

Topaklı Höyük (1969-1972) Appliqué Animal Head Ceramics

Topaklı Höyük (1969-1972) Aplike Hayvan Başlı Seramikler

Emine KÖKER GÖKÇE*

Abstract: During excavations at Topaklı Höyük between 1969 and 1972, appliqué animal-head ceramics were unearthed at various levels. These ceramics include round-mouthed jugs, pots, and bath vessels. Compared to similar ones, a spool was added to the handle of the round-mouthed jug, which dates back to 10-9th BCE, and an animal head shape was given to it. This animal head-shaped protrusion is highlighted with paint. In the Late Iron Age, appliqué animal heads were added to the rim of pot and bath vessels. The horizontal handles of other ceramics recovered from the layer dating to the same period are in the shape of animal heads. In these ceramics recovered from the Iron Age layers of Topaklı Höyük, appliqué animal heads appear on the ceramics as handles and on the rim after the spool protrusion on the handles in the early examples. We can also see such use of appliqué animal heads in Topaklı Höyük in many settlements in the Kızılırmak Basin. This study examines the changes in appliqué animal head ceramics during the Iron Age. The use of appliqué animal heads on ceramics increased in the Late Iron Age. This paper discusses this increase in the Late Iron Age and dwells upon the origin of these ceramics, which were widely used in the Kızılırmak Basin.

Keywords: Appliqué Animal Heads • Bull • Ram • Round-mouthed Jug • Pot

Öz: Topaklı Höyük'te 1969-1972 yılları arasında gerçekleştirilen kazı çalışmaları sırasında, farklı tabakalarda aplike hayvan başlı seramikler ele geçmiştir. Bu seramikler arasında yuvarlak ağızlı testiler, çömlekler ve banyo kapları yer almaktadır. Benzerleriyle karşılaştırılarak MÖ 10-9. yüzyıla tarihlenen testinin kulpu üzerine makara eklenerek hayvan başı formu verilmiştir. Bu hayvan başı şeklindeki çıkıntı boya ile belirginleştirilmiştir. Geç Demir Çağı'nda çömlekler ve banyo kabının ağız kenarına aplike hayvan başları eklenmiştir. Aynı döneme tarihlenen tabakadan ele geçen diğer çömleklerin yatay kulpları ise hayvan başı şeklindedir. Topaklı Höyük'ün Demir Çağı tabakalarında ele geçen bu seramiklerde aplike hayvan başları, erken örneklerde kulpların üzerindeki makara çıkıntısından sonra, kulp olarak seramiklerin üzerinde ve ağız kenarında karşımıza çıkmaktadır. Topaklı Höyük'teki bu aplike hayvan başı kullanımını Kızılırmak Havzası'ndaki birçok yerleşimde de görülmektedir. Bu çalışmada, aplike hayvan başlı seramiklerin Demir Çağı içerisinde gelişimi ve değişimi ele alınmıştır. Geç Demir Çağı'nda bu tip seramiklerin kullanımında belirgin bir artış olduğu gözlenmiştir. Bu makale, Geç Demir Çağı'ndaki bu artışı tartışmakta ve Kızılırmak Havzası'nda yaygın olarak kullanılan bu seramiklerin kökeni üzerinde durmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Aplike Hayvan Başları • Boğa • Koç • Yuvarlak Ağızlı Testi • Çömlek

* Asst. Prof. Dr., Nevşehir Hacı Bektaş Veli University, Department of Archeology, Nevşehir,  0000-0002-8007-7635 | eminekoker@nevsehir.edu.tr

Article Type: Research | Received Date: 19/03/2025 | Acceptance Date: 17/05/2025; Köker Gökçe E. 2025, "Topaklı Höyük (1969-1972) Appliqué Animal Head Ceramics". *Cedrus* XIII, 31-47.

Introduction

Topaklı Höyük is located in the centre of Topaklı Village in the Avanos district of Nevşehir. Excavations were carried out in the mound between 1967 and 1974 under the direction of L. Polacco (Fig. 1)¹. Byzantine-period architectural structures and tombs were identified on the surface of the mound². There are almost no remains from the Roman Period. As a result of Polacco's excavations, layers from the Hellenistic Period to the Early Bronze Age were unearthed.

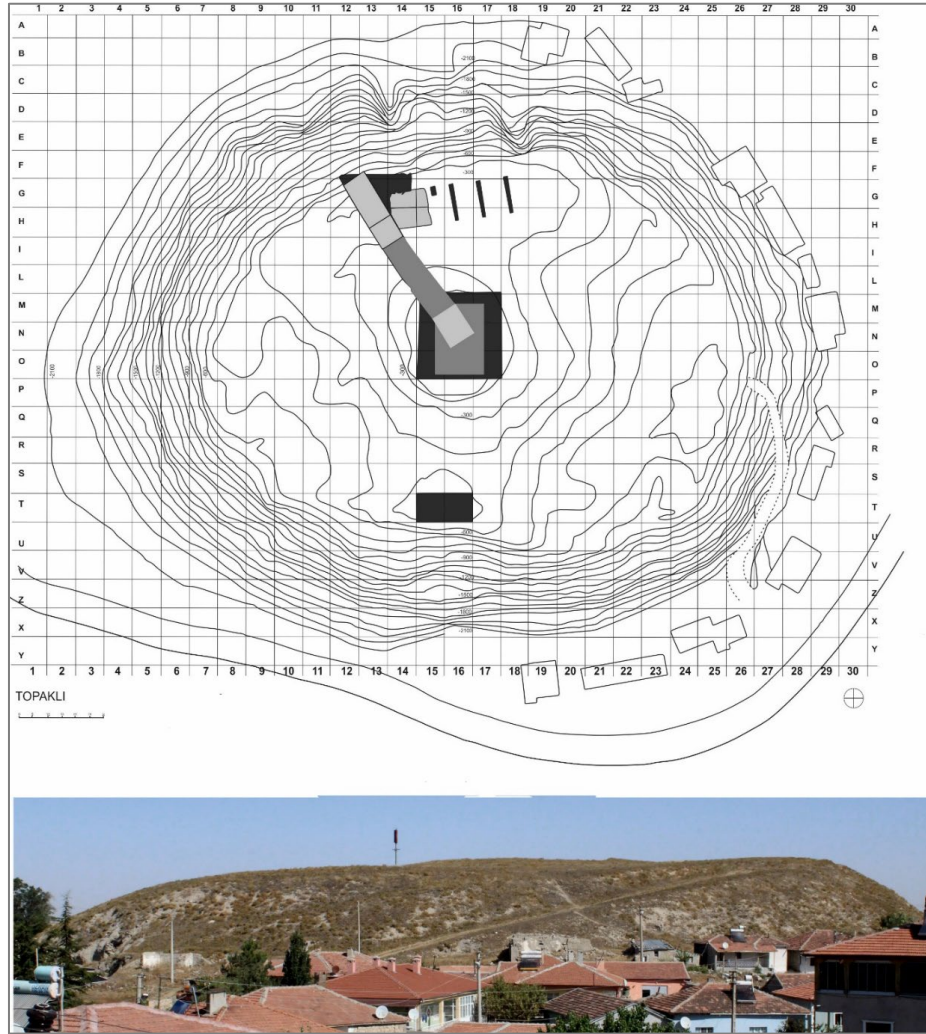


Fig. 1 Topaklı Höyük excavation areas between 1967-1974 (Polacco 1970, Tav. I)

Six different ceramics vessels, either complete or fragmentary, which were included in this study, were identified during the excavations carried out at Topaklı Höyük in 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972. Four of these were identified in the Late Iron Age and one in the Hellenistic Period layer. A round-mouthed jug was recovered from the excavations. The round-mouthed jug handle is shaped like an animal head. The horizontal handles of the two vessels are in the shape of animal heads. Animal heads are appliquéd to the mouth

¹ Polacco 1970, 7-25; 1971, 27-38; 1972, 187-200; 1973, 31-41; 1974, 159-176.

² Polacco 1968, 76-84; 1969, 59-61.

of two ceramics.

In Topaklı Höyük, appliqué animal head vessels are concentrated at the Late Iron Age level. This paper seeks answers to questions such as whether appliqué animal heads were a traditional choice and what caused this diversity in ceramic art observed in the Late Iron Age.

Topaklı Höyük Appliqué Animal Head Ceramics

In this study, a total of six different ceramics decorated with appliqué animal heads, identified during the excavations at Topaklı Höyük, will be examined in detail. The forms in which plastically shaped appliqué animal heads are used vary.

The first of these vessels is a partially preserved round-mouthed jug. This jug was found during excavations in 1972³. The round-mouthed jug featured in fig. 2 has a long neck and a high single handle that goes from the rim to the shoulder. The spool-like protrusion at the highest part of the jug's handle is shaped like a bull's head. The closest similar ones to this jug were found in Porsuk-Zeyve Höyük⁴, Alişar⁵ and Kaman-Kalehöyük⁶. These types of jugs with long necks and flat bodies are considered to be early examples⁷. The layer of the Alişar jug is not certain. A similar jug was recovered from Kaman-Kalehöyük IId1 (10th centuries BCE) and from Porsuk-Zeyve Höyük Niveau IV. In terms of its round rim, long neck and soft body transition, as well as the handle and the protrusion on the handle, the Topaklı Höyük jug can be associated with these three settlements to the Porsuk-Zeyve Höyük⁸, Alişar⁹ and Kaman-Kalehöyük (IId1-3)¹⁰ examples.



Fig. 2 Topaklı Höyük Round-Mouthed Jug

The Topaklı Höyük jug is decorated with cross-hatching and zigzag motifs in greyish brown paint on a beige slip. In terms of decoration, the Topaklı Höyük sample can be associated with Alişar¹¹, Gordion¹² for the zigzag on the neck, and Porsuk-Zeyve

³ Museum Inventory No: 1116.

⁴ Dupre 1981, Pl. 51: 51.

⁵ Osten 1937a, Pl. VIII: b 585.

⁶ Matsumuro 2005, Taf. 102: KL87-362.

⁷ Bossert 2000, 89.

⁸ Dupre 1981, Pl. 51.

⁹ Osten 1937a, Pl. VIII: d 701, d 1035, d 2001.

¹⁰ Matsumura 2005, Taf. 102: KL87-362, KL 90-2004, KL88-1010, KL90-2012.

¹¹ Osten 1937a, Fig.441: 5Pl. VIII: e 2306, c 2692.

¹² Sams 1994, Pl. 52: 613.

Höyük¹³ for the cross-hatching on the body. At Kaman-Kalehöyük, at the end of the IId1 Early Iron Age, the bowls, kraters and cups are decorated with a net motif¹⁴. A cross-hatching as preferred on a similar pitcher in Kaman-Kalehöyük. A pitcher decorated with the same motif was unearthed in Kaman-Kalehöyük at level IIc3 (dated to the beginning of the Middle Iron Age)¹⁵. The Topaklı Höyük jug was not recovered from a specific layer. In terms of form and decoration, the 10th-9th BCE centuries range can be suggested for the Topaklı Höyük jug.

Various opinions have been put forward about round-mouthed jugs. E. Akurgal stated that this group of vessels, which he called Phrygian jugs, were influenced by Greek Late Geometric forms and were included among the Phrygian vessels starting from the late 8th century BCE¹⁶. J. N. Coldstream also connects it to Greek culture¹⁷. G. K. Sams, on the other hand, points to single-handled vases unearthed in Macedonia/Vardina as the origin of this form encountered in Greek and Phrygian cultures¹⁸. V. Özkaya, on the other hand, opposes Sams' suggestions and states that these jugs are specific to the region in Macedonia/Vardina¹⁹. Another view of Sams is that this form was carried to the Greeks by the transfer of Phrygian metal vessels²⁰. Özkaya considers this form to be the invention of Gordion masters²¹. E.M. Bossert states that this type of vessel forms emerged in the south of Kızılırmak, pointing to Kaman-Kalehöyük, Alişar and Kululu²². When we look at the settlements where these early examples were found, we see them as the form of the Kızılırmak Basin.



Fig. 3 Topaklı Höyük Pot

During the 1971 excavations at Topaklı Höyük, a pot was unearthed in sector II, N-R layer (8.05/8.88 m) (Fig. 3)²³. The pot in fig. 3 has a rim projecting outwards, a round body, a flat bottom, and three stylized bullhead-shaped appliqués on the rim. The clay

¹³ Dupre 1981, Pl. 51: 51.

¹⁴ Matsumura 2005, Taf. 72: KL89-P94, 93: KL93-2034, KL93-M183, KL93-P13, 102: KL90-P144, KL90-P171.

¹⁵ Matsumura 2005, Taf. 144: KL-P88.

¹⁶ Akurgal 1955, 43.

¹⁷ Coldstream 1968, 23, 47, Pl. 8 f-g, 9e.

¹⁸ Sams 1971, 325, 355.

¹⁹ Özkaya 1995, 84.

²⁰ Sams 1971, 355.

²¹ Özkaya 1995, 84.

²² Bossert 2000, 89.

²³ Museum Inventory No: 931.

and lining colour of the pot is grey. It has a metallic cauldron appearance due to its polished and micaceous surface²⁴. In Maşat Höyük, this type was defined as ceramic and was divided into two groups²⁵. T. Özgüç stated that while this type of ceramic was not found in the building level III, they appeared in the building level II and their numbers increased in the first building level. This type of pot was used between the end of the 7th century and the mid-4th century BCE²⁶. A similar example from Topaklı Höyük is dated to the last phase (late 6th century - early 5th century BCE) of the building found in Maşat Höyük, level II²⁷. A similar form was evaluated under the title of ceramic in Elbistan-Karahöyük²⁸. The rims of these pots are thick and everted, and their handles are placed either above or just below the rim. It has been stated that the spool-shaped handles of these pot, which are found in small numbers in Alişar, are different from those found in Elbistan-Karahöyük²⁹. This type of ceramic in Alisar was dated to the second half of the 1st millennium BCE³⁰. Similar examples of the Topaklı Höyük ceramic with a round body, handles and gray lining vary in Gordion and Tumuli³¹. It has been stated that this type of vessels is very common in layers IIa6-IIc1 in Kaman-Kalehöyük³². Apart from these settlements, ceramic in a similar form was unearthed in Boğazköy³³, Pazarlı³⁴, Alaca Höyük³⁵ and Kültepe³⁶.

Polacco reports that this pot was recovered from the Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age³⁷. Due to similar forms and code, the ca featured in fig. 3 can be dated to the 7th century BCE. From these data, it is understood that this type of ceramic was widely used in the settlements in the Kızılırmak Basin and its surroundings during the Late Iron Age.

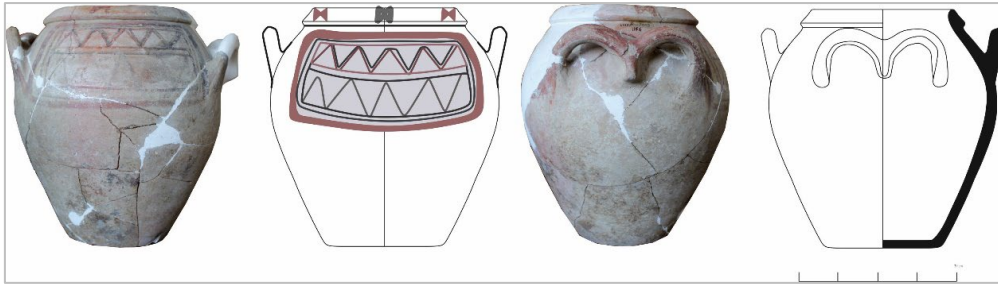


Fig. 4 Topaklı Höyük Jar

²⁴ Four complete grey-paste and undercoated ceramics were recovered from the Iron Age layers at Topaklı Höyük. Since they are few in number among other ware groups, it is thought that the grey-paste ceramics were imported.

²⁵ Özgüç 1982, 59.

²⁶ Özgüç 1982, 59.

²⁷ Özgüç 1982, Şek. -Fig. 143.

²⁸ Özgüç 1949, 28, Lev. XV: 1-3, XVIII:3, XXV: 1, XXVI:1, XXVII:1-2.

²⁹ Osten 1937a, Pl. XI: a 1058; Özgüç 1949, 28.

³⁰ Osten 1937b, Fig. 72: 9-16.

³¹ Kohler 1995, Fig. 80, Fig.46: A-B; Fig. 68: a-e, 69: a-c.

³² Matsumura 2005, 369.

³³ Bossert 2000, 58, Taf. 30: 273-279.

³⁴ Koşay 1941, Lev. XVIII, 6601; XIX, P 6600 and XLVI, p. T. 321.

³⁵ Koşay 1938, Lev. V: 14.

³⁶ Özgüç 1971, Fig. 29.

³⁷ Polacco 1973, 173, Fig. 4.

Other ceramic was unearthed from the excavations in Topaklı Höyük in 1974³⁸. This jar has a protruding rim, a long and round body, a flat bottom and two horizontal handles (Fig. 4). The handles, applied to the upper body are shaped like ram heads. The closest similarity to the jar shown in fig. 4 was unearthed in Oluz Höyük. The example from Oluz Höyük was identified as a jar due to its shallow form and was recovered from the 2nd architectural layer³⁹. A creamy beige slip was applied between the two handles of the Topaklı Höyük jar, and its outer contours were highlighted with red paint. Prepared using the panel technique⁴⁰, this area was divided into two and filled with red and black zigzags⁴¹. The rim is decorated with a painted and blank butterfly⁴² motif. The jar in fig. 4 is dated to the Late Iron Age due to its form and panel technique.



Fig. 5 Topaklı Höyük Jar

Another jar with appliqué animal heads was recovered from sector II, layer I (6.70 /6.90 m) in 1970 (Fig. 5)⁴³. This jar, featured in fig. 5, has a wide everted rim, a round upper body and a flat bottom. The body narrows towards the lower part, forming a conical shape as it bends inward. There are two ram/mountain goat-shaped⁴⁴ appliqué handles on the body of this vessel on either side. The closest similar form to this form

³⁸ Museum Inventory No: 1166.

³⁹ Saba 2022, pic. 83, illust. 35.

⁴⁰ This technique, in which the narrow area between the upper half of the body and the shoulder of the vessels is coated with white/cream colour and decorations are made on it, is called the panel technique. Mostly, the surface of the jugs and kraters is decorated with geometric, animal and stylized plant motifs with this technique. It is known that the frame created with beige/cream coloured paint is mostly formed with red, brown or black coloured paint in the centre, and the inside of this frame is decorated with various motifs. Therefore, when it is called the panel technique, it refers to areas bordered with various coloured paint as well as the beige cream-coated frame.

⁴¹ This motif decorated the ceramics on horizontal metopes in many settlements during the Middle-Late Iron Age (Osten 1937a, Fig. 419: e 1078; Bayburtluoğlu 1979, Res. 9; Özgüç 1982, Fig. H: 20, K: 10, I: 5,15; Sams 1994, Fig. 29: 804: Pl. 139: 967, 159: 1050, Pl. 167: 1035; Genz 2004, Taf. 45: 3, 51: 6, 66: 10, 67: 6-7, 9).

⁴² Sams states that this motif was decorated on the handles of the kraters as in the Alişar IV ceramic tradition, but that it was also seen inside the metopes in a later period. Sams states that this motif was widespread in the Kızılırmak Basin and that Gordion was influenced by this (Sams 1994, 152-153).

⁴³ Museum Inventory No: 866.

⁴⁴ These animal heads, which we call rams, were interpreted as mountain goats by Dönmez (Dönmez 2010, 41, Illustr. 14, Pic. 49a-c).

was found in Çandır⁴⁵. The jar, defined as rectangular, has sharper corners than the Topaklı sample. There are ram heads carved in the same way on the two handles on it.

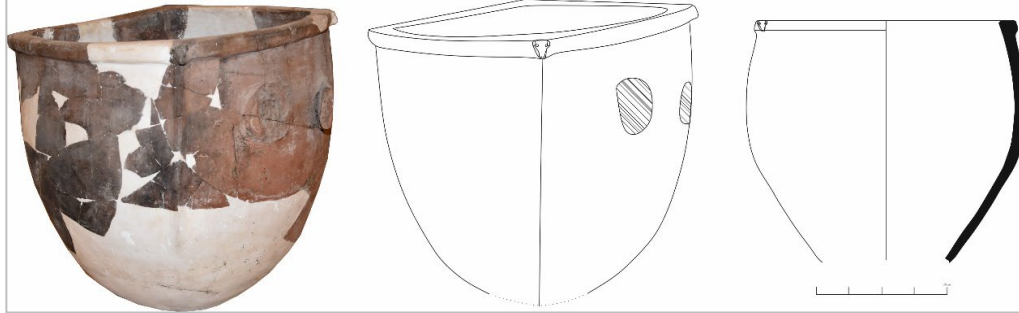


Fig. 6 Topaklı Höyük Bathing Vessel

Another ceramic with an appliqué animal head was found in sector II, layer H (6.30 m) in 1969 (Fig. 6)⁴⁶. The rim of the vessel in fig. 6 has been thickened as a strip on the outside and ram's head reliefs have been added to each corner. No traces of paint decoration were found on it. Polacco considers this ceramic with brown paste and slip as an advanced form of Phrygian vessel and states that it was obtained from a megaron type building phase⁴⁷. A similar rectangular vessel was found at Maşat Höyük and was identified as a bath vessel. There is a relief-shaped disc in each of the four corners of the Maşat Höyük bath vessel⁴⁸. This ceramic is dated to the last phase of the building level I of Maşat Höyük (before 300 BCE). A similar type of ceramic was described as "a rectangular vessel" in Alişar. A rectangular vessel with an open, funnel-shaped bottom was found in a bothros from the Hellenistic Period⁴⁹. It is stated that there are ram heads in relief at the corners of the vessel⁵⁰. A similar bath vessel with a lion head relief was unearthed from bothros in Elbistan/Karahöyük⁵¹. It was stated that this ceramic, which was evaluated between the second half of the 1st millennium BC, had various paint decorations on it. A similar form with a bull relief in the corner was unearthed in Eskiyaar in the late phase⁵².

The ceramic in fig. 6 has similar features to the Alişar, Maşat Höyük, Elbistan/Karahöyük and Eskiyaar vessels in terms of their rectangular shape, size and the addition of appliqué animal heads in the corners. We think that these vessels became widespread in the Kızılırmak Basin during the Late Iron Age and continued to be used in the Hellenistic Period. The Topaklı Höyük bath bowl is dated to the 5th century BC due to the layer in which it was found.

⁴⁵ Osten 1937b, 36, Fig. 56.

⁴⁶ Museum Inventory No: 839

⁴⁷ Polacco 1974, 149, Fig. 7.

⁴⁸ Özgüç 1982, 62, Lev. 78: 4a-b, Fig. 150.

⁴⁹ Osten 1937b, 52, Fig. 55: e 1356.

⁵⁰ Osten 1937b, 21, 36, Fig. 55: e 1356

⁵¹ Özgüç 1949, 21, 26, Lev. XII: 1-3.

⁵² Bayburtluoğlu 1976, 298-299, Pic. 21.



Fig. 7 Topaklı Höyük Ceramic Piece

During the 1971 excavations in Topaklı Höyük, a ceramic sherd with a ram's head relief was identified from the stratigraphy pit A3b (Hellenistic Period) level (Fig. 7). On the piece in (Fig. 7), the head is long and the eyes are almond-shaped, and the sizes of the eyes are different. The tip of one of the horns and the entirety of the other are missing⁵³.

General Data on Appliqué Animal Heads

Some ceramics from the Iron Age in the Kızılırmak Basin are decorated with animal heads with plastic appliqué/attachments. These plastic appliqué /add-ons appear as various animal heads such as bull, ram, bird, siren.

For the appliqué animal heads, Özgüç stated that they were a continuation of the Hittite tradition, which was very common in the first half of the II millennium BCE⁵⁴. He stated that appliqué animal heads are most commonly seen in the section where the handles are attached to the rim of the vessel⁵⁵. As Özgüç stated, we can see the appliqué animal heads on Hittite Imperial Period vessels on ceramics unearthed in settlements such as Maşat Höyük⁵⁶, Elbistan/Karahöyük⁵⁷, Porsuk-Zeyve Höyük⁵⁸ and Alişar⁵⁹. In addition to appliqué animal heads, spool handles were also preferred in Alişar during

⁵³ A similar example to the one presented in Fig. 7 was also found during the Nevşehir Survey. However, it was not discussed in detail due to its nature as a surface find (Türker 2014a, Res. 11).

⁵⁴ Özgüç 1982, 63; Kulakoğlu 2018, Fig. 18-20; Schachner 2019, Fig. 11, 14.

⁵⁵ The use of applique animal heads on ceramics in the region dates back to the Chalcolithic Age (Demirtaş 2019, 83-116).

⁵⁶ Özgüç 1982, Lev.-Pl. 87: 1-2.

⁵⁷ Özgüç 1949, Lev. XLVII: 6.

⁵⁸ Dupre 1981, Pl. 40: 240.

⁵⁹ Osten 1937a, Fig. 158-161.

the Hittite Imperial Period⁶⁰.

These appliqué animal heads, known from the Hittites, continued in the Early Iron Age. The handles on Büyükkaya Early Iron Age vessels are carved in the form of spools⁶¹. The narrow neck of the beaked jug from Büyükkaya is decorated with an appliqué animal head⁶². Bossert states that the spools were used as stylized bull/animal reliefs and that these spool handles are typical for kraters⁶³. He stated that there was this type of relief in a monochrome krater in Boğazköy. These plastic additions, spool shapes on the upper corners of the handles of kraters, jars and jug in the Early-Middle Iron Age, look like animal heads from the side⁶⁴.

Animal heads such as horses, bulls and rams were embroidered in Boğazköy⁶⁵. These are dated to between 760-500 BCE⁶⁶. Animal heads were used in Alişar from the 4aM layer until the Roman Period⁶⁷. Appliqué animals were used on the rim of ceramics in Kuşaklı during the Late Iron Age⁶⁸. It was made as an appliqué with a bull's head on the pithos in the Porsuk-Zeyve Höyük Niveau III layer⁶⁹. The rim of the MM⁷⁰ metal cauldron in Tumulus W⁷¹ in Gordion is decorated with bull heads⁷². The spools vary in Tumulus MM⁷³. These Tumuli date back to the late 8th century BCE⁷⁴. The rim of five vessel fragments from the *bothros* of Oluz Höyük 2B layer (450-300 BCE) is decorated with an appliqué bull head relief⁷⁵.

Appliqué animal heads found in many settlements in the Kızılırmak Basin offer diversity, as shown in fig. 8. Side view of the spool on the handle dating back to the Middle Iron Age in Büyükkaya is in the shape of an animal head, as seen in fig. 8. By the Late Iron Age, spools were appliquéd on the rims of ceramics in the form of animal heads, or animal heads were appliquéd in the form of handles. In Maşat Höyük, the spool on the handle is in the form of stylized animal heads⁷⁶. The details of the bull appliquéd

⁶⁰ Osten 1937a, Fig. 218: 31-34.

⁶¹ Genz 2004, Taf. 36: 8.

⁶² Genz 2004, Taf. 35: 10.

⁶³ Bossert 2000, 136.

⁶⁴ Osten 1937a, Pl. VIII, X, XI; Sams, 1994, Pl. 73, 84, 86-87, 92, 94, 97, 109; Matsumura 2005, Taf. 144: KL88-P211, KL89-P18.

⁶⁵ Bossert 2000, 138.

⁶⁶ Bossert 2000, 138, Taf. 33: 306, 136: 1192, 1189, 1184, 1191, 1188, 1187.

⁶⁷ Schmidt 1933, 61, Fig. 84; Osten & Schmidt 1932, Fig. 33; Osten 1937a, 410. 414, Fig. 442: 4, 443: 6-8, 475, Pl. XI: a 1059.

⁶⁸ Powroznik 2010, Taf. 172.

⁶⁹ Dupre 1981, Pl. 89: 231.

⁷⁰ Young 1981, Pl. 50: A-C.

⁷¹ Young 1981, Pl. 87: A-D.

⁷² The cauldrons found in the Gordion Tumulus have sirens and demon heads as additions. These sirens are associated with Late Hittite art (Young 1981, Pl. 51-57; Kohler & Dusingberre 2023, Pl. 460).

⁷³ Young 1981, Fig. 80.

⁷⁴ Young 1981, 269-272; Kohler & Dusingberre 2023, Pl. 231-235.

⁷⁵ Dönmez 2017, 121, Fig. 519-521.

⁷⁶ Özgüç 1982, 63, Lev. 80: 5; Fig. M: 34.

on the neck of the krater in Kayseri are decorated with paint⁷⁷. A bullhead was plastically appliquéed to the mouth of the Alaca Höyük Late Iron Age ceramic and the details of the bull were decorated with paint⁷⁸. In Çalapverdi, the handle is shaped like

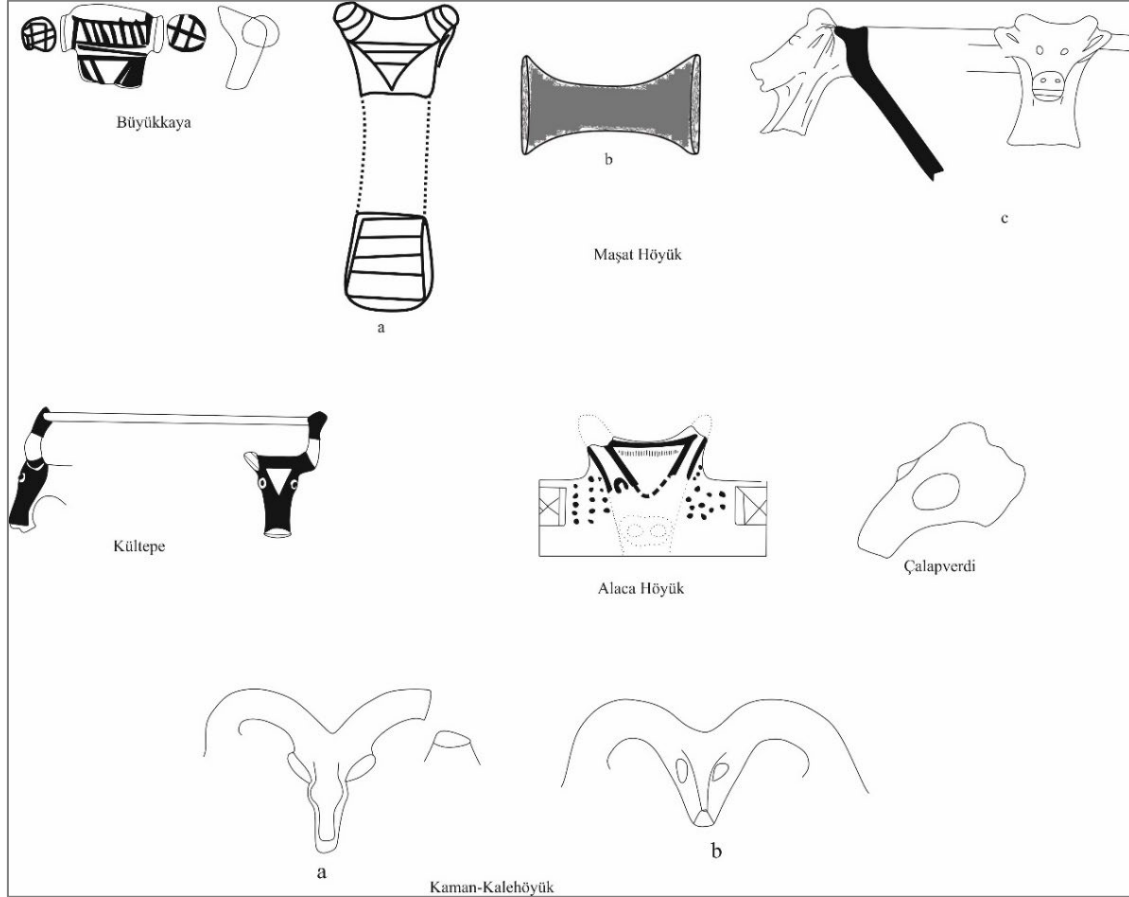


Fig. 8 Use of appliqué animal heads, Büyükkaya (Genz 2004, Fig. 73: 9), Maşat Höyük (Özgüç 1982, a- Şek.-Fig. 139, b-Şek.-Fig. 143, c- Lev. 80: 5; Şek. M: 34), Kültepe (De Genouillac 1926, Taf. 38: 137; Bossert 2000, Abb. 40), Alaca Höyük (Koşay 1938, L. V: 12), Kaman-Kalehöyük (Matsumura 2005, 281, Taf. 275: KL 93-2005, Taf. 81: KL90-M341)

an animal head from the side⁷⁹. Ceramics with ram-shaped handles were found on two different vessels in Kaman-Kalehöyük⁸⁰.

The earliest example of appliqué animal heads from Topaklı Höyük is the spool protrusion at the top of the pitcher handle, dating back to 10-9 BCE (Fig. 9a). The appliqué animal head appears in the form of a stylized bull head attached to the mouth of a pot in the 7th century BCE (Fig. 9b). Dated to the Late Iron Age, the handles of the other ceramics given in Fig.9c-d are in the shape of stylized animal heads. The other ceramic in fig. 9e from the Late Iron Age is an appliqué ram's head attached to the mouth of the ceramic. The piece recovered from the Hellenistic layer in Fig.9f was also attached

⁷⁷ De Genouillac 1926, Taf. 38: 137; Bossert 2000, 136, Abb. 40.

⁷⁸ Koşay 1938, 8, L. V: 12.

⁷⁹ Özgüç 1971, 69, Fig. 167.

⁸⁰ Matsumura 2005, 281, Taf. 275: KL 93-2005, Taf. 81: KL90-M341.

to the mouth part. From all these data, it can be seen that animal heads were processed in a stylized manner until the end of the Late Iron Age in Topaklı Höyük. We can also follow this pattern of decoration from the Kızılırmak Basin settlements listed above.

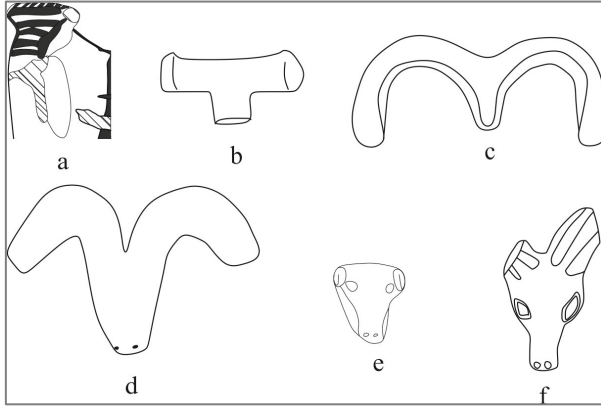


Fig. 9 Topaklı Höyük Appliqué Animal Heads

Appliqué animal heads are also known on Urartian vessels in Eastern Anatolia from settlements such as Altın-tepe⁸¹ and Çavuş-tepe⁸². These vessels unearthed in Urartu are considered to be imitations of metal vessels, and it has been stated that terracotta ones are encountered in rare numbers⁸³.

Conclusion

The spool/protrusion on the upper part of the Early and Middle Iron Age krater handles in the Kızılırmak Basin is in the shape of an animal head. In the Late Iron Age, appliqué animal heads and the forms in which they were applied diversified and the handles turned into animal head shapes. What is the reason for this change in the Late Iron Age? Research conducted in mounds and urbanized settlements in Central Anatolia cannot yet shed sufficient light on the political, economic and social situation of the Late Iron Age. When we look at the cities of the Kızılırmak Basin in the Late Iron Age, it is seen that their population increased during this period⁸⁴. The population may have increased as different groups of people came together in the region. These innovations in the Late Iron Age may be related to new peoples.

A. Schachner considers the similarity of the defence system, architectural structures, ceramic forms and monuments of Boğazköy (BK I) and Kerkenes Dağ during the Late Iron Age as evidence of unity between these regions⁸⁵. He states that this unity developed within the Kızılırmak Basin. As Schachner mentioned, appliqué animal head ceramics were encountered in almost every settlement in the Kızılırmak Basin during the Late Iron Age. This shows that the workshops in the region follow each other.

⁸¹ Korucu 2012, 447, Lev. 58/1, Fig: 38.

⁸² Çavuşoğlu & Biber 2021, Fig. 3-6.

⁸³ Çavuşoğlu & Biber 2021, 203-209.

⁸⁴ Türker 2014b, 124; Schachner 2019, 259.

⁸⁵ Schachner 2019, 257.

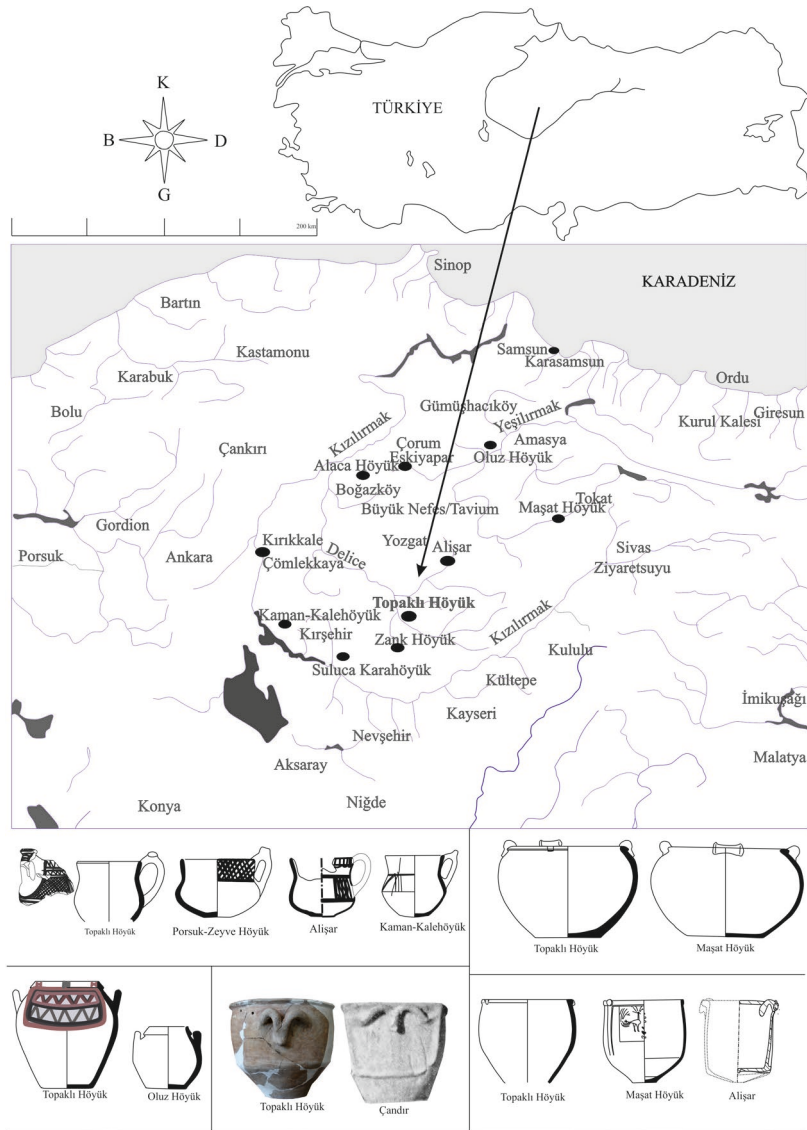


Fig. 10 Topaklı Höyük Applied Animal Head Ceramics and similar ones found in the Kızılırmak Basin

The pot shown in Topaklı Höyük (Fig. 3) seems like a copy of the metal cauldrons found in the Gordion Tumuli. This ceramic with grey paste and slip constitutes an imported group among the Topaklı Höyük Iron Age ceramics. This gray ceramic, identified with the Phrygians, is distinguished from other Topaklı Höyük ceramics by its spool-shaped stylized appliqué bullhead. It is thought that the ceramic type in (Fig. 3) is the product of Gordion workshops and influenced the Kızılırmak Basin. Other ceramic types included in the study are Kızılırmak Basin forms (Fig. 10).

Returning to the question of whether the use of appliqué animal heads is a traditional choice, it is seen that the use of appliqué animal heads on ceramics continued from the Hittite Imperial Period to the Hellenistic Period⁸⁶ with minor changes. This shows that

⁸⁶ It was mentioned above that it was used in the Hellenistic Period in Kaman-Kalehöyük. In addition to Kaman-Kalehöyük, an applique animal head was found in the Hellenistic Period layer in

the use of appliqué animal heads in the Kızılırmak Basin has a deep-rooted history in the region. It is known from our studies on Topaklı Höyük ceramics that some forms were used for a long time⁸⁷. Topaklı Höyük appliqué animal head ceramics have different capacities (ranging from 6, 8 and 10 liters) (Fig. 11). It is not known for what

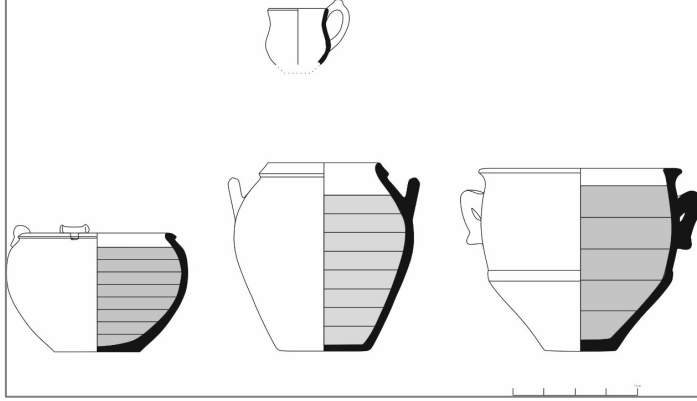


Fig. 11 Approximate Capacities of Topaklı Höyük Ceramics

purpose these small-sized ceramics were used. No lipid analysis was performed on these ceramics. The handles of the jar found in the 2nd layer of Oluz Höyük are in the shape of a mountain goat head⁸⁸. A child's body was found inside this jar. No such application was encountered on Topaklı Höyük appliqué animal heads.

Acknowledgements

This study was carried out with permission from Nevşehir Museum. I would like to thank Nevşehir Museum Directorate for their support of the study. The ceramics Which is the subject of this article, is published with the permission of Nevşehir Museum Directorate dated 22.12.2022 and numbered E-23400888-160.01.99 (160.01.99)-3283484.

Kültepe (Tüysüz 2022, Cat. 550; Tüysüz & Rıdvanoğulları 2024, Fig. 19.11).

⁸⁷ At Topaklı Höyük, amphoras and cooking pots with breast appliques were used for a long time. Köker-Gökçe 2023, 121-143; 2024, 53-70.

⁸⁸ Dönmez & Naza-Dönmez 2010, 41, Illustr. 14, Fig. 49a-c.

CATALOGUE

Cat. No.: 1 (Fig. 2)

Inv. 1116

Form: Round-mouthed jug.

Year and Locus: Obtained from excavation in 1972.

Production Technique: Wheel-made.

Rim Diameter: 9 cm.

Height: 8.8 cm.

Clay Colour: 2.5 YR 6/6 Light Red.

Outer band-paint 2.5 YR 6/6 Light Red.

Inner band-paint 2.5 YR 6/6 Light Red.

Clay Texture: Porous, hard and tightly textured.

Firing: Medium.

Surface Treatmen: Yes.

Inclusions: Very little fine yellow mica, dense lime and grit.

Decoration: Beige slip applied, greyish black paint with zigzag and cross-hatched motifs.

Description: Outward-curved rim, neck and single-handled round-mouthed jug body piece.

Cat. No.: 3 (Fig. 4)

Inv. 1166

Form: Jar.

Year and Locus: Came from excavation in 1974.

Production Technique: Wheel-made.

Rim Diameter: 5 cm..

Base Diameter: 3.4 cm.

Height: 13.5 cm.

Clay Colour: 2.5 YR 8/2 Pale Brown.

Outer band-paint 2.5 YR 8/2 Pale Brown.

Inner band-paint 2.5 YR 8/2 Pale Brown.

Clay Texture: Porous, hard and tightly textured.

Firing: Medium.

Surface Treatmen: Yes.

Inclusions: Very little fine mica, coarse lime and grit.

Decoration: The upper half of the body is decorated with a zigzag pattern inside the panel and a butterfly motif on the rim.

Description: A jar with an everted rim, a narrow neck, a flat bottom and two horizontal handles.

Cat. No.: 2 (Fig. 3)

Inv. 931

Form: Pot.

Year and Locus: 1971 sector II, level: 8.05/-8.88 m, N-R layer.

Production Technique: Wheel-made.

Rim Diameter: 23 cm.

Base Diameter: 13 cm.

Height: 18.9 cm.

Clay Colour: 2.5 YR 6/1 Gray.

Outer band-paint 2.5 YR 6/1 Gray.

Inner band-paint 2.5 YR 6/1 Gray.

Clay Texture: Porous, hard and tightly textured.

Firing: Medium.

Surface Treatmen: Yes.

Inclusions: Fine white mica, coarse lime and grit.

Decoration: None.

Description: A stylized animal head is applied to the rim of the pot with a flared rim, round body and flat bottom.

Capacity Calculation: $(4)2 \times 3.14 \times 2 + (7.5)2 \times 3.14 \times 2 + (10)2 \times 3.14 \times 2 + (11)2 \times 3.14 \times 2 + (12.8)2 \times 3.14 \times 2 + (13.5)2 \times 3.14 \times 2 + (13.5)2 \times 3.14 \times 2 + (13.2)2 \times 3.14 \times 2 = 6253.8124 \text{ cm}^3 = 6.253812 \text{ Litres.}$

Cat. No.: 4 (Fig. 5)

Inv. 866

Form: Jar.

Year and Locus: 1970, Sector II, level: 6.70/6.90 m, H layer.

Production Technique: Wheel-made.

Rim Diameter: 32.5 cm.

Base Diameter: 13 cm.

Height: 27.5 cm.

Clay Colour: 10 YR 7/3 Very Pale Brown.

Outer band-paint 10 YR 7/3 Very Pale Brown.

Inner band-paint 10 YR 7/3 Very Pale Brown.

Clay Texture: Porous, hard and tightly textured.

Firing: Medium.

Capacity Calculation: $(6)^2 \times 3.14 \times 3 + (8)^2 \times 3.14 \times 3 + (9.5)^2 \times 3.14 \times 3 + (11)^2 \times 3.14 \times 3 + (12)^2 \times 3.14 \times 3 + (12)^2 \times 3.14 \times 3 + (13)^2 \times 3.14 \times 3 + (12.5)^2 \times 3.14 \times 3 = 8708.79 \text{ cm}^3 = 8.708790 \text{ Litres}$.

Cat. No.: 5 (Fig. 6)

Inv. 839

Form: Bath vessel.

Year and Locus: 1969, Sector II, level: 6.30 m, H layer.

Making: Wheel-made.

Rim Diameter: 40/36.8 cm.

Base Diameter: 20 cm.

Height: 37.7 cm.

Clay Colour: 5 Y 6/4 Light Reddish Brown.

Outer band-paint 5 Y 6/4 Light Reddish Brown.

Inner band-paint 5 Y 6/4 Light Reddish Brown.

Clay Texture: Porous, hard and tightly textured.

Firing: Medium.

Surface Treatment: Yes.

Inclusions: Coarse lime and grit.

Decoration: None.

Description: Rectangular bath container with a thickened mouth on the outside and ram heads applied to the corners.

Gloss: Yes

Inclusions: Coarse lime and grit.

Decoration: None.

Description: A wide mouthed, rounded upper body, flat bottomed and ram's head two handled jar.

Capacity Calculation: $(4.1)^2 \times 3.14 \times 5 + (8.5)^2 \times 3.14 \times 5 + (13)^2 \times 3.14 \times 5 + (14.2)^2 \times 3.14 \times 5 + (14.5)^2 \times 3.14 \times 5 = 10518.215 \text{ cm}^3 = 10.51821 \text{ Litres}$.

Cat. No.: 6 (Fig. 7)

Inv. 963

Form: Body fragment.

Year and Locus: 1971, Sector II, SO plan square A3b level.

Production: Wheel-made.

Height: 9.2 cm.

Clay Colour: 5 Y 6/4 Light Reddish Brown.

Outer band-paint 5 Y 6/4 Light Reddish Brown.

Inner band-paint 5 Y 6/4 Light Reddish Brown.

Clay Texture: Porous, hard and tightly textured.

Firing: Medium.

Surface Treatment: Yes.

Inclusions: Coarse lime and grit.

Decoration: None.

Description: Applique ram's head ceramic piece.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Akurgal E. 1955, *Phrygische Kunst*. Ankara.
- Bayburtluoğlu İ. 1976, "Eskiyapar "Phryg Çağı"". *VIII. Türk Tarih Kongresi*. Ankara, 169-182.
- Bossert E. M. 2000, *Die Keramik Phrygischer Zeit Von Boğazköy. Funde Aus Den Grabungskampagnen 1906, 1907, 1911, 1912, 1931-1939 und 1952-1960*. Mainz.
- Coldstream J. N. 1968, *Greek Geometric Pottery: A survey of ten Local Styles and Their Chronology*. Methuen.
- Çavuşoğlu R. & Biber H. 2021, "Çavuştepe Kalesi'nden Boğa Başlı Pişmiş Toprak Kap Eklentileri". Eds. M. A. Yılmaz, B. Can & M. Işıklı-Bigin. *Anadolu Arkeolojisiyle Harmanlanmış Bir Ömür Mehmet Karaosmanoğlu'na Armağan*. Ankara, 203-214.
- Çavuşoğlu R. & Gökçe, B. 2023, "Urartu Krallığı'nda Metal Kazan Kullanımı". Eds. O. Tekin, M. H. Sayar & E. Konyar, *Tarhan Armağanı M. Taner Tarhan'a Sunulan Makaleler*. İstanbul, 105-113.
- Demirtaş I. 2019, "Güvercinkaya'sının Kabartma Betimli Çanak Çömleğinde Sembolizma". Ed. M. Hakman. *Kapadokya Hafıza, Kimlik ve Kültürel Miras*. İstanbul, 83-116.
- Dönmez Ş. & Naza-Dönmez E. E. 2010, "Oluz Höyük 2008 Dönemi Çalışmaları". Ed. Ş. Dönmez. *Amasya-Oluz Höyük, 2007 ve 2008 Dönemi Çalışmaları Genel Değerlendirmeler ve Ön Sonuçlar*. Ankara 21-31.
- Dönmez Ş. 2017, "Oluz Höyük 2009-2013 Dönemi Çalışmaları: Değerlendirmeler ve Sonuçlar". Ed. Ş. Dönmez, *Oluz Höyük Kazı Sonuçları Serisi 2. Amasya - Oluz Höyük Kuzey - Orta Anadolu'da Bir Akhaimenid (Pers) Yerleşmesi 2009 - 2013 Dönemi Çalışmaları Genel Değerlendirmeler ve Önsonuçlar*. Amasya, 233-272.
- Dupré S. 1981, *Porsuk I, La Céramique de l'Age du Bronze et de l'Age du fer*. Paris.
- Kulakoğlu, F. 2018. "Kaniş Karumu: Eski Assur Ticaretinin Anadolu'daki Başkenti". Eds. K. Köroğlu & S. F. Adalı, *Assurlular Dicle'den Toroslar'a Tanrı Assur'un Krallığı*. İstanbul, 51-73.
- De Genouillac H. 1926, *Céramique Cappadocienne II*. Paris.
- Genz H. 2004, *Büyükaya I. Die Keramik Der Eisenzeit. Funde aus den Grabungskampagnen 1993 bis 1998*. Mainz.
- Kohler E. L. 1995, *The Gordion Excavation, 1950-1973: Final Report Volume II. The Lesser Phrygian Tumuli, Part 1. The Inhumations*. Pennsylvania.
- Kohler E. L. & Dusinger E. R. M. 2023, *The Gordion Excavations, 1950-1973: Final Reports Volume II: The Lesser Phrygian Tumuli Part 2 The Cremations*. Published by The University Museum. Pennsylvania.
- Korucu H. 2012, *Erzincan Altintepe Urartu Kalesi İle Yakın Çevre Yerleşmeleri Tunç ve Demir Çağları Seramiği*, Yayınlanmamış Doktora Tezi, Atatürk Üniversitesi. Erzurum.
- Koşay H. Z. 1938, *Türk Tarih Kurumu Tarafından Yapılan Alaca Höyük Hafriyatı, 1936'daki Çalışmalara ve Keşiflere ait İlk Rapor*. Ankara.
- Koşay H. Z. 1941, *Les Fouilles de Pazarlı*. Ankara
- Köker-Gökçe E. 2023, "Topaklı Höyük (1967-1974 Yılları) Kazılarında Tespit Edilen Meme Aplikeli Amphoralar". *Seleucia* 13, 121-143.
- Köker-Gökçe E. 2024, "An Evaluation of the Cooking Pots Found in the Topaklı Höyük Excavations (1967-1974)". *Tüba-Ar* 34, 53-70.
- Matsumura K. 2005, *Die Eisenzeitliche Keramik in Zentralanatolien aufgrund der Keramik in Karaman-Kalehöyük. Inaugural-Dissertation zur Erlangung des Doktorgrades am Fachbereich Geschichts- und Kulturwissenschaften*. Berlin.
- Osten H. H. 1937a, *The Alishar Höyük, Seasons of 1930-32. Part II. OIP* 29.

- Osten H. H. 1937b, *The Alishar Höyük*, Seasons of 1930-32. Part III. OIP 30.
- Osten H. H. & Schmidt, E.F. 1932, *The Alishar Hüyük Season of 1927 Part II. The University of Chicago Oriental Institute Publications. Volume II*. Chicago.
- Özgüç T. & Özgüç, N. 1949, *Türk Tarih Kurumu Tarafından Yapılan Karahöyük Hafriyat Raporu*. Ankara.
- Özgüç T. 1971, *Demir Devrinde Kültepe ve Civarı*. Ankara.
- Özgüç T. 1982, *Maşat Höyük II. Boğazköy'ün Kuzeydoğusunda Bir Hitit Merkezi/A Hittite Center Northeast of Boğazköy*. Ankara.
- Özkaya V. 1995, *İÖ. Erken Birinci Binde Frig Boyalı Seramiği*. Erzurum.
- Polacco L. 1968, "Topaklı 1967 Kazısı". *TAD XVI-2*, 177-184.
- Polacco L. 1969, "Topaklı. Campagna di scavo 1968". *Relazione preliminare in SMEA (Studi Micenei ed Egeo-Anatolici)* X, 54-71.
- Polacco L. 1970, "Topaklı. Campagna di scavo 1969". *Relazione preliminare in SMEA (Studi Micenei ed Egeo-Anatolici)* XI, 7-25.
- Polacco L. 1971, "Topaklı. Campagna di scavo 1970". *Relazione preliminare in SMEA (Studi Micenei ed Egeo-Anatolici)* XIV, 27-38.
- Polacco L. 1972, "Topaklı 1970 Campaign of Excavation". *TAD XIX/1*, 187-200.
- Polacco L. 1973a, "Topaklı-1971 Field Expedition Dig Preliminary Report". *TAD XX/1*, 169-183.
- Polacco L. 1973b, "Topaklıdaki İtalyan Kazılarında Tarih Öncesinden Bizans Dönemine". *Anadolu XVII*, 31-41.
- Polacco L. 1974, "Topaklı-1969 Field Expedition Dig Preliminary Report". *TAD XXI/1*, 147-158.
- Powrozniak K. J. 2010, *Kuşaklı-Sarissa. Band 5. Die Eisenzeit in Kuşaklı*. Rahden Westf.
- Saba M. 2022, *Oluz Höyük Geç Demir Çağı Bulguları Işığında Zerdüştiliğin Anadolu'daki Yayılımı*. Ankara.
- Sams G. K. 1994, *The Early Phrygian Pottery. The Gordion Excavations 1950-1973: Final Reports Volume IV*. Pennsylvania.
- Schachner A. 2019, *Hattusa Efsanevi Hitit İmparatorluğu'nun İzinde*. Trans. I. R. Işıkkaya-Laubscher. İstanbul.
- Schachner A. 2019, "Assur Ticaret Kolonileri Çağı'ndaki Hattuşa" Eds. K. Köroğlu & S. F. Adalı, *Assurlular Dicle'den Toroslar'a Tanrı Assur'un Krallığı*. İstanbul, 51-73.
- Schmidt E. F. 1933, *The Alishar Hüyük Seasons of 1928 and 1929 Part II (OIP XX)*. Chicago.
- Türker A. 2014a, "Tunç Çağlarında Nevşehir Kültürlerinin Araştırılması 2012-2013 Yılı Çalışma Raporu: Hacibektaş ve Çevresi". *AST 32/1*, 231-252.
- Türker A. 2014b, "Avanos Arkeolojisi Üzerine Bir Değerlendirme". Ed. A. Öger, *Avanos Sempozyumu Bildirileri, 23-25 Ekim 2014*. Nevşehir, 111-128.
- Tüysüz B. 2022, *Kültepe'nin Hellenistik Dönem Seramikleri*. Yayımlanmamış Doktora Tezi, Pamukkale Üniversitesi. Denizli
- Tüysüz B. & Rıdvanogulları, Y. 2024, "19. Studies On Kültepe Hellenistic Period". Eds. F. Kulakoğlu & C. Michel. *Kültepe at The Crossroads Between Disciplines Society, Settlement and Environment from the Fourth to the First Millennium BC. SUBARTU LI*, 275-295.
- Young R. S. 1981, *Three Great Early Tumuli. The Gordion Excavations Final Reports Volume I*. Eds. E. L. Kohler. 1981. Pennsylvania.