

【Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research(S)】

Humanities and Social Sciences (Humanities)



Title of Project : Reconstruction of Cultural Chronology in Prehistoric Anatolia

Sachihiko Omura
(The Middle Eastern Culture Center in Japan,
Japanese Institute of Anatolian Archaeology, Director)

Research Area : Archaeology

Keyword : Anatolia, Cultural Chronology

【Purpose and Background of the Research】

In the Anatolian archaeology, it is the Prehistoric period (before 2nd millennium B.C.) that only least excavation research has been done, in particular, stratigraphy from pre-Bronze Age to Neolithic period has not been studied. Stratigraphy and cultural chronology which is constructed based on the stratigraphy are the foundation of archaeology. This research aims at constructing the cultural chronology from 3rd millennium B.C. to 7th millennium B.C., or from pre-Bronze Age to Neolithic period at Kaman-Kalehöyük. At this site, preliminary research has done in 1985 and the excavation researches have been conducted since 1986 till 2009. Based on the researches, the cultural chronology from the Ottoman period to pre-Bronze Age has been constructed.

In Anatolian archaeology, there are only a few examples of the cultural chronology from Ottoman period through Neolithic period constructed based only on one site. Kaman-Kalehöyük situates in the middle of Republic of Turkey. One of its characteristics is that cultures from east, west, north and south of the world have met at the site, and that they have been piled up there. This research will show what kind of cultural role Anatolia played, which situates in the center of the Middle Eastern world, in the prehistoric period.



Fig.1 North Sector of Kaman-Kalehöyük

【Research Methods】

The excavation research at Kaman-Kalehöyük is the main part of this research. On the excavation, the idea of preliminary layer will be applied to excavate each layer. We will conduct this research mainly on North Sector, based on which we have constructed the cultural chronology from Ottoman period through the pre-Bronze Age, in particular sections

particular sections from I to XII (10m x 120x). From 2011 to 2016, in every year, it is planned to dig down approximately 1 m of the prehistoric sedimentary layers, which is assumed to be about 5 to 7 m deep. Profile of each section will also be focused on to analyze

correspondences among architectural remains, findings and the profile.

【Expected Research Achievements and Scientific Significance】

At the Kaman-Kalehöyük site, we preserve findings and main profiles so that we can use them for our further researches. When we reconstructed the cultural chronology of the historic period of the site in 2003 to 2007 with the grant for foundation research S, we could use these resources efficiently.

In this research, the following factors will be used to determine stratigraphy: the colour of the soil, artifacts and the preliminary layer with which we can determine the stratigraphy according to the excavated condition of an architectural remain. The last idea was invented in 1986 when the findings were taken out from the site, and has been demonstrated that it is efficient for the determination of the stratigraphy.

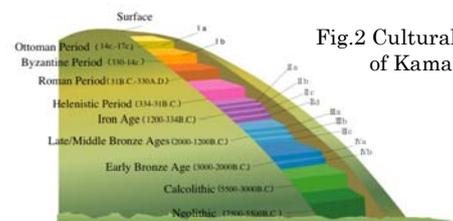


Fig.2 Cultural Chronology of Kaman-Kalehöyük

【Publications Relevant to the Project】

- “Cultural Chronology in Anatolian Archaeology: Excavation Researches at Kaman-Kalehöyük”. *Oriental Studies* Vol. 115, Toho Gakkai, 2008, pp. 158-168.
- “2003-2006 Yılları Kaman-Kalehöyük Kazıları”, 29. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı 3.Cilt, s.1-16, Ankara 2008.
- “Preliminary Report on the 21st Excavations Seasons at Kaman-Kalehöyük(2006),” *Anatolian Archaeological Studies(AAS)* Vol. XVI, Kaman-Kalehöyük 16 (2007), pp.1-43.

【Term of Project】 FY2010-2014

【Budget Allocation】 123,600 Thousand Yen

【Homepage Address and Other Contact Information】

[http:// www.jiaa-kaman.org/jp/index.html](http://www.jiaa-kaman.org/jp/index.html)
tokyo@jiaa-kaman.org