



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Investigating citadels of Central Anatolian Canton States: a communal meal production area from Niğde-Köşk Höyük

D'ALFONSO L. ^{1,2*}, *CASTELLANO L.* ^{2,3}, *CASUCCI G.* ¹, *FOX-ZAMPICCOLI L.* ²

¹ Dept. of Humanities - University of Pavia, PAVIA, Italy

² Institute for the Study of the Ancient World - New York University, New York, United States

³ Cotsen Institute of Archaeology - UCLA, Los Angeles, United States

*Corresponding author

Abstract

Recent research on the urban organization of Syro-Hittite citadels during the Early and Middle Iron Age has shown their highly hierarchical character: temples, rulers' residences, and large ceremonial spaces, defined by monumental architecture, statuary, reliefs, and inscriptions. Less studied, citadels of post-Hittite Central Anatolian Canton States (CACS) reflect a different concept of urban space: they are characterized by lack of monumentality and the presence of simple single-room houses, often built one next to the other with no pronounced indication of social hierarchy in their spatial organization. Since most CACS citadels have been excavated early on, we gather very little information on the organization of space and function in them. Against this background, in this paper we present the results of the 2019-2024 excavations and multidisciplinary studies at Niğde-Köşk Höyük in Sector A2 and discuss the evidence from two single-room houses (Ab2 and Ab3) and the open space between them. The multidisciplinary study of the many pyrotechnological and storage installations excavated in these contexts, led us to suggest that they might have served a communal function, possibly as a meal production area within the citadel.

Keywords

Anatolia, Iron Age, citadel, food production, community

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