



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Iron age stone vessels from Karkemish

BOTTINO S. 1*

¹ Alma Mater Studiorum, Universitdi Bologna, Bologna, Italy

*Corresponding author

Abstract

The data presented in this paper bring together the stone artifacts recovered during the archaeological investigations conducted at Karkemish by the Turco-Italian Archaeological Expedition directed by N. Marchetti. The stone tools recovered during the excavation campaigns number more than 1300, coming from both surface and stratified contexts. They have been divided into five macro-typologies: stone tools, stone weapons, textile tools, stone vessels, other. In this paper, the discussion focuses on stone vessels from Iron age: the chronological framework, raw materials, geological sources, and contextual associations are analyzed. A preliminary investigation of raw materials is presented thanks to the observation of selected samples using optical microscopy and stone vessels typologies are discussed according to morphological criteria. However, some problems are to be faced: besides the lack of a standardized terminology, the multifunctionality of these objects, their long periods of use, and their limited production complicate defining their chronological and typological seriation. Also, through comparisons with previous studies and materials from different sites, an attempt has been made to present a neat classification system of Karkemish stone vessels from the Iron Age. Finally, a distribution analysis has been carried out to investigate the consumption of stone vessels at Karkemish.

Keywords

Material culture, stone vessels, raw materials, exchange, objects consumption

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7. Characterizing culture ?

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