



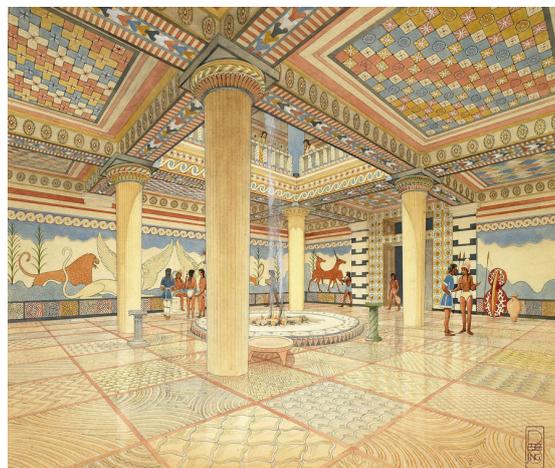
Time and the other Greeks: the problem of periodization in Greek (pre)history

VORTRAG – hybrid

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In this paper, I argue that the dominant historical periodization of the early Greek world (ca. 1400-700 BCE) is premised on a specific master narrative that relies on Orientalist tropes. This narrative is most clearly articulated in the work of Moses Finley and has become a major force in Anglo-American scholarly literature. Finley and others characterize the Bronze Age as essentially Near Eastern in character, a characterization that was premised on the (inaccurate) perception that Mycenaean states were rigid, monarchical, centralized, and bureaucratic. The dramatic and sudden collapse of the Mycenaean palatial system ca. 1200 BCE provides a clean break, with hardly any vestiges of the old order surviving through the Early Iron Age, a period that is understood to contain the sources of Classical institutions and structures. Thus the Oriental Bronze Age is temporally juxtaposed with the European Iron Age, so that Greek history contains within itself the narrative of civilizational progress from East to West, but expressed in temporal rather than geographical terms. This state of affairs is not only problematic in theoretical and political terms, but also does a poor job of explaining the archaeological and textual evidence.



Der Vortrag ist hybrid geplant – er finden vor Ort in **1190 Wien, Franz Klein-Gasse 1, 1. Stock, Seminarraum 12**, statt und wird aber auch per **ZOOM** übertragen.

Informationen zu den Vorträgen und zur Teilnahme finden Sie unter:
<https://klass-archaeologie.univie.ac.at>

