

Kültepe





Kültepe Archaeological Site Visiting Hours

April 1-October 1 Monday Tuesday

 Wednesday
 Thursday
 Friday

 8.00
 8.00
 8.00

 19.00
 19.00
 19.00
Saturday Sunday 19.00 19.00 19.00

October 1 - April 1

Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday Monday Tuesday 17.00 17.00 17.00 17.00 17.00 17.00 17.00

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Where the History of **Anatolia Begins**







In 2000 B.C. Kültepe, the center of the Kanes Kingdom and the main city of the Assyrian Trade Colonies system in Anatolia just 20 km northeast of Kayseri, located at the foot of Erciyes (former Ashkashipa or Argeus), in the middle of a fertile plain, where natural highways meet; east-west from Sivas, southeast-west from Malatya and north-east trade routes.





This advantage of nature, especially 4 thousand years before today, increased its importance in the old-world trade and politics. It became an important trade and cultural center between Anatolia-Syria-Mesopotamia since the end of the third millennium and especially in the first quarter of the second millennium.

Its former name is Kanes or Nesha according to the cuneiform documents. Kanes is the oldest kingdom of Anatolia mentioned in Mesopotamia's written documents even in the last quarter of the 3rd millennium

The name Kültepe has been known since 1871, when cuneiform documents, which were distributed throughout the world museums and antiquities markets, were identified as "Cappadocian tablets" Kültepe is one of the most important centers of Anatolian and world archeology with tens of thousands of archaeological and philological works discovered during the excavations since 1948.



Kültepe excavations are a project that sheds light on the history of Anatolia. In fact, Kültepe is an excavation that "started Anatolian history."

Anatolian people learned to read and write for the first time in Kültepe.

Excavations so far, some information about the early history of Anatolia



could be reached. Most of the written documents obtained are economic documents. However, in some of the documents discovered, important information about the history and geography of Anatolia dating back 4,000 years ago was also discovered. These informations illuminate not only



the history of Anatolia, but also the entire history of Asia Minor.

Tens of thousands of artifacts extracted from Kültepe are exhibited in the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations in Ankara and in the Istanbul Archaeological Museums, especially in the Kayseri Archeology Museum.