

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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TABLE OF CONTENTS

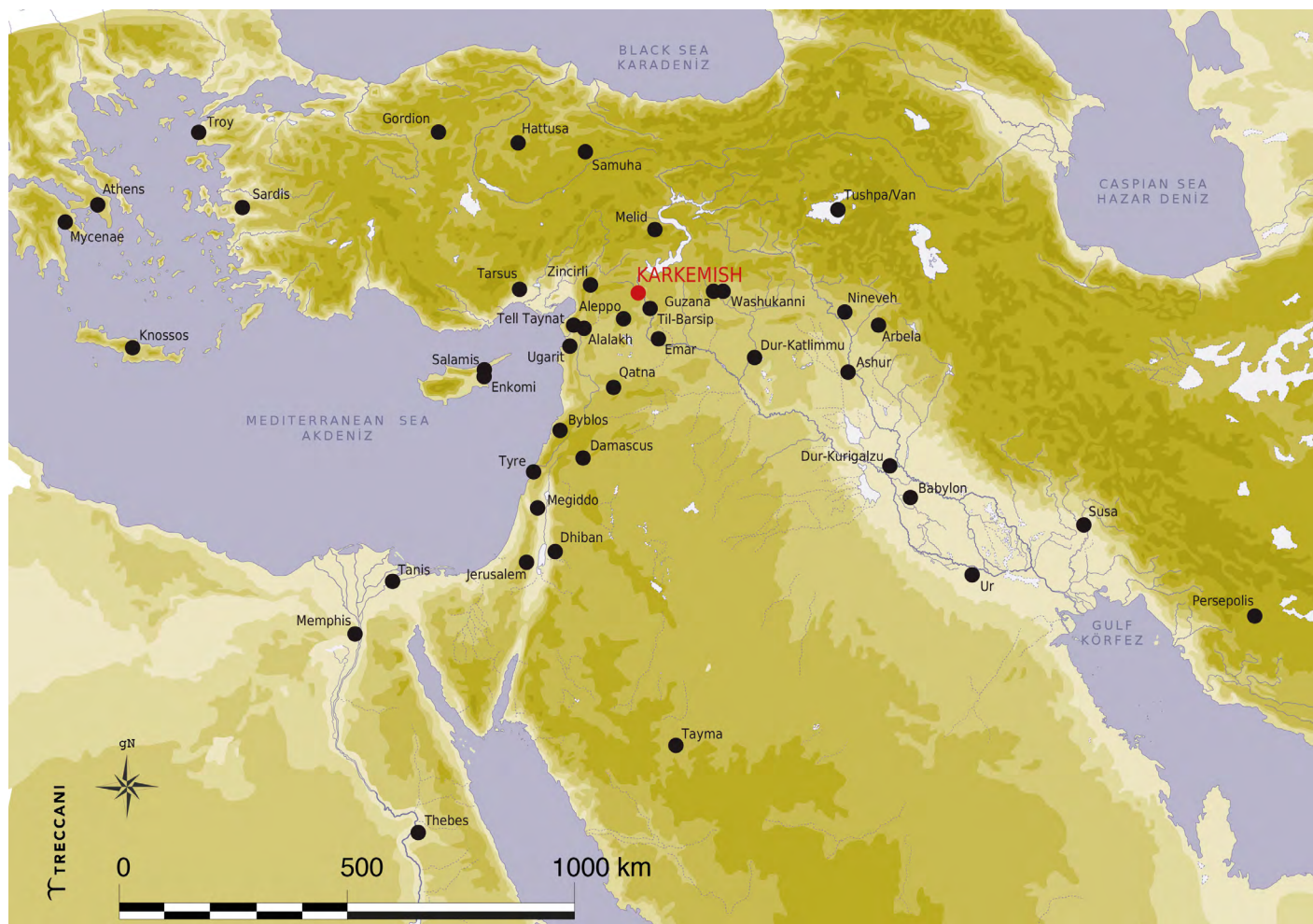
Forewords.....	7
Visual communication at Karkemish between the Imperial and Late Hittite periods NICOLÒ MARCHETTI.....	14
Anatolian hieroglyphic writing at Karkemish HASAN PEKER.....	24
The Late Bronze II and Iron I-II layers at Karkemish VITTORIA CARDINI, CLAUDIA D’ORAZIO, GABRIELE GIACOSA, SARA PIZZIMENTI, ROSA RIVOLTELLA.....	28
The Hittite Empire period sealing archive from Karkemish: a web of officials and economic tasks GIACOMO BENATI, CLAUDIA D’ORAZIO, NICOLÒ MARCHETTI, HASAN PEKER.....	40
A unique Late Hittite monumental cuneiform inscription from Karkemish GIANNI MARCHESI.....	44
The Karkemish archaeological landscape between Late Bronze II and Iron II periods GABRIELE GIACOSA, MEDYA KARAKAYA, MERVE ÖZYİĞİT, BEYAZIT SÖYLEMEZ, İBRAHİM ÜNGÖR.....	46
The bioarchaeology of Karkemish between Late Bronze II and Iron II periods MÜGE ERGUN, ELENA MAINI, ELEONORA SERRONE, RULA SHAFIQ, ALEXANDER WEIDE.....	50
The museum collections from Karkemish in Türkiye UMUT ALAGÖZ, RAHMİ ASAL, ÖZGÜR ÇOMAK, RAMAZAN EKER, YUSUF KİRAÇ, MUSTAFA METİN.....	54
The new arrangement of the Karkemish sculptures in the central hall of the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations UMUT ALAGÖZ, NICOLÒ MARCHETTI, MUSTAFA METİN.....	58
The digital repository for the Late Bronze II sealing archive and the 3D model of Late Hittite Karkemish JACOPO MONASTERO.....	60

CATALOGUE

Nos. 1-57.....66

BIBLIOGRAPHY.....

188





CATALOGUE

Authors' initials:

BB Barbara Bolognani

CDO Claudia D'Orazio

GG Gabriele Giacosa

GM Gianni Marchesi

HP Hasan Peker

LB Lorenzo Bellaviti

MM Mustafa Metin

MYM Mehmet Yiğit Meydan

NM Nicolò Marchetti

SB Sara Bottino

UA Umut Alagöz

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Cat. 8

Impressed sealing

Excavation no. KH.20.O.98 (Gaziantep)

Material: Clay

Dimensions: l. 4.9; w. 2.9; th. 2.0 cm

Context: Lower Palace, area C Center, Seal-house, fill F.10825 (phase B)

Date: Late Bronze IIB, 13th century BCE

Description

Medium-sized sack sealing, found in the fill over the courtyard to the West of the Seal-house (phase B). On the reverse there are negative traces of folds, probably of a sack made of leather, closed with a string, visible along the broken section. The obverse of the sealing has been impressed eight times, partially overlapping, with the same signet ring. The hieroglyphs giving the name and profession of the owner are placed along the vertical axis and also left and right in the oval area surrounded by a ladder band: *tá* (L29)-*ki* (L446)-*SARMA* (L80) / *SCRIBA* (L326) / *BONUS*₂ *SCRIBA* = Taki-Šarruma, scribe, wealthy scribe. It is possible that the person here is the same person as the prince Taki-Šarruma attested at Hattusa and Ugarit (Laroche 1966: 1209; Herbordt 2005: 228 and 176; Dinçol and Dinçol 2008: 272), if we assume that this seal belongs to a phase of his career before he became the “Chief Scribe.”

CDO, NM, HP