

Karkemish of the Hittites on the Euphrates New Discoveries and New Acquisitions



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM - UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA
DIPARTIMENTO DI STORIA CULTURE CIVILTÀ

Karkemish of the Hittites on the Euphrates New Discoveries and New Acquisitions

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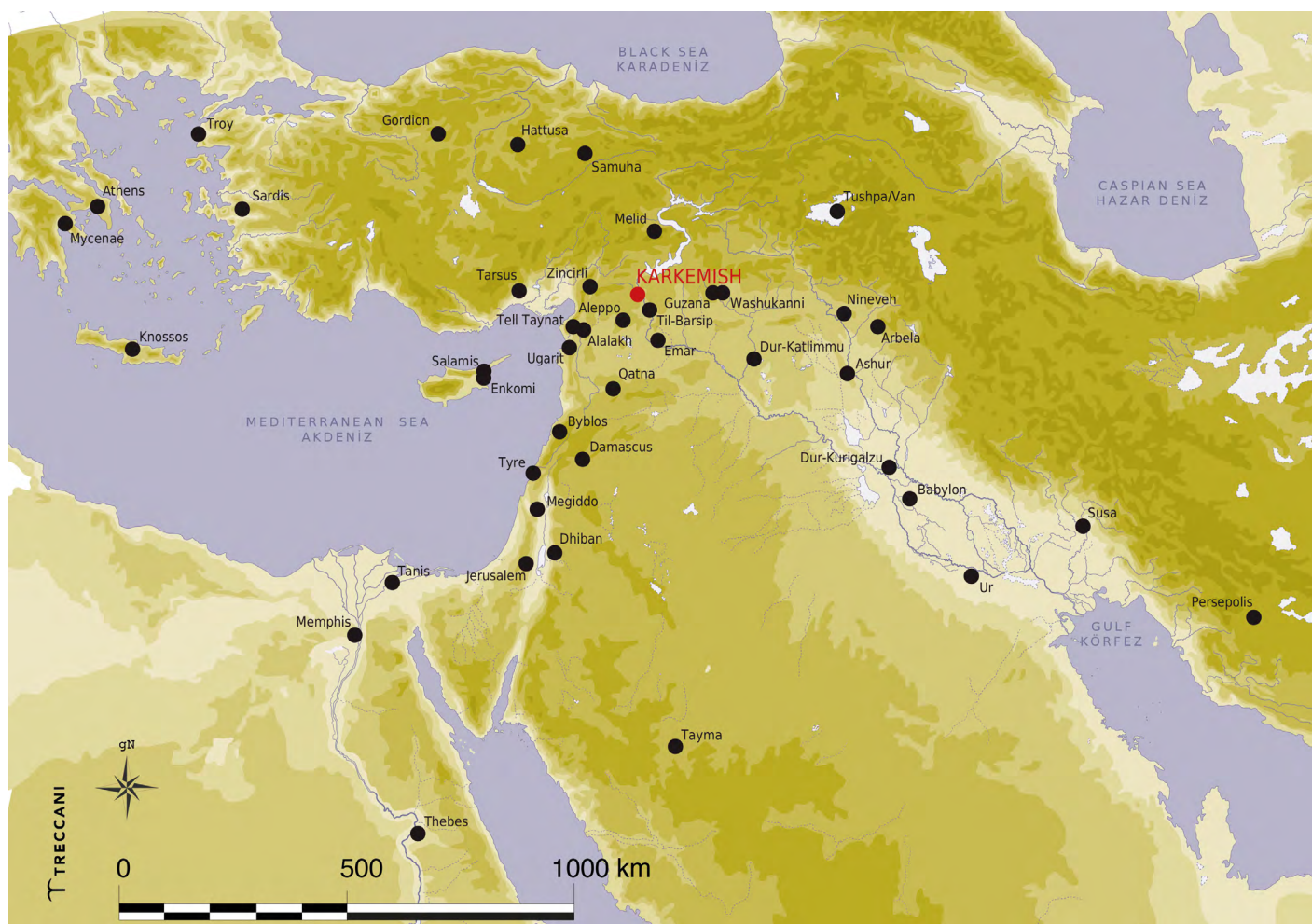
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Inscribed sherd

Museum no. 6975 (Istanbul)

Material: Pottery

Dimensions: h. 8.1; wall th. 1.5; w. 6.2 cm

Context: British Museum excavations, Lower Palace, found between the Great Staircase and the Water Gate

Date: Late Iron II, 8th century BCE

Cat. 35

It is difficult to identify the reference vessel shape for this ceramic wall fragment. The thickness of the fragment and the relatively fine texture of the fabric, however, suggest that the original shape may be a closed container such as a jar or jug, although one cannot exclude that we are here dealing with a clay cylinder. The fragment carries a hieroglyphic Luwian inscription - written vertically as the inner wheel lines make clear and it is thus so reproduced here - incised on its outer surface before firing (which proves that this is a “pot inscription”). Three columns of the inscription are preserved: c.1 *za*-[...] ¹²*wa/i-hu-ha*-[...] / c.2 *á-pa-la*-[...] [...] *x-wa/i-z*[*a/i* ...] / c.3 *x-sa*[... = This [...] Wahuha..., [son of?] Apala... Although the text is insufficiently preserved, it looks like that the inscription was a dedicatory one.

NM, HP

Description

Woolley and Barnett 1952: 159, fig. 62; Hawkins 2000: 223, II.73, pl. 90

References