

L-assemblaġġ taċ-ċeramika tal-Perjodu tan-Nofs Bizantin mill-Imdina

The Mid-Byzantine ceramic assemblage from Mdina

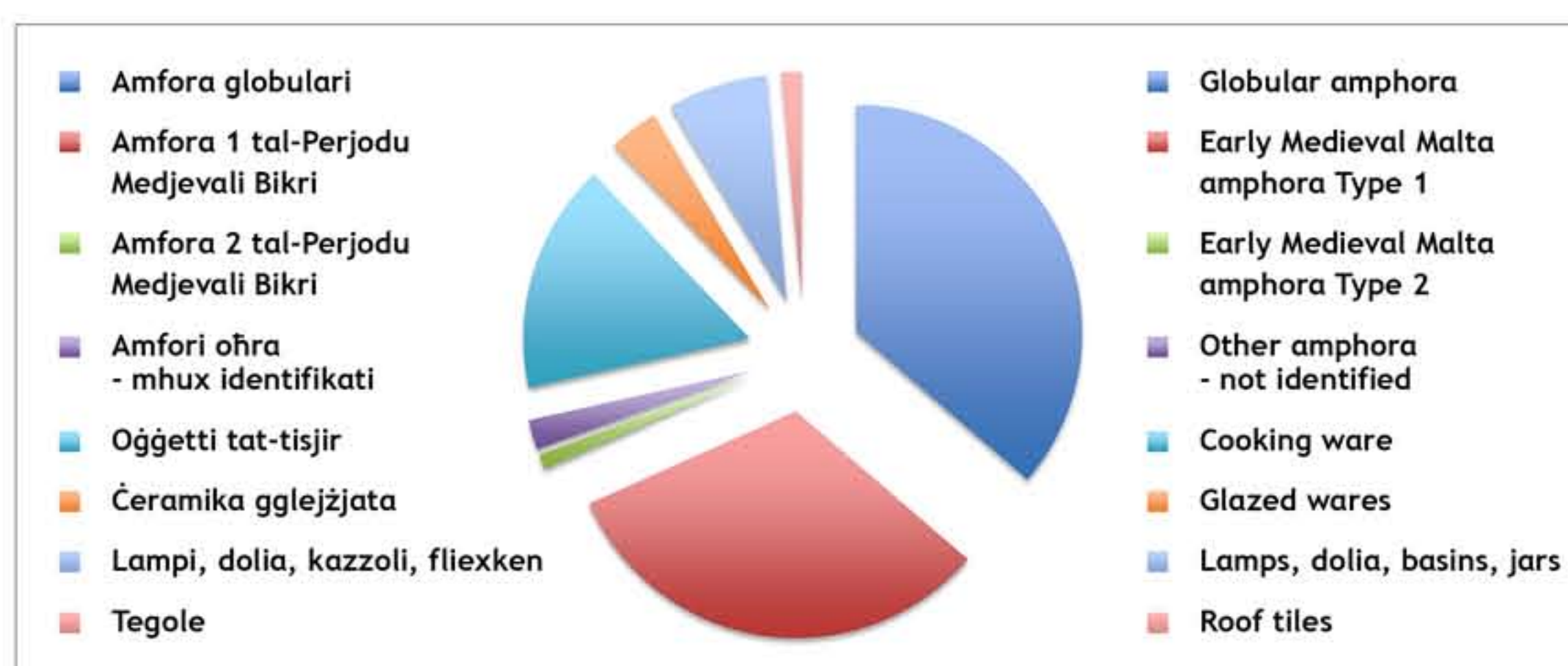
L-istorja Bizantina hija maqsuma fi tliet perjodi prinċipali - Bikri, tan-Nofs u Tard. Il-perjodu tan-Nofs Bizantin jestendi mit-840jiet sa madwar l-1200.

Byzantine history is divided into three main periods - Early, Middle and Late. The Mid-Byzantine period stretches from the 840s to about 1200.

Le-ċeramika tal-Imdina tista' tiġi ddatata bejn wieħed u ieħor għal madwar tmien is-seklu 9, u għalhekk tista' tiġi ddefinita bħala tal-perjodu nofsani Bizantin. Dawn kienu prodotti l-aktar f'reġjuni Bizantini.

The Mdina ceramics can be broadly dated to around the late 9th century, and can therefore be defined as Mid-Byzantine. They were mostly produced in Byzantine regions.

Dan l-assemblaġġ huwa ddominat minn amfori, li jammontaw għal 60% tal-grupp taċ-ċeramika. Amfora hija kontenitur użat għall-ħażna u l-kummerċ ta' oġġetti tal-ikel, bħal inbid jew żejt. Il-wasla ta' ammonti kbar ta' amfori f'Malta medjevali hija indikazzjoni ċara tal-importanza tagħha fil-kummerċ internazzjonali f'dan il-perjodu.



This assemblage is dominated by amphorae, totalling 60% of the ceramic group. An amphora is a container used for storage and trading of foodstuffs, like wine or oil. The arrival of large amounts of amphorae in medieval Malta is a clear indication of its importance in international trade in this period.

1 L-Amfora Globulari Bizantina (85%); probabbilment prodotta fl-Eġew u fin-Nofsinar tal-Italja.

1 The Byzantine Globular Amphora (85%); probably produced in the Aegean and South Italy.

2 L-Amfora 1 tal-Perjodu Medjevali Bikri ta' Malta (7.4%) ikkaratterizzata minn mankijiet wieqfa b'mod prominenti, u possibbilment prodotta fin-Nofsinar tal-Italja.

2 The Early Medieval Malta Amphora 1 (7.4%) characterized by markedly raised handles, and possibly produced in South Italy.

3 L-Amfora 2 tal-Perjodu Medjevali Bikri ta' Malta (2.5%) tidher li tirrappreżenta imitazzjoni lokali tal-amfori kontemporanji prodotti fi Sqallija tal-lvant.

3 The Early Medieval Malta Amphora 2 (2.5%) seems to represent a possible local imitation of contemporary amphorae produced in eastern Sicily.

Le-ċeramika gglejzjata jkolha kisja qisu tal-ħġieg attraenti, kemm għal skopijiet dekorattivi kif ukoll prattiċi. Fil-Medju Evu Bikri l-oġġetti gglejzjati kienu pjuttost rari, oġġetti għaljin l-aktar assoċjati mal-klassijiet l-għolja. Fl-Imdina ġew skoperti tipi differenti ta' gglejzjar:

Glazed ceramics are covered in an attractive, glass-like coating both for decorative and practical purposes. In the Early Middle Ages glazed wares were quite rare, expensive items mostly associated with social elites. At Mdina different types of Glazes were discovered:

4 Oġġetti Bojod Igglejzjati tat-Tip II, prodotti f'Kostantinopli, inkluż frammenti mis-Serje tal-Oġġetti tal-Petal iddatati għal ftit qabel id-900WK.

4 Glazed White Ware Type II, produced in Constantinople, including a fragment from the Petal Ware Series dated to slightly before 900AD.

5 Oġġetti tal-Forum iddatati għas-sekli 8 - 10.

5 Forum Ware dated 8th - 10th century.

6 Dixxijiet Igglejzjati tipikament assoċjati mat-territorji Bizantini u komparabli ma' eżempji tal-bidu tas-seklu 10 minn Korintu.

6 Glazed Chafing Dishes typically associated with Byzantine territories and comparable to examples from Corinth of the early 10th century.

Fost il-firxa ta' ċeramika domestika, l-oġġetti tat-tisjir huma fost l-aktar interessanti, inkluż:

Among the range of domestic ceramics, the cooking ware is among the most interesting, including:

7 Mill-inqas tliet reċipjenti ta' Oġġetti tal-Majka prodotti fil-Kosta tal-Lvant tat-Turkija u nneozjati b'mod wiesa' mill-Bizantini bejn is-sekli 8 u 9.

7 At least three vessels of Micacious Ware produced on the East Coast of Turkey and widely traded by Byzantines between the 8th and 9th century.

8 Firxa kbira ta' twaġen jew kazzoli simili għal reċipjenti tat-tisjir Bizantini mil-lvant u ċ-ċentru ta' Sqallija.

8 A large range of saucepans or casseroles, similar to Byzantine cooking vessels from east and central Sicily.

9 Vari tipi ta' ċeramika domestika oħra, fostom dixx u vażett b'diżin forma immewġa, u lampi taż-żejt - kollha kompatibbli ma' produzzjonijiet Bizantini tas-seklu 9 minn Sqallija jew mill-Puglia.

9 Various other domestic shapes including a basin and vase with incised wavy pattern and oil lamps. All are compatible with Byzantine 9th century ceramics from eastern Sicily and Puglia.

Ftit biċċiet huma partikolarment importanti peress li jidhru li jiddokumentaw il-wasla tal-ewwel importazzjonijiet taċ-ċeramika mit-territorji Iżlamiki.

A few pieces are especially important as they seem to document the arrival of the first ceramic imports from Islamic territories.

10 Xifer u spalla ta' ġarra b'għonq wiesa', ikkaratterizzata minn saff ta' tahlita rqiqa ta' kulur krema fuq in-naħa ta' barra. Reċipjenti b'tahlita rqiqa huma tipiċi ta' Sqallija Iżlamika u t-Tuneżija, u ġew dokumentati f'Palermo fil-bidu tas-seklu 10.

10 Rim and shoulder of a wide-mouthed jar, characterized by a layer of cream coloured self slipping on the exterior. Self-slipped vessels are typical of Islamic Sicily and Tunisia and have been documented in Palermo in the early 10th century.

11 Halq ta' fliexkun emisferiku zġhir - tipiku ħafna fil-produzzjonijiet ta' ċeramika Iżlamika fl-Eġittu mill-inqas mis-seklu 9, iżda magħrufa wkoll fl-Afrika ta' Fuq.

11 Mouth of a small hemispherical bottle - very typical of Islamic ceramic productions in Egypt from at least the 9th century, but also known in North Africa.