



MERSİN ÜNİVERSİTESİ KILIKIA ARKEOLOJİSİNİ ARAŞTIRMA MERKEZİ
MERSIN UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS OF THE RESEARCH CENTER OF CILICIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

KAAM
YAYINLARI

OLBA
XXV

(Ayrıbasım / Offprint)



MERSİN
2017

KAAM YAYINLARI
OLBA
XXV

© 2017 Mersin Üniversitesi/Türkiye

ISSN 1301 7667

Yayıncı Sertifika No: 14641

OLBA dergisi;
ARTS & HUMANITIES CITATION INDEX, EBSCO, PROQUEST
ve

TÜBİTAK-ULAKBİM Sosyal Bilimler Veri Tabanlarında taranmaktadır.

Alman Arkeoloji Enstitüsü'nün (DAI) Kısaltmalar Dizini'nde 'OLBA' şeklinde yer almaktadır.

OLBA dergisi hakemlidir. Makalelerdeki görüş, düşünce ve bilimsel değerlendirmelerin yasal sorumluluğu yazarlara aittir.

The articles are evaluated by referees. The legal responsibility of the ideas,
opinions and scientific evaluations are carried by the author.

OLBA dergisi, Mayıs ayında olmak üzere, yılda bir kez basılmaktadır.
Published each year in May.

KAAM'ın izni olmadan OLBA'nın hiçbir bölümü kopya edilemez.
Alıntı yapılması durumunda dipnot ile referans gösterilmelidir.

It is not allowed to copy any section of OLBA without the permit of the Mersin University
(Research Center for Cilician Archaeology / Journal OLBA)

OLBA dergisinde makalesi yayımlanan her yazar, makalesinin baskı olarak ve elektronik ortamda yayımlanmasını
kabul etmiş ve telif haklarını OLBA dergisine devretmiş sayılır.

Each author whose article is published in OLBA shall be considered to have accepted the article to be published
in print version and electronically and thus have transferred the copyrights to the Mersin University
(Research Center for Cilician Archaeology / Journal OLBA)

OLBA'ya gönderilen makaleler aşağıdaki web adresinde ve bu cildin giriş sayfalarında
belirtilen formatlara uygun olduğu takdirde basılacaktır.

Articles should be written according to the formats mentioned in the following web address.

Redaktion: Yrd. Doç. Dr. Deniz Kaplan

OLBA'nın yeni sayılarında yayımlanması istenen makaleler için yazışma adresi:
Correspondance addresses for sending articles to following volumes of OLBA:

Prof. Dr. Serra Durugönül
Mersin Üniversitesi Fen-Edebiyat Fakültesi, Arkeoloji Bölümü
Çiftlikköy Kampüsü, 33342 Mersin - TURKEY

Diğer İletişim Adresleri
Other Correspondance Addresses

Tel: 00.90.324.361 00 01 (10 Lines) 4730 / 4734

Fax: 00.90.324.361 00 46

web mail: www.kaam.mersin.edu.tr

www.olba.mersin.edu.tr

e-mail: sdurugonul@gmail.com

Baskı / Printed by

Matsis Matbaa Hizmetleri

Tevfikbey Mahallesi Dr. Ali Demir Caddesi No: 51 34290 Sefaköy / İstanbul

Tel: 0212 624 21 11 www.matbaasistemleri.com

Sertifika No: 20706

Zero Prod. Ltd.

Tel: 00.90.212.244 75 21 Fax: 00.90.244 32 09

info@zerobooksonline.com www.zerobooksonline.com/eng



MERSİN ÜNİVERSİTESİ
KILIKIA ARKEOLOJİSİNİ ARAŞTIRMA MERKEZİ
(KAAM)
YAYINLARI-XXV

MERSIN UNIVERSITY
PUBLICATIONS OF THE RESEARCH CENTER OF
CILICIAN ARCHAEOLOGY
(KAAM)-XXV

Editörler

Serra DURUGÖNÜL
Murat DURUKAN
Gunnar BRANDS
Deniz KAPLAN

OLBA Bilim Kurulu

Prof. Dr. Mehmet ÖZDOĞAN
Prof. Dr. Fikri KULAKOĞLU
Prof. Dr. Serra DURUGÖNÜL
Prof. Dr. Marion MEYER
Prof. Dr. Susan ROTROFF
Prof. Dr. Kutalmış GÖRKAY
Prof. Dr. İ. Hakan MERT
Prof. Dr. Eda AKYÜREK-ŞAHİN
Prof. Dr. Yelda OLCAY-UÇKAN



MERSİN
2017

*Vefat Eden Meslektařlarımızı
Saygı ile Anıyoruz...*

Prof. Dr. Güven ARSEBÜK

Prof. Dr. Arzu ÖZTÜRK

Dr.-Ing. Martin BACHMANN

İçindekiler / Contents

K. Serdar Girginer – Murat Durukan <i>Mersin/Gülnar Akyapı Mağarası'nda Bulunan Prehistorik Mağara Resimleri</i>	1
A. Tuba Ökse <i>Yukarı Dicle Havzası'nda Akkad Dönemi'ne Tarihlenen Bir Yapı: Salat Tepe II A: 6</i>	17
Atakan Akçay <i>A Late Uruk-Early Bronze Age Transitional Period Cemetery in the Upper Tigris Region: Aşağı Salat</i>	49
Elif Ünlü <i>Tell Tayinat Yerleşiminde Geç Tunç – Erken Demir Çağı Geçiş Dönemi Seramikleri Üzerinden Amik Ovası'nda Görülen Yerel Devamlılıklar ve Doğu Akdeniz Bağlantıları</i>	91
Bülent Kızılduman <i>Kıbrıs'ta Kaleburnu-Kral Tepesi/Galinoporni-Vasili'de Dikkate Değer Bir Geç Tunç Çağı Yapısı</i>	113
Aynur Özfirat <i>Melekli-Kültepe (İğdır) Höyüğü, Urartu Kalesi ve Columbarium: Ağrı Dağı'nın Kuzey Eteğindeki Minuahinili (Karakoyunlu) Kenti</i>	161
İbrahim Hakan Mert <i>Kap Monodendri Poseidon (Enipeus) Altarı: Bir Altar mı Yoksa Deniz Feneri mi?</i>	183
Tuna Akçay <i>Sikke Buluntuları Işığında Olba'daki Pers ve Makedon Varlığı Üzerine Düşünceler</i>	211
Hüseyin Köker <i>Komama Gümüş Sikkeleri</i>	227
Mustafa Şahin – Murat Akın <i>Nikaia'dan Musa Heykeli: Polyhymnia</i>	241

Münteha Dinç – Serra Durugönül <i>Sculptural Workshop(s) of Lydia in the Light of Sculptures from Philadelphia and Thyateira</i>	251
Hüseyin Metin <i>Hellenistic Mouldmade Bowl Moulds from Kremna</i>	271
Gonca Cankardeş-Şenol – Erkan Alkaç – Mai Abdelgawad <i>The Results of Clay Analysis of Stamped Amphora Handles of Miletus and Rhodian Peraea in Alexandria (Egypt)</i>	297
Taylan Doğan – Kahraman Yağız <i>Efes Müzesi'nde Korunan Roma Dönemine Ait Bir Grup Strigilis</i>	317
Murat Durukan <i>Yeni Veriler Işığında Mallos, Magarsos ve Antiokheia ad Pyramos Problemi</i>	345
Ahmet Mörel <i>Dağlık Kilikia Bölgesi'nde Bir Kırsal Yerleşimin Gelişimi: Çatıören Örneği</i>	381
Şener Yıldırım <i>Dating Dispute Over the Cross-in-Square Church in the Episcopal Palace in Side</i>	421

MERSİN ÜNİVERSİTESİ
KILIKIA ARKEOLOJİSİNİ ARAŞTIRMA MERKEZİ
BİLİMSEL SÜRELİ YAYINI ‘OLBA’

Kapsam

Olba süreli yayını Mayıs ayında olmak üzere yılda bir kez basılır. Yayınlanması istenilen makalelerin en geç her yıl Kasım ayında gönderilmiş olması gerekmektedir.

1998 yılından bu yana basılan Olba; Küçükasya, Akdeniz bölgesi ve Ortadoğu’ya ilişkin orijinal sonuçlar içeren Antropoloji, Prehistorya, Protohistorya, Klasik Arkeoloji, Klasik Filoloji (ve Eskiçağ Dilleri ve Kültürleri), Eskiçağ Tarihi, Nümizmatik ve Erken Hıristiyanlık Arkeolojisi alanlarında yazılmış makaleleri kapsamaktadır.

Yayın İlkeleri

1. a. Makaleler, Word ortamında yazılmış olmalıdır.
 - b. Metin 10 punto; özet, dipnot, katalog ve bibliyografya 9 punto olmak üzere, Times New Roman (PC ve Macintosh) harf karakteri kullanılmalıdır.
 - c. Dipnotlar her sayfanın altına verilmeli ve makalenin başından sonuna kadar sayısal süreklilik izlemelidir.
 - d. Metin içinde bulunan ara başlıklarda, küçük harf kullanılmalı ve koyu (bold) yazılmalıdır. Bunun dışındaki seçenekler (tümünün büyük harf yazılması, alt çizgi ya da italik) kullanılmamalıdır.
2. Noktalama (tireler) işaretlerinde dikkat edilecek hususlar:
 - a. Metin içinde her cümlelerin ortasındaki virgülden ve sonundaki noktadan sonra bir tab boşluk bırakılmalıdır.
 - b. Cümle içinde veya cümle sonunda yer alan dipnot numaralarının herbirisi noktalama (nokta veya virgül) işaretlerinden önce yer almalıdır.
 - c. Metin içinde yer alan “fig.” ibareleri, küçük harf ile ve parantez içinde verilmeli; fig. ibaresinin noktasından sonra bir tab boşluk bırakılmalı (fig. 3); ikiden fazla ardışık figür belirtiliyorsa iki rakam arasına boşluksuz kısa tire konulmalı (fig. 2-4). Ardışık değilse, sayılar arasına nokta ve bir tab boşluk bırakılmalıdır (fig. 2. 5).

- d. Ayrıca bibliyografya ve kısaltmalar kısmında bir yazar, iki soyadı taşıyorsa soyadları arasında boşluk bırakmaksızın kısa tire kullanılmalıdır (Dentzer-Feydy); bir makale birden fazla yazarlı ise her yazardan sonra bir boşluk, ardından uzun tire ve yine boşluktan sonra diğer yazarın soyadı gelmelidir (Hagel – Tomaschitz).
3. “Bibliyografya ve Kısaltmalar” bölümü makalenin sonunda yer almalı, dipnotlarda kullanılan kısaltmalar, burada açıklanmalıdır. Dipnotlarda kullanılan kaynaklar kısaltma olarak verilmeli, kısaltmalarda yazar soyadı, yayın tarihi, sayfa (ve varsa levha ya da resim) sıralamasına sadık kalınmalıdır. Sadece bir kez kullanılan yayınlar için bile aynı kurala uyulmalıdır.

Bibliyografya (kitaplar için):

Richter 1977 Richter, G., Greek Art, New York.

Bibliyografya (Makaleler için):

Corsten 1995 Corsten, Th., “Inchriften aus dem Museum von Denizli”, Ege Üniversitesi Arkeoloji Dergisi III, 215-224, lev. LIV-LVII.

Dipnot (kitaplar için)

Richter 1977, 162, res. 217.

Dipnot (Makaleler için)

Oppenheim 1973, 9, lev.1.

Diğer Kısaltmalar

age.	adı geçen eser
ay.	aynı yazar
vd.	ve devamı
yak.	yaklaşık
v.d.	ve diğerleri
y.dn.	yukarı dipnot
dn.	dipnot
a.dn.	aşağı dipnot
bk.	Bakınız

4. Tüm resim, çizim ve haritalar için sadece “fig.” kısaltması kullanılmalı ve figürlerin numaralandırılmasında süreklilik olmalıdır. (Levha, Resim, Çizim, Şekil, Harita ya da bir başka ifade veya kısaltma kesinlikle kullanılmamalıdır).

5. Word dökümanına gömülü olarak gönderilen figürler kullanılmamaktadır. Figürlerin mutlaka sayfada kullanılması gereken büyüklükte ve en az 300 pixel/inch çözünürlükte, photoshop tif veya jpeg formatında gönderilmesi gerekmektedir. Adobe illustrator programında çalışılmış çizimler Adobe illustrator formatında da gönderilebilir. Farklı vektörel programlarda çalışılan çizimler photoshop formatına çevrilemiyorsa pdf olarak gönderilebilir. Bu formatların dışındaki formatlarda gönderilmiş figürler kabul edilmeyecektir.
6. Figürler CD'ye yüklenmelidir ve ayrıca figür düzenlemesi örneği (layout) PDF olarak yapılarak burada yer almalıdır.
7. Bir başka kaynaktan alıntı yapılan figürlerin sorumluluğu yazara aittir, bu sebeple kaynak belirtilmelidir.
8. Makale metninin sonunda figürler listesi yer almalıdır.
9. Metin yukarıda belirtilen formatlara uygun olmak kaydıyla 20 sayfayı geçmemelidir. Figürlerin toplamı 10 adet civarında olmalıdır.
10. Makaleler Türkçe, İngilizce veya Almanca yazılabilir. Türkçe yazılan makalelerde yaklaşık 500 kelimelik Türkçe ve İngilizce yada Almanca özet kesinlikle bulunmalıdır. İngilizce veya Almanca yazılan makalelerde ise en az 500 kelimelik Türkçe ve İngilizce veya Almanca özet bulunmalıdır. Makalenin her iki dilde de başlığı gönderilmelidir.
11. Özeti altında, Türkçe ve İngilizce veya Almanca olmak üzere altı anahtar kelime verilmelidir.
12. Metnin word ve pdf formatlarında kaydı ile figürlerin kopyalandığı iki adet CD (biri yedek) ile birlikte bir orijinal ve bir kopya olmak üzere metin ve figür çıktısı gönderilmelidir.
13. Makale içinde kullanılan özel fontlar da CD'ye yüklenerek yollanmalıdır.

MERSIN UNIVERSITY
‘RESEARCH CENTER OF CILICIAN ARCHAEOLOGY’
JOURNAL ‘OLBA’

Scope

Olba is printed once a year in May. Deadline for sending papers is November of each year.

The Journal ‘Olba’, being published since 1998 by the ‘Research Center of Cilician Archeology’ of the Mersin University (Turkey), includes original studies done on antropology, prehistory, protohistory, classical archaeology, classical philology (and ancient languages and cultures), ancient history, numismatics and early christian archeology of Asia Minor, the Mediterranean region and the Near East.

Publishing Principles

1. a. Articles should be written in Word programs.
 - b. The text should be written in 10 puntos; the abstract, footnotes, catalogue and bibliography in 9 puntos ‘Times New Roman’ (for PC and for Macintosh).
 - c. Footnotes should take place at the bottom of the page in continous numbering.
 - d. Titles within the article should be written in small letters and be marked as bold. Other choises (big letters, underline or italic) should not be used.
2. Punctuation (hyphen) Marks:
 - a. One space should be given after the comma in the sentence and after the dot at the end of the sentence.
 - b. The footnote numbering within the sentence in the text, should take place before the comma in the sentence or before the dot at the end of the sentence.
 - c. The indication fig.:
 - * It should be set in brackets and one space should be given after the dot (fig. 3);

* If many figures in sequence are to be indicated, a short hyphen without space between the beginning and last numbers should be placed (fig. 2-4); if these are not in sequence, a dot and space should be given between the numbers (fig. 2. 5).

- d) In the bibliography and abbreviations, if the author has two family names, a short hyphen without leaving space should be used (Dentzer-Feydy); if the article is written by two or more authors, after each author a space, a long hyphen and again a space should be left before the family name of the next author (Hagel – Tomaschitz).
3. The ‘Bibliography’ and ‘Abbreviations’ should take part at the end of the article. The ‘Abbreviations’ used in the footnotes should be explained in the ‘Bibliography’ part. The bibliography used in the footnotes should take place as abbreviations and the following order within the abbreviations should be kept: Name of writer, year of publishment, page (and if used, number of the illustration). This rule should be applied even if a publishment is used only once.

Bibliography (for books):

Richter 1977 Richter, G., Greek Art, NewYork.

Bibliography (for articles):

Corsten 1995 Corsten, Th., “Inschriften aus dem Museum von Denizli”, Ege Üniversitesi Arkeoloji Dergisi III, 215-224, pl. LIV-LVII.

Footnotes (for books):

Richter 1977, 162, fig. 217.

Footnotes (for articles):

Oppenheim 1973, 9, pl.1.

Miscellaneous Abbreviations:

op. cit.	in the work already cited
idem	an auther that has just been mentioned
ff	following pages
et al.	and others
n.	footnote
see	see
infra	see below
supra	see above

4. For all photographs, drawings and maps only the abbreviation 'fig.' should be used in continuous numbering (remarks such as Plate, Picture, Drawing, Map or any other word or abbreviation should not be used).
5. Figures, embedded in Word documents can not be used. Figures have to be in the length in which they will be used in the page, being at least 300 pixel/ inch, in photoshop tif or jpeg format. Drawings in adobe illustrator can be sent in this format. Drawings in other vectoral programs can be sent in pdf if they can't be converted to photoshop. Figures sent in other formats will not be accepted.
6. Figures should be loaded to a CD and a layout of them as PDF should also be undertaken.
7. Photographs, drawings or maps taken from other publications are in the responsibility of the writers; so the sources have to be mentioned.
8. A list of figures should take part at the end of the article.
9. The text should be within the remarked formats not more than 20 pages, the drawing and photographs 10 in number.
10. Papers may be written in Turkish, English or German. Papers written in Turkish must include an abstract of 500 words in Turkish and English or German. It will be appreciated if papers written in English or German would include a summary of 500 words in Turkish and in English or German. The title of the article should be sent in two languages.
11. Six keywords should be remarked, following the abstract in Turkish and English or German.
12. The text in word and pdf formats as well as the figures should be loaded in two different CD's; furthermore should be sent, twice the printed version of the text and figures.
13. Special fonts should be loaded to the CD.

A LATE URUK-EARLY BRONZE AGE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD CEMETERY IN THE UPPER TIGRIS REGION: AŞAĞI SALAT

Atakan AKÇAY*

ÖZET

Yukarı Dicle Bölgesi'nden Bir Geç Uruk-Erken Tunç Geçiş Dönemi Mezarlığı: Aşağı Salat

Yukarı Dicle Bölgesi'nde, Diyarbakır-Bismil sınırları içerisinde kalan Aşağı Salat, Dicle Nehri kıyısında konumlanan bir höyüktür. 2000-2002 ve 2009-2010 yıllarında beş yıl süre ile yürütülen kurtarma kazıları ile açığa çıkarılan Aşağı Salat Mezarlığı, yerleşimdeki en zengin arkeolojik verileri sunmuştur. Mezar tipolojisi, ölü hediyeleri ve ölü gömme adetleri açısından kendine has özellikler taşıyan Aşağı Salat Mezarlığı, açığa çıkarılan 53 mezar ile kendi dönemi içerisinde bölgenin simdiye kadar bilinen en büyük mezarlığıdır. Mezar buluntuları içerisindeki Ninive 5 seramikleri ve daha çok Geç Uruk Döneminden bilinen bazı kap formları ile diğer küçük buluntular mezarlığın Geç Uruk-Erken Tunç Geçiş aşamasına (MÖ 3300-2900) tarihlenebileceğini göstermektedir. Bu tarihlendirme aralığında, Aşağı Salat buluntuları Yukarı Dicle Bölgesi, Karababa, Kuzey Suriye, Eski Musul ve Yukarı Fırat gibi kültür bölgelerinin Geç Uruk ve Erken Tunç Çağı kronolojisine önemli katkılar sağlamaktadır. Mezar tipi, ölü hediyeleri ve ölü gömme adetlerinde görülen standartlaşma sistematize olmaya başlayan bir topluluğu göstermektedir. Aşağı Salat Mezarlığı ölü gömme adetlerinin dönemin diğer mezarlıkları ile gösterdiği farklılıklar ve benzerlikler, bu dönemin mezarlık ve diğer dünya anlayışlarına zenginlik kazandırmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Geç Uruk, Erken Tunç Çağı, Geçiş Dönemi, Ninive 5, Sanduka Mezar

ABSTRACT

Located in the Upper Tigris Region, within the borders of Diyarbakır-Bismil, Aşağı Salat is a höyük (mound) situated on the banks of the Tigris River. The cemetery of Aşağı Salat, which was revealed as a result of salvage excavations carried out in 2000-2002 and 2009-2010 for five years, presented the richest archeological data at the höyük. Featuring unique characteristics in terms of the grave type, grave goods, and the burial customs, with 53 graves discovered, Aşağı Salat Cemetery is also the largest cemetery of the period discovered in the region. The Ninevite 5 potteries, vessel forms

* Dr. Atakan Akçay, Gazi University, Faculty of Arts, Department of Archaeology, Teknikokullar, 06500, Beşevler-Ankara/Turkey. E-posta: atakanakçay@gazi.edu.tr.

that are mostly known to belong to the Late Uruk Period, and other small finds discovered in the cemetery indicate that the cemetery can be dated to the Late Uruk-Early Bronze Age Transitional period (3300-2900 B.C.). Within this dating range, the finds of Aşağı Salat make significant contributions to the Late Uruk and Early Bronze Age chronology of both the Upper Tigris Region and other cultural sites such as Karababa, Northern Syria, Ancient Mosul, and the Upper Euphrates. Standardization of grave types, grave goods and burial customs suggests formation of a complex society. The differences and similarities of burial customs observed in Aşağı Salat Cemetery with the other cemeteries of the same period enrich the understanding of cemetery and the other world of the era.

Keywords: Late Uruk, Early Bronze Age, Transitional Period, Ninevite 5, Cist Grave

Introduction

Located within the borders of the Bismil district of the Diyarbakır province, Aşağı Salat Höyüğü is one of the archeological sites excavated within the scope of the Salvage Project of Archaeological Heritage of the Ilısu Dam Reservoir. Earliest settlement at Aşağı Salat is dated to the Late Ubaid Period, but the Late Uruk-Early Bronze Age Transitional Period and Neo-Assyrian Period are the strongest settlement layers at the höyük. Although the excavations could not be carried out in large areas because of the modern village standing on the site, the Late Uruk-Early Bronze Age Transitional Period cemetery and its findings discovered outside the settlement made significant contributions to the understanding of burial customs of the region and related chronological issues. Aşağı Salat cemetery is the only example of the extramural burial ground in the Upper Tigris Region excavated until now. Extramural cemeteries began to appear during the Late Chalcolithic Period and Early Bronze Age (*hereafter EBA*) in Southeastern Anatolia and widespread during the Middle Bronze Age in the Southern Mesopotamia. The Ninevite 5 pottery, which are the most common finds at the cemetery, reflects the continuity and changes during Late Uruk-EBA Transitional Period in Northern Mesopotamia and Southeastern Anatolia, they also indicate strong cultural ties between the Euphrates Region and the Botan Valley.

Besides reflecting the burial customs in the Upper Tigris Region during the Late Uruk-EBA Transitional Period, the Cemetery of Aşağı Salat also reveals the importance of the perception of the other world in daily life. The organization of the cemetery, the procurement and processing of limestone blocks used in the graves, and standardized burial procedures suggest the presence of a complex society. On the other hand, the findings revealed at Aşağı Salat and contemporary settlements indicate that large Northern Mesopotamian cities such as Tell Brak, Chagar Bazar, Tell Leilan, and Nineveh played crucial role in terms of cultural interactions in the region including the Upper Tigris Region.

The cultural continuities during Late Uruk-EBA transitional period and the early stages of the EBA manifest a remarkable result in the chronology of the Upper Tigris Region. The Cemetery of Aşağı Salat, as well as the findings obtained from sites such as Salat Tepe, Giricano and Kenantepe, which are located in the same region where contemporaneous layers were discovered, show that transitional period reflects a phase of long-term cultural change¹. Finding of the Late Uruk wares together with Ninevite 5 wares at the Cemetery of Aşağı Salat reflected a chronological continuity, burial rituals, settlement strategy, and the change in production models indicated that the change occurred over a long historical period. The organization the cemetery, burial rituals, and the standardization in grave goods were the reflections of a change that started by the end of the Late Uruk period in larger centers in a community with a quite small population. In this context, the Cemetery of Aşağı Salat and the findings at the cemetery not only reflect the distinctive cultural identities of the Upper Tigris Region, but also have a great importance in terms of identifying the change and continuities experienced in Northern Mesopotamia c. 3300/3200-2900/2800 B.C.

Aşağı Salat Höyük

The settlement² lies within the borders of the Aşağı Salat Village, which consists of approximately 15 households, 3.5 km to the south of the Yukarı Salat Town and 20 km to the east of the Bismil district of the Diyarbakır province³. Having lost its shape as a höyük to a large extent because of the village located on the alluvial terrace formed by Tigris River and Salat Stream (Fig. 1-2), Aşağı Salat is one of the numerous mounds (höyüks) within the Upper Tigris Valley⁴, on the fringe of the Upper Mesopotamian culture historical region.

Apart from being on the fertile plain fed by the Tigris River and Salat Stream, the mound is standing on a strategic point for passing the Tigris River. The Salat Stream and its tributaries stretch out to Mount Uzuncaeski, which lies in the innermost section of the arch formed by the Southeastern Taurus Mountains, and forms a natural route heading from the northern borders of Northern Mesopotamia towards the south. At the section where the Salat Stream and the Tigris River meet (fig. 1-2), the Tigris River can be crossed on foot owing to the elevation caused by the geographical features called the Hill of Abir, the Hill of Beyaztoprak, and Tavya Ridge. Following the Salat Valley and Tigris River, this route merges

¹ Ökse 2015, 20, Table 1.

² Şenyurt 2002a, 671.

³ Şenyurt 2002b, 445.

⁴ Algaze et al. 1991, 213, fig. 2b.

with roads heading towards settlements such as Müslümantepe (Şahintepe)⁵ and Karacak Tepe⁶ on the south.

Stretching out to the northern slopes of the Savur Stream Valley and Mardin Plateau on the southern bank of the Tigris River, the route reaches the plains of Mesopotamia at the slopes of Mazıdağ. In addition to being a political border between Mesopotamia and Anatolia, this region is also considered as an economic border between the plains of Mesopotamia, poor in raw materials, and the rich Anatolian highlands⁷. It can be concluded that, owing to its location, Aşağı Salat stands on a strategic position on the routes passing through the Upper Tigris Valley in east-west and north-south directions.

Even though the topography of the höyük has become indistinct because of the alluvial terrace and the village located on it, the archaeological deposits can still be identified from the excavation trenches, soundings, and the eroded sections of the Tigris River (Fig. 2). Extending on the 3-5 m terrace of the Holocene, which is of the nature of the Tigris River's large floodplain⁸, right on the banks of the river bed, the mound has approximately 150 x 100 m dimension with a 5 m thick cultural deposit⁹.

Surveys, Excavations and Stratigraphy

After being discovered by G. Algaze and his team for the first time¹⁰, a detailed survey was conducted by E. Ay¹¹ at Aşağı Salat. In 2000, excavation efforts were launched under the scientific direction S. Yücel Şenyurt within the scope of the Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of Ilisu Dam Reservoir. The first campaign of excavations was conducted for three seasons until 2002 and the second campaign, were carried out between 2009 and 2010.

Within the scope first season, a 10 x 10 m and a 7.5 x 2.5 m trench were investigated at the section called the "Eastern Excavation Site"¹². Two architecturally weak Medieval layers, dated to the 14th century A.D and 11th century A.D. with the help of the pottery and coins discovered, were revealed in the the Eastern Excavation Site¹³. Another section, the excavation of which had started with

⁵ Ay 2001; Ay 2004.

⁶ Algaze et al., 1991, fig. 2b, 22.

⁷ Parker et al. 2004, 549.

⁸ Doğan 2003, 131; Doğan 2005, 81.

⁹ Şenyurt 2002a, 672; Şenyurt 2002b, 445; Doğan 2003, 133; Doğan 2005, 81.

¹⁰ Algaze et al. 1991, 213, fig. 2b, 59.

¹¹ Ay 2001, 697, fig. 6.

¹² Şenyurt 2002a, 673; Şenyurt 2002b, 445.

¹³ Şenyurt 2002b, fig. 3-6.

the soundings carried out immediately on the bank of Tigris River, was called the “Central Excavation Site”. Located within the Y-33 trench, the stratigraphy sounding¹⁴ was limited to a scale of 4 x 5 m because of the surrounding modern buildings¹⁵.

During the second campaign, in three trenches (V-35, V-36, and Y-36) of 10 x 10 m excavated immediately on the east of the mentioned sounding, all cultural layers above the virgin soil were excavated. In this area, seven layers and eleven architectural phases were detected, including Medieval (1-2), Neo-Assyrian Period (3a-c), Early Iron Age (4), Late Uruk-EBA Transitional (5a-c), Late Uruk (6), and Late Ubaid (7) layers.

It appears that the Holocene terrace on which the Aşağı Salat is located had become suitable for settling with the Late Uruk period¹⁶ because of the the drier climate and the alluvial accumulation¹⁷. One of the remarkable findings was that there were no settlement at Aşağı Salat between the Late Uruk-EBA Transitional period and the Early Iron Age layers. Within the scope Aşağı Salat stratigraphy, revised during the second campaign (2009-2010), the cemetery, which is the subject of this study, belongs to the fifth cultural layer of the settlement¹⁸.

The Position and Extension of the Cemetery

The Aşağı Salat Late Uruk-EBA transitional period cemetery lies 50 m to the southwest of the höyük cone, on the northern bank of the Tigris River¹⁹. The soundings revealed that the cemetery spreads over an area of 25 m on north-south and 20 m on east-west directions (fig. 3-4). No settlement layer in the cemetery area could be detected. Apart from three simple inhumations from the Medieval Period 50-55 cm below the current surface level, and a destructed Neo-Assyrian grave²⁰, 53 graves that belonging to Late Uruk-EBA Transitional Period were revealed²¹.

¹⁴ During 2000-2002 excavation seasons, these trenches were called “T-26 Stratigraphy Sounding” (see Şenyurt 2002a, 2002b), but it was revised as Y-33 during the second term excavations.

¹⁵ Şenyurt 2002a, 675.

¹⁶ Agravi 2001, 274, fig.4c.

¹⁷ Doğan 2003, 134-135.

¹⁸ According to “T-26 Stratigraphy Sounding” data obtained during the first term excavations of Aşağı Salat, 9 architectural phases were identified. During the second term excavations, which were carried out in a broader area, 11 architectural phases were uncovered. It was understood that the location of the cemetery, which had been indicated to be on the 6th-7th layers in previous publications (Şenyurt 2002a, 675-676, Fig. 4; Şenyurt 2004, 642-644), corresponded to layer 5a-c within the scope of revised stratification.

¹⁹ Şenyurt 2002a, 676-677; Şenyurt 2004, 645.

²⁰ Şenyurt 2006, 697-704.

²¹ In 2000-2002 years 41 graves and in 2009-2010 years 12 graves were uncovered at Aşağı Salat.

All graves in Aşağı Salat Cemetery are examples of the cist grave tradition. 53 graves include seven destroyed graves, 23 stone cists and 23 cists with stone covers. Cist graves were not detected in the settlement layers, but two Late Uruk-EBA Transitional period pithos burials recovered in the settlement indicates that the intramural burial tradition was also present during the same period. These pithoi belonged to infant burials²² and no skeleton that belonged to an individual younger than 8-9 years of age could be detected at the cemetery. It was suggested that such a practice might be related to a tendency to maintain infant burials within the settlement²³. There are also some suggestions on that infants were not buried in extramural graves, as they were not yet considered as individuals by society²⁴. The tradition of infant burials within the settlement was also identified in Tell Mohammed Arab's Late Uruk-EBA transitional layers²⁵.

The graves were buried under the alluvial deposit and flood sediment of about 154 cm thick carried by the Salat Stream and Tigris River²⁶. Alluvial silt brought by the river leaked into the graves and destructed most of the the skeletons. It appears that the saline soil and the pebble pavements on the floors of the graves (Fig. 5-10) also had a negative impact on the poor preservation of the skeletons. Yet the largest destruction resulted from grave robberies that occurred in various periods, which caused skeletons and grave goods to be removed from the graves. The destruction of skeletons at Müslümantepe, where contemporary graves were discovered, was explained with pebble pavement on grave floors²⁷, in terms of natural factors for the graves in Kargamış²⁸, Birecik²⁹, and Şaraga Höyük³⁰; and the extreme destruction of the Başur cemetery was explained in terms of the acidic structure of soil³¹.

Most of the extramural graves extended in northwest-southeast orientation, only nine graves were slightly deflected and had an east-west orientation. Spatially well planned graves ordered in parallel lines³². Başur Höyük EBA graves, which are very similar to Aşağı Salat graves, are located on the southeast of

²² Başoğlu et al. 2013, 4.

²³ Seeher 1993, 12.

²⁴ Uhri 2014, 64-68.

²⁵ Bolt 1991, 37.

²⁶ Şenyurt 2002a, 677; Doğan 2003, 133.

²⁷ Ay 2004, 376.

²⁸ Woolley – Barnet 1952, 218.

²⁹ Sertok – Ergeç 2000, 1516.

³⁰ Sertok – Kulakoğlu 2002, 110.

³¹ Sağlamtimur 2013, 78.

³² Şenyurt 2004, 645.

the settlement. Başur graves indicate a similar spatial pattern in northwest-southeast orientation and they were placed on an artificial terrace destroying Late Uruk level.³³ The stone cist graves uncovered at Birecik EBA Cemetery³⁴ also had the same orientation. While the stone cist graves found in Kargamış had a north-south orientation in general, it was detected that some graves had a northwest-southeast orientation³⁵. The graves uncovered at Müslümantepe³⁶, which is approximately 6 km from the Aşağı Salat Cemetery, and the EBA grave at Arslantepe (Malatya) also had a northwest-southeast orientation³⁷. The stone cist graves at Hacinebi, on the other hand, were slightly deflected, with a north-south orientation³⁸. These samples indicate that graves with a northwest-southeast orientation were a more common practice within this period.

Burial Customs

Grave Architecture

All of the Aşağı Salat Late Uruk-EBA Transitional Period graves in the belong to the cist grave tradition³⁹ but they are divided into two sub-types as stone cists and graves with stone lid due to their different architectural characteristics. However, it is difficult to claim that the diversification observed in grave architecture was related with the different social statuses of individuals, as there was no diversification in terms of burial rites and grave finds.

The main building materials used in the graves were flattened limestone blocks. These blocks, which were neatly cut, were used as side slabs and lids in stone cist graves (fig. 5-8) and only as covers (fig. 8) in the other graves. The top of all graves were encircled with mid-size, rough stones (fig. 3-4). It seems that these stones were used to support to the cists and the lids, as well as a sign to show the location of the grave. Grave M37, the stone lid of which was broken on its western edge, can exemplify this case. While the grave was destroyed at a time close to its own age, all grave goods inside the grave were taken out and left neatly as a pile on its northwestern corner. As these finds and the stones encircling

³³ Bathan 2014, 26.

³⁴ Sertok – Ergeç 1999, 87; Sertok 2003, 53.

³⁵ Wooley – Barnet 1952, 219-222.

³⁶ Ay 2004, 380, fig. 5.

³⁷ Frangipane et al. 2001, 120.

³⁸ Stein 1998, 184.

³⁹ T. Özgüç grouped stone cist graves in two categories according to the construction technique. While stone cist graves, which he called type 1, were graves that were built from four or at most six stones and covered with a single or double stones, type 2 graves consisted of those that were encircled with stones of miscellaneous sizes on all sides and left open (Özgüç 1948, 31).

the grave were on the same level, it can be concluded that the cists and the stone cover were beneath the soil, while the stones encircling the grave remained on the surface.

Another common architectural characteristic of the the graves is the pebble pavements on the floors (fig. 5-10). This type of application was also observed in Birecik and Müslümantepe graves. This application can be explained with the high cost of using limestone as base slab. On the other hand, two of Aşağı Salat graves are different from the others with their limestone slab paved floors (fig. 7). Unfortunately lack of findings prevents to talk about more about these graves. The cost of constructing stone cist graves are bigger than the simple inhumations and pot graves. Simply they require more manpower and suitable limestone sources. Owing to these reasons stone cist graves are not very common in the region. In fact, it is known that there are several samples of stone cist graves in Anatolia in which wall stones instead of side cist slabs and flagstones instead of limestone lids were used to save material⁴⁰.

There are 23 graves in Aşağı Salat that are categorized as stone cist graves (fig. 5-9). Although the orientations of six cist graves are slightly deviated, in general, there is a uniformity of orientation in a southwest-northeast direction. Limestone slabs were placed longitudinally on four sides of the rectangular grave pit dug directly on the main soil, and the grave was closed with a single lid made of limestone once again. The depth of graves varies between 45 and 65 cm, the length of limestone slabs varies between 80 and 130 cm, their thickness varies between 10 and 12 cm, and their height varies between 65 and 80 cm. There are 23 samples of graves without side slabs, with stone lids only (Fig. 8, 10). The depths of these graves, which were closed with a single limestone slab that covers the grave entirely, were lower than the stone cist graves. The depth of these graves, which have a dimension of 60 x 100 cm on average, ranges between 35 and 60 cm. The floors of this kind of graves were also paved with pebbles as the other graves, and they were encircled with mid-size stones. In two graves that do not have side slabs (M22, M28), conglomerate rocks were used instead of limestone lids. Grave M31, in turn, in which conglomerate rock and limestone lid were used together, is a unique sample.

The earliest examples of the stone cist grave tradition in Anatolia were revealed at the 13th layer of (Late Chalcolithic) Alişar⁴¹. Cist graves, were extensively used in Anatolia and Northern Mesopotamia from the Chalcolithic Period⁴² to the

⁴⁰ Seeher 1993, 13.

⁴¹ Özgüç 1948, 32.

⁴² Uhri 2014, 116.

Iron Age⁴³. EBA cist graves were found at the sites like Başur Höyük⁴⁴, Birecik⁴⁵, Kargamış⁴⁶, Şaraga Höyük⁴⁷, Müslüman-tepe⁴⁸, Hacınebi Tepe⁴⁹, Arslantepe⁵⁰ and Suyatağı/Mamaraş⁵¹ in the Southeastern Anatolia. Stone cist graves continued to be used extensively after the EBA in the region, the best samples from the Middle Bronze Age were uncovered in Lidar Höyük⁵² and Titriş⁵³. Samples dated to the Middle Bronze Age were also revealed in Til Barsip and Tawi in Northern Mesopotamia⁵⁴.

The cist graves at Aşağı Salat have not any entrance or dromos arrangement. Entrance arrangements of Birecik Cemetery⁵⁵ and Şaraga Cemetery⁵⁶ formed with the vertical placement of the side slabs on the east of cists. While there are samples with similar size to the graves in Aşağı Salat at Birecik EBA cemetery, where 312 stone cist graves were uncovered, larger graves are also present⁵⁷. Even though Kargamış stone cist graves are similar samples in terms of grave architecture, they are distinct from Aşağı Salat graves, as they are located within the settlement⁵⁸. Hacınebi Tepe graves⁵⁹, where six stone cist graves dated to the early phases of EBA were discovered, have also similar characteristics with Aşağı Salat in terms of their orientation, grave architecture and grave goods. At Suyatağı/Mamaraş, located approximately 30 km to the north of Şemsiyetepe Höyük in Elazığ, seven stone cist graves were uncovered at the cemetery, which were completely submerged under the dam reservoir, indicating that the stone cist grave tradition had reached the Lower Euphrates Region⁶⁰. While all pottery finds obtained from these graves were samples observed in the Euphrates Region, especially the Karaz

⁴³ Akyurt 1998, 109.

⁴⁴ Batıhan 2014.

⁴⁵ Sertok – Ergeç 1999; Sertok – Ergeç 2000.

⁴⁶ Wooley – Barnet 1952.

⁴⁷ Sertok – Kulakoğlu 2002a; 2002b.

⁴⁸ Ay 2004.

⁴⁹ Stein 1998.

⁵⁰ Frangipane 1998; Frangipane et al. 2001.

⁵¹ Darga 1989; Darga 2000.

⁵² Hauptman 1982.

⁵³ Algaze et al. 1992.

⁵⁴ Carter – Parker 1995, 106.

⁵⁵ Sertok 2003, 53.

⁵⁶ Sertok – Kulakoğlu 2002b, 110.

⁵⁷ Sertok 2003, 53.

⁵⁸ Wooley – Barnet 1952, 219.

⁵⁹ Stein 1998, 184.

⁶⁰ Darga 1989, 67; Darga 2000, 145.

goods⁶¹ revealed the extent of the cultural environment in which the stone cist grave tradition prevailed in the EBA. Another center that revealed the presence of the stone cist grave tradition in the Upper Tigris Region is Müslümantepe. While Müslümantepe graves were built by vertically erected limestone blocks covered with a stone, the floors were paved with pebbles, as in Aşağı Salat. Even though the skeleton was poorly preserved, the grave was dated to Late Uruk/Ninevite 5 transitional period owing to the pottery finds discovered⁶².

Başur EBA graves⁶³ not only definitively reveal the prevalence of the cist grave tradition in the Botan Valley, but also reflect the cultural connection of the region with the Upper Tigris Region during the Late Uruk and EBA-I periods. The stone cist grave, which belongs to the Arslantepe VIA layer⁶⁴, dated to the end of the 4th Millenium B.C. and the early EBA-I by its excavator, is one of the largest examples of this type of grave. Numerous copper and silver alloyed rings, beads and pins discovered inside the grave suggest that it belonged to a nobleman⁶⁵. There is a round-shaped platform around the stone cist grave, which is placed at an isolated location from the settlement. All sides and the floor of the grave, which has a south-north orientation, were covered with limestone slabs. No earth embankment could be detected inside the grave, had a depth of 40-60 cm⁶⁶. The most remarkable feature of Arslantepe grave is the skeletons that accompanied the main burial and belonged to four young individuals, who were most probably sacrificed⁶⁷.

Burial Types

As a result of intense alluvial fill, the excessive salination of the soil and the destruction caused by grave robberies, the skeletons at Aşağı Salat Cemetery are poorly preserved. Even though in most of the graves the skeletons were uncovered in a decayed and disintegrated manner, which complicated the possibility of making interpretations regarding burial type and the position of the dead in the grave, it is still possible to make certain generalizations based on relatively well-preserved skeletal remains⁶⁸. It appears that the bodies, which were placed on the pebble floors of graves that have a northwest-southeast orientation, were

⁶¹ Darga 1989, 69.

⁶² Ay 2004, 376.

⁶³ Bathan 2014, 90.

⁶⁴ Frangipane et al. 2001.

⁶⁵ Frangipane 1998.

⁶⁶ Frangipane et al. 2001, 120.

⁶⁷ Frangipane et al. 2001, 111.

⁶⁸ Günay et al. 2011, 234-235, Çiz.1; Başaoğlu et al. 2013, 4, Tablo 1.

buried in hocker position in an east-west orientation, lying on their left side (Fig. 10). Since skull pieces were recovered mostly on the northeastern edges, it was suggested that the bodies were buried facing south. Similar burial practices, with the same orientation and position, were discovered in Başur Höyük⁶⁹, Birecik⁷⁰, and Müslümantepe⁷¹ cemeteries. Although the relatively small sizes of the graves suggest single burials in Aşağı Salat, the presence of multiple burials was identified in three graves⁷²; it is known that multiple burials were a common practice in Birecik cemetery, as well⁷³. On the other hand, multiple burials were identified in simple earth graves in BaşurHöyük⁷⁴.

Grave Goods

Pottery Finds

Bowls

Pottery forms one of the most common groups of grave goods or burial gifts. Bowls placed inside large the fruitstands are the most prevalent finds among the pottery found inside the graves. Bowls (fig. 16) could be accepted as the reflection of a standardized pottery production process and standardized burial gift tradition. The most common type of these bowls (fig. 11: 1-15) are simple rimmed and ring based. All of these fine ware⁷⁵ bowls are wheel made and have pale yellow or greenish-cream surface colours. Well-fired fabrics tempered with fine lime and mineral inclusions. The most distinctive form characteristics were bodies slightly curved outwards, round, slanted rim edges, and ring bases⁷⁶. The protrusions at the base of some of these bowls (fig. 11: 2, 4, 5, 9, 12, 13, 15) prevented the vessels to stand properly. The samples of bowls with incised decorations (fig. 11: 1-9, 16, 20) had three to four rows of horizontal, shallow groove decorations, which are typical for Ninevite 5 pottery tradition.

Among the settlements dated to the Nineveh 5 period in the Upper Tigris Region, these type of bowls were obtained at Salat Tepe ID phase⁷⁷, Şahintepe⁷⁸,

⁶⁹ Bathan 2014, 16-18.

⁷⁰ Sertok – Ergeç 1999, 90; Sertok 2003, 53.

⁷¹ Ay 2004, 376.

⁷² Günay et al. 2011, 236.

⁷³ Sertok –Ergeç 1999, 90.

⁷⁴ Sağlamtimur 2013, 78.

⁷⁵ Laneri et al. 2016, 29.

⁷⁶ Rova 2011, 60.

⁷⁷ Ökse et al., 2001, 617, fig. 7, 10; Ökse 2015, 20; Ökse 2016, 373.

⁷⁸ Ay 2001, 714, fig. 14, 3, 5, 6; Ay 2004, 381, fig. 7.

Gricano⁷⁹, Hirbemerdon Tepe⁸⁰ and Kenantepe⁸¹. Even though it is known that ring based bowls with simple rim without groove decorations were common during Late Uruk period⁸², similar bowls were found in Kenantepe⁸³, Tepe Gawra⁸⁴, Chagar Bazar⁸⁵, Tell Mohammed Arab⁸⁶, and Tell Karrana 3, as well as at the EBA cemetery at Başur Höyük in the Botan Valley⁸⁷.

While sample M3/2 among the bowls (fig. 11:16) was distinctive in its pointed base form, similar types are known from Tell Mohammed Arab⁸⁸, Tell Leilan-3⁸⁹, and Tell Brak⁹⁰ for the Ninevite 5 period. Two samples among the bowls, in turn (fig. 11: 19-20), were distinctive as they had moderately tall pedestals, even though they had the same type of clay and surface properties. The most similar cases to such bowls with pedestals were discovered at Tell Karrana 3⁹¹ and Nineveh⁹², and close samples assessed as fruit stands were also found in the graves of Başur within the Botan Valley, which were dated to the beginnings of EBA⁹³.

Two bowls recovered in graves M37 and M46 (fig. 11: 17-18) are distinctive with their forms, reddish-buff slip colors and vertical burnish pattern. Similar round based simple bowls were encountered in the earliest phases of the Amuq G period⁹⁴, Nineveh⁹⁵, and EBA-I phase of Barri⁹⁶. Vertical burnished pattern decorations are known from the lower layers of the Ziyarettepe-E area and fourth and fifth layers of the Kenantepe, which are dated to 3360-3020 B.C.⁹⁷ Moreover, burnished decoration is an especially common decoration type on fruitstands at

⁷⁹ Schahner 2004, 541, fig.22.

⁸⁰ Laneri et al. 2016: 27, Pl. IX. 7-10.

⁸¹ Parker et al. 2004, 568, fig. 3, d, f.

⁸² Rova 1988, 219, Type. B.1.

⁸³ Parker et al. 2008, Fig. 12/H.

⁸⁴ Tobler 1950, Pl. CXXVII/ 173.

⁸⁵ Mallowan 1937, fig. 18, 7.

⁸⁶ Rova 1988, 41.

⁸⁷ Batihan 2014, Slab 7.

⁸⁸ Bolt – Green 2003, 548, fig. 21, 3

⁸⁹ Schwartz 1988, 119, fig. 118, 6, 8.

⁹⁰ Matthews 2003, fig. 5.57, 14, 17, 18.

⁹¹ Rova 1988, plate. 18, 14.

⁹² Campbel-Thompson – Hamilton 1932, plate. 63, 14.

⁹³ Batihan 2014, 33, Lev. 3.1.

⁹⁴ Braidwood – Braidwood 1960, 266, fig. 203,4; fig. 220, 17-28.

⁹⁵ Campbel-Thompson – Mallowan 1933, plate. 62, 20

⁹⁶ Rova 1988, plate. 32, 4.

⁹⁷ Ökse 2015, 20.

Başur Höyük EBA cemetery⁹⁸. The incised wavy line decoration observed on the bowl (fig. 11:17) can also be seen on one of the fruit stand samples (fig. 13:9), and similar patterns are known from the Amuq G phase⁹⁹ and Nineveh¹⁰⁰.

The bowl recovered from grave M31 (fig. 11:21) is the only painted bowl sample found in Aşağı Salat. There are two horizontal band-like painted decorations on the everted round rimmed, carinated bowl. The bowl is wheel made and has greenish-beige colored clay. In typological terms, similar bowls were found at Hassek Höyük Late Uruk¹⁰¹ levels, Tell Karrana 3¹⁰² EBA I (Nineveh 5) level and Tellul eth-Thalat¹⁰³ Late Uruk-EBA transitional period level. These bowls, which were categorized within A1a and A3a type by E. Rova¹⁰⁴, have the typical forms of Ninevite 5 pottery tradition. The closest parallel of Aşağı Salat bowl in terms of painted decoration was found at Tell Karrana 3¹⁰⁵ and Başur EBA Cemetery¹⁰⁶. It appears that the transitional period Aşağı Salat bowl is a painted example of the same form known since the Late Uruk period.

Vases

The biconical vases (fig. 12, 17) recovered at the Aşağı Salat cemetery are among the most common forms of the Ninevite 5 pottery. Even though painted versions are much more prevalent in the Ninevite 5 pottery, only one vase (fig. 12: 3) features a groove decoration, as well as parallel band-shaped painted decorations on its neck. On the bodies of most of the vases of Aşağı Salat (fig. 12: 1-6, 10) three to four lines of shallow groove decorations applied like bowls. All biconical vases with everted rims, short necks, oblate spherical bodies, and round bases have two pendant handles with double holes¹⁰⁷ and some samples (fig. 12: 10-12) have short pedestals. Wheel made and well-tempered samples were not preserved well, breakages and fractures occurred on the surfaces of these sherds (fig. 12. 7-8). Fine mica and mineral tempered fabrics are greenish and yellowish

⁹⁸ Bathan 2014, 31.

⁹⁹ Braidwood – Braidwood 1960, 279, fig. 220, 17-28.

¹⁰⁰ Campbel-Thompson – Mallowan 1933, plate. 62, 20.

¹⁰¹ Behm-Blancke 2003, 486, fig.2, 9.

¹⁰² Rova 1988, plate. 18, 2.

¹⁰³ Numoto 1998, fig. 5a, 28, 29.

¹⁰⁴ Rova 1988, 35, 213.

¹⁰⁵ Rova 2003a, 18, fig. 3, 11.

¹⁰⁶ Bathan 2014, 39, Lev.10. 3.

¹⁰⁷ These vases with handles, which are also described as perforated handles, are called “*ösenhenkel-pokale*” as well (Behm-Blancke 1988, 160, Abb. 1).

beige colored¹⁰⁸. Internal and exterior surfaces have vertical burnish patterns and they have identical colors with the fabrics.

While many similar samples to these vases have been recovered within the Ninevite 5 pottery tradition¹⁰⁹, the closest examples to the finds of Aşağı Salat were discovered in Chagar Bazar 5¹¹⁰ and Hacinebi EBA-I cist grave¹¹¹. The samples with the same form uncovered in the Nineveh excavations¹¹² were decorated with paint, while the Ninevite 5 vases with double pendant handles retrieved at Hassek Höyük¹¹³ had pedestals and were painted. While vases of similar form found at Tell Mohammed Arab¹¹⁴ dated to the latest phases of Late Uruk period, vases with perforated/pendant handles were also familiar from Başur EBA Cemetery¹¹⁵ and Birecik EBA Cemetery¹¹⁶.

Another type found among the group of vases is spouted (fig 15:1-5). Two handmade spouted vases (fig 15: 4-5) are different with their coarse fabric. Both vases had a height of about 5 cm. The other three samples, which are wheel made, (fig 15: 1-3) small sized, with a height of about 8-12 cm. The spouted vases have pointed bases and some of them have (Fig. 15: 1-3) shallow groove decoration on their body, as in other vases. The spouts coming out of the body had a round form and all samples had a single spout. The precursors of this type of spouted vases, numerous examples of which are present in the Ninevite 5 pottery repertoire, can be seen in the Late Uruk pottery tradition. The most similar samples to the Aşağı Salat samples were encountered at the Nineveh excavations¹¹⁷, Tell Brak Ninevite 5 layers¹¹⁸, Tell Mohammed Arab's Late Uruk graves¹¹⁹, and Nineveh 5 layers¹²⁰, as well as in Hassek Höyük¹²¹.

¹⁰⁸ Şenyurt 2002, 678.

¹⁰⁹ Rova 1988, 222, Type C1, C1a.

¹¹⁰ Mallowan 1937, fig. 25, 3.

¹¹¹ Stein et al. 1997, 166, Fig. 19/ D.

¹¹² Campbell-Thompson – Hamilton 1932, plate. 55, 9.

¹¹³ Hoh 1984, 91, abb. 16, 1, 2; Behm-Blancke 1988, 165, abb. 5, 3-5; Behm-Blancke 2003, 487, fig. 3, 3, 4.

¹¹⁴ Roaf – Killick, 1987, 208, fig. 2, 1.

¹¹⁵ Bathhan 2014, 58, Lev. 15.

¹¹⁶ Sertok – Ergeç 1999, 103, Fig. 7/ J-L.

¹¹⁷ Campbell-Thompson – Hamilton 1932, plate. 58, 9; 61, 18.

¹¹⁸ Matthews 2003, 137, fig. 5.55, 3.

¹¹⁹ Roaf 1984, 155, fig. 8, b.

¹²⁰ Roaf 1983, 70, fig. 2, 5, 6.

¹²¹ Hoh 1984, abb. 13, 1.

Fruit Stands

Wares with or without handles, tall pedestals/stands, which are usually called fruit stand or chalice ware¹²² in the archaeology literature are qualified under the title of “fruit stands”¹²³. All fruit stands found in Aşağı Salat graves, which are among the most common grave goods, had a pedestaled form (Fig. 13). The pedestals were not very tall, at around 6-8 cm on average. Well fired reddish, yellowish or pinkish coloured fabrics tempered with lime, mica and fine sand. All of the wheel made fruit stands are slipped and burnished. The surface colors are similar to the fabrics. Vertical burnished pattern decoration observed on some of the fruit stands with round bodies and simple, inverted rims. The edges of pedestals, which were not very tall, are everted at the bottom. A vertical pedestaled fruit stand have notched decorations (Fig. 13: 9) at the juncture of the body and the pedestal. Similarly decorated fruit stands, were uncovered at Kenantepe Late Uruk-EBA transitional period¹²⁴ and at the Başur EBA grave¹²⁵.

Painted examples of simple rimmed Ninevite 5 fruit stands, which have taller pedestals and broad shallow bodies¹²⁶, were recovered extensively at Nineveh. The plain samples at Aşağı Salat, with simple inverted rims, bear the characteristics of a more localized form. The fruit stands, which are characteristic of grave goods found at Birecik¹²⁷, Şaraga¹²⁸, Kargamış¹²⁹, Hassekhöyük¹³⁰, and Hacinebi¹³¹ graves, have taller pedestals compared to the samples at Aşağı Salat. Similar fruit stands with tall pedestals were found in the Late Chalcolithic layers of Hacinebi¹³² and Late Chalcolithic-EBA transitional materials of Arslantepe¹³³. Other samples similar to the fruit stands of Aşağı Salat are known from the Müslümanentepe¹³⁴ and Başur Höyük graves¹³⁵.

¹²² Parker et al. 2004, 552.

¹²³ Ökse 2012, 90.

¹²⁴ Creekmore 2007, 113, Fig. 5/G-H.

¹²⁵ Bathan 2014, 41, Lev.1. 1.

¹²⁶ Rova 1988, 221.Type B10.

¹²⁷ Sertok – Ergeç, 1999.

¹²⁸ Sertok – Kulakoğlu, 2002a, 365, figure 5, 8-11.

¹²⁹ Wooley – Barnet, 1952.

¹³⁰ Marro 1993, 67, Pl. 2/ 7,8.

¹³¹ Stein 1998, 202, fig. 8, f.

¹³² Pearce 2000, 140, fig. 16, 1.

¹³³ Frangipane 2000, 459, fig. 5, 2.

¹³⁴ Ay 2004, 381, figure 6, 7.

¹³⁵ Bathan 2014, 41; Lev.1.

Being among the common vessel forms of the Ninevite 5 tradition and considered within Late Uruk-Ninevite 5 transitional materials at Tell Karana 3, fruit stands with carinated bodies and paint decorations¹³⁶ are different from Aşağı Salat samples. Numerous painted fruit stand samples from the Ninevite 5 period were recovered at Nineveh¹³⁷, Tell Mohammed Arab¹³⁸, Tell Leilan¹³⁹, and also at Telul eth-Thalathat¹⁴⁰. The fruit stands recovered from Tell Jigan simple inhumation burials¹⁴¹ bear certain differences in their rims and pedestal forms. The samples recovered from the Ninevite 5 period graves at the Tell Rijim in Ancient Mosul region, in turn,¹⁴² differ from the Aşağı Salat samples with their steeper necks and deep groove decorations from the rim to the body.

Pots

Among the pots recovered within the graves, mostly on the eastern edge of the grave, close the skull, the most prevalent group was “pedestaled pots.” Spherical bodied and slightly everted rimmed pedestaled pots (fig. 14, 1-5) have pedestal heights between 6 and 8 cm. The pedestaled have pinkish, yellowish, tile reddish exterior colors and usually self-slipped and burnished. On the necks of some samples, incised waveline decorations (Fig. 14: 3) and notched decorations (fig. 14: 5) are visible. Such decorations can also be seen in Nineveh¹⁴³ and Chagar Bazar¹⁴⁴ samples. There were no painted samples among the pedestaled pots recovered at Aşağı Salat. Examples of plain pedestaled pots in Amuq’s F phase¹⁴⁵ reveal that this was a form that had been used since the Late Uruk period and persisted in Ninevite 5 ware¹⁴⁶, as well. Similar samples to the pedestaled pots recovered at Aşağı Salat Cemetery were also found as grave goods at Birecik EBA cemetery¹⁴⁷ and Kargamış cemetery¹⁴⁸. Compared to painted, pedestaled pots

¹³⁶ Rova 2003a, fig. 4, 5.

¹³⁷ Campbell-Thompson – Hamilton 1932, plate 56, 3, 5; Campbell-Thompson – Mallowan 1933, plate 54, 5;

¹³⁸ Roaf 1983, 72, fig. 3, 1, 4, 6.

¹³⁹ Schwartz 1985, 64, fig. 2, 1, 3.

¹⁴⁰ Rova 2000, 250, fig. 3.

¹⁴¹ Li 2003, 53, fig. 6, 1.

¹⁴² Bielinski 2003, 504, fig. 9, 1-3.

¹⁴³ Campbell-Thompson – Hamilton 1932, plate. 60, 2, 3, 10; Campbell-Thompson – Mallowan 1933, plate. 62, 15, 18.

¹⁴⁴ Mallowan 1936, fig. 18, 6, 7, 8.

¹⁴⁵ Braidwood – Braidwood 1960, 281, fig. 222.

¹⁴⁶ Rova 1988, 223, Type C6.

¹⁴⁷ Sertok – Ergeç, 1999, fig. 7, A-C; Sertok – Ergeç, 2000, fig. 6, D.

¹⁴⁸ Wooley – Barnett, 1952, plate. 57.c, 7, 58.c, 2, 59.c, 1.

with groove decorations and handles, which are available among Ninevite 5 ware tradition, it appears that Aşağı Salat finds are simpler and have a local character. Similar pots recovered from the Ninevite 5 layers of Tellul eth-Thalat¹⁴⁹ are the closest samples in terms of their form to the finds of Aşağı Salat. While pedestaled pots recovered from Tell Leilan 2nd period¹⁵⁰ indicate that this was a form that had been used before the EBA, samples recovered from Tell Leilan's EBA layers¹⁵¹ were important, as they suggested that it persisted throughout the EBA as well. Within the Botan Valley, painted versions of pedestaled pots were recovered from the early-phase EBA cemetery of Başur¹⁵².

One of the pedestaled pots (fig. 14: 10) had a distinctive character with the solid filled double spouts. Furthermore, filled double spout form of the pot, which also had an irregularly applied net pattern within a strip on its neck, is a property that is known from the Late Uruk period¹⁵³. The closest samples to the painted decorations and spout form of the Aşağı Salat pot were recovered from the Başur EBA cemetery¹⁵⁴.

The pots in the second group (fig. 14: 6-7) have short necks, steep rim edges, spherical bodies, and ring bases. The pots have light buff coloured fabrics and reddish buff surfaces. Vertical burnish pattern decorations are visible on the surfaces. One of the pots (fig. 14: 7) had three parallel groove decorations on its shoulder. Similar types of pots were recovered from Tell Brak's¹⁵⁵ and Chagar Bazar's¹⁵⁶ Ninevite 5 layers, and from Başur EBA graves¹⁵⁷.

A pot with reserved slip decoration, which was recovered in grave M40, right in front of the skull (fig. 8, 14: 9), was the only such type found in Aşağı Salat. The unburnished pot has dark reddish orange coloured fabric and well fired. The decoration, starting immediately below the neck and stretching down to the body in four lines of strips, was made with the reserved slip technique and had transverse lines and triangular patterns. The reserved slipped pot group, which extends to a large area from the Lower Mesopotamia to the Zagros Mountains and Eastern Anatolia, is one of the definitive characteristics of Late Uruk and EBA¹⁵⁸. Similar

¹⁴⁹ Rova 1988, plate. 23, 9, 10.

¹⁵⁰ Schwartz 1988, fig. 29, 7.

¹⁵¹ Schwartz 1988, fig. 38, 1, 2.

¹⁵² Batihan 2014, Lev.12-13.

¹⁵³ Helwing 1999, 95, Fig. 2.

¹⁵⁴ Batihan 2014, Lev.12.

¹⁵⁵ Matthews 2003, 143, fig. 5.58, 1; 5.63, 21; 5.65, 8.

¹⁵⁶ Bolt and Green 2003, 538-539, Fig. 10, Fig. 12.

¹⁵⁷ Batihan 2014, Lev. 14, 2-4.

¹⁵⁸ Sertok – Kulakoğlu, 2002b, 109.

pots with reserved slip decoration were found in Birecik¹⁵⁹ and Şaraga EBA cemeteries¹⁶⁰, in the Arslantepe EBA period royal tomb¹⁶¹, and in the EBA layers of Hassek Höyük¹⁶².

Another sample among the pots was that with four horizontal handles with dual holes, recovered in grave M-46 (fig. 14: 8). Being known since Late Uruk and with numerous samples also found during the EBA I period, this type has rim edges thickened outwards, steep and narrow neck, oblate spherical body, and a ring base. The incised decoration could be seen on the relief decoration placed on the shoulder of the pot. Four handles with dual holes on the shoulder of the vessel are one of the most characteristic features of such a vessel type. Besides those found in Nineveh¹⁶³, other similar samples are known from Tell Mohammad Arab's Ninevite 5 layers¹⁶⁴, Tell Thalathat No. 5's Late Uruk-EBA transitional period wares¹⁶⁵, Tell Karrana 3's Late Uruk layers¹⁶⁶, Hacinebi Tepe's Late Chalcolithic-EBA transitional layer¹⁶⁷, and Hassek Höyük's Late Uruk layer¹⁶⁸.

The pots, which are represented with only two examples, have gritty coarse fabric (fig. 14: 11-12). They are short necked, spherical bodied and have everted rims. The surfaces of these handmade pots are reddish orange coloured and they don't have any slip or burnishing. Similar pots were recovered from Arslantepe's Late Uruk¹⁶⁹ and Tell Brak's Ninevite 5 layers¹⁷⁰.

Pedestals

Only one sample (fig. 15: 6) of pedestals, which are usually used to place round or pointed base bowls on top. Slipped and unburnished surfaces have the same color with the reddish buff fabric. There are 3x7.5 cm sized two fenestrations facing each other on the middle the vessel. It has also two relief decoration on the base and neck. Among the pedestals, numerous samples of which can be found

¹⁵⁹ Sertok – Ergeç, 1999, 103, fig. 7, A-C.

¹⁶⁰ Sertok – Kulakoğlu, 2002b, 118, Illustration 2.

¹⁶¹ Frangipane 1998, 308, fig. 10, 2; Frangipane et al. 2001, 114, fig. 15, 9, 10.

¹⁶² Hoh 1984, abb. 14, 7, 8.

¹⁶³ Campbel-Thompson – Hamilton 1932, plate. 61, 20 X.W. 18, I.W.23; Campbel-Thompson – Mallo-
wan 1933, plate. 52, 9, 10.

¹⁶⁴ Roaf 1983, 70, fig. 2, 1, 3.

¹⁶⁵ Numoto 1998, 60, fig. 4a, 15.

¹⁶⁶ Rova 2003a, 17, fig.2, 3.

¹⁶⁷ Pearce 2000, 141, fig. 17

¹⁶⁸ Behm-Blancke 2003, 486, fig. 2, 1, 2.

¹⁶⁹ Frangipane 2000, 457, fig. 3, 1-4.

¹⁷⁰ Matthews 2003, 145, fig. 5.59, 5.

in the EBA period at different sizes and types, the most similar sample to the Aşağı Salat find was recovered in the Ninevite 5 grave at Tell Mohammed Arab settlement¹⁷¹.

Plates

Only one plate sample (fig. 15: 7) could be recovered among the pottery finds. Wheel-made and well fired plate has unburnished brownish buff surface. The fabric is tempered with fine grit and mineral. Slightly everted rimmed and carinated similar plates were found in Tell Leilan's Late Uruk-EBA transitional layers¹⁷².

Terra Cotta Figurines

The number of small finds recovered in Aşağı Salat graves was very low with respect to pottery finds. This is most likely due to the fact that graves were robbed and destroyed. Among the small finds, the terra cotta animal figurines found in graves M9 and M10 were remarkable (fig. 15: 18-19). Both were made of blackish brown clay, and have 4 cm length and 1.5 cm width. There were small fractures on the feet and horns of the figurines, which looked rather like adult rams with their short tails, horns aligned with the ear, and short legs. Such terra cotta animal figurines are common for the Late Uruk-EBA I period in Anatolia and Northern Mesopotamia¹⁷³. Similar bull/ram figurines were recovered from Sos Höyük¹⁷⁴, Pulum Höyük¹⁷⁵, Kenantepe¹⁷⁶, and Kavuşan Höyük¹⁷⁷ in Anatolia, and from archaeological centers such as Nineveh¹⁷⁸, Jemdet Nasr¹⁷⁹, and Java (Jordan)¹⁸⁰ in Northern Mesopotamia and Syria. Numerous ram, goat, and bull figurines uncovered, especially in Nineveh¹⁸¹, are important as they indicate that these figurines were widely used in Ninevite 5 layers. It was detected that they were used as grave goods in Birecik EBA Cemetery as well¹⁸².

171 Roaf 1983, fig.4, 4.

172 Mayo and Weiss, 2003, fig.5, 1, 3.

173 Moorey 2001, 35, no, 6, 10, 11.

174 Sagona – Sagona 2000, fig, 24-25.

175 Koşay – Vary 1964, plate. 37, p. 88.

176 Parker et al. 2004, fig. 5a.

177 Kozbe et al. 2004, 482, fig., 14a.

178 Moorey 2001, 42, no, 27.

179 Moorey 2001, 42, no, 25.

180 Moorey 2001, 42, no, 31, 32.

181 Campbell-Thompson – Hamilton 1932, plate. 67.

182 Sertok 2003, 53.

Small Finds

Bronze Pins

The only metal finds uncovered in Aşağı Salat graves consisted of bronze pins. The pins were found around the skull or the chest of the deceased, and no signs of textiles were observed. In Başur Höyük graves, it was stated that pins with signs of textiles were found around the chest¹⁸³. Regarding various bronze pins uncovered in Birecik EBA graves, it was suggested that these might be the personal belongings of the deceased, which were left as grave goods, or they might have been used to fasten the shroud covering the deceased¹⁸⁴. Even though no trace of textiles was found in Aşağı Salat graves, it is considered that bronze pins are associated with enshrouded burials. Furthermore, the fact that four of the recovered pins were found in grave no. M-5 supports this prediction.

Five of the bronze pins found in the Aşağı Salat Cemetery had helicoid pinheads (fig. 15: 8-12). Pins with seven or eight lines of helicoid pinheads were rather short, with a length of 4-5 cm. The closest examples of such pins were found in Tel Mohammad Arab's Ninevite 5 period graves¹⁸⁵, whereas longer samples were uncovered in Başur EBA graves¹⁸⁶.

Another type was longer pin with cylindrical pinheads (fig. 15: 13-15, 17), the pinheads of which were flattened and rolled inside to form a cylinder. The closest examples of such needles were recovered from the Yumuktepe Late Chalcolithic Age layers¹⁸⁷, Alalah EBA-I period¹⁸⁸, and Başur EBA graves¹⁸⁹.

The longest sample among the bronze pins (fig. 15: 16) differed from the others, measuring 17.5 cm long, with thick, knob-shaped pinheads. Similar pins recovered from Hacinebi¹⁹⁰, which were rather thick, long, and had knob-shaped pinheads indicate that this form had been used since the Late Chalcolithic period, while other samples dated to EBA were recovered in Birecik¹⁹¹ and Başur¹⁹².

183 Batihan 2014, 64.

184 Sertok – Ergeç 1999, 90.

185 Bolt – Green 2003, fig. 21, 13.

186 Batihan 2014, 70, Lev.22.

187 Garstang 1953, 137-140, Şek. 85/ 1-6.

188 Woolley 1955, 284, Lev. LXXIII/ P5,7.

189 Batihan 2014, Lev. 23-24.

190 Stein 1998, 207, fig. 13, h.

191 Sertok – Ergeç 1999, 105, fig. 9, c.

192 Batihan 2014, Lev.21.

While more than 400 metal goods, the majority of which were pins, were found in the Birecik EBA Cemetery¹⁹³, numerous metal goods including weapons were found in Kargamış Cemetery¹⁹⁴, Hacinebi Tepe¹⁹⁵, Arslantepe¹⁹⁶, and Başur EBA Cemetery¹⁹⁷. The fact that no weapons were uncovered in the Aşağı Salat Cemetery should be related to the fact that the graves were robbed contemporaneously and in later periods, rather than the possibility that weapons were not used as grave goods.

Beads

All of the beads, which were one of the most frequently found artifacts in the graves, were made of stone (fig. 15: 20-21). The largest group consisted of white limestone beads (Fig. 15: 20). The fact that the beads were found mostly around the skull and the chest of the skeletons suggest that they belonged to necklaces worn by the deceased. Necklaces made of round or cylindrical beads were also recovered from the Birecik EBA Cemetery¹⁹⁸, Kargamış Cemetery¹⁹⁹, and Ninevite 5 period cemetery in Tell Jigan²⁰⁰. Another significant group among the stone beads consisted of beads made of rock crystal (Fig. 15: 19), which were also found in Başur EBA graves²⁰¹.

The necklace recovered in grave M14 (fig. 15: 21) contained black, white, and brown stone beads with triangular, diamond, and rectangular shapes of various sizes. Forty-seven of the beads in the necklace were made of triangular and rectangular stones with a firm structure, and had two-three lines of holes for stringing. The other beads, in turn, were black and made of limestone. Similar triangular, diamond-shaped, and round limestone beads were recovered in grave 15 at Tell Jigan's B Area, which is one of the most important Ninevite 5 centers in the Ancient Mosul Region²⁰². The beads found in the Kunji EBA Cemetery in the Luristan Valley of the Zagros Mountains²⁰³ had striking similarities with the Aşağı Salat sample, even though they were recovered in a rather distant territory.

¹⁹³ Sertok – Ergeç 1999, 93.

¹⁹⁴ Wooley and Barnett 1952, plate. 60, 61.

¹⁹⁵ Stein 1998.

¹⁹⁶ Frangipane 1998, 305-307, fig. 7-9; Frangipane et al. 2001, 118-119, fig. 21-24.

¹⁹⁷ Bathhan 2014, plate. 17-19.

¹⁹⁸ Sertok – Ergeç 1999, 107, fig. 11.

¹⁹⁹ Wooley – Barnett 1952, plate. 62a.

²⁰⁰ Li 2003, 59, fig. 7, 14-17.

²⁰¹ Bathhan 2014, 76.

²⁰² Li 2003, 59, fig. 9, 24-26, 31-37.

²⁰³ Emberling et al. 2002, 89, fig. 16.

General Overview and Conclusion

The abovementioned Aşağı Salat findings recovered from the graves could be dated to the Late Uruk-EBA transitional period in the light of the comparisons with the findings of the other sites. During the first period of excavations, even though the cemetery area was excavated, the stratigraphy of the höyük could be specified only in a limited area. Subsequent 2009 and 2010 excavations enlightened the stratigraphy of the mound and it was possible to attribute the graves to the level 5 (a-c). In addition to a limited amount of bevelled rim bowls²⁰⁴ recovered from the early phase (5c) of Aşağı Salat Layer 5 settlement, which contained three different architectural stages preserved at level, numerous beveled rim bowls and typical Late Uruk forms were uncovered in the 6th level during the later excavations. The majority of pottery in Aşağı Salat Cemetery and the 5th layer consisted of vases, bowls, fruitstands, pedestaled and non-pedestaled pots, all of which are among the typical Ninevite 5 pottery repertoire.

The borders of the Ninevite 5 culture, its material repertoire and chronological development stages are still under discussion²⁰⁵. The first group of materials that were called Ninevite 5 pottery was mostly painted wares that were discovered in the excavations carried out at the Tell Kuyunjik Fortress²⁰⁶ in Nineveh in 1929-1930, in the layers following the Late Uruk layers (G-H)²⁰⁷. During later excavations, especially at the Temple of Ishtar, unpainted samples of this ware with grooved decorations were found²⁰⁸, and attempts to designate a historical stratigraphy for Ninevite 5 pottery started²⁰⁹. The fourth layer preceding the fifth, where Ninevite 5 pottery was discovered, was rich in beveled rim bowls and was described as a Late Uruk layer²¹⁰.

For the Ninevite 5 pottery found during the excavations conducted in Tell Billa in 1931-1932²¹¹, 25 kilometers to the northeast of Mosul, two chronologies were proposed²¹², and it was suggested that the painted samples were older artifacts than grooved samples, and both wares belonged to the same culture²¹³. Although

²⁰⁴ This was designated as the 7th Layer in the first season of Aşağı Salat excavations (Şenyurt 2004, 659, Figure 7).

²⁰⁵ Uysal 2007.

²⁰⁶ Roaf – Killick 1987, 201.

²⁰⁷ Rova 1985, 5.

²⁰⁸ Schwartz 1985, 53.

²⁰⁹ Campbell-Thompson – Hamilton, 1932.

²¹⁰ Rova 1985, 6.

²¹¹ Roaf – Killick 1987, 201.

²¹² Rova 1985, 6, 7.

²¹³ Speiser 1932, 6.

some Ninevite 5 groove decorated sherds were found during the excavations conducted at Tepe Gawra²¹⁴, it appears that the Ninevite 5 pottery tradition extended to Anatolia and mountainous areas of Central Iran²¹⁵.

One of the most important centers in Northern Mesopotamia, where the pottery development phases in the layers that belong to the Nineveh 5 culture are traceable, is Telul eth-Thalathat-Tell V²¹⁶ in the Mosul region. A structure from the Ninevite 5 period was uncovered entirely in this settlement for the first time²¹⁷. The pottery obtained from this single-period structure painted and had groove decorations. As a result of detailed studies conducted on Ninevite 5 pottery, it was identified that two pottery forms discovered in Telul eth-Thalathat-Tell V were used in the same period²¹⁸, and it was proposed that they should be dated to the same period as the second period of Tell Mohammed Arab²¹⁹, another crucial Ninevite 5 center in the region²²⁰.

Ninevite 5 period graves were also detected²²¹ in Tell Mohammed Arab, which was founded on the banks of the Tigris River, contained Ninevite 5 layers, and where habitation began in the Late Uruk period²²². Based on the modifications in wares, the Ninevite 5 period in Tell Mohammed Arab was divided into two periods as painted and groove decorated wares²²³. It was suggested that while the painted pottery tradition was much more prevalent in the early phases of the Ninevite 5 period, groove decorated potteries were more marked in the later phase²²⁴.

Another significant Ninevite 5 center in Northern Syria is Tell Leilan. The results of the excavations conducted by a team led by H. Weiss in 1979-1980 were published by G. Schwartz²²⁵. The 16th to 40th phases of Tell Leilan, where 61 settlements were discovered, was asserted as the third Period, and dated to the Ninevite 5 period²²⁶. It was stated that pottery from the 40th phase of Tell Leilan

²¹⁴ Rova 1985, 7.

²¹⁵ Speiser 1932, 6; Rova 1985, 7; Roaf – Killick 1987, 202.

²¹⁶ Numoto 1998.

²¹⁷ Roaf – Killick 1987, 204.

²¹⁸ Roaf – Killick 1987, 205.

²¹⁹ Roaf 1983; Roaf, 1984.

²²⁰ Numoto 1998, 53.

²²¹ Bolt 1991.

²²² Roaf 1983, 68; Roaf 1984; Roaf – Killick 1997, 207.

²²³ Roaf 1983.

²²⁴ Roaf – Killick 1987, 212.

²²⁵ Schwartz 1982; 1985; 1988.

²²⁶ Schwartz 1982, 13-70; Schwartz 1985, 54; Schwartz 1988, 13-27; Mayo – Weiss, 2003, 26-27; Roaf – Killick, 1987, 205.

contained transitional materials from the fourth period to period 3a, the 39th to 37th phases consisted period 3a, in which simple rim bowls and simple groove decorated samples were found together, whereas period 3b started with characteristically groove decorated samples²²⁷. The third period of Tell Leilan, in turn, was dated between the second and third periods of Tell Mohammed Arab, while Telul eth-Thalathat was dated between the second period of Tell Mohammed Arab and the third period of Tell Leilan²²⁸. Carbon-14 samples collected from Tell Leilan dated to the third period of Tell Leilan between 3500-2500 B.C.²²⁹ Very similar materials were found in Tell Brak and Hamoukar in the Khabur region with the materials from Tell Leilan 3a, which corresponds to the Late Uruk-Ninevite 5 period²³⁰.

Recent excavations further clarified that pottery of the Ninevite 5 culture²³¹, which emerged from the demographic, social, and economic structure of the Late Uruk period in Assyria and the Khabur region and continued throughout the transition to the EBA-I period, were prevalent in a vast territory, particularly in Northern Mesopotamia. Even though samples of the Ninevite 5 culture could be detected in only a few excavation sites until the 1980s, they were discovered in many settlements after the 1980s, especially due to dam salvage excavation projects carried out in the Khabur region²³².

Archaeological studies conducted in the Ancient Mosul region revealed that Ninevite 5 culture was an extension of Late Uruk culture, and its elements of material culture had similar properties despite the further expansion of settlement areas²³³. The studies conducted at and around the Tigris River region, which was under the influence of Northern Mesopotamia cultures, indicated similar results. At the Tell Karrana 3 settlement, which remained under the reservoir of Saddam Dam, numerous sherds dated to the transitional phase between the Late Uruk and Early Ninevite 5 periods were recovered. It is acknowledged that particularly the pots called “*nose pierced lug jars*” and pedestaled bowls characteristic of the EBA I period were the dominant forms²³⁴ of this transitional phase.

A parallel and similar process to the Late Uruk-Ninevite 5 cultural transition in the Tigris region was specified in the Karababa region on the Euphrates River

227 Mayo – Weiss, 2003, 29.

228 Roaf and Killick, 1987, 220.

229 Schwartz 1985, 58.

230 Calderone – Weiss, 2003, 200.

231 Forest 2003, 576; Rova 2013, 111.

232 Rova 2003b, 2.

233 Forest 2003, 563-584; Scwartz 1985, 60.

234 Rova 2003a, 13; Roaf – Killick, 2003.

Region and in Tell Brak²³⁵. Even though the published Ninevite 5 materials are limited, it was stated that the painted pottery was of the same type as in the Late Uruk-Ninevite 5 transitional phase; whereas the groove decorated ceramics were contemporaneous with the third Tell Leilan period²³⁶.

In Hassek Höyük²³⁷, another significant settlement in the Karababa region, 20 km to the south of the Taurus Mountains, a strong Ninevite 5 culture was discovered. This settlement discovered in Southeastern Anatolia reveals the similarities between Northern Mesopotamian and Altınova-Keban Region settlements. In the cemetery where a Late Uruk station was uncovered on an area of one hectare²³⁸, vases with pendant handles, pots with vertical lugs and painted vases buried as grave goods in pithos graves were the most familiar forms of this period in Hassek Höyük²³⁹. At Hassek Höyük, which particularly features painted pottery samples, the wares were recovered in the large cellar dated to the Late Uruk-EBA I transitional layers and to EBA I²⁴⁰. It is suggested that these wares, contemporary with Amuq G and Arslantepe VIB phase wares, specify the cultural similarities between Tigris, Karaba, Northern Syria, Ancient Mosul, and Upper Euphrates regions²⁴¹. Girnavaz, which is located in Nusaybin (Mardin), is another important site in which the excavations have been carried out within the Ninevite 5 settlements in the Southeastern Anatolia Region²⁴².

Within the framework of the date range proposed for parallel finds obtained in the contemporaneous settlements indicated above, it appears that Aşağı Salat Cemetery and grave finds can be dated to the Late Uruk-EBA transitional period, and the best chronological range for the mentioned transitional period could be given as 3200-2900 B.C. In this context, Aşağı Salat Cemetery is a contemporary of Salat Tepe ID²⁴³, Kenantepe LC 4-5 (Late Chalcolithic), Hirbemerdon IIA²⁴⁴ (EBA I) and Giricano Trench 06 (Late Chalcolithic-EBA Transition) layers, which are dated to late 4000 and early 3000 B.C. These layers correspond to EBA-IA in Anatolian chronology, to the Late Chalcolithic-EBA Transition in Mesopotamian chronology, and to Early Jazeera 0 in Jazeera chronology.

²³⁵ Rova 2003b, 3; Rova 2013, 108.

²³⁶ Roaf – Killick 1987, 221-222.

²³⁷ Behm-Blancke 1981, 103.

²³⁸ Behm-Blancke 2003, 481.

²³⁹ Behm-Blancke 1988, 162.

²⁴⁰ Behm-Blancke 2003, 482.

²⁴¹ Rova, 2003b, 4; Rova 2013, 110.

²⁴² Uysal 2007, 50-52.

²⁴³ Ökse 2016, 373.

²⁴⁴ Laneri et al. 2016, 14, Table 1.

B.C.	Aşağı Salat	Salat Tepe	Giricano	Kenantepe	Müslümantepe	Birecik	Başur	Amuq	Tarsus	Hasek	Arslantepe	Tell Brak	Moh. Arap	Tel Leilan
3300	6	IC-Late Phase												
3100	5	Cemetery	ID	Trench 06	LC 4-5	Cist Grave	Cemetery	Graves	G	Early Bronze IA	5	VI A	1	III a
	VI B1													
2800											4 3 2 1	H	2	III b
2600												J		
2500												K	3	III d
2300												L		
2100												M		II b
2000														

Table 1 Chronological table (Mellink 1992, Batıhan 2014, Ökse 2015, Laneri et al. 2016)

Bibliography and Abbreviations

- Agravi 2001 Agravi, A. A. M., "Stratigrafic Signatures of Climatic Change During the Holocene Evolution of the Tigris-Euphrates Delta, Lower Mesopotamia", *Global and Planetary Change* 28, 267-283.
- Akyurt 1998 Akyurt, M., M.Ö. 2. Bin'de Anadolu'da Ölü Gömme Adetleri, Ankara.
- Algaze et al. 1991 Algaze, G. – R. Breuninger – C. Lightfoot – M. Rosenberg, "The Tigris-Euphrates Archaeological Reconnaissance Project: A Preliminary Report of the 1989-1990 Seasons", *Anatolica* 17, 175-240.
- Algaze et al. 1992 Algaze, G. – A. Mısır – T. Wilkinson, "Şanlıurfa Museum/University of California Excavations and Surveys at Tiriş Höyük, 1991: A Preliminary Report", *Anatolica* 18, 33-60.
- Ay 2001 Ay, E., "Yukarı Dicle Vadisi 1999 Yılı Yüze Araştırmaları/Upper Tigris Valley Survey: 1999 Season", *Ilisu ve Kargamış Baraj Gölleri Altında Kalacak Arkeolojik ve Kültür Varlıklarını Kurtarma Projesi: 1999 Yılı Çalışmaları / Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of the Ilisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs: Activities in 1999* (eds. N. Tuna – J. Öztürk – J. Velibeyoğlu), ODTÜ/METU, Ankara, 695-728.
- Ay 2004 Ay, E., "2001 Yılı Müslümantepe Kazısı/Müslümantepe Excavations 2001", *Ilisu ve Kargamış Baraj Gölleri Altında Kalacak Arkeolojik ve Kültür Varlıklarını Kurtarma Projesi: 2001 Yılı Çalışmaları / Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of the Ilisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs: Activities in 2001* (eds. N. Tuna – J. Öztürk – J. Velibeyoğlu), ODTÜ/METU, Ankara, 375-386.
- Başıoğlu et al. 2013 Başıoğlu, O. – A. Akçay – P. Gözlük Kırmızı, S. Gökoyun, T. Şener, "Diyarbakır Aşağı Salat Höyüğü İskeletleri", *OLBA* 21 1-18.
- Batıhan 2014 Batıhan, M., *Başur Höyük Eski Tunç Çağı Mezarları ve Buluntuları* (Ankara Üniversitesi Yayınlanmamış Yüksek Lisans Tezi), Ankara.
- Behm-Blancke 1981 Behm-Blancke, M., "Hasek Höyük 1980 Kazı Dönemi", *Kurtarma Kazıları Sempozyumu* 3, 103-108.
- Behm-Blancke 1988 Behm-Blancke, M., "Peripherie Ninive 5-Keramik am Oberen Euphrat", *MDOG* 120, 159-172.

- Behm-Blancke 2003 Behm-Blancke, M., "Northern Frontiers: Early Ninevite 5 Contacts with Southeastern Anatolia", *The Origins of the North Mesopotamia Civilization* (eds. E. Rova – H. Weiss), Subartu 9, 481-491.
- Bielinski 2003 Bielinski, P., "Ninive 5 Burials at Tell Rijim", *The Origins of the North Mesopotamia Civilization* (eds. E. Rova – H. Weiss), Subartu 9, 493-511.
- Bolt 1991 Bolt, D. G., *Burial in Ancient Mesopotamia Town: The Evidence from Tell Mohammed Arap*, Berkeley.
- Bolt – Green 2003 Bolt, D. G. – A. Green, "The Burial of Dead", *The Origins of the North Mesopotamia Civilization* (eds. E. Rova – H. Weiss), Subartu 9, 519-547.
- Braidwood – Braidwood 1960 Braidwood, R. J. – L. S. Braidwood, *Excavations in The Plain of Antioch I, The Earlier Assemblages Phases A-J*, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois.
- Calderone – Weiss 2003 Calderone, L. – H. Weiss, "The End of the Ninevite 5 Period at Tell Leilan", *The Origins of the North Mesopotamia Civilization* (eds. E. Rova – H. Weiss), Subartu 9, 193-220.
- Campbell-Thompson – Hamilton 1932 Campbell-Thompson, R. – R. W. Hamilton, "The British Museum Excavations on the Temple of Ishtar at Nineveh 1930-1931", *Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology* 19, 55-116.
- Campbell-Thompson – Mallowan 1933 Campbell-Thompson, R. – M. E. L. Mallowan, 1933. "The British Museum Excavations at Nineveh 1931-1932", *Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology* 20, 71-186.
- Carter – Parker 1995 Carter, E. – A. Parker, "Pots, People and The Archaeology of Death in Northern Syria and Southern Anatolia in the latter half of the Third Millenium BC", *The Archaeology of Death in the Ancient Near East*, Oxbow Monograph 51, Oxford.
- Creekmore 2007 Creekmore, A., "The Upper Tigris Archaeological Research Project (UTARP): A Summary and Synthesis of The Late Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age Remains From The First Three Seasons at Kenan Tepe", *Anatolica XXXIII*, 75-128.
- Darga 1989 Darga, M. "Les Tombes De Suyatağı (Mamaraş) A La Region De Karakaya", *Anatolia and The Ancient Near East*, Tahsin Özgüç'e Armağan (eds. B. Hrouda – M. Mellinck – N. Özgüç), Ankara.
- Darga 2000 Darga, M., "Aşağı Fırat Havzası Şemsiyetepe Kazıları 1978-1989" (ed. O. Belli), Ankara.
- Doğan 2003 Doğan, U. "Aşağı Salat Höyüğü'nün Jeoarkeolojisi", *Arkeometri Sonuçları Toplantısı* 18, 131-140.
- Doğan 2005 Doğan, U., "Holocene fluvial development of the Upper Tigris Valley (Southeastern Turkey) as documented by archaeological data", *Quaternary International* 129, 75-86.

- Emberling et al. 2002 Emberling, G. – J. Robb – J. D. Speth – H. T. Wright, “Kunji Cave: Early Bronze Age Burials in Luristan”, *Iranica Antiqua* 37, 47-104.
- Forest 2003 Forest, J. D., “The Ninevite 5 Culture: Its Nature and Origins”, Rova, E. ve Weiss H. (Eds.), *The Origins of the North Mesopotamia Civilization*, Subartu 9, 563-584.
- Frangipane 1998 Frangipane, M., “Arslantepe 1996: The Finding of An E.B.I “Royal Tomb””, *KST* 19/1, 291-309.
- Frangipane 2000 Frangipane, M., “The Late Chalcolithic / EB I Sequence at Arslantepe. Chronological and Cultural Remarks from A Frontier Site”, *Chronologies des pays du Caucase et de L’Euphrate Aux IV^e –III^e Millenaires*, *Varia Anatolica* XI, 439-471.
- Frangipane et al. 2001 Frangipane, M. – G. M. Di Nocera – A. Hauptman – P. Morbidelli – A. Palmieri – L. Sadori – M. Schultz – T. Schmidt-Schultz, “New Symbols of A New Power in A “Royal” Tomb From 3000 BC Arslantepe, Malatya (Turkey), *Paleorient* 27/2, 105-139.
- Günay et al. 2011 Günay, I. – A. Şarbak – A. Ersoy, “Aşağı Salat Erken Tunç I İskeletlerinin Antropolojik Analizi”, *TÜBAV Bilim* 4/3, 230-239.
- Hauptmann 1982 Hauptmann, H., “Lidar Höyük”, *TAD* 26-1, 93-110.
- Helwing 1999 Helwing, B., “Cultural Interaction at Hassek Höyük, Turkey. New Evidence from Pottery Analysis”, *Paleorient* 25/1, 91-99.
- Hoh 1984 Hoh, M. R., “Hassek Höyük/Keramik”, *IstMitt* 34, 31-149.
- Koşay – Vary 1964 Koşay, H. Z. – H. Vary, *Pulur Kazısı: 1960 Mevsimi Çalışmaları Raporu*, Ankara.
- Kozbe et al. 2004 Kozbe, G. – K. Köroğlu – H. Sağlamtemur, “Kavuşan Höyük 2001 Yılı Kazısı/2001 Excavations at Kavuşan Höyük”, *Ilisu ve Kargamış Baraj Gölleri Altında Kalacak Arkeolojik ve Kültür Varlıklarını Kurtarma Projesi: 2001 Yılı Çalışmaları / Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of the Ilisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs: Activities in 2001* (eds. N. Tuna – J. Greenhalgh– J. Velibeyoğlu), *ODTÜ/METU*, Ankara, 463-504.
- Laneri et al. 2016 Laneri, N. – M. Dallai – L. Biazzo, “The Early Bronze Age, Phases IIA, IIB, IIIA”, *Hirbemerdon Tepe Archaeological Project 2003-2013 Final Report: Chronology and Material Culture* (ed. Nicola Laneri), Bologna, 27-38.
- Li 2003 Li, H., “Tell Jigan and the Relationship between the Ninevite 5 and Scarlet Ware”, *The Origins of the North Mesopotamia Civilization* (eds. E. Rova – H. Weiss), Subartu 9, 43-71.
- Mallowan 1936 Mallowan, M. E. L., “The Excavations at Tall Chagar Bazar and an Archaeological Survey of Habur Region, 1934-1935”, *IRAQ* 3, 1-86.
- Mallowan 1937 Mallowan, M. E. L., “The Excavations at Tall Chagar Bazar and an Archaeological Survey of Habur Region. Second Campaign 1936”, *IRAQ* 4, 91-177.
- Matthews 2003 Matthews, R., “A Chiefdom on the Northern Plains Early Third-millennium Investigations: The Ninevite 5 Period”, *Excavations at Tell Brak*, Vol. 4 (ed. R. Mathews): *Exploring an Upper Mesopotamian regional centre 1994-1996*, Oxford.

- Marro 1993 Marro, C., "Introduction A La Ceramique Du Haut-Euphrate Au Bronze Ancien", *Anatolia Antiqua* 2, 43-69.
- Mayo – Weiss 2003 Mayo, D. – H. Weiss, "The Beginning of the Ninevite 5 Sequence at Tell Leilan", *The Origins of the North Mesopotamia Civilization* (eds. E. Rova – H. Weiss), *Subartu* 9, 25-41.
- Mellink 1992 Mellink, M. J., "Anatolia", *Chronologies in Old World Archaeology* (ed. R. W. Ehrich), Chicago, 171-220.
- Moorey 2001 Moorey, P. R. S., *Ancient Near Eastern Terracottas with a catalogue of the collection in the Ashmolean Museum*, Oxford.
- Numoto 1998 Numoto, H., "Late Uruk and The Transitional Ninevite 5 Pottery From Tell Thalathat No.5", *Al-Rafidan* 19, 53-73.
- Ökse et al. 2001 Ökse, A. T. – O. Alp – H. U. Dağ – A. Engin – A. Görmüş – G. Mustafaoğlu, "Salat Tepe 1999 Yüzey Araştırması / Salat Tepe 1999 Survey", *Ilisu ve Kargamış Baraj Gölleri Altında Kalacak Arkeolojik ve Kültür Varlıklarını Kurtarma Projesi: 1999 Yılı Çalışmaları* (eds. N. Tuna – J. Öztürk – J. Velibeyoğlu), ODTÜ/METU, Ankara, 593-642.
- Ökse 2012 Ökse, A. T., *Önasya Arkeolojisinde Çanak Çömlek*, İstanbul.
- Ökse 2015 Ökse, A. T., "Salat Tepe Kalkolitik Tabakalarının Kuzey Mezopotamya Kronolojisine Göre Değerlendirilmesi", *APAD* 1, 15-28.
- Ökse 2016 Ökse, A. T., "A Case Study on Salat Tepe", *Ahmet Ünal Armağanı/ Studies in Honour of Ahmet Ünal*, 367-388.
- Özgülç 1948 Özgülç, T., *Ön Tarih'te Anadolu'da Ölü Gömme Adetleri*, Ankara.
- Parker et al. 2004 Parker, J. B. – A. Creekmore – L. S. Dodd, "Yukarı Dicle Arkeolojik Araştırma Projesi (UTARP): Kenantepe'nin Kültürel Tarihi'nin Ön Sentezi/ The Upper Tigris Archaeological Research Project (UTARP): A Preliminary Synthesis of the Cultural History of Kenantepe", *Ilisu ve Kargamış Baraj Gölleri Altında Kalacak Arkeolojik ve Kültür Varlıklarını Kurtarma Projesi: 2001 Yılı Çalışmaları / Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of the Ilisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs: Activities in 2001* (eds. N. Tuna – J. Grenhalgh – J. Velibeyoğlu), ODTÜ/METU, Ankara, 547-603.
- Parker et al. 2008 Parker, J. B. – C. P. Foster – J. Henecke – M. Hopwood – A. Creekmore – A. Demirergi – M. Eppihimer, "Preliminary Report from the 2005-2006 Field Seasons at Kenan Tepe", *Anatolica* 35, 85-152.
- Pearce 2000 Pearce, J., "The Late Chalcolithic Sequence at Hacinebi Tepe, Turkey", *Chronologies des pays du Caucase et de L'Euphrate Aux IV^e – III^e Millenaires*, *Varia Anatolica* XI, 115-143.
- Roaf 1983 Roaf, M., "A Report On The Work Of The British Archaeological Expedition in The Eski Mosul Dam Salvage Project From November 1982 to June 1983", *SUMER* 39, 68-82.
- Roaf 1984 Roaf, M., "Excavations At Tell Mohammed 'Arab in The Eski Mosul Dam Salvage Project", *IRAQ* 46, 141-156.
- Roaf – Killick 1987 Roaf, M. – R. Killick, "A Mysterious Affair Of Styles: The Ninevite 5 Pottery of Northern Mesopotamia", *IRAQ* 49, 199-231.

- Roaf – Killick 2003 Roaf, M. – R. Killick, “The Relative Chronology of Ninevite 5 Sites in the Tigris Region Beyond”, *The Origins of the North Mesopotamia Civilization* (eds. E. Rova – H. Weiss), *Subartu* 9, 73-82.
- Rova 1988 Rova, E. *Distribution and Chronology of the Nineveh 5 Pottery and Its Culture*, Roma.
- Rova 2000 Rova, E., “Early Third Millenium B.C. Painted Pottery”, *Chronologies des pays du Caucase et de L’Euphrate Aux IV^e –III^e Millenaires*, *Varia Anatolica* XI, 231-253.
- Rova 2003a Rova, E., “Tell Karrana 3: Ceramic Evidence ort he Lata Uruk/Ninevite 5 Transition”, *The Origins of the North Mesopotamia Civilization* (eds. E. Rova – H. Weiss), *Subartu* 9, 11-23.
- Rova 2003b Rova, E., “Ninevite 5 Relative Chronology, Periodization and Distrubition: An Introduction”, *The Origins of North Mesopotamian Civilization* (eds. E. Rova – H. Weiss), *Subartu* 9, 1-10.
- Rova 2011 Rova, E., “Pottery”, In *Jezirah, ARCANE: Associated Regional Chronologies for the Ancient Near East and the Eastern Mediterranean: Vol. 1* (ed. M. Lebeau), *Brepols*, 49-121.
- Rova 2013 Rova, E., “The Ninivite 5 Period in Northeast Syria”, *Archeologie et Historie de la Syrie-I*, (ed. W. Orthmann – P. Matthiae – M. al-Maqdissi), *Weisbaden*, 107-118.
- Sagona – Sagona 2000 Sagona, A. – C. Sagona, “Excavations at Sos Höyük, 1998-2000”, *Ancient Near Eastern Studies* 37, 56-95.
- Sağlamtimur 2013 Sağlamtimur, H., “Botan Beyleri”, *ArkeoAtlas Dergisi* 8, 70-79.
- Schahner 2004 Schahner, A., “Vorbericht über die Ausgrabungen in Giricano, 2001”, *Ilisu ve Kargamış Baraj Gölleri Altında Kalacak Arkeolojik ve Kültür Varlıklarını Kurtarma Projesi: 2001 Yılı Çalışmaları / Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of the Ilisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs: Activities in 2001* (eds. N. Tuna – J. Grenhalgh – J. Velibeyoğlu), *ODTÜ/METU*, Ankara, 505-546.
- Schwartz 1982 Schwartz, G. M., *From Prehistory to History on the Habur Plains: The Operation I. Ceramic Periodiziton from Tell Leilan*, Yale.
- Schwartz 1985 Schwartz, G. M., “The Ninevite 5 Period and Current Research”, *Paleorient* 11/1: 53-70.
- Schwartz 1988 Schwartz, G. M., *A Ceramic Chronology from Tell Leilan*, London.
- Seeher 1993 Seeher, J. 1993. “Tod und Bestattung in der Vorgeschichte/Tarih Öncesi Çağlarda Ölüm ve Gömü”, *Arkeoloji ve Sanat* 59, 2-8.
- Sertok – Ergeç 1999 Sertok, K. – R. Ergeç, “A new Early Bronze Age Cemetery: Excavations Near The Birecik Dam, Southeastern Turkey, Preliminary Report (1997-98), *Anatolica* 25, 87-103.
- Sertok – Ergeç 2000 Sertok, K. – R. Ergeç, “The Discovery of an Early Bronze Age Cemetary in the Middle Euphrates Area, near Carchemish (Turkey)”, *Proceeding of the First International Congress On The Archaeology Of The Ancient Near East II*, Roma, 1515-1525.

- Sertok – Kulakoğlu 2002a Sertok, K. – F. Kulakoğlu, “Şaraga Höyük 2000/Şaraga Höyük 2000”, İlisu ve Kargamış Baraj Gölleri Altında Kalacak Arkeolojik ve Kültür Varlıklarını Kurtarma Projesi: 2000 Yılı Çalışmaları/ Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of the İlisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs: Activities in 2000 (eds. N. Tuna – J. Velibeyoğlu), ODTÜ/METU, Ankara: 351-381.
- Sertok – Kulakoğlu 2002b Sertok, K. – F. Kulakoğlu, “Şaraga Höyük 1999-2000 Kazıları Sonuçları”, KST 23/2, 107-122.
- Sertok 2003 Sertok, K., “Birecik Mezarlığı” Arkeoatlas-2: 53-55.
- Speiser 1932 Speiser, E. A., “The “Chalice” Ware of Northern Mesopotamia and its Historical Significance”, Bulletin American Schools Oriental Research 48, 5-10.
- Stein 1998 Stein, G., “1996 Excavations at Hacinebi Tepe”, KST 19/1 179-207.
- Stein et al. 1997 Stein, G. – K. Boden – C. M. Edens – J. P. Edens – K. Keith – A. McMahon – H. Özbal, “Excavation at Hacinebi Turkey-1996, Anatolica XIII, 115-171.
- Şenyurt 2002a Şenyurt, S. Y., “Aşağı Salat 2000 Yılı Kazısı / Excavations at Aşağı Salat, 2000”, İlisu ve Kargamış Baraj Gölleri Altında Kalacak Arkeolojik ve Kültür Varlıklarını Kurtarma Projesi: 2000 Yılı Çalışmaları / Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of the İlisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs: Activities in 2000 (eds. N. Tuna – J. Velibeyoğlu), ODTÜ/METU, Ankara, 671-697.
- Şenyurt 2002b Şenyurt, S. Y., “İlisu Barajı-Aşağı Salat 2000 Yılı Kazısı”, KST 23/2, 445-452.
- Şenyurt 2004 Şenyurt, S. Y., “Aşağı Salat 2001 Yılı Kazısı / Excavations at Aşağı Salat, 2001”, İlisu ve Kargamış Baraj Gölleri Altında Kalacak Arkeolojik ve Kültür Varlıklarını Kurtarma Projesi: 2001 Yılı Çalışmaları / Salvage Project of the Archaeological Heritage of the İlisu and Carchemish Dam Reservoirs: Activities in 2001 (eds. N. Tuna – J. Grenhalgh – J. Velibeyoğlu), ODTÜ/METU, Ankara: 641-668.
- Şenyurt 2006 Şenyurt, S. Y., “Aşağı Salat Tepe’den Bir Yeni Asur Mezarı (M-29)”, Hayat Erkanal’a Armağan: Kültürlerin Yansıması (ed. B. Avunç), İstanbul, 697-704.
- Tobler 1950 Tobler, A. J., Excavations at Tepe Gawra, Volume II, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.
- Uhri 2014 Uhri, A., Anadolu’da Ölümün Tarih Öncesi, Ege Yayınları, İstanbul.
- Uysal 2007 Uysal, B., “Ninive 5 Kültürü’nün Güneydoğu Anadolu Bölgesi’ndeki Yayılımı”, Elektronik Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi, cilt 6, sayı 9, 48-62.
- Wooley – Barnett 1952 Wooley, L. – R. D. Barnett, Carchemish: Part 3. The Excavations at the Inner Town, London.



Fig. 1 Aşağı Salat in Upper Tigris Region



Fig. 2 Aşağı Salat Village and höyük

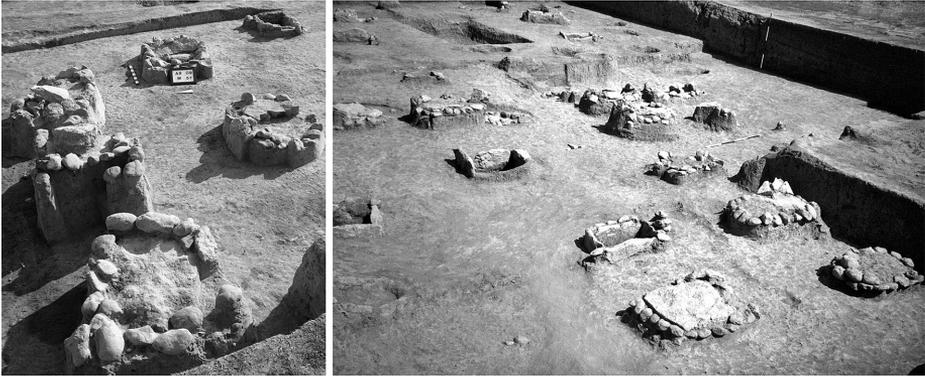


Fig. 3 Aşağı Salat Late Uruk-EBA Transition Period Cemetery

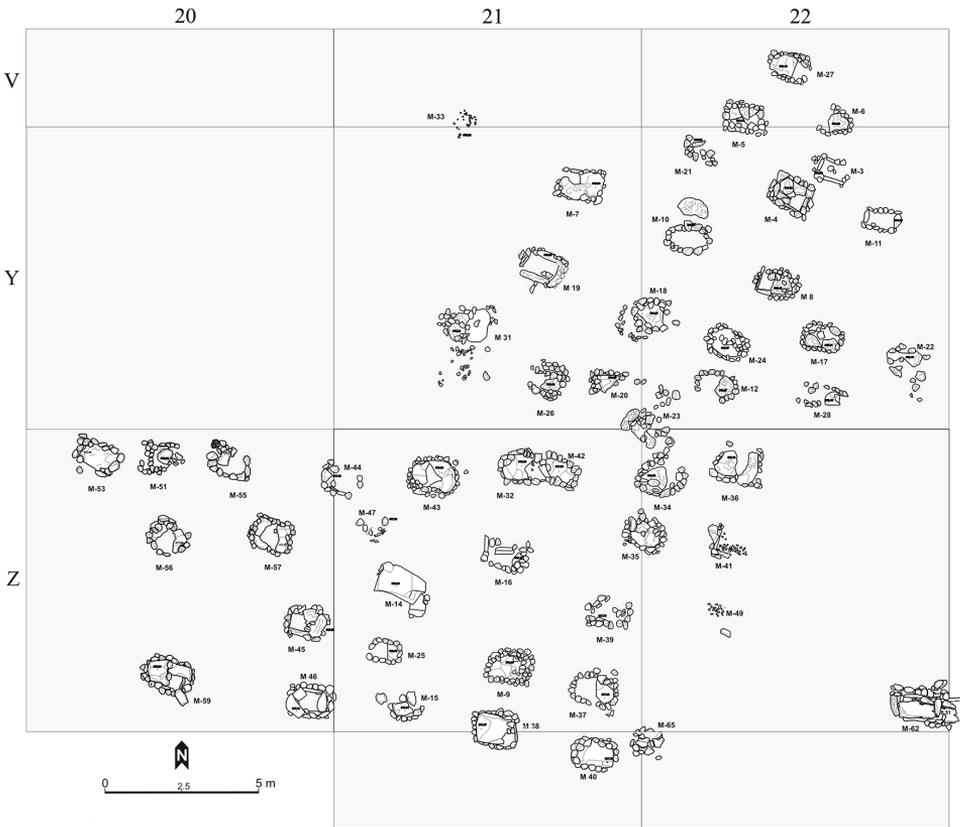


Fig. 4 Distribution of graves

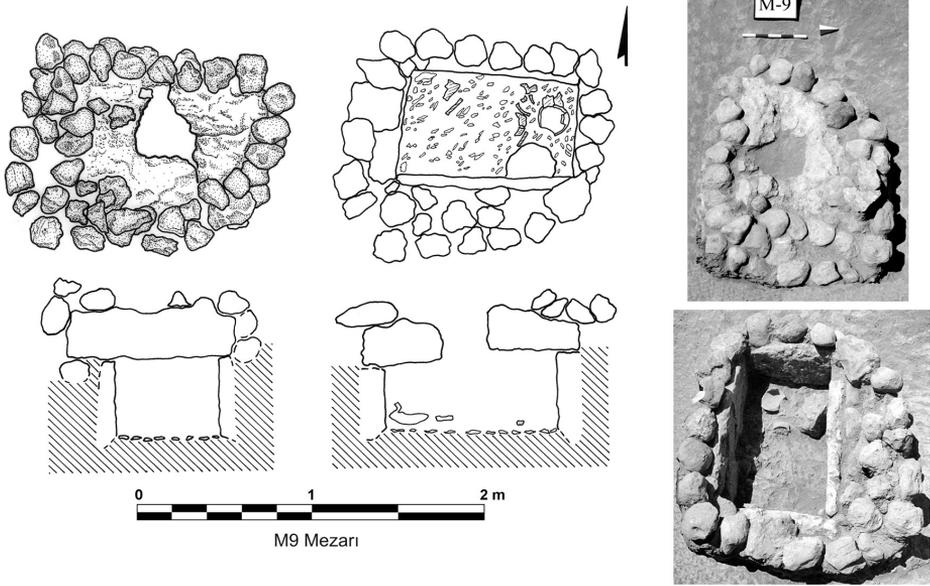


Fig. 5 M9, cist grave

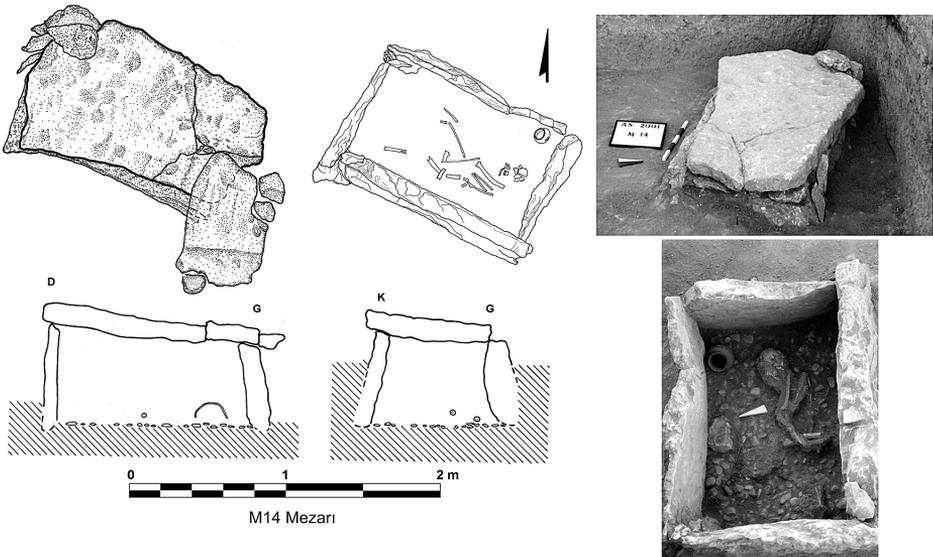


Fig. 6 M14, cist grave

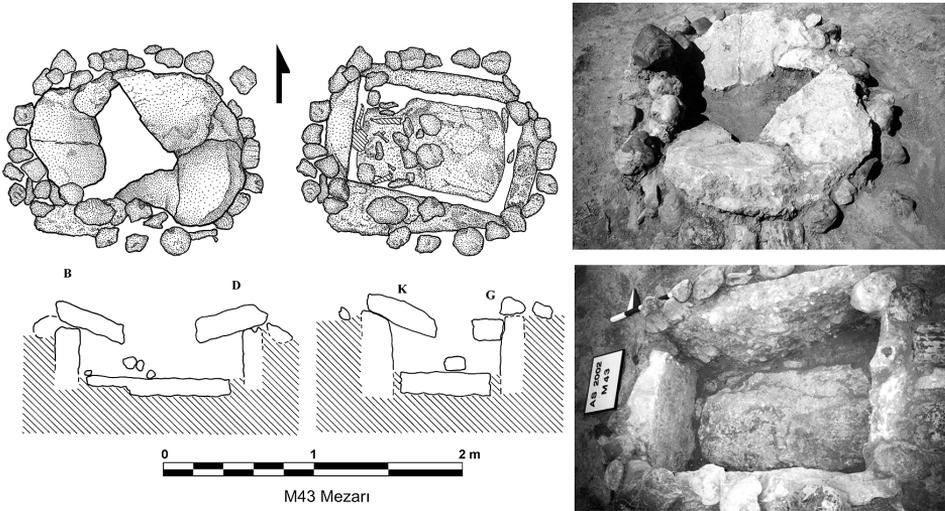


Fig. 7 M43, cist grave

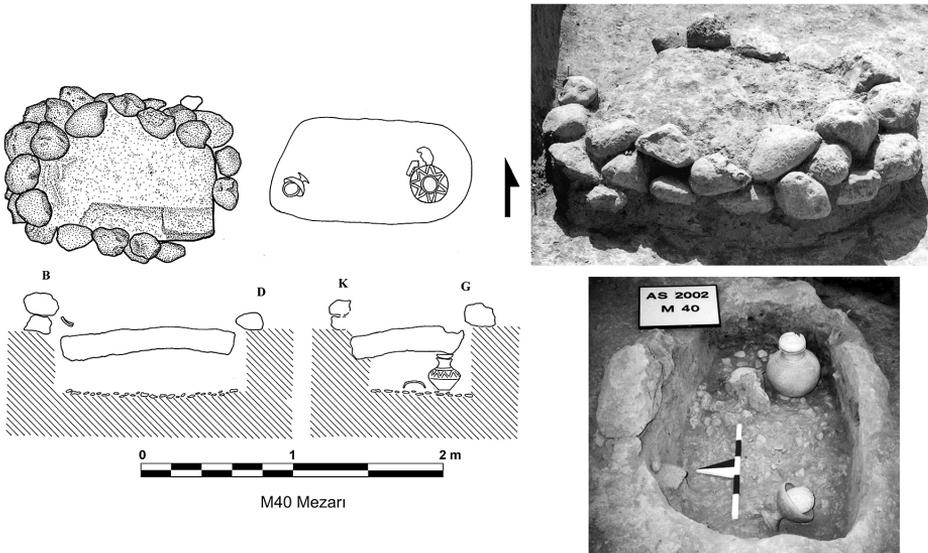


Fig. 8 M40, cist grave

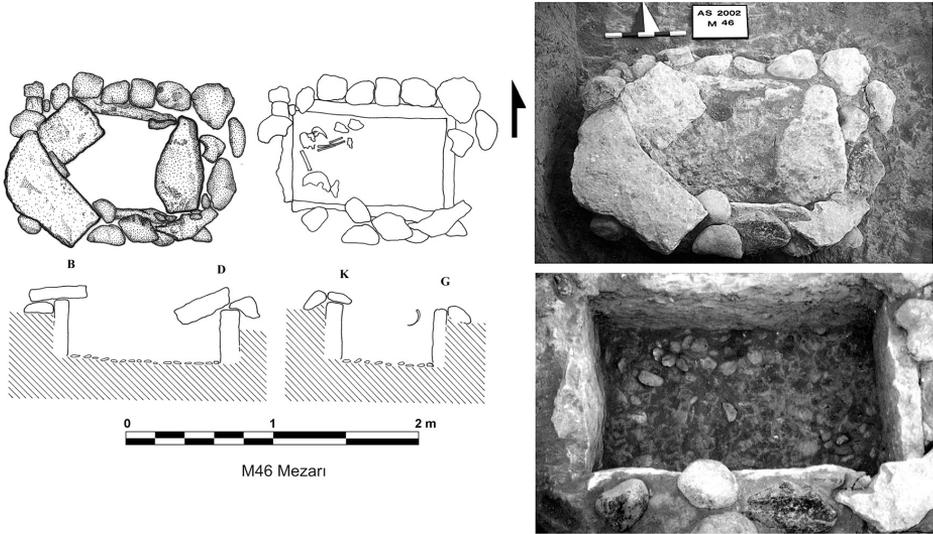


Fig. 9 M46, grave with stone lid

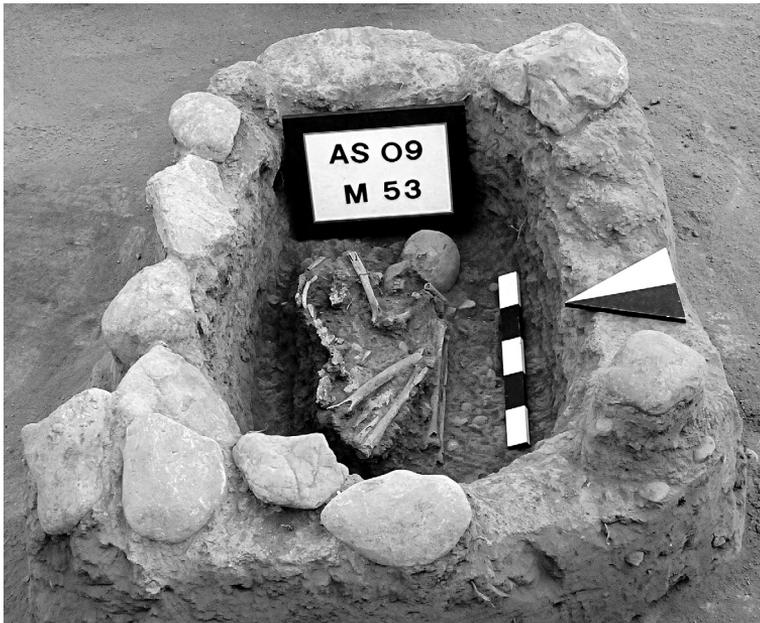


Fig. 10 M53, an example of well preserved burial

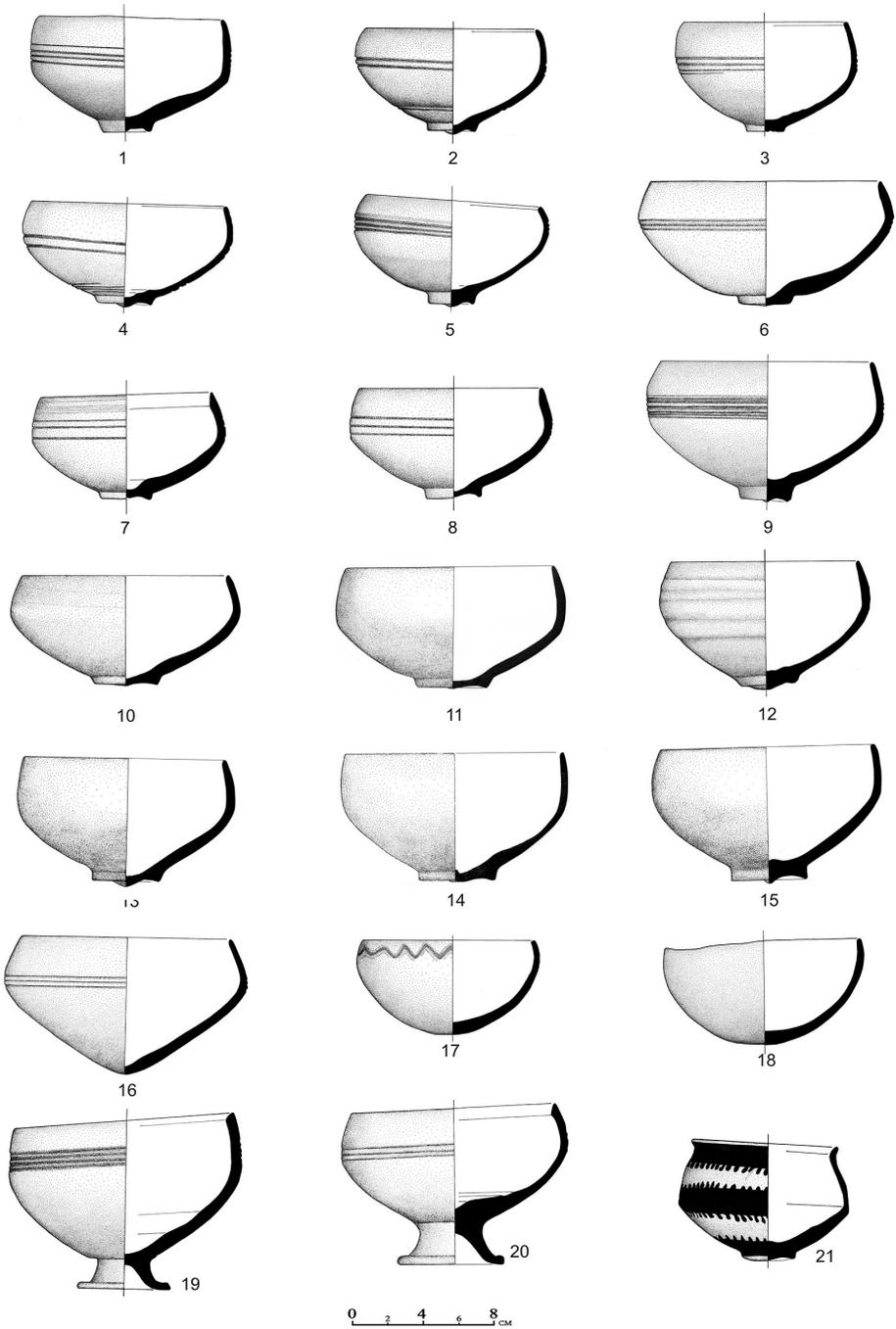


Fig. 11 Bowls

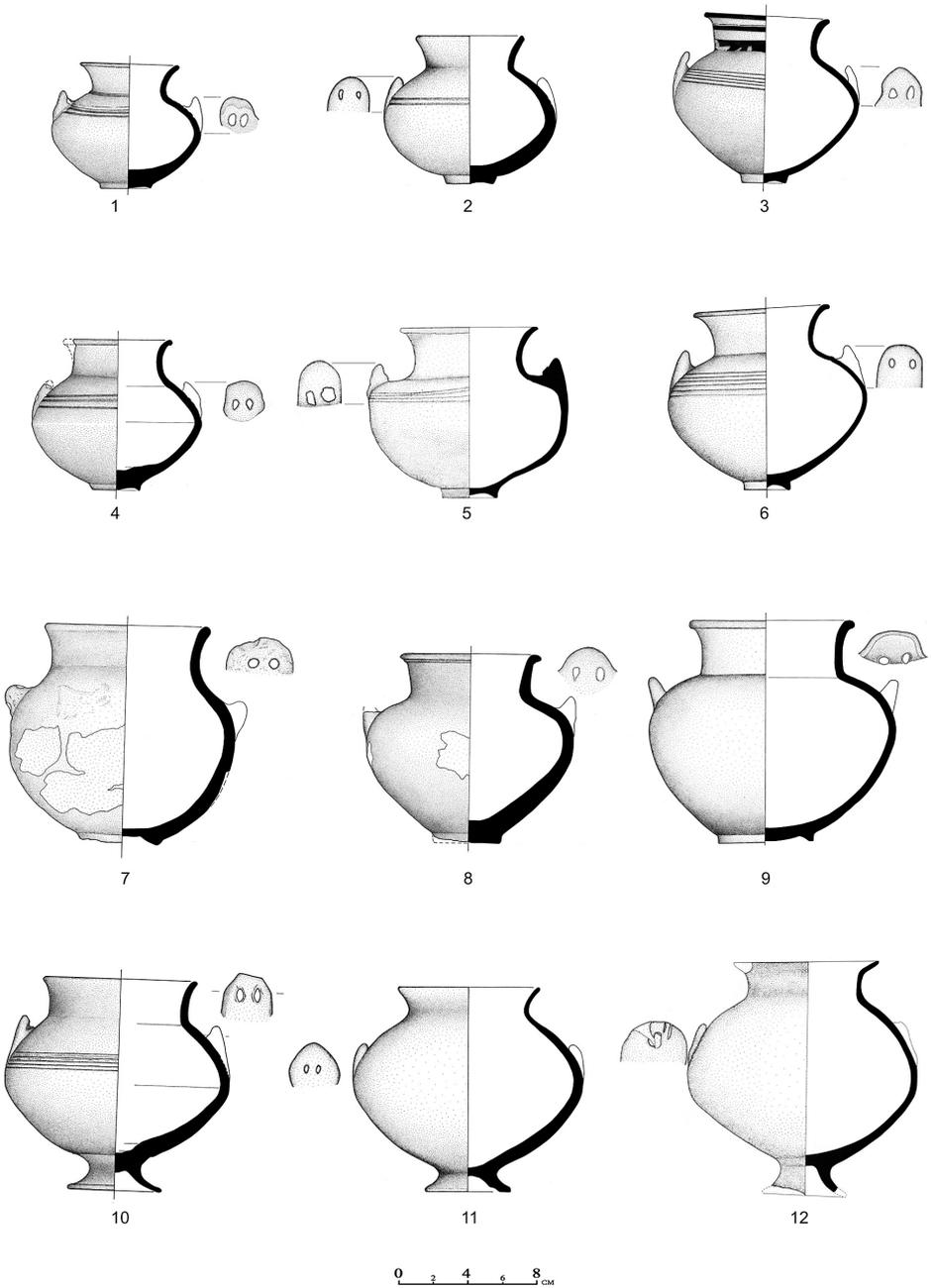


Fig. 12 Vases

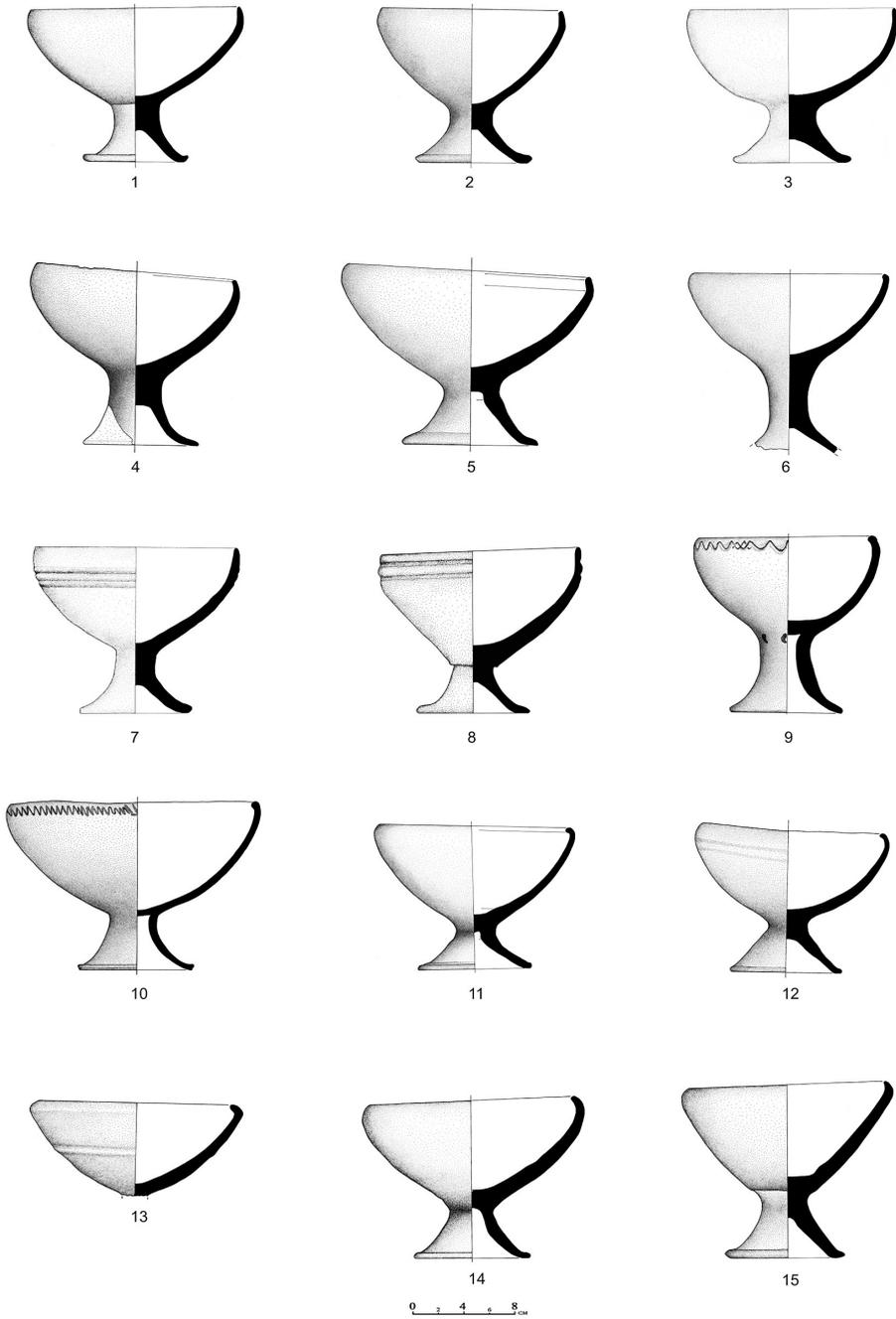


Fig. 13 Fruit Stands

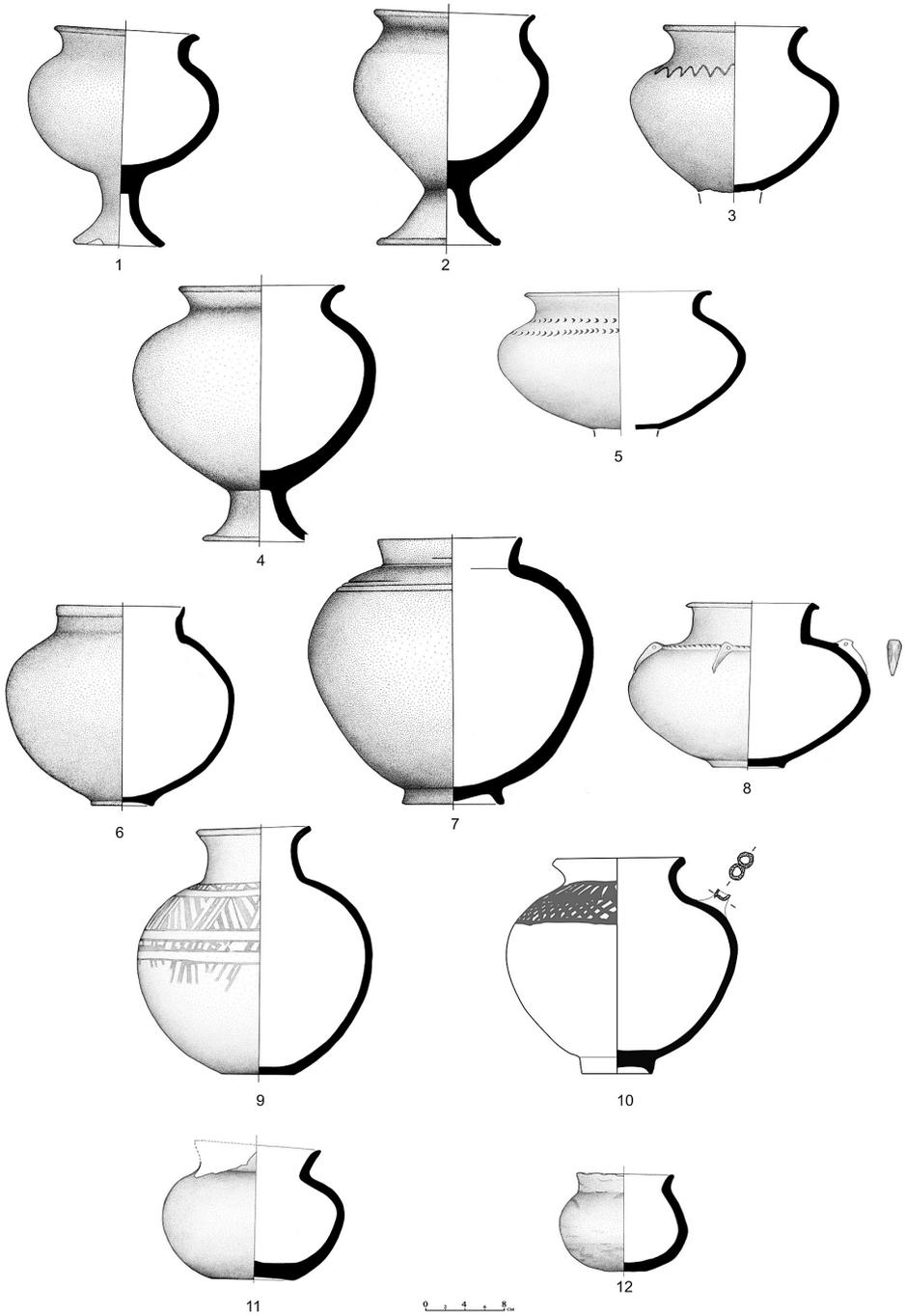


Fig. 14 Pots

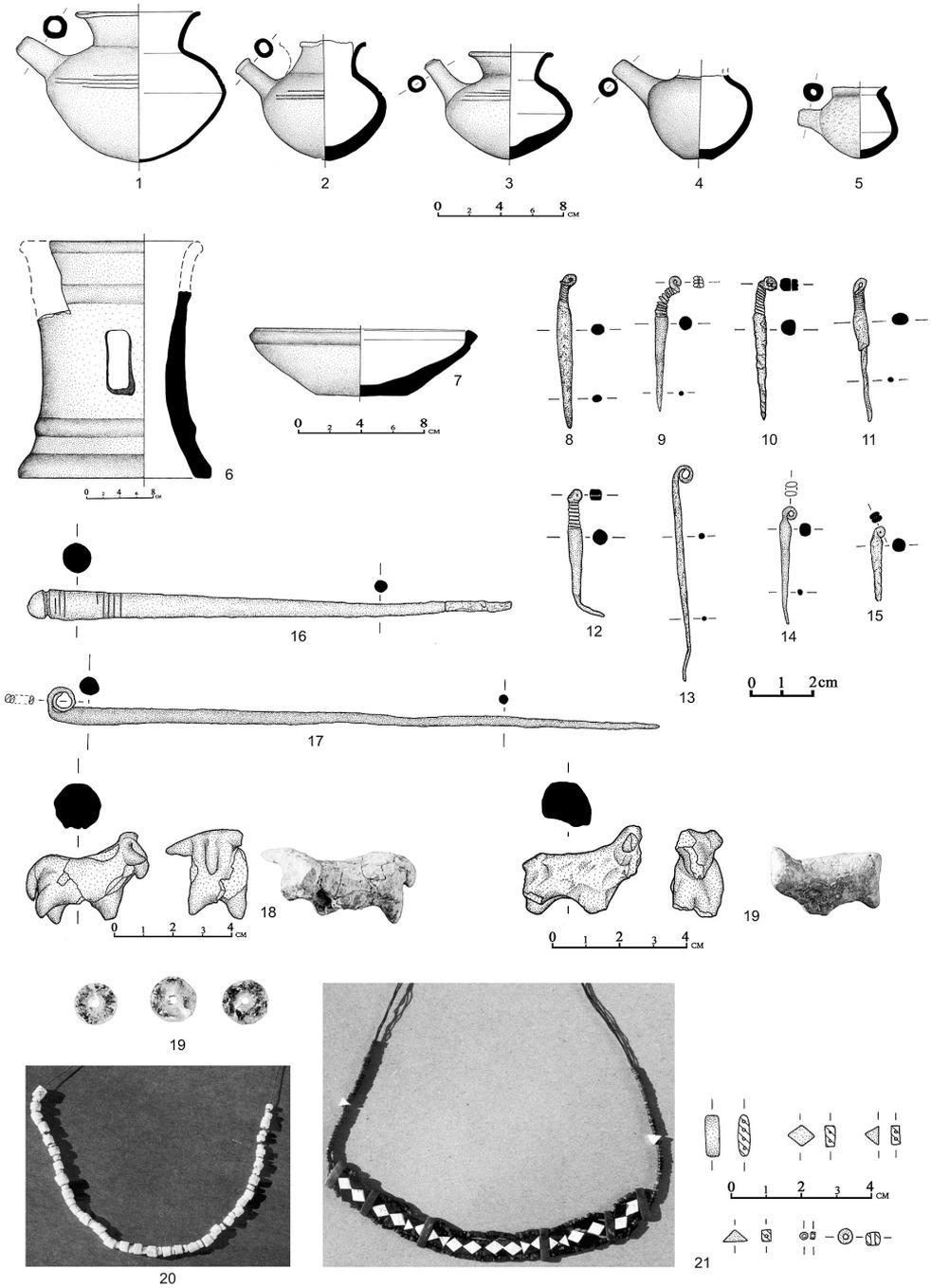


Fig. 15 Spouted vases, stands, plates and other small finds



Fig. 16
Bowls



Fig. 17
Vases



Fig. 18
Fruit stands