

UNION OF SOVIET REPUBLICS
MAGNITOGORSK



A HOARD¹ FOUND AT THE EXCAVATIONS OF TEPEBAĞLARI

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The hoard which is the subject of this article was found in a vase with a broken neck in the season of 1973 at the excavations of Tepebağları in Niğde province. As can be seen in the illustrations, this vase (excavation inventory number T.b.38), which kept the hoard undisturbed for 2000 years, is apparently from the Hellenistic period and is contemporary with the coins. According to the description in the excavation inventory book, its neck is broken; its body is slightly squat, and its base is flat. It is made of reddish clay and still shows traces of black slip. (Plate I).

When the coins were brought to us for study by Prof. Nimet Özgüç² their inscriptions and figures were covered with a thick layer of oxidation. After they were cleaned at the Conservation Laboratory of the Ankara Archaeological Museum, we were able to identify the figures, inscriptions and monograms³ (plate I). Thus, one more hoard of the Cappadocian kings⁴ has joined the world of numismatics.

Only one of the coins is badly worn and was apparently burnt. The 26 silver coins belong to 3 successive kings. Four of the coins date from Ariobarzanes II (63–52 B.C.), nineteen from Ariobarzanes III (52–42 B.C.), and three from Ariarathes X (42–36 B.C.). Although they cover 27 years, they give us names, titles, portraits and years of reigns of 3 different kings of a dynasty. The different character of inscription and technique of striking is of the highest artistic quality for the province of Cappadocia. Since 1961 B. Simonetta and O. Morkholm have shed light on our researches by their various articles on Cappadocian coins in *Numismatic Chronicle*.

¹ Coins are kept at the Archaeological Museum of Niğde.

² I am grateful to Prof. Dr. Nimet Özgüç, director of excavations at this site, who has kindly given the right of publication of this hoard to me.

³ I thank my friends in the Ankara Archaeological Museum who cleaned, conserved, and photographed the coins. I also thank the Director of the Museum, Mr. Raci Temizer.

⁴ B. Simonetta, *N. C.* (1961) p. 9.

In our study, in addition to the catalogue of coins, a general table is also given so that monograms can be seen at a glance. Badly worn monograms are drawn by guess-work, and these are denoted with "?".

Our coins No. 9, 10, 12, 13 and 15 on plates II and III are different dies from those given by Simonetta in N. C. (1961)

Weights of coins:

Ariobarzanes II (4 pieces): the lightest 2.98 gr. and the average weight 3.40 gr.

Ariobarzanes III (19 pieces): The lightest 2.95 gr. and the average weight 3.43 gr.

Ariarathes X (3 pieces): The lightest 3.50 gr. and the average weight 3.63 gr.

Our hoard belongs to the dynasty of Ariobarzanes, which covers the last years of the kingdom of Cappadocia. The Kingdom of Cappadocia had become the constant enemy of King Mithridates of the Kingdom of Pontus and kept its sovereignty only by the help of the power of Rome. Ariobarzanes I, the first king of the Ariobarzanes dynasty, reigned under the authority of Rome for a long and depressed period (96-63 B.C.) He left his throne at least three times and took refuge from Eumenes in Rome. Each time he was re-enthroned by Rome, and the last time was in 66 B.C. when he was re-enthroned by Pompey and given the title of *philoromaios*⁵. In 63 B.C. Ariobarzanes I left his throne to his son⁶.

Our coins, some of the best examples of Hellenistic art in Anatolia or even in the Near East, were struck after these years. Their dates begin with Ariobarzanes II, as mentioned before, the last years of the Kingdom of Cappadocia.

Ariobarzanes II Philopator 63-52 B. C.

He was the son of Ariobarzanes I⁷ and was probably the only person who felt sorrow for his father's leaving his throne. For this reason he was given the title of Philopator which means a person who likes and is a close friend of his own father. Ariobarzanes II was assassinated.

⁵ B. Simonetta, N. C. 1961. p. 19., Wroth, Catalogue of the Greek Coins of Galatia, Cappadocia and Syria, 1899. p. xxxii.

⁶ B. Simonetta, N. C., 1961, p. 19. N. Baydur, Kültepe (Kaneş) ve Kayseri Tarihi üzerine Araştırmalar, 1970, s. 98.

⁷ B. V. Head, *Historia Numorum*, 1911, p. 751.; Wroth, *Catalogue. Galatia, etc.*, 1899. p. xxii.; R.A.G. Carson, *Coins Ancient, Mediaeval and Modern*, 1962, p. 92.

This king's coins are not many in number, and the reason for this is that his reign was too short, but his coins are more valuable than those of Ariobarzanes I. On his coins the area where the date is written is generally off the flan. His existing coins belong to the 8th year of his kingship. We have only 4 coins belonging to him in our hoard. One of them is badly worn and was probably burnt (Plate. II.4). On one of the three other coins the date is not seen clearly (Plate. II.1). On the other two coins only the parts of the letter H are traced. For this reason his 4 coins in our belief date from his 8th year.

Ariobarzanes III, Eusebes Philoromaios 52-42 B.C.

He was the son of Ariobarzanes II⁸. After the death of Ariobarzanes II, he became the king, but reigned for a short time until 42 B.C. In 43/42 B.C. he was assassinated by Cassius⁹ who was one of the assassins of Caesar. Ariobarzanes III struck his silver coins in the 9th and 11th years of his kingship. His dates of kingship are denoted occasionally in the field. When it is so, there is no date outside the field. On his coins there are also star and moon symbols (Plate IV. 21, 22, 23). According to Reinach's interpretation¹⁰ these symbols were taken from his grandfather Mithridates.

Ariarathes X, Eusebes Philadelphos 42-36 B.C.

Ariarathes X was the brother of Ariobarzanes III¹¹. After Ariobarzanes III's death in 42 B.C., Ariarathes was enthroned as the king by Antony, but he was again taken from his throne and assassinated by Antony. After him, Archelaus was enthroned in his place.

Ariarathes X's known coins were struck in the 4th, 5th, and 6th years of his kingship. His 3 coins from our hoard give these 3 different years (Plate IV. 24, 25, 26). These dates are always placed in the field as seen on our coins.

⁸ Wroth, Catalogue. Galatia, etc., p. xxxiii.; Head, *Historia Numorum*, p. 751.

⁹ B. Simonetta, N. C., 1961 p. 19.; N. Baydur, *Kültepe*, s. 98.

¹⁰ B. Simonetta, N. C., 1961 p. 19.

¹¹ B. Simonetta, N. C., 1961 p. 19.; Head, *Historia Numorum*, p. 752.; N. Baydur, *Kültepe*, s. 99.; Wroth, Catalogue. Galatia, etc., p. xxxiii.

ARIOBARZANES II, Philopator

63-52 B.C.

Silver Drachms

Obverse : Head of Ariobarzanes II r., wearing diadem.

Reverse : Athena standing l., r. hand supporting spear and shield; r. hand outstretched supports figure of Nike r., holding wreath.

OP r. ↓ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ on L. ↓ ΑΡΙΟΒΑΡΖΑΝΟΥ beneath ΦΙΛΟΠΑΤΟΡΟΣ

No. 1- 3.48 gram. 1.6 mm. ↑

(.) for 0

in ex., |—|

(Pl. II.1)

No. 2- 3.31 gram. 1.7 mm. ↑

As on No. 1. (shield ornamented with gorgoneion)

in ex., off flan

(Pl. II.2)

No. 3- 2.98 gram. 1.7 mm. ↑

As on No. 1

in ex., off flan.

(Pl. II.3)

No. 4- 3.85 gram. 1.7 mm. ↑

As on No. 1? (very worn and slightly bent)

(Pl. II.4)

ARIOBARZANES III, Eusebes, Philoromaïos

52-42 B.C.










Silver Drachms











Obverse : Head of Ariobarzanes III r., wearing diadem, his beard is seen sometimes long and pointed and sometimes short and with a moustache.











Reverse : Athena standing l., l., hand supports spear and shield; r. hand
outstretched supports Nike r., holding wreath.






above ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ on r. ↓ ΑΠΙΟΒΑΡΖΑΝΟΒ

on l., ↓ ΕΥΣΕΒΟΥΣ ΚΑΙ beneath ΦΙΛΑΡΩΜΑΙΟΥ

- No. 5- 3.45 gram. 1.5 mm. ↗
(.) for 0
Monograms and letters
in field l.  in field r. 
in ex. off flan. (Pl. II.5)
- No. 6- 3.18 gram. 1.7 mm. ↑
As on No. 5
in field l. the moon and star are worn away.
in field r. 
in ex. off flan. (Pl. II.6)
- No. 7- 3.35 gram. 1.6 mm ↑
As on No. 5.
in field l.  in field r. 
in ex. off flan. (Pl. II.7)
- No. 8- 2.95 gram. 1.7 mm ↑
As on No. 5
in field l.  in field r. 
in ex. off flan. (Pl. II.8)
- No. 9- 3.73 gram. 1.7 mm.
As on no. 5
[for Σ
in field l.  in field r. 
in ex. off flan. (Pl. II 9)

- No. 10- 3.53 gram. 1.6 mm. ↗
 As on No. 5, but the inscription, figures and monograms are irregular.
 in field 1.  in field r. 
 in ex. off flan.
 (Pl. III.10)
- No. 11- 3.12 gram. 1.6 mm. ↗
 As on No. 5, but the inscription is irregular and decorated with punctuation.
 in field 1.  in field r. 
 in ex. off flan.
 (Pl. III.11)
- No. 12- 3.85 gram. 1.7 mm ↑
 As on No. 5. Σ for Z
 in field 1.  in field r. 
 in ex. |A
 (Pl. III.12)
- No. 13- 3.15 Gram. 1.6 mm. ↑
 As on No. 5. Σ for Z
 in field 1.  in field r. 
 in ex. |A
 (Pl. III.13)
- No. 14- 3.15 gram. 1.6 mm. ↗
 As on No. 5.
 in field 1.  in field r. 
 in ex. |A
 (Pl. III.14)

- No. 15- 3.37 gram. 1.6 mm.
 As on No. 5 Σ for Z flan irregularly preserved,
 inscription also irregular.
 in field 1.  ? in field r.  ?
 in ex. 
 (Pl. III.15)
- No. 16- 3.69 gram. 1.6 mm.
 As on No. 5, but figure and inscription slip down to the left side.
 The left side of the inscription and the symbol of moon are
 off flan.
 in field 1.  ? in field r. 
 in ex. off flan.
 (Pl. III.16)
- No. 17- 3.59 gram. 1.5 mm.
 As on No. 5. Very worn and slightly awry.
 in field 1.  ? in field r.  ?
 in ex. off flan.
 (Pl. III.17)
- No. 18- 3.92 gram. 1.4 mm.
 As on No. 5. Worn.
 in field 1.  in field r. 
 in ex. off flan.
 (Pl. III.18)
- No. 19- 3.08 gram. 1.5 mm.
 As on No. 5. but the figure and inscription slip down to the
 left side; and the lower part of the inscription, the symbol of
 star and moon and Athena partly and Nike completely are
 off flan.
 in field 1. off flan. in field r. 
 in ex. off flan.
 (Pl. III.19)

- No. 20- 3.77 gram. 1.5 mm.
As on No. 5. Worn.
in field l.  in field r.  ?
in ex. off flan.
(Pl. III.20)
- No. 21- 3.38 gram. 1.6 mm.
As on No. 5.
in field l.  in field r. Λ |
in ex. —
(Pl. IV.21)
- No. 22- 3.43 gram. 1.7 mm.
As on No. 5.
in field l.  in field r. Λ |
in ex. —
(Pl. IV. 22)
- No. 23- 3.57 gram. 1.8 mm.
As on No. 5, but slipped during striking. On the upper part the trace of the first strike is seen.
in field l.  in field r. Λ |
in ex. —
(Pl. IV.23)

ARIARATHES X, Eusebes, Philadelphos

42-36 B.C.

Silver Drachms

Obverse : Head of Ariarathes X r., bearded, wearing diadem.

Reverse : Athena standing l., l. hand supports spear and shield; r. hand outstretched supports Nike r., holding wreath. In field l., trophy.


above. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ on r. ↓ ΔΡΙΑΡΑΘΟΥ

on l. ΕΥΣΕΒΟΥΣ ΚΑΙ beneath ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ

No. 24- 3.57 gram. 1.6 mm.

Monograms and letters.

in field l. trophy.

in field r. 

(Pl. IV.24)


No. 25- 3.82 gram. 1.5 mm.

As on No. 24

Α for Α

and ΦΙΑ Α ΔΕΥΦ

in field l. —

in field r. 

(Pl. IV.25)


No. 26- 3.50 gram. 1.7 mm.

As on No. 24.

Α for Α

and ΦΙΑ Α ΔΕΥΦ

in field l. —

























in field r. 











(Pl. IV.26)

A General table of Monograms and letters




ARIOBARZANES II, Philopator 63-52 B.C. Silver Drachms							
No	Obverse	Reverse	Monograms or letters in field		in ex	date	Monograms similar to.
		on r. ↓ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ on l. ↓ ΑΡΙΟΒΑΡΖΑΝΟΥ beneath. ΦΙΛΟΠΑΤΟΡΟΣ					B. Simonetta N.C. 1961. p. 45
1		(.) for 0	—	—	⊥	8	No. 2a
2		"	—	—	"	8	No. 2a
3		"	—	—	"	8	No. 2a
4		" ?	—	—	"?	8?	No. 2a?

ARIOBARZANES III, Eusebes, Philoromaios 52-42 B.C.
Silver Drachms

No	Obverse	Reverse	Monograms or letters in field		in ex	date	Monograms similar to
		Above. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ On r. ↓ ΑΡΙΟΒΑΡΖΑΝΟV On l. ↓ ΕΥΖΕΒΟV ΚΑΙ Beneath. ΦΙΛΟΡΩΜΑΙΟV					B. Simonetta N.C. 1961. p. 46
5		(.) for 0			off flan	9	No. 1a
6		"			"	9	No. 1a
7		"			"	9	No. 1a
8		"			"	9	No. 1a
9		(.) for 0 " Σ			"	9	
10		(.) " 0			"	11	
11					"	11	No. 3a
12		(.) " 0 Σ " Z			IA	11	
13		Σ " Z			IA	11	
14		(.) " 0			IA	11	No. 3d?
15		(.) " 0 Σ " Z			IA	11	No. 3d
16		(.) " 0				11	No. 3d

No	Obverse	Reverse	Monograms or letters in field		in ex	date	Monograms similar to
17		(.) " 0				11	No. 3d
18		(.) " 0				11	No. 3d
19		(.) " 0	off flan			11	No. 3d
20		(.) " 0				11	No. 3d
21		(.) for 0		AI		11	No. 4a
22		"		AI		11	No. 4a
23		"		IA		11	No. 4b

B. Simonetta
N. C. 1961
p 47.

ARARETHES X Eusebes, Philadelphos 42-36 B.C. Silver Drachms							
No	Obverse	Reverse	Monograms or letters in field		in ex	date	Monograms similar to
24		Above ΒΑΣΙΛΑΕΩΣ on r. ↓ ΑΡΙΑΡΑΘΟΥ on l. ↓ ΕΥΣΕΒΟΥΣ ΚΑΙ Beneath ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ				4	B.Simonetta N.C. 1961 p. 47 No. 1
25		A for A and ΦΙΛΑΔΕΥΦ				5	No. 3
26		" "				6	No. 4a