

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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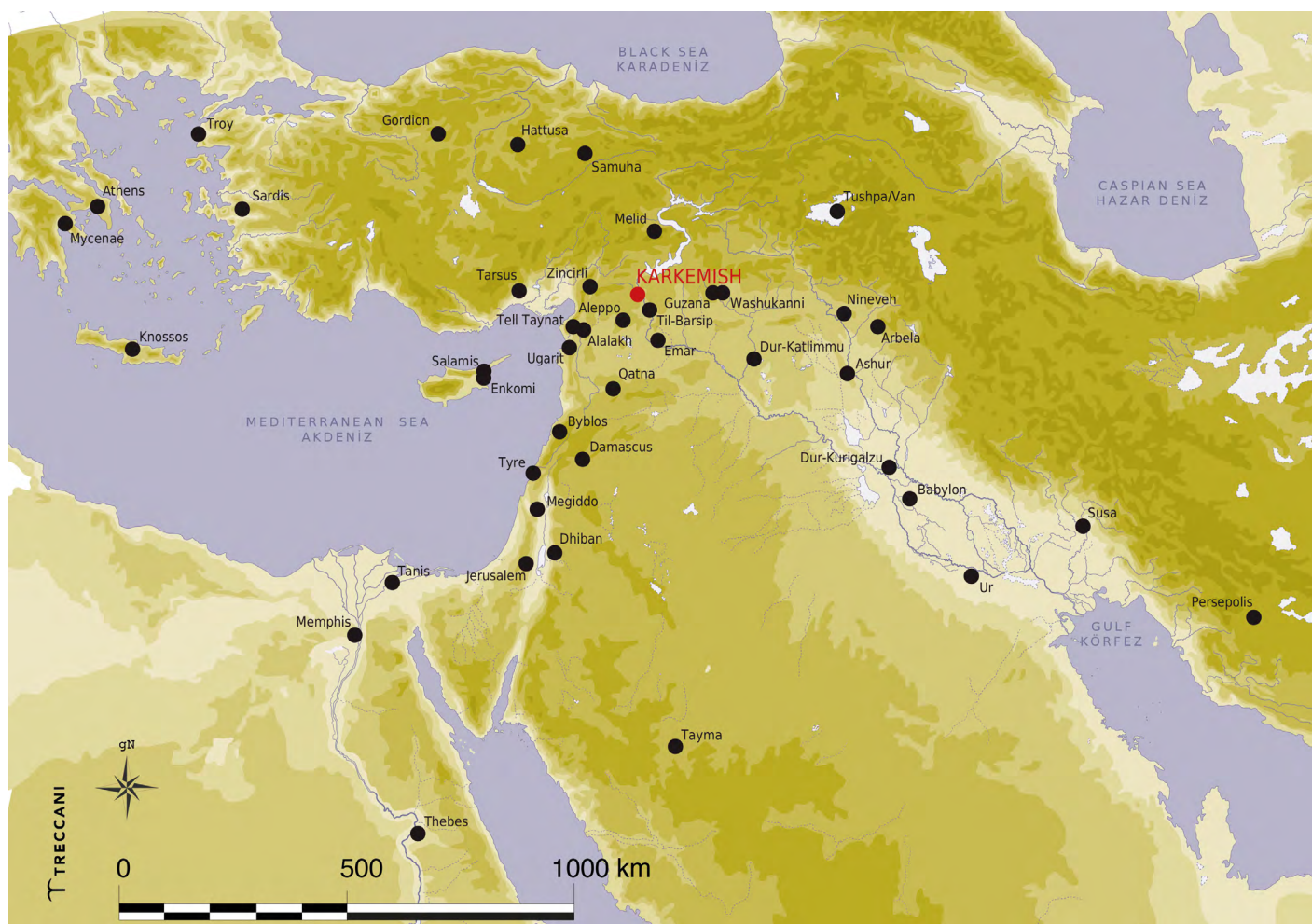
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Inlay or element of furniture

Excavation no. KH.21.O.288 (Gaziantep)

Material: Bone

Dimensions: l. 3.4; w. 1.5; th. 0.5 cm (perf. diam. 0.3 cm)

Context: Lower Palace, area C East, floor L.11582

Date: Iron I, mid-12th-11th centuries BCE

Cat. 31

Description

Fragmentary bone plaque, found in the preparation layer of an Iron I floor of beaten earth (L.11582) in the administrative building which followed the Seal-house. The front side presents a polished surface with an incised geometric decoration consisting of two crossed between parallel lines (one on the top and two at the bottom). Near the upper edge, a pierced hole indicates that it was possibly affixed to a composite artifact with a small nail, such as an inlaid furniture piece. Parallels can be seen among the Levantine ivory and bone industry that goes back to the Middle Bronze age (Peyronel 2016: 848-850). As for the Iron age, rectangular bone plaques and strips with perforation holes and geometric decoration can be found, for instance in the North Levant, at Chatal Höyük (Pucci 2019: 249-250, cat. nos. 561-563, 574-576) and at Zincirli (von Luschan and Andrae 1943: 124, 172, pl. 59.o).

CDO