Unusual personal ornaments made from dog molars in a Kura–Araxes child burial (Kalavan–1, Armenia)

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Two perforated dog molars were found directly associated with a Kura-Araxes child burial from the third millennium BC in Armenia. Both teeth show trimming of the root ends and boring of a biconical hole through the lingual root with a hand-held stone tool. Expedient manufacture, the anatomical location of the hole and use-wear suggest that the molars were suspended in order to display their crowns as part of a necklace that also included two stone beads. This is an unusual type of personal ornament and the first of its kind reported in the South Caucasus. Its use in a Kura-Araxes burial is interpreted as an active modification of the funerary symbolism during this period.

Keywords: Armenia, Early Bronze Age, Kura-Araxes burial, perforated dog molar, micro-wear analysis

Table S1. M1 and M2 length and breadth measurements of prehistoric dog fromArmenia and of recent wolf specimens from the central Balkans, plotted in Figure4e.

		\mathbf{M}^{1}		M^2	
		Length	Breadth	Length	Breadth
Region	Location	(mm)	(mm)	(mm)	(mm)
Armenia	Aknashen IV–III ¹	_	14.9	6.6	9.2
		14.6	16.8	_	_
	Godedzor ²	12.2	15.07	7	9.1
		12.3	_	7.7	9.85
		12.8	_	_	_
		14.76	18.4	_	_
Central					
Balkans		13.6	18.4	7.4	11.7
		14.2	18.1	7.6	13
		14.8	16.5	7.7	11.9
		14.8	17.5	8	11.9
		14.9	19.9	8	12.3
		15	17.8	8	13.6
		15	18.4	8.1	14
		15.1	19	8.2	10.8
		15.2	17.4	8.2	11
		15.2	18.3	8.2	11
		15.3	17.9	8.2	11.9
		15.3	18.7	8.3	11.4
		15.3	18.7	8.3	11.4
		15.3	19	8.3	12.2
		15.5	18.1	8.3	13.4
		15.6	18.1	8.4	11.8
		15.6	19	8.5	11.4
		15.6	19.2	8.5	12.3
		15.6	19.4	8.6	12
		15.7	18.6	8.6	16.2

15.8	17.6	8.7	12.4
15.9	18.8	8.8	11.8
15.9	20.5	8.8	12.9
16	17	8.9	11.5
16.1	18.7	8.9	11.6
16.1	19.4	8.9	11.7
16.2	19.2	8.9	12.3
16.3	19	8.9	13.5
16.4	18.7	8.9	13.6
16.4	19.6	8.9	13.8
16.4	20.2	9	11.4
16.6	20.2	9.1	13.6
16.6	20.6	9.2	12
16.8	20	9.2	12.5
16.8	20.5	9.4	13.1
16.9	19.7	9.4	13.1
17	22	9.5	13
17.1	20.2	9.6	14.3
17.1	20.7	9.7	13.2
17.4	20	9.8	13.5
18.5	20.3		

 $^{-1}c. 5800-5660$ cal BC (Badalyan *et al.* 2010: tab. 1); $^{2}c. 3650-3350$ cal BC (Palumbi & Chataigner 2014: 251 & tab. 1).

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