

EINLADUNG ZUM VORTRAG VON

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Sprache des Vortrags: Deutsch



Long-distance trade relations in the Eastern Mediterranean during the Late Bronze Age: an archaeometric contribution

The Late Bronze Age of the Eastern Mediterranean (c. 1600–1200 BCE) was marked by intense cultural contact and long-distance trade. Different material categories have been the focus of several research aimed at understanding these relationships. The Red Lustrous Wheel-made Ware (RLW), dated between 1500-1200 BCE, is one of such material groups that plays an important role in reconstructing long-distance trade relations in the Eastern Mediterranean. RLW is a distinctive pottery type produced from high-quality red clay with an array of particular forms and a polished red surface. It is distributed in a vast area of the Eastern Mediterranean, including central and southern Anatolia, Cyprus, the Levant, and Egypt. One of the main problems concerning this ware is the identification of its production place, which has not been fully clarified so far. This complicates the understanding of direction and nature of the trade relations in the Eastern Mediterranean. The prevailing view among archaeologists is that North Cyprus is the origin of RLW. Our recent archaeological and archaeometric studies, however, suggest that Rough Cilicia in southern Anatolia is the most likely origin of this ware. In this lecture, the results of petrographic, elemental, and isotopic analysis of RLW from Hattuša, Kilise Tepe and Tell Atchana, as well as clay samples from Cyprus and Anatolia will be presented, and the archaeometric data will be discussed in archaeological context of long distance trade relations in the eastern Mediterranean.

