

# ARIT-INA-KUDAR Online Seminar

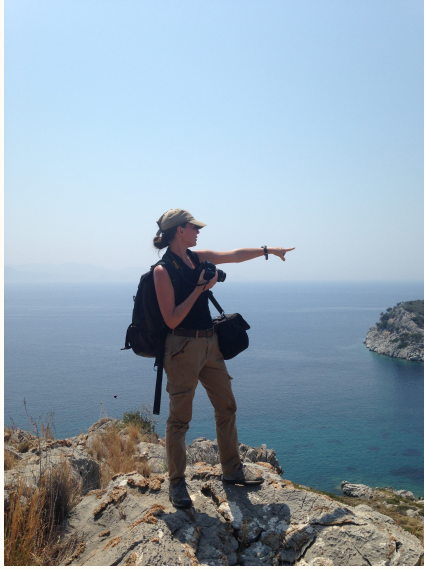
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**WHEN: JANUARY 17,  
07:00 PM (TÜRKİYE)**

## **Networking Women: Modelling Female Maritime Mobility Networks between Crete and Miletus**



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INSTITUTE OF  
**NAUTICAL**  
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While scholarship on ancient seafaring and maritime networks has grown substantially since the new millennium, the role of women in the creation and maintenance of these networks remains underexplored. Women were important contributors to the domestic economy and key agents of religion, nested within overlapping and multiscalar Mediterranean-wide networks. They were also, as commodities themselves, part and parcel of forced mobility through armed conflict and marriage and motherhood. In this seminar, I reconstruct a hypothetical sea journey based on two mass migrations of Cretans to Miletus in the mid-3rd century BCE. The citizenship decrees (Milet 1.3, 34 and 38) list an estimated total of 3,000-4,000 people, some of whom were accompanied by their wives, children, and extended families (Launey 1949/50). Although the texts are fragmentary, there are about 100 complete or partial names that can be identified as female. Their titles allow distinctions in marital and motherhood status, family composition, and offspring to reconstruct a potential voyage from Crete to Miletus. The data is viewed from a gendered and intersectional lens to center the women within my study. And I incorporate current migration and biobehavioral research to estimate the passengers' subsistence needs and spatial requirements, the number and type of ships, and a possible sea route. Because the eastern Mediterranean is a nexus for (forced) movement in the past and present, my case study also serves as a medium for investigating the unique barriers and conditions that women currently encounter as migrants. My analysis centers women as active agents and highlights their discursive experiences, resilience, and contributions to lifeways on the sea.