



International Congress

SANCTUARIES AND CULTS IN THE AEGEAN LEMNOS, 11TH-14TH SEPTEMBER 2019

from the Early Historic Times
to the End of the Late Antiquity (11th c. BC - AD 6th c.)

OPEN CALL-FIRST CIRCULAR

Subject: International Conference organization “Sanctuaries and Cults in the Aegean from Early Historic Times to Late Antiquity” (11th c. BC- 6th c. AD), Lemnos, Wednesday 11th of September-Saturday 14th of September 2019 Conference Centre Varos Village Lemnos

Dear colleagues,

The Ephorate of Antiquities of Lesbos in the framework of implementing the project ‘*Enhancement of the archaeological site of Kavirion, Lemnos*’, as part of NSRF 2014-2020, which will be completed within 2019, announces the organization of the International Scientific Conference entitled: **“Sanctuaries and Cults in the Aegean from Early Historic Times to Late Antiquity (11th c. BC- 6th c. AD)”**. The conference will take place at Lemnos between Wednesday 11th of September and Saturday 14th of September 2019.

The Aegean as a geographic unity, characterized by a great dispersion of large and smaller islands and islets constituted a nucleus of religious interaction with influences, continuities and discontinuities developing and shaping the world of gods and semi-gods of ancient Greek religion, as worshiped in organised cult places, the sanctuaries. The attitude of humans towards the divine and the diversity of cult practices display numerous and varying dimensions and several unexplored sides in all the expressions of human activity towards the divine.

In a context of osmosis of human relationship with the divine and considering the extent that this took over the course of centuries in the Aegean, this conference provides an opportunity to present the evidence that testifies to worshiped divinities of the Aegean geographic region and relevant rituals. In parallel the conference aims to elucidate any possible relations and influences in cult practices from other regions, within or outside Greek territories, from the birth of ancient Greek religion until its twilight with the dominance of Christianity. Evidence for the worship of deities in the Aegean derives mainly from archaeological data and excavations of sanctuaries, their dating, interpretation and identification and on the other hand from depictions of the divine in art, cult symbols and cultic practice and religious beliefs that are being investigated in association to written sources (literary testimonies, inscriptions) as well as the wider political and historical context of any given period.

MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND SPORTS
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF ANTIQUITIES & CULTURAL HERITAGE
EPHORATE OF ANTIQUITIES OF LESBOS
Sapfous 22, 81 131 Mytilene, Tel.: +302251042589
Fax: +302251020745, email: efales@culture.gr, www.efales.gr



OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME
NORTH AEGEAN 2014 - 2020
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A. Thematic sections

Those interested to participate should submit a participation form. Considering the conference structure in thematic sections, participants should select among the following:

- Sanctuaries within or outside cities in the Aegean (topography, architecture, excavation data, dating, finds, literary testimonies and interpretative approaches)
- Cults of gods and semi-gods in the Aegean
- Cultic beliefs and practices

B. Oral presentations –Poster presentations

The oral presentations should not exceed 15' in duration. Regarding poster presentations more relevant guidelines will be available with the Second Circular.

In cases of more than one presentation by the same speaker the Scientific Committee will decide and select between oral and poster presentations. Official languages of the conference are Greek and English.

C. Participation Form

Participation forms (for oral or poster presentations) accompanied by a short abstract of 250 words (one A4 page) in Greek and English could be sent either electronically at efales@culture.gr or by post at the following address: Ephorate of Antiquities of Lesbos, Sapphous 22, 81131, Mytilene (Attn. Director of Ephorate of Antiquities of Lesbos, Pavlos Triantafyllidis). The deadline for participation forms and abstracts submission is the **31st of March 2019**.

By the end of this date and within 10-15 days (until the **15th of April 2019**), the applicants will be informed concerning approval or otherwise of their participation upon evaluation of the abstracts by anonymous reviewers.

D. Conference Proceedings

The conference proceedings will be published by the Ephorate of Antiquities of Lesbos after completion of the event and upon approval of all contributions by anonymous reviewers for their originality and authenticity. The authors are kindly requested to send their contributions by **31st December 2019**.

In order to shorten the process further guidelines for authors will be available in the near future contained in the Second Circular.



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E. Accommodation –Travel Expenses

The Ephorate of Antiquities of Lesbos will cover accommodation costs for the conference speakers for the duration of the event with booked double and triple suites in Lemnos and will offer free transportation to Lemnos by bookings arranged directly by the Ephorate and not individually for each participant.

More information on transportation and accommodation will be offered in the Second Circular.

With warm greetings

On behalf of the Organising Committee

Dr Pavlos Triantafyllidis

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