

Theme 5

Import/Export

ORDINARY LIFE IN MIDDLE BYZANTINE CITIES: THE UNGLAZED CERAMIC EVIDENCE IN CONTEXT

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Utilitarian vessels are a valuable evidence of cultural and economic identities. Quantitative studies by types and fabrics of unglazed pottery in a dialectic relation with their contexts of provenience enable to delineate technological, economic and social patterns in a local and regional scale. Stratified contexts excavated in Corinth, in close comparison with the evidence from Sparta and Argos, are presented firstly to define an up-dated seriation of specific types of unglazed utilitarian vessels of the Byzantine Period (9th – 13th century). Moreover, quantifying unglazed ceramic assemblages and their spatial distribution into the urban topography can shed light on some of the utensils available and their usage by different social groups, which promoted the production and the importation of unglazed utilitarian ceramics.