HACILAR - BURDUR EXCAVATIONS 1958

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A second season's work was carried out at Hacılar durinig August and Sep - tember M>58 by James MeHaart. M.r. Seton *Voyd,* Director of the British Institute of Archaology at Ankara, was also present , for part of the time.

ünce more we were happy in securin'g the assistance of Bay Osman Aksoy as representative of the Turkish Government and the help and courtesy of the Vali and local officials at Bu1,dur. We are especkılly indebted to the Vali, Bay Orhan Kapan for providing a bulldozer at the end of the excavation free of charge to fill in the trenches in accord1nce with the- agree - ment made with the owners of the fields.

This successfull five - weeks season of excavation procluced new surprises and added greatly to our knowledge of the eır1iest settled communities in Anatolh Nor were they in any sense repetitive, since the new discoveries are for the most part derived from the uppermost cha1co- lithic level (Level I) and from the P rliest neolithic sett1ement (Levels VI - IX), of which Httle ti11 now had been learnt.

Le1.ıel l.

Our conception of the settlement with which we have been dealing as an open villag-e, has this year been superseded by the discovery in Level I of a powerful system of fortifications surrounding it and the evidence of its deliberate destruction by fire. This early chalcolithic fortress, of which we lıave so far been able to exca- vate no more than a dozen chambers and an ·entrance passage, was consıtructed of mudbriok ona foundation of stone (Figs,. 1, 2). Its w.aUs varied in thickness from 1,5 to 2,5 metres and were preserved in some rooms to a heiıght of over two me- tres. It .ıis the ear:liest exıample of a miılitary defense construction yet discovered in Anatolia, anteclating the fortress recorded by Professor J. Garstang in his sixteenth level at Mersin by a full thousand years.

The construction of the fortress in - vo1ved a preparatory re-shaping of thc existing mound, around which it was built; and the cutting of a terrace to receive its foundati.ons involved the demo- lition .and removal of a simibr fortifica- t <m be1onging to Level II and the remains of earlier occupations to a depth of about three metres. As a resu1t, the foundations themselves rested directly upon the rema.ins of the neolithic settlement'a for- tıımıte ci.rctımqtance of which we did not fai1 tn bıke advanhıQ'e,

Unlike the Mers,in • **XVI** forfress, which e0nsii:ıh•d of a sinı:t!P row of ch m- bers hıiilt a,ırı:ıinst. a :strm,ı<r e clıo"ırre wa11 the Hacılar fo'rl:ific9tiorı wı:ıs conmn"led Jeqs req-ıilarlv of commnni,.ıit,inır. chıimhPrs with a.brıorma11v thick wıı·11s. arran-crP,ıl as manv as three deep aronnd the nerinlı.ery of the settlement. Doorpı betw<>Pn them wı:>re no more th ın O CT0 m. wiile. F,ach chamher h.ı>d a hearth ani! t.he lm•o-Pr ones, intı>ı·nı:ıl hıittreı::"le8. nocı:th.nle<;. n[1]·ıitf,wms ete_. like ,iJ,nme,;tif'. (lwelli_ncr,;: hıit. Hıp thkk- ness of the waHı:ı. thc ::ıbsence of noHPrv or obiects i'l sih1 on the f1oor!'l: ı:ınıl the enormmıs clenosit (over two meh'P'-1 thic'k:) <ıi' burnt debYic:; ::ıii.<l ı:ıic:;h.e'c; w11i"?1 fil10d them and was found to conbıin lit ra1lv tons of notterv. as wei11 as aı1:uitities of burnt hum':'..n bones, a11 surrıre ıtfld the existence of an unner storev. w1rh:rns füthtlv const,·ucted of timber and used for residenti.'31 nurnoses in the sıimmer month8, as *is* the normal practice tocfav in Anatol-ian villa,ge hous,es. It was evidently this upper structure that had colla.psed into the chambers • lıenea.th as a result of the fire, carrying with it the def enders·of

the fortress and their belongings. The w¹1ole fo:rtress had apparently been in use for .ı considerable Jenıgth of time, since it showed signs of periodical strengthening and repairs. After the fire, also, there were traces of at least two successive occupations by ı;1,quatters.

The size of the fortress, the preparation of its site. and the füct that it anpears to have been comp1ete1y const-ructed i"l one oueration. a11 tends to s.u·ggest that we ı:ıre here dealing not with a mere vil-lag-e communitv but with +he central authoritv controlling a cons,idel':ıbl·e nrovi,nce. of which H::ıcılar mav well have been the ı:ıdministrative canital. The qu1ntitv of nottery co11ected from its nıirnı, is extraor-rlin ,:ırv. Our estimqte of more thı:ın a hun-clred thousand sherds is a cornıervative one nd not less than 1-1ixtv comulete vı::ıss lf, were rf>con1-1tnıcted 11.nd s,ent to tlıP A11k'R--ra Ar,.heolnıP-ic::ıl Mııse11m. whilP m<ınv morp o·m be restored on paper for mıbli - cation.

Oıt. of this o-reı:ıt. vo1ıme of she1·ds. ı=ı:hoıt fortv or fiftv sh0w ::ı new techniaıı:ı of sıırface o>·nam?nt (thoıı!Ylı the shı:ıneı:; 0,1. the who¹e r-r0 ncıı mıch f1i-f'fı:ı1•0ıt) 0f white naint. on a nink or rı=>d b.,cl{g-rouııd (Fiır.). Cnmhtnf'cd with of-h0r fp::ıfın•"" 1-1nch as horned hand1es. s,trı=ın handl0s from neck to horlv. ·new hınvl shanes ete.. tl-ıı>ı:;e form a link witlı the Vlte Ch'lll'rı-lithic clıltıre disf'<WPreo this vpaı· hı the <lPenrst 1Pve1s of thı=> soıınrlin!!' :=ıt. °RPVf'P-ı:ııılb•:rı (L,ovplg **XL - XX).** Tt is. thı>rpfQrP. ıınlikelv +hat anv considPr?hle chronn1n-o-il'al P--<ın f,let ı:ılone ::ın into:r'J1,;,;ı;:0tp "J\ıfin-ole Chalco1ithk" cnltın·). wi¹1 b" ff'lınn to R"narate füp final <'ıf'cnnation ::ıt Hı:ıcı1lr from the earlieı,J at Bevf'º!'!ııltan - *u* saijs-f9dorv circıımsta1we. ı::incP the 8fr:rti-,P.'1·ı>.nhic sºnııpncP f0r oııthwı>ı;ıt An'ltofü• ,.,.,.ıli! thııs h<> l'onı_nlı:ıted. hnf- for tlıo ı;ıho-Pı;ı hetwı>Pn the MegoJithic and the be<dnninı;ı: of Ffı1cıhr.

The most common technique of the L0vel I notterv at. llı:ıclhır. ·however. wı:ıC\ *red-on-white,* as in: the earliºr 1evels: bıt the natterns with the excention of sni.-<:ılC\ and maeanders, are all geometrical. The ingenuity of the potters in the invention of designs is most remark<ıble, no two vessels being alike. Some continuity is discernible between Leve1s I and II, but this is a continuity of technique r,ather than of shapes and patterns. The Level I • shapes are as ingenious as the patterns. In ::ı.ddition to circular vessels (Fig.4) there are oval or rect'lngular bowls on circulı:ır bases, others that a:re subrecbn - gular or lozen:ge - shaped. while fars are often shaped like a Rugby football. About 75 percent of the pottery shows painted ornament.

Fhnırines rP Rg-ain common in Level I. bıt have ,Hstinctive forms:. Seated fiı:u-r0s are now found anrl one of these ıi.ad thP. navel mph::ısisı=>d bv ::ın inl'-ıv of oh-f',i_rlian. Others rıre conv0ntionrı Ji.s;c,n. so t.hat th,,v heg-in to resı>mb¹e thı:> "fidıfü•" tvne fı=ınıi1iar in late,· times. Seup,•ı11 vps,ıe1•s of ant.hrono-rn01·nhk C\hı>pe in thı> fo-rm of a sº1+P.d g-odrle<ıs. fn11y clres«Po. wiHı. n¹ı:ıs-ticl'lllıY morfolled TIO""· P.ars ı>nn ;:ı-rrrıs ı:ın<l ocr.asionı:ıllv with ev0s inl::ıid in ohsirli,::ın, occur fo1· t.he firnt timº in this levP'ı. 'P<ıin-ted anima1 fi,gures weı•p :ılso common. Stone tools wer0 found some of thf'm <'.rımnlptp wi+h t.he hnıw or ant],,r han:-llc in which they were !',et.

'T'9l,-ino- :,.rlvant1,o-e 0f t.hf'i1· m:mdmitv below the L vel T fortı-0s.s, , fıırther exR-mination wı:ıs n-ıı:ıde of the ıwolithic levı=>ls. The mud - hrick wa11s of dwºllin.q houses mı. stone fo11rıdati.ons weı·e fonnd in Levels VT and VTTT ıı.nd new ohserv;:ıtions madı> rP.<ı:ar<ling- the stratification. Tt. was now foıınd that. nahıted notterv wi.th some oval !>.h<ırn>ı:; (Fi.o-. 5) anrl fi.<mrinoı:; ı111 orcur **a s**1rlv as the first occırnation (Leve1 **IX).** Paint.en. notterv hº,,omı=>s mo-re common in T, Vf'lı:; VTT and VI ı:tnd nı·eoornin,::ı:nt in T,nvı:ı1 V (hı,o-jl']ninır of P!'lrlv chalf'olithi,,). Ther0 is in fact rıo b-rı=>R-k to ıcıccoıınt for the f--..ı1ı1siHon from "ııeolithic" to ""1-ı,::ı¹ı'n-lif-l,i,," ı>nn thh terminol0,,.v. ı:ıOr>TJtPn fl")TI1_ h" naı·afu>J. develonııı=>rıt ºt Meı·sin. ac<'.or-dlnıqlv becomes disnuhıb¹e. A Jumn of rnlti:ve conner w1s found in the deepest levelı of **all.**