

New Contributions Regarding Prehistoric Cultures in the Meander Region: Çine-Tepecik

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Abstract: Providing a link between the Aegean and the high plateau of central Anatolia, the valleys of western Anatolia played an important role in the spreading of settlements and cultural interaction in prehistoric times. In western Anatolia, the Meander River and natural passageways extending towards its south are amongst the most important factors causing interregional communication. Tepecik, which is located in the plain of one of the southern tributaries of the Meander, the Çine Stream (Marsyas), provides evidence for continuous settlement from the Chalcolithic to the end of the Bronze Age. In the stratigraphy of the mound, Level IV belongs to a Chalcolithic settlement with domestic structures. Local burnished ware from this level forms the most important Chalcolithic find in Tepecik. Among the pottery assemblage, burnish pattern vessels constitute the richest group. Zigzag lines and crosshatched panels are the most widespread decorative tradition on bowls and jars. Apart from the pottery, a diverse and wide array of bone implements, a chipped stone industry including obsidian and flint tools and Kiliya type marble figurines define the prehistoric culture of this region.

Keywords: Turkey, western Anatolia, Marsyas, Çine-Tepecik, Chalcolithic, pottery, lithics, Kiliya figurines, marble

In recent years, archaeological research carried out in western Anatolia has shed new light on cultural influences and external contacts impacting the region. Within this body of research, the newly discovered settlement of Çine-Tepecik has contributed new data to the early period cultures in the area. In the past, the prehistoric cultures of western Anatolia have been discussed using very limited information and data. Conclusions have generally depended on archaeological information from short-term excavations and surveys. Recent systematic excavations allow the archaeological evidence, especially the architecture and the finds, to be interpreted from a stratigraphic perspective. In light of this research, the settlement models/structures and burial customs of the early period can be better assessed. The results help to define the local culture in prehistoric western Anatolia and its impact on the surrounding cultures, as well as to flesh out the interregional chronology. This paper focuses on recent results concerning the prehistoric period from Tepecik and the site's cultural relationships during this time.

Location and Stratigraphic Development of the Mound

Tepecik is located in the province of Aydın. In the area of the Çine Çayı or Çine Stream (the ancient Marsyas) – a southern tributary of the Büyük Menderes (Meander) – there is a passageway that runs in a southerly direction through the Meander plain to the Çine region. South of the Meander, the Çine Çayı bisects the foothills of the eastern and western Menteşe mountain ranges. By virtue of its geographical position, with its natural passageways between these mountain ranges, the Çine Plain connects the Aegean coast with central Anatolia. Tepecik lies in this large plain to the east of the Çine Çayı in a geographically central position. Tepecik is a very low, oval mound, extending from north to south. Excavations of the mound have provided important insights into what are still little-known prehistoric cultures in this region (Fig. 1).

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Fig. 1 Location of Çine-Tepecik in the region of the Çine River.

The excavations at Tepecik, undertaken since 2004 with the permission of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, demonstrate uninterrupted settlement from the Aegean Late Neolithic to the Bronze Age. Before excavations began the surface of the mound was destroyed by machine-assisted earth removal. In addition to agricultural destruction, illicit excavations have caused further damage to the mound. As a result, numerous pottery finds dating to the Carian-Geometric and Classical periods were found on the surface.² The mound was also used as a cemetery during the Hellenistic period.³ The preserved architectural remains and finds from the excavations show that Levels II 1 and II 2 of the settlement date to the 2nd millennium BC. The cultural remains of Levels II 2 and II 1 date to the Middle and Late Bronze Ages respectively, with evidence of a fortified settlement.⁴ In this stratigraphic development of the mound, Level III revealed remains from the Early Bronze Age while Level IV contained remains from the Chalcolithic period (Fig. 2).

Settlement Remains of Earlier Periods – Prehistoric Cultural Level IV

At the mound, the cultural layers of this later period were located at the lower levels of the Bronze Age settlement, as well as outside – that is to the west – of the 2nd millennium BC fortification wall. To the west of the mound, beneath Level II, red and burnt mudbrick deposits characterise the beginnings of the Early Bronze Age and earlier periods. Level III could be clearly traced because

² Günel 2008b, 133, fig. 7.

³ Günel 2006, 20, plan 1; Günel 2008a, 80, plan 5; Günel 2008b, 131, fig. 3; Günel 2009, 229, fig. 4.

⁴ Günel 2010, 25–49; Günel 2011a, 217–232, figs. 2–11; Günel 2011b, 69–80; Günel, in print.

I	1		Classical Period
	2		Carian-Geometric Period
II	1	a	Late Bronze Age
		b	
II	2	a	Middle Bronze Age
		b	
III			Early Bronze Age
IV			Chalcolithic / Late Neolithic

Fig. 2 Stratigraphic development of the mound.

the remains of a rectilinear building were well preserved (Fig. 3; building 1). The foundations of the northern and eastern walls of this building were constructed using large stones. The walls, which are 70cm thick, were built with the larger stones set on the faces of the wall, while smaller ones were placed in between. The preserved section of the northern wall is 6.50m long. So far, only a length of 12m of the eastern wall of the structure has been uncovered. The dimensions of this structure and the thickness of its walls suggest a substantial building. A dark grey slipped, burnished jug fragment recovered from this building probably belongs to a beak-spouted jug and is Early Bronze Age in date. The Early Bronze Age pottery wares from this area are characterised



Fig. 3 The excavated area with Early Bronze Age and Chalcolithic remains; Building 1 from Level IV.



Fig. 4 Pottery and grindings stone in the southeastern area of the building from Level IV.



Fig. 5 Detail of the southeastern area of the building from Level IV.

by burnished red and dark grey slips. Among the finds, decorated spindle whorls, a lid, and several blades and stone axes were also recovered from the same deposit.

Burnt mudbrick fragments from the early phases of this building clearly demonstrate a destruction caused by fire. Inside the building, the presence of fragments of various pottery types, jars and grinding stones point to the domestic character of the structure (Figs. 4–5). Ceramics from these earlier deposits belong to a different ware group and represent pottery belonging to an earlier period than the beginning of the Early Bronze Age. The bowls belong to fine and medium-fine red, reddish-brown and grey wares (Pl. 1A). Vessels also have either knobbed, horned handles or handles decorated with incisions and encrustation (Pl. 1). Decorated handles are frequently observed. Bowl handles with knobs were recovered in great quantities within these deposits (Pl. 1B). This structure (Building 1), which belongs to Levels III and IV, must date to the transitional period from the Chalcolithic to the Early Bronze Age. Remains from even earlier periods continue to the north and northwestern sections of the building. Among the ceramics, bowl and handle shapes correspond to the local pottery tradition of Tepecik. Various types of decorated handles can also be seen within the pottery repertoire. ‘Cheese pots’ have a wide geographic distribution during this period and some examples from Tepecik have lugs with relief decorations, some resembling snakes. In this context, amongst the medium-fine pattern burnished pottery, motifs such as oblique lines, crosshatching and zig-zags are common (Pl. 2). A burnish pattern consisting of parallel diagonal lines was applied either on the interior or exterior surface of the vessels. Grey ware bowl fragments with crosshatched lines on panels have been documented (Pl. 2A). The crosshatched motif on vessels is among the most popular decorative elements during this time (Level IV). In addition to pottery, lithics such as flint blades and points are also among the finds. To the south of this area, remains of a mud-brick floor and the pottery assemblage reflect similar cultural traits. A redware pattern burnished jar with horned handles (Pl. 3) and a terracotta loom weight were recovered from this mudbrick floor. Around the mudbrick remains were obsidian and flint blades as well as bone tools belonging to the same cultural phase suggesting the Chalcolithic settlement extended towards the south (Pl. 4A–B).

This early settlement on the mound also extends towards the west outside the 2nd millennium BC fortification wall. Within this area, associated with the deposit of severely burnt soil, wall fragments, – not sufficiently preserved to provide a plan – were uncovered (Figs. 6–7). These walls, which probably belonged to a single structure, were constructed forming two rows of stones. The walls measure 34cm and 46cm in thickness. Immediately on either side of the structure there are architectural remains in a circular plan. These buildings measure 1.12m north-south and 1.20m east-west respectively. Some of the stones used in their construction were placed vertically. Jar fragments and grinding stones were situated between the stones walls. Among the pottery recovered from the circular structure and fragmentary walls, were grey wares decorated with pattern burnish on the interior surface, with crosshatched lines in panels and a dark grey burnished bowl with horizontal arched handles on the rim, as well as grey ware jars with handles (Pl. 5A–B). In addition to the grey and red ware, bowl fragments with pattern burnishing on the interior surface display the characteristic form and decorative style of the earlier part of the Chalcolithic period. Motifs such as crosshatching are well known in both western Anatolia and the Aegean cultures during this time. The shapes, as well as the motifs, correspond to the pattern burnished pottery tradition of the western Anatolian coastal region. From the same area come pottery fragments decorated with parallel grooved diagonal lines and semicircles on the body of the vessel, and fragments with an incised decoration. Furthermore, a wide variety of textile/mat impressions are displayed on the bases of vessels from Tepecik, also observed on similar contemporary vessels from the surrounding cultural regions. Other finds from the same level include stone axes, lithic finds consisting mostly of obsidian and flint blades, as well as points, borers and flakes (Fig. 8). The number of obsidian and bone tools increases considerably at these levels. The early settlement also yielded marble figurines and vessels (Pls. 6–11). These finds suggest that the architectural remains, as well as the adjoining areas, must have served a domestic purpose.



Fig. 6 Architectural remains from Level IV.

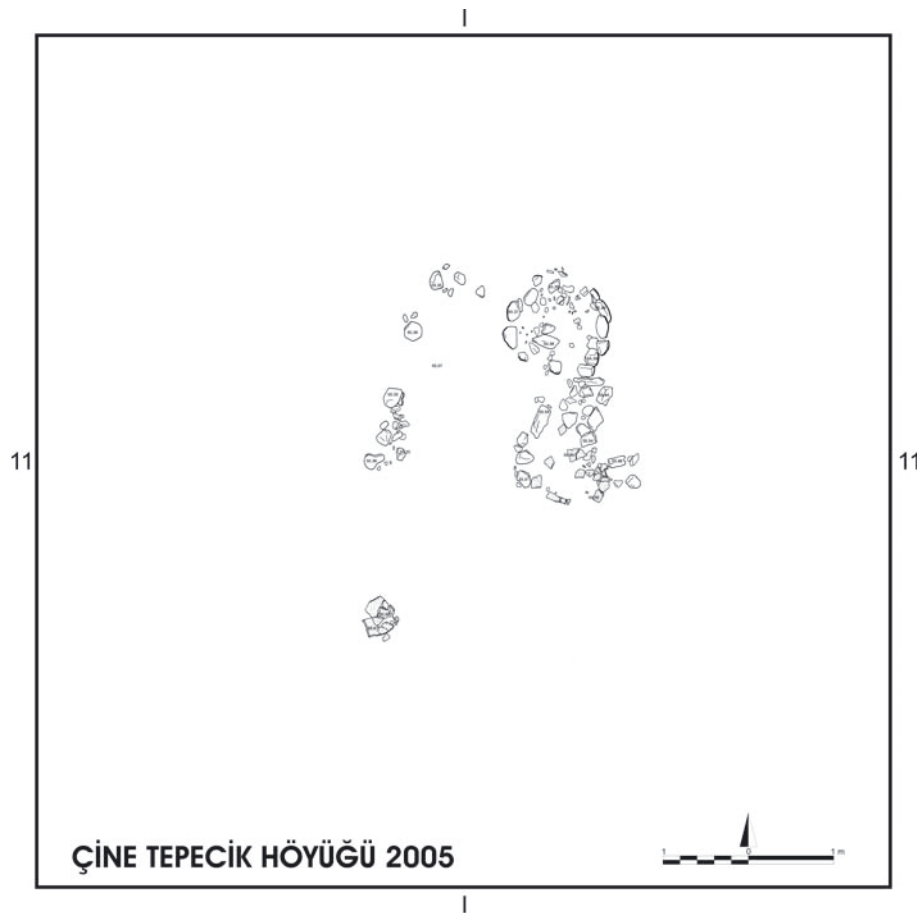


Fig. 7 Plan of architectural remains from Level IV.

Cultural Relationships and Chronological Definition according to the Findings

Local Pottery Styles

The local pottery styles revealed in the finds from Level IV, with regard to material, technique and form, are distributed widely in the Meander region and over the entirety of western Anatolia. Regarding the Chalcolithic pottery, the best parallels to the grey pattern burnished bowls, in terms of both form and decoration (crosshatched motifs placed in panels at regular intervals on the interior of the bowls) come from Gülpınar,⁵ Beşik-Sivritepe,⁶ Kumtepe IA,⁷ Malkayası Mağarası,⁸ Samos-Tigani,⁹ and Kalymnos-Vathy III.¹⁰ From Gülpınar,¹¹ Beşik-Sivritepe,¹² Tigani III,¹³ and Kephala¹⁴ parallel diagonal lines and zig-zags are also known. Additionally, horned handles appear among the handle forms of Tigani I/II,¹⁵ Chios-Emporio X–VIII,¹⁶ Gülpınar,¹⁷ Beşik-Sivritepe,¹⁸ Hanaytepe,¹⁹ and Aşağı Pınar.²⁰ The characteristic Tepecik handle type in this cultural level are bowl handles with knobs. This type of handle is also present at Gülpınar.²¹ Chronologically, Tigani II is contemporary with Emporio IX, Gülpınar, Beşik-Sivritepe and the period before Kumtepe IA, while Tigani III is contemporary with Emporio VIII, Kumtepe IB and Beycesultan LCH 1–2, and Tigani IV is parallel with Emporio VII, Kumtepe IB (late) and Beycesultan LCH 3.²² However, another pottery based chronology exists for the Troad region.²³

In light of these results, the examples reflect a pottery tradition in Tepecik belonging to the Middle Chalcolithic period. In terms of pottery these are contemporary with the surrounding cultures represented by Gülpınar, Beşik-Sivritepe, Kumtepe IA and Liman Tepe in western Anatolia and Tigani II/III, Emporio IX–VIII on the Aegean islands, as well as the Aşağı Pınar 2/3 Late Neolithic and 4/5 Middle Neolithic transitional periods in Thrace. On the other hand, they also represent a culture that covers periods earlier than the Late Chalcolithic of Beycesultan. The pattern burnished pottery from Tepecik is comparable to that from different areas. This assessment demonstrates the relation of Tepecik to the eastern Aegean islands as well as to Thrace in the north. In this respect, the motifs seen on the vessels reflect the decorative tradition of the Middle Chalcolithic periods in a chronological development similar to the pottery repertoire of western Anatolia and the Aegean.

⁵ Takaoğlu 2006, 298, 305, fig. 10/26.

⁶ Lamb 1932, 127, fig. 13/5.

⁷ Korfmann 1996, 51, fig. 44/1.

⁸ Peschlow-Bindokat 2006, 85, fig. 82/a–b.

⁹ There are grey, pattern burnished bowls with similar forms and motifs in Tigani II and III–IV. See Tigani II: Felsch 1988, 49, pls. 19.5; 57.143; Tigani III: Felsch 1988, 56, 168–169, pls. 27.1–2; 62.255; Tigani IV: Felsch 1988, 65, 68, 185, 191, pls. 38.4–5; 41.3; 68.367–368; 71.435–437.

¹⁰ Benzi 2008, 88, 92–93, fig. 20.

¹¹ Takaoğlu 2006, 298, fig. 10.24–29; Kiyak et al. 2010, 38, fig. 3.

¹² Lamb 1932, 127, fig. 13.

¹³ Felsch 1988, 51, 60, 165–166, 175–176, 183, pls. 32.5; 37.1, 4; 62.233–234; 64.291, 295; 67.350–351.

¹⁴ Coleman 1977, 81, 107, pls. 40–43.

¹⁵ Felsch 1988, 207, pl. 79.4b–c.

¹⁶ Hood 1981/1982, 271, 286, fig. 128.225, 135, pl. 37.335–337.

¹⁷ Seeher 1987, 542, fig. 6.6–7; Takaoğlu 2006, 295, figs. 6.13–14; 8.

¹⁸ Lamb 1932, 127, fig. 14.3.

¹⁹ Lamb 1932, 116, fig. 2.17.

²⁰ Parzinger – Schwarzberg 2005 fig. 15, pl. 5.

²¹ Takaoğlu 2006, 295, fig. 6.1–4.

²² Felsch 1988, 72–95, tab. 2.

²³ Korfmann – Kromer 1993, 139–169.

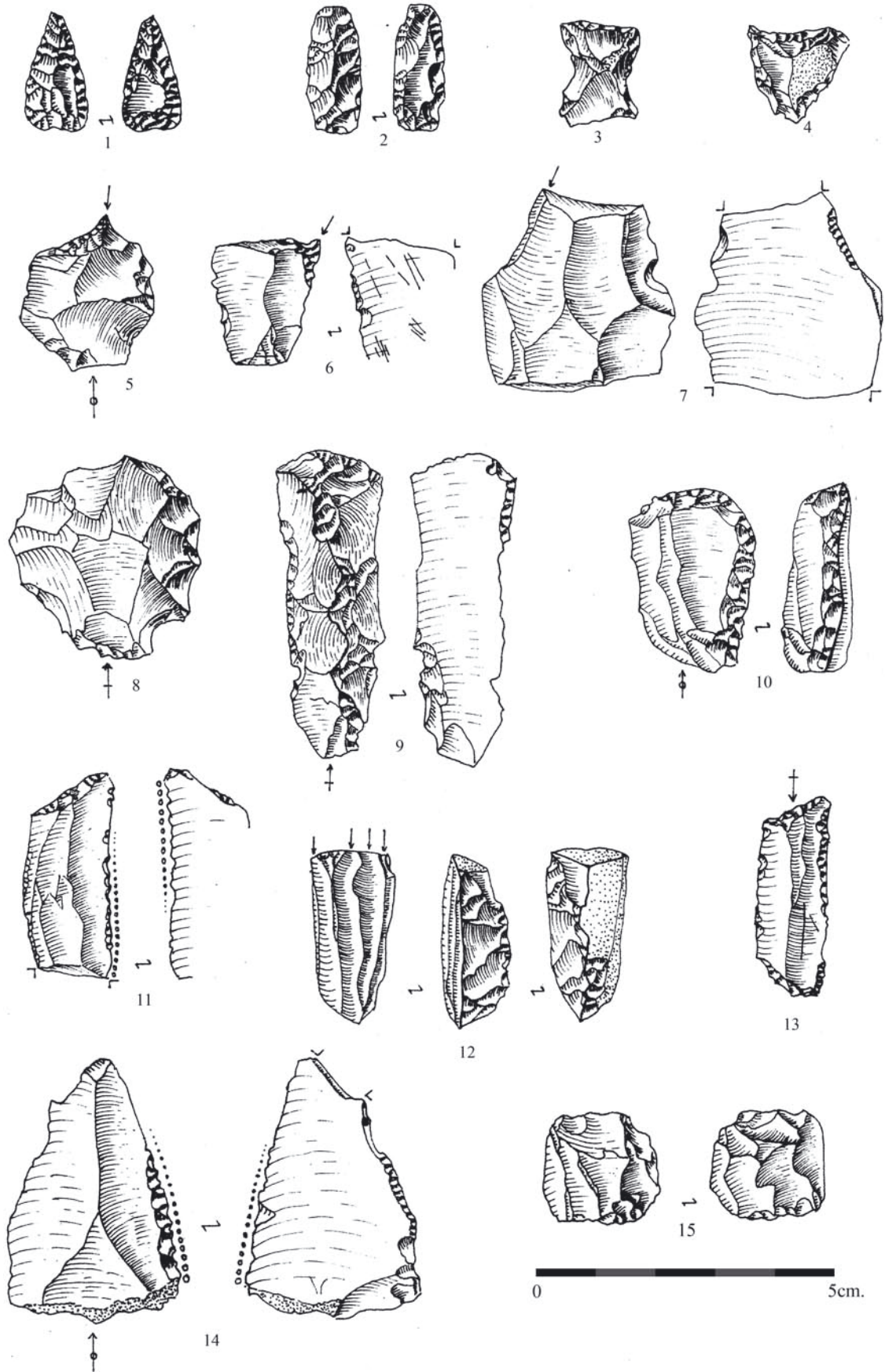


Fig. 8 Lithics tools; obsidian and flint (description and drawings of lithics tools made by Dr Beray Kösem).

Manufacture of Lithics

In addition to pottery, obsidian and flint were used in the manufacture of lithic artefacts (Fig. 8). The tools of the Tepecik chipped stone industry primarily comprise of arrow heads (Fig. 8/1–3), borers, mostly micro-borers (Fig. 8/4–6), burins (Fig. 8/7), small-notched tools and denticulates (Fig. 8/8), end scrapers (Fig. 8/9–10), sickle elements (Fig. 8/11, 14) retouched or truncated flakes and blades (Figs. 8/13). Artifacts defined as ‘*pièce esquillee*’ have also been found in considerable numbers (Fig. 8/15).²⁴

Marble Figurines

Among the early period marble figurines are examples with different head and face details (Pls. 6–10). These figurines are commonly known as ‘Kiliya type figurines’,²⁵ and their chronological range, areas of production and importance have been considerably discussed. These figurines are found on the western coast as well as in the central-western part of Anatolia; their geographic distribution reaches as far as the south. Besides the Eceabat-Kiliya bay on the Gelibolu peninsula, this type of figurine is found throughout the geographical region stretching from the northwest southward including Troy, Beşik-Yassitepe and Hanaytepe, to the Akhisar region with Papazköy, Yortan, Alağaç and Selendi, towards the south with Alaşehir-Gavurtepe, the mound of Aphrodisias-Pekmez,²⁶ and to southern Anatolia with Karain Mağarası²⁷ and Kozacı.²⁸ An example of a surface find is currently curated at the Lesbos-Mytilene museum in the Aegean.²⁹ The Kırşehir finds and the other Kiliya figurines belong to private collections.³⁰

Time period and place of production of the Kiliya figurines has become an interesting topic of archaeological research. Data, which has cast light on the production of this type of figurine, were recovered through research realized in central-western Anatolia. One group of marble figurines in the Manisa museum played an important role in drawing attention to the village of Kulaksızlar (Manisa province, district of Akhisar).³¹ Archaeological research conducted within the villages of Kulaksızlar and Harmandalı has shed light on the figurines’ manufacture. At Kulaksızlar an artist’s workshop was discovered.³² In particular, the presence of marble vessel fragments suggests that not only figurines but also marble vessels were produced.³³

Marble working has played an important role in discussions related to the production of the Kiliya figurines as well as their distribution patterns. New examples of Kiliya marble figurines from Tepecik have enlightened researchers about the distribution area south of the Meander. Head and body marble figurines belonging to the Chalcolithic of Çine-Tepecik feature Kiliya type figurines characterized by large heads, contrasting flat bodies and delicate cylindrical necks. From the Tepecik examples, two different head types are known. The first of these have surface detailing, and a head configuration that widens from a long, slim neck into a triangle and rounded on top. The surface treatment constitutes a nose in the form of a vertical relief while the eyes are depicted with small, round reliefs (Pls. 6–7). It resembles the figurine obtained from Gelibolu-Kiliya with respect to the nose and eye details, as well as the rear part of the head.³⁴ Furthermore,

²⁴ Description made by Dr. Beray Kösem.

²⁵ Schmidt 1902, 282, no. 7643; Caskey 1972, 192–193, pl. 44.

²⁶ Kadish 1971, 129, fig. 8.1598a, 3; 1598e, 5; Joukowsky 1986, 206–208.

²⁷ Seeher 1988, 224, fig. 13.2.

²⁸ For distribution area see Seeher 1992, 154–161; Takaoğlu 2002, 79–78, fig. 8; Takaoğlu 2005, 38, figs. 5, 17.

²⁹ Evangelides 1927/1928, 19, fig. 10.

³⁰ Seeher 1992, 159–162.

³¹ Dinç 1996, 11–12; Dinç 1997, 256–263.

³² Dinç 1996, 13–27; Takaoğlu 2001, 160–161; Takaoğlu 2005.

³³ Dinç 1996, 12, figs. 2–9; Takaoğlu 2002, 72–78.

³⁴ Seeher 1992, 154, fig. 2a.

its head and face details can be seen in one of the examples of the Kiliya figurines from Kırşehir.³⁵ The protrusion of these head and facial details of the Kiliya figurines is similar to the typical head conception of early Cycladic figurines, with respect to the long neck and workmanship of the nose, and in some examples, also the eye and mouth details.³⁶ It is possible to extrapolate a mode of cultural interaction and connections in ways of thinking. Another type of head found among the Tepecik figurines carries a basic head design and an oval head form (Pls. 8–9). One of the examples exhibits diversity in workmanship, having a face with a distinctive bulge on the forehead (Pl. 8). In contrast, in both cases the nose is again depicted with a vertical relief. Of the two Tepecik figurine heads, the flat and oval head pattern in particular depicts the ears through bulges with concave workmanship at the rear of the head, similar to those found at Yortan-Alağağaç.³⁷ The second Tepecik head type is similar to the head forms observed at Alaşehir-Gavurtepe.³⁸

Distinctive marble figurine body designs were also found at Tepecik (Pl. 10). On the body, just beneath the neck, there is a hole. One of the arms belonging to the figurine has been preserved. The arm has a wing feature that is bent at the elbow and placed over the breast. The workmanship of the arms, along with the flat bodies, is similar to other Kiliya type figurines. The breasts are depicted through very slight round reliefs. The body of the Tepecik figurine is similar to those from Papazköy,³⁹ the N. Schimmel Collection from Kırşehir,⁴⁰ Elmalı-Kozağacı⁴¹ and Level VIII A of the late Chalcolithic I from Pekmez Mound.⁴² An example in the shape of a seashell pendant from Can Hasan 2 A belongs to the Chalcolithic period as well.⁴³ A similar example is present among the bone finds from Tigani III.⁴⁴ The Can Hasan and Tigani pendants are made of different materials but in a similar style, and draw attention with their holes on the upper brim, from which they are hung. On the other hand, it is possible to follow up with other examples in the Balkan region, which exhibit diversity in detail but are reminiscent of the Can Hasan and Tigani examples in form.⁴⁵

Interpretations concerning the chronology of the Kiliya figurines, especially taking into account the contexts in which some of the figurines were found, indicate that they are part of the chronologic development extending from the Late Chalcolithic Age to the beginning of the Early Bronze Age. Among this group, the Yortan example was obtained from an Early Bronze Age tomb.⁴⁶ Meanwhile, the artifact from Beşik-Yassitepe, believed to be a Kiliya figurine, most likely belongs to the Chalcolithic.⁴⁷ Furthermore, the fragment found in Phase II of the Karain Mağarası, and of which only the nose and a part of the neck are partly preserved, is considered to be part of a Chalcolithic layer.⁴⁸ The figurines obtained from the VIII A layer of the Aphrodisias-Pekmez mound are dated to the late Chalcolithic Age.⁴⁹ The stratigraphic development of the Kiliya type figurines found at Tepecik, which lies west of Aphrodisias, allows a more sound age determination.

³⁵ Seeher 1992, 161, fig. 1.

³⁶ Thimme 1975, 7–14; Fellmann 1981, 8–20; Tzonou-Herbst 2010, fig. 16.1.

³⁷ Dinç 1995, 94–95, pl. 6b.

³⁸ Meriç 1989, 158, fig. 6.

³⁹ Seeher 1992, 158, fig. 2c.

⁴⁰ Seeher 1992, 161, fig. 2b.

⁴¹ Ormerod 1909/1910, 105, pl. 7.18–19.

⁴² Joukowsky 1986, 526, 532, figs. 379.31; 385.47.

⁴³ French 1963, 34–35, pl. 2d.

⁴⁴ Felsch 1988, 220, pls. 46/8; 85/5, 12.

⁴⁵ Parallel figurines in terms of form can be seen in the Balkan region. In the Varna tombs belonging to the Karanovo VI Culture, bone and marble figurines belonging to this type are also known to exist (Seeher 1992, 169, fig. 10d; Ivanov – Avramova 2000, tomb no. 1/23, 3, 11), as well as in the Pietrele-Gumelnița Culture (Dumitrescu 1924, 337, fig. 10.1; Berciu 1967, 60, fig. 18.2) and that of the Renie (Morintz – Roman 1968, 55, fig. 5.5).

⁴⁶ Kamil 1982, 20, fig. 84, 292; Seeher 1992, 158, 163.

⁴⁷ Mellink 1984, 446, fig. 3; Korfmann 1985, fig. 8: LL83.23; Seeher 1992, 163.

⁴⁸ Seeher 1988, 224.

⁴⁹ Kadish 1971, 129; Joukowsky 1986, 219–221, 526, 532.

The Tepecik examples presented here belong to the Chalcolithic period. A reevaluation of the distribution of the Kiliya type figurines that includes those from Çine is required.

Marble Vessel Fragment

A marble vessel fragment is also among the finds. It has a conical body form which expands from the bottom (Pl. 11). The conical fragment is similar to examples from Kumtepe I C,⁵⁰ Hanaytepe,⁵¹ Beşik-Sivritepe,⁵² Gülpınar⁵³ in the northwestern region, and from Demircihöyük⁵⁴ in the inner western region. In the coastal region marble conical vessels, dated to the Early/Middle Chalcolithic, are known from Urla-Liman Tepe.⁵⁵ The tradition of conical marble vessels in the Aegean has a chronology extending to the end of the Neolithic in one of the Cycladic islands, Keos-Kephala.⁵⁶ The marble rython, found as a grave good in Kephala, has a pointed bottom, conical body and vertical handle.⁵⁷ Regarding the marble type and colour it is thought to have been produced in Kulaksızlar due to its production technique, dimensions and different vertical handle layout.⁵⁸ Apart from the conical marble cup dated to the Tigani II–III phases, the other marble vessel fragment from Tigani IV phase, on which only the rim and the vertical handle are protected, runs parallel to the Kephala example based on the handle layout.⁵⁹ Naxos⁶⁰ and Lemnos-Koukonisi⁶¹ are within the distribution zone of the conical stone vessels.

At Tepecik, the remains of Level IV represent the tradition of decorated pottery, bone and stone tools and the chipped stone industry of the Chalcolithic Age in western Anatolia, providing extremely rich material. These assemblages reveal a chronology parallel with the culture of the Middle Chalcolithic period (in the Aegean chronology Late Neolithic).⁶²

Conclusions

According to finds from the Tepecik excavations thus far, the earliest settlement has domestic features dating to the Chalcolithic period. The artifacts within the architecture indicate that the earliest settlement is associated with domestic practices. The pottery among the finds reveals an advanced local ceramic tradition. The bowl and jug decoration tradition is understood to have been widespread. The burnished, encrusted and incised decoration has a very rich motif repertoire. Such decoration has been observed not only on the bodies of vessels but also on the handles. Decorated handles are remarkably common among the vessel repertoire. Apart from the material-technique features, decoration styles also play an important role in the chronological discernment. Tepecik pottery tradition runs parallel along a chronology with both the Early/Middle Chalcolithic cultures of western Anatolia and the Late Neolithic cultures of the Aegean world. Sickle blades make up a high percentage of the lithic assemblage at Tepecik. This density indicates that the Tepecik people's economy was based on agriculture. Ground stones, bone tools, and marble vessels and figurines make up the finds of the earliest period of Tepecik. Among these, marble vessels and figurines have

⁵⁰ Sperling 1976, 354, pls. 70, 830.

⁵¹ Takaoğlu 2011, 161.

⁵² Takaoğlu 2006, 309.

⁵³ Takaoğlu 2006, 309, fig. 14.

⁵⁴ Efe 1988, 79, pl. 37.

⁵⁵ Şahoğlu 2011, 282, 376, cat. 174–175; Takaoğlu 2011, 161.

⁵⁶ Sotirakopoulou 2008, 537, fig. 2; Renfrew 2010, 86.

⁵⁷ Coleman 1977, 64, 108, pls. 23.103, 109; 67.103, 109; Stampolidis – Sotirakopoulou 2011, 30, fig. 4.

⁵⁸ Takaoğlu 2005, 37.

⁵⁹ Felsch 1988, 221–222, pl. 75.V23, V26.

⁶⁰ Getz-Gentle 1996, 52, 54, figs. 29–30, pl. 22; Takaoğlu 2005, 37.

⁶¹ Takaoğlu 2005, 37; Sotirakopoulou 2008, 537.

⁶² Günel 2006, 20–21; Günel 2008b, 136–138.

parallels with western Anatolian and Aegean examples. This evidence sheds light on the diffusion sphere of Chalcolithic culture, one that extends into Tepecik, and the Menderes region. Finally, the early settlement in Tepecik has made an important contribution to the regional archaeology, especially the chronological definition of the Chalcolithic culture in western Anatolia. Due to its favourable position in the southern area of western Anatolia, Çine-Tepecik is interpreted as a new centre located between the Aegean and central Anatolian regions during the Chalcolithic.



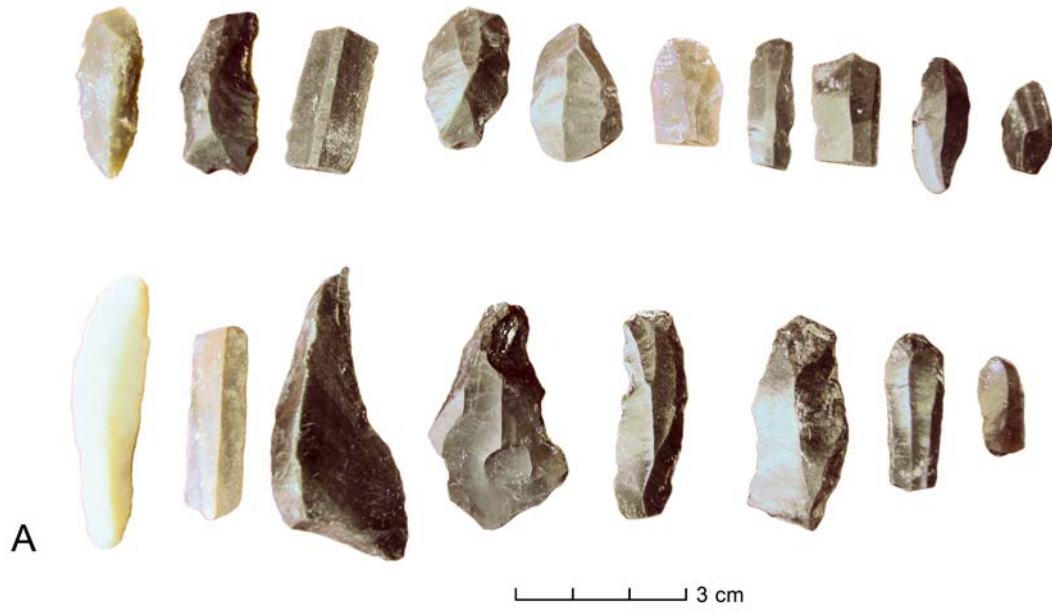
Pl. 1 A. Grey and redware bowl fragments and handles;
B. Handles with knobbed, horned, incisions and encrustation.



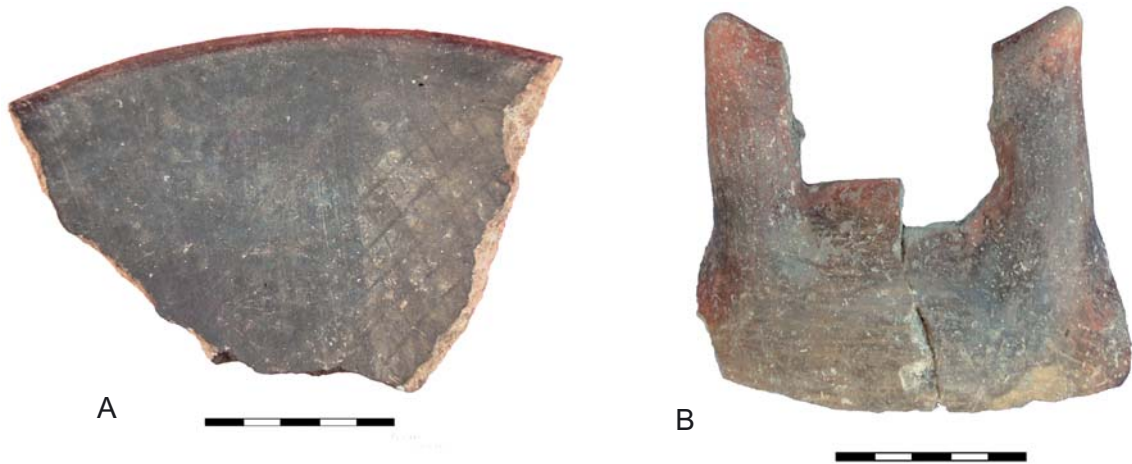
Pl. 2 A. Sherd pertaining to a grey ware pattern burnished bowl with crosshatched lines;
 B. Pattern burnished pottery with zig-zag, crosshatched and diagonal lines.



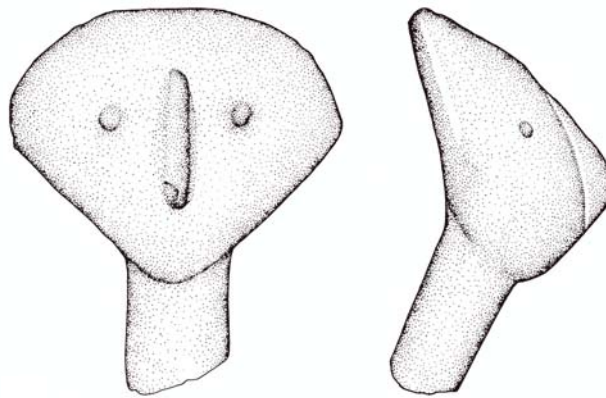
Pl. 3 Redware pattern burnished jar with diagonal lines.



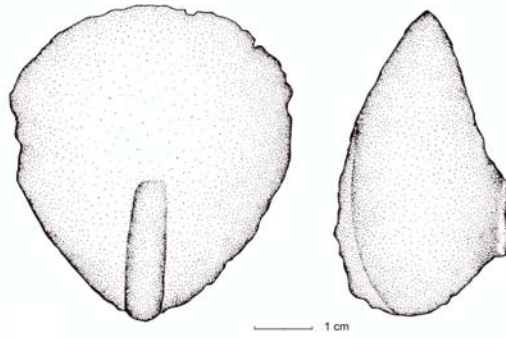
Pl. 4 A. Lithic tools; obsidian and flint; B. Bone tools.



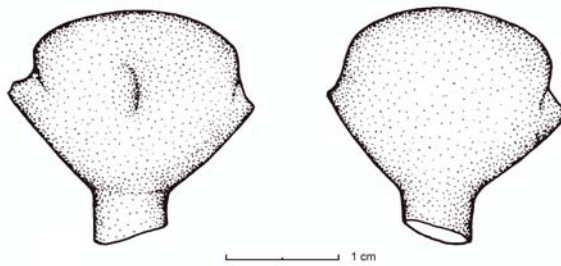
Pl. 5 A. Greyware pattern burnished bowl with crosshatched lines; B. Bowl with horizontal arched handle.



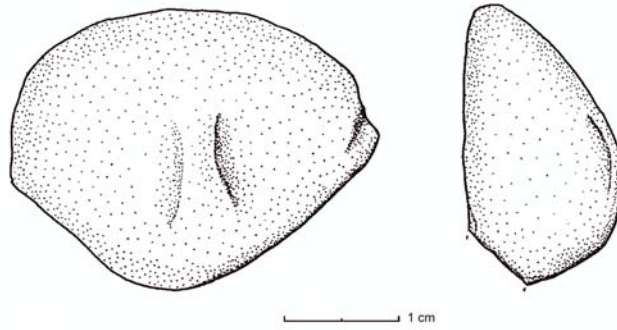
Pl. 6 Head of marble figurine, 'Kiliya type'; total length of head with neck: 4.94cm; length of head: 4.09cm; width of head: 4.53cm; total length of preserved neck part: 1.99cm; thickness of neck 1.43 × 1.14cm.



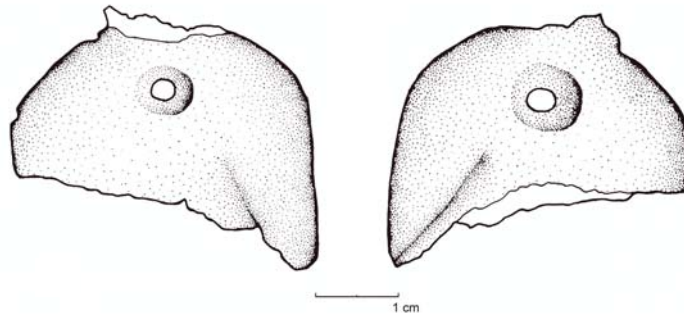
Pl. 7 Head of marble figurine, 'Kiliya type';
length of head: 5.04cm; width of head: 4.64cm; thickness of neck: 1.37 × 1.31cm.



Pl. 8 Head of marble figurine, 'Kiliya type';
total length of head with neck 2.52cm; length of head: 2.10cm; width of head: 2.31cm.



Pl. 9 Head of marble figurine, 'Kiliya type';
length of head: 1.62cm; width of head: 2.17cm; total length of neck fragment: 0.97cm; neck thickness: 0.95 × 0.85cm.



Pl. 10 Body of marble figure; 'Kiliya type';
fragment body length: 2.19cm; body width: 3.48cm; thickness: 0.82cm.



Pl. 11 A marble conical vessel fragment; length of sherd: 9.69 cm; thickness: 0.48–0.34cm.

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