

Bronze Age Connections:

An investigation regarding the archaeological and textual
evidence for contact between the Mycenaean Greeks and
the Hittites.

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Abbreviations:

LM: Late Minoan

LH: Late Helladic

Chapter One: Introduction

In 1924 Emil Forrer announced that he had discovered references to the Mycenaean Greeks in the Hittite texts. Since then scholars have debated the issue of whether the Ahhiyawans of the Hittite documents were in fact the Mycenaean Greeks of the Bronze Age. This thesis will examine the evidence for contact, trade or otherwise, between the Hittites and the Mycenaean Greeks and will discuss whether the Hittites were aware of the Mycenaean Greeks. It will also examine the evidence for the Mycenaean Greek's settling areas of western Anatolia, which caused frustrations for the Hittites evident in the Hittite texts, and the reasons why there is limited evidence for contact by the Mycenaean Greeks with inland Anatolia and the heart of the Hittite Empire. Finally, it will explore the writings of later time periods to gather evidence for the relationship between the Mycenaean Greeks and the Hittites based on later Greek involvement in Asia Minor. It is necessary to study these later Greek sources as most of the sites the Mycenaean Greeks were settling and trading with in the Bronze Age had continual occupation. These sites were also where the Greeks in later periods settled and with which they traded, as is evident in the writings of Herodotus, Thucydides, Diodorus Siculus, Strabo and, to some extent, Homer. The reasons the later Greeks settled and traded with these areas were much the same as for the Mycenaean Greeks in the Bronze Age. The later Greeks were seafarers as well and therefore pursued trade and settlement with coastal and fluvial areas as the more logical and easier choice; such was the case with Magna Graecia. In later periods trade also did not regularly occur with inland Asia Minor

as the geographical difficulties inland from the Aegean coastline remained the same as in the Bronze Age. Therefore, the writings of later Greek periods will add some insight into why and how the Mycenaeans were trading and settling the areas examined in this thesis.

Chapter Two entitled “Contact Points” evaluates the likely points where the Mycenaean Greeks made contact with the Anatolian mainland and the surrounding islands, and through which their existence might have become known to the Hittites. For the purposes of this thesis this chapter will examine the archaeological evidence from a few of the main sites on the Anatolian mainland and the surrounding islands, in particular Miletos, Müskebi, Rhodes and Troy (Fig. 1.1). The type of contact will also be investigated in relation to these sites to see if they were merely trading points or Mycenaean settlements. Finally, this chapter will discuss the possible reasons why the Mycenaean Greeks needed these trading points and settlements on the Anatolian mainland and surrounding islands.

Chapter Three “Trade and Exchange” will explore the reasons why there is so much archaeological evidence for Mycenaean contact with the Anatolian coastline, but only limited evidence for contact with inland Anatolia and the heart of the Hittite Empire (which is often an argument for the Hittites having limited knowledge of the Mycenaean Greeks). These reasons include the Mycenaeans as a ‘seafaring people’ (therefore trade with coastline or fluvial settlements would be natural), the geographical difficulties involved in penetrating the Anatolian interior from the coast, the evidence that the Mycenaean Greeks had other trade networks with Cyprus, the Levant and Egypt (all

coastal or fluvial areas), and that these trade networks possibly provided the Mycenaeans with all the commodities that they needed. The idea that these trade networks were similar to those prevailing in later periods will also be considered, as well as the suggestion that the palaces were not in control of these trade routes directly.

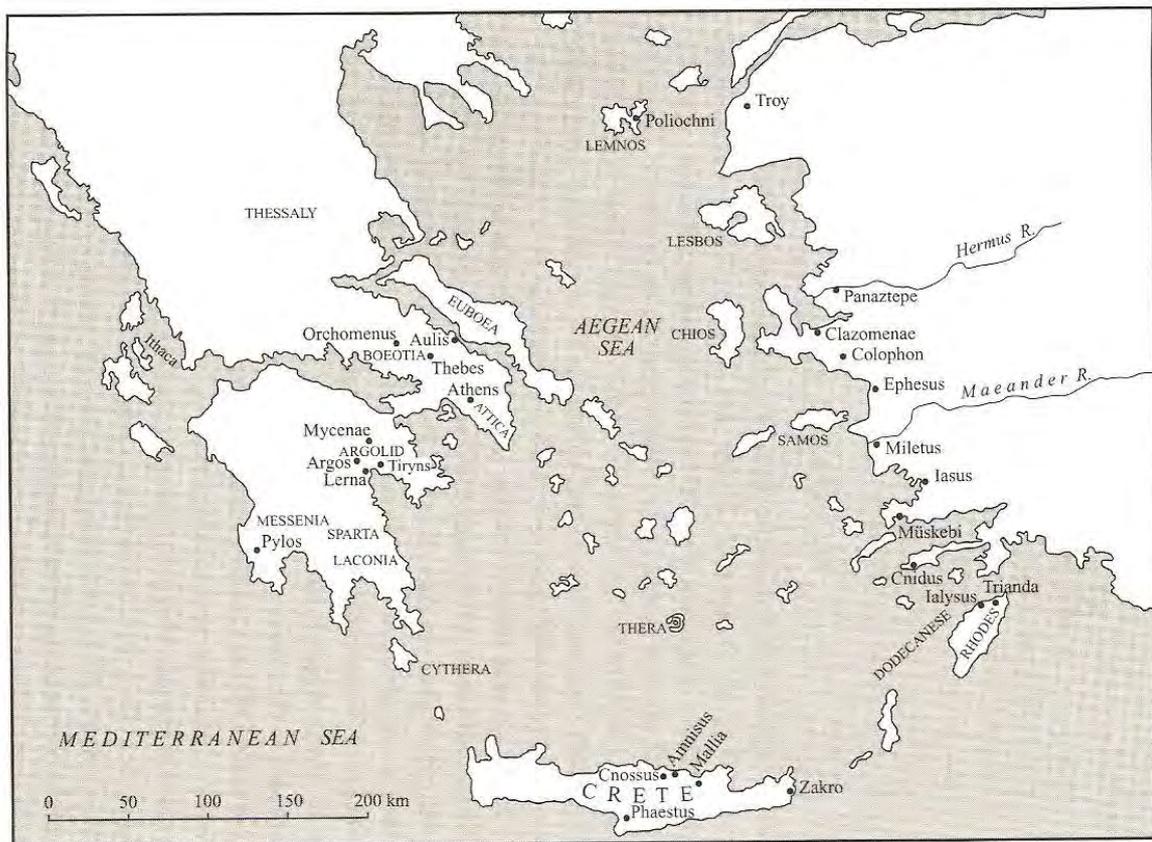


Fig. 1.1: Greece and Western Anatolia

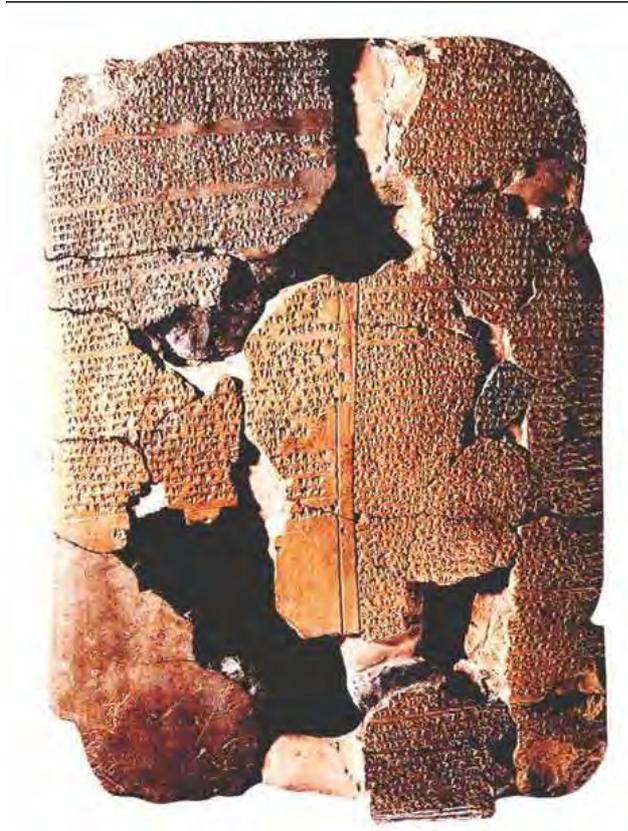


Fig. 1.2: Clay tablet from the Royal Archive of Hattusa / Boghaz Köy

Lastly, Chapter Four “Textual Evidence” will examine any evidence for contact between the Hittites and the Mycenaean Greeks through analysis of the Linear B tablets and the Hittite documents (Fig. 1.2 and Fig. 1.3). This chapter will deal with the controversial Ahhiyawa-Mycenaean Greece correlation proposed by Emil Forrer and the implications of this if accepted. The chapter will also examine the possible locations of Ahhiyawa such as Miletos, Crete, Cyprus, Rhodes or a location on the Greek mainland such as Pylos, Thebes or Mycenae. Furthermore, the equation of Miletos and Millawanda will be discussed, and the possible reasons for why there are Hittite-Mycenaean Greek hostilities in the Hittite documents will be explored.



Fig. 1.3: A Linear B tablet from Knossos

To begin, what evidence of contact by the Mycenaean Greeks on the Anatolian coastline and surrounding islands can be found?

Chapter Two: Contact Points

Introduction

The Aegean Anatolian coastline and adjacent islands have yielded much Mycenaean pottery and architecture. What will be established in this chapter is the extent of the contact between the Mycenaean Greeks (which for the purposes of this chapter describes the inhabitants from the whole of Greece) and the Aegean coastline of Anatolia, and why they needed this contact. Additionally, the type of contact by the Mycenaeans will be examined, whether it was restricted to trade or whether the Mycenaeans themselves settled on the Aegean coastline of Anatolia and the adjacent islands. This chapter will consider these aspects by examining some of the key sites from the Anatolian Aegean coastline and the neighbouring islands, namely Miletus, Mūskebi, Rhodes and Troy, respectively. Furthermore, this contact and settlement is important as it is evident that the Hittites were aware of the Mycenaean Greeks and contact occurred between the two, as the Mycenaeans settled on the outer reaches of the Hittite empire.

Since 1876, when Heinrich Schliemann¹ excavated the shaft graves at Mycenae and uncovered the apparent wealth, in the form of golden death masks, jewellery, seals, and numerous bronze weapons, questions have arisen about how Mycenae, situated in the resource-poor land of Greece, had generated this wealth.² (Fig. 2.1 and Fig. 2.2)

¹ Schliemann 1877:86ff, Deuel 1977:232ff, Mountjoy 1993:1

² Bryce 2006:95, Wood 2003:67, Mountjoy 1993:8



Fig. 2.1: Aerial view of the Citadel of Mycenae



Fig. 2.2: A dagger from Shaft Grave IV and a golden death mask from Shaft Grave V

Mycenae, or the Peloponnese, may have been a hub for trade and communication, distributing raw materials such as silver, gold, copper and tin, which were obtained outside the Aegean, but which were in great demand in Greece.³ There have been many sites suggested that the Mycenaean Greeks traded with, such as Egypt, where Mycenaean wares have been found in around 20 sites, or the Levant where more than 60 sites have

³ Bryce 2006:95-96, Wood 2003:68

yielded Mycenaean wares, or Cyprus as Mycenaean pottery has been unearthed in several sites spanning the length and breadth of the island.⁴ These sites, however, give scant evidence that the Mycenaean Greeks themselves were actively visiting and trading their wares in person.⁵ Rather, it appears that these places traded with the Mycenaean Greeks indirectly through other agents (see Chapter Three). The probable place that the Mycenaean Greeks traded with was the Anatolian Aegean coastline. The coastline of Anatolia and the surrounding islands provides substantial evidence of contact with the Mycenaean Greeks.⁶ This area is also, a little unsurprisingly, where the Greeks of the Iron Age and later periods settled. This later settlement is significant because as a result of the lack of written evidence from the second millennium B.C. I will also explore the writings of later time periods to infer where and why the Mycenaean Greeks settled on and traded with the Anatolian coastline and the adjacent islands. Herodotus says that the Greeks of later periods chose the western coastline of Asia Minor and the nearby islands as an area in which to settle outside of the Greek mainland in *The Histories* at 1.6, 1.26-28 and 1.141-151, particularly in the following passages,

οἱ δὲ Ἴωνες οὗτοι, τῶν καὶ τὸ Πανιώνιον ἐστὶ, τοῦ μὲν οὐρανοῦ καὶ τῶν ὠρέων ἐν τῷ καλλίστῳ ἐτύγχανον ἰδρυσάμενοι πόλιος πάντων ἀνθρώπων, τῶν ἡμεῖς ἴδμεν. οὔτε γὰρ τὰ ἄνω αὐτῆς χωρία τῶν ποιεῖ τῇ Ἰωνίῃ οὔτε τὰ κάτω οὔτε τὰ πρὸς τὴν ἠῶ οὔτε τὰ πρὸς τὴν ἐσπέριν, τὰ μὲν ὑπὸ τοῦ ψυχροῦ τε καὶ ὑγροῦ πιεζόμενα, τὰ δὲ ὑπὸ τοῦ θερμοῦ τε καὶ ἀχμώδεος. γλώσσαν δὲ οὐ τὴν αὐτὴν οὗτοι νενομίκασι, ἀλλὰ τρόπους τέσσερας παραγωγέων. Μίλητος μὲν αὐτέων πρώτη κέεται πόλις πρὸς μεσαμβρίην, μετὰ δὲ Μυοῦς τε καὶ Πιρήνη· αὐταὶ μὲν ἐν τῇ Καριῇ κατοικηταὶ κατὰ ταῦτα διαλεγόμεναι

⁴ Bryce 2006:98, Mountjoy 1993:168-176

⁵ Bryce 2006:98, with the exception of Cyprus and perhaps Ugarit on the Levantine coast.

⁶ Bryce 2006:99, Bryce 1989:1

σφίσι, αἶδε δὲ ἐν τῇ Λυδίῃ· Ἐφεσος, Κολοφών, Λέβεδος, Τέως, Κλαζομεναί, Φώκαια. αὐταὶ δὲ αἱ πόλεις τῆσι πρότερον λεχθείησι ὁμολογέουσι κατὰ γλώσσαν οὐδέν, σφὶ δὲ ὁμοφωνέουσι. ἔτι δὲ τρεῖς ὑπόλοιποι Ἰάδες πόλεις, τῶν αἱ δύο μὲν νήσους οἰκέαται, Σάμον τε καὶ Χίον, ἡ δὲ μία ἐν τῇ ἠπείρῳ ἱδρυται, Ἐρυθραί. Χῖοι μὲν νυν καὶ Ἐρυθραῖοι κατὰ τῷτο διαλέγονται, Σάμιοι δὲ ἐπ' ἑωυτῶν μῶνοι. οὗτοι χαρακτῆρες γλώσσης τέσσερες γίνονται.⁷

In terms of climate and weather, there is no fairer region in the whole known world than where these Ionians – the ones to whom the Panionium belongs – have founded their communities. There is no comparison between Ionia and the lands to the north and south, some of which suffer from the cold and rain, while others are oppressively hot and dry.

They do not all speak exactly the same language, but there are four different dialects. Miletus is the southernmost Ionian community, followed by Myous and Priene; these places are located in Caria and speak the same dialect as one another. Then there are the Ionian communities in Lydia – Ephesus, Colophon, Lebedus, Teos, Clazomenae, and Phocaea – that share a dialect which is quite different from the one spoken in the places I have already mentioned. There are three further Ionian communities, two of which are situated on islands (namely, Samos and Chios), while the other, Erythrae, is on the mainland. The Chians and Erythraeans speak the same dialect, but the Samians have a dialect which is peculiar to themselves. So these are the four types of dialect spoken.⁸

⁷ Herodotus *Historiae* 1.142, ed. Rosén

⁸ Herodotus *The Histories* 1.142 trans. Waterfield. Passage 1.145 is also important here as Herodotus states that the Ionians originally came from the Peloponnese: *δωδέκα δὲ μοι δοκέουσι πόλιας ποιήσασθαι σὶ Ἴωνες καὶ οὐκ ἐθελῆσαι πλεῦνας ἐσδέξασθαι τοῦδε εἵνεκα, ὅτι καὶ ὅτε ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ οἴκεον, δωδέκα ἦν αὐτῶν μέρεα, κατὰ περ νῦν Ἀχαιῶν τῶν ἐξελασάντων Ἴωνας δωδέκα ἐστι μέρεα· Πελλήνη μὲν γε πρώτη πρὸς Σικυῶνος...* ed. Rosén

κατά περ οί ἐκ τῆς πενταπόλιος νῦν χώρας Δωριέες, πρότερον δὲ ἑξαπόλιος τῆς αὐτῆς ταύτης καλεομένης... διὰ ταύτην τὴν αἰτίην οἱ πέντε πόλεις, Λίνδος καὶ Ἰήλυσός τε καὶ Κάμειρος καὶ Κῶς τε καὶ Κνίδος, ἐξέκλησαν τῆς μετοχῆς τὴν ἕκτην πόλιν Ἀλικαρνησσόν. τούτοισι μὲν νυν οὗτοι ταύτην τὴν ζημίην ἐπέθηκαν.⁹

The Dorians from the region now known as Five Towns (though it used to be called Six Towns) do much the same... For this offence, the five towns – Lindos, Ialysos, Camirus, Cos and Cnidos – excluded the sixth town, Halicarnassus, from making use of the sanctuary. So that was the penalty imposed by the five towns on the Halicarnassians.¹⁰

αὗται μὲν οἱ Ἰάδες πόλιές εἰσι, αἶδε δὲ οἱ Αἰολίδες, Κύμη ἢ Φρικωνίς καλεομένη, Λήρισαι, Νέον τεῖχος, Τῆμνος, Κίλλα, Νότιον, Αἰγιρόεσσα, Πιτάνη, Αἰγαῖαι, Μύρινα, Γρύνεια· αὗται ἕνδεκα Αἰολέων πόλεις οἱ ἀρχαῖαι, μία γὰρ σφέων παρελύθη Σμύρνη ὑπὸ Ἰώνων· ἦσαν γὰρ καὶ αὗται δωδέκα οἱ ἐν τῇ ἠπείρῳ. οὗτοι δὲ οἱ Αἰολέες χώραν μὲν ἔτυχον κτίσαντες ἀμείνω Ἰώνων, ὠρέων δὲ ἤκουσαν οὐκ ὁμοίως.¹¹

So much for the Ionian communities. The Aeolian ones are as follows: Cyme (that is, ‘Phriconian’ Cyme), Lerisae, New Walls, Temnus, Cilla, Notium, Aegiroessa, Pitane, Aegaeae, Myrina and Gryneia. These are the eleven original Aeolian communities which remain from the twelve there used to be on the mainland, until one of them, Smyrna, was taken over by Ionians. In actual fact, the land these Aeolians occupy is more fertile than that owned by the Ionians, but it does not have such a good climate.¹²

⁹ Herodotus *Historiae* 1.144, ed. Rosén

¹⁰ Herodotus *The Histories* 1.144 trans. Waterfield

¹¹ Herodotus *Historiae* 1.149, ed. Rosén

¹² Herodotus *The Histories* 1.149 trans. Waterfield

These passages, therefore, show that the Greeks settled the western coastline of Asia Minor and the surrounding islands in the later periods and this is the same region in the Bronze Age that exhibits Mycenaean settlement and contact.

Miletus

Miletus, situated on the south-eastern coastline of Anatolia, lay south of the Meander River on the horn of the Meander Gulf (Fig. 2.3).¹³ The once sea-side city now lies 4 miles or 6.44 kilometres from the sea, and the Bronze Age harbour has vanished owing to thousands of years of silt deposits from the Meander River.¹⁴

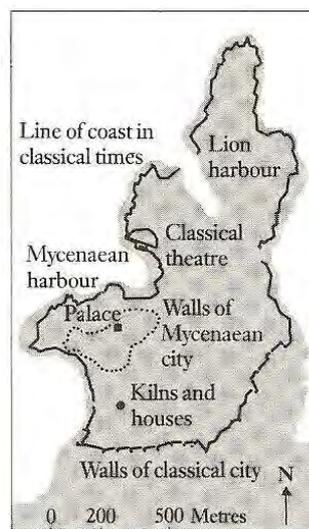


Fig. 2.3: The Promontory of Miletus

Excavations at Miletus suggest that Minoans settled on the site in the first building phase c.1600 B.C. in the Middle Minoan Period.¹⁵ This first building phase was destroyed by fire, perhaps, as Mountjoy suggests, as a result of an earthquake.¹⁶ In the

¹³ Bryce 2006:99, Cook 1962:18, Bryce 1989:12

¹⁴ Wood 2003:162, Mee 1978:134

¹⁵ Bryce 2006:99, Huxley 1960:13, Bryce 1989:2, 19

¹⁶ Mountjoy 1993:170, Mee 1978:135

second building phase at Miletus Minoan elements such as architecture and pottery were supplanted by distinctly Mycenaean ones.¹⁷ This phase most likely coincided with the rise of the Mycenaeans to power in the Aegean, and the collapse of the Minoan “Empire”.¹⁸ It has been argued, however, that on the basis of the pottery evidence there was no sudden transition from Minoan to Mycenaean culture at Miletus but rather a steady rise in the level of Mycenaean activity.¹⁹ The argument is moot as there is insufficient archaeological evidence to determine whether the change in cultural material, and therefore culture, was a gradual process or a sudden event.²⁰ From the late 14th century B.C. onwards the archaeological record reveals that Miletus was definitely under Mycenaean influence.²¹ This period corresponds with the third building phase at Miletus, which has the greatest likelihood of being a Mycenaean settlement because of abundant Mycenaean pottery in the archaeological record.²² Moreover, a massive fortification wall, that was like Mycenaean walls elsewhere, was erected in this third phase, and Mycenaean chamber tombs were in use.²³

Mycenaean pottery has been found in profusion at Miletus.²⁴ Varying quantities have been found spanning from LHIIIA1-LHIIIC Middle; however, sherds from LHIIA have been documented at Miletus as well.²⁵ Analysis of samples of Mycenaean pottery from Miletus reveals that the pottery was both imported and locally produced.²⁶ Seven

¹⁷ Bryce 2006:99. These include “...Mycenaean type domestic architecture and Mycenaean burials.” Bryce 1989:2, Mee 1978:135, 149

¹⁸ Bryce 2006:99

¹⁹ Mee 1998:138, Mee 1978:149

²⁰ Mountjoy 1993:170

²¹ Bryce 1998:60-61, Bryce 1989:1, 2

²² Bryce 2006:99

²³ Bryce 2006:99, Mountjoy 1993:174, Mee 1978:135, Mellink 1983:140

²⁴ Bryce 2006:99

²⁵ Mountjoy 1993:170, 172, 174, 175, Mee 1998:137, 138

²⁶ Mee 1998:139, Mountjoy 1993:172

pottery kilns have also been uncovered in the Mycenaean levels of settlement at Miletus, which also indicates that the pottery was made at the site.²⁷ The presence of these kilns adds weight to the argument that Miletus was settled by the Mycenaean Greeks. Furthermore, the pottery assemblage from Miletus contains 95% Mycenaean pottery, including coarse and cooking pots, and only 5% Anatolian wares.²⁸ When this assemblage at Miletus is compared to other sites on the Anatolian Aegean coastline such as Troy, where the Mycenaean pottery only forms 2% of the total ceramic assemblage, the high percentage of Mycenaean pottery suggests that Miletus became a Mycenaean settlement.²⁹ Pottery alone is insufficient evidence to state definitively that Miletus was a Mycenaean settlement, however.

In the late 14th/early 13th century B.C. Miletus was fortified with a large defensive wall that encircled the whole town.³⁰ The north side of the wall was the first section to be unearthed during excavations in 1955-57 and in the excavations of 1959, 1963 and 1966 the west, south and east sides of the wall were discovered, although the corners where these walls meet were not found.³¹ The length of the wall has been estimated to be 1100 metres, enclosing an area of 50 000 square metres.³² This wall was erected in the early LHIII B period and can be dated by two Mycenaean vases discovered by the northern rim of the main wall, under a smaller wall that attached to it (Fig. 2.4 and Fig. 2.5).³³ These are identified as stirrup jars, dating to the LHIIIA2 and LHIII B periods.³⁴

²⁷ Mitchell 1998-1999:153, Mee 1978:136

²⁸ Mee 1998:139, Mitchell 1998-1999:153

²⁹ Latacz 2004:39, Mitchell 1998-1999:153, Mee 1998:144

³⁰ Mee 1998:139, Wood 2003:162, Mee 1978:133, 135

³¹ Cook and Blackman 1970-1971:44

³² Wood 2003:162, Mee 1978:135-136

³³ Mee 1978:135

³⁴ Huxley 1960:14

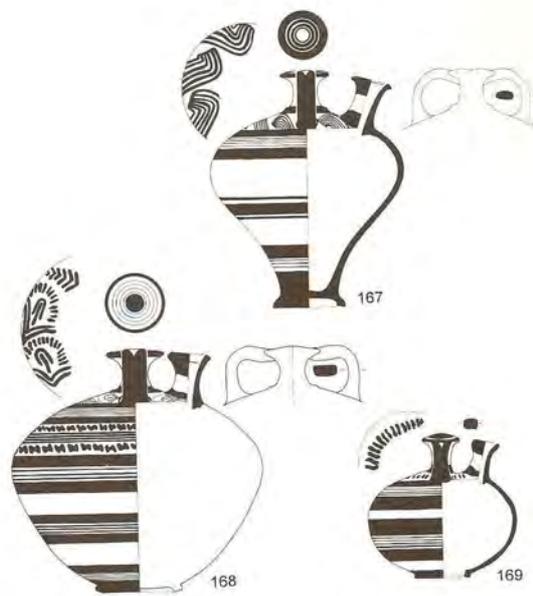


Fig. 2.4: Common Stirrup jars from LHIIIA2

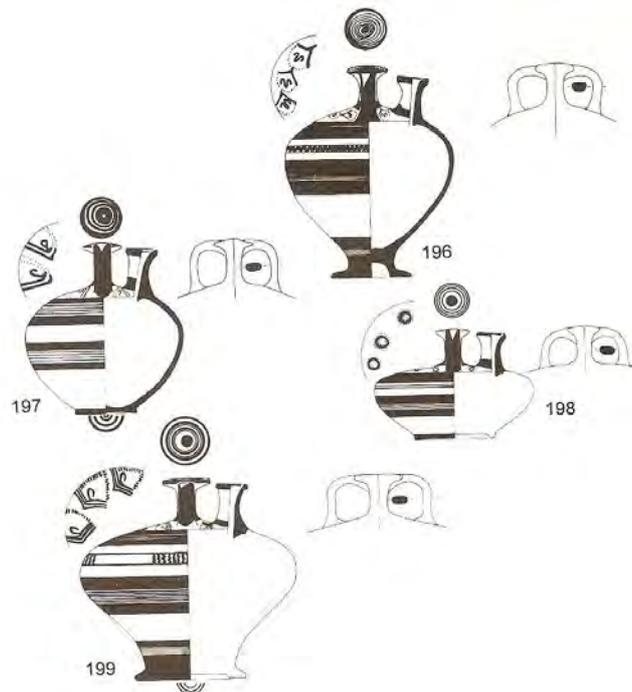
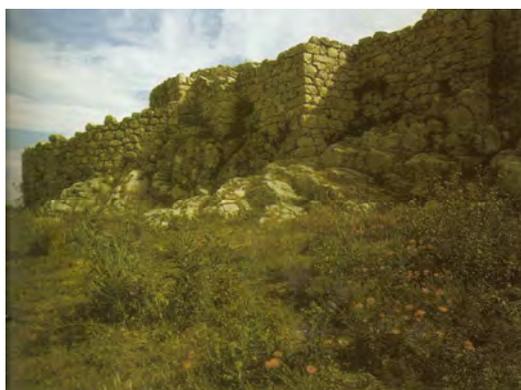


Fig. 2.5: Common Stirrup jars from LHIIIB

This fortification wall was built on a substantial burnt layer, as Miletus was destroyed by fire at the end of LHIIIA2.³⁵ This destruction might have prompted the inhabitants of Miletus to build this defensive structure in early LHIIIB. The defensive wall had square bastions 14 metres apart,³⁶ an architectural style that has parallels with both Hittite and Mycenaean design, such as the great ‘Cyclopean’ walls at Mycenae and Tiryns, and also the immense defensive walls of Troy and Boghaz Köy/Hattusa (the Hittite Capital) (Fig. 2.6).³⁷



Tiryns



Mycenae



Troy VI North-East Bastion



Boghaz Köy

Fig. 2.6: The walls of Tiryns, Mycenae, Troy and a reconstruction of the defenses of Boghaz Köy

³⁵ Cook and Blackman 1970-1971:44, Mountjoy 1993:174

³⁶ Huxley 1960:13-14, Wood 2003:162

³⁷ Mee 1998:139, Wood 2003:162

Perhaps the most telling evidence for the presence of Mycenaean settlers at Miletus is a Mycenaean cemetery 1.5 kilometres south-west of the city at Degirmentepe.³⁸ This cemetery, discovered in 1907, had around a dozen Mycenaean-style chamber tombs.³⁹ These chamber tombs have the same characteristic long dromos with an oval chamber, as the Mycenaean chamber tombs on the Greek mainland (see: Müskebi),⁴⁰ and contained Mycenaean grave goods, which included pottery from LHIIIA2, LHIIIB and LHIIC.⁴¹ Chamber tombs on the Greek mainland became the prevailing way of burying the dead from LHIIIA1-LHIIC, but LHIIIA2 was the period in which chamber tombs are most frequent on the Greek mainland.⁴² This use of chamber tombs at Degirmentepe, then, is contemporaneous with the use of chamber tombs by the Mycenaeans on the Greek mainland.⁴³

These typically Mycenaean chamber tombs with Mycenaean grave goods indicate that the Mycenaeans settled in Miletus. This cemetery evidence, coupled with the evidence of the huge fortification wall,⁴⁴ and the preponderance (95%) of Mycenaean pottery in Miletus provide compelling evidence that Miletus was a Mycenaean settlement,⁴⁵ just as it was an important Classical Greek settlement.⁴⁶ The presence of imported Mycenaean wares further indicates that trade occurred between Miletus and the Mycenaeans, either from the mainland of Greece or from the surrounding islands such as Rhodes. Before Rhodes is reviewed, however, it is necessary to examine Müskebi,

³⁸ Wood 2003:162, Mee 1998:139, Mee 1978:133, 149

³⁹ Mee 1998:139, Bryce 2006:99, Wood 2003:162, Mellink 1983:140

⁴⁰ Mountjoy 1993:126, Wood 2003:162

⁴¹ Bryce 2006:99, Mountjoy 1993:172, Mee 1998:139

⁴² Mountjoy 1993:126

⁴³ Mountjoy 1993:126

⁴⁴ Even though these walls are similar to Hittite walls as well, it would seem, that given the other evidence, there were Mycenaean settlers at Miletus.

⁴⁵ Mee 1998:140

⁴⁶ Herodotus *The Histories* 1.15-21, 1.142, ed. Rosén

another site on the southern Halicarnassus Peninsula with possible evidence for contact with or settlement by the Mycenaean Greeks.

Müskebi

Müskebi (or Müsgebi) is situated in the interior of the Halicarnassus Peninsula on the Aegean coastline of Anatolia (Fig. 2.7).⁴⁷ It is a large Mycenaean necropolis discovered in the excavations of 1962-1964 and is the site of 48 Mycenaean chamber tombs.⁴⁸

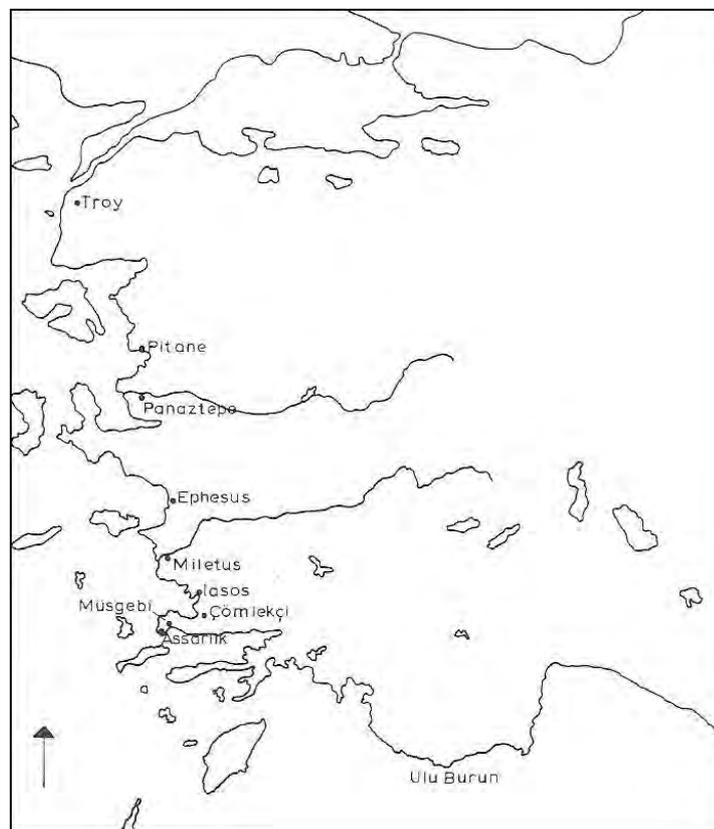


Fig. 2.7: Map of coastline of Anatolia

⁴⁷ Bryce 2006:99, Mountjoy 1993:172, 174

⁴⁸ Cook and Blackman 1970-1971:48, Bryce 2006:99, Mee 1978:137, Mellink 1983:139, Mellink 1963:180-181, Mellink 1964:157, Mellink 1965:140-141

At Múskebi 24 chamber tombs were in use in LHIIIA2 and in LHIIIB-LHIIIC. Early the chamber tomb cemetery was still utilised but it was much smaller.⁴⁹ These chamber tombs were a simpler, smaller version of the elaborate tholos tombs, such as the Treasury of Atreus (Fig. 2.8).

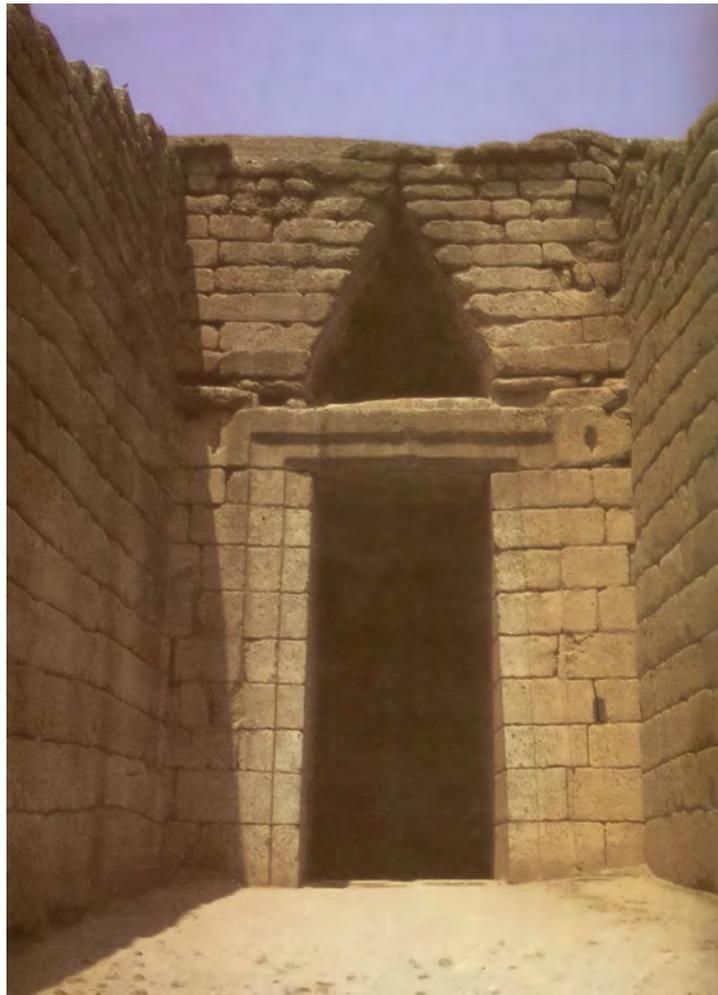


Fig. 2.8: The Treasury of Atreus

Chamber tombs had long *dromoi* that were cut through the rock with *stomia* (doorways) that were closed by stones that were moved for each successive burial (Fig. 2.9 and Fig

⁴⁹ Mountjoy 1993:172, 174, 175

2.10).⁵⁰ At the end of the *dromos* and *stomion* there was an oval chamber where the deceased was placed on the floor with grave offerings of weapons, jewellery and pottery.⁵¹

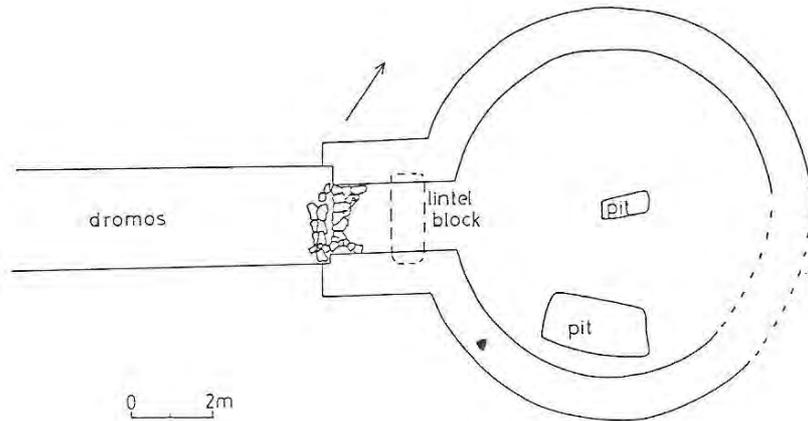


Fig. 2.9: Tholos Tomb III Pylos

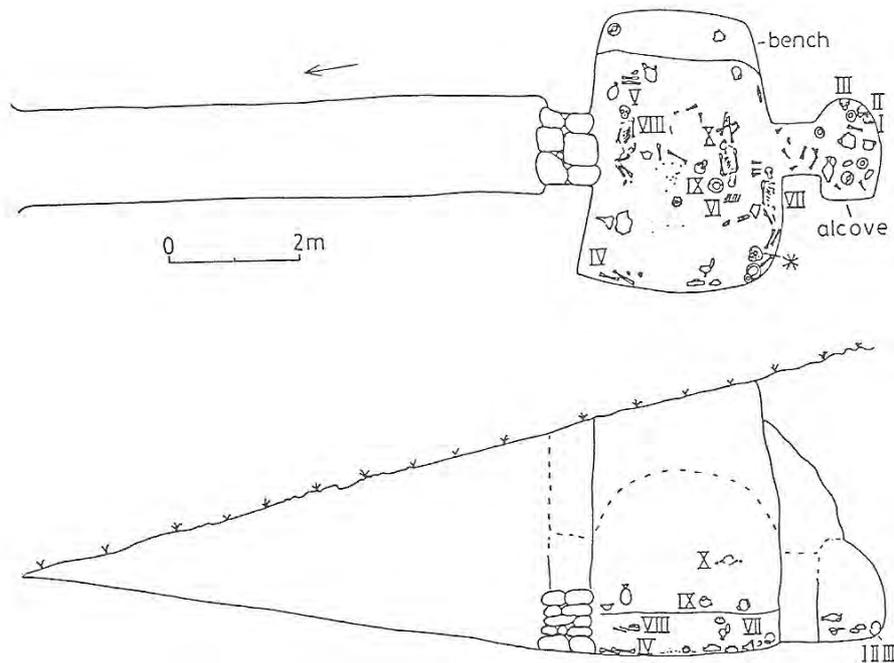


Fig. 2.10: Mycenaean Chamber Tomb

⁵⁰ Mountjoy 1993:126

⁵¹ Mountjoy 1993:126

The 48 chamber tombs at Müskebi have typical characteristics of short, steep *dromoi* and narrow *stromia* and the oval chambers had dimensions ranging from 0.49-9.08 square metres.⁵² At Müskebi inhumation was the common method of burial, although at least three cremations have been found.⁵³ Cremation was an Anatolian custom that was also employed intermittently on Rhodes and Cos in the LHIIC period.⁵⁴ Excavations at Channia near Mycenae have also uncovered cremation burials, showing that this method of burial was also being used on the Greek mainland in the LHIIC Late phase.⁵⁵

The grave offerings at Müskebi are characteristically Mycenaean. They include bronzes, jewellery (some with semi-precious stones) and pottery.⁵⁶ All the pottery sherds from the chamber tombs at Müskebi are Mycenaean.⁵⁷ The pottery ranges from LHIIIA1-LHIIC Early, although the majority of the pottery is from the LHIIIA2-LHIIB periods.⁵⁸ Some of the pottery seems to have been imported from the Argolid and Rhodes.⁵⁹ The pottery types recovered from the chamber tombs at Müskebi include deep *kylikes*, stirrup jars, straight-sided *pyxides*, three-handled jars and low one-handled cups (Fig. 2.11).⁶⁰

⁵² Mee 1998:138

⁵³ Mee 1998:138, Cook and Blackman 1970-1971:48, Mee 1978:137, Mellink 1983:139, Mellink 1964:157

⁵⁴ Mountjoy 1993:25, Bryce 2002:179, explains Hittite funerary practices: "But the bodies of kings and queens were, it seems, invariably consigned to the pyre. This in contrast to their counterparts in the Mycenaean world and Egypt. Here royalty and nobility were interred with their bodies intact, as evidenced by the Mycenaean shaft graves and tholos tombs, and the Egyptian New Kingdom cliff tombs in the Theban Valley of the Dead. The Land of Hatti had no funerary architecture on this scale."

⁵⁵ Mountjoy 1993:26, 27

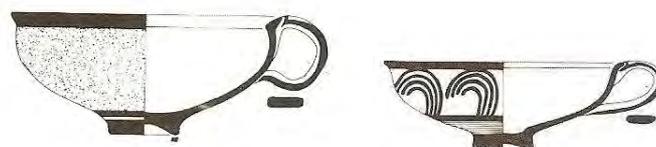
⁵⁶ Mee 1998:139, Cook and Blackman 1970-1971:48

⁵⁷ Cook and Blackman 1970-1971:48

⁵⁸ Cook and Blackman 1970-1971:48, Mountjoy 1993:172, 174, 175, Mee 1978:137

⁵⁹ Mountjoy 1993:174

⁶⁰ Cook and Blackman 1970-1971:48



LHIIIA1-LHIIIA2 one-handed cups

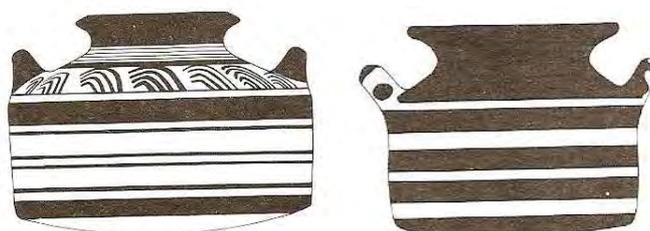
LHIIIA1-LHIIIA2 *Kylikes*LHIIIA2-LHIIIC *Pyxides*

Fig. 2.11: LHIIIA1-LHIIIC Pottery

The archaeological evidence indicates that Müskebi was inhabited by Mycenaean settlers, or at least that this was the place that the Mycenaean who had settled on the Halicarnassus Peninsula buried their dead.⁶¹ The Mycenaean grave goods and Mycenaean

⁶¹ Bryce 2006:99, Bryce 1989:1, Mellink 1983:139

pottery, and the most frequent use of the chamber tombs occurring in LHIIIA2,⁶² corroborates that Müskebi was a Mycenaean burial ground. Moreover, chamber tombs, which are a distinctly Mycenaean form of burial, were being used at Müskebi, and inhumation was more frequent here than the Anatolian rite of cremation.⁶³ This use of cremation suggests that these were Mycenaeans who were buried at Müskebi and who lived around this area.⁶⁴ These chamber tombs are much like the ones used at the proposed Mycenaean settlement at Miletus to the north and the chamber tombs used on the island of Rhodes to the south, to which I turn now.

Rhodes

The island of Rhodes is located off the south-west coast of modern day Turkey. The Mycenaeans were active on Rhodes, especially in the LHIII phase, and therefore Rhodes is rich in Mycenaean material. Certainly Rhodes was one of the most important centres outside of the Greek mainland during the LHIIIA1 and onwards.⁶⁵ Two of the key Mycenaean sites are the Bronze Age town of Trianda and the Mycenaean chamber tomb cemetery of Ialysos (Fig. 2.12). Sir Alfred Biliotti excavated at Ialysos in 1868-1871 and uncovered 41 Mycenaean chamber tombs.⁶⁶ Between 1914 and 1928 Maiuri and Jacopi excavated Ialysos further and unearthed 60 and 28 chamber tombs respectively.⁶⁷ Trianda was excavated by Monaco in 1935-1936.⁶⁸

⁶² Which coincides with the height of the use of Chamber tombs on the Greek mainland.

⁶³ Mee 1982:87

⁶⁴ Mee 1982:87

⁶⁵ Mountjoy 1993:171

⁶⁶ Mountjoy 1993:1, Mee 1982:8, Jones and Mee 1978:462

⁶⁷ Mee 1982:1, 8, Jones and Mee 1978:462

⁶⁸ Mee 1982:1



Fig. 2.12: Rhodes

Like Miletus, Trianda on the northern coast of Rhodes began as a Minoan settlement.⁶⁹ Evidence of Mycenaean contact can be detected as early as LHII B since Mycenaean pottery dating to this period has been found alongside Minoan ceramics in the Minoan settlement at Trianda.⁷⁰ During the LHIIIA1 period Trianda was abandoned and Minoan activity came to an end on Rhodes.⁷¹ The succeeding Mycenaean settlement has not been found, although the chamber tombs at Ialysos were still being utilised until

⁶⁹ Mountjoy 1993:169, Mellink 1983:139

⁷⁰ Mountjoy 1993:169

⁷¹ Mountjoy 1993:169

the LHIIC Middle period.⁷² In LHIIIA1, however, the Mycenaeans started to settle on Rhodes,⁷³ as is evidenced by an increase in LHIIIA1 Mycenaean pottery imports at Trianda and also an increase in the number of chamber tombs in use at Ialysos.⁷⁴ A small number of LHIIA sherds have been found at Trianda in stratum IIB, along with two LHIIIB sherds and 24 LHIIIA1 sherds.⁷⁵ The 24 LHIIIA1 sherds are from goblets, cups and piriform jars.⁷⁶ On the basis of this evidence we can say that the Mycenaeans began to settle on Rhodes by LHIIA1.⁷⁷ At the site of Ialysos LHIIIB-IIIA1 Mycenaean pottery was also present, the majority of which was imported from the Argolid.⁷⁸ This importation of pottery further suggests that the settlers on Rhodes were from Mycenaean Greece.⁷⁹ In the LHIIIA2 period the settlement pattern changed on Rhodes.⁸⁰ Whereas the Mycenaeans previously had only settled on the north-western coast at sites such as Trianda and Ialysos, they were now settling on the west and south of the island as well, bringing with them vast amounts of LHIIIA2 pottery.⁸¹ Mee reports that 23 LHIIIA2 sites have been discovered, which is incontestably more than the six sites in LHIIIA1.⁸² Much of the pottery imported from the Argolid was of a high standard, and clay analysis conducted on the pottery from this and the later phases of LHIIIB and LHIIC confirms that the pottery was imported from the Argolid.⁸³ However, the clay analysis evidence from Ialysos indicates that Mycenaean potters themselves were also established on

⁷² Mountjoy 1993:169, 170, Jones and Mee 1978:462, 463

⁷³ Mountjoy 1993:169

⁷⁴ Mountjoy 1993:169

⁷⁵ Mountjoy 1993:168,169, Mee 1998:137, Mee 1982:6

⁷⁶ Mee 1982:6

⁷⁷ Mee 1982:6, Mountjoy 1993:169

⁷⁸ Mee 1982:82, Jones and Mee 1978:462

⁷⁹ Mee 1982:82, Huxley 1960:26

⁸⁰ Mee 1982:83

⁸¹ Mountjoy 1993:171, Mee 1982:83, Jones and Mee 1978:468-469, Mellink 1983:139

⁸² Mee 1982:83

⁸³ Mountjoy 1993:169, Jones and Mee 1978:468-470

Rhodes.⁸⁴ Of the pottery found from this period were many *kylikes* decorated with Octopi (clearly a favourite design) and another *kylix* was decorated with birds (Fig. 2.13).⁸⁵ Large piriform jars were also popular containers on Rhodes (Fig. 2.14).⁸⁶ These *kylikes* were produced or imported as luxury items, whereas the large jars were used to store and transport other commodities such as wine, perfumed oils and, probably, olive oil.⁸⁷

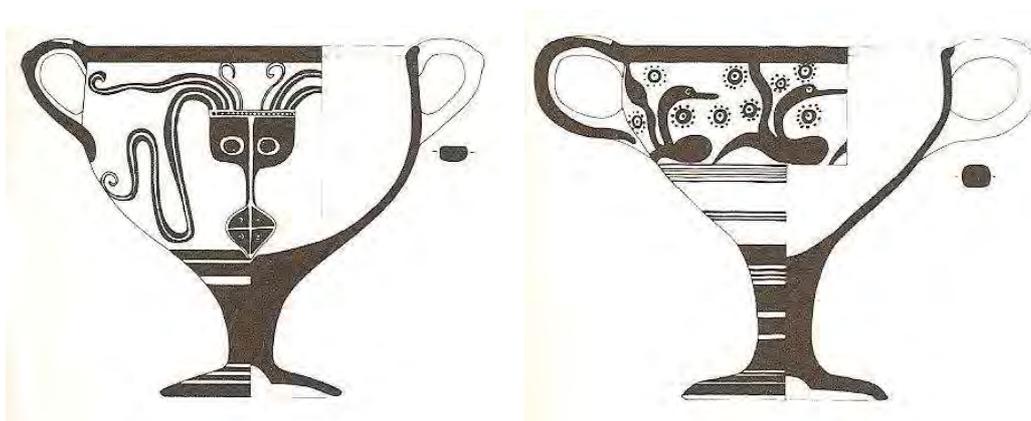


Fig. 2.13: Decorated Octopus and Bird *Kylikes* from Rhodes



Fig. 2.14: Ialysos LHIII A2 Piriform Jars

⁸⁴ Mee 1982:83

⁸⁵ Mountjoy 1993:171

⁸⁶ Mountjoy 1993:171

⁸⁷ Vermeule 1972:255, Mountjoy 1993:163, Cadogan 1993:93, more on pottery styles and their uses in Chapter Three.

The LHIIB period seems to indicate less pottery importation, possibly because there were fewer tombs in use at Ialysos.⁸⁸ This decrease in importation gives the sense that this was a period of decline, especially in the north of Rhodes, but it is hard to establish definitively whether this was the case.⁸⁹ This is because the tombs were often cleared for later burials (in LHIIC), which destroyed evidence of earlier use.⁹⁰ Of the pottery found, much was still imported, partly from the Argolid, but also from Boeotia and Attica as well.⁹¹ In the south of Rhodes, at sites such as the chamber tomb cemeteries of Vati and Apollakia, a great quantity of LHIIB pottery has been unearthed.⁹²

By the beginning of LHIIC it seems that most of the pottery was locally made on Rhodes by the Mycenaean, although a small proportion of pottery from the Argolid, decorated in the Close style, was still imported.⁹³ Clay analysis undertaken on the pottery from this period confirms that the majority of the pottery was made on Rhodes, presumably by the Mycenaean.⁹⁴ An example of pottery locally made on Rhodes is this stirrup jar from the LHIIC Middle period, which is decorated with the popular Octopus motif (Fig. 2.15).⁹⁵

⁸⁸ Mountjoy 1993:173

⁸⁹ Mee 1982:1

⁹⁰ Mee 1982:29

⁹¹ Mountjoy 1993:173, Jones and Mee 1978:469, possibly Knossos as well.

⁹² Mountjoy 1993:173

⁹³ Mountjoy 1993: 174, 175, in the context of the phases LHIIC Early and LHIIC Middle. Jones and Mee 1978:461, 469

⁹⁴ Mountjoy 1993:23, Jones and Mee 1978:469, 470

⁹⁵ Mountjoy 1993:101



Fig. 2.15: LHIIC Middle Stirrup Jar: Octopus Style from Rhodes, Ialysos

The fact that the majority of the pottery was made on Rhodes in LHIIC, indicates that settlers from the Peloponnese had established themselves at a number of sites in the fertile north of Rhodes.⁹⁶ However, the prosperous situation on Rhodes declined late in the LHIIC period.⁹⁷

As previously discussed, the settlement at Trianda was abandoned in LHIIIA1, and no succeeding Mycenaean settlement has been found there.⁹⁸ The lack of settlement sites is common on Rhodes as many Mycenaean cemeteries, such as Paradisi-Asprovilo, Tolo, Kalvarda, Lelos and Piona (to name just a few) have been found without any Mycenaean settlements to accompany these cemeteries.⁹⁹ Chamber tombs became the fashion of burial on Cos and Rhodes in the LHIIIB/LHIIIA1 periods, and one of the larger chamber tomb sites on Rhodes is that of Ialysos.¹⁰⁰ Ialysos, situated on the lower slopes of Phileremos, is a site made up of two hills, Moschou Vunara, on which 90 chamber

⁹⁶ Mee 1982:2

⁹⁷ Mee 1982:2

⁹⁸ Mountjoy 1993:169

⁹⁹ Mee 1982:47, 49, 50, 55, 73, Mountjoy 1993:169

¹⁰⁰ Mountjoy 1993:169

tombs were discovered, and Macra Vunara, which has 39 excavated chamber tombs.¹⁰¹ Biliotti excavated 41 tombs on Moschou Vunara, Maiuri unearthed 60 tombs in total (21 on Moschou and 39 on Macra Vunara)¹⁰² and Jacopi excavated 28 chamber tombs on Moschou Vunara.¹⁰³ The cemetery at Ialysos was first in use in LHIIIB.¹⁰⁴ Six tombs can be dated exclusively to LHIIIB-LHIIIA1 from the pottery found within them.¹⁰⁵ Mee states that in this short time period (LHIIIB-LHIIIA1) 18 tombs were in use and that they were developed at random on both of the two hills, Moschou and Macra Vunara.¹⁰⁶ By contrast, in the LHIIIA2 period 57 tombs were in use and once again they were scattered over both Moschou and Macra Vunara.¹⁰⁷ This increase in the number of tombs in use at Ialysos gives the impression that the Mycenaeans were numerous on Rhodes in the LHIIIA2 phase, and certainly as we have already seen that this was precisely when the Mycenaeans were settling in a number of sites on Rhodes and elsewhere in the eastern Aegean.¹⁰⁸ In the LHIIIB period there seem to have been fewer tombs in use at Ialysos and therefore there is less Mycenaean material evidence.¹⁰⁹ This dearth of material may be a false impression because the tombs might have been cleared and reused for later burials in the LHIIIC period.¹¹⁰ In LHIIIC, of the 39 tombs on Macra Vunara, only six were in use.¹¹¹ On Moschou Vunara, of the 49 tombs left 17 were robbed and therefore

¹⁰¹ Mee 1982:8

¹⁰² Of these three were empty most probably due to grave robbers.

¹⁰³ Mee 1982:8, dates for these excavations are mentioned above.

¹⁰⁴ Mee 1982:1, 8, Mountjoy 1993:169

¹⁰⁵ Mee 1982:8

¹⁰⁶ Mee 1982:8

¹⁰⁷ Mee 1982:11, 83

¹⁰⁸ Mee 1982:83, Mountjoy 1993:171

¹⁰⁹ Mountjoy 1993:173

¹¹⁰ Mee 1982:29

¹¹¹ Mee 1982:29

cannot be dated, which leaves 32 tombs.¹¹² Of these 32 tombs 28 (scattered all over Moschou Vunara) were in use in LHIIIC, and from these 28 tombs 15 were exclusively LHIIIC from the pottery evidence, ten tombs had pottery from LHIIIA and LHIIIC; and three had pottery dating from LHIIIB and LHIIIC.¹¹³ Cremations were found in only six tombs from this time period, but in these six there were also between two and ten inhumations in each, which shows that the Mycenaean custom of burial was favoured over the Anatolian custom of cremation.¹¹⁴ The scattering of chamber tombs in use in the later periods suggests that perhaps more tombs were in use in these phases but that they were cleared and reused for later burials (as stated above in the case of LHIIIB).¹¹⁵

From the archaeological evidence, such as the enormous quantities of Mycenaean pottery and the presence of a large number of chamber tombs, we can safely conclude that the Mycenaean settlers on the island of Rhodes and probably on the other islands in the Dodecanese, such as Cos.¹¹⁶ Moreover, on Rhodes this evidence is found from the south to the north of the island, which suggests widespread settlement of and trade with the Mycenaean.¹¹⁷ Bryce, however, takes a more conservative approach and suggests that while there were Mycenaean settlements on Rhodes, these could have been no more than enclaves of merchants living within a native population to arrange the trans-shipment of goods to Cyprus and the Levant.¹¹⁸ It is more likely, however, that the Mycenaean settlers were settling in large numbers on Rhodes because the evidence for

¹¹² Unfortunately as Mountjoy adds looting occurs at most cemetery sites. Mountjoy 1993:170-171. As these 17 tombs can not be dated one can speculate that some or all of these could have been in use in the LHIIIB period, which is another reason why we should not be too hasty to announce that this was a period of decline on Rhodes for the Mycenaean.

¹¹³ Mee 1982:29

¹¹⁴ Mee 1982:27,28

¹¹⁵ Mee 1982:29

¹¹⁶ Huxley 1960:27, Cook 1962:18, Mountjoy 1993:171

¹¹⁷ Mountjoy 1993:171

¹¹⁸ Bryce 2006:98, this could explain the lack of purely Mycenaean settlements found on Rhodes.

Mycenaean settlement is so widespread. The Mycenaeans also took advantage of the situation and position of Rhodes for their expanding trade with the eastern Mediterranean and vice versa, as it is obvious that Rhodes was another stepping stone on the trade routes to the East.¹¹⁹

Troy

Unlike the other sites discussed thus far, Troy was not a Mycenaean settlement. It does, however, appear to have been a place of contact with the Mycenaean Greeks for the purposes of trade, as Mycenaean pottery has been found at the site. Troy seems to be a trading point, as opposed to a Mycenaean settlement, as it has closer links with other inland Anatolian sites, as evidenced by the ceramic assemblage, urban construction and size, and defensive fortifications. Troy was situated on an important trade route that meant that goods from farther east travelled through it, and therefore can be likened to other important trading emporia, such as Ugarit. Troy is important for the discussion as this is probably where the Mycenaeans acquired some of their wealth from, such as gold, which is evident at sites like Mycenae.

The site of Hisarlik in the north-west of modern day Turkey has been identified as ancient Troy since the excavations of Heinrich Schliemann in 1871-1873 (Fig. 2.16 and Fig. 2.18).¹²⁰ Wilhelm Dörpfeld continued excavations at Hisarlik in 1893-1894 and Carl Blegen excavated in the 1930s.¹²¹ The late Manfred Korfmann began the most recent

¹¹⁹ Mee 1982:1, 82

¹²⁰ Deuel 1977:187, Mountjoy 1993:23, Schliemann 1884:52-174, Schliemann believed that the Troy of Homer's description was the second civilisation layer as he unearthed many gold artifacts that to him indicated the wealth of Priam's Troy.

¹²¹ Blegen 1963:164, Mountjoy 1993:23

excavations at Troy in 1988 and they have been ongoing since then (Fig. 2.18).¹²² Troy was situated on an important trade route which extended through to the Black Sea area and we know that the Mycenaean Greeks traded with Troy. However, it does not seem that the Mycenaean Greeks settled in large numbers at Troy as the site bears similarities to other sites in inland Anatolia. There are ten layers of occupation that span over 3000 years of human settlement at Hisarlik, starting from the early Bronze Age to the Byzantine Empire (Fig. 2.17).¹²³ The most important layers of occupation, for the purposes of this thesis, are those of Troy VIIh and of Troy VIIa/VIi.



Fig. 2.16: The Troad from the Spaceshuttle (NASA)

¹²² Korfmann 2003:19

¹²³ Korfmann 2003:19, the first seven layers of settlement are the Bronze Age settlements, layer eight is the Greek settlement, layer nine is the Roman settlement and layer ten is the Byzantine settlement.

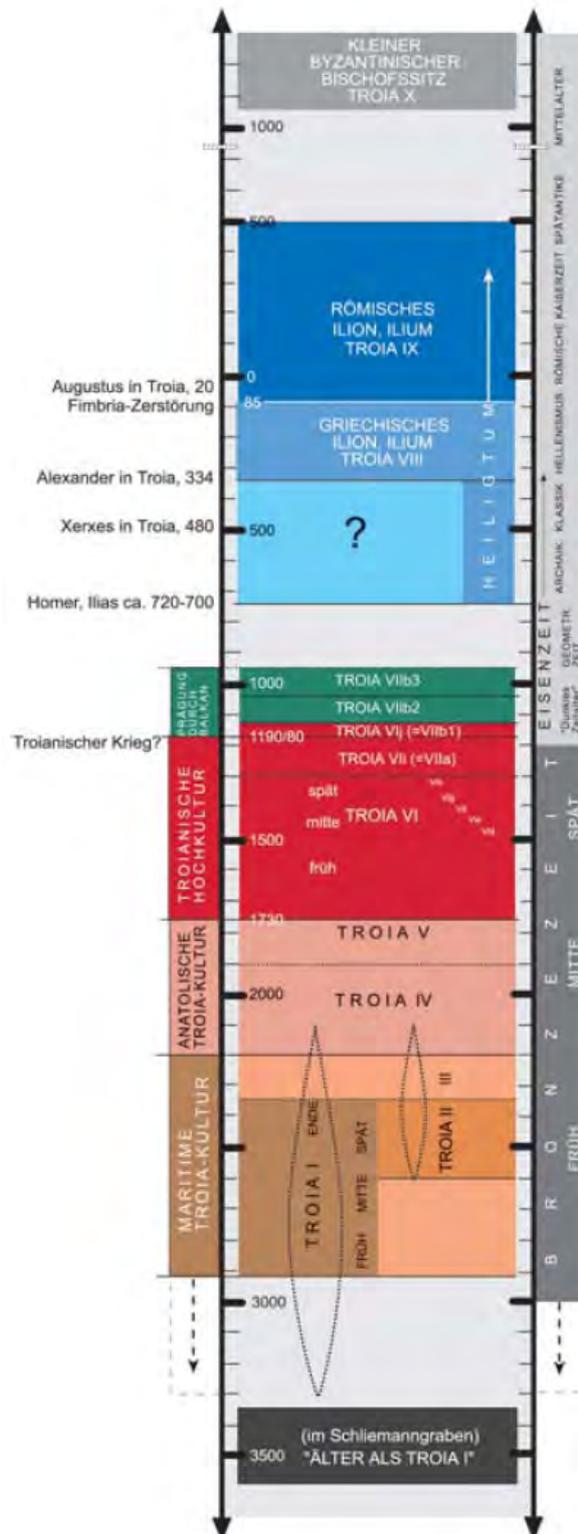


Fig. 2.17: Chronological Table as of 2000

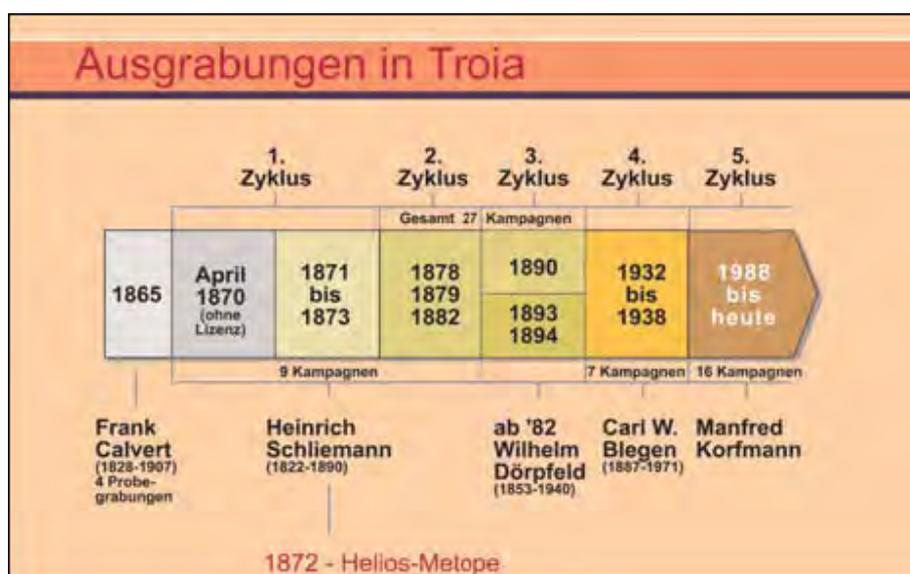


Fig. 2.18: Excavation cycles, 1865 to 2003

The pottery found at the site of Troy suggests links to Anatolia. While Mycenaean pottery has been found in the assemblages from Troy it is only 1-2% of the total pottery found.¹²⁴ This small percentage has led scholars to believe that this Mycenaean pottery was therefore imported.¹²⁵ Whatever the case may be, the Mycenaean pottery can be regarded as foreign to the site as the vast majority of the pottery found is Grey Minyan ware, which consists of functional vessels constructed of grey clay that were manufactured locally (Fig. 2.19).¹²⁶ In 1992 Easton concluded that the Grey Minyan ware was modelled after Anatolian pottery on the basis of similar patterns and technique of production, and that this had been the case since Troy V.¹²⁷ The Grey Minyan ware found

¹²⁴ Latacz 2004:39, Mee 1998:144

¹²⁵ Latacz 2004:39, Mountjoy 1993:23, Mee 1998:144

¹²⁶ Mountjoy 1993:23, Latacz 2004:39

¹²⁷ Latacz 2004:39

at Troy was renamed ‘Anatolian grey pottery’ after 1995, as Korfmann’s excavations confirmed Easton’s conclusion.¹²⁸

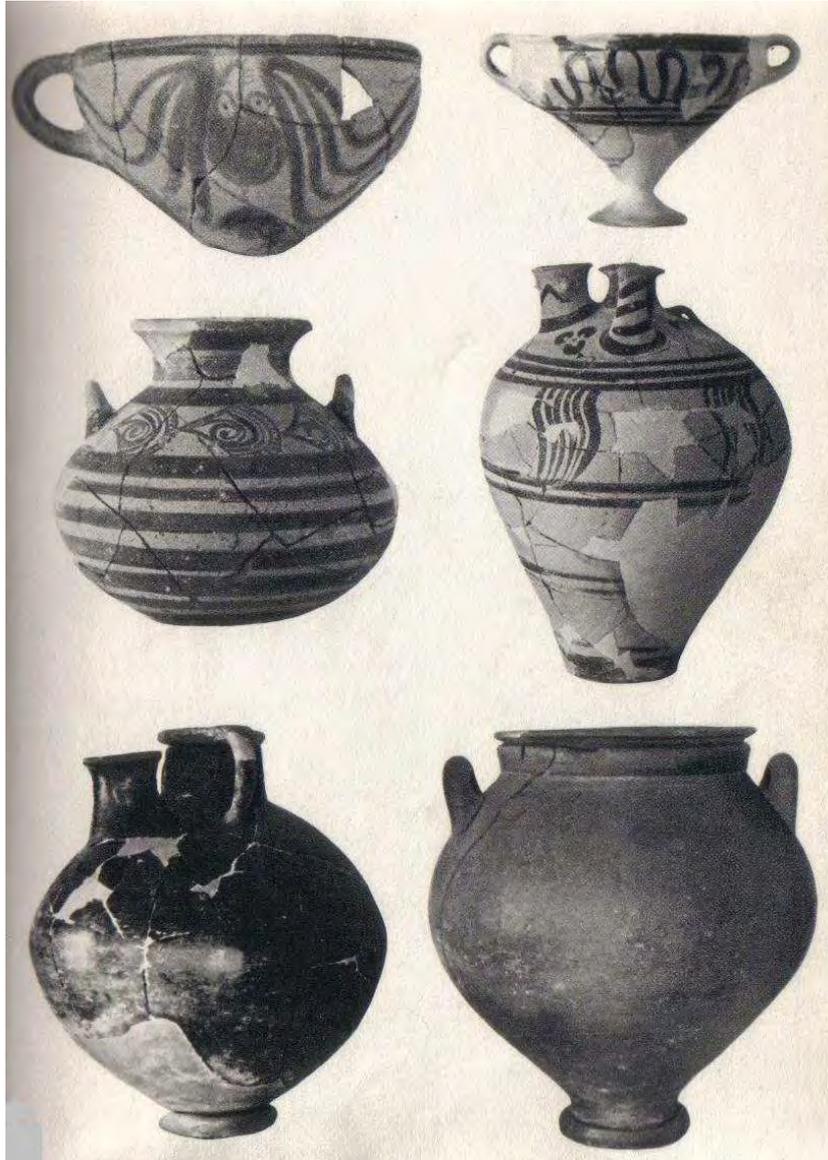


Fig. 2.19: Mycenaean pottery and Anatolian Grey pottery from Troy VI. The two drinking cups at the top and the two pots in the centre are Mycenaean. The two lower pots are Anatolian Grey ware modelled after Mycenaean designs.

¹²⁸ Latacz 2004:39, Korfmann 1997

Mycenaean pottery has been found at Troy dating as early as LHIIA,¹²⁹ while LHIIIB sherds and a small number of LHIIIA1 sherds have been found as well.¹³⁰ Mycenaean pottery dating from LHIIIA2 to LHIIIB,¹³¹ has also been uncovered in the numerous sub-levels of Troy VI.¹³² As of 1998/1999 Mountjoy dated the end of Troy VIh to LHIIIA2 as there were vast amounts of this style of pottery in the destruction stratum of this occupation level.¹³³ This pottery might indicate trade between the Mycenaean Greeks and Troy, or at least close contact.¹³⁴ There is no exact date for the destruction of Troy VIh, but the pottery evidence suggests that the event happened sometime within the first 70 years of the 13th century B.C.¹³⁵ According to Bryce this is when the activity of the people of Ahhiyawa, the disputed name for the Mycenaean Greeks in the Hittites documents (see Chapter Four), was “most intense” on the Anatolian mainland.¹³⁶

The other layer of occupation which is important is that of Troy VIIa. For the most part, after Blegen, Troy VIIa was thought of as being “markedly inferior to its immediate predecessor”¹³⁷ (Troy VIh). Yet on this point it seems that the argument is flawed as the recent excavations concur with what Dörpfeld and Blegen believed, namely that the level of VIIa should be equated culturally to level VI, and level VIh in particular.¹³⁸ Level VIIa then should really be renamed level VII, but as this would create

¹²⁹ Mountjoy 1993:168

¹³⁰ Mountjoy 1993:169, 170

¹³¹ Mountjoy 1993:23, 170, 172

¹³² Bryce 1999:397

¹³³ Mountjoy 1999, Mountjoy explains the few sherds of LHIIIB pottery found in this layer are later intrusions.

¹³⁴ Bryce 1999:396-397, Wood 2005:296, Bryce 1989:1, 17

¹³⁵ Bryce 1999:399

¹³⁶ Bryce 1999:399

¹³⁷ Bryce 1999:398

¹³⁸ Korfmann 2003:31, Blegen 1963:31, 144-145, Easton 1985:191

confusion, as a result of the long-established labelling of Schliemann, the level shall be referred to here as Troy VIIa/VIi.¹³⁹ This new labelling is based on the pottery evidence that has been found in layer Troy VIIa/VIi. Troy VIh was destroyed during LHIIIA2.¹⁴⁰ In Troy VIIa/VIi a few sherds of LHIIIA pottery have been found, but the majority of the pottery remnants have been from LHIIIB and early LHIIC.¹⁴¹ Therefore Mycenaean pottery was still being imported during Troy VIIa/VIi.¹⁴² By the time of Troy VIIb Mycenaean pottery was no longer imported, but local imitations were still being made.¹⁴³ The site of Troy was not completely abandoned until level VIIb.¹⁴⁴ Troy VIIb was destroyed around the same time as or just after the destruction and collapse of the main Bronze Age civilisations in the Near East and in Greece, possibly by marauders at the end of the Bronze Age.¹⁴⁵ The evidence for the time period of the collapse can be found at Troy in layer VIIb, where only a few sherds of LHIIC pottery have been found.¹⁴⁶ This evidence shows the downfall of the Mycenaean civilisation, as no more LHIIC pottery was imported by Troy after this period.¹⁴⁷

One of the greatest finds of the Korfmann excavations at Troy (level VIh) was the discovery of a lower town which stretches in an 'elliptical shape' south of the citadel.¹⁴⁸ The extent of the town was established through geomagnetic readings.¹⁴⁹ These ultimately found a ditch in 1992-1993 that was 3 metres wide and between 1.5 and 2

¹³⁹ Korfmann 2003:31

¹⁴⁰ Mountjoy 1999

¹⁴¹ Mountjoy 1993:24

¹⁴² Mountjoy 1993:24, Blegen 1963:159

¹⁴³ Mountjoy 1993:175

¹⁴⁴ Korfmann 2003:33, Bryce 1999:403

¹⁴⁵ Bryce 1999:403, Bryce 2006:67, 189

¹⁴⁶ Bryce 1999:403, Mountjoy 1993:175

¹⁴⁷ Bryce 1999:403, Mountjoy 1993:175

¹⁴⁸ Wood 2005:297

¹⁴⁹ Latacz 2004:22-23, Jablonka, von Heike König and Riehl 1994, Jablonka 1995

metres deep, which showed indications of two gates in the southern part of the circuit (quadrants z29, A29, C29) (Fig. 2.20 and Fig. 2.21).¹⁵⁰ The ditch was followed for 350 metres in the excavations of 1993.¹⁵¹ It must have been used to hinder the approach of Bronze Age ‘war chariots’ just as the ditch surrounding the Achaean camp in the *Iliad* did.¹⁵²



Fig. 2.20: Troia VI – Ditch in the bedrock, Lower City

¹⁵⁰ Wood 2005:296, Korfmann 1993, Korfmann 1994, Jablonka, von Heike König and Riehl 1994

¹⁵¹ Becker and Jansen 1994

¹⁵² Mannsperger 1995, Homer *The Iliad* 7.336-343 and 7.433-441



Fig. 2.21: Troy VIh Ditch Reconstruction

Excavations in 1995 uncovered a gate in the southern part of the city in the ‘course’ of the Troy VIh ditch (quadrants y28 and y29).¹⁵³ This gate interrupts the ditch for a length of 10 metres and has evidence of a rock cutting, which supported a palisade, as well as of two postholes (Fig. 2.22).¹⁵⁴

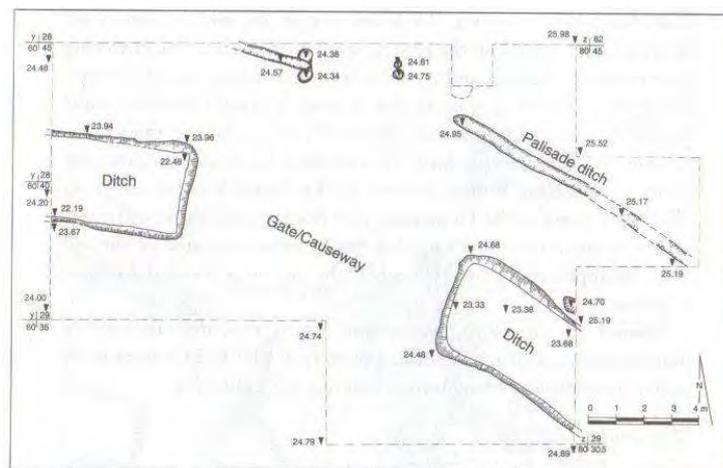


Fig. 2.22: The site of the gate and the palisade in the perimeter wall of the lower town of Troy VI

¹⁵³ Korfmann 1996, Jablonka 1996

¹⁵⁴ Jablonka 1996, Korfmann 1996

This discovery substantiates the idea that the ditch was part of the fortifications of the Lower Town and that the defensive wall, which lay behind the ditch, must have encircled the whole of the Lower Town.¹⁵⁵ Korfmann and his team first estimated the size of the city of Troy to be 200 000 square metres, perhaps with a total population size of between 5 000 and 6 000 people, which would have been roughly comparable to Mycenaean towns at this time on the Argolid.¹⁵⁶ But, since the excavations of the summer of 2003, Korfmann has now calculated the size of Troy VIh to be around 350 000 square metres (Fig. 2.23).¹⁵⁷ Troy VIh, then, was a rather large city, comparable to the city of Ugarit, which covered an area of around 200 000 square metres and had an estimated population size of 7600.¹⁵⁸ However, when compared with the cities of the advanced civilisations, such as Babylon, Uruk, Assur, and Hattusa of the Near and Middle East Troy was somewhat of a small place.¹⁵⁹ However, it still appears from Troy VIh's location on an important trade route and its size, that it was an important Anatolian Kingdom, possibly one of the regional capitals.¹⁶⁰

¹⁵⁵ Korfmann 1996, Korfmann 1997

¹⁵⁶ Wood 2005:297, Korfmann 1995, Jablonka, von Heike König and Riehl 1994

¹⁵⁷ Korfmann 2003:29

¹⁵⁸ Korfmann 2003:29

¹⁵⁹ Korfmann 2003:49

¹⁶⁰ Wood 2005:298. The Hittite documents suggest that the site of Troy (probably the place named Wilusa in the texts) was a Hittite vassal state that seemed to be of some importance. More on the Hittite documents in Chapter Four.

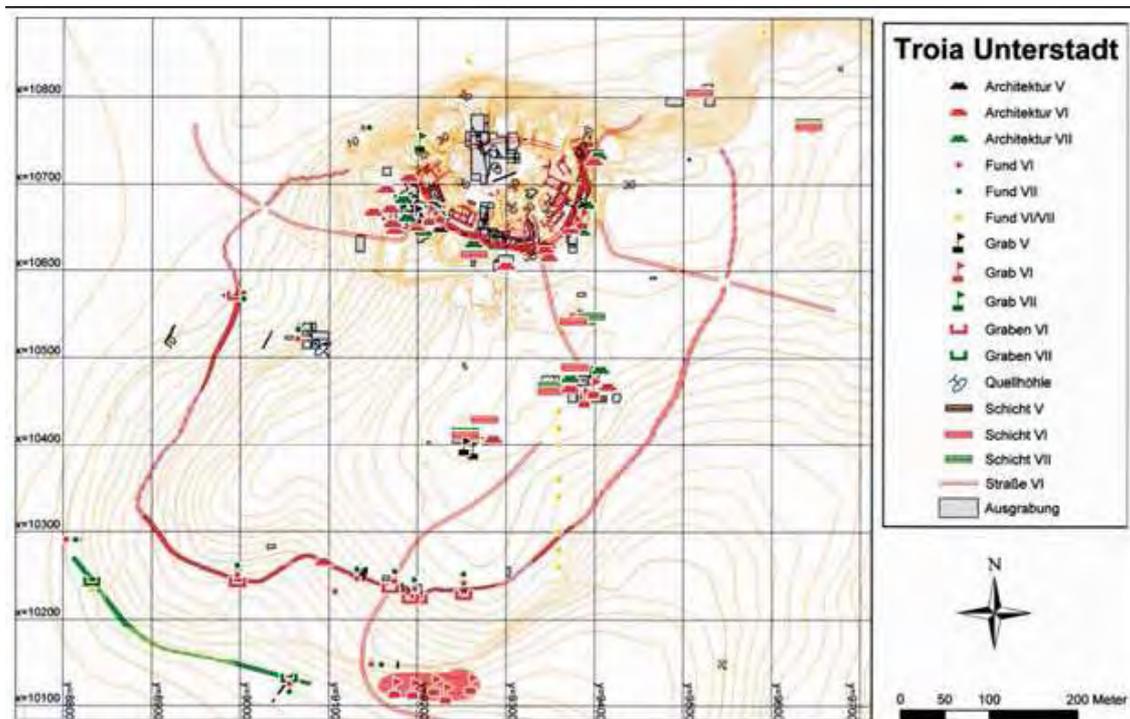


Fig. 2.23: The Troia Lower City, as it was in the 2nd millennium B.C.E.

The archaeological evidence, of pottery (95% of the assemblage being Anatolian) and the extent of the lower town, suggests strong links between the site of Hisarlik and the Hittites from Anatolia. Latacz argues that because Troy VIIh, VIIa/VIIi had not only a citadel but also a large lower town, it should be reclassified as an “old near-eastern royal seat and trading centre”.¹⁶¹ The fortifications of the citadel and the lower town support this link to Anatolia as they bear stronger resemblance to Anatolian urban construction of the second millennium B.C.E. than to that of Mycenae.¹⁶² One such resemblance is the defensive ditches at Troy, which were not a part of the composition of Mycenaean towns but were part of the defense of Anatolian urban sites such as Boğazköy,

¹⁶¹ Latacz 2004:37

¹⁶² Latacz 2004:37

Karkemiş/Jerablus and Tell Halaf.¹⁶³ Also in Anatolia, during the Hittite period, towers were an essential part of the perimeter walls of the towns. This is clearly evidenced in the period of Troy VI where the towers are a very prominent part of the citadel wall.¹⁶⁴ (Fig. 2.24, Fig. 2.25 and Fig. 2.26)



Fig. 2.24: Reconstruction of Troy VI



Fig. 2.25: East fortification wall and tower of Late Troy VI, as they appeared in 1938.



Fig. 2.26: The northeastern tower, VIg as exposed by Dörpfeld in 1892

¹⁶³ Latacz 2004:37

¹⁶⁴ Latacz 2004:38

Excavations have yielded more archaeological evidence for links to Anatolia. For example in 1995 a bronze effigy of an Anatolian deity was found in a house from Troy VIIa/VII, in the Lower Town residential quarter southwest of the citadel mound.¹⁶⁵ This find suggests that at this time of around 1200 B.C.E. at least one person or household at Troy worshipped Anatolian deities.¹⁶⁶ Another artefact found at Troy, through Korfmann's excavations, which suggests links with Anatolia is a small round, biconvex-bronze seal with Luwian hieroglyphs inscribed on it.¹⁶⁷ This seal, found in 1995 in a house inside the citadel wall (Blegen's house 761 in the western end) from the early Troy VIIb₂ level (Fig. 2.27),¹⁶⁸ is the first confirmed prehistoric or pre-classical inscription from Troy.¹⁶⁹ Luwian was a language that was spoken in the south and west of the Hittite empire and which was used by the Hittites mainly in seals and monumental inscriptions.¹⁷⁰



Fig. 2.27: Hieroglyphic Luwian seal (Troia VIIb).

¹⁶⁵ Korfmann 1996, Latacz 2004:40

¹⁶⁶ Latacz 2004:40

¹⁶⁷ Korfmann 2003:38, Latacz 2004:49

¹⁶⁸ Hawkins and Easton 1996, Korfmann 1996, Latacz 2004:49

¹⁶⁹ Hawkins and Easton 1996, Latacz 2004:49

¹⁷⁰ Hawkins and Easton 1996, Starke 1997, Latacz 2004:61

In spite of these possible links to Anatolia the ceramic evidence suggests that there was trade between Troy and the Mycenaean Greeks. The recent excavations at Troy confirm that Mycenaean imports from the Argolid were present among the ceramic assemblage, as analysis of the sherds' chemical and isotopic compositions proved their origin.¹⁷¹ There was also a Minoan trade route to Troy, that possibly extended through to the Black Sea area, which the Mycenaeans would have taken control of when they expanded and absorbed the Minoan empire, as evidenced by their gradual dominance over sites such as Trianda and Ialysos on Rhodes and Miletus.¹⁷² Troy would have been an important trading post as it is situated on the Hellespont and the Dardanelles at the entrance to the Black Sea. This location, therefore, suggests that many tradable items passed through Troy, such as copper and gold from the Balkans and the Caucasus, as well as tin, amber and perishable items such as horses, textiles, salt, wood, fish and probably slaves.¹⁷³ There is evidence for the slave trade or slave raids in the Linear B tablets from Pylos, where many tablets refer to female slaves whose ethnicity seems to be of Asian origin (See Chapter Four for more on the Linear B tablets and the mention of female slaves in them).¹⁷⁴ Other artefacts such as weapons and breastplates of Near Eastern origin also reached the Troad, which again shows that the route for trade must have gone through Troy.¹⁷⁵

Troy was in all likelihood a “forced port of call”, as the narrow straits through the Dardanelles made sailing very difficult.¹⁷⁶ Prevailing north-easterly winds required

¹⁷¹ Knacke-Loy, Satlr and Pernicka 1995

¹⁷² Bryce 2006:97-98

¹⁷³ Korfmann 2003:40, 42, Mee 1998:144

¹⁷⁴ Bennet 1997:518-519, Mee 1998:141

¹⁷⁵ Korfmann 2003:43, 45-46

¹⁷⁶ Latacz 2001:7, Mee 1998:144. This is because when an ancient mariner and his ship sailed through to the Black Sea, he was sailing almost straight into the prevailing north-easterly winds and against the strong

trading ships to shelter in Beşik Bay, which lies 8 kilometres to the south-west of the citadel of Troy and acted as Troy's harbour.¹⁷⁷ Troy, consequently, was a major trading centre and entrepôt much like Ugarit, and this would have made it an ideal trading city for the Mycenaean Greeks.¹⁷⁸

Why this contact?

The question now arises: Why did the Mycenaean Greeks need these trading points such as Troy and these overseas settlements such as Miletus and Rhodes? It could have been to expand their territory in a warlike or piratical nature, as Bryce speculates.¹⁷⁹ However, it seems more likely, as Bryce continues that their intention was to produce wealth through commerce, and to establish trade routes with access to land overseas, so as to procure resources that were otherwise scarce on the Greek mainland.¹⁸⁰ Examples are gold, tin and copper or arable farmland or perhaps resources that leave little or no trace in the archaeological record such as slaves.¹⁸¹ All these trade goods could readily be supplied from Anatolia or the trade route through Troy to the Black Sea.¹⁸² Therefore this evidence indicates why the coastline of Anatolia was invaluable to the Mycenaean Greeks. Moreover, there are more sites along the Anatolian coastline that have yielded Mycenaean wares than those discussed above, such as Clazomenae, Panaztepe,

current coming out of the Black Sea. Casson 1991:70, Wood 2005:294-295, more on Bronze Age ship construction and sailing in Chapter Three.

¹⁷⁷ Wood 2005:294, Latacz 2004:41, Mee 1998:144 Beşik Bay was much larger in the Bronze Age than it is now since the river has silted up the Bay and the fresh water lagoon that lay behind the beach.

¹⁷⁸ Mee 1998:145

¹⁷⁹ Bryce 2006:96

¹⁸⁰ Bryce 2006:96, 103-104, Bryce 1998:62, Bryce 1989:13, 20. Or use trade networks that were already established, i.e. the Minoan trade routes that they inherited.

¹⁸¹ Bryce 2006:103, Bryce 1998:62, Bryce 1989:13, 20, Korfmann 2003:40, Bennet 1997:518-519, Mee 1998:141. Therefore accounting for the abundance of gold in the shaft graves at Mycenae. See Chapter Four for more on the slaves in the Linear B tablets.

¹⁸² Bryce 1998:62

Colophon, Ephesus and Cos.¹⁸³ These sites add further weight to the notion of Mycenaean Greeks actively trading with the Anatolian coastline in the Bronze Age.¹⁸⁴

Conclusion

We return then to the original question of how the Mycenaean Greeks, and in particular Mycenae itself situated in the resource-poor Greece, generated their apparent wealth. The most likely answer is their extensive trade and contact with the Anatolian coastline and the surrounding islands. Troy was undoubtedly an important trading contact for the Mycenaeans as a great deal of the resources that they desired, such as gold, came through Troy from the Black Sea region and beyond. The Mycenaeans were noticeably active along the Anatolian coastline as the archaeological evidence, such as the Mycenaean-style chamber tombs and the Mycenaean pottery sherds, confirms the settlement of Mycenaean Greeks at Miletus, Müskebi and the island of Rhodes.¹⁸⁵ These might have been enclaves of merchants within a native population,¹⁸⁶ but more likely were Mycenaean settlements. What is clear is that the Hittites must have been aware of the Mycenaean Greeks trading and settling on the western border of their empire, much as the Persians were aware of the Greeks in Classical antiquity.¹⁸⁷

The questions that arise out of this and which will be discussed in the following chapter are, what type of Mycenaean Greeks were trading with the Anatolian coastline? Were they individual opportunistic merchants or were the palaces in control? And since we have this evidence for trade and contact by the Mycenaean Greeks on the coastline of

¹⁸³ Bryce 2006:99

¹⁸⁴ Bryce 2006:99

¹⁸⁵ Bryce 2006:98-99

¹⁸⁶ Bryce 2006:98

¹⁸⁷ Herodotus *The Histories* 1.141, ed. Rosén

Anatolia, then how is it that there is little evidence for contact with inland Anatolia and therefore direct contact or trade with the Hittites?

Chapter Three: Trade and Exchange

It is clear from Chapter Two that there are numerous sites on the western coastline of Anatolia from which Mycenaean pottery has been recovered. The question still pending is why is there little to no evidence for trade with the heart of the Hittite Empire, that of central Anatolia? There are many factors that could have caused this lack of trade or evidence for lack of trade, such as geological or geographical problems, the idea that the Mycenaean Greeks were a seafaring people and therefore trade with the coastline of Anatolia would have been much more achievable, and the fact that the Mycenaean Greeks had other trade networks to places such as Cyprus, Egypt and the Levant that could have supplied them with everything they needed or desired. It could also have been that the Greek palaces did not exclusively control these trade routes and individual Greek merchants or enclaves of Greek merchants were in control of them.

The majority of the sites where evidence for trade with the Mycenaean Greeks can be found are clearly coastal emporia and some important river networks, such as Egypt (Fig. 3.2, Fig. 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).¹ Even at Miletos and Ras Shamra (Ugarit), where there is evidence for permanent Mycenaean settlement, the evidence for trade does not seem to permeate more than a decent distance beyond Levantine and Anatolian coastlines.² In the case of the Anatolia this is because the coastline was more accessible

¹ Vermeule 1972:255

² Vermeule 1972:255

than inland areas for the Greeks and therefore easier to trade with than the landlocked Hittite seat of power.³ The whole of the Anatolian coastline is essentially cut off from the interior by large mountain ranges.⁴ Miletos, for example, tended to look outwards towards the Aegean for trade as this was much more straightforward, with the great harbour that Miletos had, than overland trade with inland Anatolia. This is because the Latmus Mountain region at the mouth of the Meander River is a natural barrier for trade between Miletos and inland Anatolia.⁵ The way in which Miletos could trade with inland Anatolia was for the merchant to re-board his ship and travel across the Bay to the mouth of the Meander River, thereafter to unload the goods and to send them via land up the river valley (Fig. 3.1 and Fig. 3.2).⁶

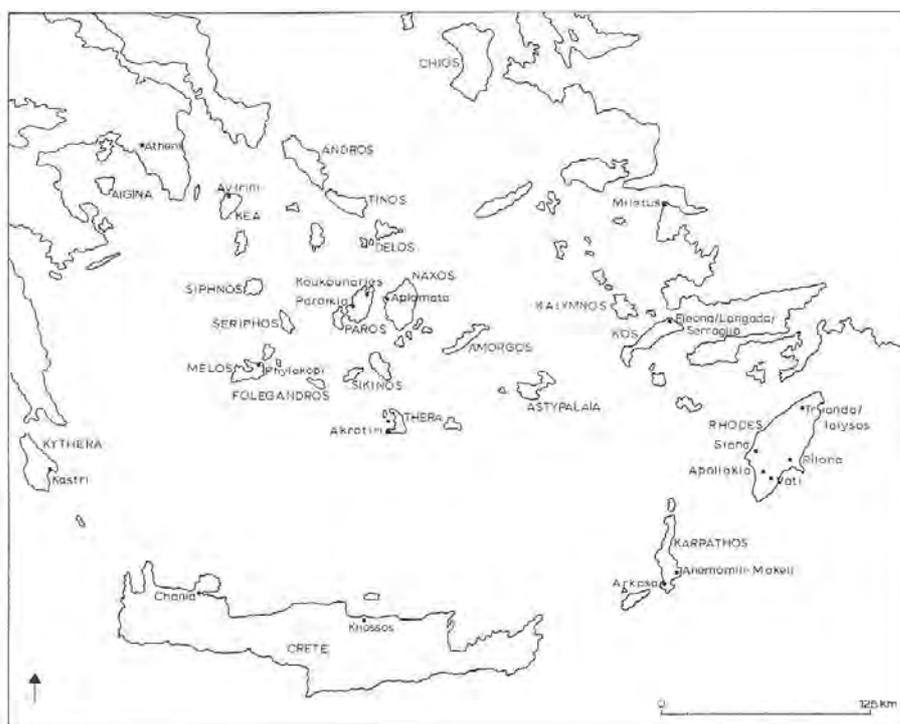


Fig. 3.1: Map of the South Aegean Islands and Miletos with the Bay

³ Bryce *The Major Historical Texts of Early Hittite History*:1

⁴ Cook 1962:61

⁵ Bryce 2006:84

⁶ Cook 1962:51

This inland trade route can be shown to be unpopular, as even in the 6th and 7th centuries B.C. Miletos looked outwards to the Aegean for trade, establishing colonies on the surrounding islands and further afield in the Black Sea region but not in inland Asia Minor.⁷ This access to eastern Aegean trade, therefore, would have been why Miletos was an ideal location in Anatolia for the Mycenaeans to establish themselves. The mountain ranges along the western Anatolian coastline also made coastal communication difficult, as they run out in long headlands, such as that where Miletos is situated.⁸ As a result of these headlands, the islands along the Anatolian coastline, such as Rhodes and Cos, were important for coastal trade and communication because they acted as a bridge for these activities to occur (Fig. 3.1 and Fig. 3.2).⁹

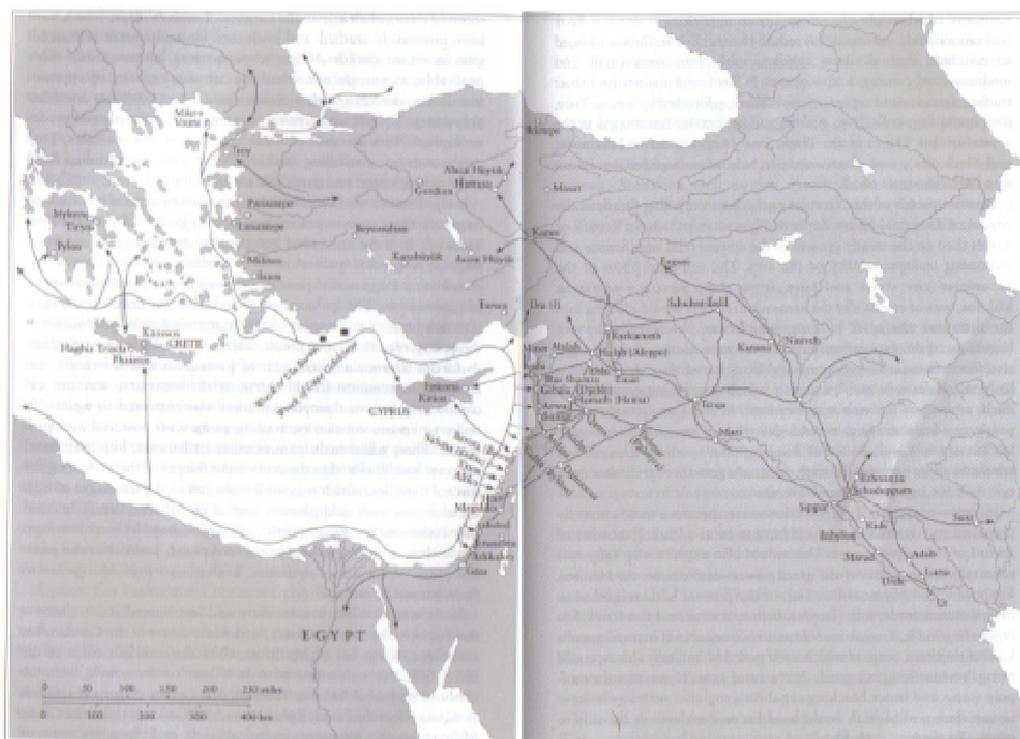


Fig. 3.2: Trade Routes in the Bronze Age

⁷ Casson :1991:71, Cook 1962:51

⁸ Cook 1962:17-18

⁹ Cook 1962:17-18



Fig. 3.3: Terracotta equid from Rhodes, Ialysos, Tomb 73

It seems that Mycenaean wares were rarely transported to inland areas; however, there are some depictions of this occurring (Fig. 3.3).¹⁰ Where the occasional finds of Mycenaean material in inland Anatolia have occurred at Fraktin and the Lake Burdur region, these have usually been jars (stirrup jars) or oil containers.¹¹ These would have gone up the caravan routes possibly passing through the hands of several merchants.¹²

Mycenaean trade occurred in coastal and fluvial areas because the Mycenaean were a seafaring people, as was discussed in the previous chapter.¹³ This capability is also outlined in Thucydides, a 5th-century view on the early Bronze Age, where he explains the origins of seamanship in Greece in his work *The Peloponnesian War*,

Μίνως γὰρ παλαιάτατος ὧν ἀκοῆ ἴσμεν ναυτικὸν ἐκθήσατο
καὶ τῆς νῦν Ἑλληνικῆς θαλάσσης ἐπὶ πλείστον ἐκράτησε
καὶ τῶν Κυκλάδων νήσων ἠρξέ τε καὶ οἰκιστὴς πρῶτος τῶν
πλείστων ἐγένετο, Κᾶρας ἐξελάσας καὶ τοὺς ἑαυτοῦ

¹⁰ Mountjoy 1993:167

¹¹ Vermeule 1972:255

¹² Vermeule 1972:255

¹³ Casson 1991:42, Taylour 1964:148, Mellink 1983:139

παίδας ἡγεμόνας ἐγκαταστήσας· τό τε ληστικόν, ὡς εἰκός, καθήρει ἐκ τῆς θαλάσσης ἐφ' ὅσον ἐδύνατο, τοῦ τὰς προσόδους μᾶλλον ἰέναι αὐτῷ.¹⁴

Minos, according to tradition, was the first person to organise a navy. He controlled the greater part of what is now called the Hellenic Sea; he ruled over the Cyclades, in most of which he founded the first colonies, putting his sons in as governors after having driven out the Carians. And it is reasonable to suppose that he did his best to put down piracy in order to secure his own revenues.¹⁵

οἱ γὰρ Ἑλληνας τὸ πάλαι καὶ τῶν βαρβάρων οἱ τε ἐν τῇ ἡπείρῳ παραθαλάσσιοι καὶ ὅσοι νήσους εἶχον, ἐπειδὴ ἤρξαντο μᾶλλον περαιουῖσθαι ναυσὶν ἐπ' ἀλλήλους, ἐτρέποντο πρὸς ληστείαν, ἡγουμένων ἀνδρῶν οὐ τῶν ἀδυνατωτάτων κέρδους τοῦ σφετέρου αὐτῶν ἕνεκα καὶ τοῖς ἀσθενέσι τροφῆς.¹⁶

For in these early times, as communication by sea became easier, so piracy became a common profession both among the Hellenes and among the barbarians who lived on the coast and in the islands. The leading pirates were powerful men, acting both out of self-interest and in order to support the weak among their own people.¹⁷

The Greeks' affinity with the sea was also apparent in later time periods. Athens' port, the Peiraeus, which was a booming commercial centre in the 5th and 4th centuries B.C., is only the best known example of such a harbour with far-flung connections.¹⁸ Once again Thucydides provides us with some evidence for continuing Greek seamanship:

δυνατωτέρας δὲ γιγνομένης τῆς Ἑλλάδος καὶ τῶν χρημάτων τὴν κτήσιν ἔτι μᾶλλον ἢ πρότερον ποιουμένης τὰ πολλὰ τυραννίδες ἐν ταῖς πόλεσι καθίσταντο, τῶν προσόδων μειζόνων γιγνομένων πρότερον δὲ ἦσαν ἐπὶ ῥητοῖς γέρασι

¹⁴ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.4.1, eds. Page, Capps and Rouse

¹⁵ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.4.1 trans. Warner

¹⁶ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.5.1, eds. Page, Capps and Rouse

¹⁷ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.5.1 trans. Warner

¹⁸ Casson 1991:99-101

πατρικαὶ βασιλείαι, ναυτικά τε ἐξηρτύετο ἢ Ἑλλάς καὶ τῆς θαλάσσης μάλλον ἀντείχοντο.¹⁹

The old form of government was hereditary monarchy with established rights and limitations; but as Hellas became more powerful and as the importance of acquiring money became more and more evident, tyrannies were established in nearly all the cities, revenues increased, shipbuilding flourished, and ambition turned towards sea-power.²⁰

καὶ Ἴωσιν ὕστερον πολὺ γίγνεται ναυτικὸν ἐπὶ Κύρου Περσῶν πρώτου βασιλεύοντος καὶ Καμβύσου τοῦ υἱέος αὐτοῦ, τῆς τε καθ' ἑαυτοὺς θαλάσσης Κύρω πολεμοῦντες ἐκράτησάν τινα χρόνον. καὶ Πολυκράτης Σάμου τυραννῶν ἐπὶ Καμβύσου ναυτικῶ ἰσχύων ἄλλας τε τῶν νήσων ὑπηκόους ἐποίησατο καὶ Ῥήνειαν ἐλὼν ἀνέθηκε τῶ Ἀπόλλωνι τῶ Δηλίῳ.²¹

Later the Ionians were a great naval power. This was in the time of Cyrus, the first King of the Persians, and of his son Cambyses. Indeed, when they were fighting against Cyrus, they were for some time masters of all the sea in their region. Then Polycrates, the tyrant of Samos, made himself powerful by means of his navy. He conquered a number of the islands, among which was Rhenea, which he dedicated to the Delian Apollo.²²

These extracts show that the Greeks were a seafaring people in later periods and therefore suggest the possibility that the Greeks of the Bronze Age too were seafarers. However, our knowledge of Bronze Age freighters or cargo ships is lacking as we are ignorant about the number of crew needed to man the ships and the size of the storage

¹⁹ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.13.1, eds. Page, Capps and Rouse

²⁰ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.13.1 trans. Warner

²¹ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.13.6, eds. Page, Capps and Rouse

²² Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.13.6 trans. Warner

space.²³ The slow-moving cargo ships were propelled by the typical Bronze Age square-rigged sail and oars as the surviving depictions have shown (Fig. 3.4).²⁴

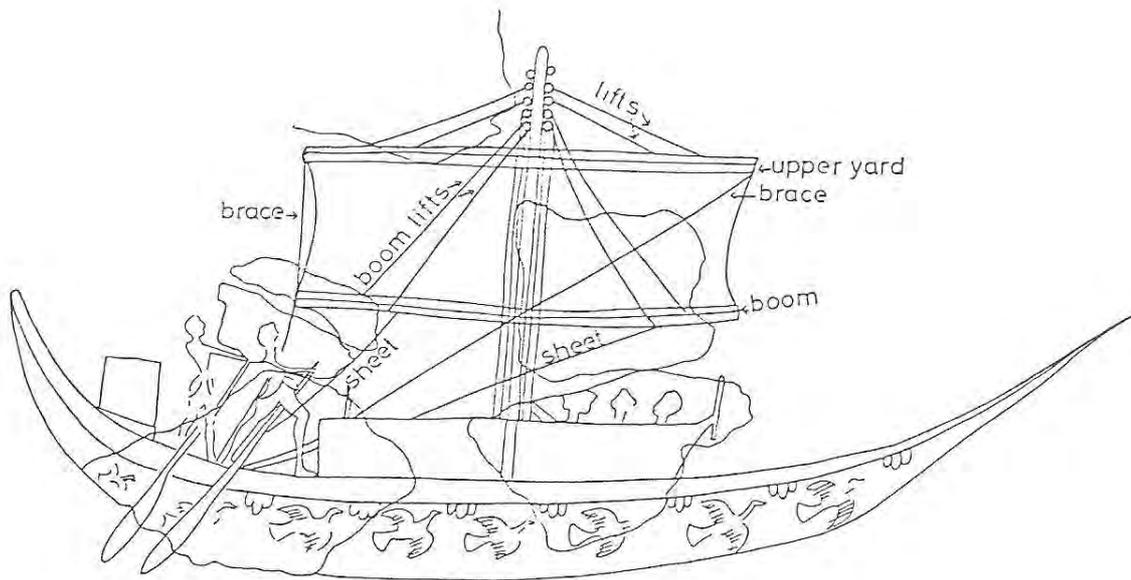


Fig. 3.4: Cargo boat from the miniature fresco in the West House at Thera

Because the Bronze Age ships were designed with the square-rigged sail they were predominantly designed to sail with the wind.²⁵ The art of tacking against the wind was at this time underdeveloped because the square-rigged sail made the process difficult; it could be done but, as Casson points out, inefficiently.²⁶ This square-rigged sail and the sailing techniques that went with it were in use from the Bronze Age until the 6th century B.C., when the foremast was invented.²⁷ Owing to the square-rigged sail and the inefficiency of tacking against the wind the captain of a Bronze-Age ship would have

²³ Mountjoy 1993:163

²⁴ Casson 1991:38, Mountjoy 1993:165, Vermeule 1972:258

²⁵ Casson 1971:273.

²⁶ Latacz 2004:41, Casson 1971:273-274. Casson states that the Bronze Age ships "...could probably point no closer to the wind than seven points," and that (Casson 1971:274 footnote 16) "Square-riggers as late as the 19th century could get no closer than six—i.e., if headed north, they could aim no better than WNW on one leg, ENE in the other."

²⁷ Casson 1971:70

found it easier to sail between islands, or stay closer to the shore, within visible distance to land, sailing from one landfall to the next.²⁸ Hara Georgiou, on the other hand, disagrees with this view, stating that staying closer to land would have been more treacherous for the Bronze Age sailor because of the possibility of crashing into land due to storms.²⁹ There is, however, evidence for the preference of sailing from one landfall to the next in Homer's *Odyssey*, where Nestor, sailing home from Troy, island-hopped from Tenedos to Lesbos and then held a consultation with his captains to plan the next leg of their journey homewards.³⁰ With reservations Nestor decided to set out straight across the open sea instead of sailing from one island to the next, and then landed safely on the southern tip of Euboea, where he sacrificed to Poseidon³¹ "...because we had passed that great stretch of sea."³²

ἡμίσεες δ' ἄρα λαοὶ ἐρητύοντο μένοντες
 αὐθι παρ' Ἀτρεΐδῃ Ἀγαμέμνονι, ποιμένι λαῶν·
 ἡμίσεες δ' ἀναβάντες ἐλαύνομεν· αἶ δὲ μάλ' ὤκα
 ἔπλεον, ἔστορεσεν δὲ θεὸς μεγακῆτεα πόντον.
 ἐς Τένεδον δ' ἐλθόντες ἐρέξαμεν ἱρὰ θεοῖζιν,

οἴκαδε ἰέμενοι· Ζεὺς δ' οὐ πω μήδετο νόστον,
 σχέτλιος, ὅς ῥ' ἔριν ὤρσε κακὴν ἐπι δεύτερον αὐτίς.
 οἱ μὲν ἀποστρέψαντες ἔβαν νέας ἀμφιελίσσας
 ἀμφ' Ὀδυσῆα ἀνακτα δαΐφρονα, ποικιλομήτην,
 αὐτίς ἐπ' Ἀτρεΐδῃ Ἀγαμέμνονι ἦρα φέροντες·

αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ σὺν νηυσὶν ἀολλέσιν, αἶ μοι ἔποντο,
 φεῦγον, ἐπεὶ γίγνωσκον, ὀδὴ κακὰ μήδετο δαίμων.
 φεῦγε δὲ Τυδεὸς υἱὸς ἀρήιος, ὤρσε δ' ἑταίρους.

²⁸ Casson 1991:40

²⁹ Georgiou 1993:360-361

³⁰ Casson 1991:40

³¹ Casson 1991:40

³² Homer *Odyssey* 3.179 trans. Shewring

ὄψε δὲ δὴ μετὰ νῶϊ κίε ξανθὸς Μενέλαος,
 ἐν Λέσβῳ δ' ἔκιχεν δολιχὸν πλόον ὀρμαίνοντας,

ἦ καθύπερθε Χίοιο νεοίμεθα παιπαλοέσσης,
 νήσου ἔπι Ψυρίης, αὐτὴν ἐπ' ἀριστέρ' ἔχοντες,
 ἦ ὑπένερθε Χίοιο, παρ' ἠνεμόεντα Μίμαντα.
 ἠτέομεν δὲ θεὸν φῆναι τέρας· αὐτὰρ ὁ γ' ἡμῖν
 δεῖξε, καὶ ἠνώγει πέλαγος μέσον εἰς Εὐβοίαν

τέμνειν, ὄφρα τάχιστα ὑπέκ κακότητα φύγοιμεν.
 ὦρτο δ' ἐπὶ λιγυρῶς οὖρος ἀήμενοι· αἱ δὲ μάλ' ὦκα
 ἰχθυόεντα κέλευθα διέδραμον, ἔς δὲ Γεραιστὸν
 ἐννύχιαι κατάγοντο· Ποσειδάωνι δὲ ταύρων
 πόλλ' ἐπὶ μῆρ' ἔθεμεν, πέλαγος μέγα μετρήσαντες.

τέτρατον ἡμαρ ἔην, ὅτ' ἐν Ἴαργεῖ νῆας εἴσας
 Τυδεΐδεω ἔταροι Διομήδεος ἰπποδάμοιο
 ἴστασαν· αὐτὰρ ἐγὼ γε Πύλονδ' ἔχον, οὐδέ ποτ' ἔσβη
 οὖρος, ἐπεὶ δὴ πρῶτα θεὸς προέηκεν ἀῆναι.³³

While half of the people still held back, keeping on shore with their shepherd Agamemnon, the other half of us went aboard and began our voyage; the ships sailed fast, for the god had now smoothed the sea with its underworld of waters. We came to Tenedos and offered sacrifice to the gods, longing to be home; but return so soon was not the design of Zeus; unpityingly, he brought disastrous dissension on us a second time. Some of us turned their vessels Troyward again; these were the comrades of King Odysseus the subtle-witted, and now once more they fell in with the wishes of Agamemnon.

I myself fled homewards with all the ships that had come with me, because I was sure that the god intended evil. Brave Diomedes

³³ Homer *Odyssey* 3.155-183 ed. Goold

likewise fled and urged his comrades to make for home. Then, somewhat later, King Menelaus came to join us; he overtook our ships at Lesbos as we pondered over the long sea-journey that remained – should we sail north of craggy Chios and close to Psyra, keeping that island on our left, or south of Chios, past gusty Mimas? We were asking the god to show us some sign, and this he did, counselling a mid-ocean passage towards Euboea to escape disaster as soon as might be. Then a fair wind came whistling over us; our vessels raced through the teeming sea-paths, and during the night reached harbour at Geraestus; then we laid on Poseidon's altar the thighbones of many bulls, because we had passed that great stretch of sea. It was the fourth day when the comrades of Diomedes moored their ships off the coast of Argos; but I myself held on for Pylos, and the fair wind never slacked, from the hour when the god sent it forth to blow.³⁴

Admittedly Homer wrote in the 8th or 7th centuries, but what he describes of the ships in the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* fits in well with what is known of both the ships of his time and the ships of the Bronze Age Aegean.³⁵ He even omits from his descriptions the ram, which was a prominent feature of ships in his time, and the triaconter, a 30 oared vessel, which was also in use in Homer's day.³⁶

More evidence to suggest that sailing between landfalls was the norm for the Bronze Age sailor is that in the 5th century the Greeks still employed the same sailing technique. Thucydides describes how, early in the Peloponnesian War, the Athenians

³⁴ Homer *Odyssey* 3.155-183 trans. Shewring

³⁵ Casson 1971:43

³⁶ Casson 1971:44-45, 49

sided with the Corcyraeans over the Corinthians as their island lay on the route from Greece to Italy and Sicily. This meant that the captain of a ship navigated the shortest distance of open water between the Greek mainland and Italy and once there could sail down the coast of Italy to Sicily.

ἔδόκει γὰρ ὁ πρὸς Πελοποννησίους πόλεμος καὶ ὡς ἔσεσθαι αὐτοῖς, καὶ τὴν Κέρκυραν ἐβούλοντο μὴ προέσθαι τοῖς Κορινθίοις ναυτικὸν ἔχουσαν τοσοῦτον, ξυγκρούειν δὲ ὅτι μάλιστα αὐτοὺς ἀλλήλοις, ἵνα ἀσθενεστέροις οὔσιν, ἣν τι δέη, Κορινθίοις τε καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις τοῖς ναυτικὸν ἔχουσιν ἐς πόλεμον καθιστῶνται. ἅμα δὲ τῆς τε Ἰταλίας καὶ Σικελίας καλῶς ἐφαίνετο αὐτοῖς ἡ νῆσος ἐν παράπλω κείσθαι.³⁷

The general belief was that, whatever happened, war with the Peloponnese was bound to come. Athens had no wish to see the strong navy of Corcyra pass into the hands of Corinth. At the same time she was not adverse from letting the two Powers weaken each other by fighting together; since in this way, if war did come, Athens herself would be stronger in relation to Corinth and to the other naval Powers. Then, too, it was the fact that Corcyra lay very conveniently on the coastal route to Italy and Sicily.³⁸

The discoveries of two Bronze-Age shipwrecks by George Bass off the coast of south-western Turkey have greatly increased the understanding of Bronze-Age ships and the widespread trade that took place in this time period.³⁹ The first ship was found off Cape Gelidonya and excavations began in 1960 (Fig 3.2).⁴⁰ It was a small ship 8-9 metres in length and was perhaps Syrian or Cypriot in origin.⁴¹ The ship, which has been dated

³⁷ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.44.2, eds. Page, Capps and Rouse

³⁸ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.44.2 trans. Warner

³⁹ Bryce 2006:123, Casson 1991:26

⁴⁰ Casson 1991:26

⁴¹ Casson 1991:26, Vermeule 1972:230, Bryce 2006:123

to c.1200 B.C. on the basis of the artefacts it was carrying, was sailing west from Cyprus or the Levant carrying copper ingots and bronze tools (Fig. 3.5).⁴²



Fig. 3.5: Copper ingots from the Cape Gelidonya shipwreck

The second shipwreck that was discovered in 1982, west of the previous shipwreck, was much larger.⁴³ The ship of Ulu Burun was found 8 kilometres offshore from Kaş and at the time it sank was sailing from east to west (Fig. 3.2).⁴⁴ Owing to the nature of its cargo Ulu Burun has been likened to a royal consignment.⁴⁵ The ship was transporting 10 tons of copper ingots, which equates to some 500 ingots, and this was the main component of the cargo.⁴⁶ There was also one ton of tin, which amounts to the correct ratio to mix copper and tin together to make bronze.⁴⁷ The second largest

⁴² Vermeule 1972:229, Bryce 2006:123

⁴³ Casson 1991:26

⁴⁴ Bryce 2006:123, Bass, Pulak, Collon, Weinstein 1986:1, Bass 1986:269, 295, Pulak 1988:35

⁴⁵ Casson 1991:26

⁴⁶ Bryce 2006:123, Bass 1986:269, Pulak 1988:1, 6, Casson 1991:26. Casson explains that around 200 of these copper ingots were "...carefully stowed in rows deep in the hull."

⁴⁷ Casson 1991:26, Bryce 2006:123

component of the cargo, after the copper ingots, was terebinth resin (used to make perfume), which was found packed into amphoras (Fig. 3.6).⁴⁸



Fig 3.6: The Ulu Burun wreck. A diver holds an amphora while he manoeuvres over a mound of copper ingots

Other items included fragments of gold and silver, a solid gold cup, raw ivory, hippo teeth, ingots of raw glass, logs of African ebony, and a consignment of Cypriot ceramics (which were 18 pieces in total packed with care in a huge clay jar).⁴⁹ The cargo of the Ulu Burun wreck displays how geographically widespread the Bronze Age trade networks were (Fig. 3.7).⁵⁰ The copper and pottery would have come from Cyprus, the resin and glass from the Near East and the ebony and hippo teeth from Egypt.⁵¹ There were also other objects such as Near Eastern cylinder seals, Egyptian scarabs, a

⁴⁸ Casson 1991:26-27

⁴⁹ Casson 1991:27, Bass 1986:269, 274, Pulak 1988:5

⁵⁰ Korfmann 2003:46, Casson 1991:27

⁵¹ Casson 1991:27, Bass 1986:269, 274, Pulak 1988:5

between the visible imports and the exports found around the Mediterranean.⁵⁵ The Mycenaean exports were primarily the Mycenaean pots,⁵⁶ in particular closed shapes such as stirrup jars and piriform jars in various sizes, which were used to hold wine, perfumed oils and probably olive oil (Fig. 3.8).⁵⁷ Alabastra and amphoriskoi were used to hold honey and possibly spices such as mint, coriander, and cumin (Fig 3.8).⁵⁸ The settled enclaves of Mycenaean merchants overseas, at places such as Miletus or Rhodes, produced the more fragile pottery, such as drinking cups and vases, and the pots with pictorial decoration, such as the amphoroid and the stemmed and ring-based kraters, were imported as luxury items (Fig. 3.8).⁵⁹ Other Mycenaean exports included forged bronze weapons and, in addition to the archaeologically untraceable items mentioned above (wine and olive oil) there were probably textiles, timber and mercenary soldiers.⁶⁰ The imports, as has been demonstrated by the shipwrecks above, were most probably raw materials that were worked by Mycenaean craftsmen. These raw materials, attested from the archaeological remains, included bronze and tin from Canaan; bronze from Cypriot mines; silver and gold from Troy; ivory and spices from the Levantine coast; and faïence, alabaster, and gold from Egypt.⁶¹

⁵⁵ Vermeule 1972:255

⁵⁶ Presumably this was not only for the pots but the contents inside them as well.

⁵⁷ Vermeule 1972:255, Mountjoy 1993:163, Cadogan 1993:93

⁵⁸ Mountjoy 1993:163

⁵⁹ Mountjoy 1993:163, Vermeule 1972:255

⁶⁰ Vermeule 1972:255

⁶¹ Vermeule 1972:255-257

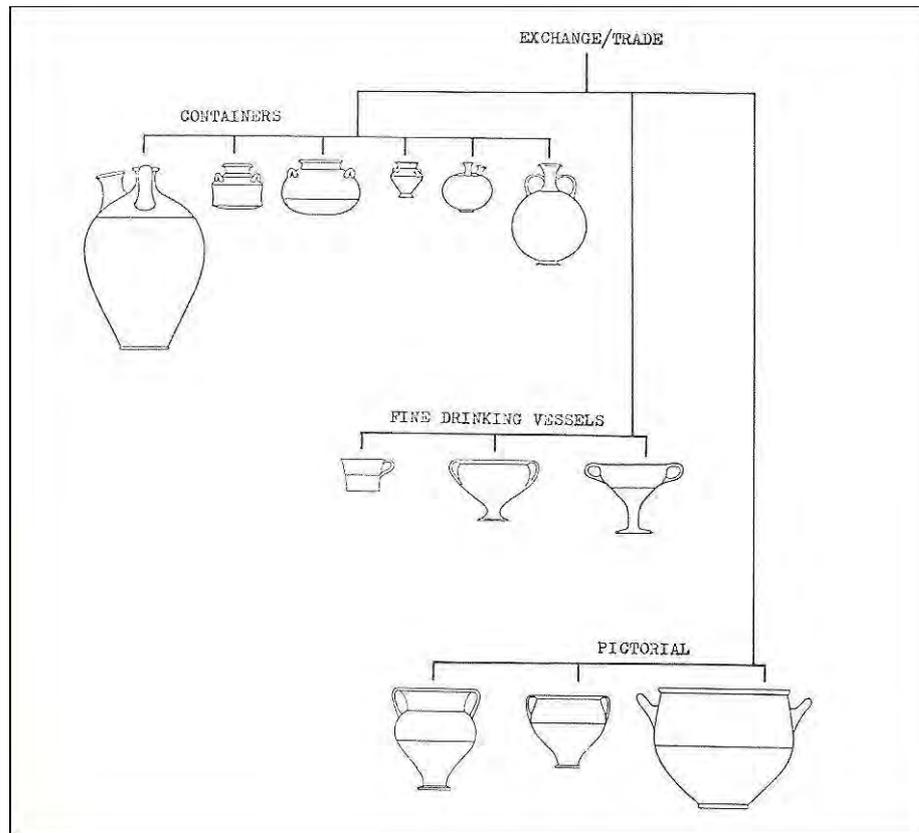


Fig 3.8: Vessels utilised in Exchange and Trade

The extent of the widespread trade networks in the Bronze Age is apparent, as many sites other than those mentioned in Chapter Two have yielded Mycenaean wares. These trade routes to places such as Cyprus, the Levant and Egypt, all of which appear to have supplied the Mycenaean Greeks with the commodities they needed and desired, were routes that the Minoans used before the Mycenaean, and they are similar to the trade routes the Greeks had in later time periods.⁶² Casson explains that in the 5th and 4th centuries Athens imported items such as wine, figs, nuts and slaves from Asia Minor, papyrus and flax from Egypt, preserved fish from the Black Sea, dates, incense and wine

⁶² Casson 1991:100-103

from Syria and furniture from Miletos.⁶³ Mycenaean wares have been found at Cyprus, along the Levant and in Egypt to varying degrees. These wares bear witness to both extensive trade and settlement.

Cyprus



Fig. 3.9: Cyprus

Much Mycenaean pottery has been found in Cyprus, but none dating before the LHIIA period.⁶⁴ In this period the Mycenaean pottery has been found at Ayia Irini (Fig. 3.9), while in LHIIIB Mycenaean wares have been uncovered in Cyprus at Enkomi (Fig. 3.9).⁶⁵ Mycenaean pottery in the LHIIIA1 phase is rather more common in sites around the Mediterranean and it is found in several sites on Cyprus, these being Enkomi, Maroni, Kalavassos, Milea, Katydata, Hala Sultan Tekke, and Kourion (Fig. 3.9).⁶⁶

The LHIIIA2 period saw the exportation of Mycenaean wares increase and, therefore, Mycenaean trade expanded to a great extent on Cyprus.⁶⁷ A large volume of

⁶³ Casson 1991:100

⁶⁴ Cadogan 1993:93

⁶⁵ Mountjoy 1993:168, 169

⁶⁶ Cadogan 1993:93, Mountjoy 1993:170

⁶⁷ Mountjoy 1993:171, Cadogan 1993:93, Stubbings 1951:31-32

LHIIIA2 pottery has been uncovered on Cyprus with the most popular shapes being stirrup jars, piriform jars, straight-sided alabastra, amphoroid kraters (Fig. 3.10), jugs and flasks.⁶⁸ Owing to the amount of pottery found on Cyprus in the LHIIIA2 period it is natural to assume that there were Mycenaean settlers there at this time;⁶⁹ however, clay analysis has proven that the pottery was imported, obviously in abundance.⁷⁰ Moreover, the burial style and architectural elements on Cyprus still exhibited the local techniques and there is minimal Mycenaean unpainted every-day pottery that usually denotes Mycenaean settlement.⁷¹

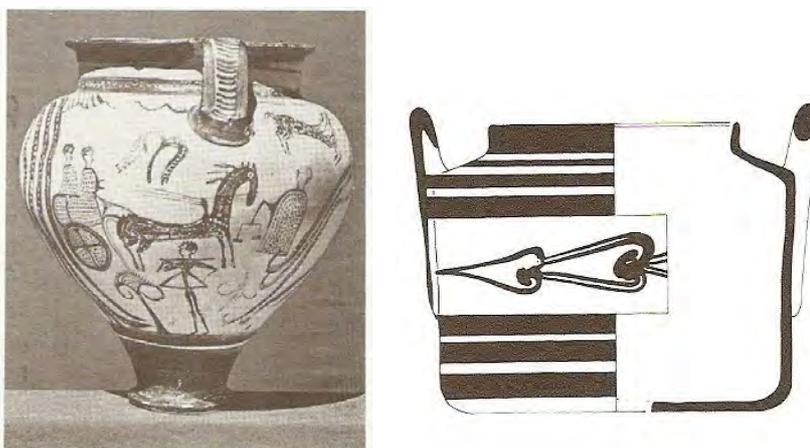


Fig. 3.10: Amphoroid Krater from Enkomi and a Straight-sided Alabastron

In the LHIIIB phase more Mycenaean pottery has been recovered than from the previous LHIIIA2 phase.⁷² This contrasts with the decrease in the amount of pottery found on Rhodes in the LHIIIB phase compared to the LHIIIA2 period.⁷³ Once again the

⁶⁸ Cadogan 1993:93, Mountjoy 1993:171

⁶⁹ As there appear to be on Rhodes in this time period, see Chapter Two.

⁷⁰ Mountjoy 1993:171-172

⁷¹ Mountjoy 1993:171-172, Cadogan 1993:94

⁷² Mountjoy 1993:174, Stubbings 1951:37

⁷³ Mountjoy 1993:173, Mee 1982:1. See Chapter Two as the LHIIIB phase may not necessarily be one of decline on Rhodes.

popular shapes were piriform jars, stirrup jars and amphoroid kraters, but deep bowls and ring-based kraters join the list.⁷⁴ The majority of pottery dating to this phase has been found at such sites as Enkomi, Kourion, Hala Sultan Tekke and Kition (Fig. 3.9); however, there is still no evidence for Mycenaean settlement on Cyprus, and the majority of the pottery comes from Cypriot burial contexts.⁷⁵ Another piece of evidence to suggest that Mycenaean settlers were not settling on Cyprus at this time (at least in large numbers) is that some of the pottery found on Cyprus includes shapes uncommon on the mainland, which suggests these styles of pottery were being produced exclusively for export to Cyprus.⁷⁶ These uncommon shapes include shallow bowls, chalices, and ring-based kraters adorned in the Pictorial Style, (Fig.3.11).⁷⁷



Fig. 3.11: A Shallow Bowl and a Ring-based Krater with stags from Enkomi

The LHIIC Early period indicates the arrival of Mycenaean settlers as most of the Mycenaean pottery is at this time locally made.⁷⁸ Mycenaean pottery has been found at sites such as Enkomi, Kition, and Sinda as well as central sites and western coastal

⁷⁴ Mountjoy 1993:174

⁷⁵ Mountjoy 1993:174

⁷⁶ Mountjoy 1993:174. It seems, for this pottery to be buried with Cypriots.

⁷⁷ Mountjoy 1993:174

⁷⁸ Mountjoy 1993:175

sites (Fig. 3.9).⁷⁹ More evidence to indicate that Mycenaean and Mycenaean craftsmen were now settling on Cyprus is that bronze greaves, oxhide ingots and ivory carvings with a Mycenaean influence have been found, along with the Naue II sword (a common Mycenaean sword of this time period).⁸⁰ In comparison to the LHIIC Early period, the Mycenaean pottery of the LHIIC Middle phase is not common around the Mediterranean, but it was still locally produced on Cyprus by the Mycenaean settlers.⁸¹ In the LHIIC Late period on Cyprus a new style of pottery appears that was labelled the Proto-White Painted ware.⁸² It is an amalgamation of local Cypriot and local Mycenaean decoration and shapes.⁸³

From the evidence presented above it is clear that the Mycenaean Greeks were trading extensively with Cyprus. It is also apparent, from the local production of Mycenaean pottery, that by LHIIC Early the Mycenaean Greeks were settling on Cyprus. However, unlike sites such as Rhodes and Miletus, these settlers were fewer in number and established themselves in the native population, as is evident from the Cypriot architectural features, such as burial style, and the pottery, and because minimal Mycenaean unpainted every-day pottery has been found. This pattern of extensive trade but sparse settlement by the Mycenaean Greeks is similar in the Levant, which I will examine now.

⁷⁹ Mountjoy 1993:174-175

⁸⁰ Mountjoy 1993:23, 175

⁸¹ Mountjoy 1993:175

⁸² Mountjoy 1993:176

⁸³ Mountjoy 1993:176

Levant

Mycenaean wares have been found in around 60 sites along the Levantine coast, at places such as Ras Shamra (Ugarit), Minet el Beida (port of Ugarit), Byblos and Tell Abu Hawam, to name only a few (Fig. 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).⁸⁴

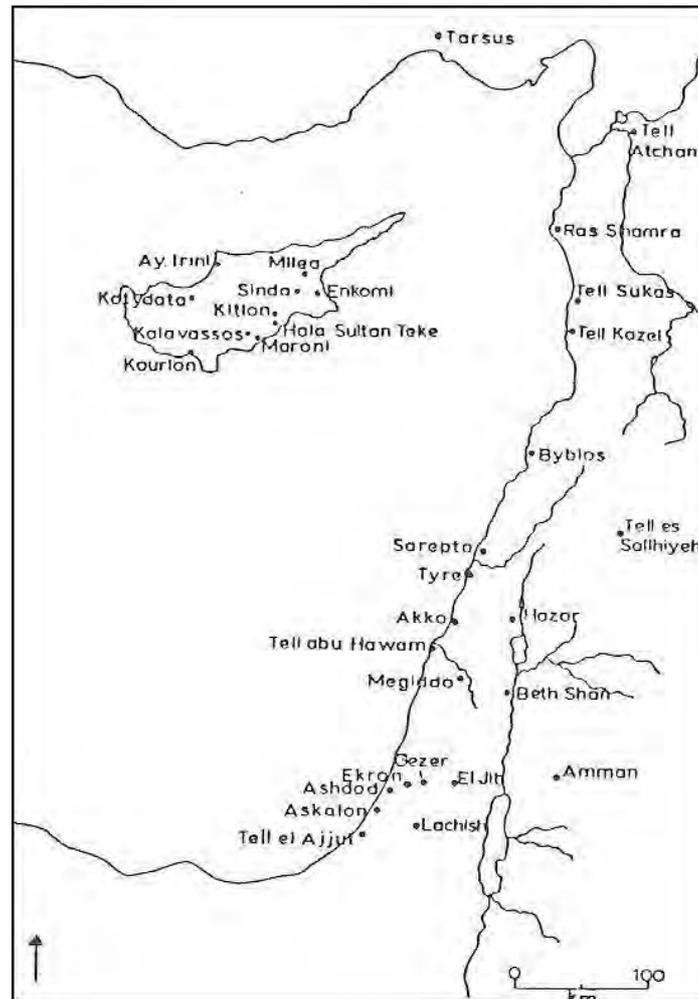


Fig. 3.12: The Levant/Near East and Cyprus

LHIIA is the earliest phase of Mycenaean pottery to appear in the Levant,⁸⁵ and was found at Lachish, Tell el Ajjul and Byblos (Fig 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).⁸⁶ As there is only a

⁸⁴ Bryce 2006:98, Hankey 1993a:105-107, Mountjoy 1993:168-175

small quantity of this pottery Vronwy Hankey suggests that it was a result of trade, but most likely not a product of regular trade.⁸⁷ It is a similar case in LHIIIB, where pottery from this period is found at Amman in the Near East (Fig 3.12 and Fig 3.13).⁸⁸ It was not until the LHIIIA1 phase when Mycenaean pottery became more extensive along the Levant.⁸⁹ LHIIIA1 pottery has been found at Gezer, Tell Kazel, Tell es Salihiyeh, El Jib and Hazor (Fig. 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).⁹⁰

This progressive abundance of Mycenaean pottery increased in the LHIIIA2 phase.⁹¹ In Syria there was only a small amount of LHIIIA2 pottery because this area came under Hittite control at the end of the LHIIIA1 period; however, on the coast of the Mediterranean the site of Ras Shamra (Ugarit) continued to import large quantities of LHIIIA2 pottery (Fig. 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).⁹² Some of this Mycenaean pottery reached Tell Atchana (further north and inland of Ras Shamra) and much reached Jordan and Israel (Fig. 3.12).⁹³ The inland site of Beth Shan has also yielded Mycenaean LHIIIA2 pottery, and Tell Abu Hawam has a similar amount of pottery as Ras Shamra (Ugarit) (Fig. 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).⁹⁴ The popular shapes of Mycenaean pottery in the Near East in the LHIIIA2 period were much the same as for Cyprus in the same time period: piriform jars, stirrup jars, flasks, and straight-sided alabaster (Fig. 3.10).⁹⁵ Another favourite was

⁸⁵ Hankey 1993a:103, Mountjoy 1993:168

⁸⁶ Mountjoy 1993:168

⁸⁷ Hankey 1993a:103

⁸⁸ Mountjoy 1993:169

⁸⁹ Hankey 1993a:103, Mountjoy 1993:170

⁹⁰ Mountjoy 1993:170

⁹¹ Mountjoy 1993:172

⁹² Mountjoy 1993:172. See Chapter Four for evidence of the Hittite control of this area.

⁹³ Mountjoy 1993:172

⁹⁴ Mountjoy 1993:172

⁹⁵ Mountjoy 1993:172

the amphoroid krater decorated in the Pictorial Style (Fig. 3.10).⁹⁶ This correlation with popular styles or shapes on Cyprus suggests that in this time period, LHIIIA2, the abundance of Mycenaean ware is a product of trade with Cyprus and the Mycenaean Greeks.

In the LHIIIB Mycenaean pottery imports to the Levant increased, as is the case on Cyprus as well.⁹⁷ Once again, with the majority of the sites in the Levant this was probably due to intensive trade.⁹⁸ The exceptions to these are the sites of Ras Shamra (Ugarit) and Minet el Beida, the harbour of Ras Shamra, which lay opposite Cyprus, where LHIIIB Mycenaean pottery is found in abundance, along with many Mycenaean cult figurines (Fig 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).⁹⁹ Mountjoy proposes that there was growth in trade in the Levant because of the political stability of the time.¹⁰⁰ She states that after the Battle of Qadesh Rameses II made a treaty with the Hittites, the outcome of which was that trade could flow freely within this area.¹⁰¹ The political stability once again allowed LHIIIB pottery to permeate through Syria reaching to the north at Tell Atchana (Fig 3.12).¹⁰² Once more there is much LHIIIB pottery at Tell Abu Hawam,¹⁰³ and the pottery is found inland at Megiddo and Beth Shan (Fig 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).¹⁰⁴ The popular shapes of the LHIIIB phase were stirrup jars and *kylikes*.¹⁰⁵

The LHIIIC Early period differs markedly from the previous LHIIIB period in that only a small volume of pottery from the LHIIIC Early phase has been found along

⁹⁶ Mountjoy 1993:172

⁹⁷ Mountjoy 1993:174

⁹⁸ Mountjoy 1993:174

⁹⁹ Mountjoy 1993:174, Stubbings 1951:71

¹⁰⁰ Mountjoy 1993:174

¹⁰¹ Mountjoy 1993:174

¹⁰² Mountjoy 1993:174

¹⁰³ Much like Ras Shamra (Ugarit).

¹⁰⁴ Mountjoy 1993:174, Stubbings 1951:79, 82

¹⁰⁵ Mountjoy 1993:174

the Levantine coast.¹⁰⁶ LHIIC pottery imports have been found at Tell Sukas in Syria, at Beth Shan, Ashdod and Sarepta (Fig 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).¹⁰⁷ LHIIC Early pottery has also been found at Tyre and Byblos but here it is possibly locally made as opposed to imported (Fig 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).¹⁰⁸ This pottery volume in the Levant contrasts markedly with the same time period on Cyprus. As has been discussed above, LHIIC Early was a time of greater expansion of Mycenaean pottery on Cyprus.¹⁰⁹

The LHIIC Middle period saw a mixture of a few Mycenaean imports in the Levant, either from the Greek mainland or Cyprus, and local imitations.¹¹⁰ The pottery could also have been made in the Levant by Mycenaeans established there.¹¹¹ The scant imports have been found at Tell Keisan and Beth Shan (Fig 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).¹¹² The local copies were manufactured at Ashdod, Ekron and Akko (Fig 3.12 and Fig. 3.13).¹¹³ At Byblos there were also vases that were either locally made or imported.¹¹⁴ In LHIIC Middle there was a hybrid ware that was locally made as well.¹¹⁵ This hybrid ware has been labelled Philistine Ware and it mixed the local style of red and black paint with Mycenaean LHIIC designs, such as fish or birds.¹¹⁶ In the LHIIC Late period no Mycenaean pottery has been found on the Levantine coast or in Egypt.¹¹⁷

Like Cyprus, the Levant traded in abundance with the Mycenaean Greeks and at Ras Shamra (Ugarit) the Mycenaean Greeks settled. The Mycenaean pottery found at

¹⁰⁶ Mountjoy 1993:174

¹⁰⁷ Mountjoy 1993:174, Hankey 1993a:106-107

¹⁰⁸ Mountjoy 1993:174

¹⁰⁹ Mountjoy 1993:175

¹¹⁰ Mountjoy 1993:175

¹¹¹ Mountjoy 1993:175

¹¹² Mountjoy 1993:175

¹¹³ Mountjoy 1993:175

¹¹⁴ Mountjoy 1993:175

¹¹⁵ Mountjoy 1993:175

¹¹⁶ Mountjoy 1993:175

¹¹⁷ Mountjoy 1993:176

sites along the Levant suggests that the trade occurred with the Mycenaean Greeks on Cyprus (or at least it occurred with them through Cyprus) as there is a correlation of popular styles and shapes with Cyprus and the Levant. In Egypt, however, it appears that the Mycenaean pottery found there was a result of trade rather than settlement.

Egypt

In Egypt, Mycenaean wares have been discovered in around 20 sites (Fig. 3.13).¹¹⁸ The earliest Mycenaean pottery in Egypt dates to the LHIIA phase¹¹⁹ and has been found at Saqqara and Thebes (Fig. 3.13).¹²⁰ Some LHIIIB pottery has also been found at sites such as Kahun, Thebes and Gurob (Fig. 3.13).¹²¹ Much Mycenaean pottery was imported in Egypt in the LHIIIA2 period.¹²² In LHIIIA2 the Pharaoh Amenophis IV or Akhenaten moved his palace and the capital of Egypt to Tell el Amarna and LHIIIA2 pottery has been found in great profusion there (Fig. 3.13).¹²³ The LHIIIA2 pottery finds at Tell el Amarna have been unearthed in numerous contexts from the palace complex itself, to the temples, to the poorer houses.¹²⁴ LHIIIA2 pottery has additionally been located at Qantir, Tell el-Muqdam, Saqqara, Memphis, Gurob and Thebes (Fig. 3.13).¹²⁵ Popular closed shapes of LHIIIA2 pottery in Egypt were piriform jars and flasks (Fig. 3.14).¹²⁶ Other shapes included were shallow cups and shallow bowls and *kylikes*.¹²⁷

¹¹⁸ Bryce 2006:98

¹¹⁹ This correlates with Cyprus and the Levant.

¹²⁰ Mountjoy 1993:168, Hankey 1993b:112, 113, 114

¹²¹ Mountjoy 1993:169, Hankey 1993b:113, 114

¹²² Hankey 1993b:112, Mountjoy 1993:172

¹²³ Mountjoy 1993:172, Hankey 1993b:111

¹²⁴ Hankey 1993b:111

¹²⁵ Hankey 1993b:113, 114, Mountjoy 1993:172

¹²⁶ Mountjoy 1993:172

¹²⁷ Hankey 1993b:112

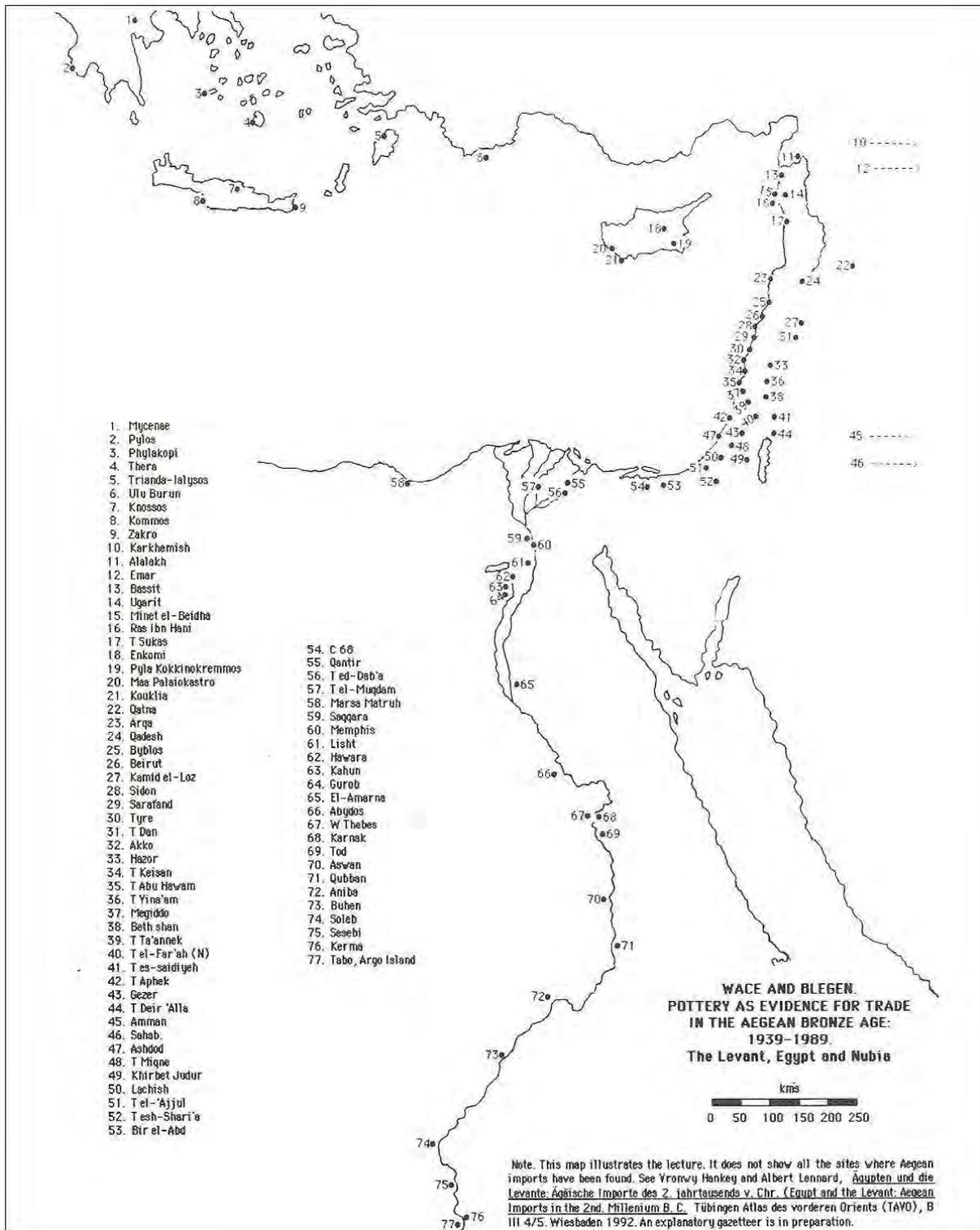


Fig 3.13: A map of the Levant and Egypt to illustrate trade in the Bronze Age



Fig. 3.14: LHIIIA2 piriform jar from the bridge connecting the Great Palace with the King's House, Tell el Amarna, and a LHIIIA2 flask from the Rubbish Heaps, Tell el Amarna

Pottery from the LHIIIB period is not found in quantity in Egypt; however, the stirrup jar was still used and imported.¹²⁸ No pottery from the LHIIIC phase has been uncovered thus far in Egypt; therefore it is reasonable to assume that trade between the Mycenaean Greeks and Egypt or at least the importation of Mycenaean wares to Egypt ceased sometime in LHIIIB.¹²⁹

In the case of Cyprus and Ras Shamra (Ugarit) there appears to be a steady increase of trade with the Mycenaeans from the LHIIA period onwards, which led to eventual colonisation by Mycenaean merchants and craftsmen. The rest of the Levant region produces much in the way of Mycenaean wares but this is only slight evidence of the Mycenaeans themselves living in this area.¹³⁰ In Egypt the Mycenaean pottery finds, which are widespread and abundant, were a by-product of trade, although it is uncertain whether the Mycenaeans themselves were trading with this area or whether trade

¹²⁸ Mountjoy 1993:174

¹²⁹ Hankey 1993b:112, Mountjoy 1993:175, 176

¹³⁰ Bryce 2006:98

occurred through an intermediary.¹³¹ In comparison there is evidence that the Minoans traded directly with Egypt.¹³² This can be seen in tomb paintings at Thebes, such as the one below where a Minoan man, dressed in Minoan style, is carrying a bull rhyton (Fig. 3.15).¹³³

It does seem, however, that the Egyptians were aware of the Mycenaeans, as a base of a statue at Kom el-Hetan in the temple of the Pharaoh Amenophis III (c.1390-1352 B.C.) has a two-part list inscribed on it that has references to Greek sites.¹³⁴ This inscription is one of five inscriptions that list the important towns and regions that were of political significance and were known to the Egyptians at this time.¹³⁵ On the left-hand side of the inscription is a list of mainland Greek sites, which includes Mycenae, Messenia, Elis, Nauplion and Cythera and a list of Minoan sites, which includes Knossos, with its port Amnisus, and Phaestus (the palace centres) and also a town Cydonia, which Bryce writes is the modern Khania.¹³⁶ On the right-hand side of the inscription are the names Dnj and Kftw (Keftiu).¹³⁷

Keftiu most probably refers to the Minoans or Cretans and on the left-hand side are the cities that these people come from, such as Cnossos.¹³⁸ Dnj has been equated with the name Danaya, one of the names the Greeks were possibly known by in the Bronze Age.¹³⁹ Homer uses this name in its Greek form Danaoi (Δαναοί) interchangeably with

¹³¹ Bryce 2006:98

¹³² Bryce 2006:98

¹³³ Vermeule 1972:148ff, Bryce 2006:98

¹³⁴ Bryce 2006:89-90, Latacz 2004:130

¹³⁵ Latacz 2004:130

¹³⁶ Bryce 2006:90

¹³⁷ Bryce 2006:90

¹³⁸ Latacz 2004:130

¹³⁹ Bryce 2006:90, Latacz 2004:130

Achaians to name the Greeks in *The Iliad*¹⁴⁰ and *The Odyssey*.¹⁴¹ This would then mean that the places on the left-hand side are where the Danaya came from, such as Mycenae.¹⁴² There is also a reference to Danaya in the annals of Tuthmosis III, where a prince of Danaya sent a drinking set to the pharaoh in the Levant¹⁴³ comprising four copper beakers with silver handles and a silver flagon in 'Kafta-work'.¹⁴⁴ More evidence, this time from the mainland of Greece, which suggests that the Egyptians were aware of the Mycenaean Greeks and vice versa was the discovery, at Mycenae, of the remains of a faïence door-post that has both the birth name and the pharaonic name of Amenophis III incised on both sides.¹⁴⁵ There have also been finds of six to nine faïence plaques at Mycenae, either arriving here through direct trade or through an intermediary.¹⁴⁶ Six sites in the Aegean, including Mycenae, have yielded faïence artefacts that have the names of either Amenophis III or his wife Queen Teje inscribed on them.¹⁴⁷ These forms of evidence add certain weight that the Mycenaeans were known to the Egyptians even if they were not trading directly with them.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁰ Homer *The Iliad* 1.42, 1.90, eds. Page, Capps, Rouse, Post and Warmington

¹⁴¹ Homer *The Odyssey* 1.350, ed. Goold, Bryce 2006:90

¹⁴² Bryce 2006:90

¹⁴³ Tuthmosis III was in Syria on a campaign, Latacz 2004:132

¹⁴⁴ Latacz 2004:132, Kafta-work is described here as Cretan-Minoan Style. Also this is the time when the Mycenaeans occupied Knossos on Crete. Latacz 2004:133

¹⁴⁵ Latacz 2004:131, Latacz also describes here the possible uses for the room such as an Egyptian consulate, Egyptian medical practice, the bedroom of an Egyptian or an Egyptian temple.

¹⁴⁶ Latacz 2004:132

¹⁴⁷ Latacz 2004:132

¹⁴⁸ Latacz 2004:132-133

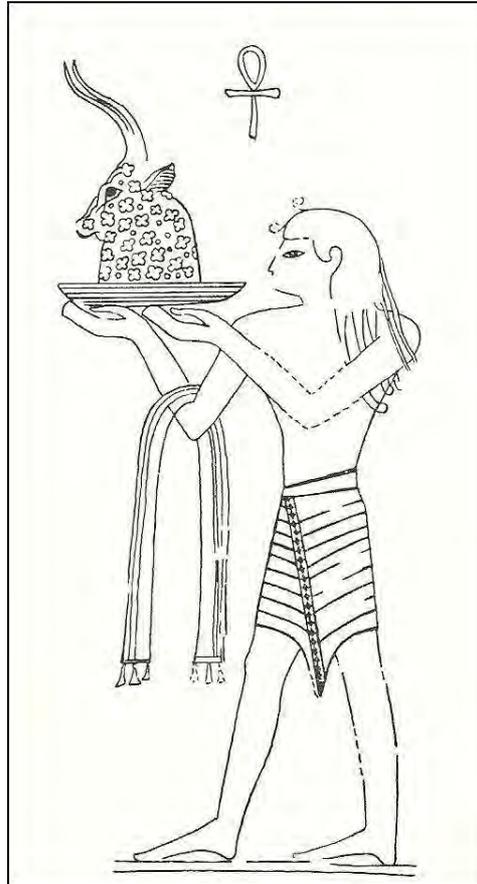


Fig. 3.15: A painting of Keftiu in procession with Aegean gifts in a tomb in Thebes

It is apparent, therefore, from the abundance of Mycenaean wares found at a number of sites all over the Aegean, Near East and Egypt, that the Mycenaean were clearly active in overseas ventures¹⁴⁹ in the Bronze Age, and particularly in the Late Bronze Age. It has been suggested that the Mycenaean were not directly trading with the Levant and Egypt, but that the trade was left in the hands of other people, such as the Cypriots or the Syrians who were active traders in the Late Bronze Age,¹⁵⁰ as the

¹⁴⁹ Bryce 2006:98

¹⁵⁰ Bryce 2006:98

shipwreck off Cape Gelidonya attests (Fig. 3.2 and Fig. 3.5).¹⁵¹ It is likely, however, that the Mycenaeans were trading directly, given the evidence presented thus far either from the mainland of Greece or from places such as Rhodes or Cyprus.¹⁵² What is to be determined is to what extent the Mycenaean palaces or royalty were involved in these overseas expeditions. To shed some light on this I will discuss the Linear B tablets in the following chapter.

From the evidence discussed above it is more than likely that the Mycenaeans settled on Cyprus and at Ras Shamra (Ugarit) on the coast of the Levant, and even if they did not settle in Egypt, it is evident that the Egyptians were in fact aware of the Mycenaeans and vice versa. The shipwreck of Ulu Burun shows that these trade routes and contacts supplied the Mycenaeans with all the raw materials and items that they required, such as copper and tin to make bronze.¹⁵³ The Mycenaeans for their part provided functional and decorative pottery, as well as, presumably, what was inside these vessels—wine, perfumed oils and probably olive oil.¹⁵⁴ Given the existence of these trade routes and the geographical and geological difficulties of trading with inland Anatolia, coupled with the accessibility of the Anatolian coastline and the sea capabilities of the Mycenaeans (discussed above), it is not altogether surprising that Mycenaean objects are rarely found in inland Anatolia. The Mycenaean contacts with Cyprus, the Levant (especially at Ras Shamra), and Egypt would have allowed the Mycenaeans and the Hittites to encounter one another while they were trading at these (Cyprus and Ugarit)

¹⁵¹ Bryce 2006:123, Vermeule 1972:230

¹⁵² Bryce 2006:98

¹⁵³ Bryce 2006:123, Bass, Pulak, Collon, Weinstein 1986:1, Casson 1991:26, along with other commodities such as mercenaries, possibly.

¹⁵⁴ Vermeule 1972:255, Mountjoy 1993:163, Cadogan 1993:93

emporium. But what contact did the Hittites have with the Greeks and to what extent were the Hittites aware of the Greeks?

Chapter Four: Textual Evidence

It is evident from the archaeological evidence put forward in Chapters Two and Three that the Mycenaean Greeks were active throughout the Bronze Age around the Aegean, in Egypt, along the Levantine coast and down the length of the western Anatolian coastline. This chapter will examine the textual evidence, which consists of Hittite documents that allegedly expose encounters with the Mycenaean Greeks as well as the Linear B texts, which suggest contact with Anatolia. I will review the on-going debate about the correlation between the Ahhiyawans and the Mycenaean Greeks and I will examine the possible locations of Ahhiyawa, from which the Ahhiyawans staged forays into the Hittite territory. First, though, I will address the evidence from the Linear B tablets of the Mycenaean Greeks for evidence of contact with the Hittite empire.

Linear B

The documents that have been discovered on Crete and at several sites on the Greek mainland are incised on clay tablets in a script that Sir Arthur Evans called Linear B. This script of Linear B superseded Linear A, the previous form of writing on Crete.¹ Linear B was deciphered in 1952 by Michael Ventris who found that it was an early form of the Greek language (Fig.4.1).² The Linear B syllabary consists of around 90 signs (Fig. 4.2 and Fig. 4.3).³

¹ Mountjoy 1993:21, The Linear A script is still un-deciphered.

² Wood 2003:121, Mountjoy 1993:13-14, Vermeule 1972:137-138, Chadwick 1967:67-68, Ventris and Chadwick 1973:xxi-xxii, 21-23, 67-91, Ventris and Chadwick explain the decipherment process.

³ Latacz 2004:146, Mountjoy 1993:21

LINEAR SCRIPT B SYLLABIC GRID
(2ND STATE)

WORK NOTE 15

DIAGNOSIS OF CONSONANT AND VOWEL EQUATIONS ATHENS, 28 SEPT 51
IN THE INFLEXIONAL MATERIAL FROM PYLOS :

THESE 51 SIGNS MAKE UP 90% OF ALL SIGN OCCURRENCES IN THE PYLOS SIGNGROUP INDEX. APPENDED FIGURES GIVE EACH SIGN'S OVERALL FREQUENCY PER MILLE IN THE PYLOS INDEX.

	Impure ^a ending, typical syllables before -ꝛ & -ꝛ in Case 2c & 3	Pure ^a ending, typical nominatives of forms in Column 1	Includes possible 'accusatives'	Also, but less frequently, the nominatives of forms in Column 1
THESE SIGNS DON'T OCCUR BEFORE -ꝛ-	THESE SIGNS OCCUR LESS COMMONLY OR NOT AT ALL BEFORE -ꝛ-			
MORE OFTEN FEMININE THAN MASCULINE?	MORE OFTEN MASCULINE THAN FEMININE ?		MORE OFTEN FEMININE THAN MASCULINE ?	
	NORMALLY FORM THE GENITIVE SINGULAR BY ADDING -ꝛ		NORMALLY FORM THE GENITIVE SINGULAR BY ADDING -ꝛ	
	vowel 1	vowel 2	vowel 3	vowel 4
	vowel 5			

pure vowels?	ꝛ 30.3				ꝛ 37.2
a semi-vowel?				ꝛ 34.0	ꝛ 29.4
consonant	ꝛ 14.8	ꝛ 32.5	ꝛ 21.2	ꝛ 28.1	ꝛ 18.8
2	ꝛ 19.6	ꝛ 17.5			ꝛ 15.7
3		ꝛ 9.2		ꝛ 3.3	ꝛ 10.0
4	ꝛ 17.0	ꝛ 28.6			ꝛ 0.4
5	ꝛ 17.7	ꝛ 10.3		ꝛ 4.1	ꝛ 10.2
6	ꝛ 7.4	ꝛ 20.5		ꝛ 14.8	ꝛ 14.4
7	ꝛ 4.1	ꝛ 44.0			
8	ꝛ 6.1	ꝛ 6.1		ꝛ 13.5	ꝛ 15.2
9		ꝛ 33.1		ꝛ 32.3	ꝛ 2.4
10	ꝛ 22.2		ꝛ 38.2	ꝛ 3.5	ꝛ 2.2
11	ꝛ 31.2	ꝛ 33.8	ꝛ 34.4	ꝛ 8.3	ꝛ 0.7
12	ꝛ 17.0			ꝛ 37.7	ꝛ 24.0
13		ꝛ 9.4	ꝛ 14.2		
14	ꝛ 5.0				
15	ꝛ 12.6				

MICHAEL VENTRIS

Fig. 4.1: Ventris' 'grid' for Linear B

The content of the surviving Linear B tablets is limited to the administrative activities of the palaces⁴ and therefore does not provide direct evidence for contact between the Mycenaean Greeks and the Hittites or any other overseas powers of the Bronze Age. The tablets, however, still provide much evidence for how the palaces were managed and for

⁴ Mountjoy 1993:21

culture of the Mycenaean Greeks, such as community structure, occupations and the types of people who filled them, what products were manufactured and where, and whether these products were intended for local markets and consumption or whether they were exported. Indirect evidence for contact with overseas peoples can also be inferred from these tablets.

01	𐀀	da	30	𐀁	ni	59	𐀂	ta
02	𐀁	ro	31	𐀂	sa	60	𐀃	ra
03	𐀂	pa	32	𐀃	qo	61	𐀄	o
04	𐀃	te	33	𐀄	ra ₃	62	𐀅	pte
05	𐀄	to	34	𐀅		63	𐀆	
06	𐀅	na	35	𐀆	jo	64	𐀇	ju
07	𐀆	di	36	𐀇	ti	65	𐀈	ta ₂
08	𐀇	a	37	𐀈	e	66	𐀉	ki
09	𐀈	se	38	𐀉	pi	67	𐀊	ro ₂
10	𐀉	u	39	𐀊	wi	68	𐀋	tu
11	𐀊	po	40	𐀋	si	69	𐀌	ko
12	𐀋	so	41	𐀌	wō	70	𐀍	dwe
13	𐀌	me	42	𐀍	ai	71	𐀎	pe
14	𐀍	do	43	𐀎	ke	72	𐀏	mi
15	𐀎	mo	44	𐀏	de	73	𐀐	ze
16	𐀏	pa ₂	45	𐀐	je	74	𐀑	wē
17	𐀐	za	46	𐀑		75	𐀒	ra ₂
18	𐀑		47	𐀒	mwa	76	𐀓	ka
19	𐀒		48	𐀓		77	𐀔	qe
20	𐀓	zo	49	𐀔		78	𐀕	zu
21	𐀔	qi	50	𐀕	pu	79	𐀖	ma
22	𐀕		51	𐀖	du	80	𐀗	ku
23	𐀖	mu	52	𐀗	no	81	𐀘	
24	𐀗	ne	53	𐀘	ri	82	𐀙	
25	𐀘	a ₂	54	𐀙	wa	83	𐀚	
26	𐀙	ru	55	𐀚	nu	84	𐀛	
27	𐀚	re	56	𐀛	pa ₃	85	𐀜	
28	𐀛	i	57	𐀜	ja	86	𐀝	
29	𐀜	pu ₂	58	𐀝	su	87	𐀞	

Fig. 4.2: Chart of eighty-seven Linear B signs, with numeral equivalents and phonetic values

	a	e	i	o	u	
	𐀀 ₀₈	𐀁 ₃₈	𐀂 ₂₈	𐀃 ₆₁	𐀄 ₁₀	𐀅 ₃ 𐀆 ₄₃
h-	𐀇 ₂₅					𐀈 ₈₅
p-	𐀉 ₀₃	𐀊 ₇₂	𐀋 ₃₉	𐀌 ₁₁	𐀍 ₅₀	𐀎 ₂₉
pt-		𐀏 ₆₂				
t-	𐀐 ₅₉	𐀑 ₀₄	𐀒 ₃₇	𐀓 ₀₅	𐀔 ₆₉	𐀕 ₆₆
tw-		𐀖 ₈₇		𐀗 ₉₁		
d-	𐀘 ₀₁	𐀙 ₄₅	𐀚 ₀₇	𐀛 ₁₄	𐀜 ₅₁	
dw-		𐀝 ₇₁		𐀞 ₉₀		
k-	𐀟 ₇₇	𐀠 ₄₄	𐀡 ₅₇	𐀢 ₇₀	𐀣 ₈₁	
q-	𐀤 ₁₆	𐀥 ₇₈	𐀦 ₂₁	𐀧 ₃₂		
j-	𐀨 ₅₇	𐀩 ₄₆		𐀪 ₃₆		
w-	𐀬 ₅₄	𐀭 ₇₅	𐀮 ₄₀	𐀯 ₄₂		
m-	𐀰 ₈₀	𐀱 ₁₃	𐀲 ₇₃	𐀳 ₁₅	𐀴 ₂₃	
n-	𐀶 ₀₆	𐀷 ₂₄	𐀸 ₃₀	𐀹 ₅₂	𐀺 ₅₅	𐀻 ₄₈
r-	𐀼 ₆₀	𐀽 ₂₇	𐀾 ₅₃	𐀿 ₀₂	𐁀 ₂₆	𐁁 ₃₃
r ₂ -	𐁂 ₇₆			𐁃 ₆₈		
s-	𐁅 ₃₁	𐁆 ₀₉	𐁇 ₄₁	𐁈 ₁₂	𐁉 ₃₈	
z-	𐁊 ₁₇	𐁋 ₇₄		𐁌 ₂₀		

Fig. 4.3: The Symbols of Linear B

The majority of the tablets from Knossos on Crete were found in the LMIIIA2 destruction layer of the site, and the tablets from the mainland recovered at sites such as Pylos, Mycenae, Tiryns and Thebes were found in the LHIIIB destruction levels of these sites.⁵ The tablets that have survived give us information of a small snapshot of time just

⁵ Mountjoy 1993:21

prior to the destructions of these sites.⁶ This is because the normal course for the records on clay tablets would have been to inscribe them, to let them dry in the sun and to store the tablets for as long as needed. Thereafter the tablets would have been destroyed or discarded. The tablets that have been discovered, at the sites mentioned above, were baked hard by the fires that destroyed these sites, preserving what was inscribed on them. This has left a more or less lasting inventory of the palaces at the time just before their destruction.⁷ It has been suggested that the main records of the palaces might have been written on perishable items such as papyrus or wood before the tablets were discarded and that this explains why no comprehensive documents on a larger time scale have survived.⁸ This destruction by fire could also have been the unfortunate case of the documents, if there were any, of correspondence between foreign powers and Greece.

The tablets at Pylos give us the most complete picture of the Late Bronze Age life at this site as over one thousand tablets have been discovered here in what appears to be an archive room of the palace.⁹ The location of tablets at Pylos contrasts with sites such as Mycenae, Thebes and Tiryns, where the tablets have been found scattered rather than in one place.¹⁰ The Pylos tablets show that the palace was administered by a king or ‘wanax’, and they also give a clear indication of the types of products produced by the different areas that were administered by the palace.¹¹ Pylos produced flax-based textiles and linen cloth and also wool from its flocks of sheep.¹² The tablets also give information

⁶ Mountjoy 1993:21

⁷ Mountjoy 1993:21

⁸ Mountjoy 1993:21

⁹ Mountjoy 1993:21

¹⁰ Mountjoy 1993:21

¹¹ Mountjoy 1993:21, Chadwick 1967:112

¹² Mountjoy 1993:21

on the metal-working industry.¹³ They note the supplies of raw material, such as bronze, and what was issued to the smiths as well as the end products of the smiths' work, such as weapons.¹⁴ The palace also administered the division of land and arranged the pasturage of animals such as sheep, goats, pigs and oxen, and organised the products that came from them.¹⁵ Along with the land and livestock the tablets also explain that the palace managed agricultural products such as wine, figs, olives, honey and oil,¹⁶ and that the production of perfume with an olive oil base was an important industry for Pylos.¹⁷

Mycenae appears to have produced wool, grain and oil.¹⁸ Nine Linear B tablets from Mycenae found in the house of the sphinxes also list spices such as cumin, pennyroyal, saffron, coriander, fennel, mint, celery seeds and sesame.¹⁹ Sesame would have been imported from the east and therefore suggests contact, if not direct trade with Syria, because the Greek name for sesame is a loan-word from a Semitic language.²⁰ Other possible contacts with the Near East can be seen in the Linear B tablets as words such as /Agyptios/,²¹ Egyptian, and /Aithiok^ws/,²² Ethiopian, are present in the tablets, along with /Kyprios/,²³ Cyprus.

Contact or ties with the eastern Aegean is further suggested by the presence of what appear to be female slaves in the Linear B tablets. The Pylos tablets record some

¹³ Mountjoy 1993:21

¹⁴ Mountjoy 1993:21, Chadwick 1967:116

¹⁵ Mountjoy 1993:21

¹⁶ Mountjoy 1993:21

¹⁷ Mountjoy 1993:21, 163, Chadwick 1967:116. The three fragrances of perfume were rose, cyperus and sage.

¹⁸ Mountjoy 1993:21

¹⁹ Chadwick 1967:120, Mountjoy 1993:21

²⁰ Ventris and Chadwick 1973:135

²¹ In the Linear B tablets as a₃-ku-pi-ti-jo to be read /Agyptios/ found in tablet KN Db 1105 where it is a man's name.

²² a₃-ti-jo-qo to be read /Aithiok^ws/ found in tablet PY Eb 156 where it is a man's name.

²³ ku-pi-ri-jo to be read /Kyprios/ found in tablet PY Cn 719 where it is a man's name and also in the G tablets from Knossos which have descriptions of spices.

600 women, together with around the same number of children, who are linked to menial tasks such as carrying water, spinning, preparing flax and grinding corn, which suggests that they had a servile status.²⁴ These groups of women appear on the tablets with their lists of rations, which also suggests that they were slaves, as the palace controlled their food and supplies.²⁵ It is also clear that most were slaves as the word *lawiaiai*, ‘booty women’, appears next to the groups on the tablets.²⁶ Many of the groups on the tablets are also described with an ethnic adjective that would suggest that their origins were other than the Greek mainland.²⁷ These place epithets include Lemnos,²⁸ Cnidus,²⁹ Zephyrus,³⁰ Chios,³¹ Miletos,³² /Krokiai/,³³ /Ewripiai/,³⁴ and /Aswiai/.³⁵ The last in the list, /Aswiai/, occurs in the form /Aswios/ in the tablets at Mycenae and Knossos as well as Pylos.³⁶ It has been proposed that this is the Linear B form for Asia, or the area known as Assuwa to the Hittites.³⁷ Assuwa was situated north of the lands of Arzawa, Haballa and Seha and has also been linked with a place that was later called Assos by the Greeks on the

²⁴ Wood 2003:159, Ventris and Chadwick 1973:134, Chadwick 1967:115, Bryce 2002:259

²⁵ Chadwick 1967:115

²⁶ Wood 2003:159, Chadwick 1967:115

²⁷ Wood 2003:159, Chadwick 1967:115

²⁸ In the Linear B tablets as *ra-mi-ni-ja* to be read /Lamniai/ found in tablet PY Ab 186

²⁹ In the Linear B tablets as *ki-ni-di-ja* to be read /Knidiai/ found in tablet PY Aa 792 and elsewhere.

³⁰ In the Linear B tablets as *ze-pu₂-ra₃* to be read /Zephyriai/ found in tablet PY Aa 61. Zephyrus is the earlier name for Halicarnassus, see Strabo *Geography* 14.2.16

³¹ In the Linear B tablets as *ki-si-wi-ja* to be read /Kswiai/ found in tablet PY Aa 770

³² In the Linear B tablets as *mi-ra-ti-ja* to be read /Milatai/ found in tablet PY Aa 798

³³ In the Linear B tablets as *ko-ro-ki-ja* to be read /Krokiai/ found in tablet PY Aa 354. /Krokiai/ in the Linear B tablets equates to the Hittite name Karkia (spelt *ka-ra-ki-sa* or *ka-ra-ki-ja* in the Hittite tablets) which was a place in western Anatolia. See the extract of the Tawagalawa Letter below (pp.102-103) for reference to Karkija in a Hittite document and also for evidence that it was a western Anatolian place.

³⁴ In the Linear B tablets as *e-wi-ri-pi-ja* to be read Ewripiai found in tablet PY Aa 60. *E-wi-ri-pi-ja* or /Ewripiai/ means ‘straits women’. There were a number of places that had this name but it does bring to mind the Dardanelles.

³⁵ In the Linear B tablets as *a-*64-ja* (sign *64 is probably *swi*) to be read /Aswiai/, found in tablet PY Aa 701. Wood 2003:159, Chadwick 1967:115

³⁶ Wood 2003:159. /Aswios/ found in tablets KN Df 1469 and MY Au 653.

³⁷ Garstang and Gurney 1959:107, Wood 2003:159

southern coast of the Troad.³⁸ All the places listed in the Linear B tablets suggest contact or ties between the Mycenaeans and the eastern Aegean, and the mention of Miletos, Zephyrus and Aswija in the tablets indicates contact with or ties to the Anatolian mainland and therefore the Hittite area.³⁹ As was shown in Chapter Two, it is precisely at Miletos that there was a Mycenaean settlement. The other places listed might also have been colonies or places of trade but more likely were where the Mycenaeans raided and took the women and their children.⁴⁰ The slave women are more likely a result of raids, first because the name lawiaiai, ‘booty women’, clearly suggests this; secondly, the women all appear to be of the same age and are accompanied by their children; and thirdly if these women had been sold at a slave market they would not have been sold in groups according to their place of origin as the slavers would hardly have bothered to do this. One would also expect that if these women were being purchased at a slave market they would have come from all over not just the one geographical region and that Knossos would have also had these women in their records too, which it does not. All this evidence therefore suggests that these women were captured in a ‘great’ raid along the western Anatolian mainland by the Pylians.⁴¹ If this was also a unique and exciting experience for these men they would have perhaps found the need to list the women in order of geographical locales to record their successful raids.

³⁸ Latacz 2004:98, Garstang and Gurney 1959:107. Latacz points out that Assuwa could possibly be associated with Assos rather than Asia as the word Asia emerges relatively late. Phonologically, however, Aswija equating to Assos does not work because in Greek primary *-sw- is dropped (e.g. the word for ‘arrow’ *swios becomes ἄρως) and secondary *-sw- becomes -s- (e.g. the word for ‘equal’ *iswos becomes ἴσως), therefore the -sw- in Aswija could not have become the -ss- in Assos. Also the older ethnicon of Asia is Ἀσιᾶνός which is typical of the straits region, north-west Anatolia (e.g. Lampsakênos, Cyzikênos)

³⁹ Chadwick 1967:115

⁴⁰ Ventris and Chadwick 1973:134, Chadwick 1967:115

⁴¹ Parker 1999:495-502

The presence of slaves in the Linear B tablets is also attested in the Hittite documents. The Manapa-Tarhunda Letter deals with a raid by the Ahhiyawans,⁴² Atpa and to some extent his father-in-law Piyamaradu on Lesbos.⁴³ Atpa in this raid took some of the Hittite subjects and would not give them back to Manapa-Tarhunda or the Hittite King. Manapa-Tarhunda wrote the following to the Hittite King,

7. After [Piyam]aradu had humiliated me, he set Atpa on my
8. [ba]ck. And (the latter) attacked the land of Lazbas.
9. And...whichever SARIPUTU-people belonged to me,
10. they all took part in this. And whichever SARIPUTU-people belonged to My Sun,
11. they all took part in it...
21. but [Piyama]radu sent Si-X-as [to him] and he spoke to him as follows:
22. "Some go[d gav]e them to you! Why should you [give] them back?"
23. Atpa, after he heard the message from Piyamaradu,
24. did not give (them) back...⁴⁴

Bryce explains that Hattusili III complains in the Tawagalawa Letter to one of the kings of Ahhiyawa of the taking of some 7000 of his western Anatolian subjects from the Lukka Lands into Ahhiyawan territory.⁴⁵

- 9.....Prisoners in large numbers have
 departed across the borders of my land, and my Brother has taken
 (?) 7 000 prisoners from me.⁴⁶

⁴² Probable Hittite name for the Mycenaean Greeks, see below.

⁴³ For more on Atpa and Piyamaradu see below.

⁴⁴ Houwink ten Cate P. T. "Letter of Manapa-Tarhunda, KUB XIX 5 + XIX 79," *JaarbExOrLux*, XXVIII, 1983

⁴⁵ Bryce 2002:259. More on the Tawagalawa Letter below.

⁴⁶ Sommer 1932:12, 13 Col. III.9. English translation by T. R. Bryce, given to me by V. Parker.

Thus the Linear B tablets and the Hittite documents complement each other by suggesting that the Mycenaeans used western Anatolia as a recruiting or raiding ground for labourers for the Mycenaean palaces.⁴⁷ Perhaps the Mycenaean Greeks recruited workforces from here to help build their immense fortification walls at sites such as Tiryns and Mycenae.⁴⁸ Bryce points out that this would fit in with an (admittedly late) attested tradition that the walls of Tiryns were built by Cyclopes, who were giants from Lycia.⁴⁹ This tradition is attributed to Strabo, a 1st century Greek writer.⁵⁰

Τῆ μὲν οὖν Τίρυνθι ὀρμητηρίῳ χρήσασθαι δοκεῖ Προῖτος καὶ τειχίσαι διὰ Κυκλώπων, οὓς ἑπτὰ μὲν εἶναι, καλεῖσθαι δὲ γαστερόχειρας, τρεφομένους ἐκ τῆς τέχνης, ἦκειν δὲ μεταπέμπτους ἐκ Λυκίας.⁵¹

Now it seems that Tiryns was used as a base of operations by Proetus, and was walled by him through the aid of the Cyclopes, who were seven in number, and were called the “Bellyhands” because they get their food from their handicraft, and they came by invitation from Lycia.⁵²

Bryce also notes that these Lycians were the first millennium descendants of the Bronze Age Lukka people who lived in parts of western and southern Anatolia, which is exactly the region where Hattusili III is concerned about his subjects being taken from by the Ahhiyawans as shown above.⁵³

It is, however, still unclear from this evidence whether the palaces of Mycenaean Greece were indeed in direct control of the trade with overseas people. The Linear B

⁴⁷ Bryce 1998:62, Bryce 1989:13-14

⁴⁸ Bryce 2002:259, Bryce 1989:13

⁴⁹ Bryce 2002:259, Bryce 1989:13

⁵⁰ Bryce 2002:259, Bryce 1989:13

⁵¹ Strabo *Geography* 8.6.11, eds. Capps, Page and Rouse

⁵² Strabo *Geography* 8.6.11 trans. Jones

⁵³ Bryce 2002:259, Bryce 1989:5

tablets unfortunately do not give us such exact facts as they are an inventory of the palaces and the surrounding areas. It appears, though, that the administrators of the Mycenaean palaces were very involved and efficient in the day-to-day running of the palaces and this might suggest that they were equally as involved in the trade with other people overseas. But, no direct evidence for contact between Mycenaean Greeks and any Anatolian forces can be observed in the Bronze-Age documents from the mainland of Greece. This is because, as mentioned above, the many Linear B tablets that have been discovered at Pylos do not record official communication between kingdoms or empires. As a result of this one must search the Anatolian or Hittite documents for any reference to contact between Mycenaean Greeks and the inhabitants of Central Anatolia.

Hittite Documents and the Ahhiyawa Controversy

The first textual evidence for contact, or more accurately, conflict between the Hittite empire and a possible Mycenaean state is in a well-known document called the ‘Indictment of Madduwatta’ written in the early 14th century by the Hittite king Arnuwanda I. In this document Arnuwanda I refers to Attarsiya as a “Man of Ahhiya”⁵⁴ and describes his military campaigns in western Anatolia which included 100 chariots against the Hittites.⁵⁵ This extract of the document, sent by Arnuwanda I to a man named Madduwatta, describes how Madduwatta was helped by the Hittite king in escaping from Attarsiya,

Subsequently Attarsiya, the Man of Ahhiya, came and sought to kill you, Madduwatta.

But when the father of My Sun heard of this, he dispatched Kisnapili, troops, and chariots to do battle against Attarsiya. And you Madduwatta, offered no resistance to

⁵⁴ Bryce 2003:59, Bryce 1999:401-402, Gurney 1990:38

⁵⁵ Bryce 2003:59, Bryce 1999:140, 402, Gurney 1990:38

Attarsiya, and fled before him. (*Indictment* §12, obv. 60-2)⁵⁶

In 1924 Emil Forrer postulated that the Hittite word ‘Ahhiyawa’ and other similar variations found in many Hittite documents, such as ‘Ahhiya,’⁵⁷ were the Hittite forms of writing the Greek ‘Achaiwia.’ ‘Achaiwia’ later became Achaia when the ‘w’ sound was lost in Greek.⁵⁸

This proposal that Ahhiyawa and Achaia refer to the same thing has been debated ever since its suggestion, but most scholars now accept it because of the apparent phonetic similarity between the two words⁵⁹ and also because, as has been shown in the previous chapters, there is substantial ceramic evidence to suggest that the Mycenaean Greeks had contact with western Asia Minor.⁶⁰ If Mycenaean Greece cannot be equated with Ahhiyawa, then it must be accepted that there were two separate Late Bronze-Age populations that had very similar names and, according to Hittite documentation and archaeological findings, were establishing themselves in the same region of western Asia Minor at the same time.⁶¹ It would also suggest that the Ahhiyawans left no archaeological evidence but were nonetheless documented by the Hittites, while the Mycenaean Greeks left archaeological evidence but no traceable textual evidence.⁶² The

⁵⁶ Bryce 1999:144

⁵⁷ According to Gurney, this form Ahhiya is found in only two Hittite texts, the ‘Indictment of Madduwatta’ mentioned above and an oracle text that was probably written around the same time. It is therefore seen as the older form of the name Ahhiyawa. Gurney 1990:38, also see Güterbock 1983:134. This correlation between Ahhiya and Ahhiyawa may not be the case and an absolute connection between the two is hard to prove, however, they both come into contact with the people of Anatolia, both lie on the sea and both carry out plundering raids on western Anatolia.

⁵⁸ Latacz 2004:121-122, Bryce 1999:59, Bryce 2006:100. The ‘W’ sound, or letter digamma, was used by the Bronze Age Greeks as is evident in the Linear B tablets. Digamma eventually disappeared in Greek as an independent sound. Latacz 2004:160, Bryce 2006:77, Latacz 2001:3-4

⁵⁹ Latacz 2004:121, 122, Bryce 1989:4

⁶⁰ Bryce 1999:60-61, regarding pottery and material finds in western Asia Minor see Mountjoy 1993:167-176, Mee 1998:138-141

⁶¹ Bryce 1999:61, Bryce 2006:100, Bryce 1989:3-4

⁶² Bryce 1999:61, Bryce 2006:100

term Ahhiyawa may not have referred to the whole of Greece but possibly just that part of Greece controlled by a particular Mycenaean state⁶³ or an island off the Anatolian coastline that was dominated by the Mycenaeans, such as Rhodes. It would seem then that scholars rightly associate Ahhiyawa with the Mycenaean Greeks, but until absolute proof is found this correlation remains circumstantial.⁶⁴

If the argument that the Ahhiyawans are the Mycenaean Greeks is correct, then the Ahhiyawans had to have been situated somewhere. There have been many places that have been suggested such as the Mycenaean settlements on the islands of Crete and Cyprus, or on the western Anatolian coastline. As I will show these locations for Ahhiyawa can be ruled out. The more likely location of the Ahhiyawans was either an island such as Rhodes or the mainland of Greece.⁶⁵ In the Annals of Mursilis II Ahhiyawa is mentioned twice; however, in both circumstances the records are severely damaged, which is unfortunate as these documents may have aided in locating Ahhiyawa beyond any doubt.⁶⁶ The Annals do, however, suggest that to get to Ahhiyawa one first had to travel to an island off the western Anatolian coastline⁶⁷ and from there take a boat to Ahhiyawa.⁶⁸ In this section of the Annals of Mursilis II Uhha-LÚ-iš, the ruler in Apasa (Classical Ephesos), aligned himself with the Ahhiyawans.⁶⁹ This provoked Mursilis II and he marched against Uhha-LÚ-iš, whose son tried to put up a resistance. Uhha-LÚ-iš escaped to an island off the coast of Apasa with his son.

⁶³ Mee 1998:142, Bryce 1999:60

⁶⁴ Bryce 2006:100

⁶⁵ Wood 2003:178, Güterbock 1983:133, Bryce 1998:60

⁶⁶ Güterbock 1983:134

⁶⁷ Götze 1933:50-51

⁶⁸ Götze 1933:66-67

⁶⁹ It is also interesting to note that the Land of Arzawa, at this time, is also allied with the Land of Ahhiyawa. Götze 1933:58-59

I defeated Piyama-Inara, son of Uhha-LÚ-iš, together with his infantry and chariotry, and I struck him down. I pursued him again and went across into the Land of Arzawa, and went into Apasa, the city of Uhha-LÚ-iš. Uhha-LÚ-iš offered me no resistance, but fled before me and went across the sea to the islands, and there he remained.⁷⁰

The Annals later explain that the son of Uhha-LÚ-iš went from the above island to the land of Ahhiyawa by boat.⁷¹ This information from the Annals, therefore, can rule out any of the islands off the coast near Ephesos, such as Samos, as the Land of Ahhiyawa because a boat is required to take the son of Uhha-LÚ-iš from these islands to Ahhiyawa.

The problem with situating Ahhiyawa on the Anatolian mainland, besides the above evidence from the Annals of Mursilis II, is that it would have to be along the coast because Ahhiyawa is understood to have a large sea-going capacity.⁷² This would mean that Ahhiyawa would have to fit into the already crowded geography of the western Anatolian coastline, which includes places such as Wilusa, Assuwa, Arzawa, Seha River land, Lukka Lands and of course Millawanda (Fig. 4.4).⁷³ Ahhiyawa could not be located at Miletos because Miletos equates to Millawanda⁷⁴ in the Hittite texts as the Tawagalawa Letter, a Hittite document, proves. It is evident from the Tawagalawa Letter that Millawanda is a coastal city because a man named Piyamaradu is described as fleeing Millawanda by ship each time Hattusili III tried to capture him.⁷⁵

⁷⁰ Bryce 1998:210-211, Götze 1933:50-51

⁷¹ Götze 1933:66-67

⁷² Bryce 1998:60

⁷³ Gurney 1990:44

⁷⁴ Gurney 1990:40, Millawanda is also called Milawata in some Hittite texts.

⁷⁵ Latacz 2004:123, Gurney 1990:40, Garstang and Gurney 1959:75-76. See below for more details pertaining to the Tawagalawa Letter.

But when [my brother's messenger] arrived at my quarters, he brought me no greeting and he brought me no present, but he spoke as follows: "He has written to Atpa (saying) 'Put Piyamaradu at the disposal of the king of Hatti.'" So I went into Millawanda. But I went firm also in this resolution: "The words which I shall speak to Piyamaradu, the subjects of my Brother also shall hear them." But Piyamaradu escaped by ship.⁷⁶

Thus Millawanda is thought to correspond to Miletos even though phonetically it does not correlate.⁷⁷ Miletos would likely be Millawanda as is suggested by the places mentioned in the Tawagalawa Letter that can be identified with other Greek cities running westward from Pessinus to Miletos.⁷⁸ As shown in Chapter Two it is also at Miletos where there is a large amount of archaeological evidence to suggest that there was a Mycenaean settlement, if not a colony.⁷⁹ It is evident from this association that the development of place names, or names for that matter, does not always follow the same rules that are set in place for a particular language.⁸⁰ Latacz explains that names are generally modified by ear to the new language that 'discovered' them.⁸¹ For example, the Italian word Milano is changed to Mailand in the German.⁸² Therefore the Hittites and the Mycenaean Greeks would have taken the place names and harmonised the names to

⁷⁶ Garstang and Gurney 1959:112

⁷⁷ Garstang and Gurney 1959:80, Bryce 1999:60-61, Bryce 1989:6

⁷⁸ Garstang and Gurney 1959:80

⁷⁹ Garstang and Gurney 1959:81, Bryce 1999:60-61

⁸⁰ Garstang and Gurney 1959:80, Latacz 2004:85-86

⁸¹ Latacz 2004:85

⁸² Latacz 2004:86

fit with their own phonetics, thus Millawanda may be equated to Miletos and Wilusa to Ilios.⁸³ In this way Miletos is unlikely to be Ahhiyawa.

It is further understood from the Tawagalawa Letter that the Ahhiyawan king is the overlord of Millawanda, but that he is located far away and therefore needs the agents, Atpa and Tawagalawa, to rule there.⁸⁴ Interestingly the Tawagalawa Letter makes it known that Tawagalawa was the brother of the Ahhiyawan king which suggests closer ties with Millawanda to Ahhiyawa.⁸⁵ This situation of brothers being in power both in their native land and in an overseas territory can be compared to a similar situation in the 6th century. On the death of Pisistratus (the leader of Athens) his son Hippias came to power in Athens while his brother Hegesistratus ruled in Sigeum Athens' overseas territory in Asia Minor.⁸⁶ The Tawagalawa Letter, along with the information from the Annals of Mursilis II discussed above and the evidence of a ship being required to bring back a Prince to the Hittite kingdom and to Mursilis II in the fourth year of his Annals, suggests that Ahhiyawa cannot be located on the Anatolian mainland.⁸⁷ Güterbock on this basis states that there is no evidence for Ahhiyawa being located on Anatolia and that the information from the fourteenth and thirteenth centuries points to the location being overseas.⁸⁸ Ahhiyawa, therefore, can not be located on the mainland of Anatolia and the same applies for Cyprus.

⁸³ Latacz 2001:5

⁸⁴ Garstang and Gurney 1959:81

⁸⁵ Güterbock 1990:158, Parker 1999:61-83

⁸⁶ Herodotus *The Histories* 5.94

⁸⁷ Güterbock 1983:135

⁸⁸ Güterbock 1983:138



Fig. 4.4: The geography of the Hittite Empire according to Garstang and Gurney

The island of Cyprus, the finds of which were discussed in Chapter Three, has yielded much Mycenaean pottery, and had possible Mycenaean settlement in LHIIC.⁸⁹ Despite this evidence, Cyprus can not be the location of Ahhiyawa as it is known as ‘Alasiya’ in the Hittite, Egyptian and Near Eastern documents.⁹⁰ In fact the Hittite document the ‘Indictment of Madduwatta’, discussed above, explains also that Madduwatta and Attarsiya, the same ‘man of Ahhiya’ who tried to kill Madduwatta, joined in an attack or raid on Alasiya, which was held by the Hittites at this time,⁹¹ which suggests that Cyprus could not be the location of Ahhiyawa. This extract from the

⁸⁹ Mountjoy 1993:174-175

⁹⁰ Bryce 1998:146, Bryce 2006:81, 98, Voskos and Knapp 2008:659. Voskos and Knapp explain that the inscription of Ramesses III mentions Alasiya (Cyprus) as well.

⁹¹ Bryce 1998:146-147, Bryce 2006:102, Güterbock 1983:134, Mellink 1983:139

Indictment, beginning with the Hittite King Arnuwanda's reproach, shows the aftermath of the event and provides further evidence that Cyprus did indeed belong to the Hittites,

Since Alasiya belongs to My Majesty, [why did you attack it?]

Madduwatta replied:

When Attarsiya and the man of Piggaya made raids on Alasiya, I also made raids. Neither the father of Your Majesty nor Your Majesty ever advised me (saying): 'Alasiya is mine! Recognise it as such!' Now, if Your Majesty wants captives of Alasiya to be returned, I shall return them to him.

(To this, the king replied:)

Since Attarsiya and the man of Piggaya are independent of My Majesty, while you, Madduwatta, are a subject of My Majesty, why did you join them?⁹²

There are two other documents that confirm that Cyprus was part of the Hittite territory as a vassal state. The first is a Hittite tablet containing an inscription of Suppiluliuma II.⁹³ This text deals with two separate wars where the Hittites are victorious over the Cypriots.⁹⁴ The first war was conducted by Suppiluliuma's father Tudhaliya IV.⁹⁵

Col. I (top broken) (1-2).....

(3) [PN (or: The king of Alasiya)] with his wives, his children, [and his...] I seized;

all the goods, [with silver, g]old, and all the captured people I [re]moved and [brought]

them home to Hattusa. The country of Alasiya, however, I [enslaved] and made tributary

⁹² Güterbock 1983:134, Güterbock also explains that "We do not know on what grounds Arnuwanda could claim Cyprus for himself or who "the man of Piggaya" may be...The text does not speak of conquest, and raids cannot be expected to leave tangible traces."

⁹³ Güterbock 1967:73

⁹⁴ Güterbock 1967:73-74. Güterbock explains that the text has been discussed by scholars at length. This is because it was believed that the text described the same war twice but upon further study it is now realised that the text describes two separate campaigns against Cyprus.

⁹⁵ Güterbock 1967:74, 75

on the spot; and [thi]s(?) tribute I imposed on it...⁹⁶

The second war was lead by Suppilulima II which he won as well.⁹⁷

Col. III (1) My father [.....] I mobilised and I, Suppilulima, the Great King,
immediately [crossed/reached(?)] the sea.

(5) The ships of Alasiya met me in the sea three times for battle, and I smote them;
and I seized the ships and set fire to them in the sea.⁹⁸

The second text that confirms that Cyprus was a Hittite vassal territory is a letter sent from the King of Ugarit to the King of Cyprus. The tone of this letter and that the king of Ugarit uses the title “my father” when he addresses the king of Cyprus makes it clear that Ugarit is a vassal state of Cyprus.⁹⁹

1. To the King of Cyprus,
2. my father, speak!
3. Thus (speaks) the King of Ugarit,
4. your son:
5. I fell down at the feet of my father!
6. May prosperity be before my father!
7. For your houses, your wives, your troops,
8. for everything which (belongs)
9. to the King of Cyprus,
10. my father, (may there be) in the highest measure
11. prosperity!¹⁰⁰

⁹⁶ Güterbock 1967:77

⁹⁷ Güterbock 1967:75

⁹⁸ Güterbock 1967:78

⁹⁹ The title “my father” was used by vassals when they were addressing their overlords, whereas the title “my brother” was used to address kings of equal status.

¹⁰⁰ Ras Shamra 20.238 (Letter of the King of Ugarit to the King of Cyprus), English translation given to me by V. Parker.

In this letter the king of Ugarit explains to the king of Cyprus that an enemy is about to attack Ugarit and that he has no defences as his troops are in the land of Hatti and his ships are in the “land of Lukka”. The fact that the troops of Ugarit are in the land of the Hittites indicates that Cyprus was a vassal state to the Hittites by allowing its own vassal state to supply the Hittites with troops. Cyprus, therefore, much like the Anatolian mainland could not have been the location of Ahhiyawa as the Hittite documents discussed above clearly rule it out. A Linear B document can also eliminate Crete as a potential location for Ahhiyawa.

Ahhiyawa is also unlikely to be the island of Crete because a Linear B tablet has been found on Crete mentioning a place called a-ka-wi-ja-de (Fig. 4.5).¹⁰¹ This tablet refers to livestock at Knossos, not in the form of tribute, as is usually the case with sheep, but as an allotment or a gift that is being sent to this destination by the palace.¹⁰² The tablet reads,



Fig. 4.5: Tablet C(2) 914

¹⁰¹ Tablet C 914. Ventris and Chadwick 1973:209, McArthur 1993:127, Bryce 1989:4

¹⁰² Ventris and Chadwick 1973:208-209

a-ka-wi-ja-de	/	pa-ra-ti-jo	Rams 50
		pa-ro	He-Goats 50

To Achaiwija: with Pallantios, fifty rams, fifty he-goats.¹⁰³

The –de suffix indicates that a-ka-wi-ja is a place, and that fifty rams and fifty male goats are intended for this place.¹⁰⁴ A-ka-wi-ja could be the name for a Cretan town Ἀχαίᾱ, but the exact location of this town is unknown¹⁰⁵ and this name of a-ka-wi-ja is not mentioned on other tablets.¹⁰⁶ It is more likely that this is Ahhiyawa because the spelling fits the Greek original form Ἀχαίῑα.¹⁰⁷ McArthur is more cautious about this suggestion and believes that the palace might not have sent livestock overseas, but Ventris and Chadwick see no reason why livestock would not be sent overseas, just as other commodities were.¹⁰⁸ Even so, this tablet does not give a precise location of Ahhiyawa/a-ka-wi-ja, but if Crete is ruled out only somewhere in the Cyclades, Rhodes and the Greek mainland remain as the potential locations.¹⁰⁹

It has been argued that Rhodes could not have been what the Hittites meant as the land of Ahhiyawa because the island was too small and did not have sufficient resources in land and population to be an international great power.¹¹⁰ It is known that the

¹⁰³ Ventris and Chadwick 1973:209

¹⁰⁴ McArthur 1993:127

¹⁰⁵ There is also no evidence that this town existed on Crete in the 13th century.

¹⁰⁶ Ventris and Chadwick 1973:209, McArthur 1993:126-127

¹⁰⁷ Ventris and Chadwick 1973:209, McArthur 1993:126

¹⁰⁸ McArthur 1993:127, Ventris and Chadwick 1973:209

¹⁰⁹ If the above hypothesis of a-ka-wi-ja equating to Ahhiyawa is taken into account.

¹¹⁰ Latacz 2004:242

Ahhiyawans were able to cause problems for the Hittites on the western coastline of the Anatolian mainland and that they had a substantial seafaring capacity, much like the Mycenaean Greeks.¹¹¹ Rhodes is definitely so close to the Anatolian coastline that the Ahhiyawans could have staged raids on the Anatolian mainland from here,¹¹² and Rhodes has yielded considerable evidence that it was a Mycenaean settlement. As for the large seafaring capacity, there is no reason why Rhodes could not have had a fleet sufficient for the purpose of raiding. Certainly Vermeule believes that the Ahhiyawans were eastern Mycenaeans whose main centre was possibly Rhodes.¹¹³ Although it was almost a millennium later Rhodes in the 4th century B.C. was in possession of a great naval fleet and was a wealthy nation as Diodorus Siculus states in his work *The Library of History*,

Τοῦ δ' ἐνιαυσίου χρόνου διεληλυθότος Ἀθήνησι μὲν ἦρχεν Εὐξένιππος, ἐν Ῥώμῃ δ' ὑπῆρχον ὑπατοὶ Λεύκιος Ποστούμιος καὶ Τιβέριος Μινούκιος. ἐπὶ δὲ τούτων Ῥοδίοις ἐνέστη πόλεμος πρὸς Ἀντίγονον διὰ τοιαύτας τινας αἰτίας. ἢ πόλις ἢ τῶν Ῥοδίων ἰσχύουσα ναυτικαῖς δυνάμεσι καὶ πολιτευομένη κάλλιστα τῶν Ἑλλήνων περιμάχητος τοῖς δυνάσταις καὶ βασιλευσιν ἦν, ἐκάστου σπεύδοντος εἰς τὴν αὐτοῦ φιλίαν προσλαμβάνεσθαι. προορωμένη δὲ πόρρωθεν τὸ συμφέρον καὶ πρὸς ἅπαντας κατ' ἰδίαν συντιθεμένη τὴν φιλίαν τῶν πρὸς ἀλλήλους τοῖς δυνάσταις πολέμων οὐ μετεῖχεν. διόπερ συνέβαινε αὐτὴν τιμᾶσθαι μὲν ὑφ' ἐκάστου βασιλικαῖς δωρεαῖς, ἄγουσαν δὲ πολὺν χρόνον εἰρήνην μεγάλην ἐπίδοσιν λαβεῖν πρὸς αὐξήσιν· ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον γὰρ προεληλύθει δυνάμεως ὥσθ' ὑπὲρ μὲν τῶν Ἑλλήνων ἰδίᾳ τὸν πρὸς τοὺς πειρατὰς πόλεμον ἐπαναιρεῖσθαι καὶ καθαρὰν παρέχεσθαι τῶν κακούργων τὴν θάλατταν, τὸν δὲ πλεῖστον ἰσχύσαντα τῶν μνημονευομένων Ἀλέξανδρον προτιμήσαντ' αὐτὴν μάλιστα τῶν πόλεων καὶ τὴν ὑπὲρ ὅλης τῆς βασιλείας διαθήκην ἐκεῖ

¹¹¹ Bryce 1998:60

¹¹² Gurney 1990:45

¹¹³ Vermeule 1972:272

θέσθαι καὶ τᾶλλα θαυμάζειν καὶ προάγειν εἰς ὑπεροχὴν. οἱ δ' οὖν Ῥόδιοι πρὸς πάντας τοὺς δυνάστας συντεθειμένοι τὴν φιλίαν διετήρουν μὲν ἑαυτοὺς ἔκτος ἐγκλήματος δικαίου, ταῖς δ' εὐνοίαις ἔρεπον μάλιστα πρὸς Πτολεμαῖον· συνέβαινε γὰρ αὐτοῖς τῶν τε προσόδων τὰς πλείστας εἶναι διὰ τοὺς εἰς Αἴγυπτον πλέοντας ἐμπόρους καὶ τὸ σύνολον τρέφεσθαι τὴν πόλιν ἀπὸ ταύτης τῆς βασιλείας.¹¹⁴

When this year had passed, Euxenippus became archon in Athens, and in Rome Lucius Postumius and Tiberius Minucius were consuls. While these held office war arose between the Rhodians and Antigonos for some such reasons as these. The city of the Rhodians, which was strong in sea power and was the best governed city of the Greeks, was a prize eagerly sought after by the dynasts and kings, each of them striving to add her to his alliance. Seeing far in advance what was advantageous and establishing friendship with each of the dynasts separately, Rhodes took no part in their wars with each other. As a result she was honoured by each of them with regal gifts and, while enjoying peace for a long time, made great steps forward. In fact she advanced to such strength that in behalf of the Greeks she by herself undertook her war against the pirates and purged the seas of these evil-doers; and Alexander, the most powerful of men known to memory, honouring Rhodes above all cities, both deposited there the testament disposing of his whole realm and in other ways showed admiration for her and promoted her to a commanding position. At any rate, the Rhodians, having established pacts of friendship with all the rulers, carefully avoided giving legitimate grounds for complaint; but in displaying goodwill they inclined chiefly toward Ptolemy, for it happened that most of their revenues were due to the merchants who sailed to Egypt, and that in general the city drew its food supply from that kingdom.¹¹⁵

¹¹⁴ Diodorus Siculus *The Library of History* 20.81.1-4, eds. Page, Capps, Rouse, Post and Warmington

¹¹⁵ Diodorus Siculus *The Library of History* 20.81.1-4 trans. Geer

This later naval capacity suggests that Rhodes in the Bronze Age could have acquired a large fleet and wealth, much as it did in the 4th century, sufficient to have an impact on the Anatolian coastline and the Hittites.¹¹⁶

Another island in a later time period to the Bronze Age became a powerful place, this provides more evidence that Ahhiyawa could be one of the islands adjacent to the Anatolian mainland. Polycrates the tyrant of Samos had a great naval strength and wealth, as Herodotus writes in 5th century B.C.,

ἐν χρόνῳ δὲ ὀλίγῳ αὐτίκα τοῦ Πολυκράτεος τὰ πρήγματα ἠύξετο καὶ ἦν βεβωμένα ἀνά τε τὴν Ἰωνίην καὶ τὴν ἄλλην Ἑλλάδα· ὅκου γὰρ ἰθύσειε στρατεύεσθαι, πάντα οἱ ἐχώρει εὐτυχέως. ἐκέτητο δὲ πεντηκοντέρους τε ἑκατὸν καὶ χιλίους τοξότας. ἔφερε δὲ καὶ ἦγε πάντα διακρίνων οὐδένα, τῷ γὰρ φίλῳ ἔφη χαριεῖσθαι μᾶλλον ἀποδιδούς, τὰ ἔλαβε, ἢ ἀρχὴν μηδὲ λαβών. συχνὰς μὲν δὴ τῶν νήσων αἰρήκεε, πολλὰ δὲ καὶ τῆς ἡπείρου ἄστεα.¹¹⁷

Before long Polycrates' affairs were prospering and became the subject of conversation throughout the whole of Greece, not just Ionia, because every military campaign he directed was completely successful. He acquired a fleet of a hundred penteconters and an army of a thousand archers, and raided everyone indiscriminately—even friends, because he claimed that he would be doing a friend more of a favour if he returned what he had taken than if he had not taken it in the first place. He conquered a great many of the Aegean islands, and a number of communities on the mainland too.¹¹⁸

¹¹⁶ Diodorus Siculus *The Library of History* 20.82-100, here Diodorus also explains that the Rhodians were powerful and competent enough to withstand a year long siege in 305/4 B.C. from Demetrius Poliorcetes. Once again Rhodes in the Bronze Age could have had this power and ability.

¹¹⁷ Herodotus *Historiae* 3.39, ed. Rosén. See also Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.13.6, eds. Page, Capps and Rouse

¹¹⁸ Herodotus *The Histories* 3.39 trans. Waterfield

Ahhiyawa, therefore, could quite possibly be an island off the coast of western Anatolia, such as Rhodes,¹¹⁹ or even in the Cyclades, for example Naxos, since in later time periods these islands were capable of establishing themselves as powerful and wealthy places. On the other hand, it has been argued that the seat of the King of Ahhiyawa, who is referred to as having independent status to the Hittite King in the Tawagalawa Letter,¹²⁰ cannot be an island but would logically be a larger land, or situated in a larger land.¹²¹ Such a place would be the Greek mainland or a town situated on the Greek mainland.¹²²

On the mainland of Greece Ahhiyawa could have been any one of the main centres of the Bronze Age. Mycenae is a good candidate, since in the *Iliad* Homer refers to Agamemnon, the King of Mycenae, as the leader of the army against Troy, and it is here where much wealth has been found.¹²³ It has also been suggested that Ahhiyawa was Pylos because of the records of foreign slaves of Anatolian origin discussed above, and the name Etewoclewes (Eteocles in the Greek) has been found, which is probably identical to the Hittite name Tawagalawa.¹²⁴ But Pylos could not be the location of Ahhiyawa because the slaves were likely acquired through slave raids and they appear exotic to the Pylians because they listed them by their place of origin. Moreover, according to the evidence of the Linear B tablets, Pylos does not seem to have held any overseas territory in Anatolia, and it is also apparent from these tablets that they did not

¹¹⁹ Due to the archaeological evidence discussed in Chapter Two

¹²⁰ See Tawagalawa Letter below.

¹²¹ Güterbock 1983:138, Latacz 2004:242

¹²² Güterbock 1983:138, Bryce 1989:5

¹²³ Bryce 1998:62 and Bryce 1989:5, regarding Homeric tradition '*primus inter pares*', Bryce also favours Mycenae himself as the location of Ahhiyawa, Bryce 2006:106, Bryce 1989:5-6 and so does Mellink 1983:140. See Bryce 2006:95, Wood 2003:67, Mountjoy 1993:8, concerning the wealth found at Mycenae.

¹²⁴ Bryce 1998:395, Ventris and Chadwick 1973:138

have territory in Anatolia as they raided the coastline of Anatolia and the surrounding islands.¹²⁵ Latacz has argued that Thebes was the seat of Ahhiyawa because Thebes was one of the larger kingdoms in the 13th century and controlled at least southern Boeotia and central and southern Euboea.¹²⁶ In support of this Latacz cites the first known cuneiform letter written in Hittite from the King of Ahhiyawa to Hattusa and the Hittite Great King, whereas previously all the known correspondence between Ahhiyawa and the Hittites had been from the Hittites to the Ahhiyawans.¹²⁷ The letter has been dated to the 13th century B.C. from palaeographic evidence.¹²⁸ This letter also reveals that there was previous correspondence and relations between the King of the Hittites and the King of Ahhiyawa because the Ahhiyawan King refers to a previous letter from the King of the Hittites.¹²⁹ Latacz explains that the letter deals with the issue of some islands that initially belonged to Assuwa.¹³⁰ The Hittite King must have alleged in his letter that the islands were part of his kingdom, and the Ahhiyawan King objected to this in his response.¹³¹ The Ahhiyawan King states that an ancestor of his acquired the islands when his ancestor married his daughter to the King of Assuwa.¹³² According to Latacz this ancestor is

¹²⁵ The Pylions could have made this raid while Mycenaean Greeks were living on the Anatolian coastline or they could have raided the area when the Hittites regained control. The Hittites regained control of the Anatolian coastline from the Ahhiyawans in the reign of Tudhaliya IV as the *Annals of Tudhaliya IV*, KUBXXIII 13, Recto 1-12 describes, found in Sommer 1932:314-315.

¹²⁶ Latacz 2004:242

¹²⁷ Latacz 2004:243. Unfortunately this evidence was given at a press conference in August 2003 by Frank Starke and therefore I have not been able to find the information directly from Frank Starke (and perhaps he has more information about the text or has found a text join), however the letter is in Ferdinand Sommer's work *Die Ahhijavā-Urkunden* 1932:268 Kapitel IX: Bo 1485, Text Vs. 1-20. This letter on closer inspection probably does come from the Ahhiyawan King to the Hittite King, it does deal with the issue of some islands and it does reveal that previous correspondence had been happening between the two.

¹²⁸ Latacz 2004:243

¹²⁹ Latacz 2004:243

¹³⁰ Latacz 2004:243

¹³¹ Latacz 2004:243-244

¹³² Latacz 2004:244

named by the Ahhiyawan King in the letter as Cadmos, whose name is synonymous with the foundation of Thebes.¹³³

Any of these sites on the Greek mainland could have been the location of Ahhiyawa despite their small size.¹³⁴ For example Athens in the 5th century was not necessarily the biggest city-state but it had one of the most powerful fleets and was in control of the Delian League, which included many islands and Ionia in Asia Minor. Thucydides describes the rise of Athenian power and its dominance over these places and sea capabilities in *History of the Peloponnesian War* 1.89-118. The Athenians' power is evident from their later defeat of the Persians in Pamphylia, as Thucydides describes,

Ἐγένετο δὲ μετὰ ταῦτα καὶ ἡ ἐπ' Εὐρυμέδοντι ποταμῷ ἐν Παμφυλίᾳ πεζομαχία καὶ ναυμαχία Ἀθηναίων καὶ τῶν ξυμμάχων πρὸς Μήδους, καὶ ἐνίκων τῇ αὐτῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἀμφοτέρωθεν Ἀθηναῖοι Κίμωνος τοῦ Μιλτιάδου στρατηγούντος, καὶ εἶλον τριήρεις Φοινίκων καὶ διέφθειραν τὰς πάσας ἐς διακοσίας.¹³⁵

Next came the battles of the river Eurymedon in Pamphylia, fought on land and on sea by the Athenians and their allies against the Persians. In both battles the Athenians won the victory on the same day under the command of Cimon, the son of Miltiades, and they captured or destroyed the entire Phoenician fleet of 200 triremes.¹³⁶

In sum, the most plausible location of Ahhiyawa in the Hittite texts would be an island off the mainland of Anatolia, such as Rhodes, or a site on the mainland of Greece, such as Thebes or Mycenae. But other evidence of contact and relations between the Ahhiyawans and the Hittites can be found in the Hittite documents. These relations in the

¹³³ Latacz 2004:244

¹³⁴ Bryce 1989:5-6

¹³⁵ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.100.1, eds. Page, Capps and Rouse

¹³⁶ Thucydides *The Peloponnesian War* 1.100.1 trans. Warner

texts demonstrate Hittite awareness of the Mycenaean Greeks even if there is little in the way of tangible evidence for contact in central Anatolia where the Hittite capital was located. The previous passages from Diodorus Siculus, Herodotus and Thucydides are evidence that the Greeks on the islands in the eastern Aegean and mainland Greek city-states were known to overseas peoples such as the Greeks of western Asia Minor, the Egyptians and the Persians, who controlled much of Asia Minor. It would therefore be probable that the Hittites would have been aware of the Mycenaean Greeks, which the archaeological finds suggest were settling on the western coastline of Anatolia and the surrounding islands-the fringes of the Hittite empire.



Fig. 4.6: The Tawagalawa Letter

As discussed above the Tawagalawa Letter demonstrates conflict between Ahhiyawa and the Hittites in western Asia Minor (Fig. 4.6).¹³⁷ This letter was written by the Hittite King Hattusili III to the King of Ahhiyawa, whose name cannot be read.¹³⁸ The Letter in its entirety covered three tablets; however, of these three tablets only the third tablet and a fragment of either the first or the second tablet remains.¹³⁹ The King of Ahhiyawa is formally addressed by the Hittite King as ‘my brother’, which accords him independent status from the Hittite King.¹⁴⁰ Such recognition suggests that at this time the Ahhiyawans were a force to be reckoned with.¹⁴¹ This letter is a request from the Hittite king to the Ahhiyawan King to give up a man named Piyamaradu,¹⁴² who had been causing trouble in western Asia-Minor¹⁴³ including an attack on Wilusa, known from another letter from the Hittite vassal ruler Manapa-Tarhunda of Seha (c.1300 B.C.E).¹⁴⁴ In the Tawagalawa Letter Piyamaradu is being protected by Atpa (the son-in-law of Piyamaradu and one of the representatives of the king of Ahhiyawa) in Millawanda and escapes by ship to Ahhiyawa whenever Hattusili III tries to capture him.¹⁴⁵

Further, look here! [it is reported], that he is saying: ‘I wish to *cross* over from here into the land of Masa or the land of Karkija, but leave the prisoners, my wife, my children, and my household here!’

According to this rumour, while he leaves his wife, his children, and his household in the land of my brother, your land is granting him protection! But he is causing constant trouble in *my* land! And every time I stand in his way he returns to *your*

¹³⁷ Latacz 2004:123, Gurney 1990:39

¹³⁸ Latacz 2004:123

¹³⁹ Gurney 1990:39, Garstang and Gurney 1959:75

¹⁴⁰ Garstang and Gurney 1959:81, Güterbock 1983:135, Bryce 1989:4

¹⁴¹ Latacz 2004:123

¹⁴² Latacz 2004:122, Gurney 1990:40, Garstang and Gurney 1959:75

¹⁴³ In the Lukka Land. Gurney 1990:39, 40, Garstang and Gurney 1959:75

¹⁴⁴ Latacz 2004:122, Gurney 1990:41

¹⁴⁵ Latacz 2004:123, Gurney 1990:40, Garstang and Gurney 1959:75-76, Bryce 1989:7, Mellink 1983:140

land! Are you, my brother, well disposed towards his behaviour?

[If not] then, my brother, at least write to him as follows:

‘Arise and go forth into the land of Hatti. Your master has set aside his quarrel with you! Otherwise come *into the land of Ahhiyawa*, and wherever I choose to settle you, [there must you remain!] Arise [with your prisoners,] your wives and your children [and] settle in another place! As long as you live in enmity with the King of Hatti, exercise your hostilities from [some] other land! From *my* land shall you exercise *no* hostilities! If your heart lies in the land of Masa or the land of Karkija, go there! The King of Hatti has persuaded me, in the matter of *Wilusa* (?), over which we quarrelled, and he and I have become friends. [...] a war would not be good for us.’¹⁴⁶

A further Hittite text from the annals of either Arnuwanda III or Suppilulima II explains that Hattusili III did successfully capture Piyamaradu.¹⁴⁷

The attacks on the Hittite vassal state of Wilusa,¹⁴⁸ probably by the Ahhiyawans or at least supported by the Ahhiyawans, in the reign of Hattusili III or Tudhaliya IV (c.1240-1215 B.C.E) resulted in the overthrow of the Wilusan king Walmu.¹⁴⁹ This information is taken from the Hittite text of the Millawanda Letter, where it states that since the Hittites once again had control of western Anatolia and Millawanda because they ousted the Ahhiyawans, Walmu could once again be reinstated as king in Wilusa.¹⁵⁰

(36")...(*highly fragmentary; part omitted*) he fled [...], (37") and [they adopted] another man. [...] I (the majesty) have not recognised him. (38") However, Kulanazidi has held ready the documents which were [prepared] for Walmu (by me/by somebody else). (39") He will deliver (?) them (to you), my son. Look

¹⁴⁶ Latacz 2004:123-124, with Latacz's words in italics.

¹⁴⁷ KBo XXII 10 (unpublished transliteration and translation by V. Parker)

¹⁴⁸ Possible Hittite name for Troy.

¹⁴⁹ Bryce 1999:395-396, Latacz 2004:112

¹⁵⁰ Latacz 2004:112-113 , Bryce 1999:339-344

at them! (...*End of 39-40 omitted*), (41") Therefore, my son, send me Walmu (who is in exile with you), so that I can restore him in the land of Wilusa (42") to the throne. Just as he was previously king of the land of Wilusa, so shall he be again! (43") Just as he was previously our vassal (and) soldier, so shall he again be our (44") vassal (and) soldier!¹⁵¹

One reason for these conflicts could have been the ever increasing encroachment by the Mycenaean Greeks on the Hittite area of western Anatolia. The evidence for this can be found in such Anatolian texts as the Tawagalawa Letter, the Arnuwanda I document ('Indictment of Madduwatta'), the Annals of Mursilis II, the Manapa-Tarhunda Letter, as well as the Millawanda Letter. This encroachment of the Mycenaeans is also evident, as has been explained, from the ceramic remains found in many Bronze Age coastal Anatolian cities such as Miletos, and the Mycenaean burial grounds at Müskebi.¹⁵² This evidence indicates trade¹⁵³ between Greece and western Anatolia, and in the case of Miletos, probable settlement of the Mycenaeans on the western Anatolian coastline. Perhaps this was also a reason for the conflicts that are outlined in the above Hittite documents.

Mycenaean traders and products were well known to many in the Bronze Age.¹⁵⁴ The evidence suggests that Mycenaean trade connections extended the length of the western Anatolian coastline as well as along the Levantine coastline down into Egypt.¹⁵⁵ However, what is known of the relationship between Mycenaean Greeks and the Hittites

¹⁵¹ Latacz 2004:112-113

¹⁵² Bennet 1997:518-519, Mee 1998:137, 138, 139

¹⁵³ See Chapter One and Chapter Two for further evidence of this.

¹⁵⁴ Bryce 2003:59. As is evident from Chapters Two and Three.

¹⁵⁵ Bennet 1997:518 Bennet also writes that the Mycenaean trade network extended west to South-Italy, Sicily and Sardinia as well.

comes from fragmentary texts from records at Hattusa, which mention Ahhiyawa.¹⁵⁶ These texts refer to gift exchange, possible location of territorial boundaries and the gift of a cult idol from the Ahhiyawan king to heal the Hittite king Mursilis II.¹⁵⁷ Evidence for trade can clearly be seen, or rather found, in coastal Anatolia but not in inland Anatolia, which was where the main centres of Hittite power were located, including the capital Hattusa.¹⁵⁸ But one cannot assume that the lack of evidence of Mycenaean objects in inland Anatolia means that no trade took place between the two empires. Goods may not have been imported regularly by the Hittites and Mycenaean Greeks, or maybe the lack of evidence is due to the general destruction and looting at the end of the Bronze Age, or perhaps the evidence has not been found yet.¹⁵⁹ It has been suggested that the lack of evidence for trade is due to the Hittite imposition of a trade prohibition on the Mycenaean Greeks.¹⁶⁰ Such an argument suggests that the Mycenaean Greeks were seen as a significant political and commercial threat to the Hittites and that there were ongoing hostilities between the two empires, which can be seen in the above Hittite texts.¹⁶¹ Bryce, on the other hand, suggests that perhaps there was no direct trade contact between the two empires because no suitable trade routes existed.¹⁶² This was because the Hittite ‘homeland’ was landlocked and had no sea capabilities, and so would have required a

¹⁵⁶ Bryce 2003:64

¹⁵⁷ Bryce 2003:64, Gurney 1990:39, Bryce 1989:8

¹⁵⁸ Bennet 1997:518

¹⁵⁹ Bryce 2003:61

¹⁶⁰ Bennet 1997:518, Bryce 2003:61, writing about Cline’s suggested trade “embargo”. Evidence for this trade embargo can be seen in the reign of Tudhaliya IV where Sausgamuwa, the ruler of Amurru (a Syrian state), composed a treaty, under the authority of Tudhaliya, that placed a “...ban on any traffic between Ahhiyawa and Assyria via the harbour of Amurru.” Bryce 1989:16, see also Mellink 1983:140. A translation of the treaty can be found in Kühne and Otten, *StBot*, XVI the most important part of the text which makes the trade embargo clear is Rs. IV 1-3, 19, 23.

¹⁶¹ Bryce 2003:60, writing about Cline’s views on the trade matter.

¹⁶² Bryce 2003:62

land route in order to reach one of the sea ports under its sphere of governance.¹⁶³ He suggests perhaps a route north along the Black Sea with Troy as the dispatch point, but this was a dangerous course as it was outside the sphere of Hittite influence.¹⁶⁴ Therefore trade between the Mycenaean Greeks and Hittites in inland Anatolia could have taken place indirectly through the coastal towns and cities such as Millawanda/Miletos, as evidenced by the pottery remains.¹⁶⁵ On the other hand trade between the Hittites and the Mycenaean Greeks could have occurred on Cyprus or at sites in the Levant such as the trading emporium at Ugarit where there is much archaeological, and in the case of the Hittites textual evidence for the presence of these two Bronze Age powers.

In conclusion, the Linear B tablets of the Mycenaean Greeks give some indirect evidence of contact between the Mycenaean Greeks, Anatolia and the Near East in the form of commodities such as spices (sesame) and slaves listed as imported from these areas. The tablets do not specifically refer to the Hittites or any overseas powers of the Bronze Age because the purpose of the tablets was not foreign correspondence but rather palace inventory and economics. The Hittite documents carry the evidence of direct contact between the Mycenaean Greeks and the Hittites, but this evidence requires that one accept Ahhiyawans as referring to Mycenaean Greeks. This correlation seems to be quite likely because Ahhiyawa seems to be a remote land that is located overseas and the Ahhiyawan King appears to be more of a distant overlord of Millawanda/Miletos requiring Atpa and his brother Tawagalawa as his representatives there. It is also at Millawanda/Miletos where a vast amount of archaeological material attested the presence of a Mycenaean Greek settlement or colony. The absolute evidential proof for the

¹⁶³ Bryce 2003:62

¹⁶⁴ Bryce 2003:62

¹⁶⁵ Bennet 1997:518-519

association of the Ahhiyawans with the Mycenaean Greeks remains uncertain and therefore the correlation is still circumstantial, however plausible it may be. The probable location of Ahhiyawa, if the Ahhiyawan-Mycenaean Greek association is accepted, is either an island in the Aegean, or somewhere on the Greek mainland itself, such as Thebes, or Mycenae.

The Hittite-‘Indictment of Madduwatta’, Manapa-Tarhunda Letter, Tawagalawa Letter, the Annals of Mursilis II and the Millawanda Letter attest to conflict between the Ahhiyawans and the Hittite empire; however, other documents, such as the conferral from the Ahhiyawan king of a cult idol to heal the Hittite king Mursilis II, demonstrate that other more friendly relations also occurred between the two kings. The conflict, though, seems to be the prevalent theme which was most probably due to the expansion of the Mycenaean Greeks into the Hittite vassal territory of western Anatolia and the surrounding islands. It is clear from the evidence of these documents that the Hittites were aware of both the Mycenaean Greeks settling on the fringes of their empire and the Mycenaean Greeks that had their base overseas from them. This is much the same as in later periods when the Persians were aware of the Greeks both in Asia Minor and in Greece.

Chapter Five: Conclusion

Some time in the Middle LHIIIC period the Mycenaean influence over western Anatolia and the surrounding islands ceased. The end of LHIIIB saw the destruction of the palace sites on mainland Greece. Other sites around the Aegean, Anatolia, Near East and Egypt were attacked and destroyed by the so-called sea peoples at the end of the LHIIIC phase. During the LHIIIA period the Mycenaean Greeks expanded their empire to include sites in the eastern Aegean and they were active in many overseas ventures throughout this time. The volume and spread of their wares are evidence of this expansion. This Thesis has shown the evidence for contact between the Hittites and the Mycenaean Greeks and that the Hittites were aware of the Mycenaean Greeks. It has also examined the evidence for the Mycenaean Greek's settling areas of western Anatolia and the reasons why there is limited evidence for contact by the Mycenaean Greeks with inland Anatolia and the heart of the Hittite Empire. Finally, it explored the writings of later time periods to gather evidence of the relationship between the Mycenaean Greeks and the Hittites based on later Greek involvement with Asia Minor.

It is evident that the Mycenaean Greeks were settling and trading with the western Anatolian coastline and the surrounding islands. The abundance of Mycenaean pottery found at these places suggests close trading relations. At sites north of the Meander River, such as Troy, it appears that the Mycenaean Greeks were trading as opposed to settling these areas (at least in great numbers). As I have shown the majority of pottery at

Troy is the local Grey Minyan ware, with only 1-2% of the total ceramic assemblage being Mycenaean. South of the Meander River, however, is an entirely different story. Miletos seems to have been a Mycenaean Greek settlement as 95% of the pottery, which includes coarse and cooking pots, is Mycenaean. This pottery was both imported and locally made. The presence of Mycenaean architecture, pottery kilns, and a Mycenaean cemetery 1.5 kilometres south-west of Miletus (Degirmentepe) all support the argument that Miletos was a Mycenaean settlement. The site of Müskebi was a large chamber tomb and Mycenaean burial ground which would suggest that there were Mycenaean settlers around this area as well. Rhodes appears to have had widespread settlement of Mycenaean Greeks as the archaeological evidence of pottery and Mycenaean style chamber tombs indicate their presence over the entire island. The reason the Mycenaean Greeks would have needed these sites as trading posts and settlements was to establish trade networks with overseas peoples and to expand into new places in order to acquire resources that were otherwise scarce on the Greek mainland. The Mycenaean traded for raw materials and perishable items that leave little or no trace in the archaeological record.

This evidence, therefore, on the western coastline of Anatolia would indicate that the Hittites were aware of the Mycenaean Greeks settling and trading on the fringes of their empire, but there is little evidence that the Mycenaean were directly trading with the Hittites in inland Anatolia. This situation is due to many factors. One of these factors was the geographical difficulty of establishing suitable land routes into the centre of the Hittite empire. This is especially the case with the mountains directly inland from the coastline of western Anatolia. Another factor was that the Mycenaean Greeks, like the

later Greeks, had extensive sea capabilities and therefore pursued trade with coastal and fluvial areas as the more logical and easier choice. This pattern of trade is evident from the fact that the majority of Mycenaean wares are found along the coastlines of Anatolia and the Levant, on islands such as Rhodes and Cyprus, and at sites along the Nile in Egypt. There simply seems to have been no need for the Mycenaean Greeks to trade directly with inland Anatolia and the heart of the Hittite empire, as they could procure all the commodities that they needed through the coastal and fluvial emporia of the Bronze Age, such as Ras Shamra (Ugarit). There is evidence of trade and settlement of the Mycenaean on Cyprus as well as Ugarit on the Levantine coast. Surely the Hittites and Mycenaean would have come into contact at these places, if for some reason they had not done so on the Anatolian coastline. Contact would have occurred at these places as the Hittites traded at Ugarit as well and Cyprus features in the Hittite documents, such as the 'Indictment of Madduwatta', the text of Suppilulima II and the letter sent from the King of Ugarit to the King of Cyprus.

The palaces of the Mycenaean Greeks may not have had exclusive control over these trade routes to Cyprus, the Levant and Egypt. Indeed trade with overseas areas most likely started with opportunistic Mycenaean merchants, and grew into more intensive trade and eventual settlement overseas by the Mycenaean. The Ulu Burun wreck is important as it demonstrates just how widespread these trade connections must have been, and it also gives some evidence for at least one Mycenaean merchant trading abroad.

The Linear B tablets do not give direct evidence of Mycenaean trading overseas, but foreign slaves from places on western Anatolian mentioned in these tablets do

suggest that such overseas trade occurred. This evidence ties in with the late tradition of Strabo that the walls of Tiryns were built by Cyclopes, who were giants from Lycia in Asia Minor. The Linear B tablets, though, do not give a definitive answer to the question of whether the Hittites were aware of the Mycenaean Greeks. For the answer to this question the Hittite documents were analysed and the Ahhiyawa-Mycenaean Greece equation was discussed. This equation remains circumstantial but it is most likely accurate. The evidence suggests that the Mycenaean involvement in western Anatolia increased in LHIII which coincided with the Ahhiyawans featuring in the Hittite documents. The Ahhiyawan-Mycenaean Greek correlation also appears more likely to be accurate when Millawanda is equated to Miletos which, as we have seen through the archaeological evidence, was a Mycenaean settlement. This Millawanda was under the influence of the Ahhiyawans in the Hittite texts and therefore Mycenaean Greeks as well. I do believe that Attarsiya the “Man of Ahhiya” with his 100 chariots from the Hittite text the ‘Indictment of Madduwatta’ was most likely a Mycenaean Greek from one of the settlements on the Anatolian coastline and not from mainland Greece. However, the later references to the Ahhiyawans were the Mycenaean Greeks either from an Aegean island such as Rhodes or, perhaps more likely, from a centre such as Thebes or Mycenae on the Greek mainland. The Hittite documents display a range of relations between the Ahhiyawans/Mycenaean Greeks and the Hittites, from openly hostile (Indictment of Madduwatta) to diplomatic (Tawagalawa Letter) to the appearance of friendly relations (the text concerning the conferral of a cult idol from the Ahhiyawan king to heal the Hittite king Mursilis II).

Ultimately it would seem, given the archaeological and textual evidence discussed in this thesis, that the Hittites were aware of the Mycenaean Greeks and vice versa. Common sense must prevail even if there is little evidence of contact between the two parties in inland Anatolia, and the heart of the Hittite empire, the Hittites, nevertheless, must have known of the foreign Mycenaean settlers and trading with their vassal states of western Anatolia. The Hittite documents attest to this as the conflict between the Ahhiyawans and the Hittites is linked to the encroachment of these Ahhiyawans on the Hittite territory. The Hittites would have encountered the Mycenaean traders at other trading emporia such as Ugarit but also on the borders of their own territory, which has yielded much in the way of Mycenaean wares and evidence of settlement. These contacts between the Mycenaean Greeks and the Hittites appear to have been extensive, just as those between Greeks from the later time periods and the peoples and empires of western Asia Minor were.

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