

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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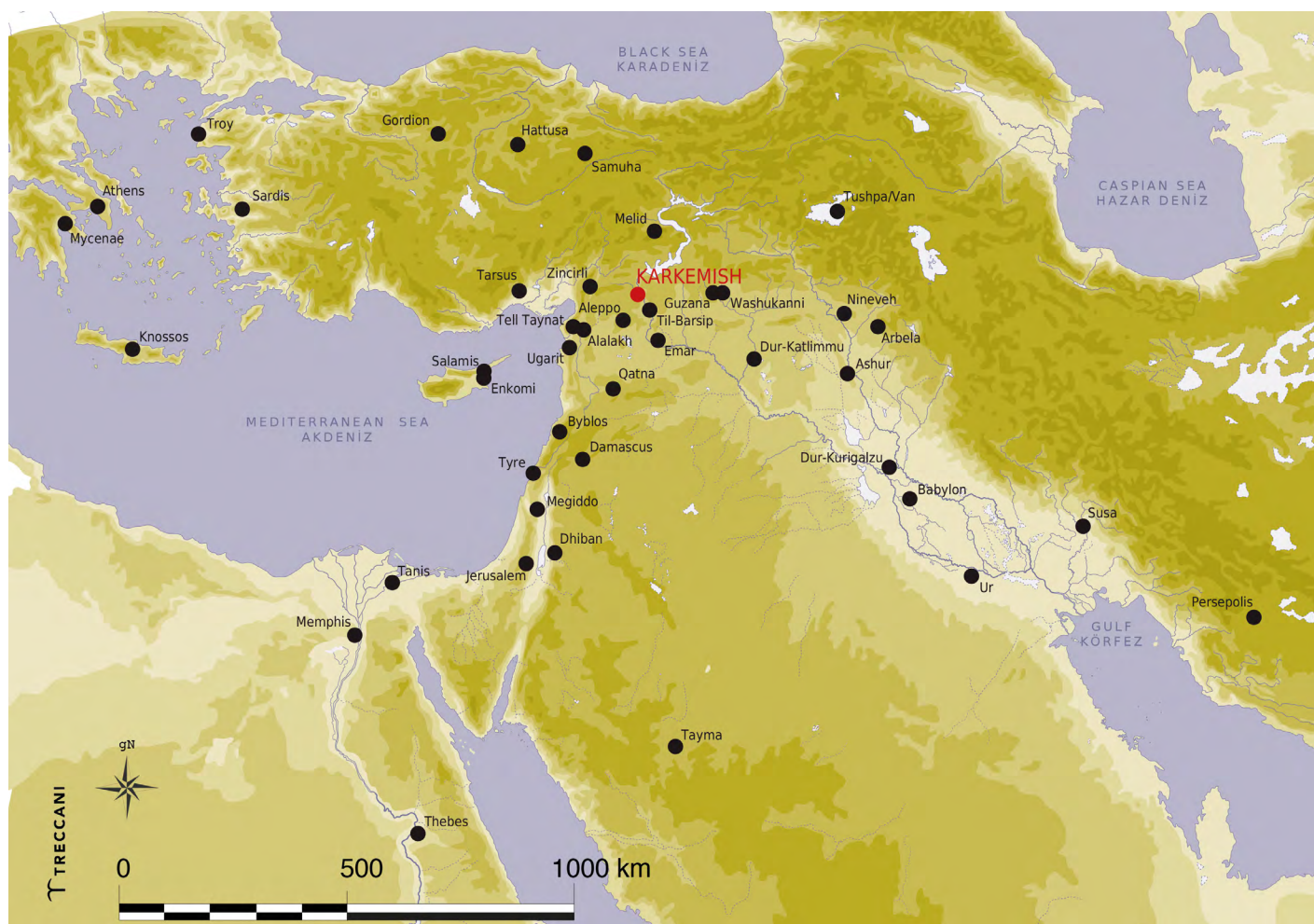
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Cat. 10

Impressed sealing

Excavation no. KH.21.O.460 (Gaziantep)

Material: Clay

Dimensions: l. 3.1; w. 2.1; th. 1.9 cm

Context: Lower Palace, area C East, Seal-house, fill F.11576 (phase B)

Date: Late Bronze IIB, 13th century BCE

Description

Complete hanging sealing, drop-shaped, with a pierced hole on the top for the string encased into the lump of clay, from the eastern room in the Seal-house. Hanging sealings (or bulla in literature), cone-, pyramid-, drop- and cylinder-shaped, are mainly known from Hittite contexts in Anatolia (see Cat. no. 26), secured to written documents by means of tiny strings (Herbordt 2005: 33-34, fig. 18.a-b; Waal 2023: 138-142). The sealing presents, on one side and the base, four impressions of the same signet ring bearing the owner's name, Piradu, both in cuneiform and hieroglyphic writing, respectively *[pi/pi]-ra-du* and *pi* (L66)+*ra/i* (L383)-*tu* (L88), accompanied by his title, AULA (L254) "loyal (noble)man" and likely profession, MAGNUS[?].X[?]. While the name Piradu, probably of Hurrian origin, is common in Middle Assyrian sources, it is possible that we are here dealing with the same person attested at Emar, if the Mutri-Teshub of two documents from that site (Beyer 2001: 136, B46, Msk 73.1019 and Arnaud 1986: 261, Msk 7441) is actually one and the same person, because in one Piradu is mentioned and in the other one Ewri-Teshub, a diviner whose seal is known both from Karkemish (with Sunaili and Zinni I; cf. Cat. nos. 1, 4 and see Peker 2023a: 128 no. 7, figs. 6-7) and Emar (Beyer 2001: 56-57, A14).

CDO, NM, HP

Peker 2023a: 130, no. 14, fig. 14

References