

III. Western Anatolian Impact on Aegean Figurines and Religion ?

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Abstract: The starting point of this contribution is two recently found schematic marble figurines at Çukuriçi Höyük, a tell settlement situated on the western Anatolian coastline. Based on comparable finds from new excavations, it seems worthwhile to consider and discuss anew the origin and development of these types in general. In general, researchers assumed that the development of the schematic Early Bronze Age 'Beycesultan type' figurines was influenced by the violin shaped figurines of the Cyclades. However, new finds from Western Anatolia provide interesting insights into their genesis. A trend towards the abstraction and schematisation of the figurines is already recognisable in the Early Chalcolithic period. Thus, early finds of schematic figurines are already known from that period in the Lake District. Besides so-called 'Kiliya type' figurines, which were widely distributed in Western Anatolia during the Middle and Late Chalcolithic period, finds of schematic figurines indicate a similar early dating. Apart from one figurine from the Cyclades, the others were found in the catchment area of the river Büyük Menderes. Therefore, we think that the origin of the schematic figurines potentially lies in Western Anatolia. In addition, the Early Bronze Age 'Beycesultan type' figurines present a similar distribution with two objects found on the Cyclades. As both the violin shaped figurines of the Cyclades as well as the western Anatolian 'Beycesultan type' figurines show clear similarities, we assume a comparable religious character for both. This seems to be the result of an interaction sphere incorporating the central region of Western Anatolia and the Cyclades, which must have existed at least as early as at the beginning of the Early Bronze Age around 3000 BC.

Keywords: Western Anatolia, Cyclades, 'Kiliya type' figurines, 'Beycesultan type' figurines, supra-regional contacts, interaction sphere, Chalcolithic period, Early Bronze Age

Zusammenfassung: Ausgangspunkt für diesen Beitrag sind zwei jüngst entdeckte, schematisierte Marmorfigurinen vom Çukuriçi Höyük, einer Tellsiedlung an der westanatolischen Küste. Anhand von vergleichbaren Funden aus neueren Ausgrabungen erscheint es lohnenswert, deren Herkunft und ihre Entwicklung erneut zu betrachten und zu diskutieren. Allgemein wird in der Forschung davon ausgegangen, dass die Entwicklung der schematisierten frühbronzezeitlichen Figurinen des Typs 'Beycesultan' von den violinförmigen Figurinen der Kykladen beeinflusst wurde. Neufunde aus Westanatolien geben jedoch interessante Einblicke hinsichtlich ihrer Genese. Bereits seit dem Frühchalkolithikum lässt sich in dieser Region ein Trend zur Abstraktion und Schematisierung der Figurinen erkennen. So sind aus dieser Zeit bereits frühe Funde schematisierter Figurinen aus dem Seengebiet bekannt. Neben den sogenannten Figurinen des Typs 'Kiliya', die in mittel- und spätkalkolithischer Zeit eine weite Verbreitung innerhalb Westanatoliens fanden, deuten Funde schematischer Figurinen ebenso eine frühere Zeitstellung an. Abgesehen von einer Figurine von den Kykladen wurden die anderen im Einzugsgebiet des Flusses Büyük Menderes gefunden. Daher sind wir der Meinung, dass der Ursprung der schematischen Figurinen möglicherweise in Westanatolien liegt. Auch der frühbronzezeitliche Typ 'Beycesultan' zeigt eine ähnliche Verbreitung mit zwei Exemplaren auf den Kykladen. Da sowohl die violinförmigen Figurinen der Kykladen als auch der westanatolische Typ 'Beycesultan' deutliche Gemeinsamkeiten aufweisen, gehen wir von einem vergleichbaren religiösen Charakter von beiden aus. Dieser scheint das Resultat eines Interaktionsraums zwischen dem zentralen Gebiet Westanatoliens und den Kykladen zu sein, der zumindest schon zu Beginn der Frühbronzezeit, um 3000 v. Chr., bestanden haben muss.

Stichworte: Westanatolien, Kykladen, Figurinen des Typ 'Kiliya', Figurinen des Typ 'Beycesultan', überregionale Kontakte, Interaktionsraum, Chalkolithikum, Frühbronzezeit

Prehistoric figurines are well known from various archaeological contexts in southeast Europe, the Aegean and Anatolia, deriving from graves and being found in settlements. Dealing with this find category inevitably leads to the problem of its interpretation. Aside from the objects that were found in grave contexts and therefore show a strong transcendental connotation and a connection

to the religious sphere, figurines found in settlements raise questions, in particular, whether a profane or a religious interpretation is justified. Beside a possibly profane classification as a toy, the religious connection is favoured by scholars dealing with this topic.¹⁵⁹ The religious classification covers a range of different interpretation, which can hardly be verified for prehistoric contexts.¹⁶⁰ The figurines, whether representing a divinity or not, could be used during ritual activities in domestic or communal contexts. Without attesting a communal place for rituals, this interpretation is difficult to prove. Figurines found in domestic contexts enable the assumption of domestic religious practices. However, it must be taken into account that a figurine is just a single component of a much bigger religious sphere. This (possibly same) religious sphere could also be expressed in a different or similar way depending of the cultural settling (or any cultural adoptions) in certain regions. Due to the limited archaeological record for prehistory, it is impossible to state an evident interpretation. However, the distributions patterns of figurine types allow us to evaluate possible interaction spheres¹⁶¹ between cultural entities in regional or supra-regional areas.

Since the basic typological works concerning schematic figurines on the Cycladic islands and in Western Anatolia, a consensus of their genesis emerged in research.¹⁶² The presumed origin of these figurines, which lead to the later violin form type, is supposed to be the Cycladic region.¹⁶³ On the basis of new evaluation, including new finds from Western Anatolia, it is possible to suggest another perspective in view of the development of schematic figurines.

III.1. Evidence of Marble Figurines at Çukuriçi Höyük

This renewed analysis was motivated by two recently found marble figurines at Çukuriçi Höyük, a tell site on the central Western Anatolia coast.¹⁶⁴ One figurine belongs to the so-called ‘Kiliya type’¹⁶⁵ (Fig. 3.1); another can be associated with so-called ‘Beycesultan type’¹⁶⁶ figurines (Fig. 3.2).

The ‘Kiliya type’ figurines show a standing female person with a flattened body, a long neck and mostly a plastic elaborated head. Beside a few plastic features (ears, eyes and nose) mainly restricted to the head, the remaining extremities are often separated by simple carved lines. Only the lower part (broken below the neck) of the new discovered object from Çukuriçi Höyük¹⁶⁷ is preserved, but it shows the typical attributes of this figurine type, represented by the angled arms pointing to the bottom, the flattened lozenge body and the indication of feet in the lower part. Carved lines are not visible. The figurine is 3.3cm in width and 6.6cm in height. The original height can be reconstructed as about 10cm.

The fragment was found in a mixed context of a disturbed surface layer of trench M1 (Figs. 3.3–3.4). In the years after 1995, large parts of the site were destroyed through removing part of the sides and levelling the hilltop in order to enlarge the surrounding areas for agricultural use. In course of this work, levels belonging to the 4th and 3rd millennia BC in particular were destroyed. Therefore, it is most probably that the find derives from deeper levels of the Late Chalcolithic or Early Bronze Age settlements (ÇuHö VII–III).

¹⁵⁹ Cf. Hansen 2007, 319.

¹⁶⁰ For constraints and possibilities in interpreting archaeological contexts in general see: Butzer 1980; Renfrew 1985, 11–26.

¹⁶¹ Maran 1998, 417.

¹⁶² Renfrew 1969, 28, fig. 4; Renfrew 1972, 184, fig. 11.8; Höckmann 1977a, 175, fig. 176; Thimme 1977b, 416, fig. 184; Getz-Preziosi 1994, 24, fig. 11; Stampolidis – Sotirakopoulou 2011b, 73, fig. 5a–b.

¹⁶³ Renfrew 1969, 29; Thimme 1977b, 427; Weinberg 1977, 61; Steinmann 2011, 176; Stampolidis – Sotirakopoulou 2011b, 73.

¹⁶⁴ For further information about the excavations at Çukuriçi Höyük see: Horejs in this volume, chapter I.

¹⁶⁵ Named by the site Kiliya or Kilia (cf. Höckmann 1977a, 176; Seher 1992a, 153).

¹⁶⁶ Renfrew 1969, 27.

¹⁶⁷ ÇuHö12/5001/3/38 (weight: 27.78g).

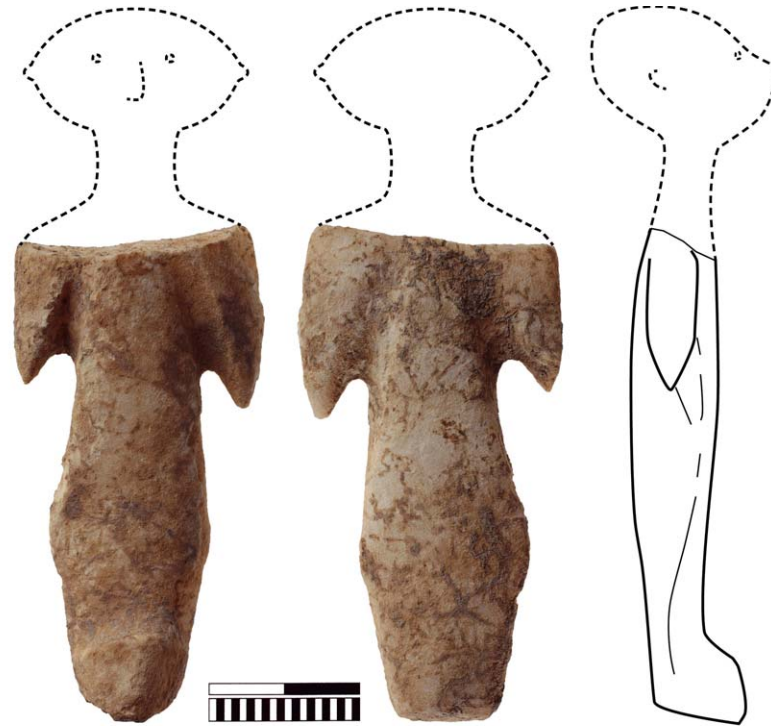


Fig. 3.1 Fragment of a 'Kiliya type' figurine found at Çukuriçi Höyük
(photo: N. Gail/ÖAI; drawing: M. Röcklinger)



Fig. 3.2 Schematic marble figurine of the 'Beycesultan type' found at
Çukuriçi Höyük (photo: N. Gail/ÖAI)

The second figurine belongs to the 'Beycesultan type' and is characterised by a more schematic shape. In general, the head of this type is represented by a shaft-like prolongation, which is pointing to the top. Underneath, the head is followed by a flattened body with laterally protruded and angled arms in the upper part of the body. The lower part of the body has a round or square rounded form.

A fully preserved example consisting of a shaft-like head and a trapezoid body with two laterally angled arms was recovered at Çukuriçi Höyük.¹⁶⁸ One small and slight offset carved line is visible

¹⁶⁸ ÇuHö12/5086/3/1 (weight: 9.03g).

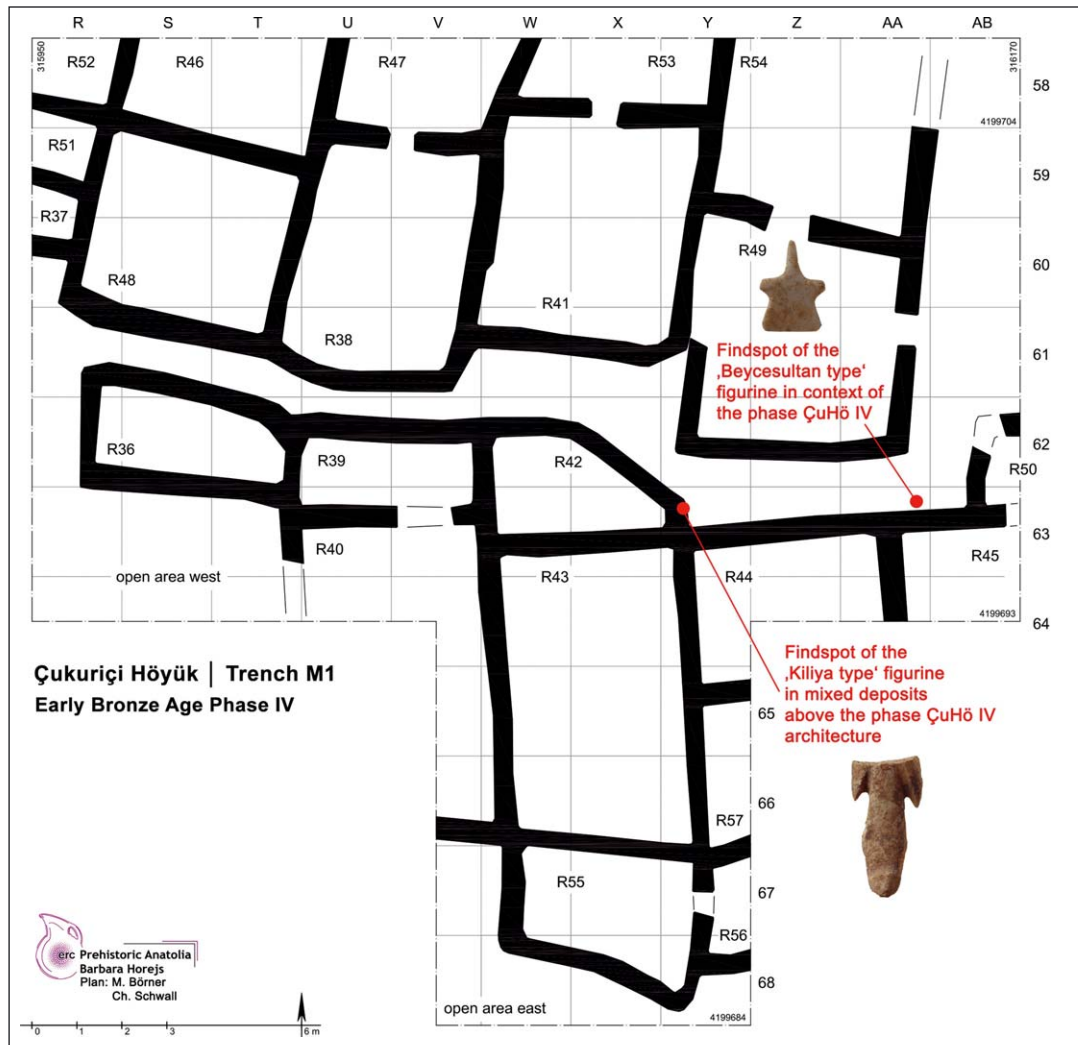


Fig. 3.3 Schematic plan of trench M1 with the marked findspots of the two figurines (plan: M. Börner, Ch. Schwall)

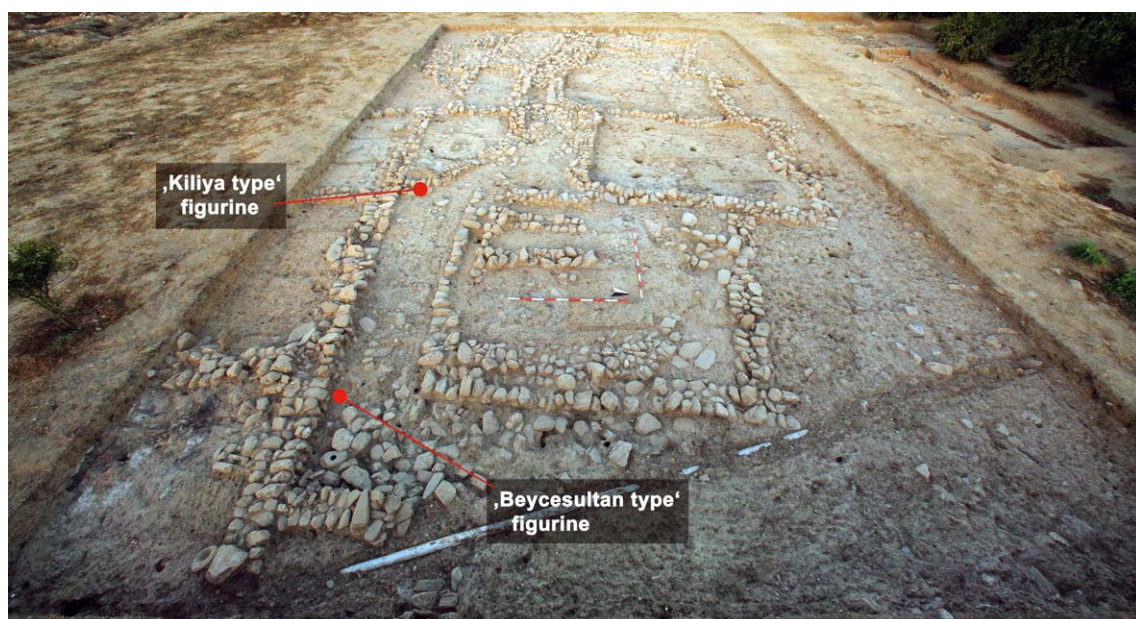


Fig. 3.4 Picture of trench M1 with the marked findspots of the two figurines (photo: N. Gail/ÖAI)

on both parts of the shaft-like head. The figurine is 3.1cm in width, 4.3cm in height and 0.5cm thick. It was unearthed in a filling layer on the east-west aligned path directly adjacent to the northern wall of room 45 in the eastern part of the excavation trench M1 (Figs. 3.3–3.5). Regarding the context of the figurine, it is possible that the object derives from the inner part of room 45 and was redeposited when the wall collapsed. In any case, the figurine can be securely associated with the Early Bronze Age 1 settlement phase ÇuHö IV.

III.2. The Appearance and Development of Schematic Figurines in Western Anatolia

Based on these two marble figurine types, which were discovered during the past few years, a new consideration of stylistic origins founded on the earliest dates of schematic figurines seems constructive.

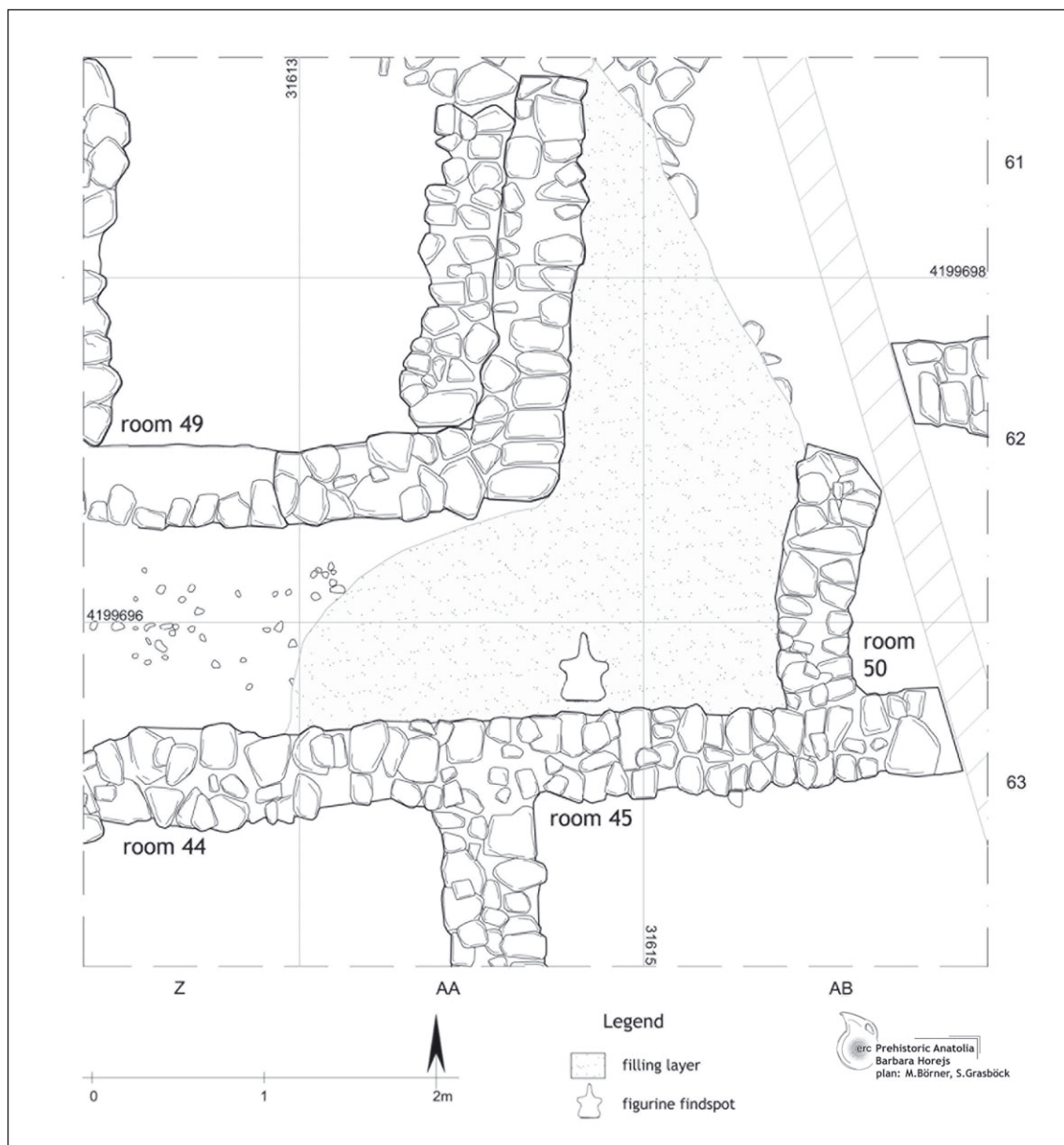


Fig. 3.5 Detailed plan of the findspot of the 'Beycesultan type' figurine (plan: M. Börner, St. Grasböck)

Evidence of Early Schematic and ‘Kiliya type’ Figurines in Western Anatolia

Schematic figurines comparable with ‘Beycesultan type’ figurines are already known from significantly older periods. The oldest known schematic figurine was excavated at Kuruçay Höyük in Lake District. This figurine was found upon a floor inside a room of the Early Chalcolithic settlement phase 7 that can be dated to the first quarter of the 6th millennium BC (Fig. 3.7).¹⁶⁹ The flat upper part of the body has a shaft-like head with horizontal carved lines. Angled forearms are also indicated by two scratched lines underneath the laterally protruded arms. As already noted by R. Duru, a suitable comparison is known by a clay figurine found in the settlement of Hacılar I, which can be dated to the Early Chalcolithic period. Both examples from Hacılar as well as Kuruçay Höyük support a date as early as the first half of the 6th millennium BC (Fig. 3.8).¹⁷⁰ This means that a trend towards the schematisation and abstraction of standing figurines in stones as well as clay can be noted in the region of the Lake District and the upper Büyük Menderes River as early as 6000–5500 BC.

In the following 5th and 4th millennia BC, the ‘Kiliya type’ figurines in particular became common in Western Anatolia (Fig. 3.9). It should be pointed out that the angled position of the forearms is apparent by the partially worked out arms separated with carved lines (Fig. 3.10), as indicated on the early sample from Kuruçay Höyük. The distribution of the ‘Kiliya type’ figurines seems to be restricted only to the Western Anatolian region. This assessment is supported by a marble workshop at Kulaksızlar,¹⁷¹ where this kind of figurines and pointed beakers were produced, as well as several finds from excavations and by samples from the antiquities market with the provenance ‘Western Anatolia’.¹⁷² Furthermore, Kulaksızlar ‘Kiliya type’ figurines are known from the following sites (Fig. 3.6): Alaağaç Köyü¹⁷³, Aphrodisias-Pekmez¹⁷⁴, Babaköy¹⁷⁵, Beşik-Sivritepe¹⁷⁶, Bozköy-Hanay-tepe¹⁷⁷, Çine-Tepecik Höyüğü¹⁷⁸, Çukuriçi Höyük¹⁷⁹ (Fig. 3.1), Gavurtepe Höyük¹⁸⁰, Hanay Tepe¹⁸¹, Karain Cave¹⁸², Kiliya¹⁸³, Kozağacı¹⁸⁴, Malkayası Cave¹⁸⁵, Selendi (Akdeğirmen)¹⁸⁶, Troy¹⁸⁷, Ulucak Höyük¹⁸⁸, Yortan¹⁸⁹ and possibly from Kırşehir¹⁹⁰. Due to the geographical distance and the

¹⁶⁹ Duru 1982, 8–9, 24–25, pls. 7.2; 8.3; Umurtak 1994, 69, pls. 222.2; 231.2. – Regarding the chronology see: Schoop 2005, 188, 193, fig. 4.11.

¹⁷⁰ Bilgi 1980, 9, 16, pl. 4.9; cf. Duru 1982, 24–25; Seeher 1992a, 166. – For more examples see: Mellaart 1970, 520, fig. 245.1; 522, fig. 246.4; for dating see: Schoop 2005, 190, fig. 4.9.

¹⁷¹ Dinç 1996; Dinç 1997; Takaoğlu 2002; Takaoğlu 2005; Akdeniz 2010; Takaoğlu 2011.

¹⁷² Sharp Joukowsky 1982, 88, fig. 1; Seeher 1992a; Takaoğlu 2002, 79; Takaoğlu 2005, 38; Schoop 2005, 269; Horejs – Schwall in press.

¹⁷³ Dinç 1995; cf. Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

¹⁷⁴ Kadish 1971, 131, fig. 8.1598a.3, 1598a.2.5; Sharp Joukowsky 1982, 90–93, fig. 4.2–3; Sharp Joukowsky 1986, 204, figs. 197–198; cf. Seeher 1992a, 159; Takaoğlu 2005, 38; Şahoğlu – Sotirakopoulou 2011, 287, cat. nos. 194–195.

¹⁷⁵ Seeher 1992a, 158; Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

¹⁷⁶ Korfmann 1985, 170–171; cf. Seeher 1992a, 157; Takaoğlu 2005, 38; Şahoğlu – Sotirakopoulou 2011, 286, cat. no. 191.

¹⁷⁷ Blum et al. 2011, 134, pl. 12.3.

¹⁷⁸ Günel 2013, 20; Günel 2014, 91–93, 97–99, pls. 6–10.

¹⁷⁹ Horejs 2013, 9; Horejs 2014, 34; Horejs – Schwall in press.

¹⁸⁰ Meriç 1989, 165, fig. 6; cf. Seeher 1992a, 159; Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

¹⁸¹ Calvert 1881, 788; Virchow 1883, 77–78, pl. 12.7; cf. Lamb 1932, 119; Schachner 1999b, 21; Seeher 1992a, 157; Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

¹⁸² Yalçinkaya 1987, 32, fig. 6; Seeher 1988, 238, fig. 13.2; Kartal – Yalçinkaya 2012, 29, figs. 5–6; Yalçinkaya et al. 2013, 11, 15, fig. 4.

¹⁸³ Calvert 1901; cf. Seeher 1992a, 159; Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

¹⁸⁴ Woodward – Ormerod 1909/1910, 105, pl. 7.18–19; cf. Seeher 1992a, 159; Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

¹⁸⁵ Gerber 2006, 85, fig. 77; Peschlow-Bindokat – Gerber 2012, 107, fig. 41.

¹⁸⁶ Takaoğlu 2002, 78; Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

¹⁸⁷ Schmidt 1902, 282, no. 7643; cf. Seeher 1992a, 156–157; Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

¹⁸⁸ Çevik – Vuruşkan 2015, 586, 595, Abb. 4.

¹⁸⁹ Collignon 1901, pl. 1; Kâmil 1982, 19–20, fig. 84.292a–b; cf. Seeher 1992a, 158; Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

¹⁹⁰ Seeher 1992a, 161–162; Takaoğlu 2005, 38.

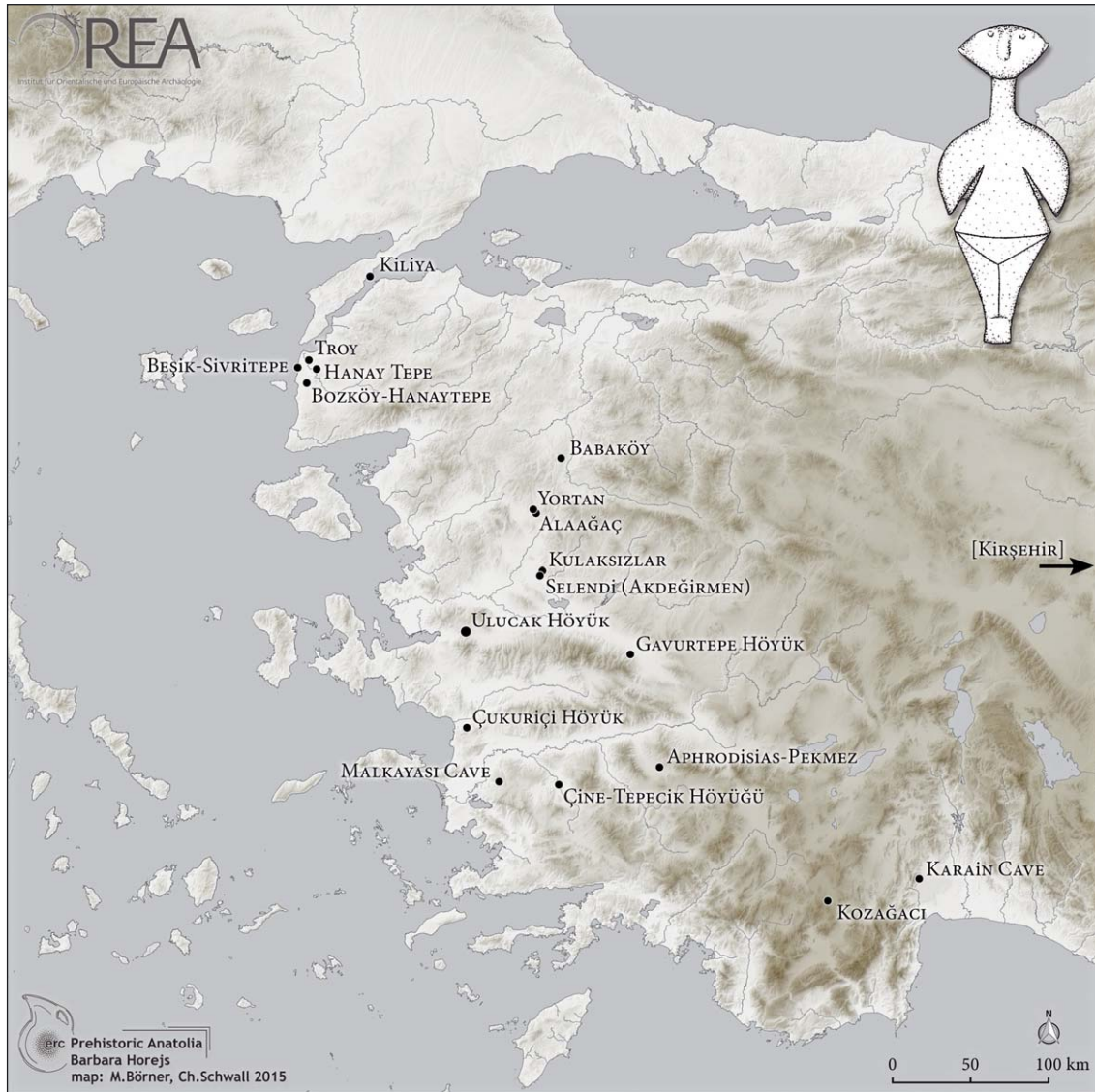


Fig. 3.6 Distribution of the 'Kiliya type' figurines in Western Anatolia (map: M. Börner, Ch. Schwall)

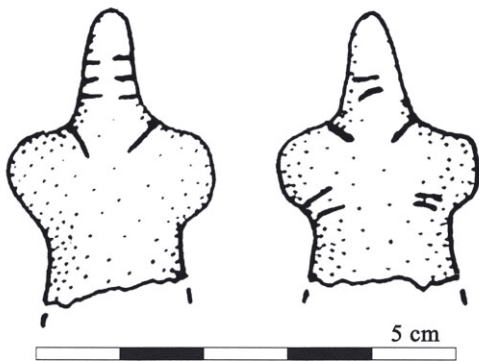


Fig. 3.7 Schematic marble figurine from the Early Chalcolithic settlement Kuruçay Höyük 7 (Umurtak 1994, pl. 222.2)

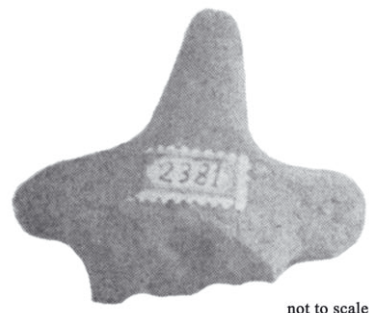


Fig. 3.8 Schematic clay figurine from the Early Chalcolithic settlement Hacılar I (without scale; Bilgi 1980, pl. 4.9)



Fig. 3.9 Intact 'Kiliya type' figurine from the collection of Classical Antiquities at Berlin (Lichter 2011, 37)

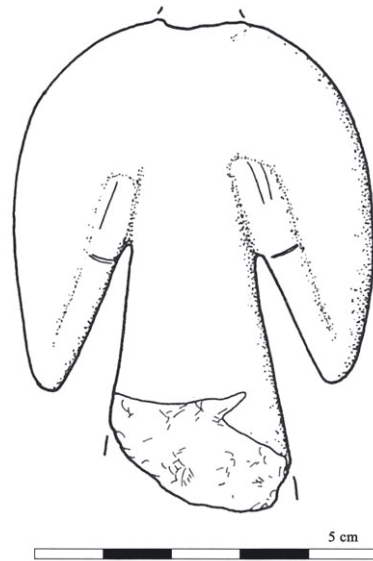


Fig. 3.10 Fragment of a 'Kiliya type' figurine with clearly carved lines indicating the forearms and hands (Seeher 1992a, 158, fig. 4c)

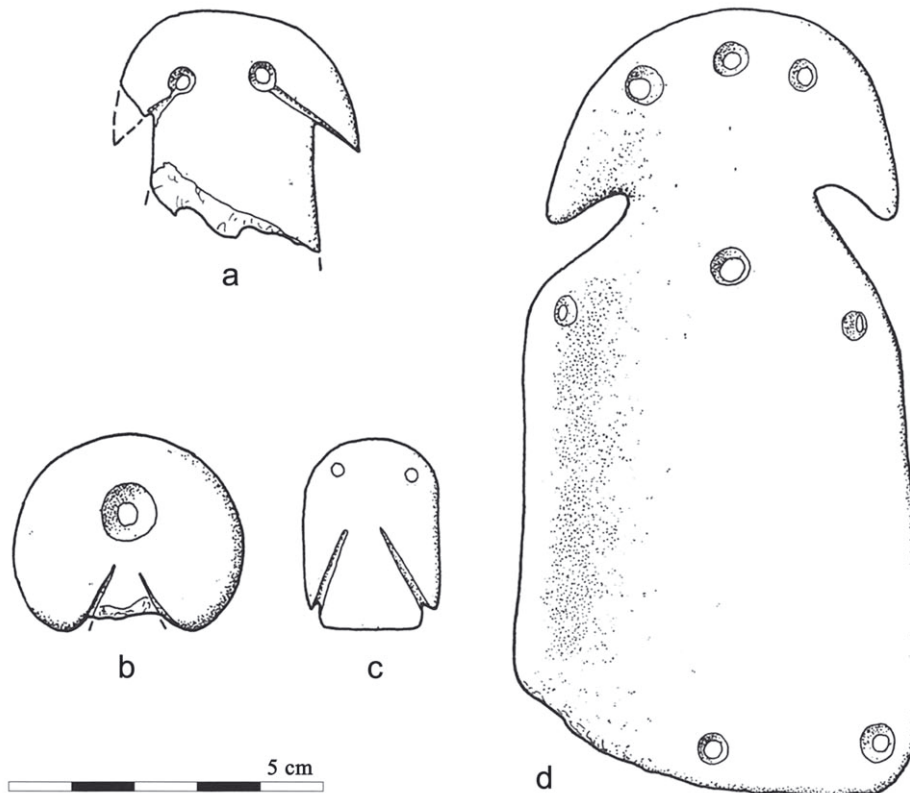


Fig. 3.11 Compilation of so-called 'Pendants' found at Tigani on Samos (a, b), Can Hasan (c) in Central Anatolia and Varna (d) in Bulgaria (Seeher 1992a, 169, fig. 10)

fact that all of the Kirşehir finds come from private collections, this provenance must be regarded critically.¹⁹¹ Because this figurine type was partially found in Early Bronze Age contexts, a dating between the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age period was assumed for a long time.¹⁹² In a summarising overview on the currently known ‘Kiliya type’ figurines, J. Seeher argued for a Middle and Late Chalcolithic dating based on the finds from Beşik-Sivritepe, the Karain Cave and Aphrodisias-Pekmez.¹⁹³ Regarding a potential origin of the ‘Kiliya type’ figurines, Seeher supported his argument with stone ‘pendants’, whose shape is comparable with the upper part of the figurines’ body and were found at Tigani (phase I and II) on Samos¹⁹⁴ (Fig. 3.11a–b), at Can Hasan 2a¹⁹⁵ (Fig. 3.11c) in Central Anatolia and from Varna¹⁹⁶ (Fig. 3.11d) in Bulgaria.¹⁹⁷ The samples from Tigani allow a date between the second half of the 6th and the first half of the 5th millennium BC.¹⁹⁸ The ‘pendant’ found at Can Hasan admits a chronological position in the second half of the 6th millennium BC¹⁹⁹ and the piece from the cemetery Varna I can be dated about the middle of the 5th millennium BC.²⁰⁰ Therefore, the earliest known ‘pendants’ appear in Anatolia around 5500 BC, the beginning of the Middle Chalcolithic period in U.-D. Schoop’s relative chronological system.²⁰¹ Along with the schematic figurines with shaft-like heads and angled arms of the Early Chalcolithic period, the early Anatolian ‘pendants’ could possibly stimulate the formation of the new and distinctive figurines of the ‘Kiliya type’. Nevertheless, the notion expressed by Seeher more than 20 years ago, that these ‘pendants’ could potentially led to development of the new ‘Kiliya type’ figurines, must remain an assumption.²⁰² So far, however, the recent discovered finds of this figurine type support a regional distribution in Western Anatolia (Fig. 3.6).

Are there Precursors of the Anatolian ‘Beycesultan Type’ and the Cycladic Violin Type Figurines?

From the current state of research, the ‘Kiliya type’ figurines are the popular figural plastic of the Middle and Late Chalcolithic period, followed by the Early Bronze Age 1 ‘Beycesultan’ (Fig. 3.12) and ‘Ağın’²⁰³ (Fig. 3.13) types, which are also made predominantly of marble.²⁰⁴ These Early Bronze Age finds draw clear parallels to the previously mentioned Early Chalcolithic examples from Kuruçay Höyük and Hacılar. However, at the first glance there appears to be a gap of roughly 2500 years between these figurines, wherefore a possible connection seems absurd. Höckmann indicated that his ‘Ağın type’ figurines with pointed shaft-like heads could start significantly earlier in the Chalcolithic.²⁰⁵ This assumption is based on a schematic figurine found during excavations on Saliagos, next to Antiparos²⁰⁶ in the Cyclades (Fig. 3.14). Regarding the shape of this figurine, and especially the pointed shaft-like head, this find resembles the Early Bronze Age figurines of the ‘Beycesultan type’ in Western Anatolia. The figurine can be dated to the so-called Late Neolithic I

¹⁹¹ Cf. Seeher 1992a, 164–165.

¹⁹² Höckmann 1977a, 176–177; Höckmann 1977b, 553; Sharp Joukowsky 1982, 90–91.

¹⁹³ Seeher 1992a, 163; cf. also: Schoop 2005, 269; Hansen 2007, 107–109.

¹⁹⁴ Felsch 1988, 220, pls. 46.7–8, 10; 85.V12–13.

¹⁹⁵ French 1963, 34–35, pl. 2d.

¹⁹⁶ Gimbutas 1977, 46–47, pl. 24; Krauß – Slavčev 2012, 245, fig. 3.

¹⁹⁷ Seeher 1992a, 169–170; cf. Schoop 2005, 269; Hansen 2007, 109.

¹⁹⁸ Cf. Schoop 2005, 271, fig. 6.10.

¹⁹⁹ Schoop 2005, 144.

²⁰⁰ Higham et al. 2007, 652; Krauß 2010, 291.

²⁰¹ Schoop 2005, 269.

²⁰² Seeher 1992a, 169–170.

²⁰³ In our opinion the type ‘Ağın’, defined by Höckmann (1977a, 177), is just a variant of the type ‘Beycesultan’.

²⁰⁴ Höckmann 1977a, 175, fig. 176.19, 21; 177–178.

²⁰⁵ Höckmann 1977a, 177–178.

²⁰⁶ Evans – Renfrew 1968, 63, fig. 76.1; pl. 43.1; Renfrew 1969, 28–29, fig. 4; pl. 2c; Weinberg 1977, 61, fig. 33; Lichter 2011, 36; Stampolidis – Sotirakopoulou 2011a, 29, fig. 3; Steinmann 2011, 176; Renfrew 2016, 22–23, fig. 7.

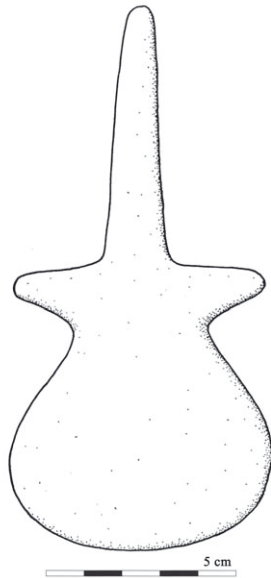


Fig. 3.12 'Beycesultan type' figurine found at the eponymous site (Seeher 1992a, 168, fig. 9a)

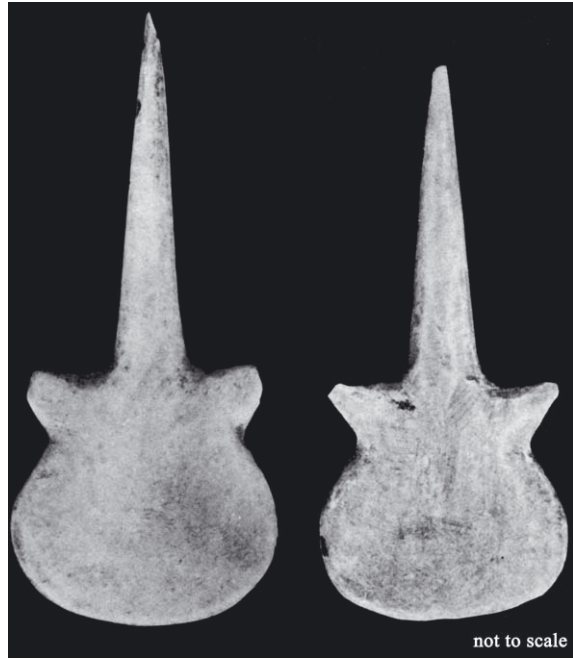


Fig. 3.13 So-called marble 'Ağın type' figurines with the indicated provenance Ağın (Alp 1965, pl. 5.8–9)

horizon (c. 5300–4300 BC) and has been frequently considered as typological ancestor of the violin shaped figurines of the Grotta-Pelos-Culture (Early Cycladic I) in general.²⁰⁷ Following this chronology, there is still a gap of at least 1000 years between the figurine from Saliagos and the later samples of the Cyclades and Western Anatolia. Because both schematic violin shaped and naturalistic figurines were present on the Cyclades in Early Cycladic Grotta-Pelos-culture, the question arises whether and which kind of these figurines potentially contributed to the development of the types. J. Thimme proposed a parallel development of both types and mentioned that in Aegean Late Neolithic period (cf. Saliagos) schematic as well as naturalistic figurines were already found next to each other.²⁰⁸ Stylistic details of the Saliagos figurine in particular could reveal the provenance of this figurine type. The pointed shaft-like head merges downwards in two laterally protruded and angled arms of the upper body followed by a nearly flattened and rounded hexagonal lower body. In

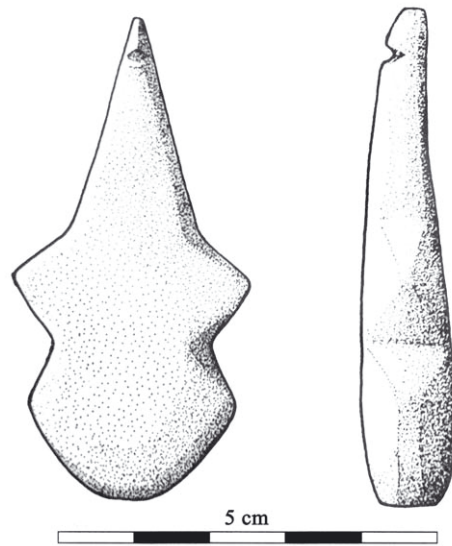


Fig. 3.14 Schematic marble figurine from the excavated site Saliagos near Antiparos at the Cyclades (Evans – Renfrew 1968, fig. 76.1)

²⁰⁷ Renfrew 1969, 28, fig. 4; Renfrew 1972, 184, fig. 11.8; Thimme 1977b, 416, fig. 184, 427; Weinberg 1977, 61; Getz-Preziosi 1994, 24, fig. 11; Stampolidis – Sotirakopoulou 2011b, 73, fig. 5a–b. – For absolute dating of the Early Cycladic I periode see: Manning 2008, 58–59.

²⁰⁸ Thimme 1977b, 427.

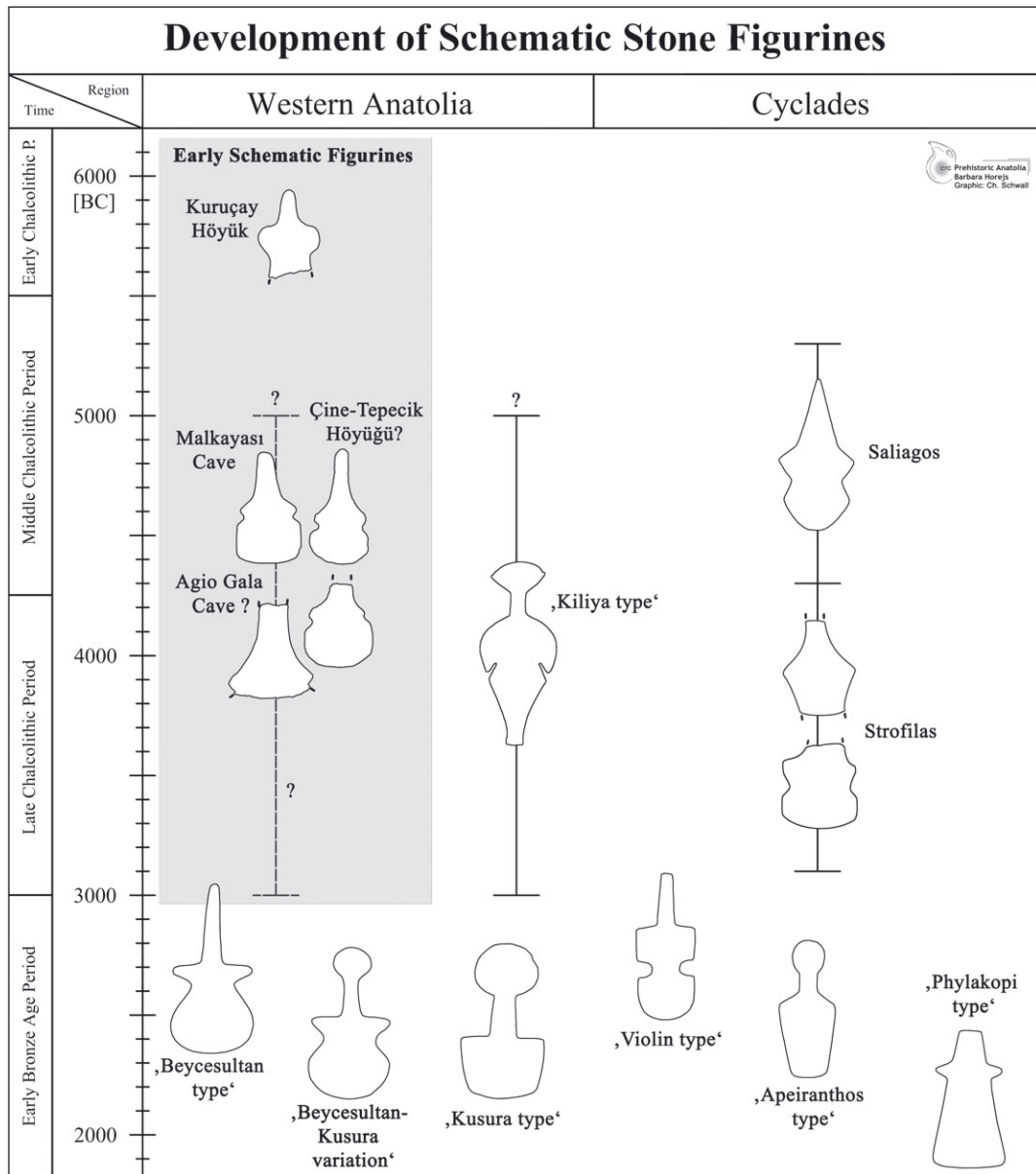


Fig. 3.15 Diagram of the development of schematic stone figurines in Western Anatolia and on the Cyclades (graphics: Ch. Schwall)

this detail, the later violin shape figurines of the Cyclades²⁰⁹ differ from the Saliagos specimen. The head of these later figurines is mostly represented by a rod-shaped element. In addition, the arms can be distinguished by their rounded or angular arms, which are separated from the lower body by two distinct notches. The shape of the lower body could be rounded or simply angular. Interestingly, two recently published fragments of schematic figurines from Strofilas on Andros (cf. Fig. 3.15) show similarities to the Late Neolithic Saliagos figurine and are dated to the Final Neolithic period (c. 4300–3100 BC).²¹⁰ This evidence shows that this figurine type was already present in the time before the Early Cycladic Period. Also of interest in this regard is the fact that schematic figurines derive from several sites in central Western Anatolia. At some of these sites,

²⁰⁹ Regarding the figurines of the Cyclades cf. Thimme 1977b.

²¹⁰ Televantou 2016, 43–44, fig. 7–8.

also ‘Kiliya type’ figurines were recovered: Çine-Tepecik Höyüğü²¹¹, Çukuriçi Höyük²¹², Gavurtepe Höyük²¹³, Malkayası Cave²¹⁴ and Yortan²¹⁵. Additionally, a flat schematic figurine made of schist with rounded head was found at Aphrodisias-Pekmez (LC 1).²¹⁶ Although this figurine is not comparable with the other schematic figurines, it does attest to the general coexistence of ‘Kiliya type’ and schematic figurines, at least in the Late Chalcolithic period. Besides the samples of schematic ‘Beycesultan type’ figurines from Yortan, all of these finds were found in the catchment area of the Büyük Menderes rift. The figurines of Yortan and Çukuriçi Höyük can be dated by their contexts to the Early Bronze Age 1. For the Early Bronze Age settlements of Çukuriçi Höyük, radiocarbon dates provide an age between 2950/2900 and 2750 calBC.²¹⁷ Moreover, finds from a grave at Gavurtepe Höyük show a contemporary chronological placement.²¹⁸ A possibly earlier Late Chalcolithic date (Gavurtepe VII–VI²¹⁹) of some additional figurines of this type, which were found at the surface without context, cannot be excluded and thus must remain open.

Two figurines found at Çine-Tepecik Höyüğü and in the Malkayası Cave are of special interest with regard to their dating as well as their appearance. Along with a schematic figurine, the upper part of one ‘Kiliya type’ figurine and a head of a third one made of clay were found at Malkayası Cave.²²⁰ The excavation of the prehistoric levels yielded a consistent spectrum of ceramics, which has the closest parallels at Emporio IX–VIII (Chios) and Tigani I–II (Samos).²²¹ Thus, there are indications that the schematic figurine found at Malkayası Cave



Fig. 3.16 Schematic marble figurine found at the Malkayası Cave (Gerber 2006, 85 fig. 77)



Fig. 3.17 Schematic figurine excavated in the Upper Cave of Ayio Gala on Chios (Hood 1981/1982, 67, fig. 44.339)

²¹¹ ‘Kiliya type’ figurines: Günel 2013, 20; Günel 2014, 91–93, 97–99, pls. 6–10. – Schematic figurines: Günel 2007, 235–236; Günel 2008a, 76, 90 fig. 8; Günel 2008b.

²¹² ‘Kiliya type’ figurine: Horejs 2013, 9; Horejs 2014, 34; Horejs – Schwall in press; cf. Fig. 3.1. – Schematic figurine: cf. Fig. 3.2.

²¹³ ‘Kiliya type’ figurine: Meriç 1989, 165, fig. 6. – Schematic figurines: Meriç 1990, 180, 186, fig. 9; Meriç 1993, 356, 360–361, figs. 2, 4. – Moreover R. Meriç mentioned further “marble idols” without providing pictures (Meriç 1992, 228; Meriç 1994, 422–423).

²¹⁴ Gerber 2006, 85, fig. 77; Peschlow-Bindokat – Gerber 2012, 74, 107, fig. 41.

²¹⁵ Collignon 1901, pl. 1; Kâmil 1982, 19–20, fig. 84.289, 292a–b.

²¹⁶ Sharp Joukowsky 1986, 204, 221, fig. 245.

²¹⁷ Horejs – Weninger 2016. – See Horejs in this volume, chapter 1.

²¹⁸ Meriç 1993, 356, 361, fig. 4.

²¹⁹ For a dating of the site to the Late Chalcolithic period see: Meriç 1994, 423; Meriç 2009, 124.

²²⁰ Peschlow-Bindokat – Gerber 2012, 74.

²²¹ Peschlow-Bindokat – Gerber 2012, 75–76.

(Fig. 3.16) could date to the Middle Chalcolithic period. The appearance of the sample supports this hypothesis. A shaft-like pointed head with a smooth transition to upper part of the body with small angled arms is comparable to the Saliagos sample. Below the arms, the figurine has a slightly angular lower part of the body. Figurines with the same attributes are also known from the upper and lower cave of Ayio Gala on Chios. The upper cave yielded a figurine nearly identical to the specimen from Malkayası Cave (Fig. 3.17).²²² The fragment from the lower cave shows an elongated part of the head, which merges again smoothly in small angled arms (Fig. 3.18).²²³ Despite the similar appearance of the figurines, dating of the finds must remain unclear because of the mixed character of the deposits.²²⁴ Based on parallels in the ceramics of Emporio in the south of Chios, S. Hood connected the finds of the Ayio Gala Cave with Emporio IX–V.²²⁵ Although the possibility that the two fragments of these figurines came from Early Bronze Age contexts cannot be excluded, a renewed chronological evaluation of the finds by Schoop indicate that these finds could (with reservation) also belong to the Early, Middle or Late Chalcolithic period.²²⁶

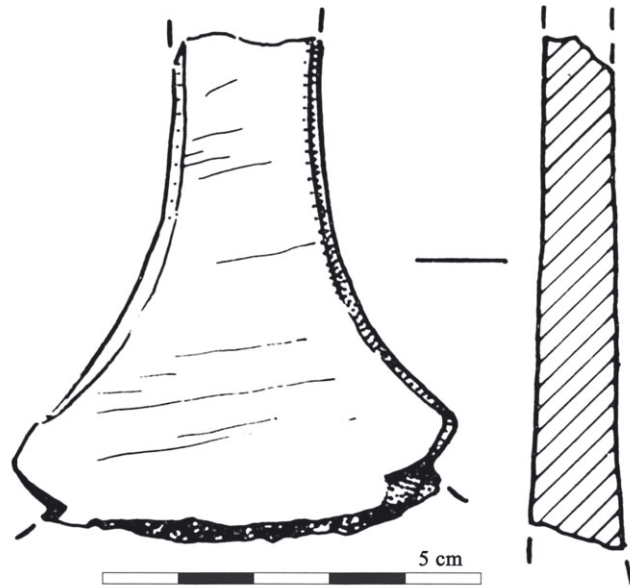


Fig. 3.18 Fragment of a schematic figurine from the Lower Cave of Ayio Gala on Chios (Hood 1981/1982, 63, fig. 43.316)

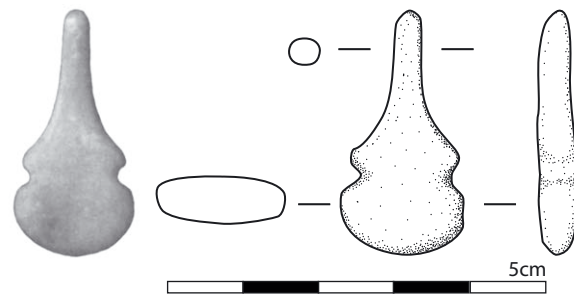


Fig. 3.19 Schematic marble figurine found at Çine-Tepecik Höyüğü (Günel 2008b, 257, cat. no. 1)

Further evidence of a possibly early date for the schematic figurines is known from Çine-Tepecik Höyüğü. Excavations there yielded two circular structures in grid square I/11, which were dated to the Middle Chalcolithic period by S. Günel.²²⁷ According to the heights, the previous mentioned structures are located between 55.25–55.54m.²²⁸ During the 2005 campaign, four schematic marble figurines were discovered in the same area.²²⁹ One of the figurines (Fig. 3.19) was found in the height of 54.80m,²³⁰ which indicate a stratigraphically deeper position, com-

²²² Hood 1981/1982, 67, fig. 44.339; pl. 11.339.

²²³ Hood 1981/1982, 63, fig. 43.316; pl. 11.316.

²²⁴ Schoop 2005, 229 (Lower Cave), 231 (Upper Cave).

²²⁵ Hood 1981/1982, 81; 1982, 715.

²²⁶ Schoop 2005, 258–259, 270–271, fig. 6.10.

²²⁷ Günel 2007, 234; Günel 2014, 87–88, figs. 6–7.

²²⁸ Günel 2007, 234; Günel 2014, 88, fig. 7.

²²⁹ Günel 2008b, 252, 257–258, cat. nos. 1–4.

²³⁰ Günel 2008b, 257, cat. no. 1.

pared to two others found at the height of 56.02m.²³¹ If this is the case, a dating to the Middle Chalcolithic period could be assumed. In any case, the appearance of this figurine is similar to the previously mentioned figurines from Ayio Gala, Malkayası Cave, and Saliagos. Regarding these finds and the Early Chalcolithic examples, the evidence of an earlier appearance of schematic figurines, which predate the ‘Beycesultan type’ in Western Anatolia as well as the violin type of the Cyclades (Fig. 3.14), appears plausible.²³²

III.3. Discussion

Following the recently published schematic figurines of the past decades and their dating, it is possible to state new evidence concerning their origin and development. The earliest examples of this figurine type were found in Early Chalcolithic contexts at Hacılar und Kuruçay Höyük in the eastern catchment area of the Büyük-Menderes (Fig. 3.20). During the Middle and Late Chalcolithic periods, the distribution of the common ‘Kiliya type’ figurines was restricted to the Western Anatolian region (Fig. 3.6). Schematic figurines, which seem to be present beside the ‘Kiliya type’, are known from the sites Çine-Tepecik Höyüğü and Malkayası Cave close to the Büyük Menderes valley (Fig. 3.20). Moreover, two fragments of schematic figurines resembling the previously mentioned finds were found at Chios (Ayio Gala). These possibly contemporaneous figurines could indicate a broader supra-regional distribution or at least a stimulus from the Büyük Menderes valley to the Cyclades (Saliagos, Strofilas on Andros). The question is therefore whether the origin of the schematic figurines is situated in the south Western Anatolian region or on the Cyclades. The distribution of distinct Middle Chalcolithic ceramics and their decoration in the central Western Anatolian coast (Liman Tepe VII, Yeşilova Höyüğü II) as well as on the East Aegean islands (Emporio IX–VIII, Tigani II–III) with a further geographical extension via the course of the river Büyük Menderes (Malkayası Cave, Çine-Tepecik Höyüğü IV) does not contradict this hypothesis. In particular, the Melian obsidian finds, which were attested at Liman Tepe²³³ (VII), Aphrodisias-Pekmez²³⁴ (LC 1) and presumably found on the East Aegean islands (Emporio VIII²³⁵ on Chios, Tigani II–IV²³⁶ on Samos), as well as the Dodecanese (Alimnia²³⁷, Kalythies II–III²³⁸ on Rhode, Partheni²³⁹ on Leros), indicate a broad exchange and communication network during the 5th and 4th millennia BC. Therefore, it would seem at least possible that the violin type appears at the beginning of the Early Cycladic period as a developed stage of figurines influenced by ancestral forms in the central Western Anatolian region.²⁴⁰ Schematic figurines, which were identified as ‘Beycesultan type’ figurines by P. Sotirakopoulou and date to the Early Cycladic I period were found at Akrotiri on Thera.²⁴¹ These items are evidence that contacts regarding the figural plastics of the religious sphere must have been established between Western Anatolia and the Cyclades during this time. Due to the thus far unique finds of ‘Beycesultan type’ figurines on the Cyclades, it is difficult to imagine that these figurines could be ancestral to

²³¹ Günel 2008b, 257, cat. nos. 2–3. – No height of the find context was indicated for the fourth figurine (Günel 2008b, 258, cat. no. 4).

²³² Already Höckmann took this possibility into account. He referred to attributes of Early Chalcolithic clay figurines (Höckmann 1968, 69). At the time of his publication (1968), the marble figurine from Kuruçay Höyük has not been found.

²³³ Kouka 2009, 143; Erkanal – Şahoğlu 2012, 221.

²³⁴ Blackman 1986, 280, pl. 76.

²³⁵ Hood 1981/1982, 103.

²³⁶ Felsch 1988, 223–236.

²³⁷ Sampson 1987, 84–85, 184; Sampson 2006, 232; Kaczanowska et al. 2006.

²³⁸ Sampson 1987, 46–48, Sampson 2006, 248; Kaczanowska et al. 2006, 463.

²³⁹ Sampson 1987, 91; Sampson 2006, 231.

²⁴⁰ Also Höckmann mentioned a possible influence of the Anatolian figurines on the violin type of the Cyclades and that the origin could be located in Anatolia (Höckmann 1968, 69–70).

²⁴¹ Sotirakopoulou 2008, 128–130, figs. 14, 16.

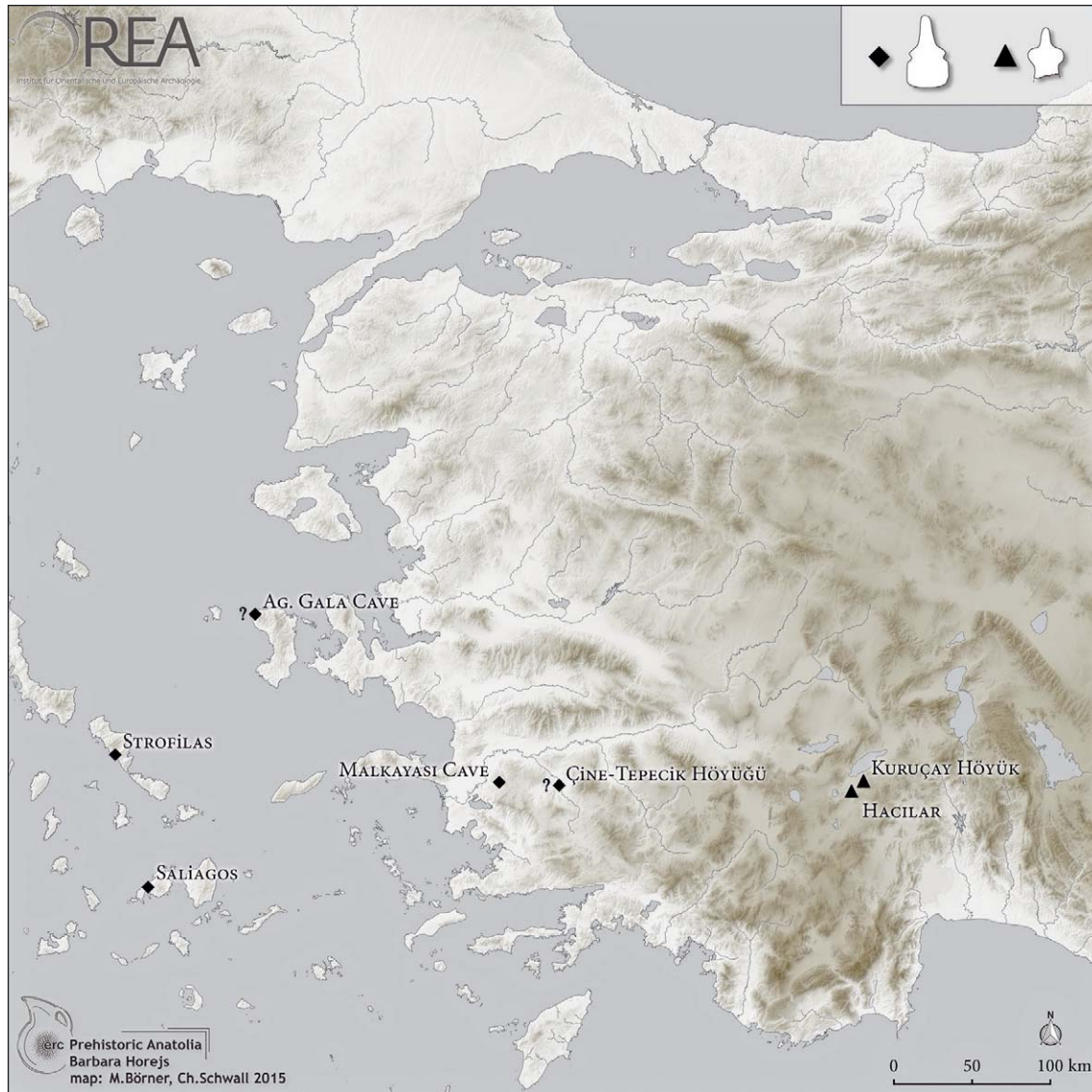


Fig. 3.20 Distribution of early dating schematic figurines in Western Anatolia and abroad (◆ – Middle/Late Chalcolithic period; ▲ – Early Chalcolithic period) (map: M. Börner, Ch. Schwall)

the central Western Anatolia group. It is rather likely that the southwestern Anatolian²⁴² figurines of the ‘Beycesultan type’ (Fig. 3.21; Ağın²⁴³, Beycesultan²⁴⁴, Çine-Tepecik Höyüğü²⁴⁵, Çukuriçi Höyük (Fig. 3.2), Gavurtepe Höyük²⁴⁶, Yortan²⁴⁷)²⁴⁸ at the beginning of the Early Bronze Age represent a

²⁴² Höckmann 1977a, 178; Höckmann 1977b, 553.

²⁴³ Alp 1965, 6, pl. 5.8–9.

²⁴⁴ Lloyd – Mellaart 1958, 104, pl. 28b; Lloyd – Mellaart 1962, 266, fig. 1.1–14; 269–271, pl. 32.1; Kulaçoğlu 1992, 91–93, figs. 105–109.

²⁴⁵ Günel 2007, 235–236; Günel 2008b, 257, cat. no. 2.

²⁴⁶ Meriç 1990, 180, 186, fig. 9; Meriç 1993, 356, 360–361, figs. 2, 4.

²⁴⁷ Collignon 1901, pl. 1; Kâmil 1982, 19–20, fig. 84.289.

²⁴⁸ Finds of this type are also known from several museums and private collections, cf. for example: Alp 1965; Thimme 1977b, 391–392, 563–564, nos. 529–533. – A very schematic sample with only a rounded body and a shaft-like head is also known from Thermi on Lesbos (Lamb 1936, 23, pl. 26.30, 54; cf. Höckmann 1977a, 177 – ‘Thermi type’).



Fig. 3.21 Distribution of the 'Beycesultan type' figurines of the EBA 1 period in Western Anatolia and abroad (map: M. Börner, Ch. Schwall)

more 'traditional' shape of schematic figurines in contrast of the violin types of the Cyclades. Despite of the slight differences, the shared peculiarities of both figurine types could be the result of an Early Bronze Age 1 interaction sphere between the southwestern Anatolian region and the Cyclades, which anticipates the later East Mediterranean interaction sphere defined by L. Rahmstorf.²⁴⁹

Advanced forms of these schematic figurines, having different variations in shape, are well known in the Early Bronze Age 2–3 period and belong to the group of 'Kusura type'²⁵⁰ figurines (Fig. 3.23). These figurines show a broad distribution, especially in the eastern part of Western Anatolia, with a few exceptions on the Western Anatolian coastline and on Samos (Fig. 3.22).²⁵¹ This type is

²⁴⁹ Rahmstorf 2006, 82, fig. 18.

²⁵⁰ Renfrew 1969, 27.

²⁵¹ The gap between the coastline and the eastern part of Western Anatolia might have something to do with the state of research. – The recently published distribution map of figurine types related to cultural regions defined by E. Fidan et al. (2015, 70, 75, fig. 9) must be seen as problematic. The here presented distribution (Fig. 3.22) shows that 'Kusura type' figurines and the 'Kusura-Beycesultan variation' are clearly distributed beyond the assumed cultural regions.

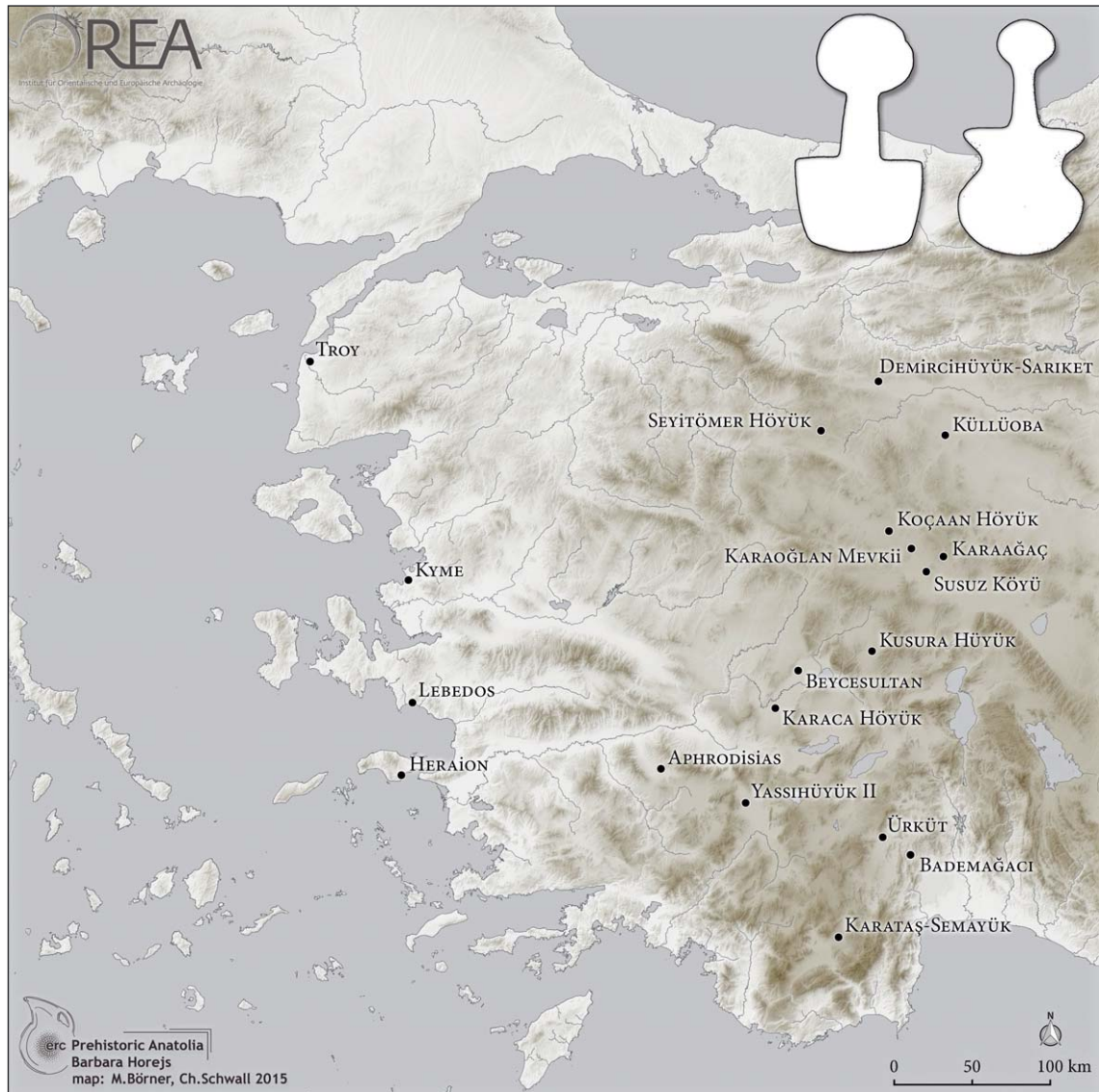


Fig. 3.22 Distribution of 'Kusura type' figurines and their variations in Western Anatolia (map: M. Börner, Ch. Schwall)



Fig. 3.23 'Kusura type' figurine from Karataş-Semayük (Kulaçoğlu 1992, 93, fig. 110)



Fig. 3.24 Figurine of the 'Kusura-Beycesultan variation' with the provenance 'Asia Minor' (Thimme 1977b, 387, no. 517)

represented by flat stone figurines with an elongated neck and a disc-shaped head (Aphrodisias²⁵², Bademağacı²⁵³, Beycesultan²⁵⁴, Demircihüyük-Sarıket²⁵⁵, Heraion auf Samos²⁵⁶, Karaca Höyük²⁵⁷, Karaoğlan Mevkii²⁵⁸, Karaağaç²⁵⁹, Karataş-Semayük²⁶⁰, Koçaan Höyük²⁶¹, Küllüoba²⁶², Kusura Höyük²⁶³, Kyme²⁶⁴, Lebedos²⁶⁵, Ürküt²⁶⁶, Troy²⁶⁷, Seyitömer Höyük²⁶⁸, Susuz Köyü²⁶⁹, Yassihüyük II²⁷⁰).²⁷¹ The shape of the body varies widely.²⁷² Thus, forms are known that resemble the ‘Beycesultan type’ in general but have a disk-shaped head. This ‘Kusura-Beycesultan variation’²⁷³ (Fig. 3.24) can be seen as a possible link between both figurine types. In southwestern Anatolia, variations consisting of a rounded to angular body and a disk-shaped to oval (for later variations triangular) head and even small rudimentary arms are known.²⁷⁴ As the distribution shows, these figurines seem to be restricted to a regional or more Anatolian religious sphere, despite the wide distribution of other objects during this period.

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²⁵² Sharp Joukowsky 1986, 215, figs. 235–236.

²⁵³ Umurtak 2009, 16.

²⁵⁴ Lloyd – Mellaart 1962, 266, fig. 1.18–21; 271–273, fig. 4.9; pl. 32.5; Kulaçoğlu 1992, 94–95, figs. 112–113.

²⁵⁵ Seeher 1992b, 15, fig. 7.4; Seeher 2000, 64–65, 146, fig. 30.G.213a–d.

²⁵⁶ Milojević 1961, 55, pl. 34.5.

²⁵⁷ Mellaart 1954, 215, 239, fig. 460; cf. Lloyd – Mellaart 1962, 273.

²⁵⁸ Topbaş et al. 1998, 65, fig. 50.107. – This item probably had a disc-shaped head (cf. Korfmann 1979, pl. 32) but an affiliation to the group of ‘Beycesultan type’ figurines could not be excluded.

²⁵⁹ Alp 1965, 5–6, pls. 4, 7.

²⁶⁰ Mellink 1965, 98, 101, fig. 5; Kulaçoğlu 1992, 93–94, figs. 110–111; Warner 1994, 214, pl. 197b.

²⁶¹ Ekiz 2005, 165–166, 171–172, figs. 8–9; 13.

²⁶² Efe 1999, 169, 180, fig. 9.

²⁶³ Lamb 1937/1938, 29, fig. 11.5, 50; 251, fig. 17.1–4; 266, 268. – Further examples, with the provenance ‘Kusura’ are pictured by S. Alp (Alp 1965, 3–5, pls. 1.1–2; 2.3–4).

²⁶⁴ Thimme 1977b, 377, 555, no. 484.

²⁶⁵ Zervos 1957, 46, 80, fig. 52.

²⁶⁶ Alp 1965, 5, pl. 3.5–6.

²⁶⁷ Concerning the types see Blegen et al. 1950, 27–28, pl. 127.79. – Troy I: Schliemann 1881, 264, no. 73; Blegen et al. 1950, 45–46, pl. 216; Troy II: Blegen et al. 1950, 215, pl. 360; Troy III: Blegen et al. 1951, 12–13, pl. 48. – Cf. also the finds at the museum in Berlin: Hänsel 2004, 79.

²⁶⁸ Cf. i.e. Bilgen 2015, 37, fig. 159; 38, figs. 168–175.

²⁶⁹ Ekiz 2005, 165–166, 172, figs. 11–12.

²⁷⁰ Mellaart 1954, 215, 239, fig. 461; cf. Lloyd – Mellaart 1962, 273.

²⁷¹ Figurines of this type are known from several museums and private collections, cf. Alp 1965; Thimme 1977b, 377–390, 554–568; Gündoğan-Aydingün 2006.

²⁷² Höckmann defined a local type for the schematic figurines found at Troy (‘Troy type’, Höckmann 1977a, 175, fig. 176.14; Höckmann 1977b, 553). In our opinion this type is only a variation of the ‘Kusura type’ in the northwestern region of Anatolia (cf. Thimme 1977b, 555–556, nos. 483–485), wherefore his separation will not be followed here.

²⁷³ Thimme 1977b, 386–388, 560–562, nos. 511–518.

²⁷⁴ Cf. Höckmann 1977a, 175, fig. 176; Höckmann 1977b, 553.

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