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**Short Report
Excavations of Hajjalili I Settlement
KP 301 - BTC ROW**

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ABSTRACT

This report gives an account of the archaeological excavations of Hajialili I Settlement carried out at KP 301.63 of the BTC ROW. In addition to depicting the excavations at this site, the report provides a description of each archaeological feature and the artefacts discovered at the site. The excavations revealed remains of a 10-11cm thick gravel floor, debris of a pithouse used as a rubbish pit, a buried storage jar, obsidian pile, animal bones as well as considerable quantities of occupation and domestic pottery, implements of different functions and jewellery items. The excavations indicate that the site was an Albanian rural domestic settlement which contains evidence of two periods of occupation - the Antique Period and the early middle Ages.

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I. Introduction

- *Description of the BTC and SCP Archaeology Programme*

Archaeological excavations in connection with the construction of the BTC and SCP pipelines were conducted prior to, and during the construction of these pipelines. These excavations generally were carried out within the 44m wide pipeline corridor from 2001 to 2005. The archaeology programme consisted of five phases of which the first four phases constituted field investigations:

Phase I – actual and potential archaeological sites were visually identified during walkover or baseline surveys during the selection of the pipeline route.

Phase II – the sites that were identified during Phase I as archaeologically potential were tested by digging test pits and conducting small-scale trial excavations.

Phase III – small and large-scale excavations were carried out within the BTC ROW.

Phase IV – small and large-scale excavations were carried out within the SCP ROW.

In addition to these, all the construction activities were monitored by watching brief archaeologists.

In general, during the core Phase III and Phase IV archaeological excavations were carried out at 41 sites with thousands of artefacts discovered. None of these sites had been previously known to archaeological science.

Phase V – preparation of scientific reports on the archaeological excavations carried out during the previous phases.

- *Discovery of the Archaeological Site*

The Hajialili I Settlement site was discovered following exposure of the cultural horizon during SCP pipeline trenching at KP 301.63 of the BTC ROW and then included in the list of archaeological sites to be excavated within the SCP corridor.

The settlement site is located approximately 500m to the south-east of Hajialili village (Samukh District) on a flat area on the right-hand side of the main road leading to the village. The microrelief was disturbed as a result of long agricultural activity in the area. Visual observation showed that the relief of the settlement did not differ from the relief of the surroundings. Therefore the site was not identified during the previous phases.

The excavation of Hajialili I Settlement was conducted by a team of archaeologists including Bakhtiyar Jalilov and Vagif Asadov lead by Tarikh Dostiyev from IoAE, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, and monitored by BTC representatives. This work took place during the period from 24 July to 6 August 2005.

II. Field and Office Methods

- *Field Methods*

Excavation and recording was conducted along the 32m long and 4m wide strip centred on the pipeline trench. For more accuracy in recording potential features and artefacts the excavation site was divided into eight quadrats of 4m by 4m. As Quadrats 4, 5 and 6 were the highest point in the excavation site the juncture of Quadrats 5 and 6 was taken as the reference point. The quadrats

were numbered from the north-west to the south-east using Arabic numerals. The difference in height between the reference point and the lowest westernmost corner of the excavation site was 12cm while the difference between the reference point and the southernmost corner was 5cm.

Excavation was conducted by hand using shovels to remove the over burden in spits, approximately 10cm thick, followed by the use of hand tools such as knives, trowels and brushes to clean and expose features and artefacts as they were located in the cultural horizon. All the exposed features and archaeological finds discovered in the course of excavations were recorded in a field logbook with brief descriptions of their morphology. The height of the site above sea level was established using GPS, the features and remnants of structures were photographed and appropriate plans and cross-sections were drawn up.

All archaeological finds were initially retained, field sorted by IoAE staff to identify diagnostic material and then boxed and sent off to IoAE to Baku.

- *Office/Laboratory Methods*

At the “Archaeological Service” department of the IoAE the finds were thoroughly processed, systematized and classified by date and type. Photographs of artefacts were taken and drawings were made where relevant. Tarikh Dostiyev, the lead archaeologist, prepared this Report which describes the course of excavations and contains the site plan and profiles, photographs and drawings of the excavation site and artefacts recovered. The Report also provides characteristics of the cultural horizons revealed and description of the artefactual material.

- *Archive Disposition*

All the processed archaeological material was handed over to the IoAE special archive set up for the storage of finds discovered on the BTC and SCP ROW.

III. Excavation Results

- *Site Description*

The Hajjalili I Settlement site covers a wide area on the higher bank of an ancient riverbed on the right-hand side of Samukh-Hajjalili road approximately 500m south-west of Hajjalili village and 200m south of the artesian well located to the west of the village. The site is 215m above sea level and lies at Pulkovo coordinates 8621271, 4519289.

The pipelines at KP 301.50 through 301.63 traverse the periphery of the settlement. The land south-west of the site is under vineyards, the land in the south, west and north-west of the site is used as plough-land. A woodland belt with sparse trees is about 2.5 km south-west of the site. One kilometre to the east of the site there is an artesian well and close to it remains of a recent underground water pipeline no longer in use. About 450-500m from Hajjalili I Settlement on a land used for growing vegetables a settlement was identified dating back to the middle Ages (8th-10th centuries).

The microrelief of the site was totally disturbed as a result of long agricultural activity in the area. Visual observation of the area topography suggests that once there used to be a 1.3-1.5m high hillock covering a large area which was levelled for the purpose of laying vineyards.

- *Description of Cultural Horizons*

The site was excavated in spits. The first spits showed that the cultural horizon down to a 36-40cm depth was completely damaged because of continuous ploughing.

In some quadrats the cultural horizon was plough damaged down to a depth of 50cm. This horizon represented by grey-black soft soil contained pottery sherds, chunks of burnt clay, animal bones

and a few cobblestones. The pottery sherds could be divided into two groups with respect to their texture and artistry: those representing pottery ware specific for the Iron Age and pottery typical of the Antique Period and early Middle Ages.

The undisturbed layer of the cultural horizon starts at a 40cm depth. The third spit in Quadrats 1, 2 and 3 revealed very hard, lumpy soil of a grey colour containing small quantity of pottery fragments, charcoal, burnt clay and animal bones. The soil in Quadrats 4, 5 and 6 was medium hard of a slightly dark colour while in Quadrats 7 and 8 it was soft and fine.

A 70cm long and 40-50cm wide pebble layer was exposed and removed at a 52cm depth in the eastern side of Quadrat 2 (Figure 1). It was 10-11cm thick. The exact boundaries of the gravel layer could not be specified as the major portion of it went under the excavation wall. A 10cm thick, 1m long and 60-70cm wide burnt clay layer and clay fractions were detected. At 1.7m to the south from the western periphery of the gravel layer. To the north-west of it cattle bones were revealed whereas to the west there was a pile of pieces of a broken storage jar.

A pile of obsidian splinters was found at this spit in the northern side of Quadrat 3 (Figure 1). None of fifteen splinters bore any trace of working.

Many pottery sherds were found and removed from Quadrat 4. A fragment of a truncated cone-shaped spindle whorl (49) and a slingshot (51) were also found in this quadrat. Worthy of attention was only a fragment of the mouth of a platter or some large volume jug (47) and a 1.3cm diameter piece of pottery which had a 0.5cm deep hole on it (48).

In the fourth spit the soil in all the quadrats except for Quadrat 1 and partly Quadrat 2 was medium hard, in Quadrat 8 it was even soft. The soil in Quadrat 1 and partly in Quadrat 2 was extremely hard. The fourth spit revealed a refuse pit in Quadrats 5 and 6; a hearth and a storage jar in Quadrat 7 (Figures 1-6).

The refuse pit (Figures 1 and 2, Photo 2) was first detected as a heap of pottery sherds at a depth of 64cm in Quadrat 5. Gradually by extending and deepening the excavation area the refuse pit boundaries were established at a 75cm depth. The refuse pit walls were flat and vertical only in the eastern side narrowing downwards on other sides. The length of the refuse pit floor was 4.75m, the width within the excavation site was 1.8m. One portion of it stayed under the excavation wall (Figure 4). Presumably the refuse pit developed from the remains of a pithouse that once stood there, i.e. e. a pithouse unfit for living was used to pile wastes and later when it overflowed became a refuse pit with significantly extended boundaries and a depth of 64cm. As a result the length of the area covered by the upper layers of the refuse pit reached 5.2m the width being 2.5m within the excavation site. The refuse pit was filled with domestic and food waste. About two thousand pottery pieces, over one hundred animal bones, small cobblestones, ash layers and other waste were found in this refuse pit. Among the finds were weaving tools, grain grinder fragments and decorations. The osteological deposits consisted of sheep, goat, cow, pig, horse and dog bones with cattle and small bovid bones prevailing. The pottery sherds were jars, jugs, *bardags*, *dolchas*, *dopus*, *sarnij*, platters, bowls, *piyalas* and other vessels typical of the Antique Period.

The refuse pit excavation provided very valuable information about the economic activities, way of life and cuisine of the inhabitants of this ancient settlement site.

In Quadrat 7, the walls of the hearth were missing, only the floor survived. The oval floor was 80cm long, 62-65cm wide and 10cm thick.

The remains of a storage jar were excavated from the north-east wall of Quadrat 7. In order to recover them, the 70cm wide section of the quadrat was extended for an additional 1.7m. The base diameter was 15cm, body diameter 72cm and the survived height was 38cm. The jar walls cracked because of the weight of heavy machines used in construction of the pipeline and the broken wall fragments were inside the jar. The vessel is thought to be of Antique period date. (Photo 3).

A hearth was cleaned and exposed at the fourth spit at a 76cm depth in the centre of Quadrat 8. The hearth was poorly preserved, only three fractions of the floor and walls survived (Figure 6). It could be assumed based on the study of these fragments that the hearth walls were 6-8cm thick and 16cm high. A clay handled vessel was found on the hearth wall and plenty of bases of jug-type vessels around the hearth.

Interesting finds were also recovered at the fourth and fifth spits in Quadrats 3 and 4, e.g. a fragment of a narrow-necked *bardag* (61) and a fraction of the base of a ring-shaped *piyala* (71) at a depth of 70cm in Quadrat 3. In Quadrat 4 these were fragments of storage jars (and 69) *dopu*-type vessels (67 and 70), *bardag*- and platter-type vessels (74 and 75) and clay spindle whorls (Plate VII, Inv. Nos. 65 and 66) at a 70-80cm depth.

The fifth spit was less productive in terms of finds recovered. No structural remains were recorded at this spit, only scarce spread of charcoal bits and burnt clay chunks. The finds included ceramic pieces of bowl-, *bardag*- or jug-type vessels (77 and 78) in Quadrat 4, a fragment of a thin-walled bowl or *piyala* (79) at the juncture of Quadrat 2 and 3 and bases of jug-type vessels in Quadrat 2 (80 and 81).

It became clear after the fifth spit that the thickness of the cultural horizon was 90-100cm. In Quadrat 2 the natural layer was reached at a 100cm depth while in Quadrats 7 and 8 it was exposed at 90-95cm. The fact that several objects dating to the Iron Age were recovered from the upper mixed up layer of the cultural horizon required more excavation to ensue that this horizon really existed. To this end test digging by additional two more spits was carried out down to a 1.4m depth in a 2m by 2m extent in the centre of Quadrat 2.

After ascertaining that the natural soil layer lay at a 90-100cm depth and making sure by digging down to 1.4m deep that no Iron Age cultural horizon existed in this section of the settlement site and also taking into consideration that sufficient factual material had been collected for characterization of Hajjalili I Settlement the excavation work was concluded.

- *Description of Finds*

The surface material collected from the site was mainly pottery sherds and a few stone implements dating back from the Antique Period and early Middle Ages. These sherds were fragments of jars, jugs, *bardags*, *dopus*, platters, bowls, *piyalas* and milk jugs typical of the Antique Period and early middle Ages. It is noteworthy that among the surface assemblage there was pottery waste – a fragment of a ceramic vessel with the walls stuck together due to over firing (Plate VI, Inventory number 148) which suggests that pottery ware was also produced locally. The distinctive features of early Middle Ages pottery are the presence of a certain amount of sand in the clay composition, relatively crude shape, plain decoration mainly represented by scratched patterns.

The stone tools assemblage collected from the surface was represented by fragments of cymbiform grain-grinders.

The Iron Age pottery found in the upper layer of the cultural horizon consist of broken pieces

- 32.** Most likely of a *bardag*-, jug- or *dopu*-type vessel, namely, a fragment of the base (Plate I),
- 98.** Part of the shoulder or body decorated with an applied notched strip (Plate I),
- 60** Piece of a small pot decorated with grooves and dots (Plate I)
- 21.** Fragment of a round cross section handle that connected it to the body of the vessel (Plate I).
- 33.** The fabric of a thin-walled jug or *dopu* with an everted funnel-shaped mouth and a low neck passing into gradually sloping shoulder is pure, the ceramic is dense and the colour is black. Its surface is burnished (Plate I).
- 35.** The clay of a fragment of the neck of another thin-walled, wide-necked, low-capacity vessel with an everted funnel-shaped mouth is impure. This piece of ceramic is moderately fired, its colour is black (Plate I).
- 98.** Piece of the shoulder or body of a vessel with an applied belt with notched patterns (Plate I).
- 60.** Fragment of a low capacity vessel decorated with patterns consisting of grooves and dots. The clay of this wheel-thrown pottery piece fired at a stable temperature is slightly tempered with other ingredients, the ceramic is dense and the colour is black (Plate I).
- 21.** A piece of a well fired grey-black slightly dashed pottery is part of a handled vessel. The handle is broken, only one piece survived. Judging by the break it was a twig-shaped handle (Plate I).
- 32.** A grey-black moderately fired piece of ceramics is part of the base of a jug- or *dolcha*-type vessel (Plate I).
- 16.** Among the pottery sherds collected from the surface one specimen stands apart for its texture and surface polish. This grey-black fragment of the body of a grey vessel was made of pure clay which resulted in a very dense pottery texture. Its surface is polished. Such pottery samples are usually typical of the Iron Age.

Other Objects

- 34.** A grey-black well fired symmetrical spindle whorl in the shape of an irregular truncated cone. (Plate I).

Antique Period Assemblage

The Antique Period pottery ware prevails over the other finds and consists predominantly of fragments of domestic pottery. These are storage vessels, pots and pans and tableware.

Jars

A sample of a relatively well preserved jar for storing wine was recovered from the wall of Quadrat 7. This jar the survived height of which is 38cm has a narrow flat base and a bulgy body (Photo 3). The shoulder, neck and mouth pieces broke and fell inside the jar.

- 68.** Thick-walled, flat-based jar which had a body gradually narrowing downwards. The clay of this moderately fired jar is not quite pure (Plate II).
- 69.** A small fragment of another sand-tempered, moderately fired, thick-walled jar is noteworthy for the decorations in the form of notches shaped as sunflower seeds (Plate II).
- 82.** Another fragment is a part of a storage jar with an everted rim and cylindrical neck. The clay contains grains of sand. The jar was fired at a stable temperature; the ceramic of a pink colour is dense (Plate II).
- 104.** Storage jar at the point where the jar neck connects to its shoulder (Plate II).
- 116.** The surface of a fragment of a large thick-walled storage jar is decorated with geometric patterns formed by circles and notches. The circles were formed by pressing a tubular tool to the wet clay. The jar was fired at a stable temperature, the ceramic is dense, colour mustard (Plate II).
- 94.** A fraction of a small storage jar is worthy of attention for two-layers of the ceramic. It is decorated with 2.6cm wide belt notches (Plate II).

Bardags

142. The sand admixture is high in the clay composition of a fragment of a wide-necked *bardag* with a flat rounded rim and a handle with an oval cross section the upper end of which is attached to the rim. Poorly fired (Plate III).

106. Fragment of a wide-necked *bardag* or *dolcha* with a flat rounded rim and a circular cross section handle attached to it. The handle has two attached lugs on it (Plate III).

105. Fractions of the body and base of a medium capacity thin-walled, wide-necked *bardag*. It has a flat base, spherical body and a handle with a circular cross section the lower end of which is attached to the upper part of the body (Plate III).

87. Fragment comes of *bardag*- or jug-type pot or bowl with flat thick base and a globular body (Plate III).

85. Richly tempered with sand. Moderately fired, the ceramic is porous of a pink colour. The round cross section handle has a small dome-shaped lug stuck to it (Plate III).

2. Fragment of mouth and handle of a milk jug-shaped pot. The ribbon handle is stuck to the rim. The handle has a groove made by finger along its centre-line (Plate III).

141. There are two jug fragments among the finds. The rim of the flat mouth of one of them is rounded, the neck gradually widening downwards passes into the shoulder. The clay contains sand grains. Was fired at an unstable temperature, the cross section has a grey layer.

??. Fragment of a jug with a funnel-shaped mouth, everted rim and wide neck also represents a low capacity vessel.

61. Fragment of a *bardag* with a funnel-shaped mouth and everted rim and a narrow neck gradually widening downwards is small (Plate III).

78. Well fired, dense texture, the colour of pink sand, flat base and body narrowing downwards is seemingly a fragment of a *bardag* or jug (Plate III).

Sarnij-type pots only two fragments are worthy of attention.

125. One is part of a vessel with a flat rim, high walls narrowing down to the base and a hook-like handle attached to the rim edge and the widest part of the body. The *sarnij* has incised lines on the neck a little below a pattern is dotted on the level where the handle is attached to the body. By incising three lengthwise lines on the handle the potter achieved the image of four linked fingers. In addition the handle is decorated with notches. Coated with angobe both surfaces of the *sarnij* are burnished (Plate IV).

143. *Sarnij* with a funnel-shaped mouth and everted rim, low neck widening downwards into the shoulder and a ribbon handle attached to the rim and shoulder. The central incised line along the handle makes an impression that it is made of two separate twig-shaped handles (Plate IV).

Dopu fragments are chiefly represented by mouth and handle fractions (Plate IV, Inv. No. 96).

114. Relatively well preserved fragment is possibly part of *dopu* with a flat mouth, wide and low neck, body narrowing downwards and a ribbon handle attached to the body and rim. The handle has a central line incised lengthwise. It was fired at a stable temperature, the texture is dense and the colour is red (Plate IV).

117. Fragment of *dopu* with a flat-rim, wide cylindrical neck and body narrowing down towards the base. The twig-shaped handle is attached to the rim and body of the pot. Moderately fired, the ceramic is of a light pink colour. (Plate IV).

67. Part of a low volume jug or *dopu* that had a funnel-shaped mouth, everted rim and wide neck. The clay is with admixture, the pot is moderately fired. (Plate IV).

70. Another similarly-shaped fragment is thin-walled (Plate IV).

Other types

The pottery ware includes also samples of open shape vessels – platter (Inv. No. 73, 75, 76 and 83), bowl (Inv. No. 84, 115, 124 and 133) and *piyala* (Inv. No. 71, 79 and 119).

73. The ceramic texture of one of the fragments of a pink colour is dense and presumably this fragment is part of a platter that had a flattened rim bent both inside and outside and walls gradually narrowing towards the base (Plate V).

75. Fragment of a thick-walled platter with an everted rim and body narrowing towards the base (Plate V).

83. Fragment of a platter-type thick-walled vessel that had a flattened wide mouth with a rim bent inside (Plate V).

76. The fragment of a platter with a wide mouth and walls thinning towards the rim has a bulging belt on its outer surface (Plate V).

Bowls

84. Bowl with a disk-like base, semi-globular body and an everted rim (Plate V).

115. Fragment of a bowl with a flattened mouth and semi-globular body (Plate V).

124. Fragment of a thick-walled bowl with an everted rim and semi-globular body has a yellowish engobe coat on its outer surface (Plate V).

136. Pieces of a small bowl or *piyala* that had a flat rim, funnel-shaped walls narrowing to the base from the bent in the lower part of the body are worthy of attention for their delicate making.. The clay is pure and fired at a stable temperature resulted in a dense texture ceramics of a pink colour. The outer surface is thoroughly burnished (Plate VI).

79. Low volume bowl or *piyala* the walls of which widen like a funnel and thin towards the flat-rimmed mouth and narrow and thicken down from the bend in the middle of the body was made of clay that contained a small admixture of sand. It was fired at a stable temperature, the colour is yellow (Plate V).

119. Similarly shaped thin-walled *piyala* fragment is noteworthy for high quality firing (Plate V).

Decorations

Some finds, notably parts of bodies and spots of various pots are worthy of attention because of their shape or decorations they bear.

86. Fragment of the body of a low volume pot is distinguished for being two-layered. The external layer is brown, the internal one is yellow. There are traces of a combed decoration on the surface (Plate V).

92. Another piece of a pot of a yellow colour well fired at a stable temperature is decorated with a cone-shaped lug.

102. A fragment of a large volume, wide necked pot represents the point where a flat-oval cross section handle is attached to the flattened rim (Plate V).

126. Round flat base and thick upright walls. The preserved wall height is up to 3cm (Plate VI).

132. A ceramic piece looking like a wheel-shaped lid with a short tubular handle in the middle is brown, poorly fired (Plate VI).

138. Part of the body of a thin-walled pot is noteworthy for two short mammiform spouts (Plate VI).

139. Fragment of a flat-based *bardag* or *dopu* with vertical walls is notable for quality firing at a stable temperature, the ceramics colour is red (Plate VI).

Weaving Equipment

Of this group, the following can be typologically identified as Antique period.

118, 120. Complete biconical spindle whorls (Plate VII)

89, 123, 130. Incomplete biconical spindle whorls, of light pink colour and poorly or moderately fired (Plate VII)

65, 66. Complete cone-shaped spindle whorls (Plate VII).

107, 111, 129. An incomplete cone-shaped spindle whorl, 66 has three incised lines running from the centre to the edges. (Plate VII).

121. Asymmetric circular spindle whorl. (Plate VII).

90. Truncated pyramid-shaped ceramic piece with an 8mm orifice close to its top suggests that this object was used as counterweight in weaving (Plate VII.).

Early Middle Ages Assemblage

The pottery ware dating to the early Middle Ages prevails over other material found on the surface and recovered from the disturbed upper layer of the site. It mainly consists of sherds of storage jars, *bardags*, pots resembling milk jugs, jugs, platters and bowls. Storage jar sherds are mostly mouth, neck and body fragments.

3. One of the fragments is part of a cylindrical neck of a large capacity jar which had a flattened mouth. The mouth has an incised pattern resembling a toothed arrow-head. There is another pattern on the outer surface of the mouth consisting of small cavities aligned along the rim (Plate VIII).

10. Fragment of the body of a large storage jar is worthy of attention because of the applied belt which is decorated with an incised pattern (Plate VIII).

27. Fragment of a medium capacity jar that had an everted rim and small cavities thumbed on the rim and body (Plate VIII).

Small volume jars are represented by two fragments.

46. Jar with an everted rim and walls that do not reveal any neck and pass immediately from the rim into the shoulder. It has a pure clay composition, was fired at a stable temperature, the ceramic texture is dense and the colour is pink (Plate VIII).

13. Fragment of jar with flattened mouth and everted rim and walls immediately passing into the shoulder without outlining any neck. The clay was tempered with sand and moderately fired (Plate VIII).

Pottery sherds of *bardag*-, *kuza*-, jug- and milk jug-shaped vessels include base, body, mouth and handle fragments. The majority of these pieces are very small.

26. One is a small piece of a *bardag*-type pot with a flat base and body narrowing down towards the base.

17. Fragment of the neck and shoulder of a *bardag*- or jug-type vessel is decorated with incised and applied patterns. The applied lug has a geometric decoration consisting of small circles (Plate VIII).

41. Fragment of a thin-walled pot with a funnel-shaped mouth and everted rim and a neck widening downwards (Plate VIII)

43. Fragment of a milk jug-type vessel represents a twig-shaped handle and a thin rim bent inside (Plate IX).

36. The external surface of a fragment of a medium capacity vessel with a cap and handle has a thin angobe coat of a light yellow colour. Part of an oval section handle with one end attached to the body survived. The clay of this piece is pure, the texture is dense, it was fired at a stable temperature to pink-red surface (Plate VIII).

24. One of the handles of a *bardag* or some other vessel of this type has an oval cross section and is decorated with notches aligned on one side (Plate IX).

56. A pair of moulded lugs are applied to the upper end and centre of a handle with a circular cross section. The lower end is missing (Plate IX).

19. The distinguishing feature of a ribbon handle is a thick bulgy strip applied lengthwise along its centre-line (Plate IX).

55. The shoulder fragment of a large volume jug or *kuza* is burnished. This vessel had a funnel-shaped mouth, rounded everted rim, with a low and wide neck sloping down and passing into the shoulder. The cross section reveals a grey layer as the pot was fired at an unstable temperature. Its colour is brown (Plate VIII).

30, 31, 37. Fragments of small volume vessels of *dolcha* or *dopu* type with an oval or round cross section handles (Plate IX).

44. A few pieces are fragments of open platter- or bowl-type vessels. One of the fragments is part of a vessel with a flattened rim bent both inside and outside and the body walls thickening and narrowing downwards (Plate IX).

54. The surface of a fragment of a platter or bowl that presumably had a semi-globular body and a flanged flattened rim is smoothed (Plate IX).

38. A piece of a bowl-type vessel with an everted rim and funnel-shaped walls bending in at the lower part of the body and narrowing towards the base is worthy of attention because its outer surface is thoroughly burnished (Plate IX).

42. Fragment of a disk-shaped, low base piyala-type vessel. The pot tempered with sand, was fired at an unstable temperature (Plate IX).

Stone Artefacts

In the course of field investigations at Hajjalili I Settlement several stone tools and used stone objects were found.

Obsidian.

25. Fragment of translucent obsidian has signs of retouch on one side.

40. Flake of translucent obsidian with signs of retouch on one side (Plate VII). Both are thought to date to the Iron Age.

Utilised Stone

134. Grind stone, (Plate VII),

135. Grater (Plate VII),

8. Circular stone implement (Plate VII)

These all came from Antique period which also included fragments of grain grinders.

The following came from Early Middle Age contexts.

51. A roundish cobblestone slingshot (Plate VII).

39. Portion of a grater (Plate VII),

23. Whetstone (Plate VII)

9. Fragments of a cymbiform quernstone (Plate VII).

Metal Objects

112. Bronze ring made of a thick round cross section wire has developed a green coat resulting from oxidation (Plate X).

113. Object formed with one end of a square cross section metal stick which was shaped as loop by being gradually widened and bent, while the other end was pointed by being tapered and rounded. Assumed to have been used as decorative pins (Plate X).

Glass Artefacts

95, 101, 144. Oblong tubular and barrel-shaped paste beads (Plate X)

140. Small pea-shaped ceramic beads dating to the Antique Period (Plate X).

Faunal Materials

The excavation of the archaeological site yielded a significant number of osteological remains. These mainly consist of cattle and small bovid bones. Horse and pig bones were also found but in less quantities. One of the bones was a dog bone.

IV. Analytical Results

- *Interpretation of Excavation Results*

The spread of the Antique and Early Middle Ages pottery samples covers nearly a 3-4 hectare area. The densest spread of surface material was detected over a 50m length within the pipeline corridor. The topographic characteristics of the site as well as the nature of the surface material suggest that the centre of the settlement was located east of the pipeline corridor. While the surface material is in abundance to the north-east and east of the pipeline route, it becomes extremely rare to the west and south of it.

Establishment of the chronological framework of archaeological complexes revealed at Hajjalili I Settlement was based on the typological and comparative analysis methods. The disturbed upper layer (down to 40cm) of the cultural horizon dates to the earliest stages of the middle Ages while the lower layers date to the Antique Period.

Hajjalili I Settlement is an important archaeological site from the point of view of studying the material culture of Caucasian Albania. Taking into account that potential Antique Period settlements in the area have not been sufficiently explored the conducted field investigations of Hajjalili I Settlement acquire even greater importance.

Based on the results of field investigations it could be assumed that the site witnessed intensive life during the Antique Period and early middle Ages. The Early Middle Ages cultural horizon was heavily disturbed and mixed up as a result of continuous agricultural activities in the area. As to a few small Iron Age pottery specimens, they seem to have been brought in from other parts of the site during tillage. This implies that there is a possibly fairly substantial Iron Age settlement fairly close by, but outside the limits of the excavation.

- *Discussion and Analysis of the Results of the Work Compared with Other Sites of a Similar Nature on the Pipeline Route*

Archaeological excavations carried out within the BTC and SCP pipelines ROW have revealed a number of Antique and early medieval settlement sites that had not been previously known to archaeological science. Similar settlement sites excavated in the area along the pipeline route were Lak I and Seyidlar II settlement sites. The results of investigation of Lak I and Seyidlar II sites and comparative analysis of the archaeological material were of considerable importance in the interpretation of artefacts and other finds at Hajjalili I site.

- *Special Recommendations Regarding the Protection of the Site or Future Research*

As Hajjalili I Settlement was under the threat of damage because of the SCP construction the purpose of excavating this site was to gather necessary data about this site as well as to identify its distinguishing features.

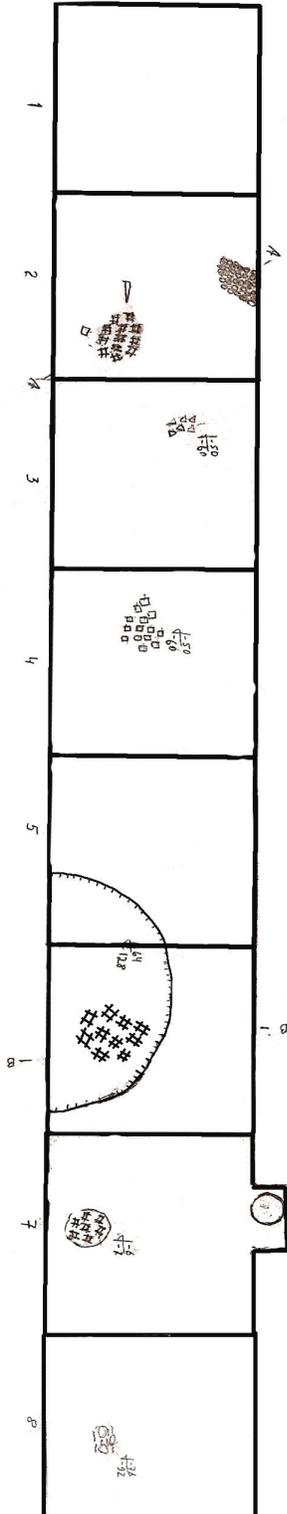
The factual data obtained in the course of archaeological excavations provide useful information on the economic activities and domestic life of the inhabitants of this settlement. All the goals and objectives of the field investigations have been achieved. The obtained information is sufficient for characterization of the site. The site is the debris of a rural type settlement and is of local importance and there is no need for further excavations in the near future. However, the area should be protected as archaeologically sensitive should any future work be planned in the immediate vicinity.

- *Recommendations for Public Education and Interpretation Initiatives*

It would be expedient to publish a book reflecting the results of the excavations at this site in order to furnish the scientific community and general public with extensive information about Hajjalili I Settlement and display the best preserved artefacts recovered from the site at the IoAE museum.

V. Illustrations

Site Plan

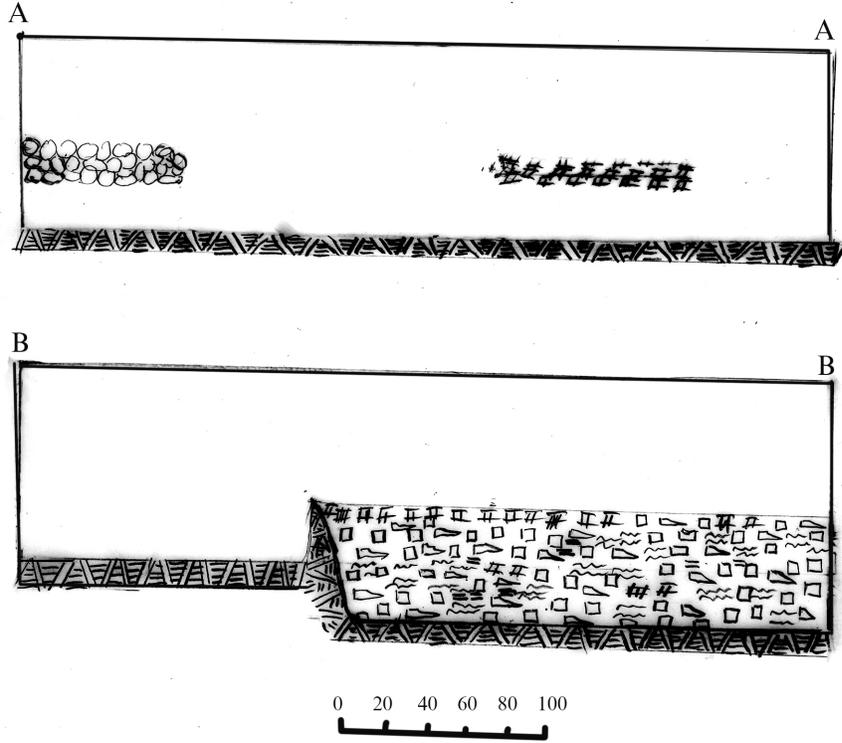


Şəkil 1. I Haçialılı yaşayış yeri. Qazıntı sahəsinin planı



Figure 1

Profiles



- /// Xam torpaq
- ## Yanmış torpaq
- oo Çınqıl
- Keramika
- ~ Heyvan sümüyü
- ~ Küll
- = Yanmış gil parçası

Figure 2



Photo 1. Site View



Photo 2. Refuse Pit



Photo 3. Storage Jar Remains



Photo 4. Hearth

Plate 1



inv. 34



inv. 32



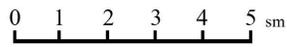
inv. 21



inv. 33



inv. 35



inv. 98



inv. 60

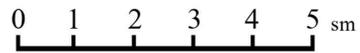


Plate 2



inv. 104



inv. 82



inv. 62



inv. 69



inv. 94



inv. 116

0 2 4 6 8 10 sm



inv. 68

Plate 3



inv. 2



inv. 142



inv. 85



inv. 106



inv. 105



inv. 77



inv. 122



inv. 61



inv. 78



inv. 87



Plate 4



inv. 145



inv. 70



inv. 67



inv. 125



inv. 143



inv. 96



inv. 117



inv. 114



Plate 5



inv. 102



inv. 124



inv. 71



inv. 86



inv. 75



inv. 76



inv. 103



inv. 84



inv. 72



inv. 79



inv. 119



inv. 115



inv. 73



inv. 83



inv. 74



Plate 6



inv. 131



inv. 137



inv. 139



inv. 136



inv. 133



inv. 138



inv. 93



inv. 132



inv. 126



inv. 128



inv. 127



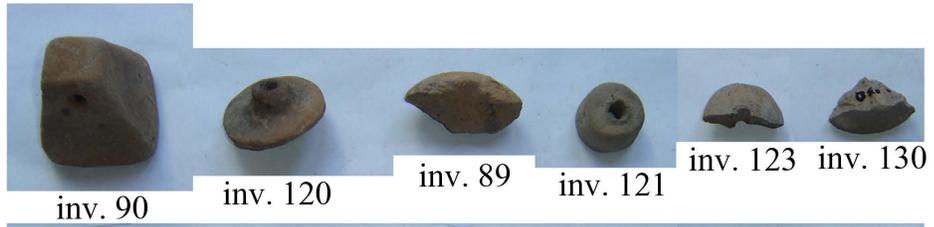
inv. 146



inv. 148



Plate 7



0 2 4 6 8 10 sm



inv. 40

0 1 2 3 4 5 sm



inv. 9



inv. 45



inv. 23



inv. 134



inv. 135



inv. 39



inv. 64

0 2 4 6 8 10 sm



inv. 51



inv. 88

Plate 8



inv. 3



inv. 10



inv. 13



inv. 27



inv. 46



inv. 62



inv. 110



inv. 55



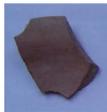
inv. 36



inv. 99



inv. 17



inv. 6



inv. 41



inv. 29



inv. 14



inv. 5



inv. 11



inv. 15

0 2 4 6 8 10 sm

Plate 9



inv. 1



inv. 7



inv. 8



inv. 19



inv. 24



inv. 56



inv. 97



inv. 43



inv. 37



inv. 38



inv. 12



inv. 31



inv. 42



inv. 54



inv. 44



Plate 10

