

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

## Supplement 8 (December 2022)

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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') and previous supplements 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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the many scholars who have shared their work on Academia.edu.

This Supplement appears with a three-year delay after Supplement 7 (2019), largely because of the COVID 19 pandemic. As ever, it reflects both new publications in the period 2019-2022, and earlier publications which had not yet come to my attention. 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 updates.

This is also the first Supplement since the fall of Kabul in August 2021, and is dedicated to our Afghan friends and colleagues.

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## UPDATES BY CHAPTER AND SECTION

### 1.2 Chronological and Geographical Parameters

Jacobs and Rollinger 2021's *Companion to the Achaemenid Persian Empire* includes Rapin 2021 on the north-east of the empire. Matarese 2021's study of deportation in the Achaemenid Empire contains material of relevance to Central Asia.

Iliakis 2021 examines Alexander the Great's expedition in Bactria-Sogdiana from a local perspective. Coloru and Olivieri 2019 explore the operations of Alexander the Great's Macedonian army in the Swat Valley. James 2020 discusses the use of local guides by Alexander's army.

Olbrycht 2021 looks at early Arsakid Parthia in the period contemporary to the Graeco-Bactrian kingdom.

Francfort 2020 considers 'Hellenism' in the art of Bactria and Gandhāra in the immediate post-Graeco-Bactrian period. Houal and Puschnigg 2019 examine a similar problem from a different perspective in the ceramics of second century BC Margiana and Bactria.

### 3.2 Theory and Archaeological Practice (Culture and Identity >)

Hoo 2022 explores 'Hellenism' and 'localism' at a number of archaeological sites in the Middle East and Central Asia, including Ai Khanoum and Takht-i Sangin.

### 4.2 Historical Studies (General Publications >)

Hoo and Wiesehöfer 2022 consider the status of the realms of the Graeco-Bactrians and Indo-Greeks as 'empires'. Recent research on Hellenistic Bactria and Sogdiana is presented by Martinez-Sève 2020b.

### 4.3 Edited Volumes (General Publications >)

The proceedings of the third meeting of the Hellenistic Central Asia Research Network (Prague, 2018) have been published as Havlík, et al. 2021 (two volumes). Mairs 2020 also contains contributions from many members of the network, and aims to serve as a 'state of the field' survey of the Graeco-Bactrian and Indo-Greek worlds.

Ball and Hammond 2019 is an updated version of Allchin 1978.

Payne and King 2020 contains several pieces of relevance to the Hellenistic period, especially Briant 2020 on Achaemenid Bactria, Canepa 2020 on empires in the eastern Iranian world over the longue durée, and Martinez-Sève 2020a on resistance to Greek power in Bactria.

Dvurechenskaya 2019, Lhuiller 2021 and Baumer, et al. 2022, with broader geographical and/or chronological remit, also have important contributions on Hellenistic Central Asia.

Although devoted to later periods, the *European Handbook of Central Asian Studies* (Van den Bosch, et al. 2021) contains a number of useful chapters on the history and politics of the region, as well as theoretical issues (postcolonialism, Orientalism, etc.).

### 4.4 Exhibition Catalogues (General Publications >)

The Musée Guimet exhibition *Tadjikistan: au pays des fleuves d'or* (Collectif 2021) includes material on the history and archaeology of the region.

### 4.5 Numismatics (General Publications >)

Since Central Asian numismatics is a rich field in its own right, readers are reminded that this bibliographical survey does not aim to present anything like a comprehensive listing of publications in the field.

Glenn 2020 examines *Money and Power in Hellenistic Bactria*. Graeco-Bactrian, Indo-Greek and Indo-Scythian coins from the collections of the National Museum in Prague are published in Militký, et al. 2019.

Mendoza and Verdejo Manchado 2019 propose that the name 'Sophytos' on coinage from Central Asia and in an inscription from Kandahar can be read as a variant of a Greek name 'Zophytos'.

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

Many of the chapters in Gorshenina, et al. 2019 concern historical and contemporary archaeology in Central Asia. The *Bulletin of the International Institute for Central Asian Studies* (Samarkand) 29 (2020) contains essays by archaeologists of Central Asia responding to the volume.

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

On ideological and political aspects of rivers in the Graeco-Bactrian kingdom, see Coloru 2021. Puschnigg and Houal 2019 use ceramic evidence to question regional identities and variation in Central Asia. Havlík 2020 addresses the problem of urbanism in Hellenistic Central Asia. T. O. Dvurechenskaya 2020 examines a type of ceramic flask from Hellenistic Bactria.

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

R. Mairs (2022) 'The Archaeology of the Hellenistic Far East: A Survey. Supplement 8,' *Hellenistic Far East Bibliography*, [www.bactria.org](http://www.bactria.org), published December 2022.

## **Margiana, Chorasmia >)**

Mairs 2021 takes a comparative theoretical approach to analysis of material from the sanctuary at Ai Khanoum, in the context of research on Hellenistic Commagene.

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

On the ancient and medieval ceramic record of Termez, see Houal 2021.

Stančo and Pažout 2020 use GIS based mobility analysis to explore ancient interactions in southern Uzbekistan.

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

On the fortifications at Uzundara, see Dvurechenskaya 2019, and for archaeozoological data from the site, S. O. Dvurechenskaya 2020. A catalogue of the coins from Uzundara is published in the volume Gorin and Dvurechenskaya 2018.

For the results of the Czech-Uzbek mission's 2018 and 2019 seasons in the Baysun Mountains (including Hellenistic sites) see Stančo, et al. 2019 and Stančo, et al. 2022b, and on a rural Graeco-Bactrian period site at Iskandar Tepa, Stančo, et al. 2020 and Stančo, et al. 2022a.

Also in the Baysun region, see Bel'sh 2020 on fortifications documented during surface survey of Mount Susiztag.

Specifically on the Iron Gates wall at Derbent, see Rapin, et al. 2022.

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

The results of the 2018 season of the Uzbek-American mission at Bashtepa, including material going back to the third century BC, are presented in Mirzaakhmedov, et al. 2020 and Stark, et al. 2022.

### **5.2.9 Merv and Margiana (Archaeology > Sites: Bactria, Sogdiana, Margiana, Chorasmia >)**

A Hellenistic and Parthian period reoccupation of the site of Ulug-depe is discussed by Lhuiller and Bendezu-Sarmiento 2021.

### **5.3.1 Begram (Archaeology > South of the Hindu Kush: The Kabul Region, Arachosia and India >)**

On Charles Masson's collections from Begram and Kabul, see Errington 2021. Within this edited volume, Morris 2021's chapter presents new research on the Hackin excavations at Begram.

Seistan and south-western Afghanistan were not included in the original HFE Bibliography because of a lack of Hellenistic material from the region. See now, however, Trousdale and Allen 2022 on unpublished excavations from the 1970s, including Greek and Aramaic epigraphic material (also noted in 6.2/6.3 below).

### **5.3.2 Old Kandahar – Alexandria in Arachosia (Archaeology > South of the Hindu Kush: The Kabul Region, Arachosia and India >)**

The ancient settlements of Kandahar are surveyed by Ball 2021 in Trousdale 2021's volume on *Nineteenth Century Kandahar*.

### **5.3.3 Gandhāra and Northwestern India (Archaeology > South of the Hindu Kush: The Kabul Region, Arachosia and India >)**

Although slightly later than the period usually covered by this bibliography, Olivieri 2022's study of the stupa at Saidu Sharif and its construction merits inclusion because of the relevance of the themes (both technological and art historical) to earlier periods.

Petrie 2021 provides a survey of 'resistance at the edge of empires' in the Bannu Basin from 1000 BC – AD 1200.

Preliminary results of University of Peshawar excavations at an Indo-Greek-Kushan period site at Hayatabad are presented in Khan, et al. 2021. Maritan, et al. 2020 present an archaeometric analysis of Indo-Greek-Kushan period black slip ware from Barikot. On funerary practice at Butkara IV (c. 150-50 BC), see Olivieri 2019.

## **6.2 Greek (Language and Texts >) and 6.3 Aramaic (Language and Texts >)**

Morris, et al. 2022 publish a short Greek and Aramaic inscription from Sehyak in Afghan Seistan.

## **7 Online Resources (Language and Texts >)**

The personal archives of the archaeologists Galina Anatolievna Pugachenkova (1915-2007) are being made available online at <https://pugachenkova.net> (site in Russian and French).

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