



OBSIDIAN IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

FIRST CIRCULAR

With this first circular we hereby invite you to participate with a paper in the international workshop “Obsidian in the Mediterranean” organized by the Danish Institute at Athens and Dr. Mercouris Georgiadis. The workshop will take place at the Danish Institute at Athens between the 25th and 27th September 2009.

Obsidian has been a central material for study in Central and Eastern Mediterranean. Its character allows an easy identification and since its sources are very limited its distribution can be traced without difficulty. These elements have promoted their study mainly within their excavation context. Very often the discussions regarding obsidian are concentrated on the techniques used in a local scale and not much more. Wider issues related to obsidian such as procurement, techniques on a regional scale, distribution, exchange modes and consumption are very limited. In this workshop the aim is to address these themes and add new variables is the discourse of obsidian as an important archaeological material. For that reason the interaction of researchers working on obsidian in areas such as Italy, the Aegean and Anatolia (in any periods) will provide useful insights on studies in neighbouring areas. Hence, more regional views will be presented as well as different concerns, ideas and problems will be discussed. The informal character of this workshop will ensure this exchange of ideas among researchers. Some proposed topics are:

- exploitation modes of obsidian sources
- procurement methods
- spatial and/or temporal characteristics in obsidian manufacture
- obsidian workshops
- dissemination of material and techniques
- types of obsidian exchanges

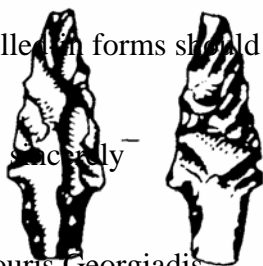
- obsidian within their archaeological context
- analyses and provenance studies
- obsidian in relation to other flaked tools and/or pottery

Papers presented at the workshop should be confined to 20 minutes with plenty of time for discussions afterwards.

The workshop will be low-cost, which means that we cannot offer neither travel expenses nor accommodation. We hope nevertheless that you will be able to attend and ask you to return the enclosed form no later than 15th February in order that we may send out a second circular with a list of participants and preliminary titles and calls for abstracts at the beginning of March.

The filled in forms should be sent electronically to info@diathens.com

Yours sincerely



Mercouris Georgiadis

The University of Nottingham

Scientific organizer



Erik Hallager

The Danish Institute at Athens

director