

IMPORTED CERAMICS AT TROIA IN THE 2ND MILLENNIUM BC – MICROSCOPIC ANALYSIS

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The presentation is an overview of some of the ceramic imports at Troia at the end of the Middle Bronze Age and through the Late Bronze Age. The amounts of imported pottery at the site has never been large, but they represent an astonishing abundance of fabrics, undoubtedly imported from different localities in the Eastern Mediterranean. The research conducted by the authors during the last couple of years has confirmed the theory on the domination of western over eastern (in relation to Troia) ceramic imports in Troia during the Sixth Settlement. Several locations in the Eastern Mediterranean have been preliminarily identified as potential sources of the imports; macroscopic observations have been combined with petrographic analysis. The later method proved to be a powerful method to characterize different sherds grouped by archaeological criteria. In case of some rarely represented sherds electron microprobe analysis helped to obtain more precise information about chemical composition of different, mostly magmatic, rock fragments found as natural and/or artificial temper in the ceramics. The data allowed us to precise our knowledge about the provenance of the fabrics in question.