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978-0-521-76313-4 - 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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CONTENTS

List of Figures	<i>page</i> ix
List of Tables	xi
Acknowledgements	xiii
INTRODUCTION	i
CHAPTER ONE THE LAND OF ASIA MINOR	4
CHAPTER TWO ARCHAEOLOGY IN ASIA MINOR	21
CHAPTER THREE HUNTER-GATHERERS OF THE EPIPALAEOLITHIC AND MESOLITHIC (20,000–6000 BC)	31
CHAPTER FOUR EARLY FARMERS OF THE SOUTHERN PLATEAU (8500–6500 BC)	47
CHAPTER FIVE NEOLITHIC DISPERSALS (6500–5500 BC)	122
CHAPTER SIX MILLENNIA IN THE MIDDLE (5500–3000 BC)	200

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Bleda S. Dering

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

CONTENTS

CHAPTER SEVEN	
ELITES AND COMMONERS (3000–2000 BC)	257
CONCLUSIONS	300
Bibliography	305
Index	355



FIGURES

1.1 Geography and toponyms of Asia Minor	<i>page</i> 5
1.2 Rocks and minerals of Asia Minor	9
1.3 Pollen cores of Asia Minor	15
2.1 Reproduction of the Alaca Höyük standard at crossroads in Ankara	25
3.1 Epipalaeolithic and Mesolithic sites of Asia Minor, 20,000–6000 BC	33
3.2 Chipped stone industries from the Öküzini Cave	35
3.3 Two renderings of a decorated pebble from Öküzini	37
3.4 Chipped stone artefacts from Ağacli assemblages	41
4.1 Early Neolithic sites and obsidian sources in Asia Minor, 8500–6500 BC	53
4.2 Cores from Aşikli Höyük and Kömürcü-Kaletepe	55
4.3 Composite plan of Aşikli Höyük layers 2A–C	63
4.4 Schematic section of deep sounding 4H/G at Aşikli Höyük	65
4.5 Plan of Musular	79
4.6 Plan of Canhasan 3	83
4.7 The mound of Catalhoyuk East with excavation areas	85
4.8 Çatalhöyük chipped stone artefacts	91
4.9 Figurine 12401.X7 from Çatalhöyük	94
4.10 Reconstruction of the Çatalhöyük settlement	95
4.11 Spread of house sizes at Çatalhöyük	97
4.12 Stamp seal 11652.X1 from Çatalhöyük	105
4.13 Distribution of sub-floor burials in level VIB in the South Area at Çatalhöyük	109
4.14 Diachronic overview of the development of buildings in the South Area at Çatalhöyük	113
4.15 Overview of the diachronic development of continuous South Area building inventories at Çatalhöyük	115
5.1 Late Neolithic sites of Asia Minor, 6500–5500 BC	127
5.2 Pottery and pot stands from Çatalhöyük West	135
5.3 Plan of Erbaba	137

5.4	Plan of layers 2B and 2A at Canhasan 1	143
5.5	Painted and incised ceramics and painted plaster from layer 2B at Canhasan 1	147
5.6	Ceramics from Tepecik-Çiftlik (layers 2–3)	149
5.7	Two level 3 buildings from Köşk Höyük	153
5.8	Early Chalcolithic ceramics from Mersin-Yumuktepe	161
5.9	Buildings of the monochrome phase at Bademağacı (layer EN II/3)	163
5.10	Two female figurines of the monochrome phase from Hacılar	167
5.11	Pottery from fantastic and geometric phases in the Lake District	168
5.12	Level 2A and 2B plans of Hacılar	169
5.13	Pottery from Ulucak level 4	177
5.14	Pottery from the Fikirtepe horizon	183
5.15	The burnt house of level 10 at Ilıpınar	187
5.16	Plan of level 6 at Ilıpınar	191
6.1	Middle and Late Chalcolithic sites of Asia Minor, 5500–4000 BC	201
6.2	Plan of Aşağı Pınar level 5	207
6.3	Anthropomorphic vessel from Töptepe	209
6.4	Pottery and Kilia figurines from Kumtepe 1A and Beşik-Sivritepe	214
6.5	Double burial from Ilıpınar level 4	215
6.6	Kilia figurine, pointed bowl, and pointed beaker from Kulaksızlar	221
6.7	Late Chalcolithic pottery from Beycesultan	224
6.8	Plans of levels 6A1 and 6A2 at Kuruçay	225
6.9	Pottery from Büyük Güllücek	233
6.10	Pottery from Kuşsaray and Yarıkaya	237
6.11	Plan of Köşk Höyük level 1	243
6.12	Plan of Mersin-Yumuktepe level 16	249
7.1	Main EBA sites of Asia Minor, 3000–2000 BC	259
7.2	Pottery from Troy I	265
7.3	Plan and reconstruction of level H at Demircihüyük	267
7.4	Pottery from Troy II	271
7.5	Sophie Schliemann wearing jewelry from treasure A from Troy	277
7.6	EBA II cemetery at Ilıpınar	279
7.7	Plan and reconstruction of Troy II fortifications	285
7.8	EBA III pottery from Beycesultan	289
7.9	Grave goods from Alaca Höyük burials	291
7.10	EBA III Cappadocian painted ware from Kültepe	297



TABLES

4.1	Occurrence of wall painting motifs in relation to the levels at Çatalhöyük	<i>page</i> 102
4.2	Occurrence of the classes of moulded features and installations in relation to the levels in the South Area at Çatalhöyük	106
5.1	Periodisation of Central Anatolia	128
5.2	Periodisation of the Lake District between 6500 and 5500 BC	162
5.3	Schematic chronology of sites in Aegean Anatolian	176
5.4	Overview of earliest domestic cattle in the Neolithic of Asia Minor and possible evidence of dairy products and wool industries	197
7.1	The chronology of the EBA	260



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