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COMMUNICATIONS

The Swedish Institute in Athens has announced a preliminary program for a lecture and a seminar on Aegean Bronze Age religion to be held in Athens:

May 12, Axel W. Persson Memorial Lecture: Professor Arne Furumark, "Linear A and Minoan Religion"

May 12-13, international seminar: "Sanctuaries and Cults in the Aegean Bronze Age" (series of papers and discussions)

It is planned that the papers will be published in a volume of the Acta Instituti Atheniensis Regni Sueciae. Further information may be procured by writing Mr. Robin Hägg at the Swedish Institute.

Dr. Paul Yule of the German Archaeological Institute, Bonn, writes that, contrary to the implication in NESTOR 7:1, 1980, p. 1429, his dissertation is not available through University Microfilms. He is currently preparing it for publication.

A belated announcement of a privately circulated poetic exercise by J.L. Caskey and G.L. Huxley: "Conical Cups, Questions and Answers, 1966" (quamquam ridentem dicere verum quid vetat). Copies may be available from the authors.

FORUM

To the Editors:

μαλλός

With reference to FORUM in NESTOR 7:2, 1431-2, February 1980, Greppin refers to Djahukian's attribution of exclusive Greek-Armenian correspondences to a Sprachbund. Such observations go back, of course, at least to Meillet, even though R. Schmitt Kratylos 17, 1972 (1974) 38-9, does not give this aspect great prominence. I have preferred to see in the growing dossier of such shared innovations a specifically genetic - and not Sprachbund - link between Greek and Armenian; see, e.g. Revue des études arméniennes N.S. 4, 1967, 15-17; 6, 1969, 15-17; KZ 89, 1975, 100-9; Studies for L.R. Palmer (1976) 91; KZ 93, 1979, 4-5.

The Armenian word for "sheep" does not fit well with μαλλός, since from a base *mls- we might expect mał rather than mal. Though the comparison is not among the surest, for the time being the equation (Pokorny IEW 724) of mal with μῆλον must stand.

Correction: In the final paragraph of my letter (NESTOR, p. 1431) *mes-o- should read *mls-ó-.

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Yours, &c.
Eric P. Hamp
6 March 1980

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