

## Invitation to Symposium on Archaeology: “Taş Tepeler – The Land of Great Transformation”

Hosted under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Türkiye and Turkish Airlines  
and organised by Türkiye Tourism Promotion and Development Agency



Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that the Türkiye Tourism Promotion and Development Agency will hold a symposium, as outlined below, to explore the significance and allure of *Taş Tepeler* (“Stone Hills” in Turkish)—a region regarded as the cradle of the world’s first settled life and social cohesion—through the lens of archaeology.

*Taş Tepeler* refers to an extensive cluster of archaeological sites, including Göbeklitepe and Karahantepe, where excavations are still ongoing today. Home to humanity’s very first social structures, sculptures, and mythological stories and dating back approximately 12,000 years, these sites predate such iconic landmarks as the Pyramids, Stonehenge, and Machu Picchu, offering profound insights into the earliest chapters of human history.

For this occasion, we are honored to welcome Professor Necmi Karul, Chair of the Department of Prehistoric Archaeology at Istanbul University and Director of the *Taş Tepeler* excavations. Joining him will be distinguished Japanese scholars, including Professor Yutaka Miyake of the University of Tsukuba and Researcher Kazuya Shimogama of Chiba Institute of Technology, who will together guide us on a fascinating “journey through time” to one of the most mysterious eras in human history.

Türkiye Tourism Promotion and Development Agency (TGA), which actively engages in diverse promotional activities worldwide to enhance Türkiye’s brand value, is delighted to share the cultural and archaeological richness of *Taş Tepeler* with audiences in Japan, raising awareness of Türkiye as a unique travel destination.

A reception will follow the symposium. We would be most honored by your presence and warmly invite you to join us for this special occasion.

Sincerely yours,

Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye  
Office of the Cultural and Information Counciller

October 2025

## Details

### Date & Time:

Friday, November 7, 2025

Registration begins at 13:00

### Venue / Registration Desk:

Tokyo National Museum

Tel: 050-5541-8600 (Free Dial)

[https://www.tnm.jp/modules/r\\_free\\_page/index.php?id=113&utm\\_source=chatgpt.com&lang=en](https://www.tnm.jp/modules/r_free_page/index.php?id=113&utm_source=chatgpt.com&lang=en)

### Languages:

Turkish (with interpretation) & Japanese

### Capacity:

150 participants

### Program (subject to change):

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|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13:00 | Registration Opens                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 13:30 | Opening Remarks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 13:40 | Symposium<br><b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Professor Necmi Karul</b><br/>Chair of the Department of Prehistoric Archaeology, Istanbul University.<br/>Since 1989, he has participated in numerous prehistoric excavations and surveys across Anatolia. Since 2020, he has directed the excavations at both Göbeklitepe and Karahantepe.</li><li>• <b>Professor Yutaka Miyake</b><br/>University of Tsukuba.<br/>Specializes in the study of subsistence and social structures in prehistoric West Asia.</li></ul> |
| 15:00 | <b>Presentation Title</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 16 : 00 | <p>“The First Stone Hill (Taş Tepe): Archaeological Research at the Çakmaktepe Site within the Taş Tepeler Project”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Researcher Kazuya Shimogama</b><br/>Chiba Institute of Technology.<br/>Conducts archaeological research in the West Asian region, focusing particularly on changes in material culture from the Neolithic to the Iron Age.</li> </ul> <p><b>Presentation Title</b></p> <p>“The Neolithic Culture of Taş Tepeler and the Archaeological Excavations at Harbetsuvan Tepesi”</p> |
| 17 : 00 | <p>Reception Party<br/>(Drinks and light refreshments will be served)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

### RSVP

If you wish to attend, please kindly register by **Friday, October 31, 2025** via the online form below or by sending the application form (next page) by fax/email.

For registrations after October 31, please contact us directly at:

Tel: 03-6261-6050 / Email: [t-turkiye@candlewick.co.jp](mailto:t-turkiye@candlewick.co.jp)

### Registration Form:

<https://forms.gle/TdfqUxeagndJSkTB9>

### Inquiries:

Press Office, Culture and Tourism Office

Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye

Candlewick Co., Ltd. (Attn: Ms. Omura)

Email: [t-turkiye@candlewick.co.jp](mailto:t-turkiye@candlewick.co.jp)

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☐Attend ☐Absent

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Name :                                                                                                                  |          |
| Company Name :                                                                                                          |          |
| Department :                                                                                                            |          |
| Title :                                                                                                                 |          |
| Mobile :                                                                                                                | Fax :    |
| Phone:                                                                                                                  | E-mail : |
| Number of accompanied people :                                                                                          |          |
| Name/Dep./Title                                                                                                         |          |
| Shooting Equipment : <input type="checkbox"/> Still <input type="checkbox"/> Movie <input type="checkbox"/> No Shooting |          |
| Note :                                                                                                                  |          |