6.1–3)

One of the most common forms of drinking bowls, kantharoi were first produced in the sixth century BC and widely used during the first half of the fourth century and the mid-third century (Sparkes & Talcott 1970, 113).

Generally, two different rim types occur in kantharoi, the first being the flat-rim, and the second the thickened-rim. However, flat-rim kantharoi were the predominantly produced type during the Hellenistic period (Rotroff 1997, 84).

In the Kültepe excavations, four examples of the flat-rim kantharoi were identified. Figures 9.6.1–2 are rim and body fragments, whereas Figure 9.6.3 shows the base and body. Rim diameters vary from 9 to 11 cm, while their base diameters are 5 cm. With reference to the preserved parts, the form has a flat rim slightly turning outwards and a long cylindrical neck. The transition from neck to shoulder is provided with a sharp profile. The trunk narrows and sits on a high foot. Considering the intact examples, the corresponding spur handles must be coming out of the side of the rim and connecting to the shoulder. The body of Figures 9.6.1–3 is profiled with vertical concave grooves on the outer surface.

The examples identified from the Athenian Agora with flat rims and similar body forms were dated to the

years 285 to 275 BC (Rotroff 1997, fig. 5.26, 28). Gordion's kantharoi with similar forms come from the layers dated to the years 333 to 275 BC (Stewart 2010, fig. 207.154, 155, 159). Similar examples were discovered at Ephesos (Mitsopoulos-Leon 1991, Taf. 23.B13, Taf. 24.B15) and Kerameikos (Knigge 2005, Abb. 36.660). Based on these kantharoi (Figs 9.6.1–3), the Kültepe examples can be dated to the first quarter of the third century BC.

### Guttus (Fig. 9.6.4)

Appearing in the first half of the fourth century BC, gutti were used in the presentation of liquids that were valuable enough to be poured slowly in drops (Akkurnaz 2016, 94–95). The most distinctive feature of this container form is the thin neck that slows down the flow of fluid and the single ring handle that sits on the shoulder. In the chronological development of the type, body and base forms vary. Accordingly, while the body was made in the shape of a pouch and the base was a wide ring during the fourth century BC, from the end of the fourth century BC on, the body was produced in biconical form and the base in the form of a disc.<sup>6</sup>

An example belonging to this group was identified at Kültepe. The flattened body of the form, only a small part of which is preserved, has a sharp turning profile in the belly, and a bottom in the form of a concave raised disk. With reference to the intact examples, it must have an outturned rim, a long, narrow neck, and a single handle sitting on the shoulder.

The Kültepe example has the same formal features as the gutti from the Athenian Agora excavations dating to between 275 and 250 BC (Rotroff 1997, fig. 71.1145–46). From the year 275 BC, the bodies of gutti became stockier, their shoulders flatter, and the transition from shoulder to body sharper. A similar body fragment found at Izmir Kadife Kale has been dated to the beginning of the third century (Granata 2015, fig. 18). With its disc-shaped concave base, the guttus piece found at Sardis dated to the third century BC is similar to the Kültepe example (Rotroff & Oliver 2003, pls 27–186). However, the body of this example was made slightly higher. Considering the gutti with similar formal features, it is possible to date the piece found in Kültepe to the second quarter of the third century BC.

### Oil Lamp (Fig. 9.6. 5–6)

Oil lamps constitute the last group assessed among the black-glazed pottery of Kültepe. Two examples of this group have been identified. Only some of the nozzle and disc sections of these are preserved. Therefore, it is very difficult to envisage the complete form. Oil pouring holes with grooved edges are wide and nozzle sections are long. Oil lamps with similar nozzle and oil hole forms recovered in the Athenian Agora were discussed under the title 'Type 25 B' and dated to the third quarter of the fourth century BC and the second quarter of the third century BC (Howland 1958, pl. 11, fig. 322). Considering their typological similarities, these two examples can be dated to the late fourth century BC and the early third century BC.

### Conclusions

The excavations carried out in Kültepe since 1948 and the assessment of the data obtained have an important place in shedding light on the Hellenistic-period pottery culture of central Anatolia and especially the southern part of the Kızılırmak Basin, which is not completely known. The emphasis on protohistoric periods in the work carried out in Kültepe and in the region has resulted in a significant lack of information about the classical-period cultures. The Hellenistic-period ceramic culture of Kültepe has now been highlighted with the black-glazed pottery group, introduced and preliminarily assessed here for the first time. This introduces the Hellenistic-period ceramic culture to the world of science and fills this gap.

Kültepe yielded incurved or outturned rim bowls, saltcellar-saucers, plates, fish-plates, kantharoi, gutti, and oil lamps, which form a significant part of the pottery repertoire of the Hellenistic period. The clays of the examples examined have a homogeneous structure and are red and various shades of red in colour. They are well levigated. Their glazing is glossy black. In some examples, reserve areas are left on the base resting surfaces and the base-body transitions in a manner to form bands. Preferred embellishments are independent palmette and roulette hoops made by stamping or scraping techniques on the *tondos* of bowls and dishes.

As a result of this comparative analysis, examples with similar formal features mostly appear in the Athenian Agora. In this respect, it can be said that Kültepe pottery follows the development line of Attic pottery. Apart from the Athenian Agora, Attic exam-

<sup>6</sup> For the development of the form, see Sparkes and Talcott 1970, 160; Rotroff 1997, 172–73.

ples with similar characteristics imported from Attica and imitations called 'Atticizing' have been found at Ephesos, Miletos, Pergamon, Troia, Sardis, Gordion, and Tarsus. Among the assessed Kültepe pottery, the earliest example is a base fragment (Fig. 9.4.6) dated to the last quarter of the fourth century BC. The remaining examples generally belong to the third century BC.

One of the important questions is related to the origin of the material; the fabric properties of the materials give us an idea. The well-refined, pure, and non-porous texture of the fabrics in red and shades of red of the group are characteristic of Attic products. Furthermore, their bright and thick black glazing is another characteristic of the ceramics produced in Attica. In this context, both the clay properties and the glazing properties demonstrate that these wares were produced in Attica.

Based on this data, this pottery assemblage was imported to Kültepe from Attica. The fact that these wares were of Attic origin suggests that Kültepe established commercial connections with Attica. Furthermore, the fact that the Attic material reached Kültepe, which was a small inland town in the centre of Anatolia, demonstrates the commercial exchanges with the world outside at Kültepe. Also, during this historical era, with Ariarathes III Hellenistic culture began to be adopted, and the kings strove to root Hellenistic culture in their own country. It is normal that the material of Attic origin, which constitutes the subject of this study, entered Kültepe as a result of these close collaborations and relationships, or in the process of adopting Hellenistic culture. On the other hand, the Kültepe preference for Attic pottery, which was of comparatively high quality and belonged among the more expensive goods, gives us an idea about the economic make-up of the users and their tastes. Considered in this context, the fact that these expensive products used between 325 and 225 BC reached Kültepe suggests that a social segment with high purchasing power, preferring the fashionable pottery of the time and using imported material, lived in the town.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> For Cappadocia's history during the Hellenistic period see, Baydur 1970, 91–99; Tekin 1998; Speidel 2019, 105–18.

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## Catalogue

In this study, Munsell Soil-Color Charts 2009 have been used. Abbreviations: RD: Rim Diameter; H: Height; WT: Wall Thickness; BD: Base Diameter.

### Figure 9.4.1

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1971

**Name of the Form:** Bowl with outturned rim

**Sizes:** RD: 11 cm H: 3.8 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Fragment of the side of the rim-body and base. Reddish yellow (5YR 7/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. In its *tondo*, there is a decorative composition made up of four independent palmette motifs inside the roulette circle. Under the base and in the body-to-base transition, reserve areas are left in such a manner to form bands. It is well fired and wheel made.

### Figure 9.4.2

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Bowl with outturned rim

**Sizes:** RD: 15 cm H: 4.4 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Rim body and base fragment. Light red (2.5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. There is a roulette circle in its *tondo*. Under the base and in the body-to-base transition, reserve areas are left in such a manner to form bands. It is well fired and wheel made.

### Figure 9.4.3

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Bowl with outturned rim

**Sizes:** RD: 15 cm H: 4.4 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Rim body and base fragment. Light red (2.5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. In its *tondo*, there is a roulette circle and a decorative composition made up of four independent palmette motifs inside the roulette circle. Under the base and in the body-to-base transition, reserve areas are left in such a manner as to form bands. It is well fired and wheel made.

### Figure 9.4.4

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1971

**Name of the Form:** Bowl with incurved rim

**Sizes:** RD: 18 cm H: 4.3 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Rim and body fragment. Reddish yellow (5YR 7/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. It is well fired and wheel made.

### Figure 9.4.5

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1975

**Name of the Form:** Bowl with incurved rim

**Sizes:** RD: 20 cm H: 5.9 cm WT: 0.6 cm

**Description:** Rim body and base fragment. Reddish yellow (5YR 7/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are dark grey (Gley 1/3) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. In its *tondo*, there is a roulette circle and a decorative composition made up of four independent palmette motifs inside the roulette circle. It is well fired and wheel made.

### Figure 9.4.6

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Bowl

**Sizes:** BD: 8.4 cm H: 1.6 cm WT: 0.6 cm

**Description:** Base fragment. Red (2.5 YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. There is a roulette circle in its *tondo*. Under the base and in the body-to-base transition, reserve areas are left in such a manner as to form bands. It is well fired and wheel made.

Figure 9.4.7

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Bowl

**Sizes:** BD: 7.4 cm H: 3.7 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Base fragment. Reddish yellow (5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are dark grey (Gley 1/3) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. There is a roulette circle in its *tondo*. Under the base and in the body-to-base transition, reserve areas are left in such a manner as to form bands. It is well fired and wheel made.

Figure 9.4.8

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Bowl

**Sizes:** BD: 7.7 cm H: 3 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Base fragment. Red (2.5YR 5/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are very dark grey (Gley 1/3) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. In its *tondo*, there is a roulette circle and a decorative composition made up of four independent palmette motifs inside the roulette circle. Under the base and in the body-to-base transition, reserve areas are left in such a manner as to form bands. It is well fired and wheel made.

Figure 9.5.1

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1973

**Name of the Form:** Saltcellar-saucer

**Sizes:** RD: 7 cm H: 3.5 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Rim body and base fragment. Light red (2.5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are very dark grey (Gley 1/3) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. In its *tondo*, there is a decorative composition made up of four independent palmette motifs inside the roulette circle. Under the base and in the body-to-base transition, reserve areas are left in such a manner as to form bands. It is well fired and wheel made.

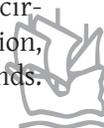


Figure 9.5.2

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1973

**Name of the Form:** Saltcellar-saucer

**Sizes:** RD: 7.3 cm H: 3.6 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Rim body and base fragment. Reddish yellow (5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. In its *tondo*, there is a decorative composition made up of four independent palmette motifs inside the roulette circle. Under the base and in the body-to-base/foot transition, reserve areas are left in such a manner to form bands. It is well fired and wheel made.

Figure 9.5.3

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Plate

**Sizes:** RD: 20 cm H: 3.4 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Rim and body fragment. Light red (2.5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are very dark grey (Gley 1/3) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. It is well fired and wheel made.

Figure 9.5.4

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / ?

**Name of the Form:** Plate

**Sizes:** RD: 18 cm H: 2.7 cm WT: 0.6 cm

**Description:** Rim body and base fragment. Light red (2.5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are very dark grey (Gley 1/3) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. It is well fired and wheel made.

## Figure 9.5.5

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / ?

**Name of the Form:** Plate

**Sizes:** BD cm H: 2.7 cm WT: 0.8 cm

**Description:** Base piece. Reddish yellow (5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. In its *tondo*, there is a roulette circle and a decorative composition made up of four independent palmette motifs inside the roulette circle. It is well fired and wheel made.

## Figure 9.5.6

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Fish-plate

**Sizes:** RD: 29 cm BD: 7 cm H: 4.4 cm WT: 0.6 cm

**Description:** Rim body and base fragment. Light red (2.5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. There are also three mending holes on the body. It is well fired and wheel made.

## Figure 9.6.1

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Kantharos

**Sizes:** RD: 11 cm H: 5.9 cm WT: 0.4 cm

**Description:** Rim and body fragment. Light red (2.5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner surface is dark brown (7.5YR 3/2) and outer surface is black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are slightly shiny and smooth. It is well fired and wheel made.

## Figure 9.6.2

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1973

**Name of the Form:** Kantharos

**Sizes:** RD: 9 cm H: 7.9 cm WT: 0.3 cm

**Description:** Rim and body fragment. Light red (2.5YR 6/8) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. It is well fired and wheel made.

## Figure 9.6.3

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1973

**Name of the Form:** Kantharos

**Sizes:** BD: 5 cm H: 7.7 cm WT: 0.4 cm

**Description:** Body-base fragment. Light reddish brown (5YR 6/3) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner surface is weak red (10R 4/2) and the outer surface is black (2.5Y 2.5/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. It is well fired and wheel made.

## Figure 9.6.4

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Guttus

**Sizes:** BD: 8 cm H: 3.8 cm WT: 0.4 cm

**Description:** Body-base fragment. Reddish yellow (5YR 6/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner and outer surfaces are black (10YR 2/1) glazed. Both surfaces are shiny and smooth. It is well fired and wheel made.

## Figure 9.6.5

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Oil lamp

**Sizes:** RD: H: 3.1 cm WT: 0.5 cm

**Description:** Nozzle and discus fragment. Reddish yellow (5YR 7/6) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Outer surface is black (2.5Y 2.5/1) glazed, shiny, and smooth. Inner surface is the same colour as the clay. There are burn marks on the nozzle due to the function. It is well fired and wheel made.

## Figure 9.6.6

**Place and Date of Find:** Mound / 1972

**Name of the Form:** Oil lamp

**Sizes:** RD: H: 2.2 cm WT: 0.6 cm

**Description:** Nozzle and discus fragment. Light reddish brown (5YR 6/4) clay is well purified, finely textured, and hard. Inner surface is the same colour as the clay; outer surface is black (2.5Y 2.5/1) glazed and shiny and smooth. There are burn marks on the nozzle due to the function. It is well fired and wheel made.