

Preface

The present volume of the series “Mykenische Studien” contains the proceedings of a conference organized by Eleftheria Kardamaki and Reinhard Jung on the subject of the destructions of the Mycenaean palaces, a key issue for understanding Mycenaean history, as it marks the end of the first state administration on the European continent. Thus, it also marks the end of the entire palace-based system of economy and administrative system, which in Europe first started on Minoan Crete. The volume contains ten papers by 15 authors who are actively involved in studying primary contexts from different Mycenaean palaces and other major sites in the Aegean and beyond, in the eastern Mediterranean. It thus offers new, first-hand insights into the crises and final demise of those administrative centers and the social-economic system they were controlling.

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The series “Mykenische Studien” has been well established since the 1970s and attests to the importance of the field of the Aegean Bronze Age and more general Aegean prehistory at the Austrian Academy of Sciences. We will continue this tradition and in the series will host publications focusing on Mycenaean archaeology and history, but also others that deal with the immediately preceding and following chronological phases and societies in the wider Aegean region. We welcome different theoretical and methodological approaches of interpretation as well as their articulation in the various languages established in Aegean research. The series will continue to include both monographs and conference proceedings as well as other collective publications. In line with all publications at the Austrian Academy of Sciences, the “Mykenische Studien” are subjected to a strict peer-review process, which ensures the high quality of the published work.

Reinhard Jung and Michaela Zavadil
Series editors
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