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978-0-521-14981-5 - The Prehistory of Asia Minor: From Complex Hunter-Gatherers to Early Urban Societies

Bleda S. Düring

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THE PREHISTORY OF ASIA MINOR

In this book, Bleda S. Düring offers an archaeological analysis of Asia Minor, the area equated with much of modern-day Turkey, from 20,000 to 2000 BC. During this period, human societies moved from small-scale hunter-gatherer groups to complex and hierarchical communities with economies based on agriculture and industry. Dr. Düring traces the spread of the Neolithic way of life, which ultimately reached across Eurasia, and the emergence of key human developments, including the domestication of animals, metallurgy, fortified towns, and long-distance trading networks. Situated at the junction between Europe and Asia, Asia Minor has often been perceived as a bridge for the movement of technologies and ideas. By contrast, this book argues that cultural developments followed a distinctive trajectory in Asia Minor from as early as 9000 BC.

Bleda S. Düring is a postdoctoral research Fellow and lecturer at Leiden University. He has done extensive fieldwork in Turkey and currently directs the Cide Archaeological Project, surveying the western Turkish Black Sea region. The author of numerous articles in edited volumes and journals, such as *Anatolian Studies*, *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology*, and *Archaeological Dialogues*, Dr. Düring is also the author of *Constructing Communities: Clustered Neighbourhood Settlements of the Central Anatolian Neolithic*.

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