

ՀՆԱԳԻՏՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ARCHAEOLOGY

NORA YENGIBARYAN

*Senior Researcher, PhD,
Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography NAS RA,
Department of Early Archaeology,
norayengibaryan@gmail.com*

ARSEN BOBOKHYAN

*Senior Researcher, PhD,
Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography NAS RA,
Department of Early Archaeology,
arsenbobokhyan@yahoo.com*

URARTIAN SEALS OF LAKE SEVAN REGION

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Introduction

The data concerning seals in the Urartian cuneiform sources are sparse. There are only two known Urartian references to seals: one is a mentioning of an iron seal ordered by Sarduri II in connection with his victory in the land Kulha, and another one is a reference concerning a seal-keeping official (^{LUNA}4 DIR)¹.

¹ **Diakonoff I.**, Urartian Letters and Documents. Moscow-Leningrad, 1963, N 1₁₀, 2₃, 4₃, 6₃ (in Russian), **Salvini M.**, Corpus dei Testi Urartei I, Le Iscrizioni su Pietra e Rocca I Tessti, Documenta Asiana VIII, Volume Primo, Roma, 2008, N A 9–3 II₁₁. For finds of royal family seals cf. **Diakonoff I.**, op. cit., p. 1, 5–7, **Seidl U.**, Die Siegelbilder, Bastam I: Ausgrabungen in den urartäischen Anlagen 1972–1975, Berlin, 1979, N A₁, A₂, B₁, **Seidl U.**, Die Siegelbilder, Bastam II: Ausgrabungen in den urartäischen Anlagen 1977–1978, Berlin, 1988, N A₃, A₄, A₅, B₂, B₃, B₄, **Salvini M.**, Inscriptions on Clay, in: A. Çilingiroğlu, M. Salvini (eds), Ayanis I, Roma, 2001, Fig. 8 a–f.

Uartian Seals of Lake Sevan Region

Assyrian sources also provide information on Uartian seals: in particular concerning the loss of a seal that hung on Sarduri II's neck after the Arpad battle (743 BC)².

In contrast to the written sources, archaeological data are quite abundant. Examples of seals have been found in the whole territory of Urartu³. This article aims at presenting seals found from the northeastern regions of Uartian kingdom, particularly from the Sevan Lake basin.

Seals from the Region of Lake Sevan

There are eleven Uartian seals known from six sites around Lake Sevan, and particularly from Karchaghbyur, Noratus, Tsovinar, Nerkin Getashen, Gavar (Nor Bayazet) and Sarukhan (cf. Fig. 1). Seals from Noratus and Karchaghbyur were found in the burial complexes of the 7th – 6th centuries BC, whereas the others are accidental finds. Those seals have been incompletely described and discussed in the previous research. Hereafter an attempt is made to fill this gap, summarizing them and giving a detailed description and new interpretation.

1. Conical seal, with an opening on the top of the body (serpentine, the height of preserved part 2 cm, diameter 1.6 cm) (Fig. 2/11). On the bottom surface a dog or wolf-headed, winged gryphon is depicted, looking backward, with bird rudder and feather covered body. A crescent moon is present above its wing.

It was discovered in the ruined burial in Sarukhan necropolis (excavated by A. Piliposyan). The seal is kept in Erebuni Museum (inventory 165/1). Only its drawing has been published⁴.

The parallels of the seal are of stone and clay⁵.

² **Diakonoff I.**, Assyrian-Babylonian Sources on the History of Urartu ("Journal of Ancient History", 1951, N 2, p. 311, 41(67) (in Russian).

³ For details cf. **Seidl U.**, Urartäische Glyptik, in: H.-J. Kellner (Hrsg.), Urartu: Ein wiederentdeckter Rivale Assyriens, Ausstellungskataloge der Prähistorischen Staatssammlung, 1976, N 2, München, S. 61, **Piliposyan A.**, Seals of the Armenian Highlands in the System of Ancient Near Eastern Glyptics, Yerevan, 1998 (in Armenian), **Ayvazian A.**, Uartian Glyptic: New Perspectives, Dissertation, University of California, Berkeley, UMI Microfilms, Ann Arbor, 2006.

⁴ **Piliposyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. 14, Fig. 6, **Movsisyan A.**, Van Kingdom Hieroglyphics, Yerevan, 1998, Tab. XXXII, Fig. 1 (in Armenian).

⁵ **Piotrovsky B.**, Karmir Blur II, Excavation Results 1949–50, Yerevan, 1952, Fig. 22⁷, 9, 22 (in Russian), **Seidl U.**, Bastam I, Taf. 39/7 C₄, 8 C₅, Taf. 42/4 D₁₃.

2. Bell-shaped seal, with circular ear (bronze, height 2,1 cm, diameter 0.7 cm) (Fig. 2/9). Due to the damage, there is a cavity on the bottom surface.

It was found in N 22 burial at necropolis "Hayrei Kharabek" in Karchaghbyur village during excavations of 1971–1972 (supervised by H. Mnatsakanyan). The artefact is kept in the History Museum of Armenia (inventory 2565/204) and has been published along with the materials unearthed in the burial⁶.

The samples of similar type are of stone and bronze and are quite widespread⁷.

3. Disk-shaped seal with concave sides and longitudinal opening (stone) (Fig. 2/8). A sitting lion with raised tail is incised on one surface, while on the other surface an image of a horse with accentuated mane is depicted. Both have an image of a moon crescent above their backs.

The seal is from Gavar, however the precise place of discovery is unknown. The first reference has been made by B. Piotrovsky⁸.

This type of seals is known only in small quantity⁹.

4. Truncated cone-shaped seal with semi-circular ear attached to the body by means of square pedestal-shaped foundation (steatite, height 3 cm, bottom 1.5 x 1.0 cm) (Fig. 2/2). The images are repeated: on the wide sides a lion with bent clawed low extremities, raised tail ending with a tassel is depicted, looking to the right with its head oriented to the seal bottom. A spike is depicted on each narrow side. Images of four fish are incised on the bottom surface.

⁶ **Yengibaryan N.**, in: Biscione R., Hmayakyan S., Parmegiani N. (ed.), *The North-Eastern Frontier: Urartians and Non-Urartians in Lake Sevan Basin, I. The Southern Shores*, Documenta Asiana VII, Roma, 2002, Pl. III/15.

⁷ **Martirosyan H., Mnatsakanyan H.**, Urartian Columbarium of Nor-Aresh ("Bulletin of Social Sciences", 1958, N 10, p. 63–84, Tab. 1 (in Armenian), **Piotrovsky B.**, Karmir Blur, I, Excavation Results 1939–49, Yerevan, 1950, Fig. 46_{3,5}, Fig. 47 (in Russian), **Yesayan S., Kalantaryan A.**, Oshakan I, Main Results of Excavations, 1971–1983, Yerevan, 1988, Tab. LIV, Fig. 13 (in Russian), **Özdem F. (ed.)**, *Urartu: War and Aesthetics*, Istanbul, 2003, p. 144, 146, 148, 154.

⁸ **Piotrovsky B.**, *Urartu and Transcaucasia* ("Brief Reports of the Institute of History of Material Culture", 1940, N 3, p. 33, Fig. 9 (in Russian), cf. also **Kuftin B.**, Urartian "Columbarium" at the Foot of Ararat and the Kura-Araxes Aeneolithic, Bulletin of the Museum of Georgia, 1944, N 13–B, Tbilisi, p. 59 (in Russian).

⁹ **Israelyan M.**, *History of the Fortress-Town Erebuni* (According to Epigraphic and Archaeological Data), Yerevan, 1971, p. 97, Fig. 12_{2,3} (in Armenian), **Kuftin B.**, op. cit., Tab. IX₃, Seidl U., Bastam II, Taf. D 42.

Urtartian Seals of Lake Sevan Region

Figure 1. Lake Sevan Region: Archaeological sites with Urartian inscriptions and artefacts.

¹⁰ **Piliposyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. 63, Fig. 3, **Movsisyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. XXXII, Fig. 3.

¹² **Movsisyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. XXI, Fig. 21–23, **Piliposyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. 64, Fig. 4, **Karapetyan I., Yengibaryan N.**, Burial with a Priest Seal in Argishtikhinili (“Bulletin of Yerevan University”, 2002, N 2, Tab. I, Fig. 1 (in Armenian), **Piotrovsky B.**, Karmir Blur, III, Excavatin

5. A four-sided seal with circular handle (bronze, height 2.8 cm, side length 1.1 cm, differs from the previous seal by rectangularity of the sides) (Tab. 1/7). Side surfaces are edged from the top and bottom with side belts consisting of oblique and wavy lines, enclosed in grooved lines. The images of the sides are: a bull with accentuated horns, long tail and raised left extremity, looking backwards and to the right, and a bird with long legs and beak, looking to the left – probably a stork or a crane (the schematic nature of the image does not allow more precise definition), as well as a long-horned deer with a pointed snout, raised upper leg and looking to the left. Only an image of crescent shaped horns has been preserved on the fourth side: most probably, it was a depiction of a goat. On the bottom surface of the seal is a stylized image.

This seal was found at the Nerkin Getashen necropolis in 1906 during excavations conducted by E. Lalayan. Nowadays it is kept in the History Museum of Armenia (inventory 20/105). It was brought to the museum among the artefacts received from Armenian Ethnographical Society in Tbilisi¹³.

Parallels to the seal are known from the whole territory of Urartu¹⁴.

6. Cylinder seal with circular ear (soap-stone, height 3.1 cm, diameter 1.4 cm) (Fig. 2/10). The images are present on the side surfaces and bottom surface. Only depictions of a part of clothing and wings are visible, as the side surfaces were worn as a result of usage. Most probably, it was an image of a winged creature. On the bottom surface there is an image of a bird looking to the left.

This seal, along with a collection of metallic items found at the site Tsovinar, was granted to the Armenian Ethnographic Society in Tbilisi by Z. Margaryan, from where it was later brought to Yerevan. It is registered at the History Museum of Armenia (collection 120/10). Its image¹⁵, as well as partial description¹⁶ have been published.

Results 1951–53, Yerevan, 1955, Fig. 24 (in Russian), **Taşyürek A.**, Some New Urartian Seals Mostly from the Adana Regional Museum (“*Oriens Antiquus*”, 1979, N XVIII, Taf. XXIVb).

¹³ Partial description is given in **Martirosyan H., Mnatsakanyan H.**, Urartian Columbarium of Nor-Aresh (“*Bulletin of Social Sciences*”, 1958, N 10, p. 68). For the image cf. **Piliposyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. 63, Fig. 2.

¹⁴ **Piotrovsky B.**, Karmir Blur III, Fig. 42, **Taşyürek A.**, op. cit., Taf. XXVa, **Seidl U.**, Bastam I, S. 149, D₁₇, **Tarhan T.**, An Urartian Intramural ‘Pithos Burial’ from the Mound of Van Kalesi (“*Istanbuler Mitteilungen*”, 1993, N 43, Fig. 34).

¹⁵ **Piotrovsky B.**, Urartu and Transcaucasia, p. 33, Fig. 9, **Movsisyan A.**, op. cit., 1998, Tab. XVIII, Fig. 1,2.

Uartian Seals of Lake Sevan Region

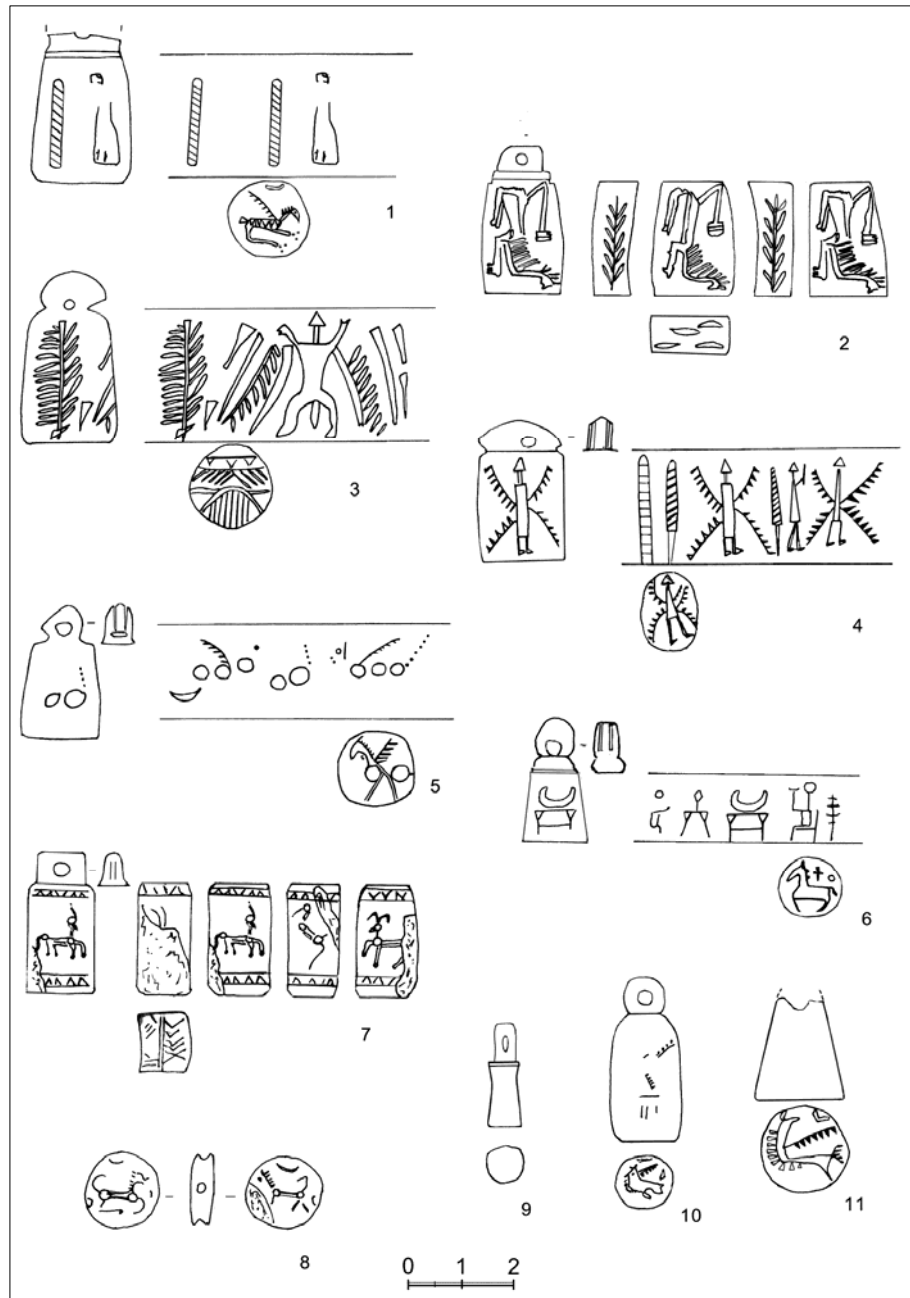


Figure 2. Uartian seals from the Lake Sevan Region.

¹⁶ **Kuftin B.**, op. cit., p. 59, Fig. 33_{3,4}, **Barnett R.**, The Uartian Cemetery at Igdir ("Anatolian Studies", 1963, N XIII, p. 190, Fig. 40_{3,4}).

Examples of seals of the same type are numerous¹⁷.

7. Truncated cone-shaped seal with semi-circular ear (stone, height 2.6 cm, diameter 1.5 cm) (Fig. 2/5). On the bottom surface there is an image of an eagle, taking a step with its right leg. The body is depicted by means of rounded concave dimples. There are three images on the side surfaces: the dimples, representing the bodies are preserved along with the outlines of the wings and eyes that are depicted as incised dots. In the central part of the composition there is an image of a scorpion, the body of which is depicted through two dimples and the tail – by dots, which are oriented upward, gradually becoming smaller.

Authenticity of this reconstruction is evidenced by the seals found from Çavuştepe on which the scorpions are depicted in the same manner of incision¹⁸. From the preserved details of the images at the right and left sides of the scorpion image it can be concluded that one is an eagle-headed gryphon with a scorpion tail, and the other- a winged bird or gryphon with a moon crescent under its tail. It was discovered at the Tsovinar site. The history of discovery, publication, and inventory number is the same as N 6 seal.

The presented type of Urartian seals is quite widespread¹⁹.

8. Truncated cone-shaped seal with a semi circular ear on the top (chalcedony, height 3.1 cm, diameter 1.7 cm) (Fig. 2/3). A tree of life with dense branches growing from the body is depicted on the side surface. A winged creature with a tail, a pointed hat (helmet), and raised hands is standing, facing the tree. A winged solar disk is incised on the bottom surface of the seal.

The item was found in N 21 burial of the Noratus necropolis in 1989 (excavations by A. Piliposyan and N. Yengibaryan) and is kept at the Erebuni Museum

¹⁷ **Piotrovsky B.**, Karmir Blur I, Fig. 46, **Taşyürek A.**, op. cit., Tab. XXIIa, XXIVa, **Wartke R.**, Toprakkale: Untersuchungen zu den Metallobjekten im Vorderasiatischen Museum zu Berlin, Berlin, 1990, Abb. 16.

¹⁸ **Işık Ç.**, Untersuchungen zu einem urartäischen Göttertypus ("Archäologische Mitteilungen aus Iran", 1985, N 18, Abb. 7), **Erzen A.**, Çavuştepe I, Ankara, 1988, Pl. XXXVIII b.

¹⁹ **Martirosyan H.**, **Torosyan R.**, Sarcophagus from Argishtikhinili ("Historical-Philological Journal", 1986, N 3, Tab. 2, Fig. 8) (in Armenian), **Kuftin B.**, op. cit., Tab. IX_{1,2}, **Tiratsyan G.**, Urartian Armavir (According to the Archaeological Excavation Data), in: V.G. Lukonin (ed.), Culture of the East, Antiquity and Early Medieval Period, Leningrad, 1978, p. 106–113 (in Russian), Fig. 5, **Taşyürek A.**, op. cit., Taf. XXIIa, b, XXIIb, XXIIIa, b, **Seidl U.**, Bastam I, Taf. 38/1, 4, 7, 10, Taf. 39/1, 40/1, 41/3.

Urartian Seals of Lake Sevan Region

(inventory 156/286). The image of the seal²⁰ and its description²¹ have been published.

For the parallels, see N 7 seal²².

9. Truncated cone-shaped seal with semi-circular grooved ear, which is attached to the body by rectangular pedestal-form foundation (jet, height 2.4 cm, diameter 1.2 cm) (Fig. 2/6). The side surface of the seal bears an image of a goddess sitting under the tree of life, on an armchair with a high seat back, holding a bowl in the right raised hand. Four-legged low tables are placed in front of her with crescent shaped bread on one table and a spike on the other. On the opposite side is an image of a worshipper, facing the tables. On the bottom surface of the seal is an image of a running horse with a tree of life and celestial body on its back is depicted.

It was unearthed in N 22 burial of the Noratus necropolis in 1989 (excavations by A. Piliposyan and N. Yengibaryan) and is kept in Erebuni Museum (inventory 156/287)²³.

For the parallels, see N 7 seal.

10. Truncated cone-shaped seal with semi-circular ear, decorated with double groove (bone, height 2.7 cm, bottom diameter 1.5 x 1.1 cm) (Fig. 2/4). The images are incised on the side and bottom surfaces. Images on side surfaces are framed with a groove on both sides. There is an image of a stela between the two trees of life and a person in worshipping pose dressed in short, knee-length clothes with two winged spirits – all wearing pointed helmets or hats on their heads.

The seal was discovered in N 28 burial at “Hayrei Kharabek” necropolis in Karchaghbyur during 1971–1972 excavations (supervised by H. Mnatsakanyan). It is kept in the History Museum of Armenia (collection 2565/67)²⁴.

²⁰ **Piliposyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. 57, Fig. 5, **Movsisyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. XXXII, Fig. 2.

²¹ **Yengibaryan N.**, *Urartian Burials in Noratus*, p. 68.

²² For side images cf. also the seal from Karmir Blur, where the creature has no tail, but another animal is depicted, most probably, a wolf or a dog: **Piotrovsky B.**, *Karmir Blur II*, Fig. 22²⁰.

²³ For the image of this seal cf. **Piliposyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. 56, Fig. 4, **Movsisyan A.**, op. cit., Tab. XXXII, Fig. 1, **Ayvazian A.**, op. cit., Fig. 5.10, and for preliminary description **Yengibaryan N.**, op. cit., p. 68.

²⁴ For drawing of the seal and its preliminary description cf. **Yengibaryan N.**, in: Biscione R. et al., op. cit., p. 425, Fig. 1.

Similar scenes are present on a number of cylinder and stamp seals²⁵.

11. Truncated cone-shaped seal with an incomplete ear (clay, height 2.7 cm, bottom diameter 1.6 cm) (Fig. 2/1). The images are depicted on the side and bottom surfaces. Side surface images are extremely worn due to long-term usage. They represent a man, dressed in a long dress, wearing high rectangular hat with a flat top, and two stelae. On the bottom surface there is an image of a bird with a sharp beak, legs ending with accentuated claws, tail, feather-covered body and moon above its head. Between the stelae, parallel to those, there is a poorly preserved single-line cuneiform inscription, representing ideograms of the words “God” and “Moon” – ^DSIN = “moon deity”, ▶◀▶▶▶²⁶. The Urartian moon deity in the form of an ideogram ^DSIN and syllabic sign ^DŠelardi (alternative reading ^DMelardi) is evidenced only in the inscriptions of Mher kapisi²⁷.

It was found from N 19 burial at the “Hayrei Kharabek” necropolis in Karchaghbyur, during 1971–1972 excavations (supervised by H. Mnatsakanyan) and is kept in the History Museum of Armenia (collection 2565/248).

Although the artefact was published by N. Yengibaryan²⁸, the image of the inscription is not given in the article. Besides in its textual part the editors of the volume changed ^DSIN into ^DHal-[di-e] without any evidence or agreement²⁹.

Nowadays this seal, with a perpendicula inscription attached to its body, is the only known Urartian example. Usually inscriptions on stamps are observed in the form of horizontal line, above and below the image. Only on the stamp of Rusa II discovered from Ayanis the inscription is on the horizontal and vertical sides of the image³⁰.

²⁵ **Piotrovsky B.**, *Urartu and Transcaucasia*, Fig. 89, **Işık Ç.**, *Neue Beobachtungen zur Darstellung von Kultszenen auf urartäischen Rollstempelsiegeln* (“Jahrbuch des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts”, 1986, N 101, Abb. 2a– 5a), **Abay E.**, *Seals and Sealings*, in: A. Çilingiroğlu, M. Salvini (eds), *Ayanis I*, Roma, 2001, Fig. 16.

²⁶ Cf. **Borger R.**, *Assyrisch-babylonische Zeichenliste*, Neukirchen-Vluyn, 1981, N 472 (275).

²⁷ **Salvini M.**, *Corpus dei Testi Urartei I*, N A 3–17, 41.

²⁸ **Yengibaryan N.**, in: Biscione R. et al., op. cit., p. 418, Pl. I, Fig. 1.

²⁹ Cf. also **Yengibaryan N.**, *Urartian Seals with an Image of a Stela* (“*Aramazd: Armenian Journal of Near Eastern Studies*”, 2017, N XI/1–2, p. 213, Fig. 1/3–4, 2/2).

³⁰ **Abay E.**, op. cit., Fig. 5.

Discussion

The seals found in Lake Sevan region can be classified into two main groups: stamps (conical, bell shaped, discoid, prism shaped) and cylinder stamps (truncated cone and cylindrical).

Stamp seals are known in the Levant and Anatolia since the Neolithic period. One of their types is represented by a small number of discoid and square (rectangular) seals with two-side images, the initial examples of which have been known in the Hittite world since the second half of the 2nd millennium BC³¹.

The earliest examples of prism shaped (truncated cone-shaped or four sided) seals can be considered Hittite seals with a hammer-shaped handle³². However those seals were mainly used in Urartu and disappeared after its collapse³³.

The type of cylinder seal with ear, which is a synthesis of stamp and cylinder seals, can be found in Mesopotamia since the first half of the 3rd millennium BC, and in Asia Minor – since the beginning of the 2nd millennium BC. At the beginning of the 1st millennium BC cylinder seals gradually gave way to cylinder stamp seals, and those seals with an ear had widespread use especially in Urartu. Cylinder seals were used until the 5th century BC³⁴.

Inscribed seals were introduced at the beginning of the 3rd millennium BC in Mesopotamia and since the mid 2nd millennium BC³⁵ have become widespread. Inscriptions of the cylinder seals of the Neo-Assyrian period are written in horizontal and vertical lines³⁶. Vertical type of writing evidenced on the Karchaghbyur seal seems to be a local imitation of Neo-Assyrian style.

The seals were worn in various manners: on neck, head, chest and waist, as well as on a string of beads, or strung on a fibula or pin. Among the discussed

³¹ **Collon D.**, *Ancient Near Eastern Seals*, in: D. Collon (ed.), *7000 Years of Seals*, London, 1997, p. 11, 15.

³² **Akurgal E.**, *The Art of Hittites*, New-York, 1962, Fig. 52.

³³ Cf. **Piotrovsky B.**, *Van Kingdom (Urartu)*, Moscow, 1959, Fig. 76, **Abay A.**, *op. cit.*, Fig. 15, 16 (in Russian).

³⁴ **Collon D.**, *First Impressions, Cylinder Seals in the Ancient Near East*, London, 1993, Fig. 93, 393, 490, 588, 665, 841.

³⁵ **Collon D.**, *op. cit.*, 105.

³⁶ **Harbordt S.**, *Neoassyrische Glyptik des 8. – 7. Jh. v. Chr.* ("State Archives of Assyria Studies" I, Helsinki, 1992, Taf. I, Fig. 1, 4).

seals, only those found in N 21 Noratus burial and N 19 Karchaghbyur burial were worn on the neck. The method of usage of other seals is unknown.

Conclusions

Currently eleven Urartian seals are known from archaeological sites of Lake Sevan basin, discovered in Karchaghbyur, Noratus, Tsovinar, Nerkin Getashen, Gavar and Sarhukhan. These seals are represented by two types: stamps and cylinder stamps, with corresponding subtypes. They find parallels in various Urartian sites and can be placed in the general context of the Ancient Near Eastern glyptics.

Although the written sources mentioning the conquest of Lake Sevan region go back to the 8th century BC³⁷, however the archaeological context (burials) of the studied seals and other typical Urartian objects refer to the 7th–6th centuries BC, when a certain coexistence of local and Urartian cultures can be traced. Burial inventories of the mentioned graves are mainly represented by artefacts characteristic of the local culture in which separate Urartian objects have been discovered. This and other data demonstrate that Urartian assemblage in the region is evidenced only through materials of elite character³⁸.

³⁷ Five inscriptions are known in the region of Lake Sevan belonging to the 8th century BC Urartian kings Argishti I (Lchashen), Sarduri II (Vardadzor, Tsovak) and Rusa I (Gavar, Tsovinar), which reflect the process of conquest of the region known as Uduri Etiuni (for details cf. **Salvini M.**, in: Biscione R. et al., op. cit., p. 37–60). The sixth inscription is reported again from Lchashen made on basalt, the inscribed side of which was unfortunately erased through turning it to a basin by the villagers (**Lalayan E.**, Excavations in Nor Bayazet Province in 1908, Ethnographic Review, 1910, N XIX/1, p. 71 (in Armenian). Among the inscribed objects, besides the Karchaghbyur seal (Fig. 2/1), are also a bronze bowl fragment with cuneiform inscription from Gavar (Gayseryan 1984) and a bronze jug fragment with hieroglyphic sign from Geghovit (**Gayseryan V.**, Bronze Objects with Urartian Inscription from Kamo ("Herald of Social Sciences", 1984, N 2, p. 101–102 (in Armenian). (**Piliposyan, A., Mkrtchyan R.**, Van-Tospian/Urartian Cave-Burial of Geghovit, Archaeological Monuments of Armenia 18, Yerevan, 2001, p. 30, Tab. 30/7 (in Armenian).

³⁸ Cf. **Piliposyan, A., Mkrtchyan R.**, op. cit., **Biscione R. et al.**, op. cit., **Avetisyan P., Bobokhyan A.**, The Pottery Traditions in Armenia from the Eighth to the Seventh Centuries BC ("Acta Iranica", 2012, N 51, p. 373–378), **Kunze R., Bobokhyan A., Pernicka E., Meliksetian K.**, Projekt Ushkiani. Untersuchungen der Kulturlandschaft um das prähistorische Goldrevier von Sotk, Veröffentlichungen des Landesamtes für Denkmalpflege und Archäologie Sachsen Anhalt – Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte, 2013, N 67, Halle, S. 49–88, **Yengibaryan N.**, Sevan Lake Culture during the 8th – 6th Centuries BC (According to Burial Complexes), PhD Dissertation Abstracts, National Academy of Sciences of Armenia, Yerevan, 2014 (in Armenian).

In this regard, it is noteworthy that despite the chronological gap, the distribution of seals and other attributes of Urartian presence in Lake Sevan basin (on its western and southern shores) coincides with the extension of Urartian inscriptions and inscribed objects that once again evidences the specific mechanisms via which the Urartian elite-palatial assemblage spread.

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ԵՆԳԻԲԱՐՅԱՆ Ն., ԲՈՐՈՒՅԱՆ Ա.

Ամփոփում

Քանալի բառեր. Սևանա լճի տարածաշրջան, Ուրարտու, մ.թ.ա. VII–VI դդ., վերնախավ, կնիքներ, դրոշմ, գլանադրոշմ:

Սևանա լճի ավազանից մինչ այժմ հայտնի են 11 ուրարտական կնիք՝ Կարճաղբյուրից, Նորատուփից, Ծովինարից, Ներքին Գետաշենից, Գավառից (Նոր Բայազետ), Սարուխանից: Դրանք երկու տեսակի են՝ դրոշմ և գլանադրոշմ, համապատասխան ենթատեսակներով: Այդ կնիքները զուգահեռներ ունեն ուրարտական տարբեր հուշարձաններում և տեսանելի են ընդհանուր հինարևելյան կնիքագործության համատեքստում: Քննարկվող կնիքների հնագիտական համատեքստը (դամբարաններ) ընդհանուր առմամբ վերաբերում է ուշ-ուրարտական փուլին՝ մ.թ.ա. VII–VI դդ., երբ նկատվում է տեղական և ուրարտական պալատական մշակույթների որոշակի համատեղություն: Ընդ որում, դամբարանների գույքը հիմնականում ներկայացված է տեղական մշակույթին բնորոշ արտեֆակտերով, որոնց մեջ ի հայտ են գալիս առանձին ուրարտական առարկաներ: Այս իրողությունը հաստատվում է նաև տարածաշրջանում իրականացված հնագիտական աշխատանքներով, որոնք ցույց են տալիս, թե ուրարտական նյութական մշակույթն այստեղ արտահայտված է միայն վերնախավային բնույթի նյութով: Այս առումով ուշագրավ է, որ կնիքների տարածույթը Սևանի ավազանում (նրա արևմտյան և հարավային ափերին) համընկնում է ուրարտական արձանագրությունների տարածույթին, ինչը մեկ անգամ ևս վկայում է ուրարտական վերնախավային-պալատական մշակույթի տարածման յուրահատուկ մեխանիզմների մասին:

УРАРТСКИЕ ПЕЧАТИ ИЗ РЕГИОНА СЕВАНСКОГО ОЗЕРА

ЕНГИБАРЯН Н., БОБОХЯН А.

Резюме

Ключевые слова: регион Севанского озера, Урарту, VII–VI вв. до н.э., элита, печати, штампы, цилиндрические штампы.

Из бассейна озера Севан в настоящее время известны 11 урартских печатей, найденных из Карчахбюра, Норатуса, Цовинара, Неркин Геташена, Гавара (Нор Баязета) и Сарухана. Эти печати представлены в двух типах – штампы и цилиндрические штампы, с соответствующими подтипами. Они имеют параллели в различных урартских памятниках и могут быть рассмотрены в контексте общей древневосточной глиптики. Археологический контекст печатей (погребения), как правило, восходит к поздне-урартскому периоду, к VII–VI векам до н.э., когда наряду с местной культурой существовала также урартская дворцовая культура. Причем инвентарь погребений в основном включает в себя артефакты местной культуры, среди которых находятся отдельные урартские объекты. Сказанное подтверждается проведенными в регионе археологическими работами, которые показывают, что урартская материальная культура представлена здесь лишь элитарным материалом. В этой связи заслуживает внимания тот факт, что территория распространения печатей в бассейне озера Севан (западное и южное побережья) совпадает с ареалом распространения урартских надписей, что еще раз указывает на особые механизмы дисперсии урартской дворцовой культуры.