



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Investigating Cultural Entanglement Between Cyprus and Egypt in the Second Millennium BCE: Another Glance at Egyptian Craftsmanship

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Abstract

The discovery of ceramic vessels in Egypt during the Second Intermediate Period provides evidence for the development of interactions and cultural exchanges with Cyprus. During the subsequent New Kingdom, a substantial influx of imported Cypriot Base-Ring Ware ceramics occurred along the Nile Valley. Egyptian potters displayed a keen interest in these exotic wares, leading to the creation of so-called "imitations" as well as new "entangled" ceramic productions combining Egyptian and Cypriot features. This study analyses selected examples of these "imitations" from a technological perspective to determine whether Egyptian potters adopted and adapted only shapes and motifs, or if they also incorporated Cypriot manufacturing techniques. Preliminary results suggest that Egyptian potters remained largely conservative, adhering to the traditional practices of their community. Additionally, several Cypriot shapes were transposed into stone and glass, indicating the adoption and adaptation of Cypriot features across diverse raw materials and craftsmanship traditions. While the presence of Cypriot imports abroad reveals trading connections, these imitations and transpositions offer a more complex picture of cultural interactions between Cyprus and Egypt during the 2nd Millennium BCE.

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Cyprus, Egypt, Material culture, Imitations , Ceramics

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