

# THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE HELLENISTIC FAR EAST: A SURVEY Bactria, Central Asia and the Indo-Iranian Borderlands, c. 300 BC – AD 100

## Supplement 3 (7 November 2015)

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### Notes and Acknowledgements

This document is a supplement to the 2011 publication *The Archaeology of the Hellenistic Far East: A Survey*. In the following sections, I assume that the reader has the 2011 literature review (hereafter, 'HFE 2011') to hand. It is available online ([www.bactria.org](http://www.bactria.org)), or may be purchased in hard copy from Oxbow Books ([www.oxbowbooks.com](http://www.oxbowbooks.com)).

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Readers are invited to submit corrigenda or details of new publications for inclusion to [rachel.mairs@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.mairs@gmail.com) – any such information will be gratefully received, and acknowledged in subsequent Supplements.

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## UPDATES BY CHAPTER AND SECTION

### 1.2 Chronological and Geographical Parameters

Coloru 2013's discussion of ethnicity in Seleucid settlements includes the Hellenistic Far East. Martinez-Sève 2012 reviews the evidence for Greek settlements in Iran and Central Asia, from the Achaemenid period onwards.

### 4.3 Edited Volumes (General Publications >)

The volume edited by Antela-Bernárdez and Vidal 2014 covers a broad chronological scope, with some treatment of the Achaemenids and of the campaigns of Alexander.

Mustafaev, et al. 2013 explores cultural transfer in Central Asia from the Neolithic to the present day. The volume is available as a free PDF on academic.edu. Most chapters are in Russian. Articles of particular relevance to the Hellenistic Far East include: Rapin and Khasanov 2013 on religious architecture in the period of transition from Achaemenid to Hellenistic rule, with discussion of material from sites such as Afrasiab, Kok-tepe and Ai Khanoum; Martinez-Sève 2013 on cultural exchange at Ai Khanoum; and Abdullaev 2013c on images of 'Aphrodite' in Central Asia.

### 5.1.1 History of Archaeological Research (Archaeology > Introduction >)

Chevalier 2002 contains a section on French archaeological missions in Iran and Afghanistan, placing them in their wider Middle Eastern context.

### 5.1.3 Research Tools and Thematic Studies (Archaeology > Introduction >)

Abdullaev 2013b surveys archaeological and other material relating to the cult of the river Oxus in Central Asia.

Stančo 2007 argues that sculptural portraiture in Bactria is a Hellenistic phenomenon, introduced after the conquest and settlement of the late fourth century BC. He is critical of scholarly attempts to identify the well-known marble head from Villa Albani as a portrait of Euthydemus.

The *Oxford Handbook of Greek Religion* contains a chapter on Bactria and India (Mairs 2015a).

### 5.2.2 Ai Khanoum and its Hinterland (Archaeology > Sites: Bactria, Sogdiana, Margiana, Chorasmia >)

See Rapin and Khasanov 2013 (4.3, above) on the temples of Ai Khanoum. Martinez-Sève 2013 discusses cultural contact and exchange in the site as a whole.

The evidence – such as it is – for an Achaemenid era settlement at Ai Khanoum is reviewed by Mairs 2014.

### 5.2.3 Bactra and its Oasis (Archaeology > Sites: Bactria, Sogdiana, Margiana, Chorasmia >)

The ceramics excavated by the DAFA at Bactra between 2004 and 2008 are analysed by Maxwell-Jones 2015, who constructs a ceramic sequence for Bactra and the wider region from the pre-Achaemenid period to the Kushano-Sasanians.

### 5.2.4 Termez, the Surkhan-darya and the North-West (Archaeology > Sites: Bactria, Sogdiana, Margiana, Chorasmia >)

Abdullaev 2013a explores the Buddhist culture of ancient Termez. The paper includes some useful maps and satellite views of the site.

The early Hellenistic material from Kampyr-tepe noted in Supplement 2 (2014) may now be supplemented by Dvurechenskaya 2014's presentation and analysis of the ceramics from the same area of the site.

### 5.2.5 Derbent – the 'Iron Gates' (Archaeology > Sites: Bactria, Sogdiana, Margiana, Chorasmia >)

The preliminary results of the first season of a new archaeological project at the fortress of Uzundara, 7 km south of the Derbent walls, are published by Dvurechenskaya 2015. Most of the material excavated dates to the third century BC. Surface finds of Graeco-Bactrian coins have also been made at the site (Rtveladze, et al. 2014).

### 5.2.6 Samarkand and the Zeravshan Valley (Archaeology > Sites: Bactria, Sogdiana, Margiana, Chorasmia >)

See Rapin and Khasanov 2013 (4.3, above) on Afrasiab and Kok-tepe.

Khasanov and Isamiddinov 2011 discuss material from Kurgancha in the Kashka-darya valley, south of the Surkha-darya and north of the 'Iron Gates' to shed light

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on the interaction between local and external influences in material culture of the Achaemenid and early Hellenistic periods.

### **5.3.3 Gandhāra and North-Western India (Archaeology > Sites: South of the Hindu Kush >)**

The Italian Archaeological Mission at Bīr-koṭ-ghwaṇḍai (Barikot) continues to yield remains, including fortifications, of the second century BC, contemporary with the Indo-Greek expansion into the Indian subcontinent. A more nuanced analysis should be sought in the publications: Olivieri 2011; Olivieri 2015.

### **6.2.1 Corpora, Bibliographies and General Works (Languages and Texts > Greek >)**

Abdullaev 2008's publication of a Bactrian gold buckle

depicting a battle between a hero and a centaur includes some useful information on the antiquities market in Central Asia, including material from the Kulyab region, source of one of the Greek inscriptions published by Bernard, et al. 2004.

Rougemont 2014 uses the evidence of Greek inscriptions – and in particular the Greek names contained in these – to explore Greek culture in the region. Mairs 2015b, noted as forthcoming-2014 in Supplement 2, has now been issued.

### **7.6 Other Relevant Sites (Online Resources >)**

Academia.edu continues to be an excellent resource for those seeking publications on the Hellenistic Far East, with many scholars who work on the region maintaining active profiles.

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