

## **Abstract**

The thesis examines grinding stones from the Anatolian Bronze Age site of Kaymakçı. It aims to reconstruct their *chaîne opératoire* and to place the new findings in the frame of Western Anatolia in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Millennium BC. The general processing of the assemblage included morphological, geological, use-wear and spatial study of the assemblage in the context of the settlement. The various aspects of the grinding stones *chaîne opératoire* identified at Kaymakçı were then compared with two published grinding stone assemblages from Western Anatolia (Aphrodisias and Troy) to identify their repeating patterns for the Bronze Age.

The grinding stone assemblage from Kaymakçı revealed that these artifacts played an important role in everyday life, as well as in trans-regional contacts and trade. While activities related to their use, reuse and disposal have been well attested, raw material extraction and production were not documented so far. As shown by the provenance analysis, people were willing to invest a lot of time and energy to transport them. A certain degree of specialization of production can also be assumed, which is indirectly evidenced by the standardization of the upper grinding stone shapes. These tools were skillfully shaped and enhanced with ergonomic adjustments suitable for comfortable holding during grinding. Interestingly, such aspects have not been observed in the grinding stone assemblages from Troy and Aphrodisias which share only singular features with Kaymakçı such as the absence of immobile grinding structures or the presence of hollowed mortars.