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NEW FINDINGS FROM PREHISTORIC PERIOD IN WESTERN BLACK SEA REGION: HADRIANOPOLIS (KARABÜK-ESKİPAZAR) PREHISTORIC POTTERY*

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* Araştırma Makalesi / Research Article

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Keywords: Hadrianopolis, Western Black Sea, Prehistoria, Pottery

Anahtar Kelimeler: Hadrianopolis, Batı Karadeniz, Tarihöncesi, Çanak Çömlek Abstract: Hadrianopolis was first settled during the Roman period. Many know it as an archaeological treasure trove, both for late antiquity and-more recently-pre-history. For the latter, a series of handmade red clay pots found in a pit at its necropolis proves this. Moreover, archaeologists have also uncovered walls bearing pre-historic, mortar-free stone masonry techniques that pre-date Hadrianopolis itself. Both findings hints at the existence of prior settlement, albeit brief. Hadrianopolis's settlers most likely destroyed much of what remained upon digging up the bedrock to build necropolis's burial pit. Nevertheless, what has survived into the present day-whilst rare-dates back at least five thousand years. Despite limited evidence, research is still on-going-meaning that we have much more to learn.

BATI KARADENİZ'DE TARİHÖNCESİ DÖNEME AİT YENİ BULGULAR: HADRİANOPOLİS (KARABÜK-ESKİPAZAR) ANTİK KENTİNDE BULUNAN TARİHÖNCESİ DÖNEM ÇANAK ÇÖMLEKLERİ

Öz: Hadrianopolis Roma döneminde kurulmuş ve Antik Çağa ait bulguları ile bilinen bir verlesim olmasına karsın, antik kentte vürütülen arkeolojik kazılarda henüz sınırlı sayıda da olsa tarihöncesi dönem bulgularına ulaşılmaya başlanmıştır. Kentin Nekropol alanında bir çukur içerisinde ortaya çıkan el yapımı, kırmızı hamurlu ve kırmızı astarlı bir grup çanak çömlek tarihöncesi geleneğe benzer özellikler göstermektedir. Biçim açısından karakteristik parçalar da içeren çanak çömleklerin yanı sıra, kentin genel mimari geleneğine aykırı, tarihöncesi dönem geleneksel taş temel örgüsünü andıran duvarlar da bulunmuştur. El yapımı çanak çömlekler ve harçsız taş duvar temelleri birlikte düşünüldüğünde Hadrianopolis'te ana kaya üzerinde kurulmuş ve kısa süreli yerleşilmiş bir tarihöncesi yerleşimin olabileceğini akla getirmektedir. Nekropolün antik çağda uzun süre kullanılması ve mezar çukuru açabilmek için ana kayanın sürekli kazılmış olması bu tarihöncesi yerleşimi büyük ölçüde ortadan kaldırmış olmalıdır. Günümüze gelebilen nadir bulgulardan anlaşılmak zorunda kalan Hadrianopolis tarihöncesi yerleşiminde ilk iskanın izleri en az beş binyıl kadar geriye gitmektedir. Bulguların az sayıda olmasına rağmen, Hadrianopolis'te devam etmekte olan araştırmaların sınırlı sayıdaki tarihöncesi dönem bulgularını artırabilecek olması ihtimali de unutulmamalıdır.

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Introduction

The oldest proof regarding prehistoric periods in Anatolia are represented by mounds, from the Paleolithic Ages until the Neolithic Age, when settled life began. On the other hand, although the earliest data for the prehistoric periods of the Western Black Sea region, where the ancient city of Hadrianopolis is located, goes as far back as the Middle Paleolithic period¹, Neolithic mounds, which spread throughout Anatolia especially in the Early Holocene period (10000-5500 BC) when the climate was suitable for life, are not found in this region.²

In terms of the earliest settlements, the date 6000-3000 BC can be used for a general range for Anatolia in the Chalcolithic Age, when the settlements of the Western Black Sea region were dated. Even though the characteristics of material culture have changed³, the Chalcolithic communities, which are understood to be not very different from the previous Neolithic Age in terms of lifestyle⁴, continued their lives in agricultural-livestock-fishing villages. Regarding their differences, it is known that in this period, farming became the basis of the subsistence economy, hunter-gathering lost its importance when compared to previous periods, and natural resources such as obsidian, flint, and salt were more intensively used in trade.5 While the same dates are represented with cultural names with a wide geographical spread for the Mesopotamian Chalcolithic communities⁶, such definition was not possible for Anatolia, except for Southeastern Anatolia, the northern end of Mesopotamia. However, since the Chalcolithic Age covered a long period of time, triological distinction in chronology as early-middle-late is used for Anatolia as in Mesopotamia. At the same time, it is discussed that this distinction is not addressed clearly in the publications focusing on the Anatolian Chalcolithic Age.⁸ Ulf Schoop rightly criticizes this confusion by stating that "as the Anatolian Chalcolithic Age is defined according to the cultural development and chronology outside the region, its main character is not fully known."9 In Anatolia, where Neolithic Age research is relatively intense, Chalcolithic Age research remains weak, especially regarding the Middle and Late Chalcolithic periods.10

During the transition from the Neolithic Age to the Chalcolithic Age, while the settlement continued throughout Anatolia without interruption, a sudden and widespread destruction is encountered at the end of the Early Chalcolithic period. The reason for this destruction, which is considered to have occurred simultaneously in settlements in Central¹¹ and Western Anatolia¹² around 5500 BC, may be due to a climate crisis (RCC^{13}) that occurred between 7000-5000 BC¹⁴.

¹ Doonan, 1998: 78: Matthews, 2004: 200.

² In Early Holocene or Neolithic period, there is no data other than flint tools for the Black Sea Region (Düring ve Klinkenberg, 2015: 110; Karauğuz ve Düring, 2009: 154).

³ The break, which means the end of the Neolithic Age, took place in Central and Western Anatolia around 5600 BC. The fact that the tradition of red slip Neolithic pottery assamblage disappeared and was replaced by the dark-faced assamblage at this time and where these new dark-faced assamblage came from is an important archaeological problem (Çevik, 2018: 512).

⁴ Schoop, 2011: 157.

⁵ Düring, 2011: 797.

⁶ Kalkan, 2015: 27.

⁷ Caymaz, 2013: 40.

⁸ Düring, 2011: 797.

⁹ Schoop, 2011: 166.

¹⁰ Düring, 2011: 797.

¹¹ Marciniak ve Czerniak, 2007: 126.

¹² Abay, 2011: 10.

¹³ Studies have revealed that there was a continuous climate change throughout the Holocene. These radical climatic changes have led to drought, which usually comes with a sudden cooling. There are six main abrupt climate changes that we know occurred in this way during the Holocene. These were lived between 7000-5000, 4000-3000, 2200-1800, 1500-500 BC and 800-1900 and 1400-1850 AD. These dating are based on a total of 50 reliable paleoclimate samples from all over the world (Weninger vd. 2009, s. 8).

¹⁴ Clare ve Weninger, 2014: 33.

After the destruction, which lasted for about 300 years¹⁵, settlements started to be established in Anatolia by new communities who used monochrome, dark-faced burnished pottery in the Middle Chalcolithic period and were thought to have come to Anatolia from outside.

In his analysis dividing these newly established Chalcolithic settlements into three types, Bleda S. Düring states that the characteristic features of temporary camp-type settlements are weak architecture and shallow cultural layer. Based on the pit which contained prehistoric pottery and the wall remains in the necropolis of Hadrianopolis, very few of which have survived, it is thought that this antique city dates to prehistoric times and a prehistoric settlement, such as the camp-type, which was determined to be a temporary settlement in Düring's analysis, was built on a limestone slope in Hadrianopolis. Although in addressing the characteristics of pre-historic settlements in the Black Sea region, Özdemir Koçak¹⁷ opposes the previous research stating that "settlement mounds are not commonly found, and instead there may be settlements built on the slopes" and discusses that this thought is outdated because settlement mounds are encountered frequently in river valleys and on the wide plains of the coast, which is still valid for internal areas.

1. Geography of the Western Black Sea Region

Anatolia is a geographical area that consists of folded mountains belonging to the Paleozoic period that form its physical character with a high and rugged structure (Figure 1). The Daday-Devrekani Massif forms the Black Sea part of the mountains of Anatolia. 18 In addition to the massifs, there are sedimentary and metamorphic rocks around the Ilgaz Mountains and Zonguldak belonging to the Paleozoic period in the Western Black Sea region. In the Mesozoic Era, at the end of the Tertiary Period Anatolia rose with epeirogenic movements, while the Black Sea depression collapsed. The mountains determining the physical character of the Black Sea region were formed by folding during the Alpine orogeny. Starting from the Western Black Sea region and extending in two parallel ranges are the North Anatolian Mountains. The first range of the mountains close to the coast consists of Yıldız, Küre, Canik, Giresun and Rize Mountains, while the second range, located further inland, consists of Köroğlu, Ilgaz, Çamlıbel, Mescit and Yalnızçam Mountains.19 The fact that the mountains in the Western Black Sea Region are higher than the Canik Mountains and they start from the coast makes it open to humid winds resulting in a higher annual precipitation in the Western Black Sea Region.²⁰ The highaltitude geography of Anatolia, which is impacted by the mountains, has been fragmented by numerous streams. These streams flow in fertile valleys that present a very attractive environment for farming, just as they did in prehistoric times. 21 The Black Sea is the richest region of Anatolia in terms of river basin. Çoruh, Yeşilırmak, Kızılırmak, Filyos Stream, and Sakarya Rivers and one third of Anatolian water resources flow into this region.²² In the region where the snowmelt determines the character of the rivers, the flow of the rivers reaches the highest level in May and June.

The climate of the Black Sea region is effective in the north-facing parts of the coast and mountains and in the Black Sea coastal belt of the Marmara Region. In this climate type where winters are mild and summers are cool, the difference in summer-winter temperature is not high.²³ With all seasons being rainy and getting rainfall even in the summer, the Black Sea has been the region of Anatolia that is least affected by drought. The natural vegetation consists

¹⁵ Özbudak, 2010: 9.

¹⁶ Düring, 2011: 800.

¹⁷ Koçak, 2003: 698.

¹⁸ Yazıcı ve Özav, 2019: 40.

¹⁹ Özav, 2019: 47.

²⁰ Çoban, 2020: 58.

²¹ Yakar, 2014: 13.

²² Akdemir ve Durmuş, 2020: 108.

²³ Yazıcı ve Koca, 2019: 82-83.

of broad-leaved moist forests in the coastal part and coniferous forests that grow in cold and humid conditions in the higher parts. In the Western Black Sea region, which is covered with brown forest soils, an organically rich species, rich forests of trees such as beech, alder, maple, chestnut, and hornbeam were formed. Due to the low rainfall on the south-facing slopes of the mountains, the humid forest has been replaced by xeric forests. These forests, formed by scotch pine, larch, oak, and juniper, cover the region according to altitude.²⁴

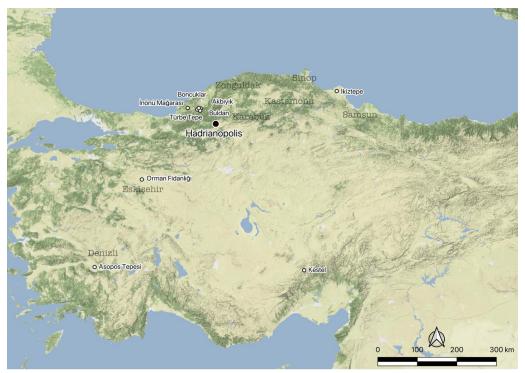


Fig. 1. Hadrianopolis and other sites in the text (Map: E. Kalkan, Qgis-Stamen Terrain)

2. Archaeological Research History of the Western Black Sea Region

The history of Western Black Sea archaeological research, like all regions, consists of surveys and excavations with mostly same methods but different scientific aims. In this section, only studies with findings related to prehistoric periods are chronologically addressed according to the years that they were conducted. Although only prehistoric research has been mentioned, it should be kept in mind that some Late Antiquity research projects also yielded results from the prehistoric period.²⁵

The first study of the region is the survey of Ahmet Gökoğlu, who focused on a very wide area in his research as it included over ten cities and districts. In the 1952 study, which has the characteristics of a cultural inventory, settlement-mounds, and other prehistoric archaeological assets of the cities in the Western Black Sea region are addressed. One of the first studies, the Kocagöz Höyük excavations, which focus on prehistoric findings in the region, were carried out in the early 1950s by Afif Erzen, who was included in the work of Ekrem Akurgal on later periods in Sinop. The prehistoric findings of Kocagöz Höyük, during whose excavations Ludwig Budde and Baki Öğün collaborated on behalf of the Turkish Historical Society (TTK), were mentioned as the most important results of the research. This research, which can be called the first scientific excavation in the region, is followed by a survey by Charles Burney in the

²⁴ Çetinkaya, 2020: 278.

²⁵ Ekmen, vd., 2021: 38.

²⁶ Gökoğlu, 1952: 4-5.

²⁷ Erzen, 1956: 71.

mid-1950s.²⁸ This study, which is the first systematic survey of the region, is followed by the survey on Iron Age by James Dengate in 1970. Dengate was included in the Western Black Sea research history, as he worked in the borders of Sinop as well as Samsun, and visited prehistoric settlements.²⁹ At the end of the 1970s, Pauline Donceel-Voute and her team set out to search the western part of Paphlagonia, which was also searched by Bahadır Alkım during his research in the Central Black Sea.³⁰ A survey was carried out by Mehmet Akif Işın between 1987-1990 in Sinop, which is in the borders of the Western Black Sea region, and it was reported that 10 Chalcolithic settlements were identified.³¹ The excavation on the Kastamonu Kınık settlement started in 1990 thanks to the metal vessels found by chance, and the earliest finds were uncovered in Level I as Late Chalcolithic pottery.³² Between 1995 and 1998, a new study was added to the increasing number of studies in the region, which could be defined as terra incognita in terms of archeology, like many regions of Anatolia until these years. The Kastamonu survey was conducted under the scientific supervision of Catherine Kuzucuoğlu, Catherine Marro, Aslı E. Özdoğan, and Aksel Tibet.³³ The information regarding the potential dating of prehistory obtained from a series of settlements located between the altitudes of 1250-1550m and called "Koçaç Group" with the inspiration of Koçaç Tepe, is an important clue for future pre-historic studies of the region. The Sinop Regional survey project, which brought together many researchers from different disciplines between 1996 and 1997, started as part of the Black Sea Trade Project by Fredrik Hiebert. In the first season of the research, a wide variety of archaeological finds, from the Middle Paleolithic period to the Ottoman period, were identified. The status of the Western Black Sea region from the Chalcolithic Ages to the present constitutes a part of the project, which is conducted with different research purposes and scopes,³⁴ Another survey in the region is the Sinop-Samsun-Amasya surveys that were conducted between 1997-1998 within the scope of Şevket Dönmez's PhD thesis. During these surveys, many pre-historic settlements were identified.³⁵ The Paphlagonia Project, which was also a survey between 1997-2001, was carried out in a part of Karabük, including Hadrianopolis, and in Çankırı, which was chosen as the main research center; and more than 330 archaeological points from the Middle Paleolithic to the Ottoman period were identified in this project.³⁶ In Yassıkaya (located in Zonguldak), which was discovered with the attention of an archeology student in 2000, excavation work was carried out for a short period of one month, making an important contribution to the archaeological excavations, where the research history of the region is the weakest.³⁷ In this cave which is thought to be used for a short time as a camp site, prehistoric pottery was found, and these finds were interpreted as an indication of a larger settlement that was used for a long term in the immediate vicinity. A rescue excavation was carried out in 2002, under the consultancy of Sevket Dönmez, in the settlement of Kovuklukaya in Sinop-Boyabat, which was discovered during the Sinop-Samsun-Amasya Surveys. This excavation, revealing the findings in the prehistoric layers, represents one of the few excavations in the prehistoric research history of the Western Black Sea region.³⁸ Another survey was conducted by Güngör Karauğuz in four districts of Zonguldak between 2004-2006. In these surveys, six points were identified together with the İnönü Cave which provides important data for the prehistoric studies of the Western Black Sea Region.³⁹ The significance of this research

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<sup>28</sup> Burney, 1956: 179.
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²⁹ Dengate, 1978: 245.

³⁰ Naumann, vd., 1979: 196.

³¹ Işın, 1998: 98, Table 1.

³² Genç, 2008: 105.

³³ Kuzucuoğlu, vd., 1997: 287; Özdoğan, 2000: 321.

³⁴ Doonan, 1998: 178.

³⁵ Dönmez, 1999: 518.

³⁶ Matthews, 2004: 200; Matthews ve Glatz, 2009.

³⁷ Efe, 2004: 27.

³⁸ Dönmez, 2004: 38.

³⁹ Karauğuz ve Düring, 2009: 154.

for the prehistoric pottery of Hadrianopolis is its close similarity with the material collected during the survey. It also facilitates the dating of prehistoric pottery of Hadrianopolis with its plaques showing great similarities for the Middle Chalcholitic period, which was suspected since the first find of this pottery in Hadrianopolis.⁴⁰ Another survey project in the region is the Cide-Şenpazar prehistoric survey that was conducted between 2009 and 2011. The finds revealed in the research by Bleda S. Düring and Victor Klingenberg are important for the prehistory of the region.⁴¹ Despite a very small number in the archaeological research history of the Western Black Sea region, an important development was encountered in terms of the archaeological excavations in 2017. The findings, which were discovered in the excavation of İnönü Cave in Zonguldak-Ereğli by Hamza and Gülden Ekmen in 2017 and supported by c14 dates for Late Chalcolithic and Bronze Ages, contributed significantly to the prehistoric studies of the region.⁴² The İnönü Cave excavations, which are continued today, are the last study that will be mentioned for the research history of the region. When evaluated in terms of excavations revealing reliable stratigraphic information, the region remains weak compared to other regions of Anatolia.⁴³

3. Excavations of the Hadrianopolis Ancient City

The city called "Paphlagonia Hadrianopolis" is in Viranşehir, 3 km west of Eskipazar district of Karabük.⁴⁴ The research that started in the city in 2003 continue. The city, founded in the Roman period, is known to have an important position in the Late Roman and Byzantine periods. Important findings from the Late Antique Period of the Western Black Sea region were unearthed in the city that include the Four Rivers Church (Church B), Bath A, B, Chora Church (Church A), and Late Roman Domus, famous for their mosaics. 45 From the first day of scientific excavations until 2018, no studies were conducted on the determination of burial customs in Hadrianopolis. It is also the case in the interior regions of Paphlagonia. In other words, a comprehensive necropolis excavation has not been performed in the ancient cities located in the Inner Paphlagonia, and most of the data obtained so far consists of findings from museum rescue excavations. Due to a lack of such information in the region and Hadrianopolis, excavation planning was made in 2018 for the necropolis areas known to exist in the city. The work started in 2018 in the Southern Necropolis of Hadrianopolis, one of the necropolis areas. A total of 115 different types of rock tombs have been unearthed so far. Considering the finds uncovered, it was found that the earliest graves date to 2nd century AD, while the latest tombs are from 7th century AD. In other saying, burials continued without interruption for 500 years in the Southern Necropolis. During the works carried out in the Southern Necropolis in the 2020 season, a group of pottery, which is different from pieces peculiar to the settlement in terms of its hand-made nature and other characteristics, was found in a rock-cut pit as bowlshaped in the K 15 trench (Fig.2). The Southern Necropolis of Hadrianopolis was founded on a limestone bedrock. It is understood that the burials made in the rock-cut tombs date to the Late Roman-Early Byzantine period.⁴⁶ According to the initial evaluations by the head director, Ersin Çelikbaş, these potteries that are different from the usual pottery revealed in the Southern Necropolis have the potential to date to prehistoric period particularly with their handmade feature. Later, Emrullah Kalkan joined the studies on this pottery, and a decision was made to introduce this group of pottery to the scientific world with a publication as they were deemed important for the Black Sea region prehistoric periods. Prehistoric communities reached the Western Black Sea Region during the Middle Chalcolithic settlement, which started

40 Karauğuz ve Düring, 2009: 153.

⁴¹ Düring ve Klinkenberg, 2015.

⁴² Ekmen, 2020: 50.

⁴³ Karauğuz ve Düring, 2009: 157.

⁴⁴ Keleş, 2021: 4.

⁴⁵ Çelikbaş, 2021: 167.

⁴⁶ Keleş ve Çelikbaş, 2019: 196-197.

in 5200 AC in various settlements following the interruption and abandonment of settlements in all Central and Western Anatolia and lasted around 300 years at the end of the Early Chalcolithic period, and probably established a settlement on this limestone ridge in Hadrianopolis. The few prehistoric findings from the intense destruction caused by the rock-cut tombs when it was a necropolis can provide important information for the prehistoric period of the Western Black Sea Region when considered with other data from the surrounding regions. This limited amount of information will also change the scope and perspective of the studies to be carried out in and around Hadrianopolis in the upcoming years.

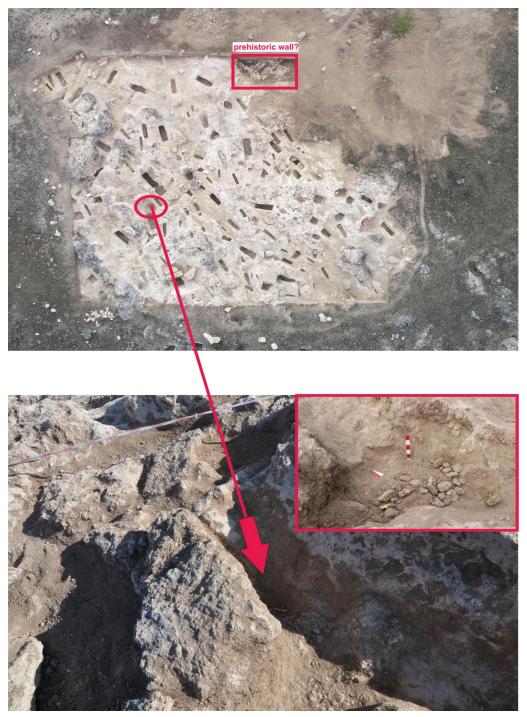


Fig. 2. Necropol (K15) and Rock-Cut Pit Found Prehistoric Pottery

4. Prehistoric Pottery Assemblages of Hadrianopolis (Figures 3-6)

Although a small number of prehistoric handmade pottery have been found in Hadrianopolis, they vary by ware types. Burnished red ware, red-black ware, slipped brown ware, and paint decorated ware are seen. In red slipped ware, the inside and outside are intensely burnished. On the outer surface of the red-black ware, an intensely burnished red slip was applied, while the inner surface was heavily polished and black slipped. Only one sample with paint decoration was found (Figure 4.3). The clay colors are red and brown. Except for two samples whose clay colors can't be determined as they were baked with a core, a small number of them are brown and the rest is red clay. These are the most common form of pottery among the prehistoric period pottery of Hadrianopolis, which could not provide statistical information due to the small number of finds (Figure 3). Bowls (Figure 4.1) and pots (Figure 6.2) are other forms. Additionally, there are also sherds (Figure 4.2-3), handles (Figure 5.1-2), and a grip (Figure 5.3). One of the handles, as an example with a spur (Figure 5.1), is also important as it has the characteristic of Chalcolithic Age. The grip (Figure 5.3), similarly, may belong to the same period. Some sherds in the red slipped ware group, found in the same pit by chance near this undoubtedly in situ context group of finds, were considered as special pieces (Figure 6) and no similar pottery was found in the surrounding areas.

Other characteristic features of the prehistoric pottery of Hadrianopolis are mineral tempers. Although plant temper are seen together with mineral temper in a few pieces (Figures 2.2,3.1,4.1), there is no example that contains plant temper only. The type of mineral temper is sand, mica, grit, lime, and quartz. While sand and mica are found in all the samples, grit is commonly observed. Lime-tempered examples are observed less while quartz is observed in only one example (Figure 3.3). This indicates that the most used temper are sand, and mica. Regardless of the ware group, the degrees of baking are generally high. Except for a few examples that were fired at a moderate temperature range, pottery is generally hard-textured and of qualified workmanship. There is no sample that can be described as loose textured coarse ware.

5. Correlation

Pieces of pottery that resemble prehistoric pottery from Hadrianopolis are found in this region as well as in Central and Western Anatolia. The most characteristic examples of this small number of potteries are spurred handles (Figure 5.1) and grip (Figure 5.3). Particularly the grip example (Figure 5.3) resembles the horizontal and vertical handles which are seen frequently in Middle Chalcolithic pottery.⁴⁷ Horizontal and vertical handles, which are common in Middle Chalcolithic pottery, first appeared in this period. This ware group resembles the Anatolian Chalcolithic pottery tradition in which red and brown wares are seen considering that they are undecorated and burnished.⁴⁸ The tradition consisting of two clay groups seen in İnönü Cave dating to the Late Chalcolithic period with reliable in-situ contexts in the surrounding areas, especially in the Western Black Sea Region, is not similar to Hadrianopolis pottery; and Black, dark gray, and brownish black, dark colored, sand, limestone and mica added, handmade and bright slipped wares characteristically representing the Late Chalcolithic period throughout Anatolia, such as İnönü Cave, are not seen here. 49 On the other hand, there are some similarities with the pottery found in the settlements dating to the Middle Chalcolithic period in the Western Black Sea region.⁵⁰ For example, handle in Akbıyık (Figure 2.8), Türbe Tepe handle (Figure 12.1), Buldan Höyük handles (Figure 7), spur handles (Figure 6.1-2) and shallow bowl shape (Figure 8.10), the shallow bowl shapes of Boncuklar Höyük (Figure 5) are

⁴⁷ Gülçur, 2012: 221.

⁴⁸ Çevik, 2018: 508.

⁴⁹ Ekmen, 2020: 50.

⁵⁰ Karauğuz ve Düring, 2009: 154.

similar to Hadrianopolis pottery. Except for the Western Black Sea region, the pottery of Hadrianopolis is more similar to the pottery from İkiztepe in the Central Black Sea region, with the spur handle example.⁵¹ Outside the Black Sea region, the pottery of Hadrianopolis resembles the brightly polished, red slipped, and red clay ware found in the Asopos Tepesi⁵² and Orman Fidanlığı settlements. The spur handle example is the find that necessitated us to examine these two Western Anatolian settlements to compare with the pottery of Hadrianopolis (Figure 5.1). The spur handle, which is known to be a characteristic feature of the Middle Chalcolithic period starting from the Early Chalcolithic period⁵³ in western Anatolia, may help date the few Hadrianopolis prehistoric pottery.⁵⁴ Spur handles were also encountered in Kestel in the Cappadocia region and were dated to the Middle Chalcolithic period.⁵⁵ It has been reported that no spur handles were found among the pottery of the İnönü Cave⁵⁶, which is dated to Late Chalcolithic period in the Western Black Sea region and is important in the comparison of the pottery of Hadrianopolis. This strengthened the thought that this handle shape may be related to the Middle Chalcolithic. The closest examples to the painted sherd, which was found as a single example (Figure 4.3), are found in Volcanic Cappadocia, and are dated to the Chalcolithic Age.57

Catalogue (Figures 3-6)

Figure 3: Jars

Figure 3.1 (AEZ 9): PM⁵⁸: carbonized; ESM: 7.5YR 5/4 brown; ISM: 7.5YR 5/4 brown; T: heavy-coarse sand, heavy-fine mica, some-coarse grit; C: carbonized; ST: regular-horizontal-heavy burnished on surface, regular-horizontal-heavy burnished on inner surface; F: pot; P: middle high temperature; H: 2.4; RD: 20.

Figure 3.2 (AFB 1): PM: 2.5YR 4/6 red; ESM: 10R 5/6 red; ISM: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown; T: heavy-coarse sand, heavy-fine mica, some-coarse grit; C: none; ST: horizontal-slightly-rare irregular burnished on surface and lip, some burnished on the turning point from mouth to inside, not throughout the inner surface; F: pot; Fİ: high temperature; H: 3.9; RD: 16.

Figure 3.3 (AFE 8): PM: 5YR 5/6 yellowish red; ESM: 10R 5/6 red; T: heavy-coarse sand, heavy-fine mica, heavy-coarse grit, some-fine lime, some-coarse quartz, C: strong grey; ST: horizontal-regular-some burnished on surface, slip on surface and rim, no slip on inner surface; F: pot; Fİ: high temperature; H: 4; RD: 30.

Figure 3.4 (AFE 7): PM: 5YR 5/6 yellowish red; ESM: 10R 4/6 red; ISM: 10R 4/6 red; T: some-coarse sand, some-fine mica, some-coarse grit, C: strong grey; ST: horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on surface, horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on inner surface; F: pot; Fİ: high temperature; H: 3.4; RD: 34.

Figure 3.5 (AFA 6): PM: carbonized; ESM: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown; ISM: 2.5YR 7/8 light red; T: some-fine sand, some-fine mica, some-coarse grit, some-coarse lime, C: strong grey; ST:

⁵¹ Alkım, vd., 2003: Levha. XI.

⁵² Konakçı, 2016: 38.

⁵³ Caymaz, 2013: 91, Çizim 2.23, Çizim 4.26-29.

⁵⁴ Konakçı, 2016: 63, Fig.12.5; Efe, 2001: 108, Figure 20.301, 313-317.

⁵⁵ Hacar, 2017: 19, Figure 9.2.

⁵⁶ Ekmen, 2020: 53.

⁵⁷ Türk, 2022: 132, Katalog No: NB 18/5-137-95.

⁵⁸ PM: Paste Munsell; ESM: External Slip Munsell; ISM: Internal Slip Munsell; PCM: Pattern Color Munsell; T: Temper; C: Core; SF: Surface Treatment; F: Form; P: Pattern; Fi: Firing; H: High; RD: Rim Diameter; BD: Bottom Diameter; CO: Corelation.

Production techniques are not given in catalogue, because all sherds are hand-made. Munsell color are given according to standart catalogue codes. Munsell catalogue is 2013 revised version. Dimensions are in centimetres.

horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on surface, horizontal-regular-some burnished on inner surface; F: pot; Fİ: high heating degree.

Figure 4: Bowl and Sherds

Figure 4.1 (AFA 5): PM: 2.5YR 4/6 red; ESM: 10R 4/6 red; ISM: 10R 4/6 red; T: some-coarse sand, some-fine mica, some-coarse grit, C: reddish-brown; ST: horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on surface, horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on inner surface; F: bowl; Fİ: high temperature; H: 2.5; RD: 24.

Figure 4.2 (AEZ 11-2): PM: 7.5YR 5/3 brown; ESM: 10R 5/6 red; ISM: 7.5YR 2.5/1 black; T: heavy-fine sand, heavy-fine chaff, some-fine mica, some-fine lime, C: none; ST: red-thick slip, horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on surface, on inner surface: thick black slip, horizontal-regular-heavy burnished; F: sherd; Fİ: middle temperature.

Figure 4.3 (AEZ 11-1): PM: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown; PCM: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown; T: heavy-fine sand, some-fine mica, some-fine grit, heavy-fine lime; C: none; ST: color pattern as horizontal strip on surface, no pattern and slip on inner surface; F: sherd; FI: middle temperature.

Figure 5: Handles and Lugs

Figure 5.1 (AEZ 7): PM: 7.5YR 6/6 reddish yellow; ESM: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown; ISM: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown; T: heavy-coarse sand, heavy-fine chaff, some-fine mica, C: none; ST: regular-medium heavy burnished on surface. thick brown slip, less regular-thick brown slip on inner surface; F: handle; Fİ: high temperature.

Figure 5.2 (AEZ 6): PM: 7.5YR 5/6 strong brown; ESM: 2.5YR 5/6 red; ISM: grey 1 2.5/ black; T: heavy-coarse sand, heavy-fine mica, some-fine grit, C: none; ST: heavy-regular burnished on surface, horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on inner surface; F: handle; Fİ: high temperature

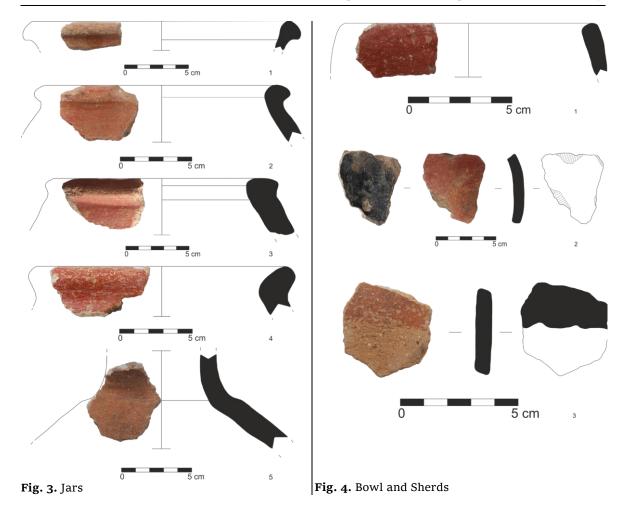
Figure 5.3 (AEZ 8): PM: 2.5 YR 4/6 red; ESM: 2.5YR 5/6 red; ISM: 2.5YR 5/6 red; T: heavy-coarse sand, some-fine mica, some-coarse grit, some-fine line, C: none; ST: heavy-regular burnished on surface, heavy-regular burnished on inner surface; F: handle; FI: high temperature.

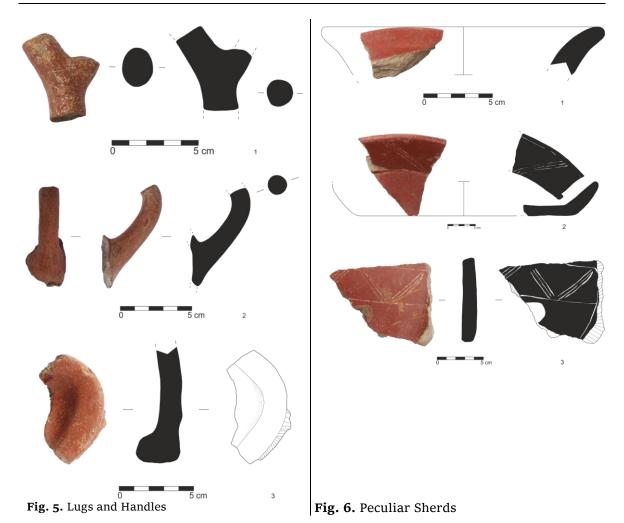
Figure 6: Peculiar Sherds

Figure 6.1 (AEZ 1): PM: 2.5YR 5/6 red; ESM: 10R 4/6 red; ISM: 10R 4/6 red; T: heavy-fine sand, heavy-fine chaff, heavy-fine mica, some-coarse grit; C: buff; ST: horizontal-heavy burnished on surface, horizontal-regular- heavy burnished on inner surface; F: pot; Fi: high temperature; H: 3.7, RD: 36.

Figure 6.2 (AEZ 4): PM: 2.5YR 4/6 red; ESM: 10R 4/6 red; ISM: 10R 4/6 red; PCM: White Page 10YR_/2; T: some-fine sand, heavy-fine mica, some-coarse grit, C: strong grey; ST: horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on surface, horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on inner surface, three parallel, thin linear cream color decoration from rim to bottom on inner surface; F: bowl; Fİ: high temperature; H: 4.7; RD: 28.

Figure 6.3 (AEZ 12): PM: 5YR 5/6 yellowish red; ESM: 10R 4/4 weak red; ISM: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown; T: some-fine sand, some-fine mica, some-coarse grit, C: strong grey; ST: horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on surface, horizontal-regular-heavy burnished on inner surface, parallel lines in horizontal-parallel thin cream color decoration as freze; F: sherd; Fİ: high temperature.





Conclusion

Archaeologists studying in the coastal areas of the Black Sea region say that traces of settlement in the Chalcolithic Age were found only in caves.⁵⁹ It is known that there is also information about mound-type settlements in the internal areas.⁶⁰ The prehistoric settlement of Hadrianopolis, of which we have only limited information, resembles the settlement type established in sheltered rocky areas of Central Anatolia dating to the Chalcolithic Age.⁶¹ The spur handle and grip shapes, ware groups, and slip characteristics of the prehistoric period pottery from Hadrianopolis, which are not suitable for specific dating due to its small number and characteristics, show features of the 5th millenium BC compared to their counterparts in the Black Sea and other regions. On the other hand, due to very few prehistoric excavations, the inability to support the Hadrianopolis pottery with architectural and other finds, and the presence of unknown pieces in the pottery (Figure 6), it is difficult to make a precise dating in the settlement. The aim of this publication is to express uncertainties that the settlement in the ancient city of Hadrianopolis, known for its late periods, may date to earlier periods. This study will provide a basis for new studies if these uncertainties are eliminated with richer archaeological material in later studies.

⁵⁹ Düring ve Klinkenberg, 2015: 127.

⁶⁰ Erzen, 1956: 71.

⁶¹ Gülçur, 2012: 223.

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