

NEOLITHIC POTTERY TRADITIONS OF ÇATALHÖYÜK, SUBERDE AND ERBABA (CENTRAL ANATOLIA): BASED ON TRADITIONAL AND ARCHAOMETRIC ANALYSES

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In this research, I've studied the pottery assemblages of Çatalhöyük, having an uninterrupted and reliable cultural sequence and is a key settlement not only in respect of understanding the development of all of the pottery sequences of Central Anatolian Neolithic, but also for the whole Anatolian Neolithic, and Suberde and Erbaba in Central Anatolia.

I've examined the materials which were not studied on before in terms of traditional visual and archaeometrical analyses seeking for ceramic technology eg. clay sources, tempers, firing and manufacturing technology, surface treatments which all constitute ware groups, and vessel forms and typology. In addition to these, I've discussed the production properties of the assemblage with some local potters and ceramic artists.

In the Neolithic pottery assemblage of Çatalhöyük, I've distinguished three kinds of traditions and defined them: "Early, Middle and Late Traditions" as a new approach. When I study the material from Suberde and Erbaba, I've realized some very similar characteristics on production properties among three sites in Konya Basin.

One of the aspects of this research could be considered as a methodological development in pottery studies, by forming a "Typology of Common Pottery Traditions" from different pottery assemblages.

What does "tradition" mean and how was it determined? Searching and comparing the material with traditional and archaeometrical analyses and considering similarities and differences, the traditions were defined from a more general point of view. As well as this inductive approach which were constructed based on production technology; interaction of cultures and dating of the pottery are the other aspects of this paper.

On the other hand, the earliest ceramic examples of the Anatolia and The Near East will be presented here in some distinctive horizons.