



**Faculty of Archaeology
Egyptology Department**

**The Anatolian Kingdoms [Urartu-Phrygia-Lydia]
during the First Half of the First Millennium B.C./
Historical-Artistical Study.**

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Submitted by

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Summary:

The subject of the current thesis aims to shed light on the reappearance of the most important kingdoms (Urartu, Phrygia and Lydia), which prospered in Anatolia throughout the first half of the first millennium B.C. Shortly after the fall of Hittite Empire, most of the political systems had abruptly collapsed due to the arrival of invaders from the west; however, a number of urban centers survived and sometimes enjoyed greater prosperity than they had in the earlier existence. It is useful to draw a picture of the geographical features of Anatolian regions and having a review of synonyms that could be concerned with this study. Also, the study has dealt with a background of its demography, apparently to which most of the cultural elements of kingdoms have been formed. Above of all, this would focus primarily on the Anatolian political status between the Late Bronze Age and the Early Iron Age.

This thesis consists of a preface, four chapters and conclusions, the results of the research, and a list of tables, maps, figures and bibliography.

In turn, the political geography of Anatolia was often established by series of the competing groups until the coalescence of Urartu, whose rulers made a great effort into dominating parts of Eastern Anatolia, Transcaucasia, and Iran; being united into a new federation against Assyria for more than two centuries. This kingdom has been weakened by the Cimmerian invasions and the Assyrian campaigns of Sargon II, until its violent demise in the late 7th century B.C. to become later just part of the Achaemenid Empire.

By analogy, the western part of Central Anatolia is termed by the Greek name of Phrygia, extending from Eskişehir area east to Boğazköy and Alişar Hüyük within the Halys River bend, to attest only one of its rulers, “Mita of

Muški”. Its history had covered the span of around fifty years. In the light of the end of Urartu and Phrygia, Lydia that was just a small principality by the Heraclid Dynasty, has been created in western Anatolia as a great empire under Mermnad Dynasty. Its kings subjected the Ionian colonies, to be under a strong Hellenic influence, until the Persians sacked its capital, Sardis.

Further, this study aims to have a discussion about the artificial features of these kingdoms. Firstly, the culture of Urartu has shortly emerged after the capital of Tushpa was founded on the shore of Lake Van. The Urartians built canals, palaces, cities and fortresses. Also, they advanced in the metalwork and this is transformed into weapons, tools, jewelry and remarkable artifacts of the cauldrons, shields, helmets, belts, horse trappings, harnesses, blinkers, figurines, and plaques. Secondly, the current understanding of the Phrygian Kingdom is based on the excavations of its capital, Gordion; in which are found great quantity and variety of artifacts, architecture, fortification walls. The Phrygians were skillful architects; also they have played a distinct role in the metalwork. Finally, Lydia became a residence to the Greek art and the oriental motifs that have been more prominent at Sardis. It is remarkable by an exceptional wealth of the metalworks and its economy is linked with the coinage invention that attached further to its fame.

Summarizing the conclusions reached above, as far as can be judged from contemporary epigraphic evidence, this study would have tried to relate the key finds of the previous kingdoms of Anatolia, namely Urartu, Phrygia and Lydia, which played a prominent role in the Iron Age, to what is recorded for their political history and the artistical relationships with neighboring cultures.

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