

Department of Archeology



Archeology

Archeology is the study of human activity through the recovery and analysis of material culture. The word, archeology, is a compound term from two Greek words, archaios meaning ancient or old and logia which means learning or studying. Archeology inholds so many different branches of sciences. The primary ones are these: Prehistoric archeology, clasical archeology, prehistoric and asia minor archeology. Archeology provides us with the opportunity to learn about past cultures through the study of artifacts, animal bones, and sometimes human bones. Studying these artifacts helps to provide us with some insight about what life was like for people who left behind no written records. A new city is built on top of the old one, therefore, old cities are earthed up and accumulated debris turns into hills. These kinds of hills are called mound. However, not all archeological find is a mound. Caves, building areas, ancient cities are in research interest of archeology.

There are so many written documents in regards to ancient times. These records provides us with information about taxes, law, ceremonial, kings and rulers. Reading these documents do not allow us learn about the life of ordinary people in ancient times. Yet, archeology enables us to dig up and find the relics of houses, courts, tombs, and temples to see what life was like for people from ordinary people to royal people.

Archeology Today:



In the past excavations were carried out in the hope for treasures, palaces and temples. The places where ordinary people live were not used to attract attention of treasure hunters. However, archeologists are aware of the fact that every archeological find should be analysed to learn about the past. While archeologists are analyzing the findings, they research about the economy of that community, religious beliefs and the relationship between the people who have different jobs and missions. They study the vegetables and and animals and deduce how people act upon their environment and how they are affected by the environement. Therefore, everything related to the past is included in the scope of archeology.







Archeology in Turkey

Historical ruins in Anatolia has taken attention of European travelers only in 16th century. Thus, the first excavations are carried out by European archoelogsits in 19th century. German archeologist,Schliemann has located old city of Troy and his excavation works has continued for many years.

As an artist and archeologist Osman Hamdi Bey (1842-1940) who established the first archeology museum in Turkey in 1882 carried out his most important excavations in Saida (Lebanon). In this excavation more than 20 tombs of the kings of Phoenicia have been earthed up. Later on, German, Australian, American archeologists who want to examine the first age civilizations in Anatolia excavate in historical places like Bergama, Bodrum, Boğazköy, Didim, Priene, Milet, Efes and Sart. In these excavations, some important moulds such as Temple of artemis and Mausoleion in Bodrum are dismounted. In early republican period the government has attached importance to archeology.In 1931Turkish Historical Society has been founded. In 1934Turkish Institute of Archeology as a department of Istanbul University has been founded. Two years later Ankara University Faculty of Languages, History and Geography has been founded.





How many archeological sites are there in Turkey?

In Turkey there are 208 excavations in Anatolia where local and foreign archeologists works. 56 of these excavations are carried out by Turkish archeologists and 37 of them are in responsibility of foreign archeologists. Moreover, 55 preventive archeological excavations, 33 academic excaavations are being carried out by the museums. There are also 27 excavations in dam sites.



Karabuk and its surroundings are in Paphlagonia Region which is one of the important centers of ancient period. This area has maintained its importance from prehistoric times to Ottomans. Its location on the caravan road makes the region important. Today, Safranbolu, one of the districts of Karabuk has been inscribed on World Heritage List by Unesco. Eskipazar, another district of Karabuk has an ancient name known as Hadrianapolis and Hadrianapolis is an important late Roman-Byzantine city where excavations are currently being carried out. Apart from these excavation sites, there are too many cultural assets in Karabuk and its surroundings.













Job Opportunities for the Graduates:

The graduate students entitled as archeologists can choose to be academicians at universities. They can work in the departments of General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums and private museums, municipalities, tourism agencies, Provincial Director of Culture and Tourism and local and foreign archeological excavations.

