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Dr. Jale Inan  
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July 30, 1986

Dear Dr. Inan,

I was on the Archeological Institute of America's tour of Turkish archeological sites conducted by Machteld Mellink. I took photographs at the time you so kindly showed us around Perge and am enclosing several on which you appear. I trust you will find them interesting and recall me thereby. You were indeed most accommodating to our group and I extend my thanks and that of the group for the instructive talks you gave us and the generous time you devoted to us.

My field of study concerns the semitic influences in Ancient Turkey. I find considerable data on the role of the Karum in and around the central areas. Reference to such trading communities go back as far as the Akkadian period in Sumer (ref: Wooley), and to the time of Sargon I, whose inscriptions document the considerable influence of semitic traders and the Karum.

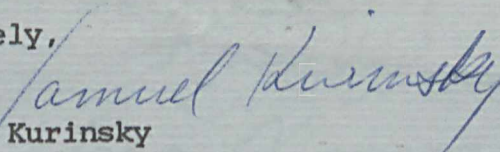
I find little concerning such activity in Pamphylia, and none at all in Perge. Perhaps you can enlighten me in this regard. Are there no traces of such influences or is there no record of the period?

Similarly, although there is much data and archeological evidence of later Canaanite ("Phoenician") or Jewish presence elsewhere during the Greek and Roman periods (Sardis, etc.), I find little information regarding such presence in Perge or the Antalyan area.

I would be very appreciative of your comments on these questions, and of any references you may offer that deal with the subject.

Thanking you in advance for whatever information you may provide, I remain,

Sincerely,

  
Samuel Kurinsky  
SVK/bk

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