

Expedition Report

TAURUS 2016

Dates: 6.10. - 22.10.2016

Locality: Turkish resurgence cave ALTINBESIK and surrounds

Goal: Discover possible cave continuation past the second sump, find connection between these passages with the surface using the radiotest and survey of the broader surrounds of the cave.

Expedition members:	ZO 1-05 Geospeleos	Ondra Dufek Evžen Janoušek Martin Hota Roman Hota Pepa Loh Libor Čada Jarda Kladivo Standa Kraibich Jeroným Zapletal
	ZO 1-11 Barrandien ASPEG	Mojmír Závíška Hakan Egimez Turgay Gonulalan
	Mugla University	Phd. Sena Akcer Phd. Bora Ön
	Istanbul University	Dr. Özlem Saracoglu

Expedition progress:

6.10.2016 Departure of expedition vehicles from Prague and Kladno.

8.10.2016 Meeting of all expedition members near the city of Akseki, arrival at cave, setting up camp, rigging the first wall and the lake above the wall.

9.10.2016 Transport of all dinghies to the lakes, rigging of the traverse, transport of gear to first sump.

10.10.2016 Transport of material through the cave, diving the first sump, transport of gear through the first sump, collecting sediment samples, discovery and surveying leads from the trunk passage.

11.10.2016 Transport of gear past the sump, setting up bivouac, surface team seeks passage to the location of the radio test transmitter.

12.10.2016 All cave divers leave for the bivouac in the cave

13.10.2016 First day of the radio test, the cave divers turn on the transmitter in the selected location in the cave, the signal on the surface is not detected. On the surface above the cave, Jardova Cave and Jardova Abyss are discovered. The cave divers overcome a boulder choke, discover continuation of the passage and find another sump. Four geologists from Istanbul University and

Mugla University arrive. One diver returns for another air tank needed for overcoming the final sump.

14.10.2016 Transport of air tanks to the terminal sump, collection of water samples. Surveying of new passages beyond the boulder choke.

15.10.2016 Second attempt to perform radio test in another location with another negative result. The surface team discovers Owl sinkhole array and Owl Abyss. Attempt to dive the terminal sump. Transport of material out of the cave. At night all the divers return from the cave.

16.10.2016 Drawing of map of the newly discovered parts of the cave. Surface exploration of the Manavgat River Valley from the cave up stream to the bridge. Discovery of Pepa Resurgence.

17.10.2016 Transport of gear out of the cave, surveying of Sedmnactka Abyss.

18.10.2016 Last transport of gear out of the cave, the wall is de-rigged and the laminate boa is transported to the entrance lake.

19.10.2016 Surface exploration of the area North of the village Ürünlü, discovery and exploration of the Düdenli Bagit Abyss. Investigation of the sink near the small town of Ibradi.

20.10.2016 Surface investigation of area surrounding the Manavgat River and of the Handost Cave.

21.10.2016 Departure of expedition vehicles back to the Czech Republic.

22.10.2016 Late night arrival in Prague and Kladno..

Expedition Results

In the Altinbesik Cave we managed to penetrate through the terminal boulder choke, we discovered several hundreds of meters of passages ending in a sump. We managed to dive the sump hundred meters far to the depth of fifteen meters, but the sump continues further.

We climbed and finished surveying the side passage near the Sedmnactka Abyss and we discovered two other small side passages between the fourth and fifth lake, which are evidently connected.

We collected sediment and water samples for the Turkish Geologists.

We did not manage to detect a possible connection between the terminal parts of the cave and the surface using the radio test.

While attempting to detect the signal from the radio test transmitter we discovered promising abysses (Owl abyss and Owl sinkhole array) directly above the terminal passages of the Altinbesik Cave. A small horizontal cave was also discovered in this area.

Thanks to the extremely low water level in the Manavgat River we managed to hike through the stream bed upstream all the way to the road bridge. We found two dry potential resurgences from the cave. One was two hundred meters long and was terminated by a sump.

In the wider surrounds, Düdenli Bagit(-56m) Abyss and Handost Cave were localized and explored. The cave is suitable for further exploration.

Near the small town of IBRADI a choked dry sink was discovered with a retention pool. The sink lies in the direct continuation of the Altinbesik Cave.

Cave ALTINBESIK. Entrance 37°02.384N, 031°37.922E 473m a.s.l.

In the terminal part of the cave we discovered 274 m of new passages which end in a lake and another sump. The difference in the water levels between the Lake of Chance and this lake is plus 45 m. We did not manage to dive to the end of the sump, the diving attempt ended after diving the distance of 100 m in the depth of 15m.

Between the fourth and fifth lake we discovered and surveyed two minor side passages from the main passage totaling the 83m (35 and 48 meters).

In between the third and fourth lake, we concluded surveying a side passage leading to the Sedmnactka (Seventeen) Abyss, totaling 114 meters with a vertical difference of 22,5 meters.

JERONÝMOVA (Gerome's) Cave 37°03.834N 031°37.244E 1126m a.s.l.

The cave is located in the southern slope of a minor lapiez sinkhole. A small opening leads to a two meter high step and into a horizontal passage trending eastward, which is 13 m long and 2-3 m high. The bottom is straight and covered by loam terminating in a minor shaft filled with loam. The passage is richly decorated, in the rear is a stalagmite.

JARDOVA (Jarda's) Abyss 37°03.817N 031°37.260E 1122m a.s.l.

An eight meters deep sinkhole with a five meters deep shaft. Location of the radio receiver.

SOVÍ (OWL) Sinkhole Array 37°03.458N 031°37.271E 1052m a.s.l.

A massively developed sinkhole array trending North-South, shafts deep from 8 to 10 meters. The deepest one is located on an intersection of joints, the bottom was explored but does not lead further.

SOVÍ (OWL) Abyss 37°03.439N 031°37.339E 1075m a.s.l.

A large, perfectly circular abyss near the ridge. Sinkhole 10 m deep, abyss 16 m deep, total depth 26m. A continuation at the bottom is visible, but choked by boulders.

DÜDENLI BAGIT 37°01.145N 031°33.811E 1087m a.s.l.

Deep abyss near a minor peak. Depth 56m, entrance diameter 4m. Local shepherd and guide Zeki showed us the cave.

Sink IBRADI 37°05.165N 31°36.119E 984m a.s.l.

A currently dry sink with a retention pool. The sink lies in the continuation of the Altinbesik Cave. The entrance is choked by boulders after several meters, but future investigation is perspective.

PEPŮV (Joe's) Resurgence N37,05314 E031,64493 392m a.s.l.

Currently dry resurgence above the Manavgat river level. Passage length 200 m, azimuth 345°.

KRTKŮV (Mole's) Resurgence 37°03.203N 031°38.704E 345m a.s.l.

Resurgence on the right shore of the Manavgat River.

Cave HANDOS 37°04.967N 031°39.263E 561m.n.m.

N 37,08279 E 031,65394 561m.n.m.

A large resurgence cave totaling 1 km investigated in 1992 by French cavers. Currently the level of the first lake with the sump lower by 8m. The cave is suitable for future speleo diving exploration.

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