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FIRST TRACES OF SETTLEMENT IN ÇANAKKALE AND GALLİPOLİ PENINSULA*

Veli ÜNSAL**

Abstract

Çanakkale is located in north-western Turkey on Biga peninsula which is one of the western prolongations of Anatolia and on Gelibolu peninsula which is a part of Eastern Thrace region of Balkan Peninsula. The city is surrounded by Balıkesir in east and southeast, Aegean Sea in west, Tekirdağ and Marmara Sea in north. This region constitutes a border between Anatolia and Thrace as well as between Asia and Europe. At the same time, Çanakkale and surroundings is one of the two natural water streams between Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea. Due to this geographical location, it has been in the middle of many civilizations that rose thousands years ago but then perished and it has kept the strategic importance granted by the geographical location.

The region has been on the roads connecting Asian countries and European continent since ancient ages. Besides it intersects the routes connecting Anatolia, Greece and Balkan Peninsula. Accordingly, the region has become a bridge between Aegean and Black Sea as well as Asia Minor, Europe and Mediterranean. It is well known that people has always selected settlement areas due to their connectivity with other regions. The research subject Çanakkale and surroundings is located in such a region and therefore it has been an area of settlement in every period.

Çanakkale and surroundings has been an area of settlement starting from the first ages of history. It has been proved by findings obtained from surface researches that both Gelibolu and Biga peninsulas have been areas of settlement since Palaeolithic age. Besides, these surface studies proved the cultural and historical relation of the region (which have been ignored for a long time) with Anatolia and Balkans. With this research named "First Traces of Settlement in Çanakkale and Gelibolu Peninsula" the subjects regarding the oldest settlement history of the region will be enlightened.

Keywords: Çanakkale, Gallipoli, Biga Peninsula, Gallipoli Peninsula, Hellenes, Paleolithic Age, Epipaleolithic Age and Neolithic Age.

Introduction

Çanakkale is the second city in Turkey that has territory in both Asia and Europe; it located at the North of Turkey, on Gallipoli, which is the extension of Thracian, and on Biga Peninsula, which is an extension of Anatolia. On the other hand, the region separates Asia and Europe continents and is situated around the Bosphorus named Çanakkale. In other words, lands of the region are the border between Asia and Europe continents.

Big part of the city is located in South Marmara part of the Marmara Region and Edremit Bay shore while a small part is located in Aegean Region, in the actual Aegean part. That part of the region on Gallipoli Peninsula is surrounded with Korudağı at north, and with Saroz bay and Aegean Region in the west; the part of region in Biga Peninsula is surrounded with Aegean Sea at south, Marmara Sea at north, Kaz Mountains and its extensions. Besides this, Çanakkale City is surrounded with Edirne, Tekirdağ and Balıkesir city borders in terms of administration. Gökçeada -the biggest island in Turkey- and Bozcaada on Aegean Sea are also within the borders of town.

Besides these, although Çanakkale has similar geographical features with İstanbul, it has significant differences in terms of settlement, population, economic activities, tourism and transportation. Most of the interactions between Europe and Asia have occurred over these Bosphorus through social events like migrations or wars. Çanakkale and neighborhood have never lost the strategic significance attributed to it starting from the medieval ages including ancient ages. Additionally, thanks to its transportability, it was important even when the Mediterranean Basin was the center of the world's attention.

Çanakkale and its neighborhood are situated geographically between northwestern Anatolia, Mediterranean Sea, Marmara and Black Sea, Aegean Sea and Anatolia prairies. This is why; it is the crossroad of ancient civilizations that existed and vanished thousands of years ago.

Northwest Anatolia had the entire sufficient aspects that meet the needs of people lived in ancient ages. There have been many water resources, natural rock shelters, plains and forests, rich mineral stratum and especially abundance of game animals have attracted the attention of human beings starting from the ancient ages.

** Doç. Dr., Ahi Evran Üniversitesi, Fen-Edebiyat Fakültesi, Tarih Bölümü.

Because of all these features, northwestern Anatolia which includes Çanakkale and its surroundings has always been the area of settlement; this situation is directly related with the geographic location of the region.

Paleolithic Age

Traces of dense population in northwestern Anatolia including Çanakkale belong to the early Bronze Age, just like in general Anatolia. But settlement in the region had started much earlier than that age.

According to the results of the researches about Çanakkale and its neighborhood, the oldest settlement in the region had started in Paleolithic Age which is the first of prehistoric ages. Before explaining the settlements that inform us about the age, some information should be given about general features of Paleolithic ages.

Paleolithic age is the longest process of the history of humanity; it is divided into three as: Early, Middle and Upper (Kınal, 1991: 10.; Yıldırım, 2002: 15.; Sevin, 2003: 8). This age is also named as the Old Stone Age, and the Age of Collecting and Hunting as production hadn't started yet.

Life styles of communities at this age were based on collecting and hunting (Dinçol, 1982: 12.; Memiş, 2005: 7-8.; Kınal, 1991: 9.; Erzen, 1992, 8 et al.; Şenel, 1995: 58 et al.; Akurgal, 1995: 21.; Lloyd, 1998: 24.; Maisels, 1999: 107.; Akurgal, 1999: 3.; Yıldırım, 2002: 15.; Sevin, 2003: 7). People were trying to get used to changing climate and were spread on wide geographic areas sparsely and disorderly.

Natural rock caves, shelters under the rocks and very primitive shelters were used by people as temporary settlements.

As they didn't have knowledge about production, they used to earn their keep by hunting and collecting and continue their daily lives by making primitive tools from pebbles found in nature. Men used to live with hunting animals while women used to live with collecting small plants. Starting from the oldest ages of life, human beings satisfied the need for food –besides water as the basic life source- with the herbal products in the geography they live through the most primitive methods they develop.

People of this age used to use double edged hand axe as tools. Towards the end of the age, people started to use needles made of bone and spearhead made of obsidian (Dinçol, 1982: 13.; Memiş, 2005: 7-8.; Kınal, 1991: 9.; Akurgal, 1995: 21.; Şenel, 1995: 53.; Lloyd, 1998: 16.; Umar, 1999: 2.; Akurgal, 1999: 3.; Yıldırım, 2002: 15.; Sevin, 2003: 7).

Generally axes, hacks, penetrating and scraper tools are the material remains of people in this age which explains the name of this age: "Paleolithic" (Old Stone Age).

Besides various tools made of stone and bone, made with different techniques and types, petroglyph and cave paintings give us information about the age. These findings give enough and understandable information about the cultural level of the first people although the information is not as detailed as in written documents.

It is revealed by the researches that Paleolithic Age in Anatolia was very reach; Anatolia's Paleolithic Map was written by these researches.

Paleolithic map of Çanakkale and its surrounding was prepared according to the information in M. Özdoğan's researches. Özdoğan systematically continued his researches on Marmara Region starting from 1980 and he has significant contributions to enlightening of the age (Özdoğan, 1982: 37-49.; Özdoğan, 1983_a: 137-142.; Özdoğan, 1983_b: 21-58.; Özdoğan, 1983_c: 137-142.; Özdoğan, 1984: 63-68.; Özdoğan, 1985: 221-232.; Özdoğan, 1986_a: 51-71.; Özdoğan, 1986_b: 409-420.; Özdoğan, 1986_c: 29-39.; Özdoğan, 1986_d: 139-162.; Özdoğan, 1986_e: 517-541.; Özdoğan, 1988.; Özdoğan, 1989: 201-215.; Özdoğan, 1990: 443-458.; Özdoğan, 1991: 345-375).

Primary founding areas in the region are; Havuz başı Neighborhood, Kocaköy Locality Neighborhood, Mısırkışlası Neighborhood, Taşlıtarla Neighborhood and Üyüçükler Neighborhood. All of these settlements are dated Middle Paleolithic Age.

Havuzbaşı

This are is near Çınarköy in Pazarköy town, Yenice district, Çanakkale. As is known, one of the main reasons why people prefer places to live is their distance to water resources; Havuzbaşı neighborhood's place is very appropriate as it is close to water resources.

Tools in this area were found by Özdoğan; according to Özdoğan's research in this area, there are many tools dated Middle Paleolithic Age (Özdoğan, 1991: 347.; Harmankaya-Tanırdı: 1996).

Kocaköy Locality

The settlement is situated in the borders of Çınarköy, Pazarköy town, Yenice district, Çanakkale. It is at the south of Havuzbaşı neighborhood. It is on fertile plain watered by Gönen brook and its arms.

According to Özdoğan's research in this area, many tools were found that are dated Middle Paleolithic Age (Özdoğan, 1991: 347.; Harmankaya-Tanırdı, 1996).

Mısırkışlası

Foundlings dated Middle Paleolithic Age were found in this area which extends along Çalca brook and on both sides of Karlıköy road at 7 km west of Çay district, Çanakkale (Özdoğan, 1991: 346).

It is thought that the area was used for a temporary settlement (Harmankaya-Tanıdı: 1996). Like in the other settlements in the region, Mısırkışlası Neighborhood is rich in terms of water resources; the water from Çan brook and its arms.

According to Özdoğan, Çalca Neighborhood and foundlings are defined as: *“Flintstone tools in the area called Çalca Neighborhood have a continuous intensity while there are production residuals, core and core pieces in another area situated on the west of the first intensity area. Although it is not used for a permanent settlement, it is obvious that Çalca neighborhood was used as a settlement for a long time and there was a workshop near the settlement. Foundling sets that were found were small mid-sized flint stone chips (thin and long simple stone tools), small diggers and mono plane cores. The area of Çalca neighborhood is accepted to be one of the oldest and biggest settlements in Aegean and Anatolia. A definite period can not be understood from surface Foundlings; but we can say that they are dated a period between 8.000 and 5500 B.C. On the other hand, the area is very significant in terms of cultural history of Aegean and Anatolia; it has the potential to enlighten an age that was hardly known”* (Özdoğan, 1990: 447-448).

Çavuştarla

This settlement area extends along Çalca brook and on both sides of Karlıköy road at 7 km west of Çay district, Çanakkale. Çavuştarla is important especially with the foundlings that reflect the process of transition from Early Paleolithic to Middle Paleolithic Age (Özdoğan, 1991: 346).

Çavuştarla and Mısırkışlası Neighborhood aren't very close to each other. Çavuştarla is on fertile plain which is rich in terms of water resources.

Taşlıtarla

Taşlıtarla is situated at the north of Çanakkale city center, on Çan plain, close to Karlıköy and extends along Karlıdere neighborhood.

Çan lowland is one of the plains formed by Çan brook and Biga brook flowing into Marmara Sea (Harmankaya-Tanıdı, 1996). Taşlıtarla neighborhood is the only place that has many foundlings in this region.

There is a high amount of material in a limited area in Taşlıtarla neighborhood and many foundlings and cores are found in here which proves that this place was an open settlement (Özdoğan, 1990: 446-448).

Üyüçükler

Üyüçükler neighborhood is situated at 8 km southwest of Çan district, Çanakkale, at 500 m. west of Kurmaköy. Çan-Etili main road is right at the south of this area (Harmankaya-Tanıdı, 1996).

This area was found at the end of Özdoğan's researches on the area. Üyüçükler neighborhood reflects all of the stages of the early Bronze Age and it is at the south of Üyücekler barrow. What makes this barrow interesting and significant is that there were found to be covers on which there are human faces that have were found nowhere else (Özdoğan, 1990: 446).

The area is dated as Middle and Upper Paleolithic Age settlement by Özdoğan, but no detailed information is given (Özdoğan, 1990: 446-447).

Epipaleolithic Age

Besides foundling areas in Paleolithic Ages, there is another historical site called Ören neighborhood that is dated Epipaleolithic Age. Before mentioning this foundling area, Epipaleolithic Age's general features should be known in order to understand the area better.

After Paleolithic Age, human beings had lived an age called Mesolithic/Epipaleolithic or Middle Stone Age. In this age, which is accepted to be the continuation of Paleolithic Age, humans had continued hunting and collecting, and fishing in rivers and lakes.

Humans started to create an industry of microlite tools. Some of the innovations in this age were hooks that were done with nailing obsidian and flint stone tools on a stick in series. This example shows that people in this age started producing products; towards the end of the era, there were developments in terms of food production (Memiş, 2005: 7.; Kınal, 1991: 12.; Akurgal, 1995: 21.; Harmankaya-Tanıdı, 1996: 17.; Yıldırım, 2002: 18.; Sevin, 2003: 14).

Besides continuing the aspects of Paleolithic Age, stone tools became more useful and diversified. On the other hand, there was an increase in the use of bone tools. Animal bones that belong to warm climate show that the climate conditions changed. Small stone tools called Microlite, made of obsidian and flint stones were found in the area; it is believed that places where these tools were found had set up into the Mezolithic Age (Kınal, 1991: 11.; Akurgal, 1995: 21.; Şenel, 1995: 59.; Harmankaya-Tanıdı, 1996: 17.; Akurgal, 1999: 3.; Sevin, 2003: 15).

Havuzbaşı Neighborhood Kocaköy Locality Neighborhood, Mısırkışlası Neighborhood, Taşlıtarla Neighborhood and Üyüçükler Neighborhood dated Middle Paleolithic Age are on Biga peninsula and they lighten the history of settlement in this area. Ören neighborhood dated Epipaleolithic age is on Gallipoli Island and lightens the history of the peninsula on the other side of Bosphorus.

Ören

It is situated at 3 km west of Küçük Anafarta Village in Eceabat District, Çanakkale. Neolith materials were found in the area between Small Anafarta Village and Salt Lake. Özdoğan says that it is difficult to analyze and date these dressed stones but they had been made with Marmara region tool tradition (Özdoğan, 1986: 56).

Harmankaya and Tanındı defines that this place was a temporary settlement as there are no pottery foundlings in this area; they also grant Özdoğan's ideas and defend that foundlings should be dated Epipaleolithic Age (Harmankaya-Tanındı, 1996).

Neolithic Age

Neolithic Age started after Paleolithic and Epipaleolithic Ages. Social and economic structure of today was built in Neolithic Age (New Stone Age), which is named Glazed Stone Age in Anatolia.

There had been innovations in Neolithic Age that changed the life of humanity in terms of economy and social fields. Some scientists define this culture that had first appeared in Near East as "Neolithic Revolution". But this change had been very slow and continuous rather than fast (Esin, 1979, 14.; Kinal, 1991, 12 et al.).

Anatolian people that had a parasitical economy in Paleolithic and Epipaleolithic Ages had a productive economy in Neolithic Age. The most significant discoveries of Neolithic Age were agriculture and domestication of animals (Kinal, 1991: 13 et al.; Akurgal, 1995: 22.; Çiğdem, 1996: 16 et al.). As a result of this important change, people had to live close to the fields as they had to wait for their yields. This is how the permanent settlement started and villages were formed.

Another significant discovery in this age was making stoneware. Neolithic Age stonewares were made with rough pastes that were cooked with inexperienced techniques which caused the outer part to be black while the inner part was red. There had been searches for finding materials that ease the life of humanity which gave rise to trade, caused various developments in making instruments and people started to save food thanks to these innovations (Alkım, 1968: 47 vdd.; Kinal, 1991: 13 et al.; Akurgal, 1995: 21 et al.).

On the other hand, caves weren't enough for people; they started to get connected to the soil, learnt the strength of mud that is dried under the sun, started to build shelters and built the basis of civilized life. Besides this, just like in each age, Neolithic Age cultural centers sometimes had some local features.

Starting from the Neolithic Age, communities gave up primitive life styles that had been in Paleolithic Age, namely they finished the war with nature and started to make use of it.

Until a short time ago, it was believed that Neolithic Age was mostly lived in South-Southeast and West Anatolia. Studies in recent years have shown that there had been some settlements all over Anatolia (Mellaart, 1988: 71).

At the end of the researches in Çanakkale and around, there were determined to be some settlements. While the region had had a dispersed settlement in Paleolithic and Epipaleolithic Ages, settlements became more organized in Neolithic Age. There had been settlements on both Biga and Gallipoli Peninsulas. These settlements on Biga are: Anzavurtepe, Coşkuntepe, Çalca Neighborhood, and Gavurtarla; on Gallipoli Peninsula are: Değirmenlik Neighborhood, Karağaçaçtepe and Kaynarca Neighborhood.

This period of the region was also discovered by the researches of Özdoğan just like the discoveries of Paleolithic and Epipaleolithic Ages. While intercultural relations can not be known as no excavations were made in the area, with the help of foundlings and similarities between these foundlings in settlements that had stone industry such as Değirmenlik neighborhood, this age of Çanakkale and its neighborhood was enlightened. Although there have been no excavations in the region, Fikirtepe type of products that were found at East Marmara excavation were also found in Kaynarca neighborhood -which is a place of Neolithic foundlings- is important in terms of showing the closeness of this culture to Marmara.

Biga Peninsula

Anzavurtepe

It is situated near Gavurlarla, and in the borders of Bakacak village in Biga district of Çanakkale. It is a founding area in which there was found no potteries like Gavurtarla, dated Neolithic Age.

Tools with obvious Neolithic Age features were found in the foothills of a natural hill named Anzavurtepe which have Middle Age foundlings. It is said that these tools were generally made with flint stone and sometimes with obsidian. Özdoğan says that these tools are similar with the ones found in Çalca neighborhood (Özdoğan, 1990: 450). There has been no explanation if this place was used for settlement or a workshop (Harmankaya-Tanındı-Özbaşaran, 1997).

Özdoğan, mentions a significant point about both Anzavurtepe and Gavurtarla. Both foundling areas are significant as they enlighten the Neolithic Age of not only Marmara region, but also entire Aegean and western Anatolia. On the other hand, according to Özdoğan, more systematic researches in the region will make contributions in terms of enlightening the life of old agricultural societies in Marmara region and Western Anatolia (Özdoğan, 1990: 450).

Coşkuntepe

It is situated at 4 km southwest of Bademli Village in Gülpınar district, Çanakkale. It is on the coast of Aegean Sea and at 100 m altitude; it is on the mountainous parts of Biga peninsula facing the sea. This settlement, insufficient for agricultural activities, was probably used as a fishing village (Harmankaya-Tanındı-Özbaşaran, 1997).

While there were found to be many settlements in Late Neolithic, Roman and Hellenistic Age, fewer settlements were found that belong to Chalcolithic and Bronze Ages.

It is a known method that archeological foundling societies are named according to the place they were found for the first time. But the name of this settlement is not regional; Coşkun Özgünel who discovered the settlement gave the name Coşkuntepe to this settlement (Harmankaya-Tanındı-Özbaşaran, 1997).

According to pottery foundlings in Coşkuntepe, wares dated Neolithic Age are homogeneous. Pastes of almost all of the pieces of potteries are the same. Inner and outer parts of these wares are polished and their colors are red and its tones. Bowls and plates are some of the pottery styles (Seeher 1990: 9-15). Chips, cores and diggers which were significant in terms of tool industry other than pottery, and whose substances are flint stone were also found in settlements. As there were many tools made of flint stone in the area it can be thought that there were flint stone deposits close to this area; on the other hand, as there were very few tools made of obsidian tools, it can be thought that obsidians were brought to the area from another place (Harmankaya-Tanındı-Özbaşaran, 1997).

Çalca

It is a small settlement with scattered foundlings situated at 1 km south of Karlıköy in Çan district, Çanakkale. Although it is not definite, the settlement is thought to date 8.000-5.000 B.C (Özdoğan, 1990: 448.; Harmankaya-Tanındı-Özbaşaran, 1997).

This neighborhood was found during the systematic researches of Özdoğan and his team in Çan plain. It is known that this region had significant foundlings in Paleolithic Age too. According to Özdoğan, Çalca neighborhood was settlements in which societies that carry out hunting and collecting lived. (Özdoğan, 1990: 447-449.; Özdoğan, 1991: 347). In this area and on the west of this area, core foundlings that were made of flint stones and core residuals were found. Small diggers and chips that were of different sizes were also found.

It is also understood that societies lived in this small settlements were using potteries. Özdoğan states that potteries that were found in this area were some diversifications of Fikirtepe wares. (Özdoğan, 199: 347).

This area is significant in terms of Aegean, Marmara and Anatolian cultural history. On the other hand, it is significant in terms of its probable contributions to Neolithic Age of Marmara region (Özdoğan, 1991: 347).

Gavurtarla

This area is close to Çarlıköy, on the north of Biga district, Çanakkale. This is a Neolithic age foundling place without any potteries. The area was found in the researches of Özdoğan on Thrace and Marmara surface researches (Özdoğan, 1990: 450.; Harmankaya-Tanındı-Özbaşaran, 1997).

Tools found in this area were almost the same as the foundlings of Anzavurtepe and Çalca Neighborhood in Çan plain. Based on the similarities between these foundlings and Anzavurtepe and Çalca neighborhood foundlings, this foundling area was dated Neolithic Age (Harmankaya-Tanındı-Özbaşaran, 1997). It was also stated that some small chips were found in Gavurtarla besides other tools (Özdoğan, 1990: 450).

Gallipoli Peninsula

Değirmenlik

This area is at 8 km northeast of Eceabat district, Çanakkale; at 100 m. south of Akbaş martyrs' cemetery.

The area was discovered by Özdoğan during his researches on pre-historical times. Pebbles made of flint stones, a few obsidians, microchips, round diggers and microlites were found in this area. Tools similar with the ones in Değirmenlik neighborhood were also found in Karağaçtepe and Kaynarca on Gallipoli Peninsula.

Based on the foundlings of Özdoğan on Değirmenlik neighborhood, transition in this settlement from Epipaleolithic Age to Neolithic Age without potteries is thought to be similar with transition in Eastern Anatoli region (Özdoğan, 1986: 56 et al).

Stone tool industry of the plain settlement known as Değirmenlik neighborhood regionally has some similarities with Epipaleolithic Age tool industry of Marmara region. Based on this fact, this area can be dated Neolithic Age (Harmankaya-Tanıncı-Özbaşaran, 1997).

Karağaçtepe (Protesilaos Tumulus)

This area is situated at 3 km northeast of Seddülbahir village in Gallipoli district, Çanakkale. Tumulus is also known as Ancient Protesilaos tumulus (Harmankaya-Tanıncı-Özbaşaran, 1997).

The tumulus is on the edge of Gallipoli peninsula, on a spot seeing Bosphorus and it is middle sized. The area was firstly excavated by Schliemann on 1882 with the thought of being a tumulus. After that, between 1921 and 1923, a large scaled excavation was carried out by Demangel on behalf of French occupation forces. The area was systematically analyzed in details by Özdoğan in scope of Gallipoli peninsula surface researches. It is one of the areas whose stratification was well determined although it was excavated as early as the First World War. According to this stratification, there is a layer of fill of 11.5 m thickness and on the top of the soil there are Byzantine Age layers of 1.5 m thickness. There are various pre-historical layers with 4 main layers (Özdoğan, 1983b: 26-27.; Harmankaya-Tanıncı-Özbaşaran, 1997).

Özdoğan states that some of the potteries found in the layers dated Chalcolithic Age were in fact used in Late Neolithic Age -although not certain. During the last researches of Özdoğan, some microchips made of obsidian and flint stone were also found. These tools bring the existence of a settlement before Chalcolithic Age to minds (Özdoğan, 1984: 65.; Özdoğan, 1986: 54).

Kaynarca

It is situated at 8 km southwest of Gelibolu district, Çanakkale. This is a plain settlement found during the researches of Özdoğan and his team.

According to Özdoğan, this is one of the most interesting foundling areas on Gallipoli peninsula. Fikirtepe types of foundlings were found in this area (Özdoğan, 1984: 64.; Özdoğan, 1986: 59-60). It is not only interesting, but also confusing to find Fikirtepe wares in a place that is far away from Fikirtepe. There were no examples of these wares in the west of İstanbul, Thrace (Harmankaya-Tanıncı-Özbaşaran, 1997). Kaynarca Neighborhood contributed new foundlings to the age of this area.

In Kaynarca neighborhood, some other tools were found whose substances are flint stone and obsidian. These are mostly microchips and a few geometric micro tools. Finding these flint stone and obsidian tools both in this settlement and on the other parts of the island is significant in terms of showing the distribution of producer communities in Çanakkale and around.

It is known that there had been continuous settlements in prehistoric ages in Çanakkale and its neighborhood; there had also been some settlements in this area in Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Ages. Like in the other Anatolian settlements, there had been a high increase in the amount of settlements in this region. Moreover, Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age settlements in the region had been so many that they can be the topic of another study.

There have been studies on the historical geography of Biga and Gallipoli peninsula besides the studies on the prehistoric ages of Çanakkale and its neighborhood. These studies are significant in terms of defining the area in ancient ages. On the other hand, these studies contributed and continue to contribute to the unknown points about antique road network, ancient cities, movable cultural assets and epigraphic materials in the region (Sayar, 1994: 129-136. Sayar, 1995: 61-66.; Sayar, 1996: 49-53.; Sayar, 1997: 107-113.; Sayar, 1998: 323-330.; Sayar, 1999: 423-431.; Sayar, 2000: 245-250.; Sayar, 2001: 289-300.; Sayar, 2002: 99-110.; Sayar, 2007: 113-115).

Conclusion

Position of Marmara Region, including Çanakkale, between Anatolian, Aegean and the Balkans is critical. Besides this critical locality, it has rich gold, silver and copper mineral deposits. These aspects of the region are important in terms of showing the oldness of settlement history in the region besides informing researchers about the continuity of these settlements. The history of settlement in northwest Anatolia including Çanakkale and its neighborhood is as old as the settlement history of Anatolia.

There are traces of settlements in Çanakkale and its neighborhood starting with the proper climatic conditions after Ice Age in Anatolia; although scattered, small chips and small sized cutting tools were found especially in the areas close to Çan plain. These tools prove that the first settlement in Çanakkale and neighborhood had occurred at the end of Middle Paleolithic Age. But among the tools, whose typologies were analyzed, there were also some tools belonging to Upper Paleolithic Age of this area; these are mostly Levallois-Moustier tradition tools. Based on these foundlings, it is understood that the history of settlement in this area goes back to 8.000s B.C. On the other hand, these foundlings made significant contributions to

enlighten the Paleolithic Age of northwest Anatolia. Neolithic Age settlements and foundlings were also found in this geography; the number of these settlements had increased in this age. These settlements are significant in terms of showing the first agricultural communities and their relations between Marmara, Aegean and Middle Anatolia.

As a result, the first stage of settlement on Biga (Troas) Peninsula had started in Paleolithic Age and continued increasingly during Epipaleolithic, Neolithic, Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age. Developments in historical ages continued in accordance with Anatolian chronology.

On the other hand, settlement on Gallipoli Peninsula, had started in Epipaleolithic Age and continued increasingly during the other stages of prehistoric ages

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