



Max-Planck-Institut

## Omzerb na abmoneopenous guccenmousium II. Kumaan

The review of the abstract of T. Kisbali's dissertation "The architecture of Ancient Anatolia: typology, local peculiarities and interregional contacts. The cultic memorials of the pre-Hellenistic period", submitted for the candidate of art criticism degree, specialty 17.00.04 "Architecture, fine and decorative arts".

The dissertation of T. Kisbali covers the problems of the development of the Anatolian architecture in the pre-Hellenistic period. The author observes the vast period of Anatolian art history that rarely becomes the subject of research. This research shows that despite the pre-Classical Iron Age in Anatolia is marked with the lack of the central power in contrast to previous and succeeding periods; the cultures of this region had common features in their development as reflected in the cultic memorials. The author studies carefully the peculiarities of the monuments of art both from the perspectives of regional features and chronological development. It was a very difficult task, both because of the abundance of material and of the state of its preservation. The author compares both monumental and narrative sources that reflected the same concepts and shows how they complement each other.

The dissertation of T. Kisbali corresponds every requirement. Its author puts four problems and successfully solves them. T. Kisbali performs this work on the high scientific level, dealing with a very vast heterogeneous corpus of the monuments of art. The bibliography covers 402 titles for the period up to 2015 in main

languages of the Anatolian studies.

At the same time, no comprehensive work can be perfect in every detail, and I want to make some remarks concerning weaknesses of this work. Several Turkish names are tranliterated with mistakes (Ыкызтепе (İkiztepe) should be Икизтепе, P. 159). Sometimes the author follows without critical assessment not generally recognized statements or simplifies the problems. So, the Luwian nature of the third millennium Troy (P. 69) has nor positive or negative solid arguments. The god-napping was the Old Hittite practice that disappeared slightly earlier than the author writes (P. 94)<sup>1</sup>. The author describes the Hittite temples as a rather established phenomenon (P. 82-84), while we have the textual evidences of their evolution<sup>2</sup> that should be proven by the monumental sources. It is sad not to find

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Cf. Gilan A. The end of god-napping and the religious foundations of the new hittite empire // Zeitschrift für Assyriologie und Vorderasiatische Archäologie 104/2 (2014) P. 195-205.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Görke S. Hints at Temple Topography and Cosmic Geography from Hittite Sources // Heaven on Earth. Chicago,

in this work the discussion of the spatial orientation of the cultic memorials, very important both from art historian and religion studies points of view. However, these weaknesses are mostly observed in the second chapter that lies outside of the main author's interests.

As we can observe, these mistakes does not touch the core of this work and cannot influe on the author's conclusions. He performed a great work that will bring invaluable impact on the science. The summary reflects the structure and every postulate of the thesis, fulfilling the requirements. Therefore, the author deserves to obtain the degree of the candidate of philological science, specialty 17.00.04 "Architecture, fine and decorative arts".

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