

# A PALEOANTHROPOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THREE FOSSILS FOUND IN SOUTHERN ANATOLIA

## SUMMARY

Contributions made by anthropology and ecological sciences to cultural knowledge indicate that Anatolia has been one of the cradles of civilizations since the Paleolithic Era. However, ancient fossils of the Anatolian man are quite scarce. In this article, the results of a paleoanthropological investigation on three skulls stored at the Ancient Anatolian Civilization Museum in Ankara are reported. These skulls were found by Prof. Dr. İ. Kılıç Kökten in the Karain Cave in Antalya, no. 1 (155-1-73) and Kadınpınarı Cave in Alanya, no. 2(155-2-73) and no. 3 (155-3-73).

Remains were analyzed using standart craniometric techniques. The age of the skulls was determined at the Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit Laboratory of Oxford University. Results obtained from the age determination of the fossils belonging to the individuals found at Karain and Kadınpınarı indicate that they are not from the same epoch. The age of the Karain skull could not be determined because of the lack of collagen in the skull; but this deficit and the morphological structure of the skull lead us to speculate that this individual might have lived during the Upper Paleolithic or Mesolithic Era. The same problem exists in one of the Kadınpınarı Cave skulls, but laboratory age determination of the other fossil (155-2-73) indicates that it is from 4910 B.C.  $\pm$  70. Because these two skulls were found in the same part of the cave, as well as due to morphological similarities, we think that the individuals were contemporary. The reason for not being able to determine the age of the third individual (155-3-73) might be due to not being able to take sufficient samples, ecological reasons, or problems involved in the technique used.

The right half of skull no. 1 is covered with hardened sand and could not be thoroughly cleaned (in order to protect its original appearance for exhibition). Taking into account the protruding, developed eyebrow ridges and glabella, as well as other morphological characteristics, we can conclude that this skull belongs to a male. These prognatism and other characteristics show that this individual has more primitive characteristics than do the other two skulls. Based on the sutural closure, the age is estimated to be 40-60 years.

In general, the no. 2 fossil has a gracile appearance. There is a great similarity in this regard with the third individual. The inconspicuousness of the brow arches and glabellae, and strong sites of muscle insertion tells us that these two (no. 2 and no. 3) individuals were female. As a result of sutural age determination, it was also learned that these were young adults. From a general morphological viewpoint, these two skulls are typical examples of the delicate Mediterranean race. As a result of biometric analysis, it was also observed that the Karain fossil has similar measurement values to the Mesolithic, and Upper Paleolithic people. The profile view of the skeleton also support this conclusion.

Further examination of fossil no. 1 indicates that this individual shows morphometric similarities to Mesolithic people of France, and Dar-es-Soltan and Quafzeh.

The findings from skulls no. 2 and 3 fossils, when compared with their contemporary Anatolian skeletal populations, have the similar biometric values. It was found that these skulls show similarities primarily to Yümüktepe, and then respectively to Troya and Şeyh Höyük skeletons.

When compared with coastal and inland populations of the peninsula, these skulls showed closed biometric affinity with the former in a number of dimensions. On the other hand, the population from Kültepe, which was a transit and business center, occurs between these two groups.

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Tablo 1 : Kafatasından alınan ölçümler (mm).

Ölçüler	Martin No.	155-1-73	155-2-73	155-3-73
Maksimum kafa uzunluğu	1	-	177	182
Nasion-Opisthocranium uz.	1d	-	172?	178
Glabella-İnion uzunluğu	2	-	174	178
Nasion-İnion uzunluğu	2a	-	170	173
Glabella-Lambda uzunluğu	3	-	172	174
Maksimum kafa genişliği	8	-	131	127
Minimum alın genişliği	9	96?	98	90.5
Maksimum alın genişliği	10	-	116	109
Bistephanion genişlik	10b	114?	114	107
Porion-Bregma yüksekliği	20	-	114?	102?
Horizontal çevre	23	-	502	501
Frontal yay	26	136?	124	126
Parietal yay	27	-	129	123

Sphenion-Asterion yayı	27(1)	-	96	91
Bregma-Sphenion yayı	27(2)	-	119	111
Lambda-Asterion yayı	27(3)	-	101	102
Lambda-İnion yayı	28(1)	-	48	53
Nasion-Bregma kirişi	29	118?	110?	108
Bregma-Lambda kirişi	30	-	115	108
Frontal kavis yüksekliği	FRS*	28	25	23
Parietal kavis yüksekliği	PAS*	-	25	-
Üstyüz yüksekliği	48	67	-	-
Orbital yükseklik	51	33	-	-
Burun genişliği	54	26?	-	-
Burun yüksekliği	55	53	-	-
Nasal kemiğin min. gen.	57	16?	-	12?

\* Howells, 1973: 177-182.

Tablo 2 : Endis Değerleri.

Endisler	Martin No.	155-1-73	155-2-73	155-3-73
Kranial endis	1	-	74,01	69,78
Kafa yükseklik-uzunluk en.	4	-	64,41?	56,04?
Kafa yükseklik-gen. endisi	5	-	87,02?	80,31?
Alın endisi	12	-	84,48	83,03
Stephanik endis	12a	84,21?	85,96	84,58
Alın-Kafa endisi	13	-	74,81	71,26
Sagittal frontoparietal e.	16	-	104,03	97,62
Sagittal frontal endis	22	86,76?	88,71?	85,71
Sagittal parietal endis	24	-	89,15	87,80
Burun endisi	48	49,06	-	-
Kafa kapasitesi (cm <sup>3</sup> *)		-	1287,64	1180,51

\* Lee-Pearson'a göre (Martin ve Saller, 1957: 473)



Resim 1



Resim 2

*Erksin Güleç*



Resim 3

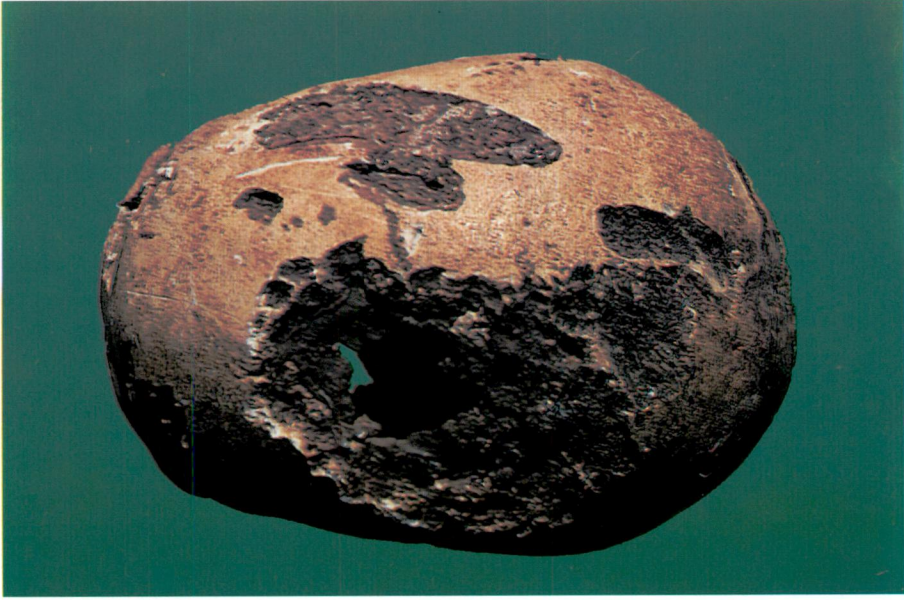


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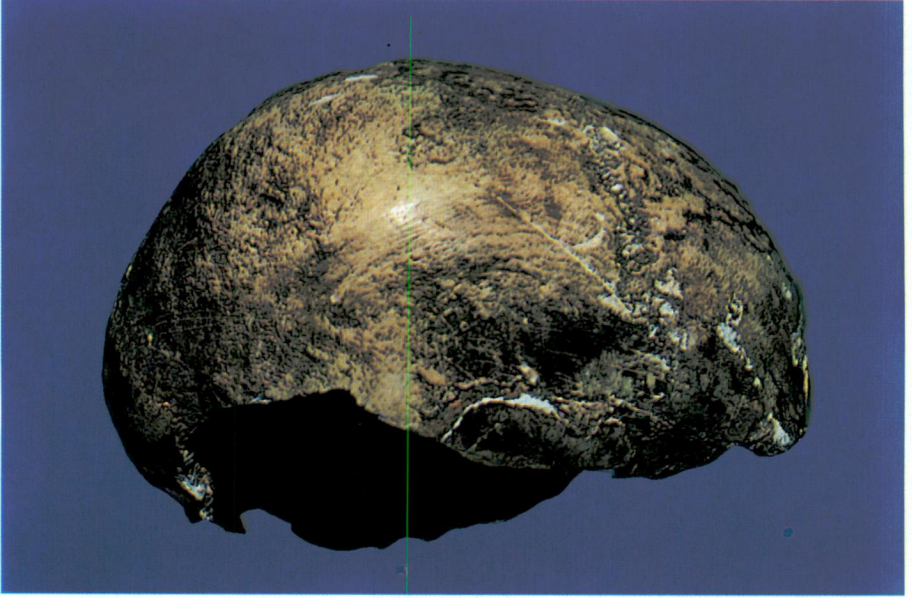


Resim 5



Resim 6

*Erksin Güleç*

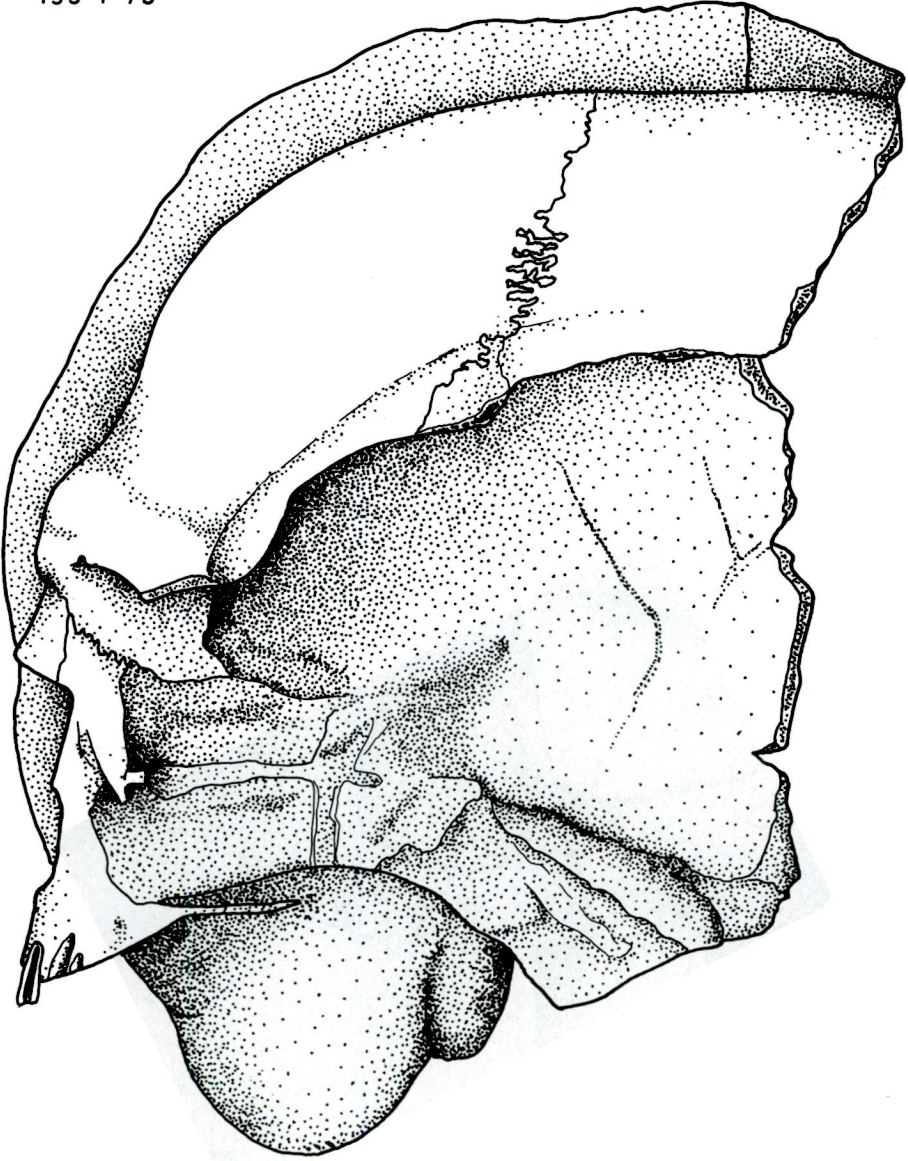


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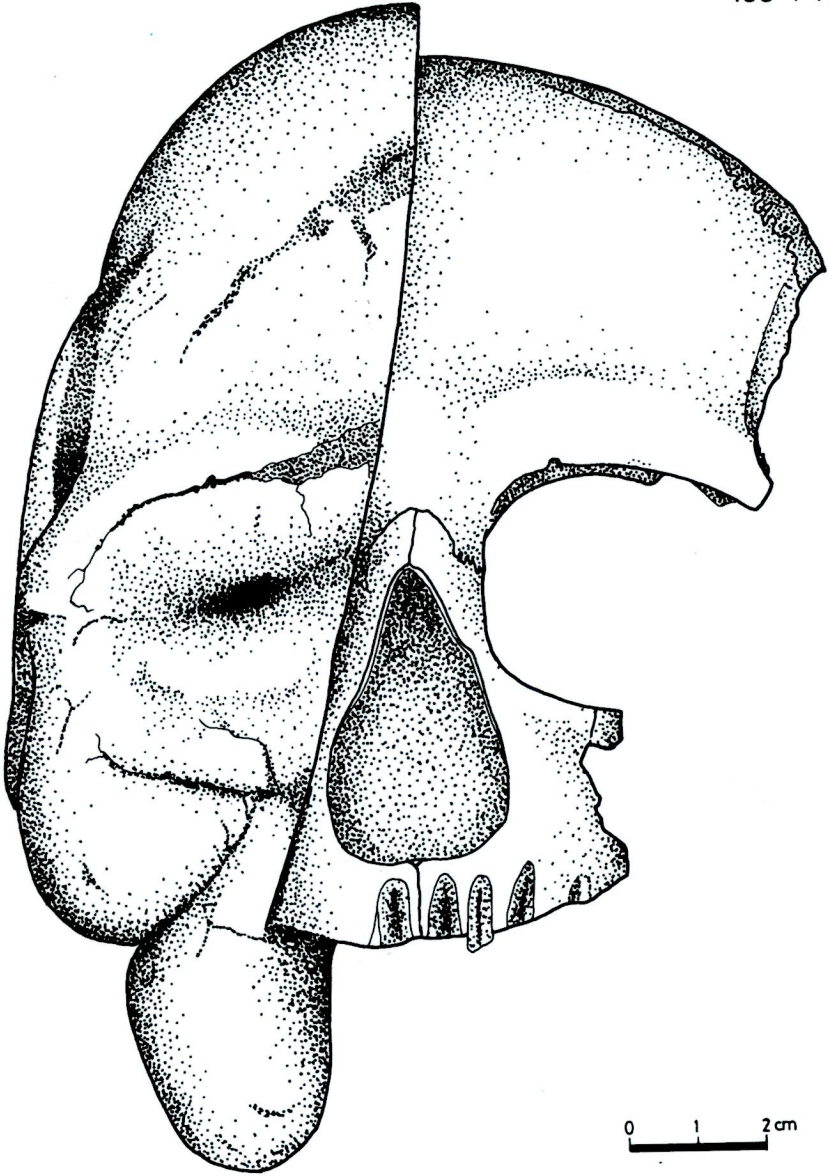
Resim 8

155-1-73

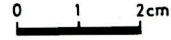
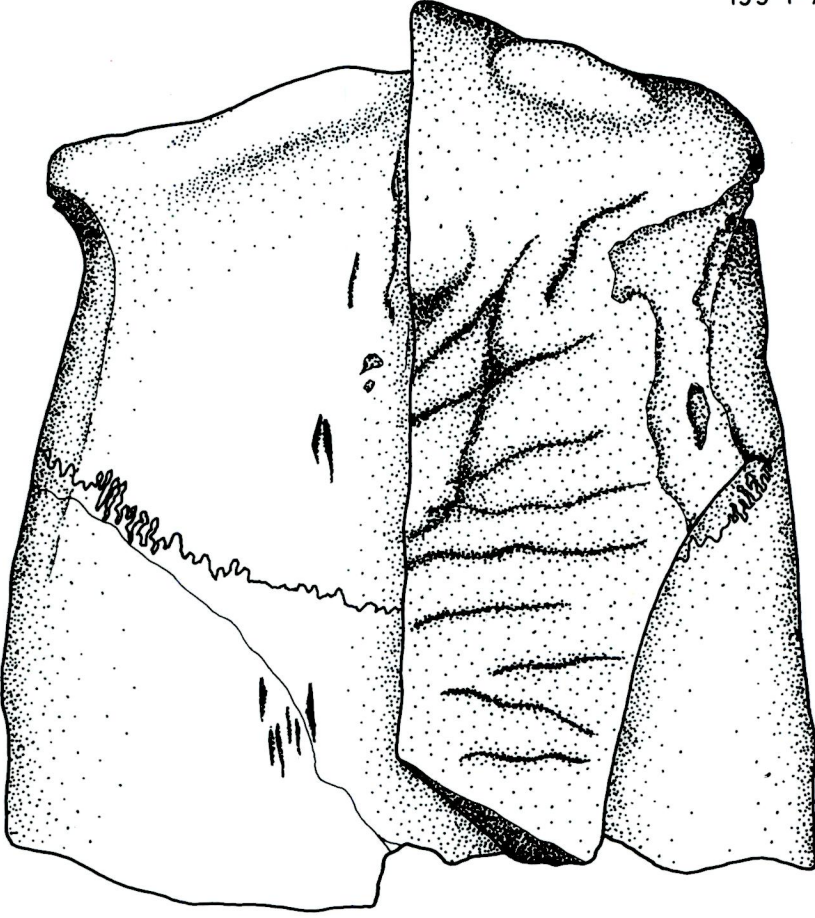


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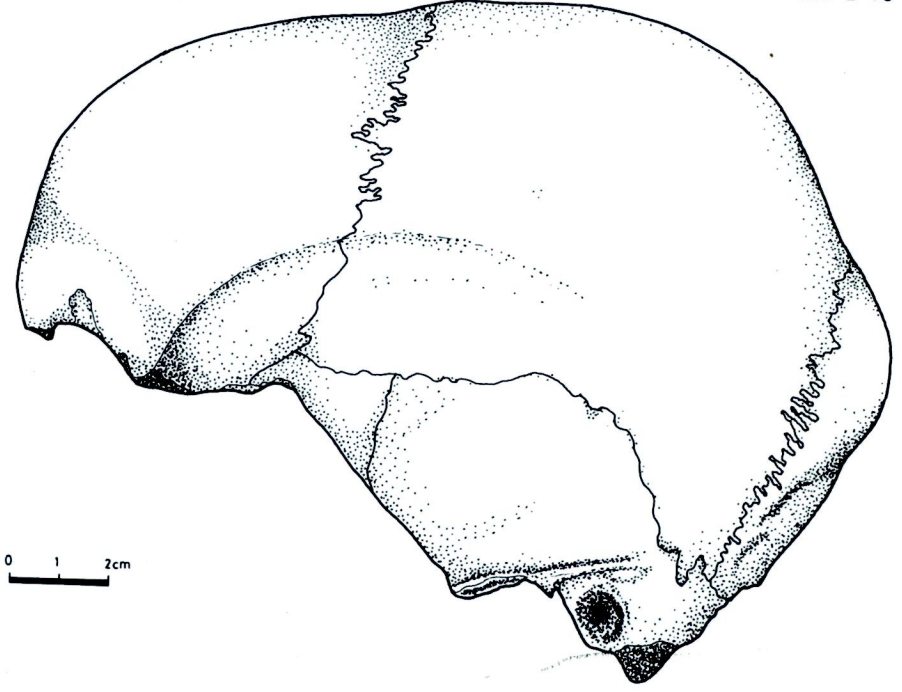
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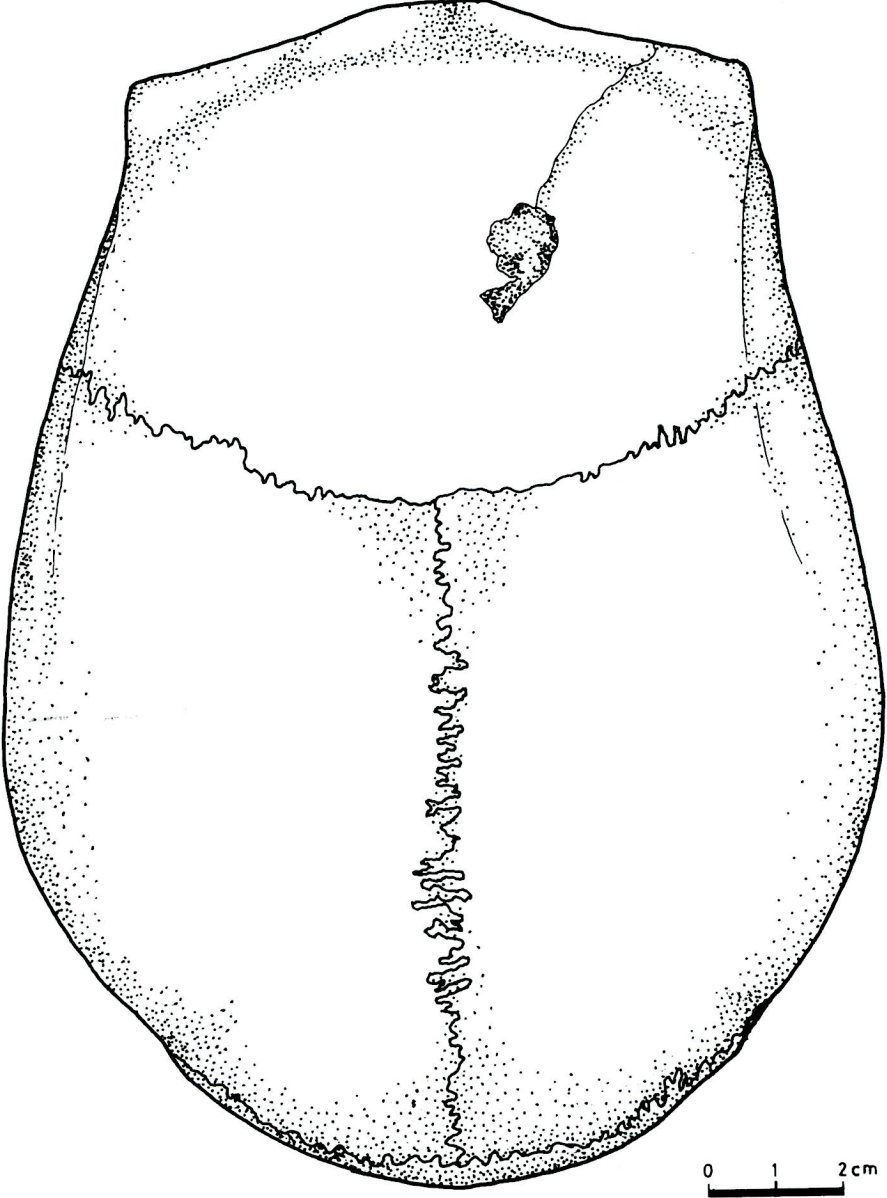
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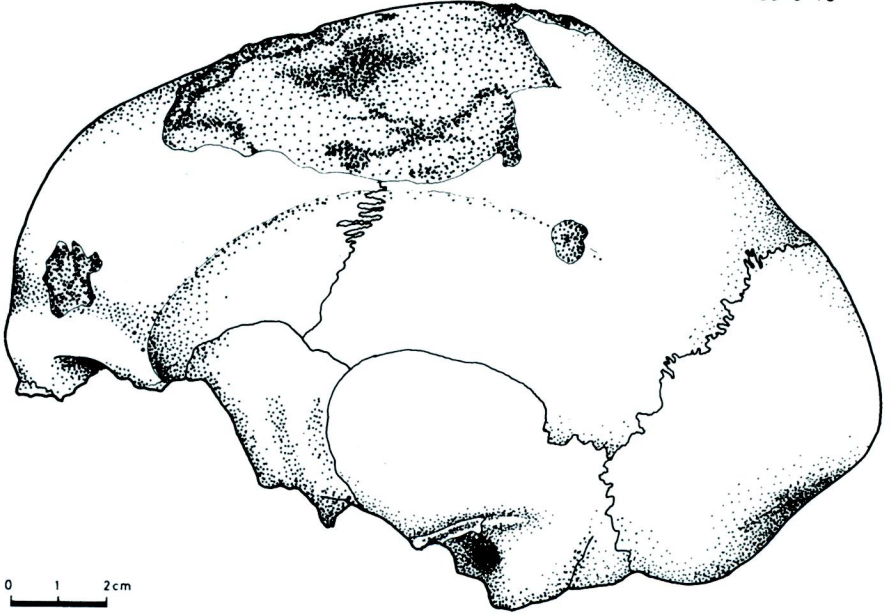
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Şekil 4

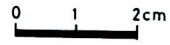
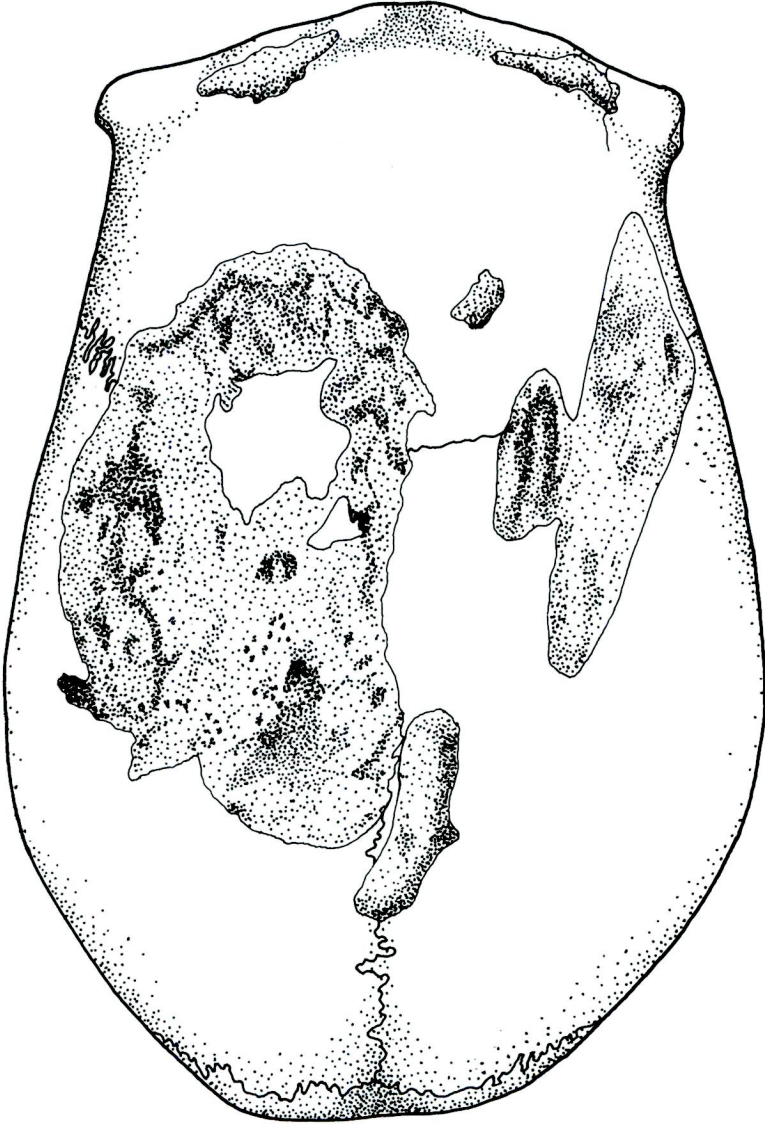


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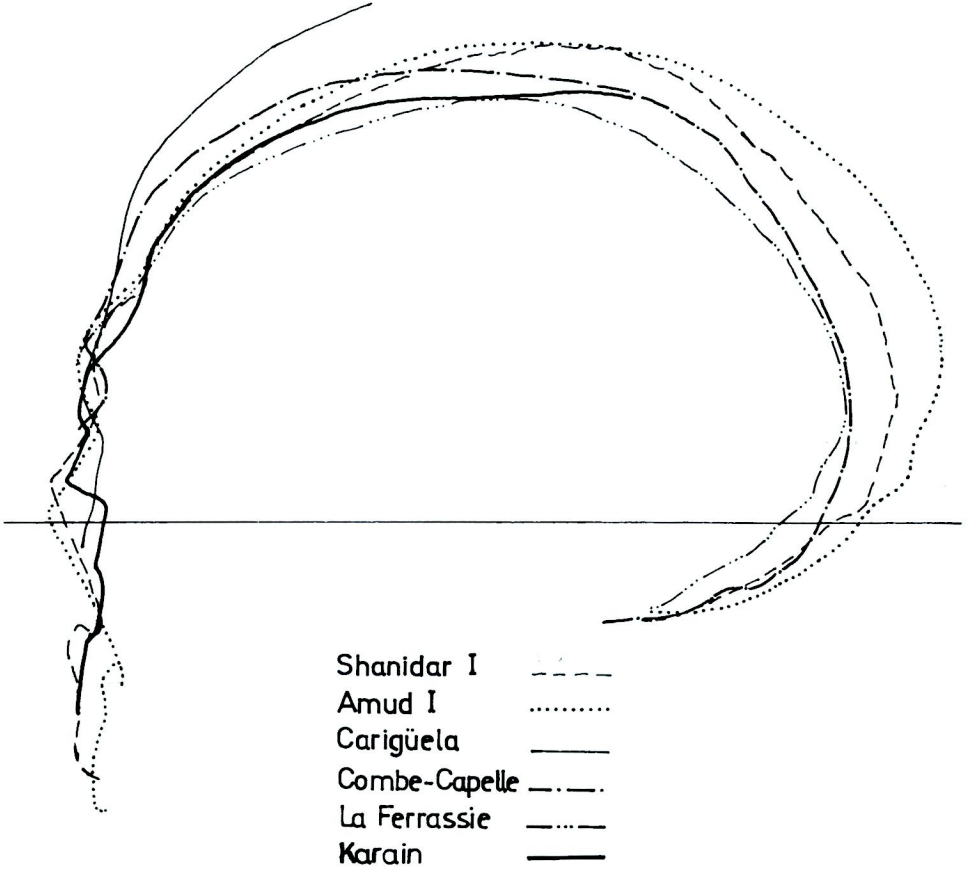


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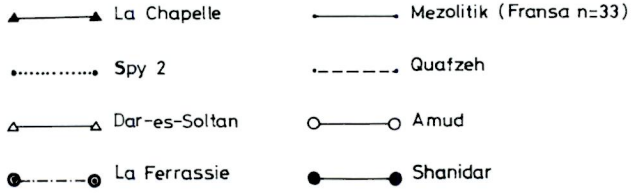
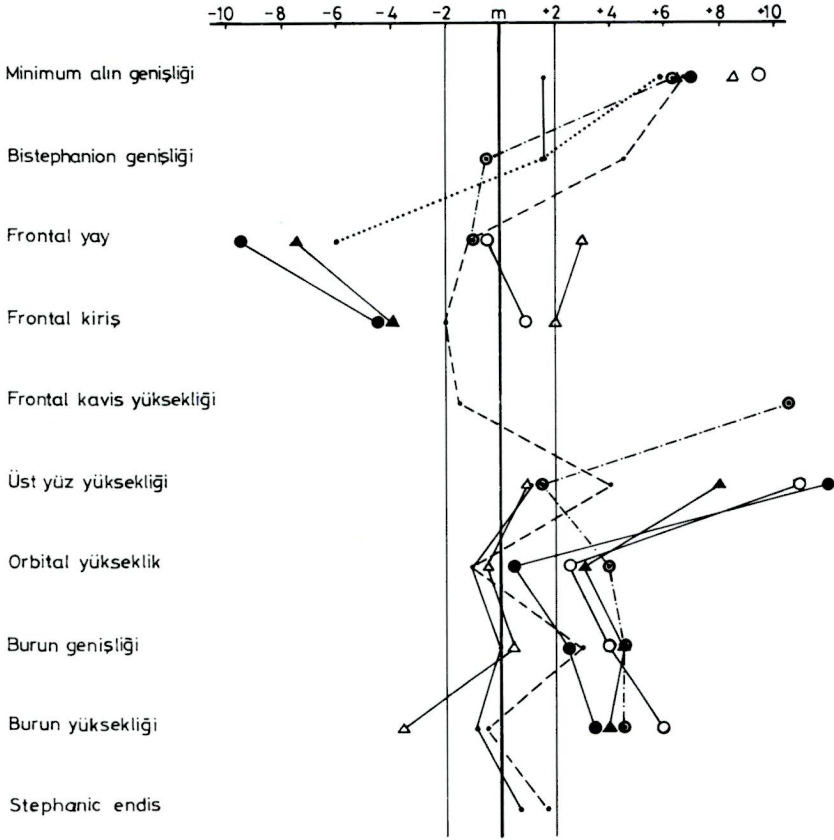




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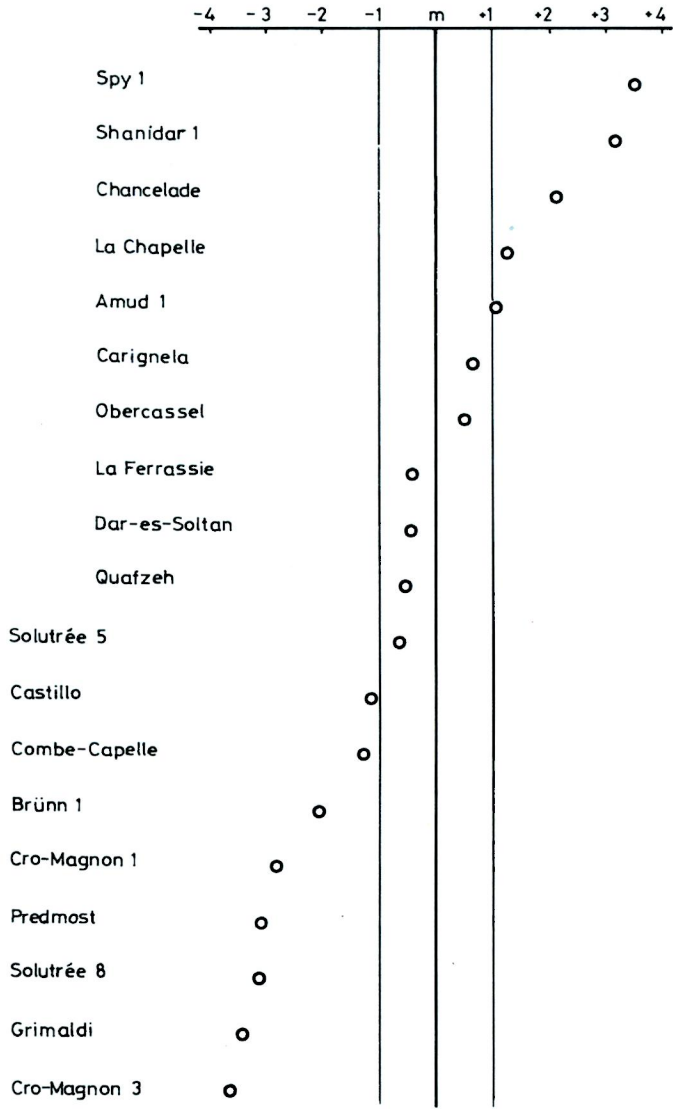


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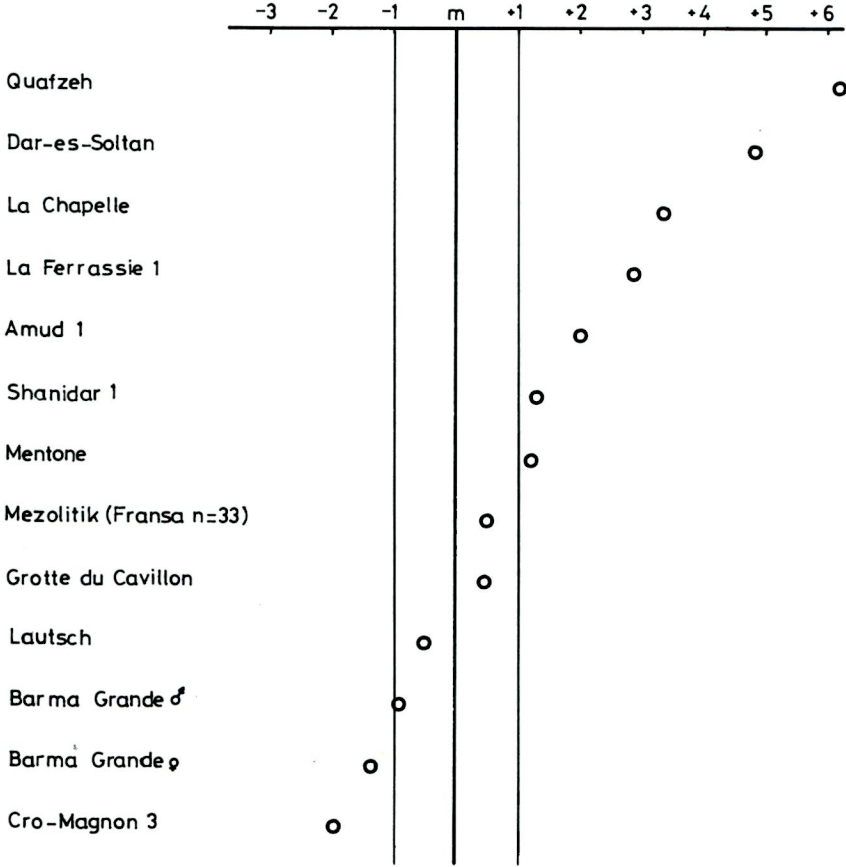
Profil Grafik 1

**Erksin Güleç**



Sagittal Frontal Endis

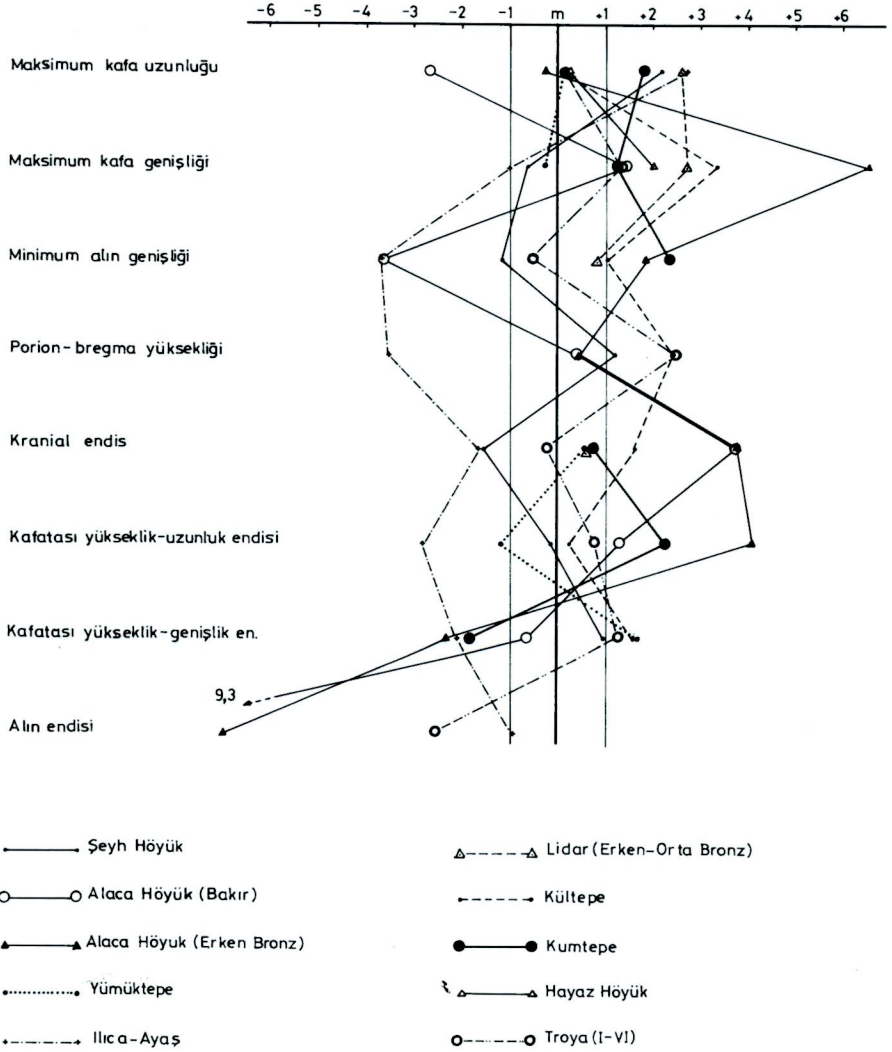
**Profil Grafik 2**



Burun Endisi

Profil Grafik 3

## Erksin Güleç



Profil Grafik 4