



THE ATHENS GREEK RELIGION SEMINAR, Tuesday, February 27, 2024

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The Sanctuary of Athena at Miletos: Cult Continuity from the Minoan Period to the Persian Destruction of 494 BC

Miletus, not Athens, would have become the intellectual and economic centre of Greece if the city had not been completely destroyed by the Persians in 494 BC. This was Jakob Burckhardt's assessment of the largest and most powerful Ionian-Greek city of the 7th and 6th centuries BC, which founded over 70 colonies around the Black Sea and was with Thales, Anaximenes and Anaximandros the centre of Ionian natural philosophy. It also possessed a number of important sanctuaries, in particular the oracle sanctuary of Apollo at Didyma, but also other important sanctuaries. Of these, that of Athena is associated with scholarly controversies that could only be released by our excavations. These have brought to light a cult continuity from the Minoan period of the 17th century BC to the destruction by the Persians in 494 BC and clarified the disputed sequence of the temple buildings.

The seminar takes place on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, 17.00h (Athens) with live presence at the Swedish Institute and online via Zoom.

To participate, please register at:

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