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**UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN**

# **Cyprus and the Anatolian South Coast from the Late Bronze to the Early Iron Age:**

## **Dynamics of Interaction in a Period of Transformation**

Conference  
6–8 May 2023

University of Bern  
Switzerland

Fritz Thyssen Stiftung  
für Wissenschaftsförderung



Supported by the Swiss Academy  
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- 08:30–09:00 **Registration**
- 09:00–09:10 **Teresa Bürge** (Bern/Vienna), **Ekin Kozal** (Çanakkale/Bern), **Mirko Novák** (Bern)  
Welcome and introduction: Cyprus and the Southern coast of Anatolia – state of research, problems and prospects
- 09:10–09:50 **Peter M. Fischer** (Gothenburg) Moderation: Ekin Kozal  
Hala Sultan Tekke, Cyprus in the 12<sup>th</sup> century BCE: the final years of a remarkable city
- 09:50–10:30 **Teresa Bürge** (Bern/Vienna/Gothenburg)  
The 12<sup>th</sup> century BCE pottery repertoire from Hala Sultan Tekke
- 10:30–10:50 **Coffee**
- 10:50–11:30 **Sabine Fourrier** (Lyon)  
The Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age settlement at Kition-*Bamboula*: new insights from recent excavations
- 11:30–12:10 **Anna Georgiadou** (Nicosia), **Artemis Georgiou** (Nicosia)  
Transitions and transformations in the pottery record from the Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age settlement of Kition-*Bamboula*
- 12:00–14:00 **Lunch** (Migros Restaurant, Zähringerstrasse 43) 
- 14:00–14:40 **Maria Iacovou** (Nicosia) Moderation: Gunnar Lehmann  
Ancient Paphos from Late Cypriot IIIA to the early Cypro-Geometric period. Settlement structure and ceramic industry transformations (12<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> c. BC)
- 14:40–15:20 **Anna Satraki** (Nicosia)  
Approaching Idalion and its territory at the transition from the Late Bronze to the Early Iron Age: challenges and prospects
- 15:20–16:00 **Coffee**
- 16:00–16:40 **Eric Jean** (Çorum)  
The place of Yumuktepe in the exchange network between Cyprus and Cilicia at the end of the Late Bronze Age
- 16:40–17:20 **Remzi Yağcı** (Izmir)  
Cypriot-Cilician relations during the Late Bronze Age: the case of Soli
- 17:20–18:00 **Discussion/break**
- 18:00–19:00 Keynote lecture: **Marie-Henriette Gates** (Ankara) Moderation: Mirko Novák  
Connecting Cyprus and Cilicia in the Bronze and Iron Ages: an interactive challenge
- 19:30 **Speakers' dinner** (Restaurant Beaulieu, Erlachstrasse 3) 



**Sunday, 7 May 2023**

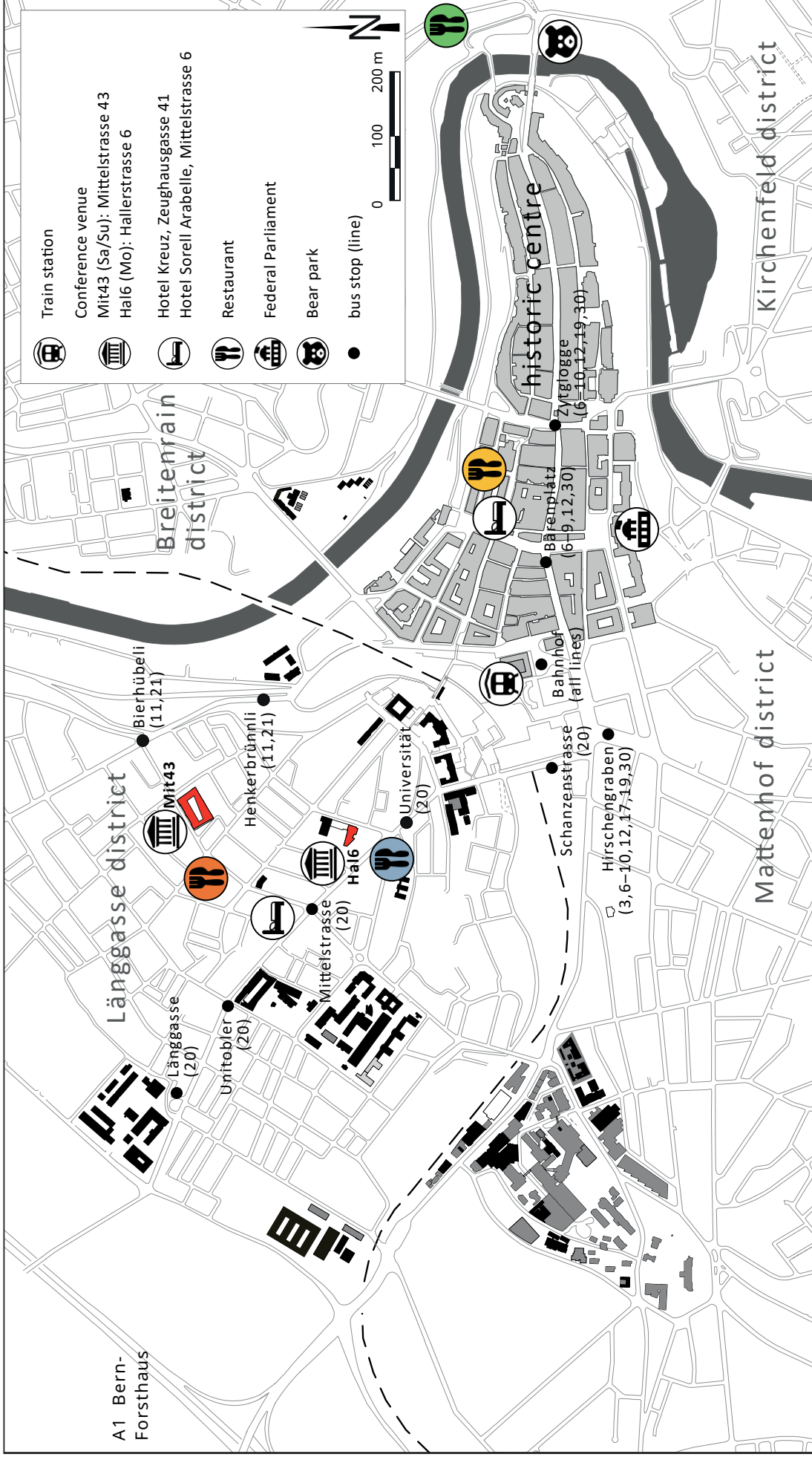
**Mittelstrasse 43, Room 124**

- 09:00–09:40 **Gunnar Lehmann** (Be'er Sheva) Moderation: Selin Gür  
Kinet Höyük, an Early Iron Age harbor in Cilicia
- 09:40–10:20 **Fabrizio Bättscher** (Bern), **Joëlle Heim** (Bern), **Silvana Hunger** (Bern)  
Sirkeli Höyük – building, living and producing
- 10:20–11:00 **Hannah Mönninghoff** (Bern)  
Same same but different? The Cypriote style pottery takeover at Sirkeli Höyük
- 11:00–11:30 **Coffee**
- 11:30–12:10 **Aslı Özyar** (Istanbul) Moderation: Sophia Marxer  
The settlement of Tarsus-Gözlükule during the transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron Age
- 12:10–12:50 **Elif Ünlü** (Istanbul)  
Tarsus-Gözlükule: Late Bronze and Early Iron Age periods based on pottery analysis
- 12:50–14:30 **Lunch**
- 14:30–15:10 **Deniz Yaşin** (Bern), **Ekin Kozal** (Çanakkale/Bern) Moderation: Artemis Georgiou  
Tepebağ Höyük in the Late Bronze Age: local and Cypriot pottery
- 15:10–15:50 **Ekin Kozal** (Çanakkale/Bern)  
The Final Bronze Age at Kilise Tepe through the lens of the pottery from the Stele Building
- 15:50–16:20 **Coffee**
- 16:20–17:00 **Paula Waiman-Barak** (Tel Aviv) Moderation: Sabine Fourier  
Tracing ancient trade networks: provenance studies of Cypriot pottery from the Late Bronze to the Iron Age in Cyprus and the Levant
- 17:00–17:40 **Vasiliki Kassianidou** (Nicosia)  
The connections between Cyprus and the Anatolian South Coast in the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age relating to metal production and trade
- 17:40–18:20 **Ümit Güder** (Prague/Düsseldorf)  
Early iron production and smithing in Cilicia: an overview
- 18:20–18:45 End of day discussion
- 20:00 **Speakers' dinner** (Restaurant Rosengarten, Alter Aargauerstalden 31b) 

**Monday, 8 May 2023**

**Hallerstrasse 6, Room 205**

- 09:00–09:40 **Mirko Novák** (Bern) Moderation: Teresa Bürge  
Hiyawa/Kawa – Neo-Hittite formations and structures in Cilicia
- 09:40–10:20 **Christian Körner** (Bern)  
A look beyond the Late Bronze Age horizon: the Cypriot kingdoms and the Near Eastern empires from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> centuries BC
- 10:20–11:00 **Annick Payne** (Bern)  
Speak slowly and clearly, I only know Luwian
- 11:00–11:30 **Coffee**
- 11:30–12:30 Final discussion, summary, proceedings
- 12:30 **Lunch** (Migros Restaurant, Zähringerstrasse 43) 
- 14:00 Trip to Spiez
- 19:30 **Speakers' dinner** (Restaurant Lötschberg, Zeughausgasse 16) 



## Venue

University of Bern, Switzerland

Saturday, 6 and Sunday, 7 May: Room 124, Mittelstrasse 43

Monday 8 May: Room 205, Hallerstrasse 6

## **About the conference**

The aim of the conference is to gain a comparative insight into two regions of the eastern Mediterranean, Cyprus and the Anatolian South coast – in specific Cilicia – during the Late Bronze to early Iron Age transition (ca. 1200–1000 BCE). Although these two regions are located very close to each other and are connected by a relatively short sea route, they have often been discussed independently from each other. Hence, possible influences, interconnections and interplays have largely been neglected.

The period from the final Late Bronze to the early Iron Age is characterised by profound political, social and economic disruptions in the entire region, which, as yet, are not sufficiently understood – not least due to the common separation of the Bronze Age from the Iron Age in research.

The following questions will be explored, mainly based on results of ongoing excavations and projects:

- Which developments can we trace in the settlement history, the architecture, the pottery and the material culture in this period?
- Are there parallels between these two regions?
- What role do economic interactions and trade play, e.g. considering metals like copper from Cyprus and iron from Anatolia?
- Which information can we gain from written sources?

## **Convened by**

Teresa Bürge (Bern/Vienna/Gothenburg), Ekin Kozal (Çanakkale/Bern) and Mirko Novák (Bern)

## **Supported by**

Fritz Thyssen Stiftung, Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW), Swiss Society for Ancient Near Eastern Studies (SGOA), Center for Global Studies, University of Bern (CGS)

## **Contact**

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# Abstracts

## **Hala Sultan Tekke, Cyprus in the 12<sup>th</sup> century BCE: the final years of a remarkable city**

Peter M. Fischer

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The Late Bronze Age city of Hala Sultan Tekke, founded in the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century BCE, is located on the south-east coast of Cyprus along the Larnaca Salt Lake. This lake, today cut-off from the Mediterranean due to land rise, was the former sheltered harbour which offered an excellent anchorage and contributed to the prosperity of this cosmopolitan city. In the 12<sup>th</sup> century BCE, after hundreds of years of trade with cultures comprising such a large area as Sardinia to Mesopotamia (and beyond) and the Baltic Sea to Nubia, the city was abandoned. This paper presents the archaeological evidence of the last decades of the city and discusses the possible reasons behind its abandonment.

## **The 12<sup>th</sup> century BCE pottery repertoire from Hala Sultan Tekke**

Teresa Bürge

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The beginning of the 12<sup>th</sup> century BCE (LC IIIA) is characterised by severe transformations in the Late Cypriot pottery repertoire, which include the abandonment of handmade tableware, such as White Slip and Base Ring, the replacement of handmade round-bottomed cooking pots by Aegean-type wheelmade and flat-based pots, and an intensified local production of wheelmade Aegean-type and Aegeanising tableware and domestic pottery.

The ceramic assemblage from the two final occupational layers of Hala Sultan Tekke, Stratum 2 and Stratum 1, which can both be placed in LC IIIA, will be presented and discussed in the light of continuities, transformations, innovations and influences from various surrounding regions. In addition, the question of the relative chronological placement of the final destruction of the site, and the existence of post-LC IIIA material, perhaps indicating squatter occupations, will be addressed based on comparative studies with other stratified sites.

## **The Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age settlement at Kition-*Bamboula*: new insights from recent excavations**

Sabine Fourier

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In contrast to other areas of ancient Kition (such as *Chrysopolitissa*-Area I and *Kathari*-Area II), *Bamboula* did not until recently appear on the map of the Late Bronze Age city. Very little late Bronze Age material was known, and it was not found *in situ* but in secondary deposits (or interpreted as such). However, resumed excavation to the north of the site revealed a continuous occupational sequence starting in the Late Cypriot

IIC period and extending until Late Cypriot IIIB–Cypro-Geometric I. This paper will present the development of the settlement and describe its successive architectural phases. It will serve as an introduction to the paper authored by Anna Georgiadou and Artemis Georgiou who will concentrate on the associated ceramic evidence.

### **Transitions and transformations in the pottery record from the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age settlement of Kition-Bamboula**

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Kition is an outstanding site in Cyprus that was continuously occupied throughout two crucial turning-points in the history of the Mediterranean and Cyprus itself: during the ‘crisis years’ at the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century BC, and during the transition to the Early Iron Age in Cyprus, at the beginning of 11<sup>th</sup> century BC. In addition to the evidence for continuity in sacred and industrial zones at Kition (*Kathari*-Area II) as well as in domestic and artisanal quarters (*Chrysopolitissa*-Area I), new evidence has been brought to light from the settlement site of Kition-*Bamboula*. The recent excavations of the French Mission revealed an uninterrupted occupational stratigraphy, extending from the Late Cypriot IIC (ca. 13<sup>th</sup> century BC) to the Late Cypriot IIIA (ca. 12<sup>th</sup> century BC) and the Late Cypriot IIIB-Cypro-Geometric I (ca. 11<sup>th</sup> century BC), which provides, among others, an exceptional occasion for the meticulous study of the pottery record within a settlement context, during this transitional horizon. This paper will present a general overview of the various pottery categories used and discarded at Kition-*Bamboula*, with a focus on specific classes of tableware pottery which document continuities, developments and shifts in the potting traditions of the Late Bronze-Early Iron Age, especially as regards the settlement strata that can be dated to very end of the 12<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 11<sup>th</sup> centuries BC.

### **Ancient Paphos from Late Cypriot IIIA to the early Cypro-Geometric period. Settlement structure and ceramic industry transformations (12<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> c. BC)**

Maria Iacovou  
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Founded as a gateway to the sea ca. 1700 BC, Paphos (renamed Palaepaphos since the third century BC) experienced the climax of its development as a Late Bronze Age central place in LC IIC–IIIA. At that time (i.e., late 13<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> c. BC), many other Late Cypriot polities were abandoned. While none of them recovered their status in the first millennium BC, Paphos continued to prosper without any trace of destruction or demise during the transition to the Early Iron Age.

The territorial stability of Paphos notwithstanding, spatial analysis and excavations reveal a drastic and socially significant reorganisation of its urban and mortuary landscapes between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> c. BC. Paphos is currently the only site on the island where, thanks to its substantial pre- and post-transformation period burial record, we can study not only material culture changes – especially the re-orientation of craft



specialization – but also the adoption of the local Late Cypriot script by a new and readable language.

With respect to pottery production, between the late 13<sup>th</sup> and the early 10<sup>th</sup> century BC, the fine wares' ceramic industry throughout Cyprus appears to have undergone more wholesale transformations than ever before during the second millennium BC. Besides becoming an exclusively fast-wheel production, the industry adopted and assimilated new shapes, styles, and decorative programmes, at first mostly from the Aegean and soon after also from the Levantine coast. All these extra-island influences were not the result of a one-way traffic. Even Homeric references allude to the dynamic visibility of Paphos as a coastal commercial hub that was in the forefront of economic interactions with various Mediterranean trading partners.

### **Approaching Idalion and its territory at the transition from the Late Bronze to the Early Iron Age: challenges and prospects**

Anna Satraki

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Based on our current knowledge, Idalion is the only inland settlement in Cyprus that, among the various sites excavated, provides continuous stratigraphic sequence from the Late Bronze to the Early Iron Age. Furthermore, evidence suggests that its position as a primary settlement in central Cyprus was affirmed already in the 12<sup>th</sup> century BC and that it remained as such throughout the first half of the first millennium BC. Idalion maintained its significance even after its annexation by Kition, in the mid-5<sup>th</sup> century BC. The aim of the present paper is three-fold: first, to unravel the development of the settlement pattern within the catchment area of Idalion from the Late Bronze Age down to the Cypro-Archaic period, in relation to the area's topography and geo-morphological features; secondly, to provide an overview of the excavation data from the urban centre of Idalion, deriving from excavation projects inaugurated since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century BC and, finally, to present recent studies of material brought to light by rescue excavations conducted since 2011. The ultimate objective of this contribution is to define Idalion's path to statehood and also to present the challenges entailed in our attempts to disentangle the character of the intricate symbiosis between Idalion and the major coastal centres of eastern Cyprus during the Late Bronze and throughout the Early Iron Age.

### **The Place of Yumuktepe in the exchange network between Cyprus and Cilicia at the end of the Late Bronze Age**

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Yumuktepe is located a few kilometres north-northwest of the centre of Mersin, today one of the largest ports in Türkiye. As a presumed transmitter in the diffusion of obsidian between the deposits of Central Anatolia and the Levant in the Neolithic; then, as a settlement with monumental fortifications and one of the oldest known copper production centres in the world during the Early/Middle Chalcolithic (5000–4600 BC), which developed into a quasi-pre-urban settlement with monumental architecture and imported pottery from, among others, Iran during the Late Chalcolithic (4500–4300 BC); and as a small fortified village but rich in its cultural material due to its position at the crossroads of the Byzantine and Muslim worlds in the Middle Ages; Yumuktepe, throughout its long history, has shown itself to be open to the outside world and, in particular, to Cyprus. Such a past and the short distance that separates the island from the site, which



is only 123 km from Cape Andreas as the crow flies, suggest that the relations established between the south Anatolian coast and Cyprus at the time of the political domination of Alashiya by the Hittites may have left material traces at Yumuktepe. Cypriot pottery has been found there, but in small quantities compared to other Cilician sites, such as Kinet Höyük and even neighbouring Soli Höyük. Thus, the links with the island in the Late Bronze Age seem to have been limited, while the similarity between some local ceramic productions from Yumuktepe, Soli Höyük and Kilise Tepe suggests that Mersin region had close relations with Rough Cilicia and the assumed territory of Ura. The Middle Iron Age levels of Yumuktepe have yielded a greater proportion of Cypriot pottery, whose interpretation is however weakened by the lack of assured stratigraphic contexts. On the other hand, no material has been dated with certainty to the Early Iron Age so far, suggesting that the settlement was unoccupied for several centuries after the Late Bronze Age. In Yumuktepe, the Changing Times corresponding apparently to a radical break, the arising questions are what role the settlement may have played in the Hittite period, what kind of relationship was established with Cyprus, and why it was abandoned, unlike Soli and Tarsus. Preliminary answers will be sought from the inventory of the material replaced in its chronological context, the study of the possibilities of navigation between Cyprus and the Cilician shores, as well as the interpretation of selected written sources, the place of Yumuktepe being analysed in the perspective of an interregional exchange network involving Cilicia and Cyprus.

### **Cypriot-Cilician relations during the Late Bronze Age: the case of Soli**

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Plain Cilicia, which is surrounded by Taurus and anti-Taurus Mountains in the north, west and east was also Anatolia's gateway to the sea that can be entered through strategic gates (3). Due to its strategic buffer zone position in terms of trade and military, Plain Cilicia was a geographical area that the Bronze and Iron Age kingdoms wanted to dominate. The main reason for this was its location that allows the region to play an active role in the land and sea trade of the Levant. Archaeological data unearthed in the recent archaeological excavations in the region published so far, revealed the necessity of changing the itineraries of the trade sea routes that are traditionally thought to be centered around Cyprus. The region was well known for its imitation products imported from the Aegean and Cyprus in the Late Bronze Age (1550–1190 BC) and Iron Age (1190–330 BC). It is thought that during the Late Bronze Age, some of the commercial goods found in Soli Höyük, Yumuktepe, Tarsus-Gözlükule, Tepebağ Höyük, Misis Höyük, Sirkeli Höyük, Tatarlı Höyük and Kinet Höyük in the Plain Cilicia region were imported from Cyprus and then local imitations of these were manufactured in Cilicia. Cyprus was also the distribution center for commercial goods from Egypt and the Aegean. White Slip II Pottery (WS II), which is known from centers such as Enkomi, Hala Sultan Tekke, Milia, Ayios Jakavos, Larnaca, Sanidha, were not widely distributed outside the coastal areas in the immediate vicinity of Cyprus, and are limited in number in the Cilicia region, they are rarely seen in Soli Höyük where some body and handle sherds are found.

In the same way, imitations of Red Lustrous Wheel Made Pottery (RLWM) (15–13th century BC), which is thought to be of Cypriot origin or produced in Cilicia, were excavated in Soli Höyük. These two species were used together with “drab ware” and “cross hatched decoration” craters at Soli Höyük. A similar situation is valid for Yumuktepe.

The presence of Late Helladic IIIC pottery (LH IIIC), which is thought to have been Mycenaean pots produced in Cyprus or Mycenaean pots, which can be associated with Mycenaeans from the Aegean World in the Dark Ages, emphasizes the relationship between Cilicia and Cyprus after the Late Bronze Age. In this paper, the relations between Cyprus and Cilicia will be discussed through the Soli finds.

## **Connecting Cyprus and Cilicia in the Bronze and Iron Ages: an interactive challenge**

Marie-Henriette Gates

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Contacts between Cyprus and Cilicia in antiquity occurred under circumstances that fall outside the usual patterns between neighboring cultural regions. Despite their geographical proximity in the northeast Mediterranean, both were acutely affected by several degrees of isolation: the sea that enclosed and guarded Cyprus, an oceanic island; and the deep delta on the opposite shore, intercut by channels that separated Cilicia's coastline from its inland cities. Communication between the two therefore took place through their seaports, which in turn shaped the nature and response of their mutual interests. These varied widely because of competing factors and agents, including third parties.

In the context of this conference, the cultural affinities between Cyprus and Cilicia during the Iron Age provide an instructive contrast to their relationship during the Late Bronze period. The regional archaeological record for these periods has thus attracted commentary over nearly a century, in tandem with increasing data and theoretical trends. My paper will review current perspectives about communication between these two cultures during these periods, and consider the conditions that fostered their networks or, on the contrary, discouraged them.

## **Kinet Höyük, an Early Iron Age harbor in Cilicia**

Gunnar Lehmann

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During the Early Iron Age, Kinet Höyük was a local center and harbor in eastern Cilicia, on a strategic frontier between Anatolia and Syria. During the 11<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> century BCE, Cypriot pottery attest for significant maritime connections with the island. Since the late 10<sup>th</sup> and the early 9<sup>th</sup> century, the appearance of Greek imports suggest a continuous widening of the international contacts and exchange of Kinet Höyük. The paper presents Kinet Höyük in its regional as well as in its wider context of Syria and Anatolia focusing on the excavation results of Bilkent University under the direction of Marie-Henriette Gates.

## **Sirkeli Höyük – building, living and producing**

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Sirkeli Höyük is located in the Cilician plain. There are traces of settlement from the Chalcolithic up until the Roman period. Early excavations at the settlement mound started in the 1930s under John Garstang. Further excavations were undertaken in the 1990s. In 2006 Mirko Novák (University of Bern) resumed the examinations at Sirkeli Höyük. The settlement comprises a citadel on the mound, a vast lower town, a necropolis, and an upper town quarried by mining. To its greatest extent, the city covered an area of 80 ha and was completely fortified by a doubled city wall structure.

The architecture was excavated over several campaigns and combined with geophysics, giving an overview of the settlement and its development. The development in the small finds can be considered in the objects' typology and their material. For this purpose, selected small finds are to be examined for their material, shape, and influence on neighbouring regions. The presentation attempts to prove the hypothesis that there are similar developments in the small finds and architectural remains of Sirkeli Höyük and if political and social changes can be detected within the architecture and material culture.

## **Same same but different? The Cypriote style pottery takeover at Sirkeli Höyük**

Hannah Mönninghoff  
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The similarities of Early and Middle Iron Age plain and painted pottery in Cyprus and Cilicia are well-known since the first archaeological missions to the region almost one century ago. Common vessel forms and decorations suggest close ties between Cilicia and Cyprus from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> century. A "Cypro-Cilician cultural *koiné*" is also attested by other archaeological artifact-groups. Meanwhile, it is recognized, that these styles originated mostly in Cyprus and a limited part of it entered the canon of pottery production in Cilicia. But the chronology of the assimilation of Cypriot styles in Cilicia and possible reasons are yet poorly explored. Its historical significance seems peculiar, as other aspects of material culture, art and language from the political entity of Hiyawa/Que suggest political and social ties with Syria and Anatolia.

The site of Sirkeli Höyük is an example for a Central-Cilician settlement that got into contact with Cypriot material culture and assimilated some of its styles. In this talk, I will present the pottery sequence from Sirkeli Höyük to illustrate the chronology of local production, imports and assimilation. Taking into consideration the simultaneous urbanization of the settlement, it is a case-study to suggest some societal and economic mechanisms that facilitated the "Cypriote style pottery takeover".

## **The settlement of Tarsus-Gözlükule during the transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron Age**

Aslı Özyar

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Gözlükule refers to what remains of a stratified settlement mound rising prominently in the southern part of the modern town of Tarsus to the West of Çukurova, as the plain of Cilicia is referred to nowadays locally. The paper will review the development of the settlement during the regional Late Bronze to Iron Age transition in terms of lay-out, architecture and selected associated finds based on the historical Goldman period publications finetuned by later investigations. I will include structures and material uncovered during the current Boğaziçi University excavations, as well, when needed to confirm or at times to further complicate the picture.

The aim will be to trace change as manifested in the material record of stratification and to compare this against the traditional historical paradigm for the region. When looking from the site to the South towards the Mediterranean the vantage point invites visitors to consider the site in its setting across the island of Cyprus, a perspective which this paper will also introduce when deemed of interest or relevant.

## **Tarsus-Gözlükule: Late Bronze and Early Iron Age periods based on pottery analysis**

Elif Ünlü

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Tarsus-Gözlükule in Cilicia occupies a strategic location at important junctions of vital trade routes interwoven into both land and sea routes. The geographic position of the site provides for alternative networks of connections creating a flexible landscape of opportunities. This talk aims to follow the trajectory of the settlement of Gözlükule from the Late Bronze Age when Cilicia was politically tied to central Anatolia, to the dissolution of that center of gravity and the new political structures that emerged in the aftermath of its collapse during the Iron Age.

Pottery both from the current Boğaziçi excavations and the earlier Goldman excavations will be used to evaluate the region's shifting networks from the second to the first millennium BCE. Due to its indestructibility and unrecyclability pottery still remains an important tool in addressing many aspects of a settlement from food production and consumption habits to storage strategies, as well as establishing connection and interaction networks. An assessment of the local and imported pottery with an emphasis on their stratigraphic contexts at Tarsus-Gözlükule will be attempted with the goal of understanding some of the mechanisms behind the transformations the region goes through as the political agents change and powerhouses are transferred during this tumultuous period in the regions history.

## **Tepebağ Höyük in the Late Bronze Age: local and Cypriot pottery**

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The site of Tepebağ is located in the old city center of Adana, south of the Taurus Mountains and about 50km north of the Mediterranean coast. The site is one of the significant sites in Plain Cilicia during the Late and Iron Ages. Furthermore, the site is probably equated with ancient Adaniya, known in the Hittite texts, especially as a town in Kizzuwatna. The site has yielded a continuous stratigraphic occupational sequence from the Bronze Age to the present. The excavations between 2017–2021 included large scale trenches on the highest peak of Tepebağ. This paper focuses on the Late Bronze Age remains along with local and associated Cypriot pottery from these excavations in a frame of stratigraphical outline.

## **The Final Bronze Age at Kilise Tepe through the lens of the pottery from the Stele Building**

Ekin Kozal

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Kilise Tepe plays a crucial role in understanding the historical and the cultural structure of Rough Cilicia in the Late Bronze Age since it is up to date the only excavated site in the region. The construction of the Stele Building at Kilise Tepe around 1350 BCE marks a demonstrative change from the architectural viewpoint given that its orientation is totally different than that of its predecessor, i.e. the Northwestern Building (ca. 1500–1350 BCE). The pottery of the Northwestern Building was already prepared for the publication by the author, in which the strong affiliations with Central Anatolia was put forward. In connection to this prior study, this paper aims to present a closer look to this period from the perspective of the pottery from the Stele Building belonging to the second half of the Late Bronze Age. The Stele Building was constructed in Level IIa and was destroyed by fire in Level IIc. A new version of the building was reconstructed in Level IIb, which yielded LH IIIc pottery and was also destroyed. Therefore, the building would present evidence from a sequential basis enlightening not only the second half of the Late Bronze Age but also the final phase before the Late Bronze Age collapse and the early resilient times directly afterwards.

## **Tracing ancient trade networks: provenance studies of Cypriot pottery from the Late Bronze to the Iron Age in Cyprus and the Levant**

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Recent large-scale provenance studies at Late Cypriot Hala Sultan Tekke and Iron Age Tel Dor, Tell Qasile, and Tell Keisan have shed new light on trade patterns between Cyprus and the Levant. The studies reveal that during the Late Cypriot period (late 17<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> centuries BCE), there was a regular trade system between

the Circum-Troodos and the harbor of Hala Sultan Tekke. Petrographic analysis of Cypriot wares shows that cooking pots, White Slip, and Base Ring wares were imported from the Troodos mountains and distributed throughout the Levant, possibly alongside Cypriot copper.

From the beginning of Late Cypriot IIC to LCIIIA (13<sup>th</sup>–mid 12<sup>th</sup> centuries BCE), intra-island exchange was characterized by the appearance of tableware and Wavy Band Pithoi produced in and imported from other regions in Cyprus. Aegean-imported pottery no longer reached the island, and instead, locally produced White Painted Wheel-made ware combined Aegean technologies with traditional Cypriot characteristics. However, the few White Painted Wheel-made pieces that reached the harbor were likely not a deliberate trade product but rather indicative of another type of connection yet to be fully understood.

Similarly, at Tell Qasile in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century, a harbor site on the Northern Philistine border, local production included a variety of wares that continue the Cypriot White Painted Wheel-made production and are now referred to as “Philistine Style.” These were found alongside imported Philistine Bichrome wares from Philistia, with a similar pattern identified in the earliest phase of Tel Dor and Tel Keisan in the 11<sup>th</sup> century BCE.

During the Early Iron Age (11<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> centuries BCE), trade between Cyprus and other regions was limited to a small number of Phoenician harbor sites, with Tel Dor standing out for its rich and well-preserved collection of Cypriot Iron Age ceramics. The vessels found at Dor were mostly produced at the major Cypriot harbors of Salamis, Kition, Amathus, and Paphos, revealing extensive trade connections between these ports. This discovery provides a valuable foundation for further research into the origins and interconnections of Cypriot Iron Age pottery fabrics. Similar but distinct trade patterns are now being identified at Keisan and Qasile, highlighting the complexity of trade in the ancient Mediterranean world.

## **The connections between Cyprus and the Anatolian South Coast in the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age relating to metal production and trade**

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Both Cyprus and the Anatolian South coast are characterised by their rich metalliferous regions and they have both played an important role in the development of ancient metallurgy and in the trade of metals. Copper is the metal associated with Cyprus and actually by the Roman period it became synonymous with the island which eventually actually gave the metal its Latin name. The island may also have played an important role in the development and dissemination of iron technology. But Cyprus is poor in all the other metals which were essential for the economy namely the precious metals, gold and silver and more importantly tin without which bronze cannot be produced even if there is an abundance of copper. The Anatolian peninsula is rich in metals. It has been estimated that there are 91 recorded copper ore out of which 36 reveal evidence of prehistoric mining. More importantly there are tin deposits in the Taurus mountains of southern Anatolia which according to scholars were exploited during the Early Bronze Age. More recently evidence has come out that perhaps production of tin continued there into the Late Bronze Age: provenance studies have revealed that part of the Uluburun tin cargo was produced in the Taurus mountains. The main part of the cargo of that same ship was Cypriot copper. Anatolia is also rich in silver, a metal which played an important role in the economy of the Eastern Mediterranean.

The aim of this paper is to investigate the evidence for contacts between the two areas in respect to ancient metallurgy and the trade of metals. An effort will be made to unravel and understand the nature of the relationship which most probably started already in the beginning of the Bronze Age when copper metallurgy in Cyprus is transformed.

## **Early iron production and smithing in Cilicia: an overview**

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In this talk, an overview of the written sources on early iron mining and iron metallurgy, along with archaeometric studies to date will be provided in order to examine the possibility that Cilicia was a center for iron mining and metallurgy during the transition from the Late Bronze to the Early Iron Age (ca. 1200–1000 BCE).

Iron technology is generally regarded as having its origins in the eastern Mediterranean. From Hittite sources, the first references to iron have already been found, exclusively in the famous Kizzuwatna letter, in which southeastern Anatolia was pointed out as a center for “good iron” production, however material evidence such as smelting slags has not yet been identified to support this claim. In spite of this, modern geological studies have demonstrated that there are iron-rich mineralizations that may be suitable for use in iron production in the eastern Cilicia region, such as laterite and bauxite mineralizations in İskenderun-Payas-Dörtyol. Despite the absence of smelting evidence, the examination of Early Iron Age iron finds and smithing slag from Kinet Höyük and Sirkeli Höyük indicates that iron smithing was mastered in Cilicia. Hence, iron was not only distributed in the region in the form of finished products, but might also have been distributed in the form of intermediate products. Such intermediate products remain unknown in terms of their source. It is expected that the combination of isotopic and geochemical techniques will be able to contribute to the debate regarding the beginning of iron mining and metallurgy in Cilicia.

## **Hiyawa/Kawa – Neo-Hittite formations and structures in Cilicia**

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Historical sources on Cilicia are not available for the first centuries of the Iron Age. Only from the late 10<sup>th</sup> and early 9<sup>th</sup> centuries do external texts from the Levant and Assyria begin to appear, which mention two principalities in Cilicia: Hiyawa/Kawa/Que in Plain Cilicia and Hilakku in Rough Cilicia. Endemic texts from Plain Cilicia are only available from the 8<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The same applies to monumental art production, for which we only know examples from Hiyawa/Kawa from the 9<sup>th</sup> and especially the 8<sup>th</sup> century onwards. Inscriptions as well as monumental art and architecture show that at this time Kawa/Hiyawa had many characteristics of a “typical” late Hittite principality. Hilakku, on the other hand, is almost completely unknown due to the lack of archaeological data.

Consequently, the only archaeological sources available for the formation phase of the principality of Hiyawa/Kawa are architecture, pottery and objects.

The paper will give an overview of the development of the Iron Age principality Hiyawa/Kawa from a holistic perspective from its beginning until its incorporation into the Neo Assyrian Empire.



## **A look beyond the Late Bronze Age horizon: the Cypriot Kingdoms and the Near Eastern empires from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> centuries BC**

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At the request of the organisers, my paper transcends the late Bronze Age Horizon of the conference and focuses instead on Archaic and Classical Times. Proximity to powerful Near Eastern empires was crucial for Cyprus between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries BC: In late 8<sup>th</sup> century BC, several Cypriot kings formally submitted to the Assyrian Great King; 200 years later, the island came under Achaemenid control. Despite this hegemony, the Cypriot kings were able to retain partial autonomy, pursuing their own interests on the island, occasionally even beyond it. Of course, the relationship between the Cypriot “petty kings” and their suzerains was far from stable. By referring to two theories of international relations, I will try to define this particular relationship. The first provides a model of suzerainty that helps explain the status of the Cypriot monarchs while under the dominance of the Near Eastern Kings as well as the political leeway they were afforded. The second is a centre-periphery-theory and helps understand how the Great Kings of the Near Eastern empires controlled outlying regions. From an Assyrian and Persian perspective, Cyprus was indeed on the periphery at first; this changed, however, in the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC, when the Eastern Mediterranean increasingly became central to the region’s conflicts, a development strongly influenced by the power politics of the island’s most powerful king, Evagoras I of Salamis.

### **Speak slowly and clearly, I only know Luwian**

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This paper will consider linguistic evidence for cultural contacts between Cyprus and the Anatolian South Coast. What languages and scripts are attested? How does the situation change from Bronze to Iron Age? More specifically, how should one envisage intercultural communication, and how does the linguistic evidence compare to archaeological data? For instance, is there evidence for the use of a lingua franca, would there have been interpreters or should one envisage a situation where communication was achieved rather in spite of linguistic barriers?