ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

New Kingdom Egyptian amphorae in Late Cypriot contexts: an updated overview

GEORGIOU A. [1]*, MARCELLA G. [1], ANDREAS C. [1]

[1] Archaeological Research Unit, University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus

*Corresponding author

Abstract

Aspiring to contribute to our current knowledge on the intricacies of maritime trade and connectivity in the Mediterranean of the 2nd millennium BC, the present study addresses a comprehensive overview of a distinctive group of imported Maritime Transport Containers from the Late Cypriot contexts that were made in New Kingdom Egypt. Egyptian transport amphorae emulated the shape of the better known, Levantine amphorae (Canaanite jars), but feature morphological particularities and distinctive fabrics with characteristic surface treatments. The contribution will present an updated overview of the distribution of Egyptian jars in Late Bronze Age Cyprus, elaborating on the vessels' morphological categorization and typo-chronological sequences. The study further presents preliminary results of an integrated, science-based, analytical programme, undertaken in the frame of the research project ComPAS (ERC Starting Grant), that involves a thorough macroscopic study, as well as the implementation of handheld X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (hhXRF) and ceramic thin section petrographic analysis of Egyptian jars from the programme's selected case studies. Ultimately, the paper anticipates shedding light on the distribution of Egyptian jars beyond the realm of Pharaonic Egypt, and elucidating the scale, mechanisms and nature of the commercial strategies maintained among the regional polities of the eastern Mediterranean.

Keywords

Mediterranean trade, Egyptian amphorae, Late Bronze Age Cyprus, Ancient Ceramics, Ancient trade

Session

7. Characterizing culture ?

Workshop

A15895SV - Investigating Cross-Cultural Contacts Between the Island of Cyprus and Its Neighbours During the 2nd and 1st Millennia BCE

Type of paper

Oral presentation