

## ZIRH TIPLERİ

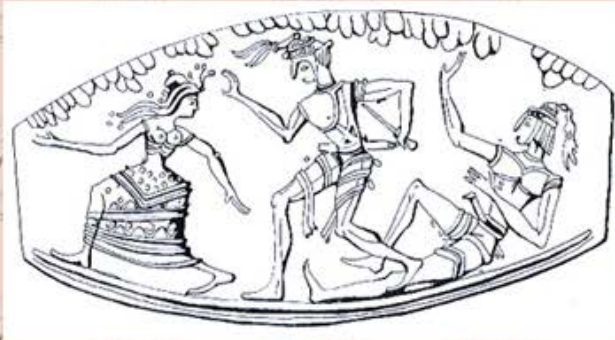


The earliest element of an Achaean defensive armour is a bronze shoulder protection found in Dendra tomb 8 dated from **LH I** and **LH II** (1550-1500 BC). Originally described as a helmet it was later correctly identified as a right shoulder protection. The piece was found alone, without the rest of the armour, thus three hypothesis are possible:

- a) the entire armour had originally been placed into the tomb but later it was removed;
- b) the guard had been placed alone in the tomb symbolizing the whole armour;
- c) The guard belonged to an armour made of perishable material which disintegrated over the years.

We support the third possibility considering that examples of additions of a metal part to an armour consisting of other materials are quite numerous during the following period. Furthermore the assumption that the perishable material armour of tomb 8 only had metal on the right shoulder does not force us to an unnatural supposition since the warrior fought with his right hand and therefore needed particular protection for his exposed right arm.

Indeed a single metal shoulder guard used to protect the right shoulder has been also found in an Etruscan tomb in Italy.

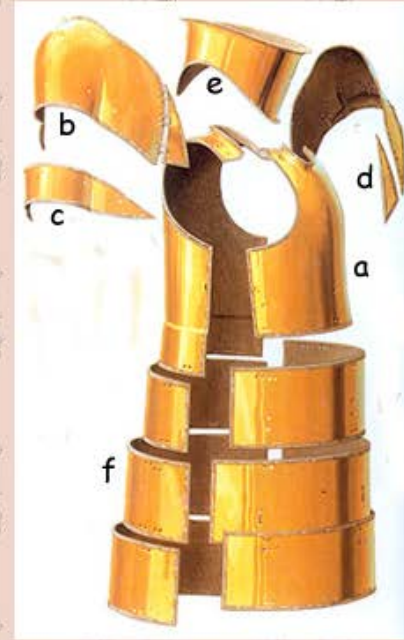


Possible evidence of a defence composed by a single shoulder guard is from a seal-stone from *Thisbe* Boeotia dated **LH II** (about 1500 BC). In this representation the standing warrior near the woman seems to wear a light cuirass with a single large right shoulder guard. Even if the authenticity of the seal-stones from the *Thisbe* "treasure of seals" is actually questionable their iconographic model are significant being more likely based on real specimens.

The most remarkable finding of an Achaean armour comes from the same location of the above mentioned shoulder protection. In the tomb n. 12 of *Dendra* dated between **LH II** and **LH IIB** (1450-1400 BC) a complete bronze armour composed by several elements was found.

This defence consisted of: **a)** two bronze plates (\*1) about 1 mm thick that protect the torso of the warrior; **b)** two bronze shoulder guards (similar but not equal in shape respect to the one from tomb 8); **c)** two pieces of curved bronze plates attached to the underside of the shoulder guards to protect the upper arms; **d)** two triangular bronze pieces attached to the shoulder guards for additional protection at chest level; **e)** a bronze throat-guard; **f)** six bronze belts attached to the bottom edge of the cuirass three in front and three in back.

All parts show a series of small holes along the edges with a diameter of 2 mm used for attachment of a lining to the inside of the cuirass, this must have consisted of leather as leather remains have been found inside the plates. Parts of seam thread made of goat hair have been also found between some of the holes. Larger holes about 4 mm are also present near the edge of all the elements, these were used to attach the various plates to each other by means of leather laces.





## ZIRH PULLARI

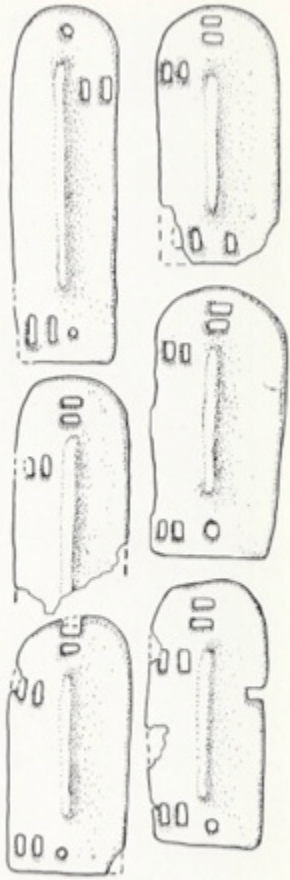


**ULUBURUN**



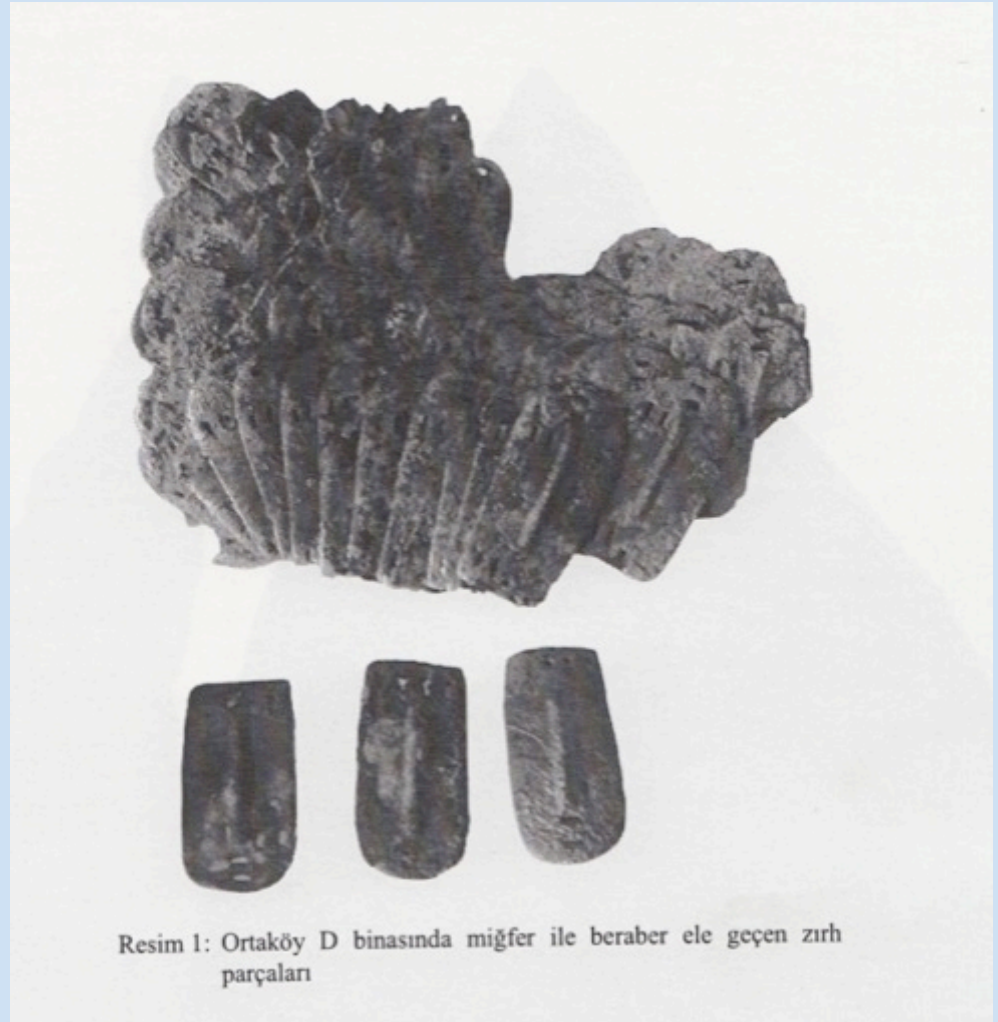
**TROIA**



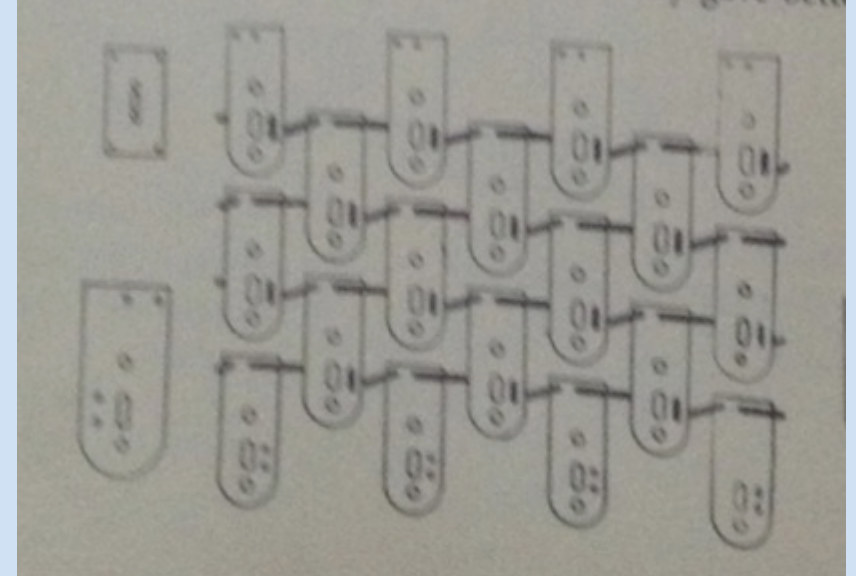


33 Bronze armour-scales  
from Boğazköy (after Neve).  
Av. H. c. 6 cm.

34 Fragments of clay vessel  
with incised picture of a  
warrior. Early Imperial  
period; from Boğazköy.



Resim 1: Ortaköy D binasında miğfer ile beraber ele geçen zırh parçaları

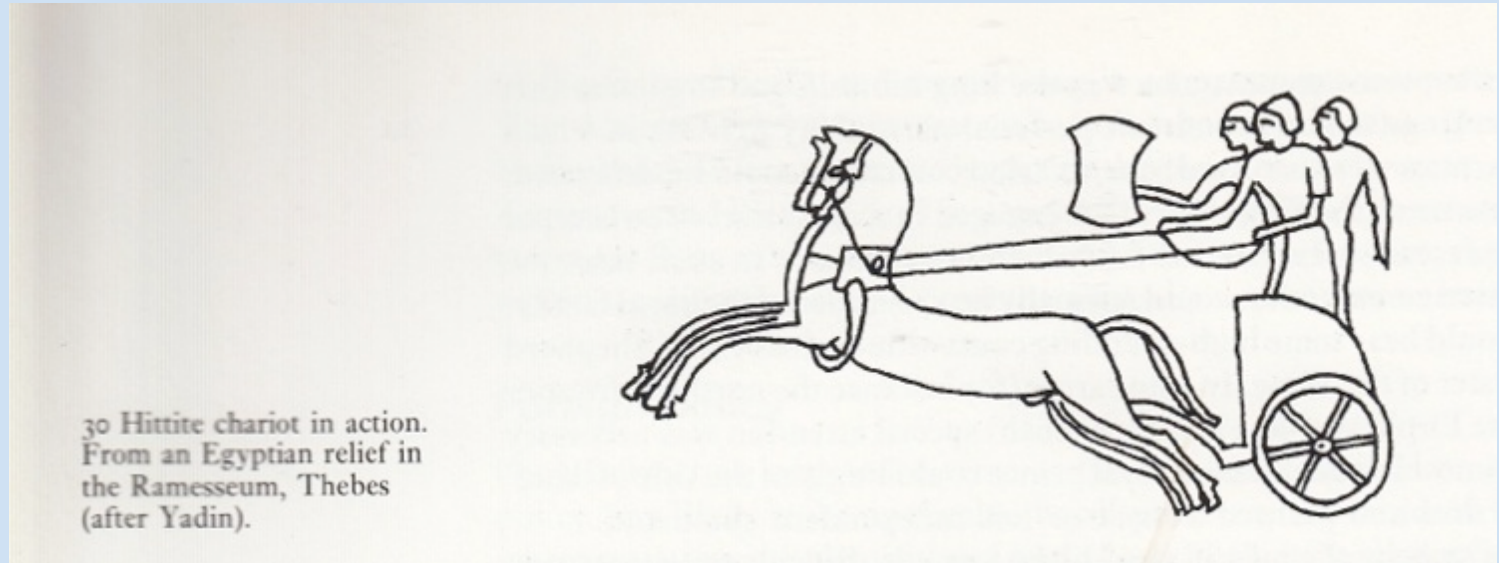


## KALKAN









30 Hittite chariot in action.  
From an Egyptian relief in  
the Ramesseum, Thebes  
(after Yadin).

