Abstract

While recent research has started to focus more on the subject of metal finds and metallurgy in Western Anatolia in Bronze Age, there is currently no comprehensive work that provides a typological, contextual, chronological, and regional analysis of published metal finds dated to the second millennium BC. Hence, this study was undertaken with the aim of gathering all known metals from various sites and subjecting them to a comprehensive analysis. One of the objectives is to explore the potential regional variations in metal finds and attempt to identify unique types of discoveries. This premise draws from the author's previous master's thesis, which followed a similar approach along the western Anatolian coast. This doctoral dissertation contributes to advancing our knowledge of metal finds from the 2nd Millennium B.C.

In total, 1,286 metal objects from across Western Anatolia were collected from the literature. This diverse collection includes a wide range of items, from prestigious weapons like swords and spears (mostly found on the coast in graves) to the smallest metal tools and simple jewellery (with accumulations in settlements and modest inland graves). Consequently, it was concluded that the finds exhibit a strong Anatolian character in the inland regions of Western Anatolia, distinct from the coastal character. The coast, particularly its southern part, was strongly influenced by Aegean culture. The entire region was divided into several sub-regions, each with its central sites. Some groups of metals, especially on the coast (e.g., Siana, Interface swords) provide evidence of the possible existence of typologically unique items that blend typological influences from the west and east and their possible local production. There are also sporadic indications of local metallurgical production.

Keywords: Western Anatolia, 2nd millennium B.C., metals, typology, metallurgy.