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January 3, 2010

## **MINOAN PENDANT (Cleveland, Ohio, c.1690 BC)**

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### **Introduction**

In 2006 Mr. D. Byers found an ancient artifact using a metal detector on a football field in Cleveland, Ohio. At a depth of about 45cm he unearthed a bronze pendant with at both sides beautiful images (figs.1&2). It is likely that the ground consisted of fill-soil brought in from some place in the neighborhood to level the field. The delta-shaped pendant has a height of 4.7cm, a maximum width of 3.8cm (on top 1.9cm), and a thickness of c.0.33cm. It has a mass of 40 grams. The object shows an electrical conductivity, which is consistent with bronze (Ref.1).

The front side of the pendant “depicts a slim-waisted, shirtless figure striking what appears to be a dancing pose, his hair styled into long locks hanging beneath a headgear of some kind, a belted skirt at the waist and pectoral around the shoulders.” (Ref.1). It is a young man, looking to the left, with a plume on his head (at the right side above). At the right side below he carries a shield, of which only a quarter is visible, containing the image of a lobster. Above it is a mysterious, isolated hand, the thumb of it turned upwards, in the shape of a group of flames. The back side of the pendant “is emblazoned with a stylized, double-headed axe.” (Ref.1). The main conclusions from these superficial observations are that the pendant shows deeply religious scenes, and that it was made on the island of Crete during the Minoan Civilization (c.2000-1450 BC).

“The figure resembles the so-called ‘Prince of Lilies’ (fig.3), a painted fresco on the palace walls at Knossos” (Ref.1), which was the main town of Crete during this time period. However, close investigation shows, that his head resembles that of a Goat. On top of it two little horns are visible (at the left side above, Ref.2). It means, he is an ordinary man of the people of Crete, a dancer, a soldier, but also a god. The fact that his legs are not shown, supports the last statement. Note, that his hand is close to his heart, carrying a kind of wapon.

### **The Religion of Crete**

Both vertical sides of the pendant are not completely straight, but these make an angle of 30°. This angle refers to the Nile Delta, at 30°N. The pendant has the shape of this Delta. It is the economic center of Egypt, the greatest civilization on Earth. The bottom of the pendant appears to coincide with this latitude-line, at 30°N.- The lower part of the headgear of the figure, attached to his head, consists of five strokes, encoding the latitude of Crete, 5° above it, at 30+5= 35°N. The mysterious hand has five fingers, confirming it. The double-headed axe at the back side consists of five units, confirming it, again. The top of the pendant coincides with this latitude-line, at 35°N. It represents the island of Crete during the Minoan Civilization (Ref.3).

The right side below shows part of the shield of the man, with the image of a lobster. It symbolizes the Sun religion of Egypt, located southeast of Crete. This detail confirms this object

was made in Crete, and not by Cretan immigrants in North America. The lobster symbolizes the holy Tropic of Cancer, at 23°N. It crosses the River Nile at the center of the Southern Egyptian Empire, which is also the center of the Sun religion, at 23°N. At midsummer day the Sun is at right angles above. The slow northerly movement of the Sun turns into a southerly movement. So, one believes in the Egyptian SunGod Ra (Refs.3-7).

The religion of Crete was almost identical to the religion of ancient Egypt, as confirmed by this pendant. However, the older Egyptian religion is better known to us, because of the decipherment of the Egyptian hieroglyphs. For that reason we shall express the religious features of this pendant in terms of the Egyptian Sun religion. The circle (the edge of the shield) represents the Egyptian SunGod Ra. Below this highest God were two other gods in the hierarchy, the sungod Horus and the moongod Osiris. The Egyptian kings and pharaohs were the substitutes of these two, lower gods (Refs.3, 8-10).

The mysterious, isolated hand in the shape of a flame is the invisible hand of the sungod Horus. It influences the young man on our pendant, but he does not notice this god, nor the Sun-God Ra behind him. He looks to the left, which is in western direction. His destiny will be “at the other side of the waters (the Atlantic Ocean), in the Land where the Sun sets (America).” At his resurrection in the “Underworld” (the back side of the planet Earth, America), he will become the moongod Osiris. In Crete (but also in Egypt) this god was sometimes represented by “the holy Goat”, as shown on this pendant. The Cretan king Minos was the substitute of this god.- Note, that a special kind of goats still lives on Crete, which only exists on this particular island (Refs.3-12).

The back side of the pendant shows the double-headed axe. It is the Cretan version of Maat, the Egyptian goddess of law and order in the universe. She created the Realm of the Dead in the west (America). The pendant has four sides, because America was discovered in the Fourth Dynasty. She separated the Realm of the Dead from the Land of the Living (the Old World). For that reason she is also known as the goddess of the Ocean. The double-headed axe consists of five parts, because the Atlantic was crossed for the first time in the Fifth Dynasty.

The five parts of this symbol may also have geographic meanings. The big parts from east to west are the mainland of the Old World, the Azores in the middle of the Ocean, and the mainland of the New World (America). The small parts in between represent the coastal islands in the eastern Ocean and the coastal islands in the western Ocean, respectively (Refs.3,-11-19).

The double-headed axe is kind of special, because it has a short handle. Actually, it is a sort of circle or disc. It represents the wheel of the law, which is moving in time. With the aid of this wheel king Minos ruled the people of Crete. It starts at the bottom, and it makes a right turn around the edge, following the movement of the Sun (Sun religion). The left part of it symbolizes a first generation of 31 years, and the right part represents a second generation of 30 years. These numbers are provided by the latitudes of the northern and southern Nile Delta, at 31°N and 30°N, respectively. These are confirmed by the angle of about 30° between both vertical edges of the pendant. It shows, the Minoan Civilization had a well-known unit of time: the double generation of 31+30= 61 years. The text of the Phaistos Disc of Crete contains 31+30= 61 passages, confirming this important time unit, at a later date (Refs.8-10).

The religious features of this pendant are so prominent, that it is for sure that the artifact was made in one of the main religious centers on Crete, Knossos or Phaistos. Because of the close resemblance with the 'Prince of Lilies' (fig.3), Knossos is the most obvious place (Refs.27,-28).



Fig.1 The front side of the Minoan Pendant.  
(Cleveland, Ohio, c.1690 BC) (Courtesy Ancient American, Vol.13, No.83)



Fig.2 The back side of the Minoan Pendant.  
(Cleveland, Ohio, c.1690 BC) (Courtesy Ancient American, Vol.13, No.83)

### Dating

The man or god at the front side has a complicated headgear. The reason is the maker of the pendant wanted to date the object. The lower part of it is attached to his head. It consists of five strokes, encoding a time period of five double generations ( $= 5 \times 61 = 305$  years) since the start of the Minoan Civilization, in c.2007 BC. This start coincided with the beginning of the Twelfth Dynasty of Egypt (Middle Kingdom), as shown by the 12 steps of the staircase in the

Palace of Phaistos (southern Crete), which still exists (fig.4). This time period is known as the Old Palace Culture, which lasted from c.2007 BC till 2007-305= c.1702 BC.

However, our American god also has a plume on top of his head, shown slightly above it. It means, the pendant dates from after the Civil War (Ref.9). It dates from the first double generation of the New Palace Culture, which is from c.1702 till 1702-61= c.1641 BC.- Note, that the "Prince of Lilies" dates from the same time period. The small, horizontal 8-signs in fig.3 represent double generations!

However, the plume on the pendant consists of two parts (fig.1). It is a kind of arrow, pointing downwards. The bottom part is quite big, suggesting it dates from the first generation of 31 years. Our Cretan Goat-god appears to be younger than 31 years, confirming it. In any case he looks to the left, which corresponds to the left part of the double-headed axe at the back side. It means we know for sure it dates from the first generation, which is from c.1702 BC to 1702-31= c.1671 BC. So, the pendant dates from c.1690 BC.

### **Discussion**

What is the reason this pendant shows up at Cleveland, Ohio, in the United States of America?- The reason is the extensive copper trade between America and the Old World between 2500 and 1200 BC (Refs.11,20-25). The petroglyph of a sailing boat near Copper Harbor, Upper Michigan, dates from c.1640 BC (Ref.26), which is less than two generations after the pendant was made. It tells the story of this trade, which is confirmed on the Phaistos Disc (Ref.9). In this era the export to the Old World was c.22,000 copper ingots per year. A total of about 25 seaworthy ships were permanently involved in this trade. Each of these ships needed about 300 days for a complete round trip. During one of these trips this bronze pendant was taken via the Southern Crossing from Africa to South America, and further north to Ohio. It is as simple as that.

The bronze of the pendant is of unknown composition. However, alloys with about 10% tin were most commonly used. It is likely, that both the copper and the tin of it were descended from America. Copper was imported from Upper Michigan in North America, and tin was taken from Bolivia in South America.

This pendant from Crete shows several features related to America, as discussed above. However, there are no special "connections" between this pendant and the copper mines in Upper Michigan, or Cleveland, Ohio, where the object was found. It is known though, that about 60% of the copper was shipped along the Mississippi River to the south, and 40% of the copper was transported from Upper Michigan to the east (Refs.9,12,15,22-26). It is likely, that the original owner of this pendant was involved in the copper trade to the east. However, the exact reason why it ended up in Cleveland, at the south shore of Lake Erie, at 41.5°N, remains unknown.



Fig.3 "The Prince of Lilies"  
(Knossos, Crete, c.1690 BC)

## Deucalion Flood

Actually, this last conclusion is not completely correct. The pendant has a hole at the top. It appears, that a thin piece of metal has been broken off from the outer edge by force. The reason why this occurred is not known, of course.- However, it might be possible that it occurred during the Deucalion Flood. This Flood happened because of a so-called Comet Catastrophe at c.1628 BC (tree-ring dating). It ended the Fourteenth Dynasty of Egypt. Tor-rential rains and worldwide floodings occurred during 9 to 10 days. There were c.510 thousand casualties worldwide, which was c.9.1% of the world population of c.5.6 million men. This hugh Disaster happened only two generations after the pendant was fabricated (Refs.9,-29,30).

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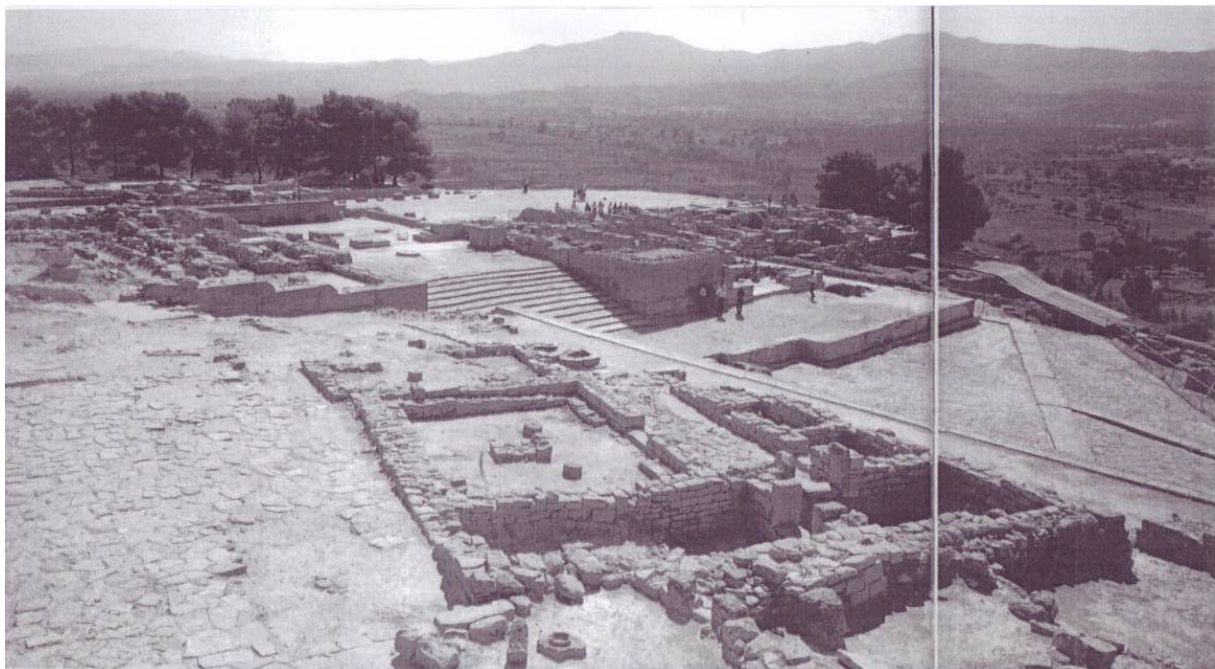


Fig.4 The grand staircase is part of the original design of the first Palace of Phaistos (southern Crete) at the start of the Old Palace Culture (c.2007 BC) (Ref.10, Courtesy L.Godart). Its 12

steps refer to the simultaneous start of the Twelfth Dynasty of Egypt (Middle Kingdom), also c.2007 BC.