



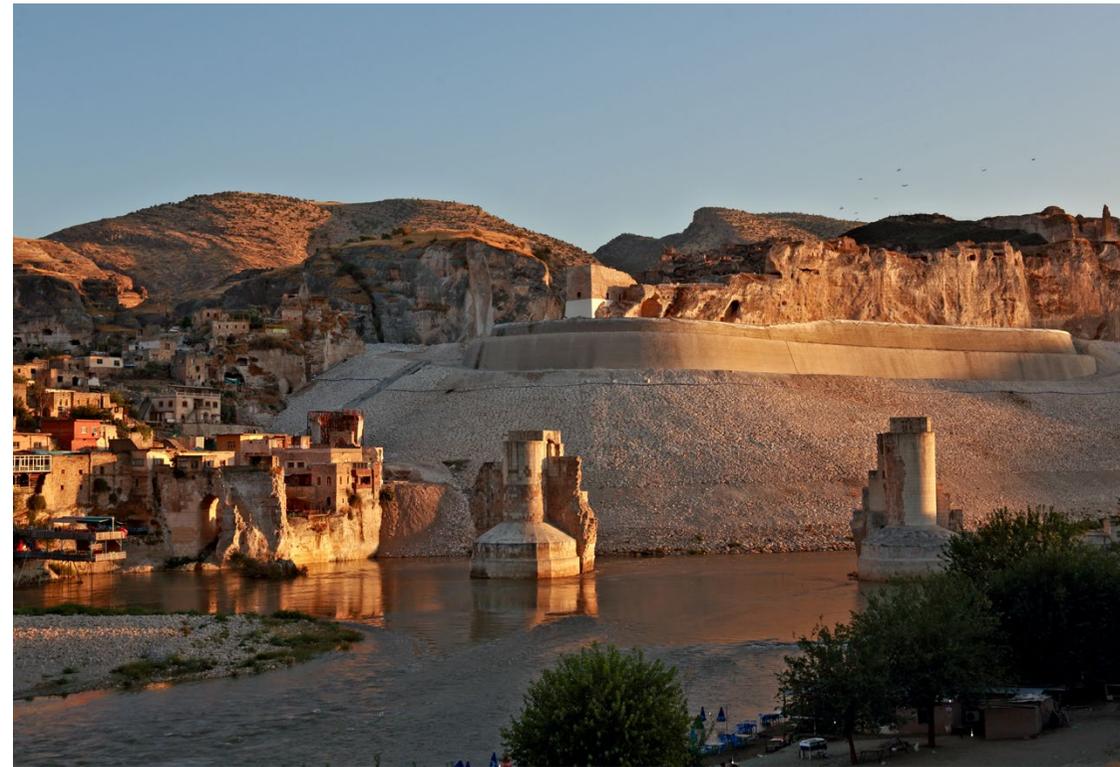
TURKEY

**THE END OF
HASANKEYF**

©Bruno Zanzottera
parallelozero



2015. Overview of Hasankeyf with the Great Mosque of the Ayyubid dynasty, a pillar of the 12th century bridge and the Citadel mirroring in Tigris' water.



2019. A panoramic view of Hasankeyf, the pylons of the bridge over the Tigris built in the 12th century, and the wall built to protect the cliff from the arrival of the waters of the lake.

Ahmed has no doubts: he will be the last to leave Hasankeyf and they will have to force him. He is not the only inhabitant who does not want to leave this small town lying along the banks of the Tigris in Turkish Kurdistan that, after 12 thousand years of history, will soon disappear underwater. Its end, together with that of 199 other villages - with their approximately 80,000 inhabitants - was decreed by the Turkish government, which recently completed the construction of the huge dam of Ilisu, 85 km further south, a project that cost 1.3 billion euros.

The waters of the reservoir have been rising for a few weeks now and will soon flood a vast region. The goal is to produce 4,200 gigawatts of electricity per year for the whole of Turkey. But at the expense of locals who are being forced to leave their homes and fields, often without adequate compensation.

Hasankeyf is a symbolic place of this policy that once again is trampling on the Kurdish people and tearing at their roots. But that's not all: it is drowning one of the oldest settlements in the history of humankind, where traces left by the Assyrians, Medes, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, and Ottomans are still visible today... The end of Hasankeyf has a date: October 8, 2019. It is the day when all the inhabitants will have to leave the city. And when a piece of the history of Mesopotamia will end forever.

We began to document the situation in Hasankeyf in 2015 when 80% of the dam had been completed, but it seemed that the strong protests against the project might have some hope of success. We are back now to document the beginning of the filling of the lake and practically the end of every hope of a rethink by the Turkish government.



Hasankeyf. Mehmet continues to live in a cave which will probably be flooded by the waters of the future lake.



2015. Overview of Hasankeyf with one of the pillars of the bridge on the Tigris river built during the 12th century.



2019. A panoramic view of Hasankeyf, the pylons of the bridge over the Tigris built in the 12th century, and the wall built to protect the cliff from the arrival of the waters of the lake.



The ancient minaret of one of the mosques of Hasankeyf dismantled and placed where it will be reassembled.



One of the families that moved into one of the new buildings constructed in new Hasankeyf.



2015. The defensive tower of the Citadel overlooking the Tigris river and the town of Hasankeyf. The Citadel will be Hasankeyf's only emerging part once the artificial basin will be formed.



2019. Construction work on the wall to protect the ruins of the citadel of Hasankeyf, which stands above the cliff, from the arrival of the waters of the lake.



Many cafes placed their tables in the water in front of the city of Hasankeyf, which will be flooded by the lake created by the dam of Ilisu.



The village of Koctepe will be the first to be flooded by the new lake formed by the dam of Ilisu.



Ridvan Ayhan was born in one of these caves; he was in prison for 1 and-a-half years for having criticized the construction of the dam.



Buildings in new Hasankeyf, with the old mosque moved to its new position.



The interior of the new archaeological museum built in new Hasankeyf will contain the findings of 12,000 years of regional history.



2015. The mausoleum of Zeynel Bey of the Turkmen dynasty, that ruled over Hasankeyf in the 15th century. Located along the Tigris bank, the mausoleum will be covered by the water of the artificial basin.



2019. The mausoleum of Zeynel Bey, of the Turkmen dynasty who ruled over Hasankeyf in the 15th century, moved to its new position between the houses of new Hasankeyf.



The mausoleum of Zeynel Bey, of the Turkmen dynasty that ruled over Hasankeyf in the 15th century, moved to its new position between the houses of new Hasankeyf.



The bridge built in the monumental area in new Hasankeyf. In the background, the mausoleum of Zeynel Bey, of the Turkmen dynasty that ruled over Hasankeyf in the 15th century, moved to its new position between the houses of new Hasankeyf.



A young man praying in a building in new Hasankeyf, where he recently moved together with his family.



2015. Overview of the valley along the Tigris river with the Ilisu Dam. On the left, a village that will be submerged once the artificial basin will be formed.



2019. A panoramic view of the dam of Ilisu with the lake that is forming.



The Toy family lives in the village of Imcirli, which will be partially flooded.



Children playing on the terrace of a building in new Hasankeyf.



One of the restaurants in Hasankeyf that will be submerged by the waters of the lake formed by the dam of Ilisu.



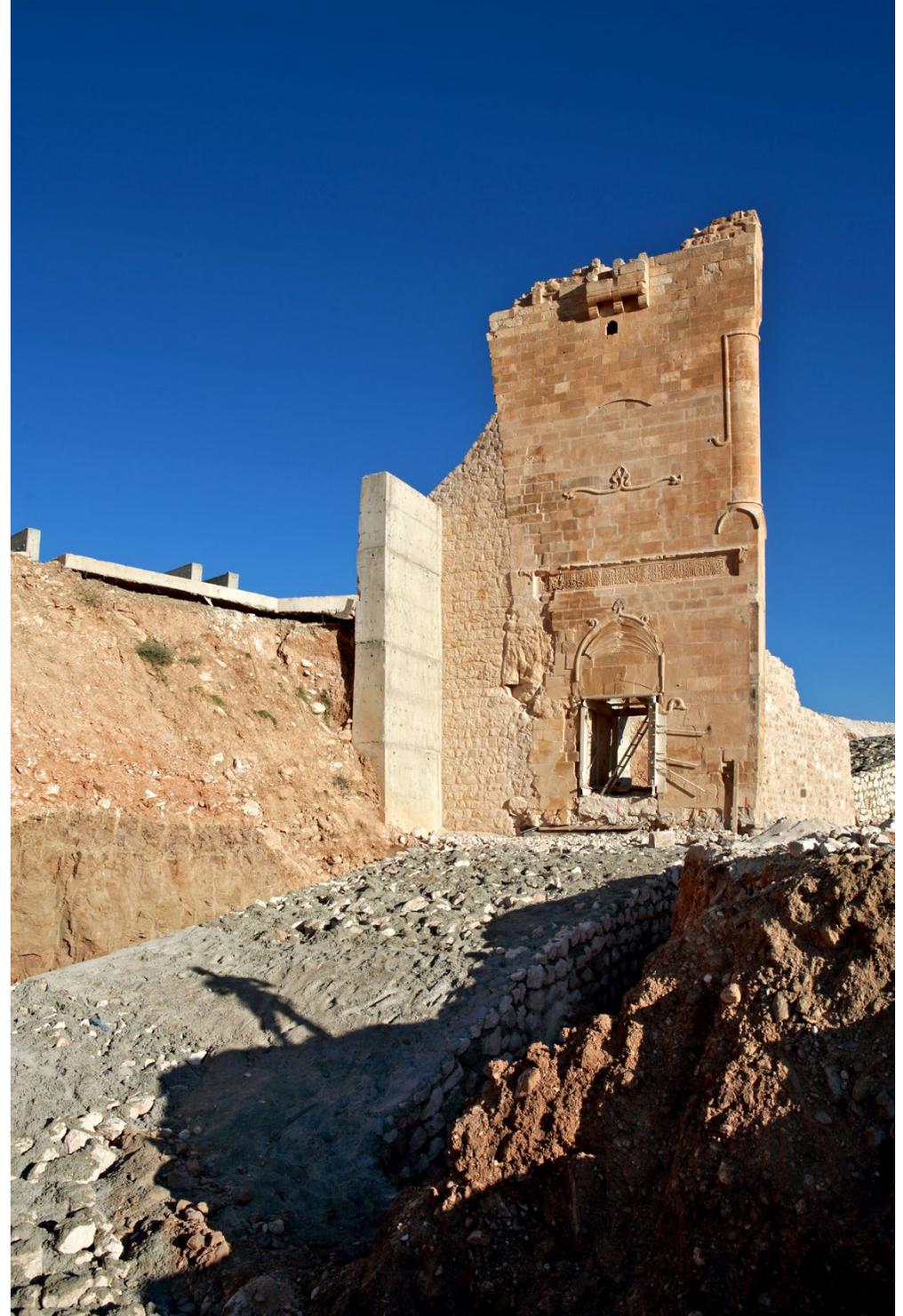
The Tigris with the new bridge under construction that will lead to new Hasankeyf and substitute the old bridge, which will be flooded by the waters of the lake.



The houses of Hasankeyf destroyed before the arrival of the waters of the future lake.



A minaret from one of the ancient mosques of Hasankeyf dismantled and placed where it will be reassembled in the monumental area of new Hasankeyf.



The entrance to the citadel of Hasankeyf, rebuilt in its new location in the monumental area of new Hasankeyf.



A building under construction in the highest part of the village of Irmak (in Kurdish: Keferilp). This village, along with many others, will be submerged by the lake which will be formed by the activation of the dam of Ilisu.



The ruins of the citadel of Hasanköy, which is located on the cliff. The citadel will be the only part of Hasanköy to emerge when the reservoir is formed.



parallelozero

via Donatello 19/A Milan- info@parallelozero.com - www.parallelozero..com - +39 02 89281630