



**Western and Central Anatolia (RG 05)**

**Prof. Dr. Hayat Erkanal**

**Team Leader**

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**1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Regional Group Western and Central Anatolia (RG 05)  
The Western and Central Anatolia in the 3rd Millennium BC  
17 – 20 July 2008**

**SCIENTIFIC REPORT**

**SUMMARY**

The team met at the Ankara University Research Center for Maritime Archaeology (ANKÜSAM), located in Urla-İzmir. The participants arrived on 17 July and the meeting was held for two days on 18-19 July, with departure on the 20th. The Rector of Ankara University (Nusret Aras) and the Mayor of Urla (Bülent Nart) were also present at the opening to wish the participants a productive meeting. Fikri Kulakoğlu of Ankara University (director of Kültepe excavations) also took part. The following group members were present at the first meeting:

Team Leader:	Hayat Erkanal
Ceramics and Stratigraphy:	Vasif Şahoğlu (also topic coordinator for Burials and Funerary Practices) Nicoletta Momigliano Stephan Blum
Architecture & City Planning:	Rıza Tuncel
Metals:	Ernst Pernicka Levent Keskin
Lithics:	Ivan Gatsov

Artemis Karnava (Glyptics) and Massimo Cultraro (Architecture and City Planning) could not attend due to other obligations.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE SCIENTIFIC CONTENT AND DISCUSSION**

The programme of the meeting (see Appendix 1) was slightly changed as Ernst Pernicka had to leave by noon on 19 July to attend to other obligations. It was decided that the most important part of the meeting would be to understand the organisation of the project and the database as well as the selection of sites to be included in the database, and this is what the discussion concentrated on during the first day of the meeting (18 July, 2008).

After the welcoming speeches of the Mayor of Urla and the Rector of Ankara University, Hayat Erkanal addressed the participants. He pointed out that the Western and Central Anatolian team was the latest in the ARCANE project and that this was a great task which could only be tackled by the hard work of the topic coordinators and the participation of the excavators in the project. He expressed his belief that the project would be completed with success.

Rıza Tuncel gave a presentation of the database, explaining the concept of "inventories" (including "primary", "composite" and "artificial" inventories), the quality of data necessary for the project as well as the details concerning selection and entry of data. This was carried out quite informally, with many questions being put forth by team members which led to lengthy discussions. Team members were unanimous that entering the data would not present any difficulties but that the success of the project would depend on the participation of the excavators and their contribution of previously unpublished material which conform with the requirements of the project (i.e. primary inventories).

Questions raised during the presentation of the project and the requirements of the database included:

Whether the time-frame of the project would be the third millennium or the Early Bronze Age, since the duration of the Early Bronze Age in different regions started and ended in different calendrical years. It was pointed out that, generally in Western and Central Anatolia, the time frame of the Early Bronze Age was within the third millennium BC, but that slightly earlier or later calendrical dates could be incorporated to assure the integrity of the project as such relative designations nevertheless marked significant changes within the cultures of Western and Central Anatolia;

How one would be able to define such things like "function" of a site where, in many cases, the data was insufficient or at least open to various interpretations. It was agreed that such designations would be discussed and the majority of scientific opinion would be adopted with the reasons for such designations to be clarified.

Within this framework, Rıza Tuncel pointed out that one of the primary goals of the project was to develop a uniform terminology for various types of artifacts and features to try to bridge the gaps between different regions/sub-regions within the framework of the project (this was also later stressed in Nicoletta Momigliano's talk, where she compared differing terminologies to homophones in various languages giving rise to misunderstandings).

Many expressed concern that some incentive would be necessary for such contributions to be feasible, stressing that publication of the material prior to inclusion in the database would greatly help the project.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the excavators / researchers responsible for the publication of material explaining the project and asking them to contribute. This letter

was later drafted by Nicoletta Momigliano and Rıza Tuncel and minor additions made by other participants on the following day.

It was also suggested that a more general meeting which would include all the excavation directors/researchers should be organised for the presentation of the "inventories" to be included in the database and the proceedings of this meeting to be published. This would ensure that all the data (albeit in a simpler form than would be entered into the database) would be published before being incorporated into the ARCANE project. Funding for this meeting could be sought from a variety of sources. It was also decided that a more informal meeting could be held in May 2009 prior to the meeting mentioned above during the *Kazı, Araştırma ve Arkeometri Sonuçları Toplantısı* (Excavations, Research and Archaeometry Results Symposium) which is held annually with the participation of all directors of active excavations. This would greatly reduce the cost of a first meeting with the excavators and ensure that the later meeting would be much more focused on the data rather than details / organisation of the project.

The list of sites from the ARCANE map provided on the project website was then discussed. It was agreed that certain sites would not meet the standards required by the project and several important sites were not included in the list. A revised site list and contact people for each site was drafted.

The problem of older and published excavations was also discussed. It was pointed out that some museum work may be necessary to check the integrity of data provided by such excavations, or that the level of detail required by ARCANE to be gathered. Members raised questions whether funding would be available to carry out such studies and it was decided to write another letter to ARCANE with all the questions that needed to be clarified. The answer to the question of who would be responsible for entering the already published material into the database was postponed until the selection of inventories from such sites was completed and the uncertainty surrounding the possibility of undertaking further museum work was resolved.

The next day (19 July, 2008) was mainly reserved for the presentations by other participants in the meeting. Ernst Pernicka and Levent Keskin talked about the state of research concerning the metal artifacts and metallurgy in Anatolia. Vasif Şahoğlu outlined the ceramic development in western Anatolia and provided another presentation on the burial habits of the region. Nicoletta Momigliano talked about her own research in Crete and in Western Anatolia and stressed the importance of understanding the historical and intellectual premises of both old and new chronological schemes and terminologies. Ivan Gatsov outlined the lithic industry of the region and pointed out some of the problems concerning typology and chronology of this group of finds for the Early Bronze Age.

## **ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS AND DIRECTIONS FOR FUTURE WORK**

The meeting achieved all of its main goals. The members, most of whom had little or no previous knowledge of the ARCANE project, left well informed about the database structure and the organisation of the project. The team members had many questions concerning some of the details of the project such as the selection and possible addition/deletion of sites, funding for data entry, the new schedule for the project, etc. It was decided that these questions would be addressed directly to the directorate of the ARCANE project and the answers would help to shape the future direction of the project.

The decision to hold a mini-meeting with all the excavation directors was advocated by all and it was decided to communicate this both to ARCANE directorate and the excavators. It was decided that holding this meeting immediately prior or after the

Excavation Results Symposium would make it much easier and financially feasible to organise. It was also decided to hold the next meeting with the participation of the excavation directors by the beginning of 2010, where the material chosen for entry in the database would be presented and published.

Since many of the participants hold the rights of publication for some of the sites in the ARCANE list (Hayat Erkanal, Vasif Sahoglu, Riza Tuncel and Levent Keskin for Liman Tepe Bakla Tepe and Çeşme – Bağlararası; Ernst Pernicka for Troy), it was decided that the selection and entry of data for these excavations would be undertaken as soon as possible. Ivan Gatsov volunteered to contact the people responsible for the publication of sites in Bulgaria listed on the ARCANE map.

The letter asking the excavation directors to contribute material for inclusion in the database was drafted and it was decided to send this letter as soon as some of the questions that were raised during the meeting would be answered by ARCANE.

## PROGRAMME

### Thursday, 17 July

ARRIVAL AT URLA (Hotel Seferis)

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### Friday, 18 July

09:30 – 10:00 Words of Welcome and Introduction to the Meeting  
Prof Dr. Nusret Aras (Rector of Ankara University)  
Prof. Dr. Hayat Erkanal (Team Leader, ARCANE-RG05)

#### MORNING SESSION

10:00 – 10:30 **Riza Tuncel**, "A Brief Introduction to the ARCANE Project"

10:30 – 11:00 **Jean-Paul Thalmann**, "Introduction to the Database of the ARCANE Project, Aims and Methodology" **(Cancelled)**

11:00 *Coffee break*

#### REPORTS AND STATEMENTS BY THE TOPIC COORDINATORS I

11.30- 12.00 Architecture and City planning (R. Tuncel – M. Cultraro) – Discussion

**Massimo Cultraro**, "Interpreting domestic and communal spaces in the EBA Western Anatolia: some case-studies" **(Cancelled)**

12:00 – 13:00 Ceramics & Stratigraphy (V. Şahoğlu – N. Momigliano – S. Blum) – Discussion

**Nicoletta Momigliano**, "From the Palace of Minos to the land of Sarpedon: reflections on Aegean chronological schemes and terminologies"

**Vasif Şahoğlu**, "Early Bronze Age Pottery from the Izmir Region and Correlation of the Anatolian and Aegean Chronologies: Problems of Terminology".

13:00

*Lunch*

#### AFTERNOON SESSION

14:30 – 17:15 **REPORTS AND STATEMENTS BY THE TOPIC COORDINATORS II**

14:30-15:30 Metal (E. Pernicka – L. Keskin) – Discussion

**Ernst Pernicka**, "Early Bronze Age Metallurgy in the Aegean".

**Levent Keskin**, "The West Anatolian Metalworking during the Early Bronze Age. A Chronological and Typological Review"

15:30-16:00 Lithics (I. Gatsov) – Discussion

**Ivan Gatsov**, "Prehistoric chipped stone assemblages from NW Turkey. Last results"

16:00

*Coffee break*

16:30-17:00 Glyptics (A. Karnava) – Discussion

**Artemis Karnava**, "Seals and sealings of the 3rd mill. BC in Western and Central Anatolia: a review" (**Cancelled**)

17.00 – 17.30 Burials and Funerary Practices (V. Şahoğlu) – Discussion

**Vasif Şahoğlu**, "Early Bronze Age Burial Habits in Western Anatolia"

17:30– 18:00 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION FOR FIRST DAY**

20:00

*Dinner*

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## **Saturday, 19 July**

General Discussion and Preparation for Second Meeting

## **Sunday, 20 July**

09:00 Departure after breakfast

### **MEETING PARTICIPANTS**

Hayat Erkanal (Group Coordinator)  
Ernst Pernicka (Metals)  
Ivan Gatsov (Lithics)  
Artemis Karnava (Glyptic)  
Nicoletta Momigliano (Ceramics and Stratigraphy)  
Vasif Şahoğlu (Ceramics and Stratigraphy)  
Massimo Cultraro (Architecture and City Planning)  
Rıza Tuncel (Architecture and City Planning)  
Levent Keskin (Metals)  
Stephan Blum (Ceramics and Stratigraphy)

### **Guest Participants:**

Fikri Kulakoğlu  
Jean-Paul Thalmann