CONTENTS

List of figures xi
List of tables xxii
List of contributors xxiv
Foreword xxxi

Introduction 1
Bertille Lyonnet and Nadezhda A. Dubova

PART I: THE OXUS CIVILIZATION BACKGROUND 5

1 Questioning the Oxus Civilization or Bactria-Margiana Archaeological Culture (BMAC): an overview 7
Bertille Lyonnet and Nadezhda A. Dubova

2 The Oxus Civilization and Mesopotamia: a philologist’s point of view 66
Michaël Guichard

3 Environmental changes in Bactria and Sogdiana (Central Asia, Afghanistan, and Uzbekistan) from the Neolithic to the Late Bronze Age: interaction with human occupation 82
Eric Fouache, Lucie Cez, Valérie Andrieu-Ponel, and Rocco Rante

4 The rise of the early urban civilization in southwestern Central Asia: from the Middle Chalcolithic to the Middle Bronze Age in southern Turkmenistan 110
Ljubov’ B. Kircho
# Contents

**PART II: THE “CORE AREA”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The architecture of the Bactria-Margiana Archaeological Culture</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Ruslan G. Muradov</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Some thoughts on the imaginary representations in the Bactria-Margiana Archaeological Culture</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Elena V. Antonova</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Myths and gods in the Oxus Civilization</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Annie Caubet</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>BMAC glyptics: typology, context, function, and background</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Sylvia Winkelmann</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Chlorite containers from the Oxus Civilization: between technical choices and iconographic codes</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Massimo Vidale</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>The “Royal Necropolis” at Gonur Depe: an attempt at systematization (plan, constructions, rituals)</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Nadezda A. Dubova</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Polychrome inlaid and painted mosaics from Gonur Depe (Turkmenistan)</td>
<td>367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Nadezda A. Dubova</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Animal burials at Gonur Depe</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Robert M. Sataev</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Funerary rituals and archaeoethn臓ological data from BMAC graves at Ulug Depe (Turkmenistan) and Dzharkutan (Uzbekistan)</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Julio Bendezu-Sarmiento</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Bioarchaeology of the BMAC population: a short review</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Vladimir V. Kuferin</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Animal exploitation at Gonur Depe</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Robert M. Sataev</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Life in the countryside: the rural archaeology of the Sapalli culture</td>
<td>457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Kai Kaniuth</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17 Who interacted with whom? Redefining the interaction between
BMAC people and mobile pastoralists in Bronze Age southern
Turkmenistan
Barbara Cerasetti

18 The end of the Oxus Civilization
Elise Luneau

PART III: THE “SURROUNDING AREAS” 525

19 The BMAC presence in eastern Iran: state of affairs in
December 2018 – towards the Greater Khorasan Civilization?
Raffaele Biscione and Ali A. Vahdati

20 The relationship between the Oxus Civilization and the Indo-Iranian
borderlands
Benjamin Mutin and C.C. Lamberg-Karlovsky

21 Interaction between the worlds of South Asia and Central Asia
Shereen Ratnagar

22 The Oxus Civilization/BMAC and its interaction with the
Arabian Gulf: a review of the evidence
Pierre Lombard

23 The formation of the Oxus Civilization/BMAC in
southwestern Tajikistan
Natal’ja M. Vinogradova

24 The Zeravshan regional variant of the Bactria-Margiana Archaeological
Complex: interaction between two cultural worlds
Nona A. Avanesova

25 The “classical Vakhsh culture”: a Bronze Age culture of the 3rd and
early 2nd millennium BC in southern Tajikistan
Mike Teifer

26 The Oxus Civilization and the northern steppes
Gian Luca Bonora

PART IV: METALS AND METAL DEPOSITS 777

27 Archaeometallurgical studies on BMAC artifacts
Steffen Kraus
28  Metal sources (tin and copper) and the BMAC
    Jennifer Garner

29  The acquisition of tin in Bronze Age Southwest Asia
    Vincent C. Pigott

Appendix: Radiocarbon dates related to the BMAC/Oxus Civilization
    Michel Fontugne, Ganna I. Zajtseva, Bertille Lyonnet,
    Nadezhda A. Dubova, and Natalia D. Burova

Index

799
827
863
912