

A HITTITE FIGURINE FOUND AT DÖVLEK ANATOLIA (SUMMARY)

The bronze figurine described and figured here was found in 1940 at Dövklek in the Şarkışla district of the province of Sivas. Dövklek lies about 5 km. east of Şarkışla, itself about 75 km. south - west of Sivas.

Since the statuette has not passed through the hands of dealers we can assume with a fair degree of confidence that it was really found at Dövklek. Moreover, according to the report given to the Department of Antiquities ancient relics have previously been found at Dövklek. These, however, have not been seen by the author. A new Hittite site, therefore has been discovered in a little - known region.

The bronze statuette is 12 cm. in height and represents a man wearing a two - horned conical crown, ear - rings, tunic, and up - turned shoes. One arm is upraised in the attitude of throwing something. Two projections under his feet served to fix the statuette to a base or pedestal. His hair is long and unplaited, and hangs down his back. This gives an idea of how the hair of the warrior gods at Yazılıkaya is to be pictured.

Although figurines made of metal were used in Anatolia since the Copper Age and during the Old Hittite period, the nearest parallels to the specimen described here are two figurines from Yozgat found by Chantre and a gold figurine now in the British Museum. This type of statuette representing a man with one foot forward and one arm raised as if to throw something is found in Syria (especially in Ras-Samra), in Crete, and in Greece. Our specimen, however, differs from these others in its style. It can be compared with the monuments of the New Hittite Empire.

Some archaeologists described this type as the «warrior type». But the examples found in Syria and, especially, in Anatolia are best regarded as gods because of their forms. We do not know the attributes and symbols of the Dövklek statuette. The god has a long narrow hole in his uplifted right hand which shows that he held some thin object. This may have been a spear and from the attitude of the left hand we may suppose he also carried a shield. According to the texts of the New Hittite Empire gods like D. zababa and D. Lama carry a shield and a weapon of some kind, or a shield and a spear. The gods carrying a weapon in their right hand can also carry a symbol of good luck. Since, however, we cannot determine the attributes and symbols of our god we cannot identify him with the gods mentioned above.

Comparison with the monuments and smaller objects, such as figurines and seals, makes it clear that the bronze statuette from Dövklek belongs to the Classical Hittite period in which Yazılıkaya was created.

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