



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The Agropolitics and Agroecologies of Farming in Bronze and Iron Age Central Anatolia

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Abstract

The Hittite Kingdom represents the first supraregional power documented in the history of central Anatolia. The core of this polity, the “Land of Hatti”, extended across a landscape particularly challenging for sustaining a reliable centralized agricultural system, due largely to its fragmented topography and recurrent droughts. Recent scholarship has suggested that the success of the Hittite polity may, to some extent, be linked to a set of institutional and infrastructural innovations designed to mitigate these regional productive limitations. In this light, agriculture has thus emerged as a key factor in understanding the Hittite political trajectory.

Building on this framework, this paper provides an updated and comprehensive view of agropastoral economies in Bronze and Iron Age central Anatolia, situating Hittite agriculture within the longue durée of protohistoric Anatolian farming. To offer a cohesive reconstruction of regional agriculture and political economies, the palaeobotanical and zooarchaeological records will be analyzed alongside textual and archaeological sources. Published records will be discussed alongside new archaeobotanical data from the sites of U?akli Höyük (Yozgat) and K?n?k Höyük (Ni?de). Particular attention will be given to the degree of continuity and change in farming practices between the Hittite period and both earlier and later phases.

Keywords

Anatolia, Farming, Hittite, Political Economy, Archaeobotany

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