

Theme 4

Pottery in Anatolia

CAN POTTERY STUDIES SUSTAIN HISTORICAL RECONSTRUCTIONS OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT?

A DIACHRONIC STUDY OF THE SAGALASSOS STUDY AREA FROM BYZANTINE INTO OTTOMAN TIMES

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Recent data analytical and simulation research on aDNA regional data collections, aimed at charting long-term evolution and patterning of population composition and demography in the study region of the archaeological site of Sagalassos (SW Turkey), revealed significant demographical reductions in the transitional period of Byzantine to Turkish/Seljuk political control of the region.

In our paper we should like to present an overview of our current understanding of the archaeology and history of the study region. The paper is based on an evaluation and presentation of the available ceramological data from Sagalassos and its (former?) territory, between mid Byzantine and Ottoman times. The pottery data will be combined with an analysis of the contemporary settlement pattern(s), evaluating its nature and composition. Together, the available data will feed a new understanding of the historical development of the study region, with a focus on the fate of local communities, charting changes in potential, connectivity and resilience.