BELL BEAKER PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION ALONGSIDE GUADIANA RIVER: AN IBERIAN PERSPECTIVE

Carlos P. Odriozola[1] -- António Carlos Valera[2] -- M. Isabel Dias[3] -- Víctor Hurtado Pérez[4]

[1]Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Sevilla
[2]ERA Arqueología S.A.
[3]Instituto tecnológico e Nuclear
[4]Departamento de Prehistoria y Arqueología, Universidada de Sevilla

Alongside the Guadiana River (Iberian Peninsula) several settlement networks are located for the Iberian Cooper Age period -*ie.* Perdigões, Reguengos de Monsaraz, Portugal (Valera 2006; Dias et al., 2005), or Tierra de Barros, Badajoz, Spain (Hurtado, 1995, 1999), where it has been found a clear relation between the forming sites in terms of pottery production and consumption. Since the 70's the Beaker Network paradigm (Clarke, 1976) has been systematically bring to question to explain the broad and fast expansion of these pottery style all over Europe and North of Africa, and till nowadays there is no broad research projects that studies pottery distribution patterns on the basis of physico-chemical analysis as ours those.

The framework for this work is a larger research project (GRICES-CSIC a collaborative research framework between Spain (CSIC) and Portugal (GRICES)) focus on technology production and consumption alongside the Guadiana River and that is actually under development.

In this work we study by physico-chemical methods (INAA, XRF, XRD and TL) the production technology and the consumption of 200 sherds of Bell Beaker and decorated vessels from 4 of the largest settlements throughout all Iberia and that are found alongside the Guadiana River forming part of different networks (La Pijotilla, San Blas, Porto Torrao, Perdigões) as well as midum size sites (Monte do Tosco, Molino Perdido), in order to stablish cosumption and distribution patterns within the pottery production of these sites.

Our goal is to characterize and categorize the productions of these sites, on the basis of physico-chemical analysis, in order to research possible patterns in the production and distribution of these "prestige" wares, and provide the basis for a more integrated picture of social boundaries and exchange networks alongside the Guadiana River. Principal component analysis (PCA) was used to reduce the number of variables and model-based cluster analysis was used to find clusters in the compositional data.

References

CLARKE, D.L. (1976): *The beaker network. Social and economic models,* Glockenbecher Symposium (Oberreid 1974), 460-477.

DIAS, M.I., PRUDÊNCIO, M.I., VALERA, A.C., LAGO, M., GOUVEIA, M.A. (2005), Composition, Technology and functional features of Chalcolhitic pottery from Perdigões, Reguengos de Monsaraz (Portugal). *Geoarchaeological and Bioarchaeological Studies*, Vol. 3, Amsterdam, Netherlands, pp. 161-164

HURTADO, V (1995): *Interpretación sobre la dinámica cultural en la Cuenca Media del Guadiana (IV-II milenios A.N.E.),* Extremadura Arqueológica V, 53-80.

HURTADO, V (1999): *Los inicios de la complejización social y los inicios del campaniforme en*

Extremadura, Spal 8, 47-83.

VALERA, A. C. (2006), "A margem esquerda do Guadiana (região de Mourão), dos finais do 4º aos inícios do 2º milénio AC", *Era Arqueologia*, 7, Lisboa, Era Arqueologia / Colibri, p.136-210.