

PAPER ABSTRACTS

Adam Anderson, Harvard University
(Session 1: Social and Cultural Interactions 1)

The Old Assyrian Social Network: A Link Between Texts and Context

In this presentation I will introduce and describe the method, preliminary results and application of a quantitative social network analysis on a large group of texts (ca. 5,000) from the Old Assyrian Text Project spanning levels II and Ib at Kültepe (ca. 1920-1720 BCE). Using a novel computational model for data-mining and disambiguation, I describe a tangible method for accurately reconstructing the Middle Bronze Age society that is evidenced in these tablets, which can help scholars reconnect the missing links to the archaeological context for these ca. 5,000 tablets, and ultimately reconnect them with the remaining ca. 18,000 tablets found through controlled excavations since 1948 at the site of Kültepe. I will also show how these databases and sociograms can be used for the disambiguation of the homonymous individuals mentioned in the Old Assyrian texts, and point to additional prosopographical and anthropological studies for the population of people living between Kaneš and Aššur mentioned in this fascinating group of Middle Bronze Age period cuneiform texts.

Levent Atici, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
(Session 4: Resources, Technologies, Infrastructure 2)

Feeding Cities: Revisiting Fundamental Theoretical and Methodological Issues in Urban Zooarchaeology in Light of Research at Kaneš

Zooarchaeologists have established that complex societies had specialized animal management systems with part- or full-time food-producing specialists relying on surplus production and storage, tax collection, and redistributive mechanisms. Zooarchaeological research has also modeled animal economies using binary oppositions such as urban consumers and rural producers, and distinguishing between

centralized / regulated and decentralized / unregulated animal economies with direct or indirect food provisioning systems. This theoretical framework has often employed explicit quantitative measures to create an analytical framework and testable hypotheses using archaeological bone assemblages. In the present paper, however, I present converging lines of evidence to question the applicability of such dichotomized approaches to organization of every state or society in the ancient Near East. As Kültepe tablets epitomize, despite the centralized and regulated nature of Kaneš, with its imposing policies on the organization of agropastoral economy, some aspects of production, distribution, and consumption remained unregulated. We learn that the concepts of public and private were inseparable at Kaneš and they had vaguely defined and permeable boundaries, as the political and palatial involvement vested these individuals with double-dipping power and authority to operate as private enterprise as well.

Gojko Barjamović, Harvard University
(Session 3: Resources, Technologies and Infrastructure 1)

Tracing the Origins of Assyrian Trade in Anatolia

The caravan records from Kültepe provide mostly unbiased and occasionally detailed information about transport infrastructure, communication, and the physical realities of travel in Western Asia during the early Middle Bronze Age. It is a key observation that the volume of goods transported by the Assyrian traders exceeds (possibly by several orders of magnitude) anything known from other ancient sources, since their commercial network cannot have formed overnight and functioned in isolation. Close and relatively stable commercial links, each of a comparable transport capacity to the Assyrian system, must have existed in a series of interlocking networks that connected the centers of Eurasia in a chain of transport and supply. Such a system will have emerged gradually, and judging from what little we know from the Assyrian case, it appears to have been based on a series of polities specialized in the management of long-distance trade. This paper will trace the (admittedly hazy) origins of Assur as a community specialized in long distance trade by linking recent archaeological discoveries at Kültepe to evidence to textual corpora from the 3rd millennium.

Murat Çayır, Ankara Üniversitesi
(Session 6: Reports on Ongoing Work 2)

The 1997 Kültepe Tablets – Archives of Alakum, Ennam-Anum, and his Son Aššur-malik

This talk will present an overview of the 410 cuneiform documents unearthed at Kültepe during the campaign of 1997 that once belonged to the archives of the Assyrian merchants Alakum, Ennam-Anum, and his son Aššur-malik.

Jan Gerrit Dercksen, Universiteit Leiden
(Session 4: Resources, Technologies, Infrastructure 2)

One Word, Many Values: On Shekels and Minas

The excavations at Kültepe have yielded archaeological and textual evidence on the weight systems used by the Assyrian merchants and their counterparts in Anatolia. The sub-systems are not exclusively Anatolian or Assyrian, but form part of metrological systems used in the wider ancient Near East. Recent publications of artifacts and metrological studies necessitate a fresh discussion of the evidence to assess how the merchants from Assur and others dealt with these different systems in practice.

Veysel Donbaz, İstanbul Arkeoloji Müzeleri
(Session 7: Reports on Ongoing Work 3)

Observations on Some Unpublished Ib Texts from Kültepe

Among the ca. 23.000 cuneiform tablets unearthed at the site of Kültepe, the small group of texts coming from the Ib-stratum deserve particular attention for the topics they cover and the hints they offer to social and historical topics otherwise unknown. Despite of their obvious importance, the Ib corpus makes up less than 1/20 of the total number of tablets unearthed from the site, and only about 1/3 of the group has been published. The present paper offers an overview of the unpublished texts and the exciting new information they contain.

Andrew Fairbairn & Nathan Wright, University of Queensland
(Session 4: Resources, Technologies, Infrastructure 2)

The Archaeobotany of Plant Trade at Bronze Age Kültepe

Archaeobotany provides the means of recovering material evidence of plant trade from archaeological strata, though differentiating local and distance provenance for plant resources is not always possible. A body of new archaeobotanical data from Kültepe and other sites in central Anatolia is providing original insights into the development of plant trade through standard archaeobotanical research and isotope analysis. This paper focuses on the contribution of EBA and MBA Kültepe to that research, where a combination of archaeobotanical analysis combined, in the latter with rich textual data, allow us to begin the process of disentangling local and distant trade networks. Focusing on probable local products, including cereals, legume crops and fuel, and distantly sourced items such as hazelnut, pomegranate and sumac, this paper discusses the complexity of plant trade and identifies possible trade items amongst the apparently more mundane species on our data lists.

Fikri Kulakoğlu, Ankara Üniversitesi
(Session 5: Reports on Ongoing Work 1)

Monumental Structures at Kültepe Dating to the Early Bronze Age and Evidence of Early State Organization in a Central Anatolian Polity

Beginning in 2009 renewed excavations on the mound of Kültepe have demonstrated that the site had established itself as a major urban center much earlier in the 3rd millennium BCE than hitherto assumed. The monumental public architecture uncovered at the site in the past six seasons is so far unique to the region for this early date, and it suggests that Kültepe was a prosperous regional center well before the arrival of Assyrian merchants. Two monumental structures, a building and a temple, were unearthed by T. Özgüç in Levels 12 and 11b of the EBA III (c. 2400–2100 BCE). The size of the Level 12 temple, which is commonly referred to as a 'megaron,' due to its rectangular plan and long hall and front portico in front, approaches that of the largest and best-known megaron at Hissarlık II in Western Anatolia. The second, so-called 'building with pilasters,' belongs to Level 11b. Although its plan is incomplete, it is obvious that this structure differs from the modest

architecture known elsewhere in contemporary Central Anatolia, both in terms of dimensions, and in the presence of half-pillars and benches. Recent work has revealed an additional architectural complex, which has turned out to be the largest so far discovered anywhere in Anatolia belonging to this period. This mudbrick complex in level 13 measures at least 70 by 55m. On account its size, it cannot be interpreted as a domestic structure, and must have been used for official or administrative purposes. The objects so far discovered in the EBA III levels at Kültepe testify to its regional and international connections. The new monumental compound and the 'megaron' of level 12 are both the architectural embodiments of an age where Anatolian rulers according to later written tradition challenged the imperial power of the armies of Akkade. Remarkably, the level 13 at Kültepe is as structure built in Mesopotamian or Syrian style, and is unique within central Anatolian context, attesting to the existence of a powerful local authority capable of erecting such an edifice.

Mogens Trolle Larsen, Københavns Universitet
(Session 3: Resources, Technologies and Infrastructure 1)

A Complex Business Affair with Diplomatic Repercussions

A group of 22 documents from the archive of the Šalim-Aššur family are concerned with a particular business transaction that involved trade in copper and wool in very large quantities. It is reflected in so many texts because it did not go according to plan, but came to involve a diplomatic and legal conflict with a high Anatolian official in the important city Purušhaddum. The affair is of interest for a number of reasons: 1) it describes a commercial procedure that is otherwise rather poorly attested, despite the likelihood that it was very common; 2) the volume of goods handled in this one transaction was very large; 3) the legal procedures involved in the resolution of the conflict reflect the complicated relationship between the Assyrian and the Anatolian institutions in a fairly detailed way.

Agnete W. Lassen, Yale University
(Session 1: Social and Cultural Interactions 1)

The Bull-Altar in Kültepe Glyptic: Motif and Meaning

The Kültepe glyptic represents a strong test case for what happens when different artistic traditions are in contact, interact and transform. The data set is dense, coherent and can be chronologically and culturally ordered, which allows for detailed studies of both style and iconography in a cultural encounter setting. This talk will focus on one iconographic motif, the so-called bull-altar, which has been the focus for a few studies in the past years. It takes a fresh look at this motif by examining when and where it first appears, how it is represented in the different glyptic traditions, and finally, who are the individuals who use seals carrying it. It has traditionally been argued that the bull-altar was a representation of an Anatolian deity, but here it is argued that it appears first in the Assyrian glyptic tradition, and that it was most prominently used by Assyrian officials and institutions. On the basis of its iconographic context and stylistic elements, along with the chronology and usage, it is argued that the bull-altar in fact represents a physical manifestation of the chief deity in Assur.

Joseph W. Lehner, Cotsen Institute of Archaeology & Ernst Pernicka,
Curt-Engelhorn-Zentrum Archäologie, Mannheim
(Session 5: Reports on Ongoing Work 1)

The Provenance of Tin Used in the Production of Bronze During the Middle Bronze Age at Kültepe

One of the biggest questions regarding the Bronze Age concerns the innovation of bronze technologies and their apparently rapid adoption across the Near East. The earliest bronzes in the Near East occur within the Fertile Crescent, however the largest sources of tin are located in central Asia and western/central Europe. Recent discoveries of smaller occurrences of tin in the vicinity of Kültepe near to modern Hisarcık add further nuance to the debate. Old Assyrian texts are the first in Anatolia that refer to the mass importation of tin, apparently from a location to the east – most likely the tin sources of central Asia. Renewed scientific analyses of copper alloys from Kültepe dating to the late 3rd and early 2nd millennia BCE add to our understanding from the texts. New

analyses using tin isotopes on samples from the lower city dating to the karum II period shed light on this problem by adding another independent line of evidence. In this paper, we present our ongoing work on the tin problem, and we present our data to test the ongoing hypotheses about the adoption of bronze in the Near East and the transport of tin as a fundamental commodity during the 2nd millennium BC.

Sturt W. Manning, Cornell University
(Session 2: Chronology)

The Status of Dendrochronological Dates for Kültepe and Associated Sites: Current Best Calendar Placements and Implications for Wider Chronological Discussions

In recent years analyses of the Revised Eponym List, linking with the archaeology, associated (or potentially associated) astronomical observations, and especially dendrochronology, have (in the main) supported a Middle Chronology date, or something relatively close to this, for the statement of calendar dates for the Waršama palace at Kültepe (and thence more widely in the Mesopotamian world). This paper critically revisits the basis of the dendrochronological data, and discusses how a near-absolute date can be applied to these. Some issues are reviewed regarding the data, and wider east Mediterranean chronological concerns in the earlier 2nd millennium BCE, and on-going work to clarify some problems will be shown and discussed. A current best position will be offered.

Michele Massa, University College London
(Session 3: Resources, Technologies and Infrastructure 1)

The Role of Kültepe in the Interregional Exchange Networks between Anatolia and Upper Mesopotamia, 2800-1950 BCE

This paper aims at re-evaluating the mechanisms of interregional exchange networks between Anatolia and Syro-Anatolia during the Early Bronze Age, focusing the attention on the importance of Kültepe as a gateway between these two largely separated worlds. Its role will be assessed not only on the basis of the ample archaeological evidence for contacts with Mesopotamia, but also through the reconstruction of the

main EBA exchange routes that highlights the position of Kültepe as a central hub within the network. The paper will further provide evidence for the mutual exchange of finished products, raw materials, technological know-how and cultural behaviors, suggesting that the integration of central Anatolia into the Mesopotamian sphere occurred much earlier than commonly assumed. It will try to sketch different phases of this phenomenon, indicating an increasing larger range of exchanged products towards the late 3rd millennium BCE and a concomitant process of adoption of Mesopotamian cultural elements among local Anatolian communities, particularly within elite-related contexts. The paper will finally address the relationship between the Early Bronze Age networks and the much better-known Old Assyrian ones, suggesting a substantial degree of continuity between the two phenomena.

Güzel Öztürk, Ankara Üniversitesi
(Session 2: Social and Cultural Interactions 2)

Seals and Sealing Practices at Kültepe during the late Early Bronze Age

Recent excavations at Kültepe have revealed a unique collection of stamp- and cylinder seal impressions. In particular, a number of bullae were recovered during recent excavations that formed part of an administrative apparatus apparently dating to the formative period of the international trade network. This discovery provides the first clear evidence of tags attached to goods sent from northern Mesopotamia to Anatolia before the strong commercial links of the Assyrian trading network were established in the early second millennium BCE. The evidence from the site of Kültepe throws new light on the date, scale and organization of international trade across Western Asia prior to the better-known Old Assyrian commercial circuit of the Middle Bronze Age. This paper presents a preliminary report on the stylistic and iconographic characteristics of the Early Bronze Age seal impressions in order to identify their precise point of origin, function and date, and also aims to define how these bullae, attached to goods shipped from the lands south of Anatolia, functioned in the development of this sophisticated interregional exchange.

Alessio Palmisano, University of Exeter

(Session 3: Resources, Technologies and Infrastructure 1)

Drawing Pathways from the Past: Bridging Upper Mesopotamia and Central Anatolia in the early Second Millennium BC

This paper aims to reconstruct past routes and transport system pertaining to Upper Mesopotamia and Central Anatolia during the Old Assyrian colony period by integrating archaeological data, textual evidence and geographical features into a spatial perspective. I propose applying a variety of computational and quantitative approaches to understand to what extent social and/or environmental factors could have affected past human movement. I assess what were the Assyrian merchants' routes from Aššur to Kaneš and the connectivity within the trade network set up by the Assyrians in Upper Mesopotamia and Central Anatolia. The modeling's results show that the Assyrian traders perhaps did not cross the easiest pathway to reach Anatolia. In fact, the Euphrates River could have significantly affected the journey of the Old Assyrian caravans. In this configuration, the most accessible crossings along the Euphrates appear to be near Samsat Höyük (perhaps ancient Hahhum) and at Birecik. Furthermore, the results show that the Assyrians located their commercial settlements in those Anatolian cities that could have exerted a control over geo-graphical features such as mountain passes and natural corridors of movement (e.g. alluvial intermountain valleys). The pivotal role of Kaneš in the Assyrian trade system could be explained as its position in the network, where results as the main intermediary between colonies in western, northern and south-eastern Anatolia. Overall, the results demonstrate the advantage of spatial and computational approaches to explain past human dynamics of movement and interaction in Upper Mesopotamia and Central Anatolia in the early second millennium BCE.

Cinzia Pappi, Universität Leipzig

(Session 1: Social and Cultural Interactions 1)

Beyond the kārūm. Shaping Old Assyrian Religious Spaces

The correspondence of the Assyrian merchants at Kaneš and their personal names provide the main sources for the study the religious practice of Assyrian communities in Anatolia at the beginning of the second millennium BCE. The theophoric elements in names offer insights

both on theological concepts associated with particular deities as well as developments of private religious practice. The archival sources in their archaeological context provide also direct insights into the practices, rites, and rituals associated with the daily religious experiences of the local community, compensating for the lack of more traditional religious texts such as prayers or hymns. In this paper I will investigate the different spheres of religious interactions between the Assyrian community in Anatolia and their homeland basing on a more nuanced view of religious practice not as an abstract whole, but as a complex of various practices in the life of the individual and of the community. The examination of different aspects of this practice interacting within a complex religious space will provide a picture of the religious life of the community involving, at the same time, links to the city religion at Assur and integration with or accommodation of localized religious practices.

Luca Peyronel, Libera Università di Lingue e Comunicazione a Milano
(Session 4: Resources, Technologies, Infrastructure 2)

Ebla and Kültepe. Reflections on commercial interactions and exchange systems between Northern Syria and Anatolia during the Middle Bronze Age

The paper deals with commercial exchanges between Syria and Anatolia during the Middle Bronze Age taking into account items and raw materials discovered at Ebla and in other Old Syrian centers as well as those indicators of trade relations with Syria attested in Cappadocia. A specific analysis on balance weights and their correlation with different standards shed light on an articulated pattern of metrological interaction, with the presence 'Anatolian' weights at Ebla (based on a unit of 11.7 g) and the knowledge of the 'Syrian' system with a shekel of 7.8 g at Kültepe. Raw materials such as obsidian and rock crystal, rings and ingots of silver and data on metalworking and metal objects (including lead figurines) are discussed in order to reconstruct the pattern of exchanges and the main trade routes towards Cappadocia and the Anatolian plateau.

Melissa Ricetti, Sapienza – Università di Roma

(Session 2: Social and Cultural Interactions 2)

Sealing Without a Seal: Alternative Sealing Media on Tablet Envelopes from Kültepe Lower Town Level II

Seal impressions from Kültepe are one of the largest repertoires for second-millennium Near Eastern glyptic. The Assyrian merchants who settled in the lower town introduced in Anatolia the cylinder seal, which after a short time was adopted also by the locals. Despite its appreciation and diffusion stamp seals and substitute seals remained in common use for the whole period in association – apparently – only with Anatolian sealers. With the expression ‘substitute seals’ is meant all the alternative objects (such as rings, earrings, cloth hems, nails, etc.) that may produce peculiar impressions if applied on the clay and that have been used several times as identity markers on the documents from Kültepe. The paper will analyze the evidence of alternative sealing media within the sealed documentation from level II focusing in particular on the relation with their potential users and the latter’s occurrence in the texts. Moreover, through the joint exam of sealing practices and textual information it will investigate the reasons behind their use in comparison to that of actual seals at Kültepe and in other related contexts.

J. J. de Ridder, Universität Leipzig

(Session 2: Social and Cultural Interactions 2)

Slavery in Old Assyrian Documents

The social phenomenon of slavery is a well-known topic in Ancient Near Eastern studies. Yet, it is not easy to define social class, as the term slaves is often used as a synonym for servants or people of lower class; the Old Assyrian archives seem to confirm this picture. Moreover, the archives provide us with a detailed overview of Old Assyrian society, where we can follow the traders’ careers in which some slaves appear. The information is complicated by the various designations for slaves that this paper will attempt to explain. Slavery was not limited to the Assyrian traders in Anatolia; instead, most sales contracts concern local Anatolians. Due to social interaction between the different ethnic groups, it was possible for Anatolian slaves to end up with Assyrian masters and vice versa. We will also discuss the different reasons that

could cause people to be enslaved, of which the main reason was defaulting on debts. As we will see, slaves as a group were a dynamic social class and in most cases conditions to regain freedom were legally secured.

Vasif Şahoğlu, Ankara Üniversitesi
(Session 3: Resources, Technologies and Infrastructure 1)

The Anatolian Trade Network and its role in the Socio-economic and Political Development of Anatolia during the Second Half of the 3rd Millennium BCE

The 3rd Millennium BCE is a crucial period in the history of the Anatolian Communities. During its second half, the region became part of a much bigger system of interregional connectivity extending to the Indus Valley in the east, and to the Aegean and Thrace in the West. Through this network of connections, new raw materials, finished products, craftsmanship, technologies, and, above all, new ideas regarding the presentation of social stratification and religious practices, began to appear in Anatolia. The use of sealings in administrative sense and a common weighting system also began to appear in a systematic way for the first time during this period. This phase is one of the 'golden ages' of Anatolian Culture. Of course, the Anatolian Trade Network cannot be claimed as the sole reason for these important new developments. Local dynamics, climatic factors, and a growing population must have also played an important role in the implementation of these new elements in the daily lives of Anatolian communities.

Eva A. Strand, Københavns Universitet; Catherine Breniquet, Université Blaise Pascal Clermont-Ferrand & Cécile Michel, Centre national de la recherche scientifique (Nanterre)
(Session 4: Resources, Technologies, Infrastructure 2)

Current Research on Textile Imprints found on Bullae at Kültepe

Textiles and their production constitute one of the most significant crafts in Bronze Age Anatolia. An endless amount of textiles in different qualities were needed not only for clothing but also furnishing, transport of merchandise, etc. Additionally, textiles were highly important as trading goods as the Old Assyrian private archives found in the houses

of Kültepe low town clearly demonstrate. However, due to poor climate conditions, archaeological textiles are extremely rare and fragmentary in Anatolia. In order to gain a better understanding for the textiles and their production they, therefore, must be studied with different methods and innovative approaches. In Kültepe, textile production is indicated by textile tools, such as loom weights and spindle whorls, dated to the Middle Bronze Age. Furthermore, there are other indirect sources: textile imprints on unbaked clay bullae permit the identification of spinning and weaving techniques and in some cases, the identification of the material. Such bullae were found both in Early and Middle Bronze Age levels and are the object of a joint research project that began in 2013. Here, we will present the results of a systematic study of imprints of textiles demonstrating without doubt that textile production during the Early Bronze Age was already well developed and varied. We will further discuss these results in the context of Kültepe.

Edward Stratford, Brigham Young University
(Session 2: Chronology)

Chronology of Commerce: Debt Notes and Intercalation in the Assyrian Calendar
The editors of the Revised Eponym List (REL) support a chronology of the early second millennium BCE that is close (or identical) to the Middle Chronology, and militates against the high, low and ultra-low chronologies, based on the relation between archaeological stratigraphy, texts, and dendrochronological results from the so-called Waršama Palace at Kültepe. However, work on the eponym lists has yet to yield a more rigorous temporal framework for contextualizing the individual commercial activities of merchants, particularly within the constraints of the shipping season as determined by the progression of seasons. As a result of textual and empirical analysis, we can propose a reasonably confident correlation between the Old Assyrian and Julio-Gregorian calendars during the best attested years of the Kültepe Lower Town Level II period (REL 81-110). Nonetheless, in the process of clarifying the practice of successor eponyms it will become clear that confidence in another interpretive stance must be revised. There are, in fact, no 'dated texts' from the Old Assyrian period, only texts with dates.

Y. Yamaguchi, Okayama University (岡山大学), Hiroshi Sudo, Okayama Orient Museum (岡山市立オリエント美術館), Ryoichi Kontani, Notre Dame Seishin University (ノートルダム清心女子大学) and Yuichi S. Hayakawa, University of Tokyo (東京大学)

(Session 7: Reports on Ongoing Work 3)

Chalcolithic or Early Bronze Age: A New Perspective on the Kayseri Province

As part of the Kayseri Archaeological Survey Project we have surveyed 124 archaeological sites during six campaigns conducted 2008 to 2013. The sites visited and materials collected all fall into a series of distinct cultural phases that may be linked to the ceramic assemblage of Kültepe. Due to a lack of chronological data in the area, however, we are not able to distinguish the three phases of the Early Bronze Age, but only discern Early Bronze Age phases I/II from phase III. A further result of the survey relates to the pattern of early settlement. It has hitherto been suggested that a lack of early sites in the mountainous area around the modern city of Sariz (SE Kayseri province) indicated that large-scale or long-term residential sites had not yet formed in this area. In fact, through our survey we were able to prove the presence of archaeological materials in the Sariz area, but always on non-mounded sites.

Handan Üstündağ, Anadolu Üniversitesi, Eskişehir

(Session 6: Reports on Ongoing Work 2)

Osteobiographies of some Individuals from Kültepe

A population-based osteological analysis of the total record of human remains from Kültepe was presented at the First Kültepe Meeting by the author. This presentation instead pursues an osteobiographical approach and focuses on 'individuals' rather than 'population'. Osteobiography refers to the 'life history as recorded in bone'; the examination of the skeletons provide information, such as age, sex, growth disturbances, diet, diseases, and injuries. The osteobiographical method needs to integrate this kind of biological data and archaeological information to better understand individual life histories.

Klaas Veenhof, Universiteit Leiden
(Session 1: Social and Cultural Interactions 1)

Some Observations on Assyrian Loans to Native Anatolians

Among the Kültepe tablets there are a fair number of debt-notes that record small debts of silver (often between ca. 10 and 30 shekels), of various kinds of grain (a limited number of sacks), and a few of mixed debts (silver and grain). They are owed by Anatolians to fellow Anatolians (found in archives of Anatolians) and to Assyrian traders (found in Assyrian archives). Such records are in general not very informative about the cause and nature of the debt (consumptive loan or commercial debt?) and we almost never know who the debtors (among them married couples) were (farmers, local business-men, inhabitants of Kaneš or people from its countryside?). There is also a lot of variation in the stipulations about their payment (currency, due dates, installments), interest (normal, default or no interest), 'additional gifts' by the debtor, and securities (esp. guarantors and pledges). Rare debt-notes contain stipulations about a possible cancellation of debts and the rate of exchange of the grain. My paper tries to understand more of what was at stake in these debts, in particular in those owed by Anatolians to Assyrians.

K. Ashhan Yener, Koç Üniversitesi
(Session 5: Reports on Ongoing Work 1)

The Discovery of New Tin Mines and Production Sites near Kültepe, Ancient Kaneš in Turkey: a Third Millennium BC Highland Production Model

This paper introduces an unexpected new source of tin (cassiterite) combined with arsenic (yazganite), located in the foothills of the volcano, Erciyes in the Kayseri Plain 26 km south of the site of Kültepe. Volcanoes in Turkey have always been associated with obsidian sources, but were not known to be a major source of heavy metals, much less, tin. XRF analyses confirmed earlier semi-quantitative pXRF analysis of the Hisarcık ores which yielded high levels of tin and arsenic, as well as significant traces of manganese and antimony, which are suitable to produce complex copper alloys and with enough tin and arsenic content to produce tin bronze. Crucible smelting experiments conducted in 2014 at Kültepe successfully smelted the Hisarcık ores into tin metal

prills while a second co-smelting experiment with copper produced metal prills.

Tayfun Yıldırım, Ankara Üniversitesi
(Session 7: Reports on Ongoing Work 3)

Excavations at Resuloğlu and the Relation of Northern Anatolia with South/Central Anatolia and Syro-Mesopotamia during the late 3rd Millennium BCE.

Excavations at the Resuloğlu Settlement and Cemetery in the Çorum province have since 2003 provided considerable new data, not only on the chronology of Central Northern Anatolia during the second half of the 3rd Millennium BCE, but also on the relation between this area and neighboring regions. The fortified Early Bronze Age settlement unearthed on the southwestern mound, its architectural features, grain silos, and radiocarbon dates, enable us to interpret previously uncovered material from contemporaneous sites in Northern Anatolia with less reliable archeological contexts, and to improve chronological correlations between this region and Central Anatolia. A total number of 400 pithoi and cist-stone graves of the associated Early Bronze Age cemetery contribute to our knowledge of local burial customs, and likewise help us to establish cultural links to Southern Anatolia, as well as Syria and even Mesopotamia. In semblance to a range of other northern settlements – e.g. Alaca Höyük, Eskiypar and Maşat Höyük – several examples of jewelry and weapons found at Resuloğlu provide strong evidence of Syro-Mesopotamian, influence or interaction.

