

NEW FINDS FROM HOROZTEPE

TAHSİN ÖZGÜÇ

As already mentioned in our previous Horoztepe publications, the area of the ancient cemetery was used again in recent years for the same purpose¹. This modern burial-place has extended its boundaries from year to year. The ancient settlement and cemetery are located under the modern one. While digging new graves, ancient artifacts have come to light. For this reason, many objects found their way through dealers to various museums and private collectors. However, during the past years, that is, since the official Horoztepe excavations have begun, no illicitly obtained finds have appeared from the cemetery and settlement. The site is being well-guarded.

This short paper is our third article dealing with the Horoztepe finds. As we know, rich groups and individual objects are to be found in wide-spread collections². In İstanbul, Mr. Hüseyin Kocabaş has a very important and here-to-fare unpublished collection. I am deeply indebted to him for his generosity in permitting me to study the objects and present them here. I also wish to thank Mr. Mahmut Akok for drawing them.

There is not a great deal of variety represented, but enough to show the richness of the Horoztepe production, and also the technical heights which the craftsmen in the metal industry of the Black Sea area achieved in the Early Bronze Age. Mr. H. Kocabaş's collection, therefore, is highly instructive.

The group which I am presenting here, the four following silver objects, all are handhammered work:

A one-handled silver jug; a silver bowl; a one-handled silver cup; a silver cymbal. In addition, an electrum bowl and a gold pin.

We have observed here, as in the scientifically excavated finds, that the vessels were intentionally mutilated by bending, twisting

¹ Tahsin Özgüç - Mahmut Akok, Horoztepe, Eski Tunç Devri Mezarlığı ve İskân Yeri—An Early Bronze Age Settlement and Cemetery, Ankara 1958, p. 39 ff.

² Burhan Tezcan, Yeni Horoztepe Buluntuları—New Finds from Horoztepe (Anatolia V, 1960, p. 29).

and crushing before being placed in the grave with the corpse³. This custom was prevalent in the burial practises of the forest-region of the Black Sea area.

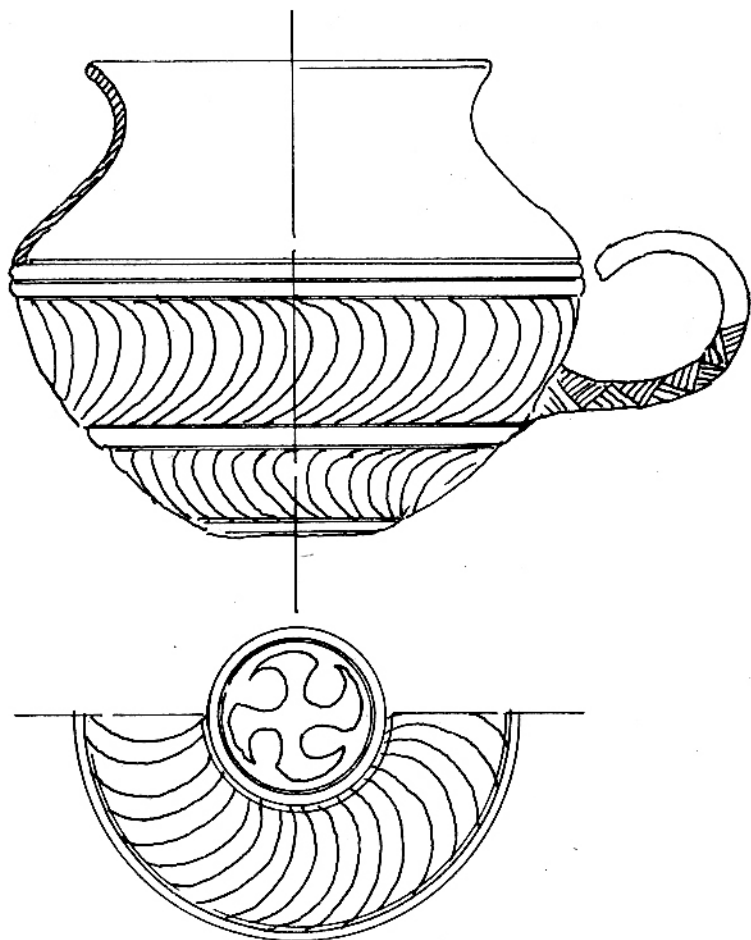
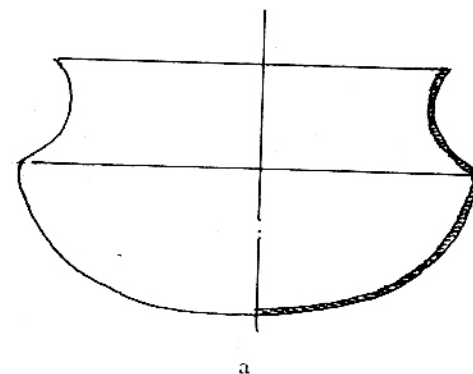


Fig. 1

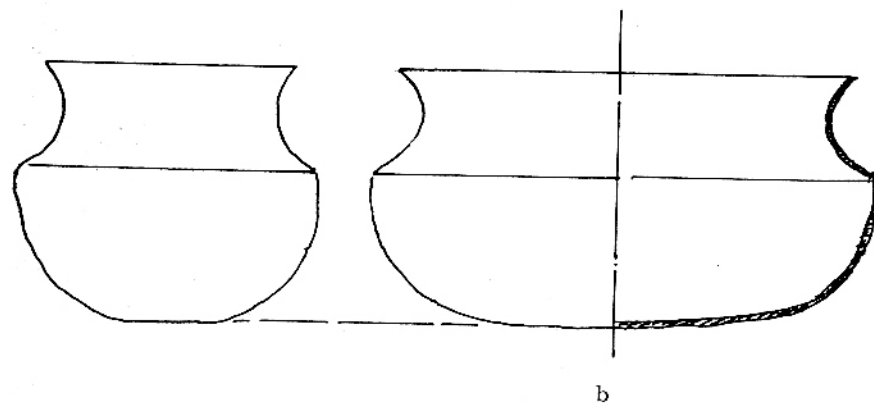
Jug, silver. Plain everted rim. Height 6.3 cm., width of belly 7.6 cm. The outer face of the wall is divided into three horizontal

³ Horoztepe, p. 41.

registers by rills (Fig. 1). The upper register is undecorated. There is vertical segmental fluting in the central zone, bordered by rills. The lower register has the same fluting the facing in the opposite direction. The flat bottom of the base is decorated with an indented whirling svastika. The vertical handle has a solid round section. It is decorated



a



b

Fig. 2 a - b

with a zigzag line, the angles filled with incised hatching. The lower end of the handle is attached to the bottom of the central register of the wall. The upper end of the handle bends toward the wall, but ends in mid-air a short distance from it. This has been so arranged intentionally.

This type of decorated handle seems to be peculiar to Horoztepe⁴. The cups which we excavated there show a variation: the handle is attached at the rim and the bottom of the handle is free from the body of the vessel. The general form and technique of decoration of the bowl we are now considering are similar to those of Alaca-höyük. In Central Anatolia, in this period, the same shapes are found in clay pottery.

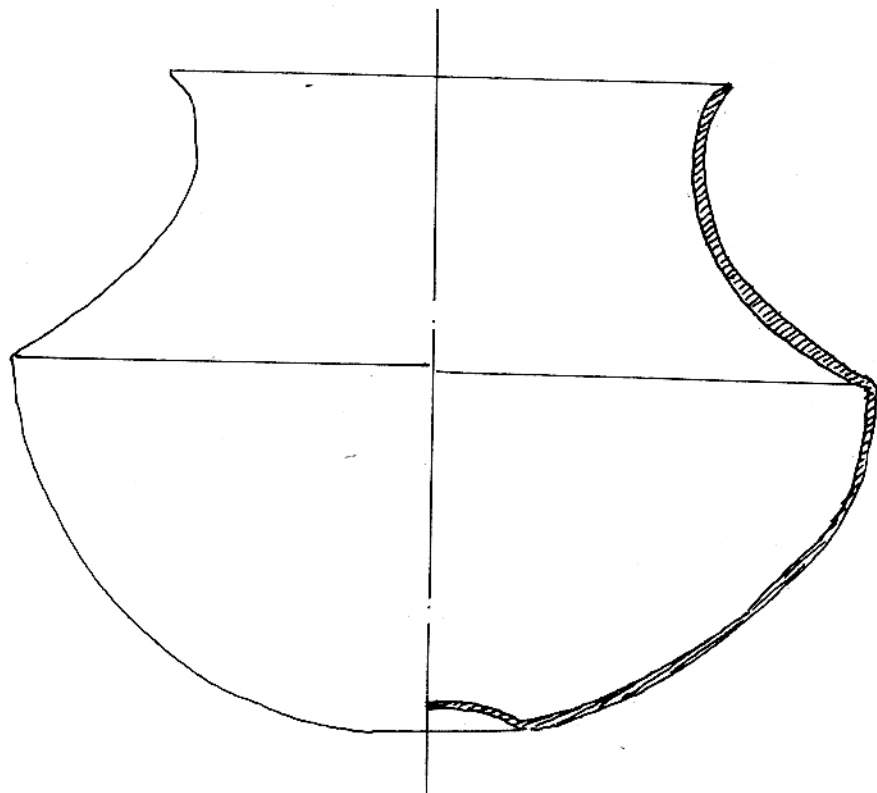


Fig. 3

Bowl, silver; everted rim, diameter 12 cm., and slightly rounded bottom, slightly carinated wall (Fig. 2a-b). Concave neck, height 8 cm. Bowls with the same type of concave neck are found in clay.

⁴ Horoztepe, p. 44.

The original base plan was round, but after being crushed, an attempt was made to restore it, with the resultant oval form (Fig. 2b).

Electron bowl, wall carinated, rim plain and slightly everted (Fig. 3). Omphalos in interior floor, and simple on bottom of base. Height 8.5 cm., Diameter at carination of shoulders 11.5 cm. In this period, the omphalos bowls were prevalent at Horoztepe⁵ and in northwestern Anatolia⁶.

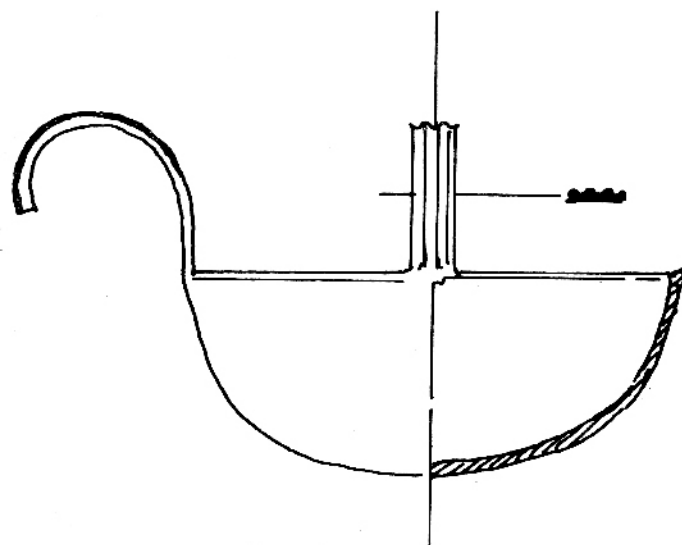


Fig. 4

Silver cup, rim slightly thickened and splayed inwards (Fig. 4). One segmental handle rises from the rim and curves outward. Base rounded, exterior convex. Diameter of rim 5.5 cm., height of base 2.5 cm. For this silver bowl we find parallels in bronze cups found in the Horoztepe excavations. It is a common shape throughout Anatolia in this period.

⁵ Horoztepe, Fig. 8-9, 18.

⁶ Kurt Bittel, Beitrag zur Kenntnis Anatolischer Metallgefäße der zweiten Hälfte des dritten Jahrtausends v. Chr. (Jahrbuch des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts 74, 1959, Abb. 26).

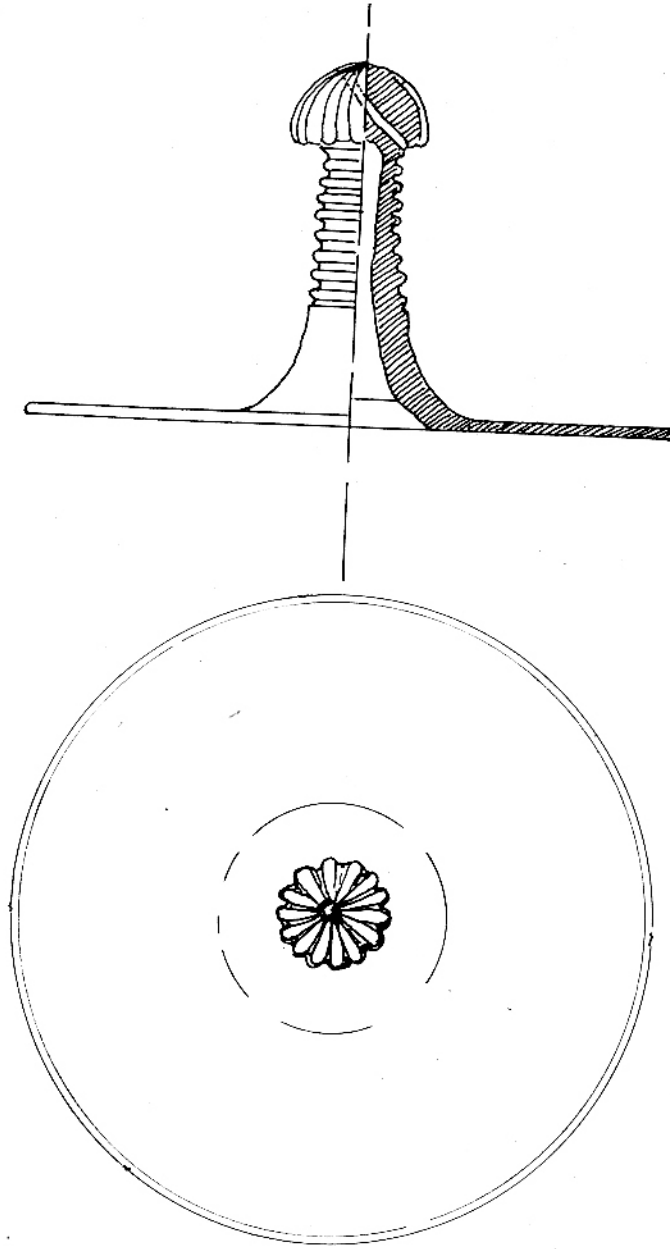


Fig. 5

Silver cymbal, round disc with knob-head finial and high rilled stem (Fig. 5). Diameter of disc 10.9 cm., height of handle 5.8 cm. The workmanship of the disc was very skilful. The knob on the handle

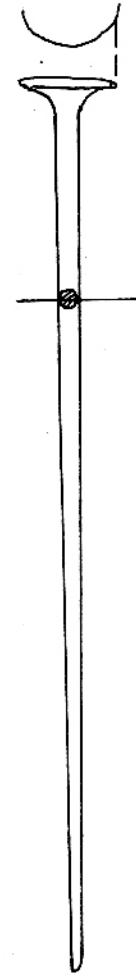


Fig. 6

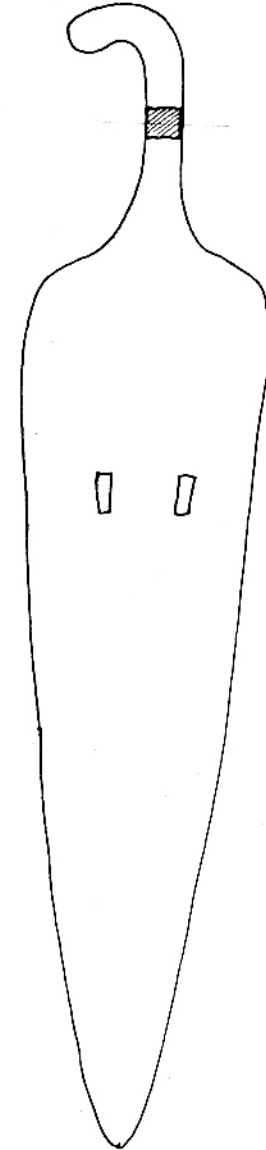


Fig. 7

summit is solid and has an oblique hole pierced through its entire thickness. In addition to its large dimensions, its most outstanding peculiarity consists of the fourteen drooping petals, and the horizontal rills on the stem's upper half.

At Alacahöyük, cymbals in silver also appear⁷. But the disc of our cymbal has the largest diameter found up to now in Anatolia. Pins decorated with the same knobhead motifs, but with plain tangs are known from Alacahöyük⁸. During the Assyrian Colonial Period at Kanish the ornamented stem with knob and rills became a common decorative feature. In central and northern Anatolia, contrary to the cymbals of Soloi-Pompeiopolis with their upturned and decorated disc circumference⁹, ours are plain. Comparing it with Horoztepe and Alacahöyük cymbals, it becomes apparent how much more developed, it is representing the latest phase of the same period tentatively. I place it in the last century of the third millennium B.C.. In my opinion, it provides significant evidence for the chronology of the Horoztepe graves¹⁰.

The objects with which we are dealing here, apparently were not extracted from the grave which we excavated in 1957, but from another grave.

Gold pin, tang round section, length 11.8 cm., diameter of convex topped head ca. 1.3 cm. (Fig. 6). There is no parallel for this type of pin among the objects found in Alacahöyük graves. At first glance, we receive the impression that it represents a late type of pin. But a more detailed study provided parallels among the Alishar Höyük bronze finds belonging to the Early Bronze Age¹¹. I believe that the Alishar Höyük finds and our pin cannot be earlier than the end of the third millennium B. C. For the first time, during Level Ib period at the Karum of Kanish, this type of pin is common. It is not found in the earlier Levels II, and III-IV.

⁷ Hamit Koşay, Alacahöyük Kazısı 1937-1939 — Les Fouilles d'Alacahöyük, Ankara 1951, p. 160.

⁸ Hamit Koşay, Alacahöyük Hafriyatı 1936 — Ausgrabungen in Alacahöyük 1936, p. 112.

⁹ Kurt Bittel, Der Depotfund von Soloi-Pompeiopolis (Zeitschrift für Assyriologie und Vorderasiatische Archäologie, N. F. XII, p. 198).

¹⁰ Horoztepe, p. 56 ff.

¹¹ H.H. von der Osten, The Alishar Hüyük (OIP 28) Fig. 195, d 2586, d 2706.

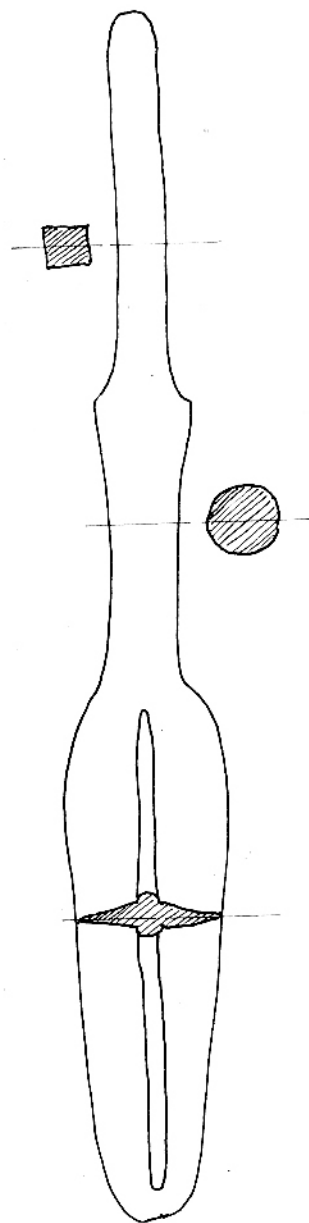


Fig. 8

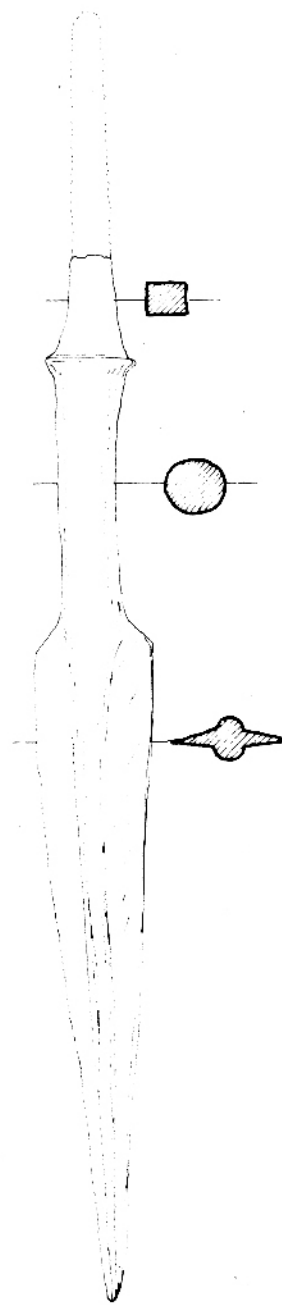


Fig. 9

While visiting İstanbul, I saw at a dealer's shop two spear-heads and many axes of bronze or copper. I was informed that Mr. Necati Dolunay, Director of the Archaeological Museum of İstanbul had purchased them for his institution. The dealer told me that the two spear-heads with which we shall deal were found in the Tokat-Samsun region of Anatolia. A detailed study of these artifacts confirms this provenance.

Spear-head with bent tang. Round shoulders. Length 20 cm. including bent tang (Fig. 7). Width 3.8 cm. Section of tang is square. Midrib lacking. Two oblong holes pierce the bottom third of the blade.

Our finds at Horoztepe indicated that this type of spear-head was widely distributed in this area¹². By comparison with parallel examples it can be attributed to the last quarter of the third millennium B.C. With the support of the spear-head of Anitta at Kültepe-Kanish¹³ and the new find at Boğazköy¹⁴, we have ascertained that this type of weapon was also used in Central Anatolia in a more developed form during the first quarter of the second millennium B.C. It is a form which persists from the third into the second millennium B.C.

Spear-head, bronze or copper. Protruding midrib. Length 20.8 cm. including tang, width 2.8 cm. (Fig. 8). This weapon has a parallel in the spear-heads brought to light at Düdartepe¹⁵, Tel-Karahasan¹⁶ near Carchemish and Horoztepe¹⁷. The section of the protruding midrib of the blade differs from the North Anatolian and North Syrian examples. Our new find seems to represent the latest form in this category. D. Stronach¹⁸ pointed out correctly that our spear-head type was derived from spear-heads of Early Dynastic origin. Increasingly more such examples have been brought to light

¹² Tahsin Özgüç - Mahmut Akok, Horoztepe Eserleri-Objects from Horoztepe, *Belleten* 82, p. 216, Fig. 14, 16-18, 30-33; and Kurt Bittel, *Fund-und Forschungsbericht Türkei 1943* (*Archäologischer Anzeiger* 1944/45) p. 34, Abb. 4.

¹³ Tahsin Özgüç, Anitta Hançeri-The Dagger of Anitta (*Belleten* 77, p. 33 ff).

¹⁴ Franz Fischer, *Die Hethitische Keramik von Boğazköy*, Berlin 1963, p. 92, Abb. 14A.

¹⁵ *Belleten* 82, p. 216, Fig. 21.

¹⁶ *Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology* VI, No., 1-2, Pl. 19, 2 and 5.

¹⁷ *Belleten* 82, Fig. 13, 34.

¹⁸ D. Stronach, *The Development and Diffusion of Metal Types in Early Bronze Age Anatolia* (*Anatolian Studies* VII, 1957) p. 114.

recently in northern Anatolia. This type of spear-head was used rarely during the first quarter of the second millennium B.C. in central and northern Anatolia. Only one was found at Boğazköy. At Kanish many examples of spear-heads were found, but only one of this type appeared on the city mound in a large building which is contemporary with Level II in the Karum area of Kanish (Fig. 9; Pl. I, 2). Length 30 cm., width 2.8 cm. The pointed section of the midrib shows similarity with ours and presumably was brought to Kanish from Syria by a trader. In the Karum of Kanish we have another type of spear-head which was used in Levels I, II, III, and IV. Many came to light in our excavations. Although, apparently, of local manufacture, they show relations to Syrian and Mesopotamian spear-heads. We must recall that the North Syrian and Mesopotamian repertoire of spear-heads strongly influenced Anatolian production in the third and second millennia B. C.

* * *

The Horoztepe objects coming from our excavations were analyzed by the spectrum method by Dr. S. Junghans. The small samples were taken to him by Dr. Ufuk Esin. The results of this analyses are very significant for the study of the Anatolian metal industry. I am indebted to these two colleagues for their cooperation in transmitting their results to me (Table 1.).

* * *

In 1944, Kılıç Kökten¹⁹ observed a mound, named Horoztepe, situated 400 meters North-west of the Horoztepe cemetery (Pl. I, 1.) On the surface of this mound, we collected unstratified Hittite potsherds, representing a variety of types²⁰. These included dark and pale red-slip polished bowls; spouts of teapots; rims and handles of pots (Fig. 10-14, 16, 19). Only one black-slip polished sherd was included (Fig. 18). Another fragment represented a simple, plain-rimmed coarse bowl with high pedestal foot of pale red ware without slip (Fig. 15).

A torso of a solid animal figurine in pale red (head and legs missing) also came to light (Fig. 17).

¹⁹ Kılıç Kökten, *Tarih Öncesi Araştırmaları* (*Belleten* 32 p. 679).

²⁰ Horoztepe, p. 37.

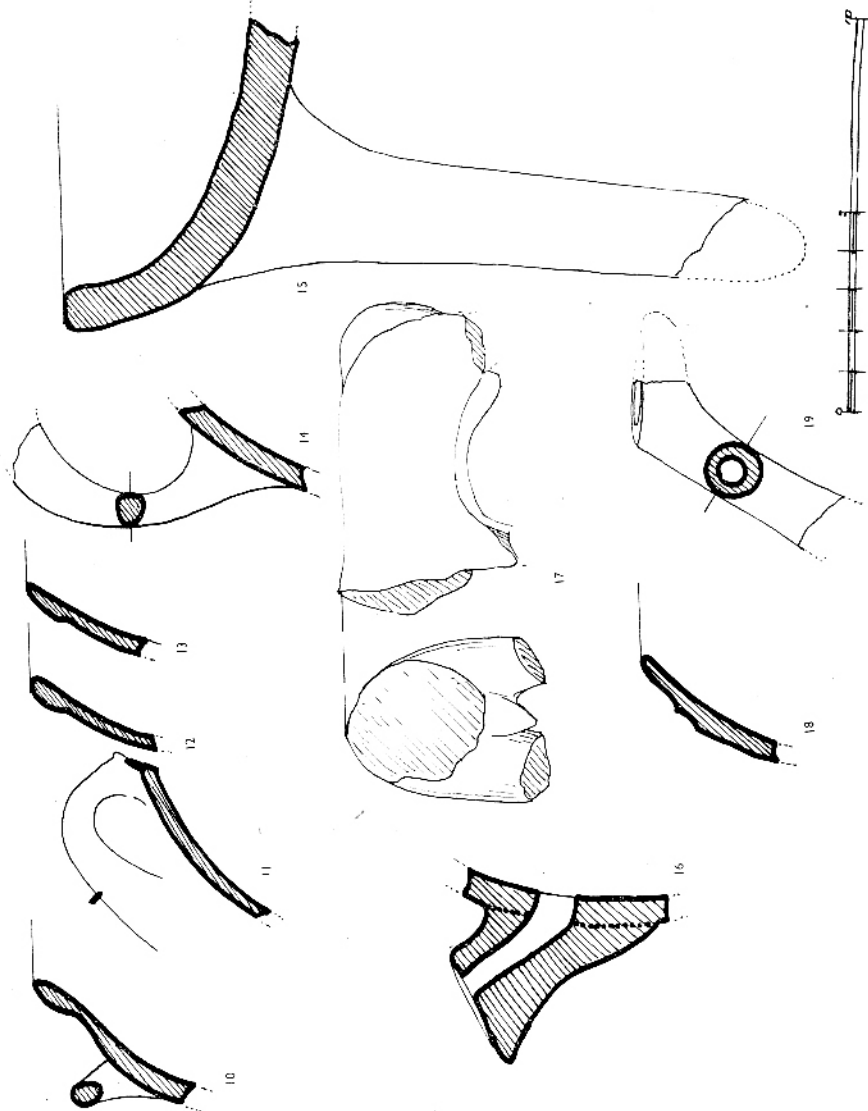


Fig. 10-19

The above fragments belong to the Hittite Imperial Period. Such types can also be found in the northern part of the Kızılırmak, and Yeşilirmak. At Dündartepe, a key site for classifying ceramic finds, we classified such sherds according to the stratified building levels of the mound. In the neighbouring sites of Samsun, such as Bafra-Erbaa-Zile-Havza we classified their sherds according to the Dündartepe chronology²¹. The Dündartepe excavations and the neighbouring surface finds (including Horoztepe) indicated that the Hittite Imperial Period was represented in North Central Anatolia, and the shores of the Black Sea. The same kind of pottery was used in the southern fringe of this area. But, in Central Anatolia during the Hittite Imperial Period the ceramic production retrogressed in comparison with that of the Assyrian Colonial Period and the Old Hittite Kingdom. It is not easy to draw the same conclusions for Northern Anatolia in the same period. For in this region, we have fine ceramic techniques, and fabrics continuing the well-made pottery of ancient tradition. We must bear in mind that during the Hittite Imperial Period the northern region was as densely occupied as Central Anatolia. The results of our investigations of the Hüyük indicated that the northern region was exceedingly crucial for the Hittites, and they constructed there strongly fortified towns.

According to Hittite cuneiform documents, their enemies were the half-barbarian Kaskeans²² who fought against them. It was generally accepted by scholars that the Kaskeans inhabited the region. If this conjecture is correct, these people lived in the midst of, and absorbed, Hittite culture, reaching the level of this environment. If we do not accept this premise, then we are obliged to assume that the Kaskeans did not occupy this northern region.

With the help of the Dündartepe and Maşat (near Zile) excavations, and investigations of vertically exposed sections of mounds revealing their stratified levels, we realized that all these northern Anatolian towns were destroyed simultaneously by same catastrophe in about 1200 B.C. The region under consideration being densely

²¹ For the preliminary reports: K. Kökten - N. Özgüç - T. Özgüç, TTK adına yapılan Samsun Bölgesi Kazıları (Belleten, 35, p. 378 ff); T. Özgüç, Samsun Hafriyatının 1941-1942 Yılı Neticeleri (III. Türk Tarih Kongresi, Ankara 1948) p. 404 ff.

²² Albrecht Goetze, Kleinasien, München 1957, p. 178 ff.

forested utilized timber for building construction and was therefore high susceptible to destruction by fire. But I do not hesitate to state that the general conflagration was not due to this normal condition and hazards. These northern towns were attacked more violently by invaders and the destruction inflicted was more disastrous than that suffered by the southern part of Central Anatolia. Some of these towns, especially the southern ones (as Kayapınar²³ and Maşat²⁴) were later inhabited by the Phrygians. Most of the northern towns (as Düdartepe - İkiztepe - Horoztepe) were neglected, fell into disuse and were abandoned after 1200 B.C. If we studied the history of the occupations of Anatolian sites, we should be in a better position to find the answer to the numerous problems.

* * *

Appendix:

In 1958, we published the photographs of several objects from Horoztepe. But unfortunately, the prints did not show their details clearly, I therefore take this opportunity to publish drawings of them here.

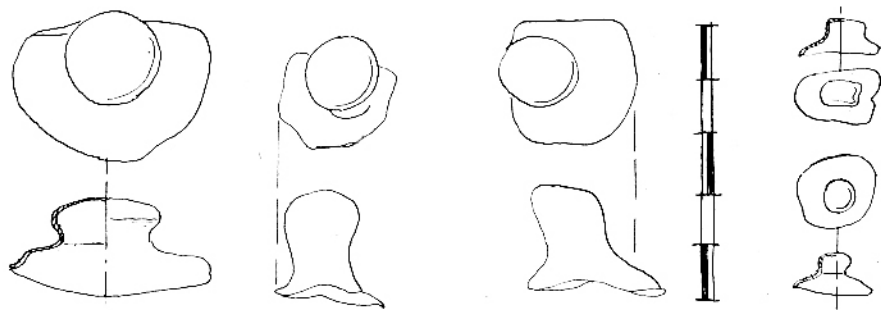


Fig. 20 - 24

The five electrum objects²⁵ which may possibly have been attached as knobs to the tops of thin objects are still without parallels (Fig. 20-24).

²³ Raci Temizer, Kayapınar Höyüğü Buluntuları (Belleten 71) p. 319 ff.

²⁴ Belleten 38, p. 221 ff.

²⁵ Horoztepe, p. 51, pl. 15, 1-5.

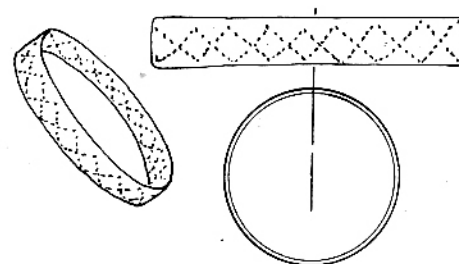


Fig. 25

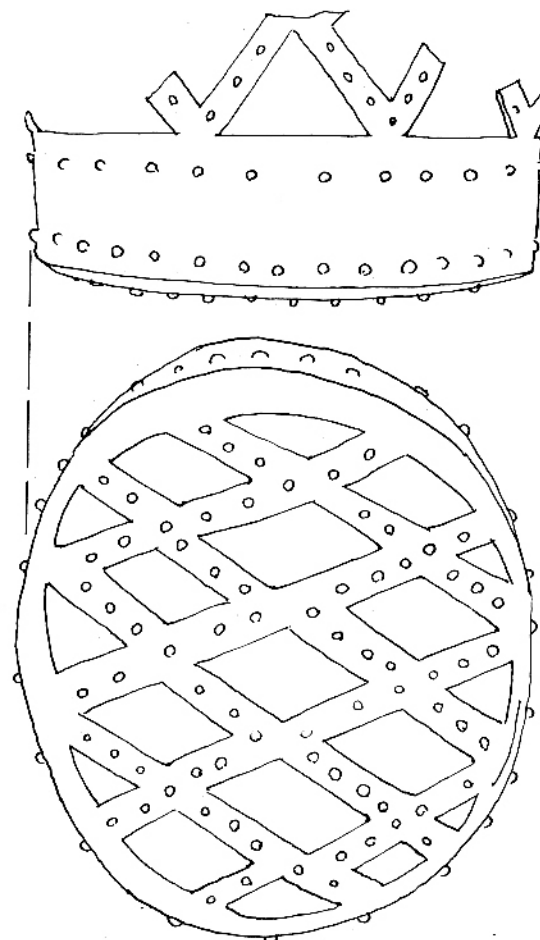


Fig. 26



Fig. 27

The other two drawings illustrate: 1. A ring-band with a continuous lozenge decoration formed of raised pellets (Fig. 25). 2. A crown-like open-lattice topped gold disc with vertical supporting band (Fig. 26). Both are decorated with raised pellets. Suspended from the disc is a zigzag band, in fragmentary condition, ornamented with pellets²⁶.

3. A sun-disc of open lattice-work with a satellite attached by a ring to the upper frame, below the finial²⁷. The satellite moves easily by shaking, and with this arrangement it can be used also as a sistrum (Fig. 27, pl. II, 1).

This sistrum was not only an instrument to beat a rhythm but also a processional object used in a procession at a certain moment.

Ankara

Tahsin ÖZGÜÇ

²⁶ Horoztepe, p. 50, pl. 14, 3, 12a-b.

²⁷ Horoztepe, p. 44-45; pl. 7, 2.