DOI: *10.51493/egearkeoloji.1071006*

ADerg 2022/1, Nisan / *April;* XXVIII: 23-42

Araştırma/Research

An Assesment of Middle Chalcolithic Pottery from the Kulaksızlar Excavations in Central-Western Anatolia

[ORTA BATI ANADOLU'DA KULAKSIZLAR KAZISI ORTA KALKOLİTİK SERAMİKLERİN BİR DEĞERLENDİRMESİ]

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Orta-Batı Anadolu, Orta Kalkolitik Dönem, Kulaksızlar, Seramik.

Keywords

Central-Western Anatolia, Middle Chalcolithic, Kulaksızlar, Pottery.

ÖZET

Bu çalışma Manisa ili Akhisar ilçesi Kulaksızlar köyü yakınında aynı adlı prehistorik yerleşimde 2018 ve 2019 yıllarında yapılan kurtarma kazıları sırasında ele geçen çanak çömlek buluntu topluluğunu inceler. Kulaksızlar yerleşimi daha çok M.Ö. 5. bin yılın ikinci yarısının işaret ürünlerinden olan Kilya tipi idoller ve konik rhytonlar üreten bir mermer işleme atölyesi ile tanınmaktadır. Bu yüzden Kulaksızlar geçmişte Batı Anadolu'nun en az bilinen dönemlerinden biri olan Orta Kalkolitik dönemi tanımlamamıza yardımcı olan bir yerleşimdir. İki kurtarma kazısı sezonunda ele geçen seramiklerin analizi hem bu yerleşimin kronolojik ve kültürel bağlamlarını ortaya koymak hem de bu yerleşim sakinlerinin mermer işçiliği dışındaki materyal dünyalarını tanımlamak için önemlidir.

ABSTRACT

This study examines the pottery assemblage recovered from rescue excavations conducted in 2018 and 2019 at the prehistoric site of Kulaksızlar, which took its name from a synonymous village near the town of Akhisar in Manisa province. The site of Kulaksızlar is best known as a marble workshop concentrating on the production of Kilia Type figurines and conical vessels, both being hallmarks of the second half of the fifth millennium BC in western Anatolia. Kulaksızlar is a settlement that contributes to our knowledge of the Middle Chalcolithic period, which was poorly understood in the past. The pottery assemblage from two seasons of rescue excavations is important as its analysis allows us to place the site in its temporal and cultural context and helps us to understand the material world of the inhabitants of the site other than working with marble.

Introduction

The site of Kulaksızlar is situated on the western slopes of Akhisar Plain, about 100 km east of the Aegean coast as the crow flies (Fig. 1). The site, first recognized through surface surveys in the 1990s near a synonymous village close to the town of Akhisar in Manisa province in central-western Anatolia, has long been associated with fifth millennium BC marble working concentrated on such distinctive artifacts as the so-called Kilia Type figurines and conical rhyta. The site was first discovered by Rafet Dinç from Adnan Menderes University during surface surveys in the mid-1990s. Subsequently, he preserved accounts of the surface materials.[1] His two seasons of surveys helped to identify the surface debris, attesting to the production of marble figurines and vessels through the analysis of surface finds alone. The main product of the site is the schematic Kilia figurine type, characterized by large heads which contrast with the thin flat body and arms sharply bent at the elbows pointing upwards. Another dominant product of the

1 Dinç 1996a; 1996b.

Kulaksızlar craftsmen is the conical rhyton type, characterized by a rather elongated tapering body with two symmetrically opposed vertical lugs with horizontal perforation for suspension on the upper part just below the rim. These two marble products were hallmarks of western Anatolia during the second half of the fifth millennium BC. Other forms of marble vessels were also manufactured at Kulaksızlar, albeit in low numbers. This rare example of workmanship is now considered important because it allows us to understand the ways in which marble figurines and vessels may have been manufactured in prehistoric times. The subsequent analysis of the surface finds demonstrated that marble working at Kulaksızlar was an example of specialized production carried out at village level by a group of craftsmen who exclusively produced the artifacts for regional exchange comprising most parts of western Anatolia, if not beyond.[2]

Two seasons of rescue excavations conducted at Kulaksızlar by Manisa Archaeology Museum under the supervision of Turan Takaoğlu in 2018 and 2019 demonstrated that it was a single-period flat settlement occupied in the Middle Chalcolithic period in the chronology of the western Anatolian littoral. A radiocarbon dating study based on samples taken from secure excavated contexts at Kulaksızlar demonstrate that the site lasted for about 200-300 years, between ca. 4500 and 4250 B.C.[3] Kulaksızlar, as with most sites of the Middle Chalcolithic period, is a flat settlement showing no sign of stratification. The cultural level was identified over the virgin soil at a depth varying between 20 cm to 50 cm below the surface level. The excavations in general yielded poor architectural evidence because of many years of plowing by the modern villagers, though remains of architectural features related to marble working were identified in places not deeply affected by plowing (Fig. 2). Despite the damage caused by plowing and looting, it can still be shown that certain structures in a single row with stone foundations and upper structures made of ephemeral materials were used at the site. The best-preserved architectural evidence in this context is probably the U-shaped workshop (Workshop A) unearthed at the site.[4]

The main purpose of the Kulaksızlar excavations was to obtain information regarding the context of marble working activities and behavioral patterns related to the stages of marble Kilia Type figurine and conical rhyton manufacture. The subsidiary aim of excavating here was to gather any form of archaeological evidence that could provide us with information about activities other than marble working, including subsistence strategies. This is important to answer the question of whether Kulaksızlar was a seasonal settlement occupied only during the time of marble working or a year-round occupied village-type site that also included other forms of subsistence pursuits to supplement its economy. Hence, the pottery recovered from the two seasons of excavation constitute an important category of artifact, which is the focus of this work.

The Pottery Assemblage

The pottery at Kulaksızlar, recovered from two seasons of rescue excavations carried out in 2018 and 2019, is quite homogeneous in terms of fabric, surface treatment, and shape. Nearly 2,400 pot sherds were examined to determine the chronological and cultural association of the cultural layer they are associated with. However, only a total of 50 representative diagnostic pot sherds - representing rims, handles, body fragments with decoration, and other clay objects were introduced here to provide a general picture of what types of pottery vessels - are predominant at the site. They were all retrieved during excavations secure architectural contexts such as the workshops and their associated features. Although the pottery generally falls into the dark-faced category, a certain variation can also be observed in surface color, which ranges from reddish-brown to various shades of grayish brown. The uneven firing may explain the difference in color between the inner and outer surface of most pots. This variation in the surface color was seemingly derived from the uncontrolled temperature of firing, a common feature of the pottery of this period. The pots are also either burnished or finely smoothed. Most pottery apparently lost their shiny burnished appearance because of

2 Takaoğlu 2001; 2002; 2005.

3 Takaoğlu 2021.

4 Takaoğlu 2021: Fig. 5-6.

their state of preservation in the soil.

Jars

The most curious example of the pottery assemblage is probably a large container with a spout towards the base. This container of asymmetrical form, which has a capacity of holding 60 liters of water, was found in a collapsed position (Fig. 3), and then subsequently reconstructed from several hundred pieces by the present author at the laboratory of Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, following acquisition of the required official permission (Fig. 4). The container has one horizontal strap handle on the shoulder and one strap vertical handle on the belly, slightly above a spout located towards the bottom. This type of container with a spout has often been viewed as a churn. The spout serves as an outlet to remove the compressed air generated during the churning process, while the mouth of the jar is closed by a piece of leather. If this container was really a churn, it would have been placed on the floor on a soft pad, and then shaken with both hands in a back-and-forth motion.[5] There is archaeological evidence from Chalcolithic Anatolia for such large pottery containers with a spout on the body.[6] Residue analyses conducted on this container unfortunately did not provide any evidence regarding its use in milk-related production. Nevertheless, the location of this large container near a stone platform, around which a lot of waste by-products related to conical rhyton manufacture were found, leads one to ponder whether it was used in certain form of activity in marble working activities. A roughly circular flat schist stone found inside the collapsed jar was apparently used as a form of lid to cover the mouth of this container from the top. Several body fragments bearing spouts to release the liquid substances from the interior of the jars have also been recorded at the site, implying that such large containers were common at the site.[7]

Besides this large container nearly 60 cm high, several types of closed and open jars were noticed during analysis of the pottery assemblage. The bodies of the closed jars with a height varying from 25 to 35 cm are generally globular in shape, with necks often smoothly differentiated from the shoulders. The gray-brown fabric has inclusions of various sizes that can be detected even with the naked eye. The vessels are often coated with a reddish-brown slip before being smoothed or lightly burnished. The difference in color between the core and the parts closer to the surface indicate that the firing took place in an uncontrolled atmosphere. The rims belonging to the necked jar category are either inwardly sloping or stand almost upright (Fig. 5, no. 2-7 and Fig. 11, no. 2-7). Such jars with slightly inwardly sloping or upright necks often have a pair of symmetrically placed vertical strap handles joining the neck to the shoulder. Although the handles of the closed necked jars vary in shape, the most common handle type is the vertical strap variety, with or without a knob on the top (Fig. 5, no. 8 and Fig. 11, no. 8). Vertical strap handles with knobs or raised ridges set on the belly represent another common variety (Fig. 5, no. 9-11 and Fig. 11, no. 9-11). The bases were always flat, as analysis of the pottery assemblage shows.

Because most sherds are badly worn, it is difficult to determine whether pattern burnish decoration, a common feature of this period, was practiced at Kulaksızlar. We know that Middle Chalcolithic potters frequently applied pattern burnish decoration on the shoulders of necked jars along with the interiors of bowls. This is also the case for white painted decoration, another feature of this period. However, there are several examples of incision, pointillé, and channeled decoration among the pottery assemblage. For example, one rim fragment of a necked jar preserving a vertical strap handle preserved incised pattern formed of parallel vertically running lines (Fig. 6, no. 12, Fig. 12, no. 12). A necked-jar fragment preserving channeled decoration formed of diagonally running parallel lines on the shoulder deserves a special mention because it is a rare example (Fig. 6, no. 13, Fig. 12, no. 13). Although channeled decoration is casually attested in various ways at such sites as Ulucak, Ege Gübre, Gülpınar, and Beşik-Sivritepe,[8] it is a decoration type

5 Takaoğlu 2007: 32-33.

6 Schoop 1998: 29, fig. 4.

7 Takaoğlu 2001: Res. 3.

8 Sağlamtimur and Ozan 2012; Res. 6b; Yazıcı 2009: Res. 10; Caymaz 2013: Fig.6. nos. 4, 9,13,

that is best known to us from the pottery of the Balkan sites during this period.

Another unique find is the body fragment of a jar bearing bands of pointillé made probably with a comb, outlined with incisions (Fig. 6, no. 14, Fig. 12, no. 14). Such decoration was reported from Emporio (phase X) on Chios and phase III at Ulucak in the İzmir region.[9] There are also several examples combining incision and pointillé, such as the body fragment decorated with incised double chevrons filled with dots (Fig. 6, no. 15, Fig. 12, no. 15). The jar fragments with pointillé decoration are too scanty to determine the motifs preferred. The 1999 survey at Kulaksızlar did yield a jar fragment with incised chevrons filled with white-paste-filled punctuated dots on the exterior.[10] A similar motif has recently been identified at the phase II settlement of Ege Gübre and phase III settlement of Ulucak in the Izmir region.[11] Comparable use of pointillé is also known to us from Ayio Gala Upper Cave on Chios, Tigani (levels II-IIIa) on Samos, Vathy Cave on Kalymnos, and Saliagos during this period.[12]

Another body fragment of a jar bears a horizantal notched rib in relief (Fig. 6, no. 16, Fig. 12, no. 16). Such ribbed decoration on a jar has an identical parallel at Tavabaşı Lower Cave and Ayio Gala Upper Cave on Chios.[13] A similar notched rib in relief is also applied vertically on the exterior of open-mouthed and in-turned sided jars. Such distinctive open-mouthed and in-turned sided jars were also frequently decorated with raised bands having fingertip impressions just below the rim on their exteriors (Fig. 6, no. 17-18, Fig. 12, no. 17-18). Such use of raised bands with fingertip impressions has also been attested at Gülpınar (phase III) and Alacalıgöl in the Troad, Emporio (phase IX-VIII) on Chios and Saliagos.[14] This type of jar also occasionally has vertical notched ribs raised in relief (Fig. 6, no. 19, Fig. 12, no. 19). Ribs in relief are a common decorative feature of large jars from Kulaksızlar (Fig. 6, no. 20-21, Fig. 12, no. 20-21). The body fragment with a spout (Fig. 6, no. 22, Fig. 12, no. 22) evidently belonged to the type of a large jar illustrated in Figure 4. Such body fragments with spouts are very common among jars at the site; an example was already recognized at the site during the 1999 survey.

Bowls

The most common shape in all bowl types at Kulaksızlar is the bowl with curving sides and up-raised basket handles set on top of the rim (Fig. 7, no. 23-31 and Fig. 13, no. 23-31). Most of these large handles stood more-or-less upright above the rim, while some examples curved inward over the rims. The preservation of the shape of the rim at the base of the handle indicates that the uprising basket handles were applied to the top of the rim after the wide bowls were made. These wide bowls, which ranged in diameter from 30 to 35 cm, mainly have slightly convex sides, simple rounded rims, and flat bases. Rims and handles with knobs belonging to this bowl type were recovered in great quantity, although twisted and incised strap varieties are also evident at the site. Knob-like projections or relief decorations frequently appear on the base of these uprising handles. A unique relief decoration appearing on one of these basket handles recalls a ram's head or perhaps a phallus. There are also twisted varieties of these uprising basket handles. This distinctive type of wide bowl characterized with uprising handles is known to us from numerous Middle Chalcolithic western Anatolian sites, including Gülpınar, Yeşilova, Liman Tepe, Çine-Tepecik, Karain Cave, and Tavabaşı Lower Cave.[15] These examples are

and 14; Gabriel 2014: Pl. 7.

9 Hood 1981: 290, no. 381; Caymaz 2013: Fig. 1, no. 14 and Fig. 5, no. 12.

10 Takaoğlu 2001: Fig. 3.

11 Yazıcı 2009: Pl. 51f; Sağlamtimur and Ozan 2012: 229, Fig. 6b; Caymaz 2013: Fig.1, no.16 and Fig. 3, no.14; Işın et al. 2015: Fig. 5, no. 18-19. Seeher 1987: Fig. 5, no. 12-13.

12 Hood 1981: no. 286; Heidenreich 1936: pl.29.2; Felsch 1988: no. 248, 251; Furness 1956: pl. 22.23; Evans and Renfrew 1968: 42, Fig. 56.9-12.

13 Işın et al. 2015: Fig. 5, no. 11; Hood 1981: 61, Fig. 42, no. 308.

14 Blüm 2014: Pl. 6.8; Hood 1981: no. 307; Evans and Renfrew 1968: 42, Fig. 42.1-4.

15 Takaoğlu and Özdemir 2018: Fig. 49.12; Derin and Caymaz 2018: Fig. 51.7; Caymaz 2013: Fig. 10; no. 10-11, 14-19; Günel 2018: Fig. 55.2-55.3; Günel et al. 2020, Fig. 7; Kökten 1955: 288, Pl. 2.7; Korkut et al. 2018: Fig. 56.6; Işın et al. 2015: Fig. 5, no. 20-21.

also strongly reminiscent of types found on the eastern Aegean islands, including at Emporio (periods X–VIII) on Chios, Tigani (level II-III) on Samos, and Vathy Cave on Kalymnos.[16]

There are also numerous rims from bowls with curved sides that also deserve to be mentioned. These rims have either single or double vertical ribs in relief running downwards from the rim (Fig. 7, no. 32-33 and Fig. 13, no. 32-33). Examples with circular warts on the exterior of the curved bolls are also common among the bowl repertory (Fig. 7, no. 34 and Fig. 13, no. 34). Another bowl type attested in the Middle Chalcolithic Kulaksızlar pottery repertoire is the wide bowl with flaring side category. In certain cases, circular knobs are attested on the interior of bowls just below the rim (Fig. 8, no. 35-37 and Fig. 14, no. 35-37). Examples of this type is known to us from Tlos, Tavabaşı Lower Cave, Karain Cave.[17] One example of a flaring bowl bears a crescent in relief on the exterior as well.[18]

Wide bowls having straight sides, with a diameter ranging from 28 to 35 cm at the mouth, have also been recorded among the pottery repertoire at Kulaksızlar (Fig. 14, no. 38-39). Such flaring bowls with circular warts on the interior are known to us from the Middle Chalcolithic deposits at Yeşilova (phase II), Liman Tepe (phase VIIIb), as well as phase III settlement at Gülpınar in the Troad.[19] Several rim fragments with flaring sides have internally thickened rims, a feature that is also characteristic of the pottery of this period in western Anatolia (*e.g.,* Fig. 8, no. 40 and Fig. 14, no. 40).

In all probability, wide bowls with convex sides which employed mushroom-shaped handles were made at Kulaksızlar (Fig. 8, no. 41-44 and Fig. 14, no. 41-44). Unfortunately, no restorable bowl to demonstrate the use of mushroom-shaped handles has been attested. The examples from Beçin Fortress help us to visualize how this type of mushroom handle was attached to vessels. In western Anatolia, this type of handle was very common at Gülpınar, Hanay Tepe, Beşik-Sivritepe, Yeşilova, Liman Tepe, Çine-Tepecik, Girmeler Cave, and Tavabaşı Lower Cave. [20]

Other Objects of Clay

Besides jars and bowls, several other forms of clay objects have been noted among the Kulaksızlar pottery assemblage. One of them is a ladle with missing handle. The handle was broken off where it joined the scoop (Fig. 9, Fig. 15). In daily life, such ladles may have facilitated lifting liquid out of a large jar and conveying it to a bowl. Another pottery-made tool used in daily work is the spindle whorl, represented only by six examples. They were all found very close to each other in the course of 2019 excavation in an area where two adjoining excavation trenches intersected (Fig. 10, no. 46-50, Fig. 16, no. 46-50). These six examples are all represented by semi-spherical type spindle whorls with fat bottoms. The disturbed nature of their find spot enables us to be fairly certain that this area was the scene of a form of spinning activity. This, of course, is important in proving that activities other than marble working existed at the site. One of the spindle whorls has two joined upside-down V motifs on its surface, created by incision (no. 47). Moreover, a dozen sherd disks were also recorded at Kulaksızlar. They are usually oval, elliptical, or rectangular in outline. Although the pierced versions of such sherd disks have often been linked to their use as spindle whorls, not a single pierced example was found at Kulaksızlar. Because these sherd disks are not smooth at the edges, we can also associate them with pot-making, as tools of burnishing. These sherd disks may have been intended for use as spindle whorls but not yet been pierced.

The absence of pottery with pattern-burnished decoration, a characteristic feature of the Middle Chalcolithic period is striking at Kulaksızlar. Furthermore, the lack of cheese-pots at Kulaksızlar is also astonishing when

16 Hood 1981: 278, fig. 134; Felsch 1988: pls. 47:2,5; 74:5.

17 Seeher 1987: Fig. 5, no. 17; Korkut et al. 2109: Fig. 5; no. 2-6; Işın 2015: Fig. 5, no. 1-5.

18 Takaoğlu 2021: Fig. 5-3. Nos. 7-8.

19 Caymaz 2013: no. 7, 10-11; Tuncel and Şahoğlu 2018: Pl. 53.10b; I am thankful to T. Takaoğlu for informing me about the common presence of such bowls at Gülpınar.

20 Caymaz 2013: Fig. 10; no. 9, 20-25; Derin and Caymaz 2018: Fig. 51.7; TTuncel and Şahoğlu 2018: Fig. 53.13f; Günel et al. 2020, Fig. 7; Korkut et al. 2018: Fig. 56.6; Işın et al. 2015: Fig. 4, no. 28.

one considers the fact that they were also characteristic feature of the pottery assemblages of this period.

Kulaksızlar in its Wider Cultural Context

A recent chronological study of the prehistoric western Anatolian littoral zone has demonstrated that our archaeological knowledge of the relationships of the Middle Chalcolithic period with preceding early Chalcolithic and succeeding Late Chalcolithic periods increased much during last two decades or so.[21] The information came out from newly excavated sites such as Yeşilova, Ege Gübre, Ulucak, Liman Tepe, Çine-Tepecik, Tavabaşı Lower Cave, Tlos, Uğurlu, Gülpınar, and Kulaksızlar enhanced our understanding of the western Anatolian Middle Chalcolithic period. Although the Middle Chalcolithic pottery from these sites share as much similarities as differences in terms of pottery, it is still reasonable to state that they were all part of the same cultural formation zone. For example, the Middle Chalcolithic pottery from Kulaksızlar finds its closest parallels particularly at the excavated western Anatolian sites of Yeşilova (phase III), Liman Tepe (phase VIIIb), Ege Gübre (phase II), Çine-Tepecik (phase IV), Tlos, Girmeler Cave, Tavabaşı Lower Cave, Karain Cave, Malkayası Cave, and Gülpınar (phase III). Among these sites, Çine-Tepecik, Liman Tepe, Yeşilova and Gülpınar yielded marble objects such as Kilia figurines and/or conical rhyta that may well have originated in Kulaksızlar. The strong similarities in pottery and the appearance of marble objects peculiar to Kulaksızlar at other sites clearly proves that the second half of the fifth millennium BC was a dynamic period that witnessed a long-distance trade that encompassed a large area from the Çanakkale area in the northwest to the Antalya region in the southwest.[22] It was also previously demonstrated that Kulaksızlar supplied the settlements and communities very close to it with marble products, as evidenced by the case study on the survey finds from the site of Dağdere.[23]

The pottery assemblage from Kulaksızlar in this sense contributes much to aspects of pot making in western Anatolia. It must be mentioned that we will be better able to interpret the Kulaksızlar pottery once the Middle Chalcolithic assemblage of phase III at Yeşilova has been published. This is because phase III at Yeşilova, which has been radiocarbon dated to 4340-4230 BC,[24] has so far presented the closest parallels to the Kulaksızlar pottery assemblage. Similar pottery is also at home at Liman Tepe VIIIb, which provided dates ranging between 4600 and 4200 BC.[25] A lower end part of a marble conical rhyton was reported from this context.[26] Another important pottery assemblage necessary to understand the pottery tradition of the Middle Chalcolithic period is the one representing phase IV at Çine-Tepecik. Situated on a strategic location near one of the tributaries of the River Meander, Çine-Tepecik has yielded a series of examples representing marble Kilia figurines and conical rhyta.[27] Likewise, Malkayası Cave in the Latmos Mountains also revealed pottery of Middle Chalcolithic character along with fragments of marble Kilia Type figurines.[28] The Middle Chalcolithic phase at Gülpınar in the Troad yielded three examples of conical marble rhyta and pottery almost identical to those of Kulaksızlar.[29] The other excavated Troadic site of Beşik-Sivritepe also yielded a torso of a marble Kilia Type figurine, as well as Middle Chalcolithic pottery closely reminiscent of that of Gülpınar and Kulaksızlar.[30] Another intriguing site to expect Middle Chalcolithic finds is probably the Beçin Fortress, where marble Kilia figurines and pottery comparable to those of Kulaksızlar came to light.[31] Another important site with Middle Chalcolithic settlement is Gülpınar in northwestern Anatolia. Here, eleven seasons of archaeological excavations yielded rich contextual pottery evidence

21 Erdoğu and Çevik 2020: 55-57.

22 Takaoğlu 2002; 2005; 2021.

23 Takaoğlu 2017.

24 Derin and Caymaz 2018: figs. 51.6-51.7; Derin 2020: 2.

25 Tuncel and Şahoğlu 2018: figs. 53.9-53.11.

26 Tuncel and Şahoğlu 2018: figs. 53.11d.

27 Günel 2018: figs. 55.3-55.10.

28 Peschlow-Bindokat and Gerber 2012: Figs. 40-45.

29 Takaoğlu and Bamyacı 2018: Fig. 50.7.

30 Gabriel 2006: Fig. 2.14.

31 Yıldız, n.d.

regarding the Middle Chalcolithic period, as well as the Early Chalcolithic period preceding it. The results of pottery analysis at Gülpınar still waits for publication. This study will probably help us to better interpret the problematic Middle Chalcolithic pottery assemblages from 1980s and 1990s excavations at Kumtepe and Beşik-Sivritepe.

Another important contribution of the Middle Chalcolithic period studies is that they allow us to examine the nature of interactions between the material remains of both western Anatolia and the Aegean islands during the second half of the fifth millennium BC. This is because the pottery assemblages from such sites as Emporio and Ayio Gala Cave on Chios, Tigani on Samos, Vathy Cave on Kalymnos, Kalythies on Rhodes, Akrotiri on Thera, Ftelia on Mykonos, Uğurlu on Gökçeada (Imbros), and Saliagos near Antiparos share a series of similarities between those of western Anatolian excavated sites with Middle Chalcolithic finds.

The recovery of examples of marble Kilia Type figurines and/or conical rhyta along with a uniform Middle Chalcolithic pottery at certain western Anatolian sites such as Gülpınar, Beşik-Sivritepe, Yeşilova, Liman Tepe, Ulucak, Çine-Tepecik, Malkayası Cave, and Karain Cave makes further studies necessary on one of the most dynamics periods of western Anatolian culture history.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Turan Takaoğlu for allowing me to study the Middle Chalcolithic pottery assemblage from the 2018-2019 Kulaksızlar rescue excavations. This two-year long rescue excavation project was conducted by the Manisa Archaeology Museum with the scientific supervision of Turan Takaoğlu, under the Auspices of the Department of Antiquities. I am responsible for the mistakes that may be found in this study. A developed version of this study will appear in the excavation monograph of Kulaksızlar Excavations in the future.

Catalogue

1. Large jar, nearly globular body with inward leaning neck, reconstructed from pieces, it has one horizontal strap handle on the neck and one vertical strap handle on the belly. A spout exists towards the base, nearly below the vertical handle. gray-black clay, reddish-brown coated exterior, surface has mottling all around (Grid J 17.q1, H. 58 cm) (Fig. 4)

2. Rim fragment of a necked jar preserving a vertical strap handle joining just below the rim and the shoulder.; a circular knob near the bottom of this handle, grayish black clay, reddish brown coated exterior (Grid J 17.q1, D. at Rim 12,1 cm, Pres. H. 4,2 cm, Pres. W. 7,4 cm). (Figs. 5 and 11)

3. Rim fragment of a necked-jar preserving a vertical strap handle joining just below the rim and the shoulder., gray-black clay, reddish brown coated exterior (Grid J 17.q1, D. at Rim 12,8 cm, Pres. H. 7,1 cm, Pres. W. 5,8 cm) (Figs. 5 and 11)

4. Rim fragment of a necked-jar preserving a vertical strap handle joining just below the rim and the shoulder, gray-black clay, reddish brown coated exterior (Grid H.18.q4, D. at Rim 11,8 cm, Pres. H. 6,5 cm, Pres. W. 7,4 cm) (Figs. 5 and 11)

5. Rim fragment of a necked-jar preserving a vertical strap handle joining just below the rim and the shoulder., gray-black clay, chestnut brown coated exterior (Grid I.19.q1, D. at Rim 15,4 cm, Pres. H. 10,3 cm, Pres. W. 10,6 cm) (Figs. 5 and 11)

6. Rim fragment of a necked-jar, grayish black clay, black-burnished exterior (Grid H.18.q4, D. at Rim 10,2 cm, Pres. H. 7,9 cm, Pres. W. 6,1 cm) (Figs. 5 and 11)

7. Rim fragment of a necked-jar, grayish black clay, black-burnished exterior (Grid H.18.q4, D. at Rim 10,2 cm, Pres. H. 8,8 cm, Pres. W. 8,5 cm) (Figs. 5 and 11)

8. Vertical strap handle fragment of a necked-jar, circular in section, circular nob on top, grayish black clay, black-burnished exterior (Grid I.25.q3, Pres. H. 5,5 cm, Pres. W. 3,4 cm) (Figs. 5 and 11)

9. Vertical strap handle fragment of a necked-jar, ellipsoidal in section, circular nob on top, grayish black clay, black-burnished exterior (Grid J 17.q1, Pres. H. 6,2 cm, W. 3,2 cm) (Figs. 5 and 11)

10. Vertical strap handle fragment of a necked-jar, ellipsoidal in section, circular nob on top, grayish black clay, black-burnished exterior (Grid I.17.q2, Pres. H. 5,3 cm, Pres. W. 5,2 cm) (Figs. 5 and 11)

11. Vertical strap handle of a necked-jar, ellipsoidal in section, incised vertical relief on top, grayish black clay, black burnished exterior (Grid K.18.q4, Pres. H. 4,2 cm, Pres. W. 3,1 cm). (Figs. 5 and 11)

12. Rim fragment of a necked jar preserving a vertical handle rising slightly above the rim, incised lines running diagonally on the neck, grayish brown clay with inclusions, chestnut brown surface (Grid J 17.q4, Pres. H. 14,6 cm, Pres. W. 11 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12).

13. Neck fragment from a jar, channeled decoration formed diagonal grooves, grayish brown clay, blackish brown surface (Grid J 17.q3, Pres. H. 5,2 cm, Pres. W. 8,1 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

14. Body fragment of a jar, incised panel filled with cord decoration on the exterior surface, brownish black clay with inclusions (Grid I 18.q1, Pres. H. 3,6 cm, Pres. W.

3,6 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

15. Body fragment from a jar, reddish brown clay with quartz inclusions of various sizes, incised double chevron filled with dots (Grid J 17.q1, Pres. H. 6,7 cm, Pres. W. 9,2 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

16. Body fragment of a jar, grayish brown clay with inclusions, notched horizontal rib in relief, reddish brown surface (Grid I 18.q3, Pres. H. 9,5 cm, Pres. W. 10,4 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

17. Rim fragment of an open-mouthed and in turn walled jar, raised band with fingertip impressed decorations just below the rim on the exterior, grayish brown clay with inclusions, reddish brown coated surface (Grid I.19. q1, D. at Rim 33,8 cm, Pres. H. 7,5 cm, Pres. W. 10,9 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

18. Rim fragment of an open-mouthed and in turn walled jar, sightly raised band with fingertip impressed decorations just below the rim on the exterior, grayish brown clay with inclusions, reddish brown surface (Grid J 17.q4, D. at Rim 33,8 cm, Pres. H. 5 cm, Pres. W. 6,4 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

19. Rim fragment of an open-mouthed and in turn walled jar, a vertical notched rib in relief on the exterior, grayish brown clay with inclusions, grayish brown surface (Grid I.19.q1, D. at Rim 25,2 cm, Pres. H. 3,5 cm, Pres. W. 4,9 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

20. Body fragment of a jar near neck, a horizontal rib in relief on the exterior, grayish brown clay with inclusions, brown coated surface (Grid H.18.q4, Pres. H. 6,4 cm, Pres. W. 9,8 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

21. Body fragment of a jar, a vertical oblong wart on the exterior, grayish brown clay with inclusions, rbrown coated surface (Grid I.19.q1, Pres. H. 6,6 cm, Pres. W. 5,8 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

22. Body fragment of a jar with pouring spout, brownish red clay with inclusions, the exterior is left unburnished, both surfaces have mottling. (Grid J 17.q1, Pres. H. 6,4 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

23. Fragment of a basket handle with a knob-like projection, circular in section, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, finely burnished surface. (Grid I.17.q2, Pres. H. 7,6 cm, Th. 2,1 cm) (Figs. 6 and 12)

24. Fragment of a basket handle with a relief thin band decoration running diagonally, circular in section, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, finely burnished surface. (Grid J.25.q3, Pres. H. 7,1 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

25. Fragment of a twisted basket handle, elliptical in section, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, finely burnished surface. (Grid I.19.q1, Pres. H. 7,3 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

26. Rim and handle of a bowl handle, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, finely burnished brownish back surface. (Grid I.19.q1, D. at Rim 29,8 cm, Pres. H. 8,5 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

27. Fragment of a basket handle with a knob-like projection, circular in section, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, unburnished surface. (Grid J.25.q3, Pres. H. 8,5 cm, Th. 2,2 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

28. Fragment of a basket handle with a knob-like projection, circular in section, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, finely burnished brownish back surface. (Grid I.17.q2, Pres. H. 10,1 cm, Pres. W. 4 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

28. Fragment of a basket handle with a knob-like projection, circular in section, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, finely burnished brownish back surface. (Grid I 17.q2, Pres. H. 10,2 cm, P.W. 3,9 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

29. Fragment of a basket handle with a relief decoration in the shape of a ram's head or phallus., circular in section, medium-fired, olive-gray to black clay with inclusions, unburnished surface.

(Grid I.18.q3, D. at Rim 32,2 cm, Pres. H. 20,4 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

30. Rim and handle of a convex-sided bowl handle, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, unburnished surface; both surfaces have mottling. (Grid I.19.q1, D. at Rim 27,2 cm, Pres. H. 9,8 cm, Pres. W. 11,3 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

31. Rim fragment of a bowl with convex side, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, finely burnished brown-back surface. (Grid J 18.q1, D. at Rim 31,3 cm, Pres. H. 8,7 cm, Pres. W. 17,2 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

32. Rim fragment of a bowl with convex side, two parallel vertical relief bands running downwards from the rim on exterior, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, finely burnished brownish black surface. (Grid I.19.q1, D. at Rim 29,2 cm, Pres. H. 7,7 cm, Pres. W. 11,1 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

33. Rim fragment of a bowl with convex side, a vertically placed relief band running downwards from the rim on exterior, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, burnished brownish black surface. (Grid I.19.q1, D. at Rim 24,6 cm, Pres. H. 5,1 cm, Pres. W. 5,6 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

34. Rim fragment of a bowl with convex side, a knob-like projection just below the rim on exterior, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, finely burnished brownish black surface. (Grid I.19.q1, D. at Rim 22,8 cm, Pres. H. 7 cm, Pres. W. 3,9 cm) (Figs. 7 and 13)

35. Rim fragment of a bowl with flaring side, circular wart just below the rim on the interior, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, unburnished surface. (Grid I.19.q1, D. at Rim 29,2 cm, Pres. H. 6 cm, Pres. W. 6,8 cm) (Figs. 8 and 14)

36. Rim fragment of a bowl with flaring side, circular wart just below the rim on the interior, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, unburnished surface. (Grid I.17.q2, D. at Rim 29,4 cm, Pres. H. 6,1 cm, Pres. W. 6,6 cm) (Figs. 8 and 14)

37. Rim fragment of a bowl with flaring side, circular

wart just below the rim on the interior, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, unburnished surface. (Grid I.17.q2, D. at Rim 28,2 cm, Pres. H. 3,4 cm, Pres. W. 6,4 cm) (Figs. 8 and 14)

38. Rim fragment of a bowl with flaring side, medium-fired, brownish black clay with inclusions, unburnished surface. (Grid I 19.q1, D. at Rim 33,2 cm, Pres. H. 11,8 cm, Pres. W. 9,8 cm) (Figs. 8 and 14)

39. Rim fragment of a bowl with flaring side, medium-fired, brownish black clay with inclusions, chestnut brown surface. (Grid I 19.q1, D. at Rim 31,6 cm, Pres. H. 8,4 cm, Pres. W. 8,1 cm) (Figs. 8 and 14)

40. Rim fragment of a bowl with flaring side, internally thickening rim, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, unburnished chestnut brown surface (Grid I.25.q1, D. at Rim 31,8 cm, Pres. H. 3,9 cm, Pres. W. 5,4 cm) (Fig. 8)

41. Fragment from a mushroom-shaped handle, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, moderately burnished surface. (Grid I.25.q3, Pres. H. 5,6 cm) (Figs. 8 and 14)

42. Fragment from a mushroom-shaped handle, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, unburnished surface. (Grid J 18.q1, Pres. H. 4,5 cm) (Figs. 8 and 14)

43. Fragment from a mushroom-shaped handle, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, moderately burnished surface. (Grid I 18.q3, Pres. H. 5,1 cm) (Figs. 8 and 14))

44. Fragment from a mushroom-shaped handle, medium-fired, grayish brown to black clay with inclusions, moderately burnished surface. (Grid J 18.q4, Pres. H. 2,8 cm) (Figs. 8 and 14)

45. Spoon, missing handle, mended from pieces, grayish brown clay, smoothed surface (Grid H 18.q4, L. 8,6 cm, W. 7,6 cm, H. 4,6 cm) (Figs. 9 and 15)

46. Spindle whorl, semi-spherical in shape with flat bottom, grayish brown clay (Grid I 18.q4, Diam. 3 cm, H. 2,5 cm) (Figs. 10 and 16)

47. Spindle whorl, semi-spherical in shape with flat bottom, grayish brown clay, two incised upside-down V motifs side by side on the surface (Grid I 19.q1, Diam. 3 cm, H. 1,9 cm) (Fig. 10)

48. Spindle whorl, semi-spherical in shape with flat bottom, grayish brown clay (Grid I 19.q1, Diam. 4 cm, H. 1,6 cm) (Fig. 10 and 16)

49. Spindle whorl, semi-spherical in shape with flat bottom, grayish brown clay (Grid I 19.q1, Diam. 3,2 cm, H. 2 cm) (Fig. 10 and 16)

50. Spindle whorl, semi-spherical in shape with flat bottom, grayish brown clay (Grid I 18.q4, Diam. 3 cm, H. 1,2 cm) (Fig. 10 and 16)

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Makale Gönderim Tarihi: 09.02.2022

Makale Kabul Tarihi: 25.04.2022

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Fig. 1. Map showing the location of Kulaksızlar and other major sites with Chalcolithic finds in central-western Anatolia.



Fig. 2. View of Kulaksızlar showing the area of excavation, from the south.



Fig. 3. View of Trench J 17.q1 showing the location of a collapsed large jar with a spout next to a platform



Fig. 4. Large jar with a spout after mended from pieces by the present author



Fig. 5. Rim and handle fragments of large necked jars (Cat.No. 2-11)



Fig. 6. Decorated rim, neck, and body fragments from necked jars (Cat.No. 12-16), rim and body fragments of large in-turned rimmed open jars (Cat.No. 17-21), and a wall fragment of a jar with a spout (Cat.No. 22)



Fig. 7. Rim and handle fragments of convex sided wide bowls with uprising basket handles (Cat.No. 23-31) and relief decorated rims of wide bowls with convex sides (Cat.No. 32-34)



Fig. 8. Rim fragments of bowls with flaring sides (Cat.No. 35-37), internally thickening rim fragment from a flaring bowl (Cat.No. 40) and mushroom-shaped handles (Cat.No. 41-44)



Fig. 9. Pottery spoon with missing handle (Cat.No. 45)



Fig. 10. Clay spindle whorls (Cat.No. 46-50)

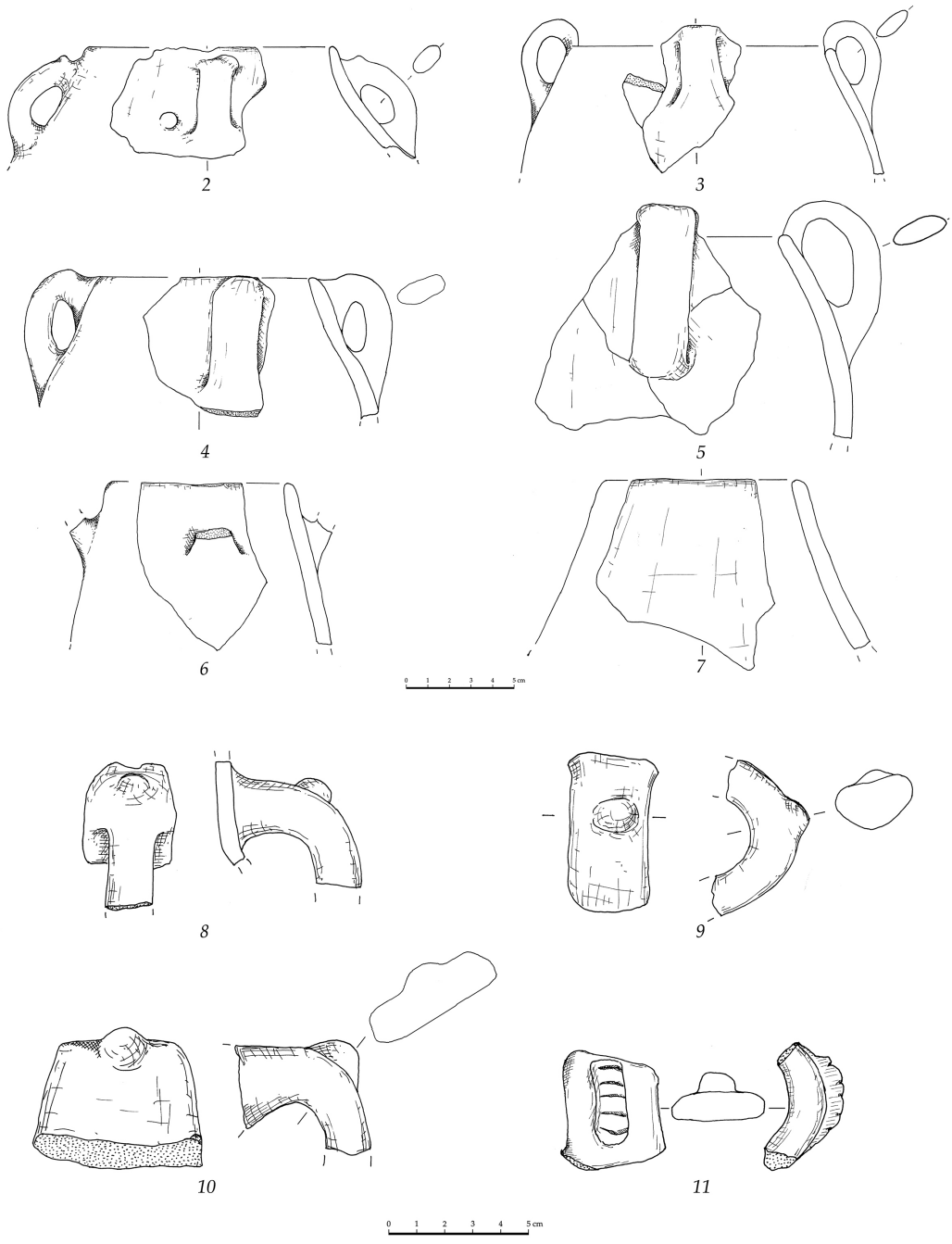


Fig. 11. Rim and handle fragments of large necked jars (Cat.No. 2-11

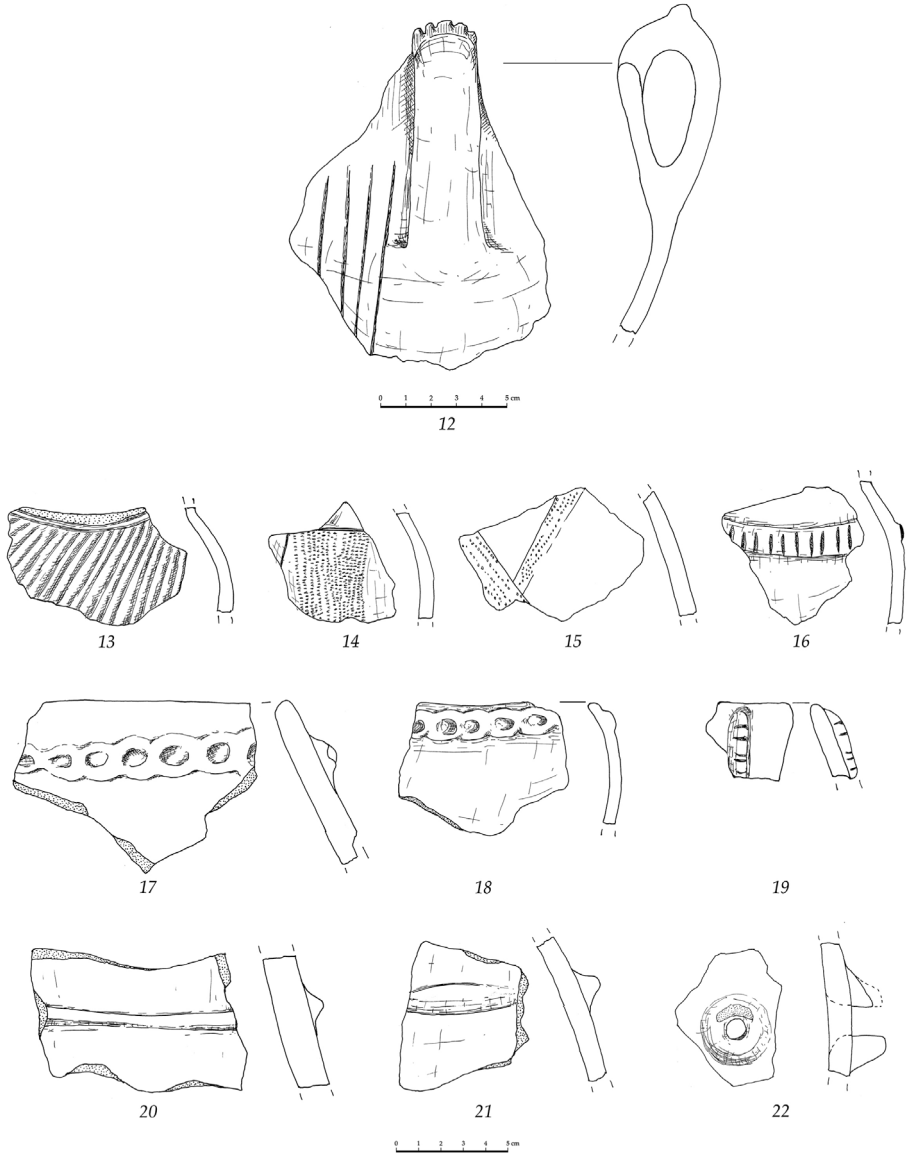


Fig. 12. Decorated rim, neck, and body fragments from necked jars (Cat.No. 12-16), rim and body fragments of large in-turned rimmed open jars (Cat.No. 17-21), and a wall fragment of a jar with a spout (Cat.No. 22)

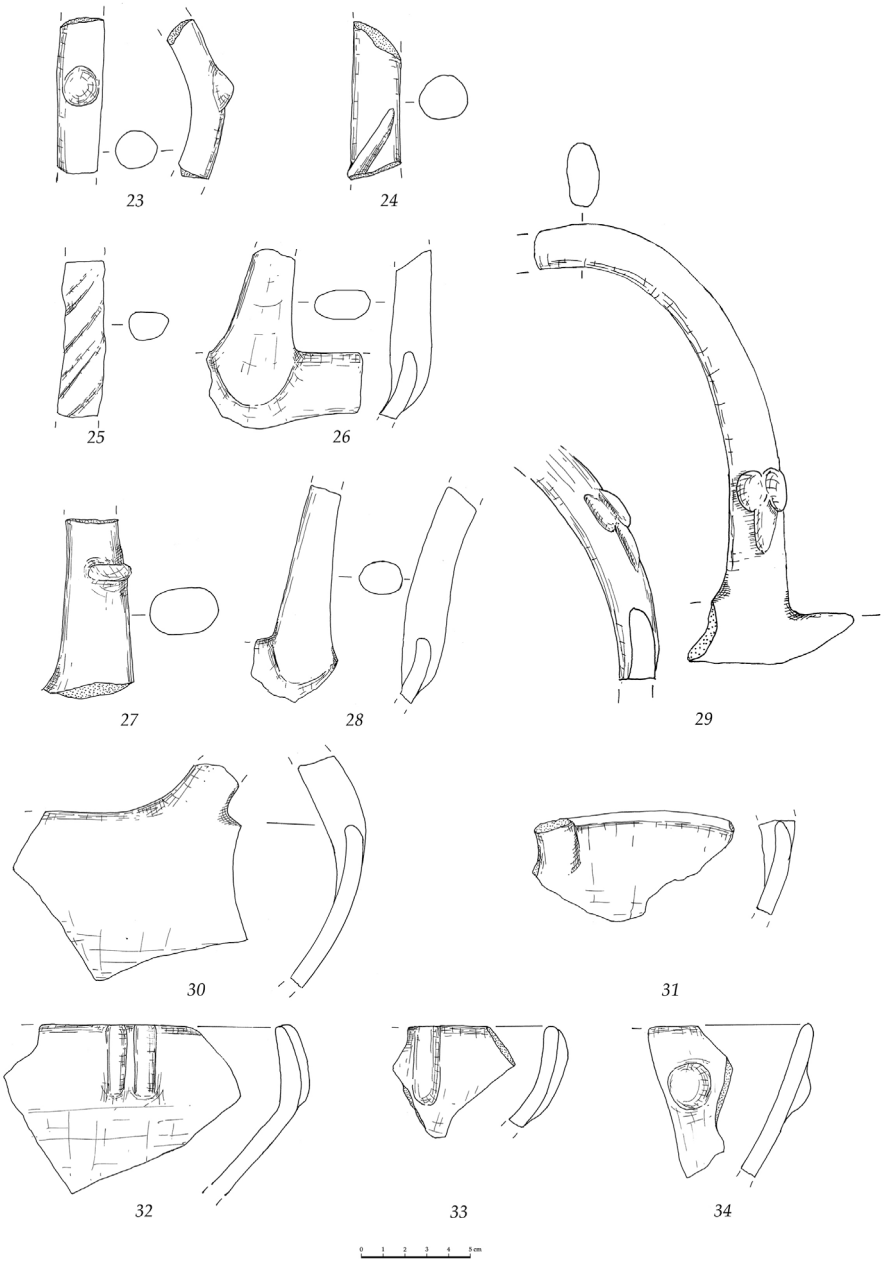


Fig. 13. Rim and handle fragments of convex sided wide bowls with uprising basket handles (Cat.No. 23-31) and relief decorated rims of wide bowls with convex sides (Cat.No. 32-34)

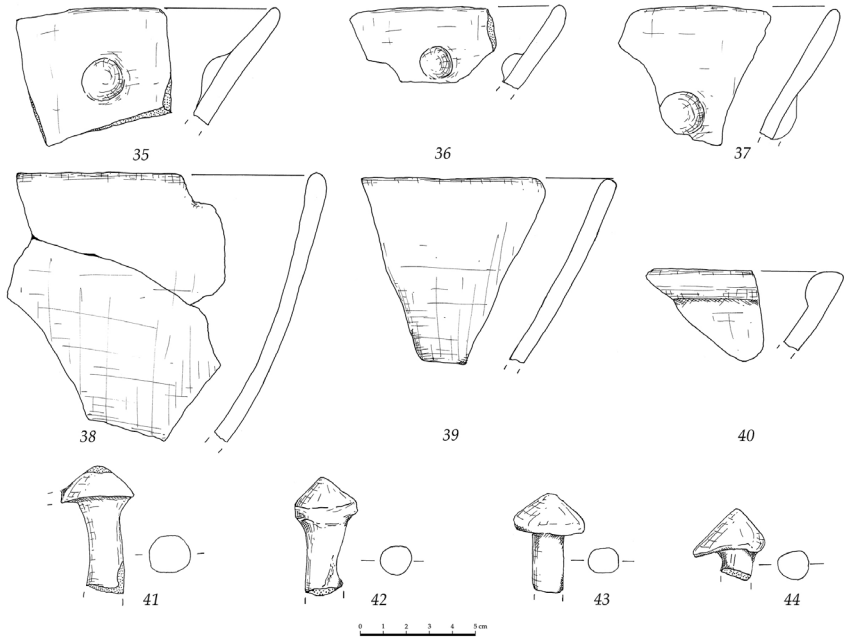


Fig. 14. Rim fragments of bowls with flaring sides (Cat.No. 35-37), internally thickening rim fragment from a flaring bowl (Cat.No. 40) and mushroom-shaped handles (Cat.No. 41-44)

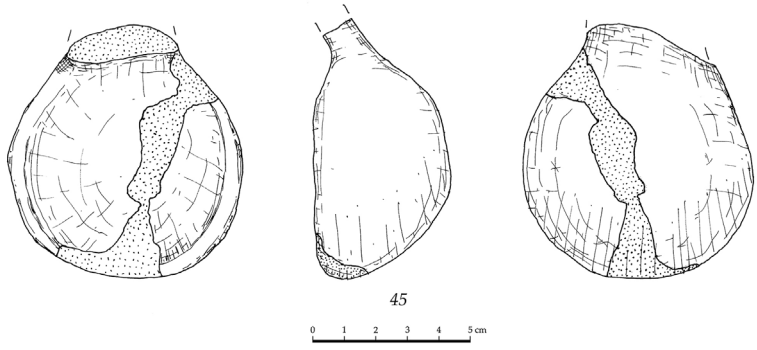


Fig. 15. Pottery spoon with missing handle (Cat.No. 45)

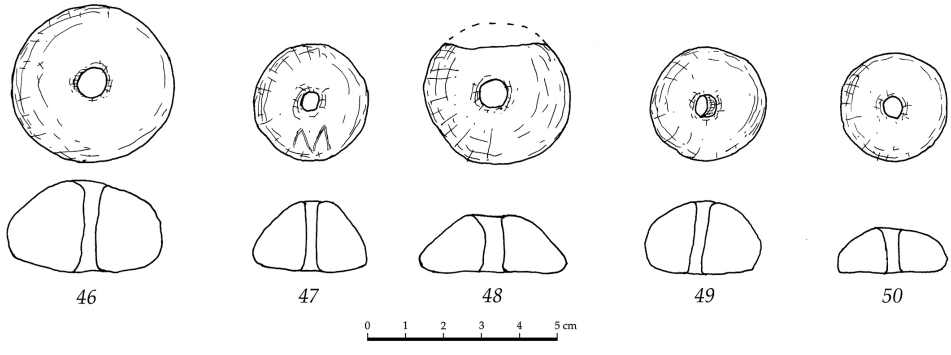


Fig. 16. Clay spindle whorls (Cat.No. 46-50)