

MITTEILUNGEN

DER DEUTSCHEN ORIENT-GESELLSCHAFT

ZU BERLIN

frei stehenden Steine in diesem Gebiet sind stark verwittert, und die hohe Bodenfeuchtigkeit im Kanalbereich scheint den Steinen sehr geschadet zu haben.

In der südwestlichen Grabungsfläche E wurden die Fundamente eines Gebäudes aufgedeckt (Abb. 23). Ein Raum von etwa 6 m Länge und 3 m erhaltener Breite konnte erfaßt werden. Die Südmauer wurde teilweise einschalig auf die Steinpflasterung des Nordufers gebaut, ist somit jünger. Die bis in eine Höhe von 50 cm erhaltene Mauer ist im übrigen zweischalig aus größeren, sorgfältig aneinandergepaßten Steinen errichtet, deren Zwischenräume mit kleineren Steinen gefüllt wurden.

Aufgrund einer späteren Störung ist die Nordwestecke nicht vollständig erfaßt. Von der Nordmauer ist lediglich ein 2,5 m langes Stück erhalten, an dessen Südseite sich ein größerer Stein etwa 27 cm unter der Mauerunterkante befindet.

Ein an der Außenseite der Westmauer angebrachter Mauervorsprung von etwa 1,20 m Tiefe und 3 m Breite wurde außen mit einer Reihe großer Steine gebaut. An der inneren Seite dieser Mauer befindet sich eine Nische von 1 m Tiefe und 1,80 m Breite. Die Nordecke dieser Nische wurde innen durch drei senkrecht gestellte, 20 cm starke, 20 cm tiefe und 50 cm breite Steinplatten begrenzt. Der Nischenboden ist mit kleinen Steinen gepflastert; die Südecke wurde lediglich durch diese Pflasterung erfaßt. Eine im Nordteil der Nische entdeckte, etwa 2 cm tiefe, kleine Aschegrube sowie einige kleine Kohlefragmente dürften als Rest einer Herdstelle zu deuten sein.

Die Ostmauer bzw. der Anschluß an der Kanalmauer konnte nicht festgestellt werden. Weder Lehmziegelfragmente noch Reste hölzernen Baumaterials wurden beobachtet. Das Bruchsteinmauerwerk ist mit dem der hethitischen Großreichszeit zu vergleichen (Neve 1982: 109, Abb. 50, Taf. 42 b-c und 54c). Das Fehlen von Kleinfunden hindert uns jedoch daran, dieses Gebäude genauer zu datieren. Auch die Funktion dieses Gebäude sowie sein Verhältnis zum Kanal wurde nicht geklärt.

A COLLECTION OF ZOOMORPHIC TERRACOTTA FROM GEVEN GEDIĞI (JARED MILLER)

On 11 September 1998, while exploring the mountain ridge which runs in an east-west direction to the south of Kuşaklı, members of the Kuşaklı Expedition happened upon the ruins of a small, apparently previously unknown, structure. A collection of zoomorphic terracotta fragments from the site, collected during a brief one-hour surface survey, lends the site special significance¹⁸.

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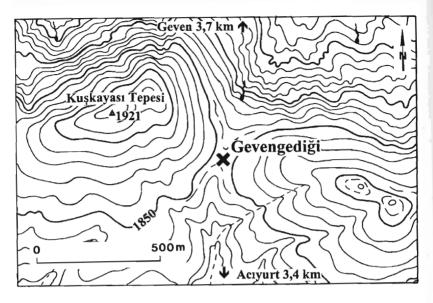


Abb. 26 Findspot of some zoomorphic terracotta.

The site is situated in the saddle of a pass approximately ½ km. east-south-east of Kuşkayası Tepe (1921 m.) and ½ km. from a peak of nearly the same elevation further to the east-south-east (Abb. 26). The ruin lies at approximately 1840 m., only slightly lower than, and c. 40 m. to the north of, the highest point of the pass. The modern road ignores the pass, opting for that a couple kilometres to the west, alongside which lies the village of Küpeli. A little over three km. to the north of the site is the village of Geven, which presumably lent its name to the pass. The Neo-Hittite site of Havuzköy (see Boehmer 1967) lies 11 km to the south-east, while the Hittite city of Kuşaklı lies 9.5 km. due west, just 2 km. north of the same ridge which the Geven pass traverses. The structure seems to have been oriented approximately 20° east of north, facing directly toward the Tecer Dağları range, specifically the conspicuous south-western peak(s) of Keşlik Tepe (2230 m.), c. 15 km. to the north-east.

The rubble of the ancient structure is roughly rectangular in outline, covering an area of approximately 15×20 m. A small tumulus (now c. one m. high), apparently of Roman date, lies on the south-western corner of the ruin's outline. Two bulldozer cuts, c. 3 m. wide and 6–10 m. long each, slice through both features. The area to the north of the structure's remains appears as if it might have been artificially terraced. The terracotta fragments, ceramics and other artefacts were found among the surface debris exhumed by the bull-dozer.

The small assemblage of materials collected during the brief examination of the site includes a remarkable number of zoomorphic terracotta fragments. Fifteen fragments can be considered with a great degree of confidence to be those of zoomorphs, while a further eight to ten are likely zoomorphic. A fur-

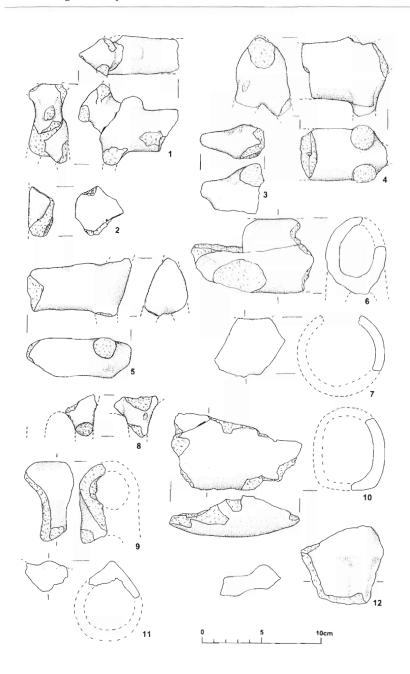


Abb. 27 Collection of zoomorphic terracotta from Geven Gediği.

ther noteworthy feature is the number of humpbacked bull, i.e. zebu *Bos indicus*, figures recognisable from the collection, a total of four. Both solid and hollow figures are represented, some of the latter (Abb. 27, 6–7, 9–10; note especially no. 7, which might possibly preserve the edge of an aperture in the figure's back) reminiscent of the bull libations vessels, though on a smaller scale, from Boğazköy (Bittel 1983: Abb. 58–60), İnandıktepe (Özgüç 1988: Pls. 60–62), and now Kuşaklı (MDOG 130, 1998: 118).

The most complete solid figure consists of the front two-thirds of a zebu (Abb. 27, 1; 28a). Its surface bears traces of a beige/white slip. The ware is typically orange, with small to medium mineral inclusions. Though poorly preserved, the figure seems not to have been finely executed, and to have lacked such detail as eyes and ears. The full dimensions of the figure must have been some 9 cm. long by 7 cm. high. Another fragment represents the front twothirds, minus the head, of a solid zebu (Abb. 27, 4). Its surface bears a beige slip, ranging to white on its back. Traces of polishing marks can be seen. The ware is typically orange, with small to medium mineral inclusions. The body and legs of a reconstructed figure would be c. 13 cm. long and 10 cm high. A further, very badly preserved, solid figure seems also to be a zebu (Abb. 27, 5). Its surface seems to bear traces of a polish near one appendage join. The ware is orange/red, with medium-sized mineral inclusions. Though poorly preserved, it seems nonetheless warranted to describe it as crudely executed. The upper front right leg of yet another zoomorph (Abb. 27, 8) also seems to have belonged to a solid figure, though the possibility that this solid leg was attached to a hollow body cannot be excluded. Its surface bears a beige/white slip as well as traces left by a polishing tool. The ware is typically orange, with fine to small mineral inclusions. The body and legs of the figure must have been some 12 cm. long and 9 cm. high.

Five further fragments are surely remnants of hollow zoomorphic figures (Abb. 27, 3, 6, 9–11), though their species cannot be ascertained from the fragments alone, while three others are likely fragments of hollow zoomorphs (Abb. 27, 2, 7, 12). Judging from the collection as a whole, one might reasonably suggest that the fragments also belonged to bull figurines. Indeed, one small piece (Abb. 27, 11) may well be that of the hump of a zebu. A relatively well-preserved head (Abb. 27, 3; 28b), however, gives the impression not of a bull, but of an equid. It is more finely formed than the others, including seemingly detailed eyes and a plausibly shaped nose. Perhaps the small detail below the left eye might be interpreted as an attempt at representing a harness. The wares of these fragments range from typically orange to red, while very fine mineral inclusions are found in some, ranging to small or medium in others. The exteriors of a few are polished, while others bear white, beige or pink-red slip, as does the equid. Two fragments (Abb. 27, 5-6) show evidence of inadequate firing, as the material closer to their surfaces are orange-red in colour, while their interiors are grey or black. A small fragment of what must have been a rather large figure (c. 30 cm. high by 40 cm. long?), bearing a rather finely polished white surface, also preserves an indeterminate plastic element on its exterior (Abb. 27, 12).

At Alishar Hüyük (von der Osten 1937 : Fig. 239 : d1241, d2475 – assigned to the Hittite Empire period) and Alaca Höyük (Koşay/Akok 1966 : Pls.

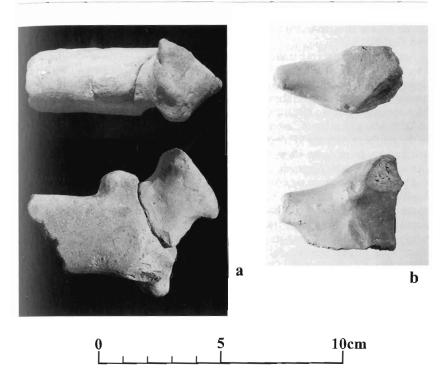


Abb. 28 Some zoomorphic terracotta from Geven Gediği.

25:i255 and 28:i256 – designated Hittite) was discovered a small number of zebu terracotta which are reminiscent of those from Geven Gediği, though their hump is located high on the shoulders and is largely indistinguishable from the neck. More similar to the examples presented here are two figurines from Tarsus, one dated to the sixth century, another unstratified, especially the first of which might be considered a zebu, though Goldman designates both as water buffalo (1963: 341, Fig. 157:35, 36). Dupré has recently published the Louvre's collection of Cappadocian terracotta, among which may be found a solitary, unprovenienced zebu (1993: 88f., Pl. 12, no. 126)¹⁹. Finally, a silver pendant from Boğazköy might also be considered a zebu (Boehmer 1972: No. 1759 – from Unterstadt Ib). This limited array of parallels would seem to in-

Note Collins' critique of Dupré's historical conclusions drawn from the representations of non-native species, such as the gazelle, water buffalo and the zebu, found in Anatolia (1999:60). Whereas Dupré suggests they were imported in the wake of Sargon's campaigns into Anatolia, Collins more realistically considers Old Assyrian trade contacts as the vehicle of the introduction of knowledge of these species, if not necessarily the animals themselves.

dicate a Late Bronze to Iron Age date for the terracotta assemblage from Geven Gediği.

Archaeozoologists are undecided about the original domain of the *Bos indicus*, and whether it developed on the Indian subcontinent or in south-western Asia (Clutton-Brock 1987: 65, 69)²⁰. Iconographic depictions are known from around the middle of the third millennium in the Indus Valley and southern Mesopotamia (idem: 69f.). Late Bronze Age faunal remains have been found at Deir'Alla in Jordan (Clason 1978; Buitenhuis 1984:216) and Tell Jemmeh in the northern Negev of Palestine (Hesse 1997:442). Humped cattle figurines are known from Late Bronze Tell Jemmeh and Tell el-Ajjul in Palestine (idem: 442; Paula Wapnish, letter of 22 February, 1999).

The meagre ceramic repertoire from the site, consisting of six small rim or handle fragments and some 35 other sherds, is largely Iron Age and includes some pieces that could be, though are not necessarily, Hittite, as well as later sherds. One small painted fragment, exhibiting a black lattice pattern on a white-slipped surface, has its closest parallels among the Iron Age painted wares (for Alishar see von der Osten 1937: e.g. Fig. 444; for Kültepe, Özgüç 1971: Fig. 57; for Porsuk, Dupré 1983: Pls. 81:156, 84:181; for Karahöyük T. Özgüç/N. Özgüç 1949: Pl. XX:4; for Tarsus, Goldman 1963: Figs. 60:157, 56:37, 57:60a, 59:91, 66:358, 68:442, 81:1008). Other Iron Age forms include rims of a large storage jar and a cooking pot. The rim fragment of a small cup would seem to be of later (Hellenistic?) date, while a handle fragment has a very close parallel from Level IV at Malatya, dated to the Hittite Empire period (Pecorella 1975: Fig. 23:13).

Other artefacts found at the site include: a fragment of a three(?)-footed limestone plate, which finds its closest parallels from Unterstadt I at Boğazköy (see Boehmer 1979: Nos. 3707, 3716f.), as well as from Büyükkale Levels III and I (Boehmer 1972: Nos. 2171, 2183); a significant portion of a *Turmschnecke*, which must have been imported from the Red Sea; two fragments of basalt grindstones, seemingly not from the same original, as the basalt of the one is rather rougher and more porous than that of the other; and a small fragment of Roman(?) glass, which came from the area of the bulldozer cut through the tumulus.

The site appears to be an Iron Age, perhaps a Late Bronze Age, 'cult' high place, judging from the meagre ceramic assemblage and the terracotta material. If this interpretation is correct, the site offers potential to the interested researcher for the investigation of an ancient high place, for which archaeological data is greatly lacking. Finds that might suggest that the site also served secular purposes are the basalt grinding stones, which in any case might be considered surprising at a high, rocky mountain pass, to which grains probably would have been carried, rather than grown in the immediate vicinity. One possible explanation might be that the site served as a seasonal shepherds dwelling upon losing its cultic significance.

For the prospect of recent DNA studies as a solution to this problem, see MacHugh et alii 1998.