



SINOPE

THE RESULTS OF FIFTEEN YEARS OF RESEARCHES

Sinope has been often mentioned as an opulent city by the writers of the Antiquity, and its remains have been described with enthusiasm by the travellers of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th c. Although, the stamps on amphorae and tiles have been identified and studied by the Russian scholar Grakov in 1929, it is only between 1951 and 1953 that the late Professor Dr. Ekrem Arkurgal excavated in the city. Sparkled in different spots of the town, the excavations have brought to light the temple of Serapis, as well as a part of the necropolis of the classical and archaic periods. A Bronze Age *höyük* has also been investigated in Demirci, 15 kilometres South of Sinope.

After a long interruption, excavations have been resumed in the 1990s thanks to the French initiative to explore the workshops of amphorae. Excavations have begun in 1994, bringing to light in the peninsula workshops of amphorae of the Hellenistic period which were stamping their products, and in Demirci bay a workshop of the Roman period.

During the same decade, other teams have been implanted in Sinope : an English team who has excavated in Çiftlik, South of Sinope, an important church paved with a mosaic, and two American teams who were complementary to each other – one has proceeded to a inland survey in the *chora* of Sinope, completed by a digging, and another one to an underwater survey which has investigated several wrecks in deep waters. During the same time, Turkish teams were proceeding to other surveys in the area and the Archaeological Museum of Sinope to rescue excavations, bringing to light for example mosaics or a painted tomb. These works have brought some new informations about Sinope and the settlements in its *chora* since the Prehistorical period until the Byzantine period, as well as about its economy and its trade.

Finally, doctorate students and researchers from Turkey, Europe, USA and from Black Sea countries, have dedicated their work, or a part of their work, to Sinope.

In 2009, fifteen years will have passed since the archaeological exploration of Sinope has been resumed. The city has become a centre of international interest and the studies have renewed our knowledge of the city. Time has come now to gather and discuss all these new data during an international Symposium. It will be held from the 7th to the 9th of May 2009 in Sinope itself. Proceedings will be published, and will be, without doubt, a valuable reference book, first of its type, about Sinope.

We will be honoured if you could participate to our meeting by presenting a paper or a poster. The working languages will be in English and French. You will be our guest in Sinope.

Could you please inform us of your participation before the 15th of September by filling the registration form attached, and send an abstract in English of maximum two pages before the 30th of October. An Internet site will be installed for the diffusion of the informations.

We are looking forward to receive you and work with you.

With our best regards,

Dominique Kassab Tezgör

Organizing Committee :

- Prof. Dr. Bülent Özguç, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Fine Arts and Graphic Design, Bilkent University, Ankara.

- Assoc. Prof. Dominique Kassab Tezgör, Department of Fine Arts, Bilkent University, Ankara; chercheur associée, IFEA, Istanbul.

- Dr. Musa Özcan, Director of the Archaeological Museum of Sinope.