

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

Turkey

The man-made peak of heaped small stones at the top of Mount Nemrut, Turkey.

- There are statues of gods and the (assumed) tomb of King Antiochus Theos of Commagene/ Kommagene.



Location.

- The mountain lies 40 km north of Kahta, near Adıyaman.



King Antiochos I (69-34 BCE), the King of Kommagene.

- There is a rubble of statues and thrones.
- It is assumed that the statues were smashed by people who reject the Ancient Greek gods.
- The height of the statues was almost 9 metres.



Map showing Commagene as a tributary kingdom of the Armenian Empire under Tigranes the Great

- 163 BCE– 72 CE.
- Commagene/Kommagene



An attempt to be immortal by making himself equal to the Ancient Greek gods.

- 1882, archaeologist Otto Puchstein and Karl Sester carried out the first research and excavations, and at the back of the thrones of the statues, they found a long inscription in Greek language which says:
- Great King Antiochos Theos Dikaios, Epiphanes, Philoromaios and Philhellene, son of Mithridates and of Queen Laodice Thea Philadelphos, daughter of King Antiochos Epiphanes Philometor Kallinikos... (continued next slide)

Antiochos (left) and Heracles-Artagnes-Ares



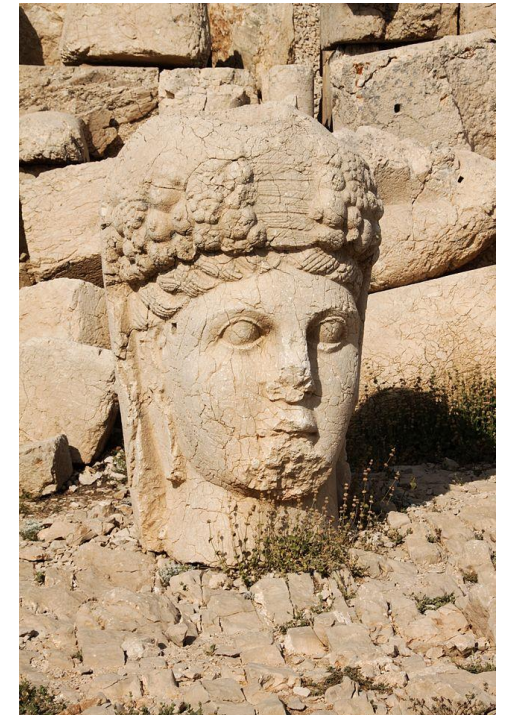
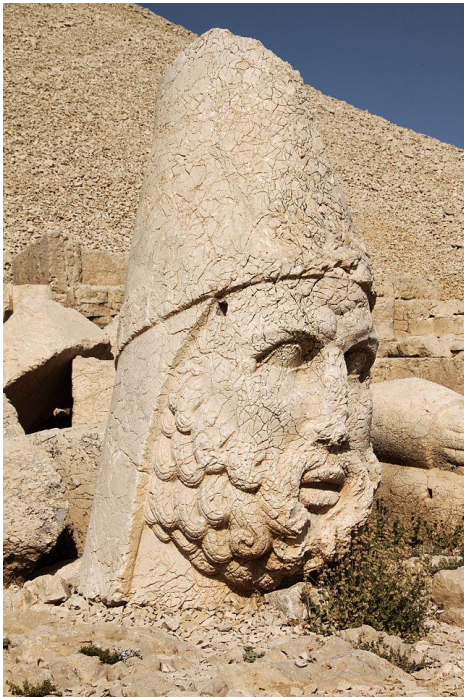
These statues were once seated, with the name of each god inscribed on his statue.

-recorded on consecrated bases in inviolate letters the works of his benevolence for eternity.I have planned to prepare this monument, secure from the ravages of time near the celestial thrones of my almighty gods, where my divinely loved soul will sleep for eternity... and that this very spot might be a witness to my piety.....



Heads in corresponding order.

- As you see, I have these wondrous statues erected which are really worthy of gods: the statues of Zeus-Oromasdes, Apollo-Mithras-Helios-Hermes, Artagnes-Heracles-Ares and that of my fatherland, my all nurturing Commagene (Tyche).



Heads of Antiochus I Theos (i.e. the god) and Heracles-Artagnes-Ares.

- Just next to the gods who listen to prayer, and carved out of the same stone, I have my own statue erected, representing me, sitting enthroned, and a New Fortune, a companion of the great gods...".



Divider slide.



Hattusa, capital of the Hittite Empire.

- Before the second half of the nineteenth century the only knowledge of people called the Hittites came from the Bible.



Map of the Hittite Empire in 14th century BCE.

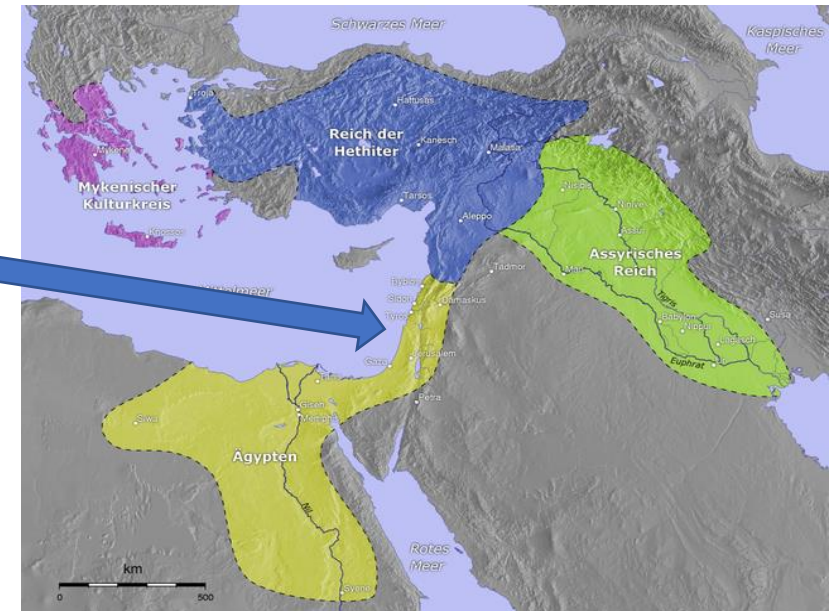
- Archaeology has revealed the remains of a significant empire and modern scholars strongly disagree about whether this empire is identical with the tribe in Canaan, that is mentioned in several books of the Bible, starting with Genesis.



One version.

- The Hittite Empire, ca. 1400BCE (shown in blue)
- It included modern Lebanon, Syria and part of Turkey.
- According to the Bible, before Israel conquered Canaan, the people there related to their cities rather than to their country.
- Thus people from Shechem usually referred to themselves as Shechemites.

Lebanon/Israel/Canaan



Of the remains of Hattusa's five gates, three of them display lions, sphinxes and a warrior.

- Lion Gate in the south-west, Hattusa, Turkey, as it is, and how it probably looked (digitally 'restored').



Twelve Hittite gods of the Underworld in nearby Yazılıkaya, a sanctuary of Hattusa (next slide).

- Pagan beliefs.

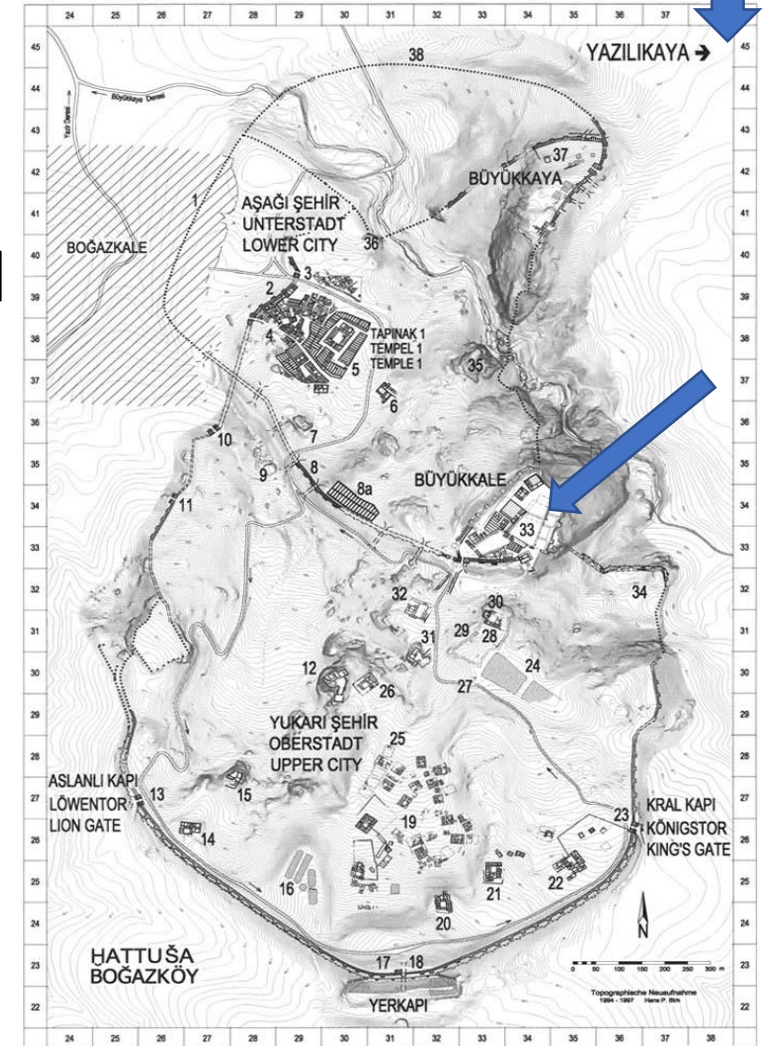


The Hatti.

About 2500BCE, a settlement of the possibly indigenous Hatti people was established on sites that had been occupied since 6th century BCE and referred to as Hattusa.

The Hatti built their initial settlement on the high ridge of Büyükkale.

The Hatti were a superpower until the Hittite invasion in the mid eighteenth century BCE.



Writing introduced.

Shortly after the Hittites occupied Hattusa , merchants from Assur in Assyria established a trading post there, setting up in their own separate quarter of the city.

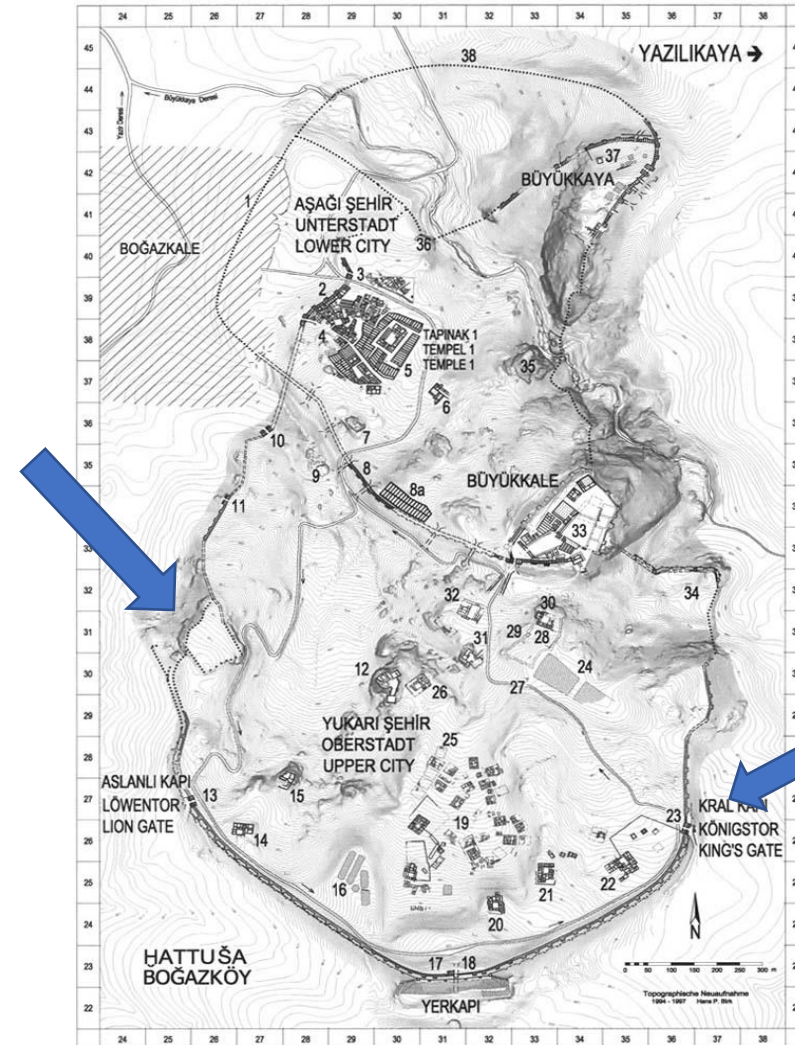
The centre of their trade network was located in Kanesh (Neša) (modern Kültepe).

Business dealings required record-keeping: the trade network from Assur introduced writing to Hattusa, in the form of cuneiform.



Layout of the city.

- Restored ruins(?) and plan.



Next slide:
Restored
gate.

Hattusa: the reconstructed city gates and the store-rooms of temple 1

- Looking S-E.



Temple Acropolis.

- Walls can be seen on top.



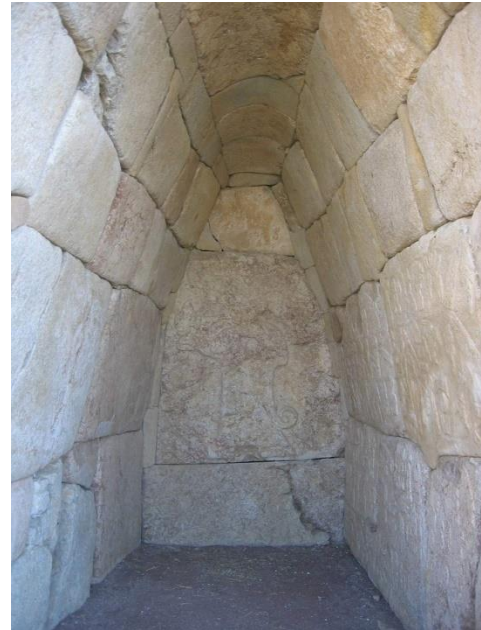
Hattusa Chamber and Sacred Pool.

- The side wall of the sacred pool.
- The chamber with the carvings of deities is just in the middle (next slide).



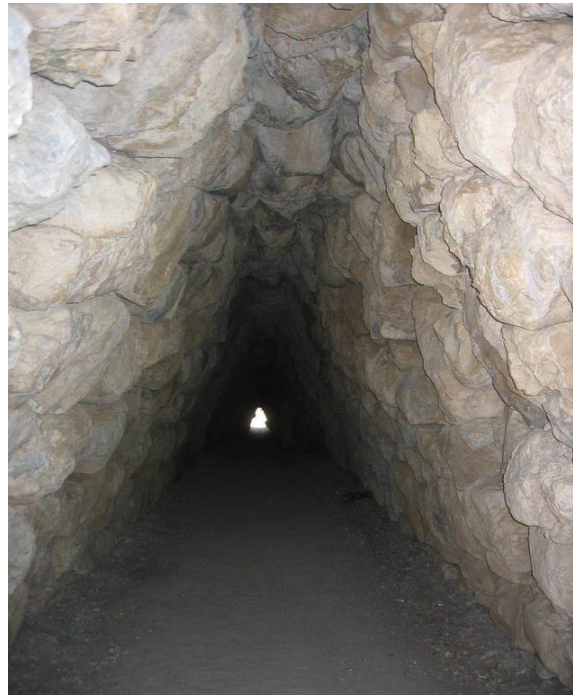
Hattusa Chamber.

- This chamber was built just near (and partially under) the sacred pool at the city
- On the back wall is a relief carving of Sun God Arinna.
- On the right side wall the weather god Teshub is depicted.



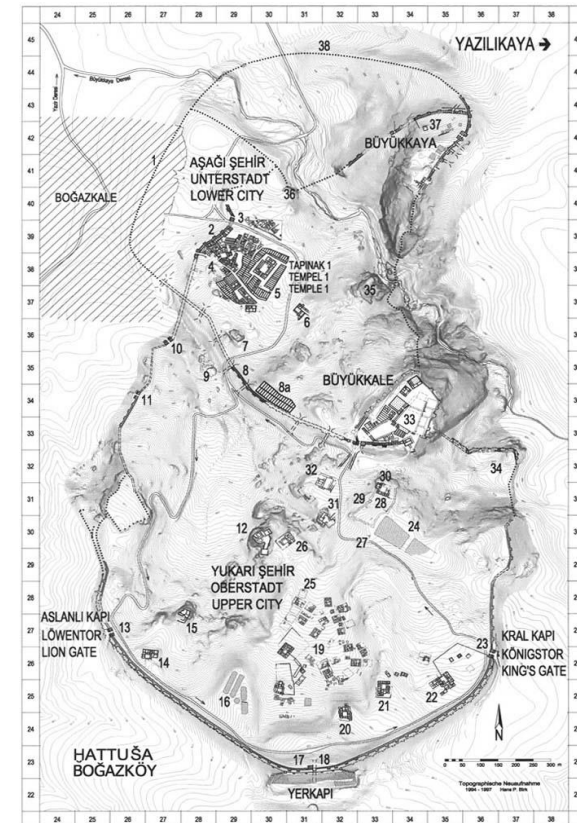
Hattusa Underground Passage.

- This underground passage runs below the Sphinx Gate of Hattusa.
- It is believed that it was used in times of emergency and soldiers could secretly enter or leave the city through it.



Nearby.

- A relief carving depicting God Teshub and King Tudhaliya IV from the rock cut chambers of Yazilikaya, Hattusa.



Hattusa Yazilikaya.

- A relief carving depicting a demon at the entrance of one of the chambers at Yazilikaya, warning visitors not to enter.



Enduring symbolism (of what?).

Original Sphinx from Hattusa (right).

Sphinx Gate at nearby Alaca Huyuk.



A tale of two Sphinxes (to be continued).

- A pair of sphinxes found at the southern gate in Hattusa was taken for restoration to Germany in 1917.
- The better-preserved sphinx was returned to Istanbul in 1924 and placed on display in the Istanbul Archaeology Museum.
- The other remained in Germany, on display at the Pergamon Berlin (right) from 1934.



I wonder what Greece can threaten Britain with to have the Elgin Marble friezes returned?

- Over the years Turkey had made numerous requests for its return.
- In 2011, threats by the Turkish Ministry of Culture to impose restrictions on German archaeologists working in Turkey finally persuaded Germany to return the sphinx.
- The Istanbul sphinx was also brought back to its place of origin, and the pair was reunited in the Boğazköy Museum outside the Hattusa ruins.



Divider slide.



Fairy Chimney rock formations near Göreme, in Cappadocia, Turkey.

- Caused by wind and water erosion.



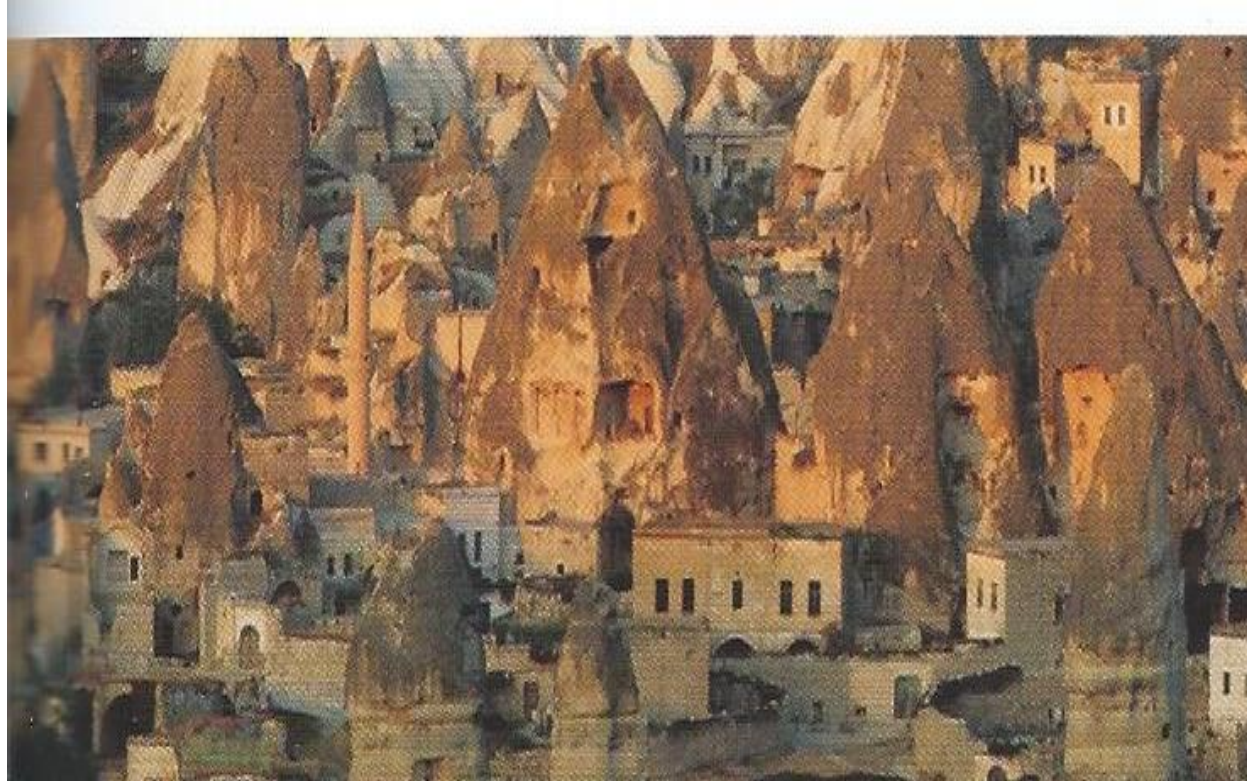
Ancient Anatolia approximates modern Turkey.

Compared with modern Turkey.



Goreme National Park Cappadocia.

- After the Christianisation of Anatolia by the Apostle Paul, early Christian communities in Goreme built residential dwellings, chapels and churches inside the rocks.



The town Göreme with rock houses in front of the spectacularly coloured valleys nearby

Fairy houses.



Trappist monk praying in his cell.

- Monasticism or monkhood is a religious way of life in which one renounces worldly pursuits to devote oneself fully to spiritual work.



Cells for monks.

- It is believed that the first signs of monastic activity in Cappadocia date back to 300-400CE when monks began inhabiting cells hewn in the rock.



Underground towns.

- In later periods, in order to resist Arab invasions, people began banding together in underground towns such as Kaymakli or Derinkuyu which served as places of refuge.



Kaymaklı Underground village.

- First opened to tourists in 1964, although only 4 of the 8 levels are accessible, the village is about 19 km from Nevşehir, on the Nevşehir-Niğde road.



The ancient name was Enegup.

- The houses in the village are constructed around the nearly one hundred tunnels.
- The tunnels are still used today as storage areas, stables, and cellars.



Refuge for a large group.

- It is estimated that around 3,500 people once lived in Kaymaklı.



Very large settlement.

- In excess of 200 underground villages containing a minimum of two levels have been discovered in the area between Kayseri and Nevsehir.
- Some 40 of those contain a minimum of three levels or more.



Derinkuyu 1

- Derinkuyu is an ancient multi-level underground city in the Derinkuyu district in Nevsehir Province, Turkey.



Derinkuyu 2.

- With its 13 floors extending to a depth of approximately 85 m, it was large enough to shelter thousands of people together with their livestock and food stores.



An enduring mystery.

- It is the largest excavated underground city in Turkey. It is a mystery, who built it, when, and why.
- Stone cannot be carbon dated.



Divider slide.



Xanthus and Letoon, cities of Lycia.

- Location of Lycia.



At times it has been hard to distinguish remains on the two neighbouring sites of Xanthus and Letoon.

- The major city nearest to Xanthus and Letoon is Fethrye near a smaller town called Kınık, not shown on the map (modern Turkey).



Xanthus Obelisk (south face).

- This is a stele bearing an inscription currently believed to be trilingual, found in Xanthus.
- The three languages are Greek, Lycian and Milyan.
- The last two are Anatolian languages and were previously known as Lycian A and Lycian B respectively.



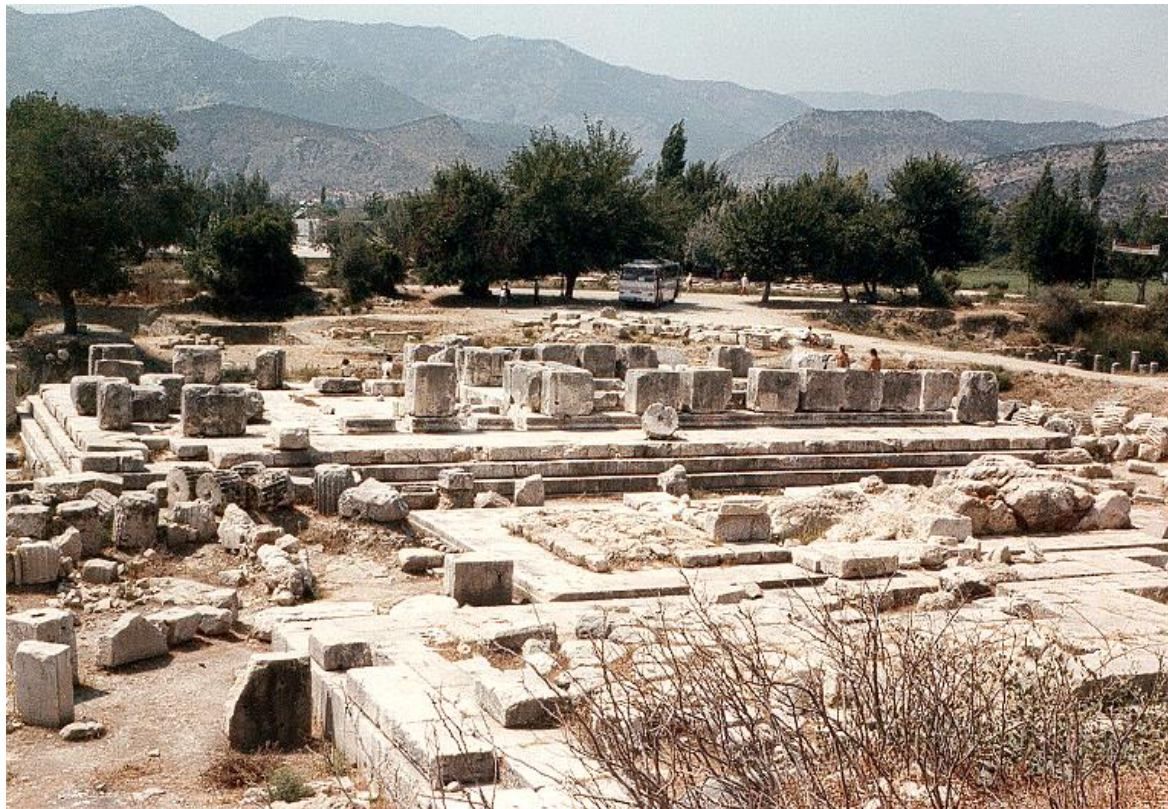
Xanthus Obelisk (north face).

- North face, of the obelisk, with the Greek verse at the top (on slightly cleaner stone).
- During its early period of study, the Lycian either could not be understood, or was interpreted as two dialects of one language, hence, the alternate name, Xanthus Bilingual.



The Letoon Trilingual Stele

- It was discovered in 1973 in the Letoon three-temple complex .
- It was subsequently named from its three languages, Greek, Lycian A and Aramaic.



Lycian letters.

- Some seem familiar.



The bridge near Kemer was a Roman segmental arch bridge near the ancient city of Xanthus.

Third arch of the Kemer Bridge (seen from the river). Above the arch vault is the hollow chamber.

The circular ducts supported the Roman scaffolding during construction.



View of the bridge from the west.

- At present it has not been possible to discover the construction date.



Second segmental arch.

- A Greek legend is that the river was created by the birth pangs of Leto, whose temple, at the Letoon, is on the west bank of the river a few kilometres south of Xanthus.



Roman remains.

- View of the Roman theatre at Xanthus with the Acropolis lying behind it
- The Harpy Tomb can be seen in the background to the right of the theatre.



Guess where the originals are located!

- View of the Harpy Tomb (left) from the Roman Theatre entrance.
- The replacement copies of the reliefs on the Harpy Tomb.



The original marbles were taken to Britain by Charles Fellows who explored the area in 1838.

- The Harpy Tomb reliefs in the British Museum



Harpies occur in the legend of Jason and the Argonauts.

- Close up of harpy on left.



Harpies.

- A harpy has the head and upper body of a woman joined with a bird's body, tail and claws.
- In many pictures harpies do not have arms
- Here they carry small figures that may represent the souls of the dead.



Servants of Zeus, the king of the gods.

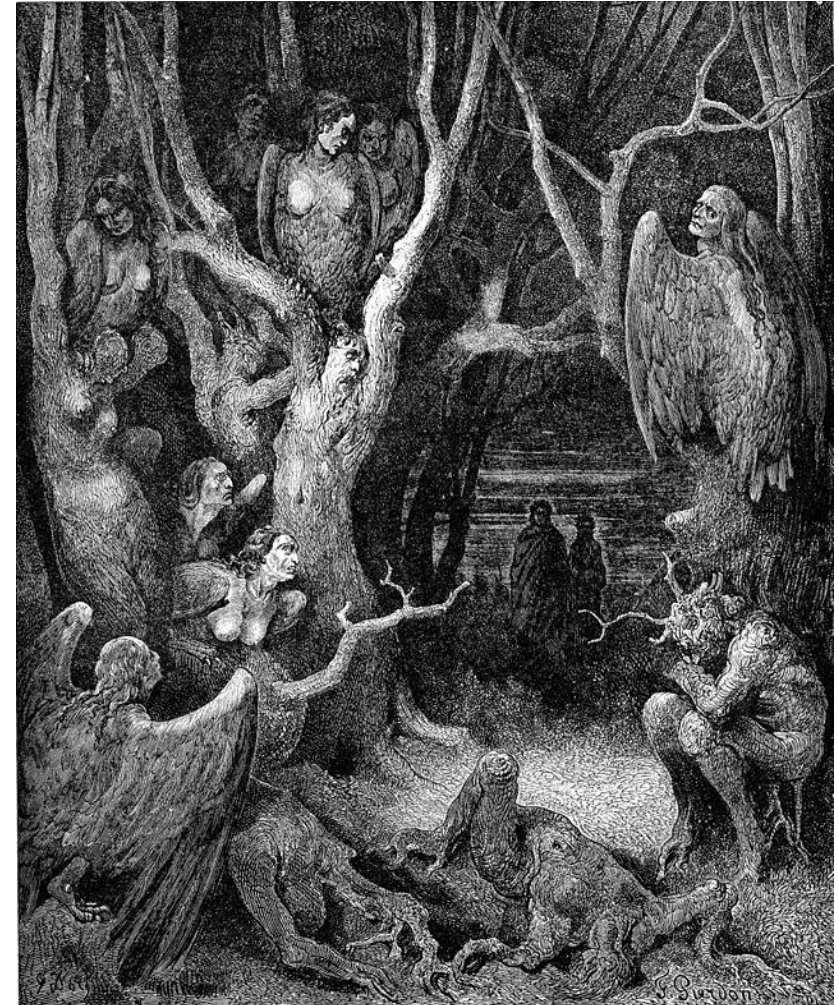
- The Harpies were the spirits of sudden, sharp gusts of wind.
- They were known as the hounds of Zeus and were despatched by the gods to snatch away people and things from the earth.



A Harpy, wings disclosed.

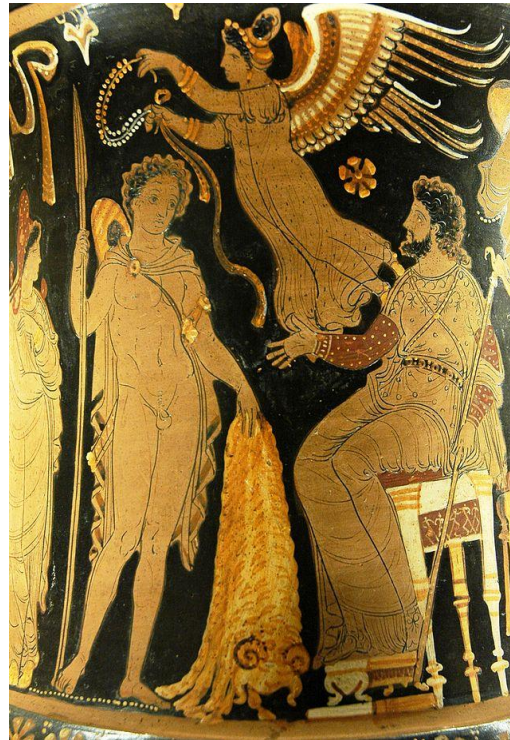
A king is tormented.

- Sudden, mysterious disappearances were often attributed to the Harpies.
- The Harpies were once sent by Zeus to plague King Phineus of Thrake as punishment for revealing the secrets of the gods.
- Whenever set before him, the Harpies would swoop down and snatch it away, befouling any scraps left behind.



The harpies were thwarted.

- When Jason and the Argonauts came to visit, the winged Boreades gave chase, and pursued the Harpies to the Strophades Islands, where the goddess Iris commanded them to turn back and leave the storm-spirits unharmed.
- Jason bringing King Pelias the Golden Fleece.



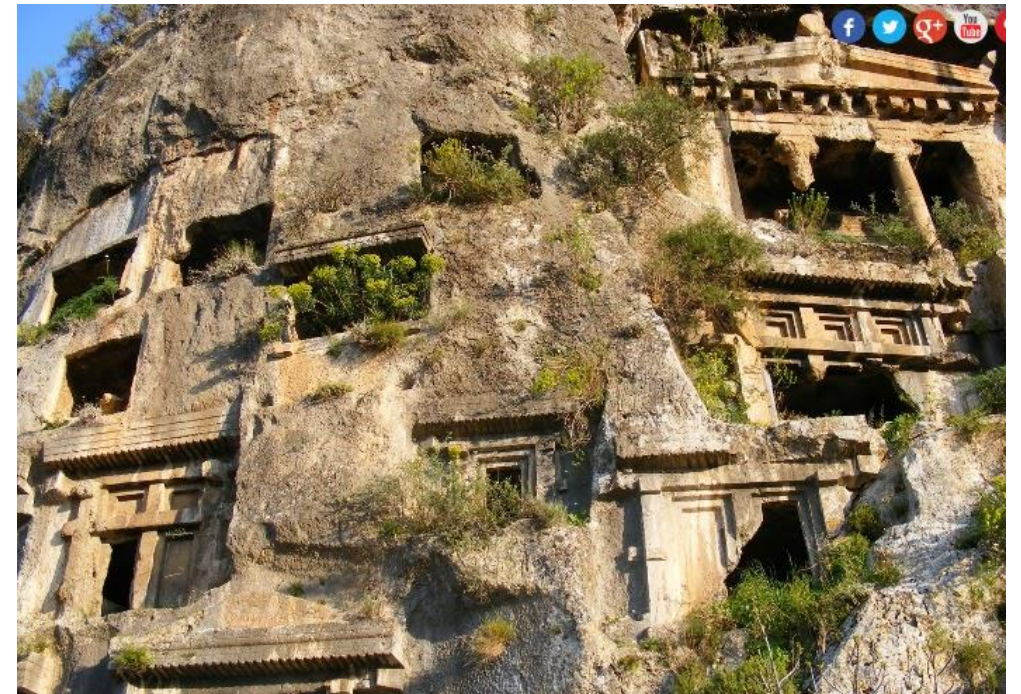
Whose tomb?

- It is not known for certain but the tomb may be that of Kybernis, a king of Xanthus.
- Kybernis was a Lycian ruler of Xanthus who led the Lycian ships as part of the Persian invasion of Greece in 480BCE.
- It has been suggested that one of the seated figures is Harpagus, founder of the Lycian dynasty, and another Kybernis.



A cruel and futile gesture. 1

- The history of Xanthus is quite a violent - the Xanthuse people twice demonstrated the fierce independence of the Lycian people when they chose to commit mass suicide rather than submit to invading forces.
- The Xanthusian men set fire to their women, children, slaves and treasure upon the acropolis before making their final doomed attack upon the invading Persians.



A cruel and futile gesture. 2

- Xanthos was later repopulated but the same gruesome story repeated itself in 42 BCE when Brutus attacked the city during the Roman civil wars in order to recruit troops and raise money.
- Brutus was shocked by the Lycians' suicide and offered his soldiers a reward for each Xanthusian saved.
- Only 150 citizens were rescued.

