

Local Pottery Production along the Axios River in the 5th and 4th Centuries BC

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The valley of the Axios river was an important trade route through which imported items and ideas arrived at the local communities, causing changes in their lifestyle and in the local production, as well. Divided in three parts with deep gorges, each of the three regions along the river (Upper, Middle, and Lower Axios), received variously influences from north or south during the centuries. The Lower Axios valley, a region later known as Amphaxitis, was always more open towards southern influences, which came mainly from or through the centers and colonies on the North Aegean coast.

Many sites have been traced along the Axios river and recorded in archaeological maps, but only a few were identified with the towns scarcely mentioned in the written sources or in inscriptions¹. Especially those in the Upper Axios are not mentioned in the sources related to the period under consideration or became known in the later Hellenistic or Roman periods. Several sites examined in this paper have been excavated to a certain level, showing continuous habitation since the Late Bronze or Iron Ages, although the up-to-date research is not sufficient for precise and detailed determination of stratigraphy or their identification.

Except for Vardarski Rid (ancient Gortynia), where settlement deposits from the Classical period are excavated on limited areas below the Hellenistic town², there are no systematic excavations conducted on other sites. Also, not many cemeteries from the Classical period are known along the river except those at the site of Isar near village of Marvinci (ancient Idomene)³ and Demir Kapija⁴. At most of the known Iron Age and Archaic cemeteries in the Lower Vardar valley –such are Dedeli, Zelenište and Grčište near Valandovo, Suva Reka and Milci near Gevgelija– there are no burials later than early 6th or early 5th c. BC, suggesting that the burial ground in the Classical period possibly had changed location⁵.

The first imported ceramic vessels in this region are recorded in the second half of the 6th or most likely in the late 6th and early 5th c. BC. They are limited in number as well as in shapes: a Corinthian trefoiled oinochoe and aryballos, Attic painted and black-glaze kylikes, a couple of black-figure lekythoi and a single painted exaleiptron⁶. All of them are found at sites in the Lower Axios Valley and originate or came through the colonies on Chalkidike and the Thermaic gulf, except for the Corinthian

1. For the towns in the region of Amphaxitis and those along Axios River in the region of East Paionia, see Papazoglou 1988, 174–185, 307–328. For different identification, see Hammond 1972, 169–171; Sokolovska 1986, 32–35; Sokolovska 2012, 29–35. The most recent overview on this problem, see Babamova (in print).

2. Mitrevski 2005, 27–27, 62–65, 69–70; Slamkov 2005, 178; Karpuzova 2005, 179–200.

3. Sokolovska 1986, 70–75. Mitrevski – Temov 1999, 135–156. The recent large-scale excavations at the cemeteries at the Isar near Marvinci and Milci near Gevgelija should fill this gap, but they are unpublished and for now, unavailable for study.

4. Vučković-Todorović 1959, 281–286; Vučković-Todorović 1961, 229–269.

5. On the Iron Age cemeteries along Axios, see Mitrevski 1997, with quoted bibliography. Only two graves at the Milci cemetery are dated later in the 5th c. BC; both were secondary burials in the earlier Iron Age cist graves.

6. For the Corinthian trefoiled oinochoe, see Pašić 1978, 31, fig. 18; Georgievski 1984, 60, fig. 3a; For the Corinthian aryballos, see Sanev 2012, 35–40. For the painted Athenian kylix and exaleiptron from the cemetery of Milci, see Husenovski 2015, 11–36, fig. 15. The black-glaze kylikes from the princely grave in Korešnica near Demir Kapija and black-figure lekythoi from the cemetery at Isar-Marvinci are unpublished. For the imported pottery and local imitations along the river Axios in the 6th and 5th c., see also Papazovska-Sanev 2012, 417–424. For their certain attribution to Corinthian or Attic production centers or as colonial or semi-colonial products according to Tiverios' classification (Tiverios 2012, 174–198; Tiverios 2013, 15–24) further analyses are necessary.



Fig. 1. Map showing the main sites along the Axios river.

aryballos which had reached far north in the region of the Upper Axios⁷. None of these shapes were imitated or directly affected the local production. The only local imitations are fragments of two kylikes and a few exaleiptra found on sites in the Lower Axios⁸.

In the period between 480 BC and late 5th c. there is a gap in our knowledge of every aspect of life along the Axios river, due to the low level of research of the 5th c. deposits on the sites. Increased number of imported ceramic products from Athenian or Olynthian workshops was again recorded in the late 5th and throughout the 4th c. BC. There are

samples of red-figure or black-glaze vessels showing larger variety of shapes, but in small quantities, mainly a few hydrias, kraters, pelikai, oinochoai, gutti and stamnoid pyxides. Lekythoi, especially small squat lekythoi and kantharoi of the St. Valentine type are more numerous. Black-glaze skyphoi, kantharoi as well as open shapes, such as certain types of black-glaze plates and bowls, some with stamped decoration, are the most common imported products. They are concentrated at several sites along Axios: Isar, near the village of Marvinci and Demir Kapija⁹, Gradište-Negotino¹⁰, and far to the north at a few sites in the region around Skopje:

7. Sanev 2012, 35–40. Corinthian aryballos is a chance find during the construction of a house in Skopje. The author relates the vessel with a settlement on Gradište-Sredno Nerezi.

8. Georgiev 1984, 63–64, figs. 3d, 4v, 5g, 6a. Papazovska-Sanev 2012, 417–424, figs. 3, 7, 8. Petrographic analysis of the clay would offer more precise answers regarding their provenance.

9. Vučković-Todorović 1956, 31–38; Vučković-Todorović 1959, 281–286; Vučković-Todorović 1961, 229–269; Mikulčić 2005, 83–133; Sanev 2013, 3–55.

10. Georgiev 2017, 91–132, imported red-figure and black-glaze pottery are discovered during the rescue excavations on site Kale-Otovic near Veles in 1996. There are also fragments of imported vessels found in Stobi, mainly out of context.

Gradište, village of Brazda, Gradište - Sredno Nerezi¹¹ (fig. 1).

The local potters imitated more or less successfully some of the imported shapes, but rarely their painted decoration or glazed surface. Instead, there is a vast number of gray wares with slipped or burnished surface, a technology of production which is known among local potters since the early 6th c. BC.

Not many completely preserved samples of local vessels are available for analysis. Most of them are fragmented, mainly discovered as chance finds outside of dated context and only a few derive from closed deposits. Due to their unattractiveness, they were usually neglected in the pottery studies and only mentioned in the published reports. Of the earlier researchers, Sokolovska paid attention to the local production in the Classical period, establishing basic conclusions regarding their shapes and manufacture¹². Based on the available samples, Sokolovska classified the local pottery production of the Classical period in two groups: first, those which derive from earlier local shapes and second, pots which imitate imported vessels. This paper attempts to broaden her conclusions, adding some new samples and data, with a focus on the most frequent shapes.

The local pottery production in the Classical period along Axios can be divided into three major groups:

Group I: vessels which are a continuation of local shapes from the previous period (6th c.);

Group II: imitations of imported shapes;

Group III: handmade local vessels with a long history of production.

Group I: Some of the shapes typical of the local production during the 6th c. BC completely disappear in the 5th, while others were transformed. Of most frequent shapes, three can trace their origin back to the Archaic period: the small feeder jug, the kantharos with surmounted handles and the deep bowl.

The small feeder jugs share similar features: globular body, single strap handle which starts from the rim and ends at the largest diameter of the body, and small tubular spout. The first sample has a flat bottom, a body which continuously curves toward the short neck and a trefoil opening of the mouth (fig. 2a)¹³. The second sample shows further development of the shape with a ring base, taller neck, and slightly outturned rim (fig. 2b). Both are made of different fabric: the first is of micaceous grey clay, while the second sample is more coarsely made of sandy, grey-brown fabric and has thick walls. The



Fig. 2. Feeder jugs: **a.** unknown site; **b.** Milci cemetery, Gevgelija.

11. Mikulčić 1982, 17–36; Mikulčić 1990, 93–102.

12. Sokolovska 1993, 140–148.

13. Chance find; the vessel is in the collection of National Archaeological museum in Skopje.

latter is a grave offering of a cremation burial found at the cemetery of Milci, securely dated at the end of the 5th c. by the bronze and iron finger rings with oval bezels¹⁴. A similar coarsely made sample with a plain rim has been discovered in Olynthos, dated in the late 5th c. BC¹⁵.

Small jugs with a spout have their predecessors in Iron Age and Archaic pottery¹⁶. Since the last quarter of the 7th c., wheel made olpai and jugs with cut away neck or plain rim and a spout appeared in the cemeteries in the Lower Axios river, mainly in child graves, and were conventionally called gutti or feeders. They were made of reddish micaceous fabric and decorated with horizontal matt-painted red or dark brown bands, typical for the rest of the local shapes. Olpai developed two variants with pear-shaped and globular body, having tubular spouts in both variants. During the 6th c., they appeared also in grey fabric. Both samples can be considered as survivals of the globular shaped olpe of the late 7th and 6th c. BC, which was gradually transformed into a vessel with trefoil or plain rim and more elaborate base.

The kantharos with two handles which surmount the rim derives from the kantharoid kotyle, a favored shape in the local production of the Late Archaic period. As the most frequent shape in local grey ware production, it continued to be produced with certain modifications until first half of the 4th c. BC.

Few samples were discovered in the so-called "ceramic hoard", accidentally found at the site Gradište near Negotino¹⁷, while a few more come from Demir Kapija¹⁸, along with some fragments recorded on various sites along the river¹⁹. They have a ring foot, a rounded or on some samples an angular body with the largest diameter in the middle (fig. 3a-b). The body curves towards the short neck and ends with a slightly outturned rim. Both strap handles surmount the rim ending at the point of the body with largest diameter. All of them are made of mica-



Fig. 3. Kantharos with surmounted handles: **a, b.** Gradište, Negotino.

ceous gray fabric, but their surface-finishing differ and range in color from various shades of gray or grey-brown.

The kantharos with surmounted handles is an obvious development of an even earlier shape, the cup with two handles, which was part of the funerary ceramic set in the Iron Age cemeteries in the Lower Axios²⁰. The cups with two handles appeared in wheel in the early 7th c., uniformly decorated in matt-painted horizontal bands as the rest of the local shapes. From the continuous curve of the neck towards the body on the early samples, on the late-6th and early-5th century kantharoid kotyle there is a division between the neck and the body, a widening of the mouth and a ring foot instead of a flat bottom. The banded decoration on the early samples disappeared or gave way to painted wavy motifs or mechanically burnished stripes on the surface on the samples from Suva Reka and Milci

14. Pašić et al., 1978, 75–84, pl. VII, 1–6, cremation burial secondary placed in an earlier cist grave.

15. The Olynthos specimen (*Olynthus* XIII, 264–267, pl. 178, no. 477) was interpreted as a feeding jug or lamp filler and belongs to type 1, which goes back to the early third quarter of the 5th c. BC.

16. For general characteristics of the pottery from the 7th and 6th c BC along the Axios river, see Mitrevski 1991, 48–92; Mitrevski 1997, 117–124, 172–174; Mitrevski 2012, 105–111.

17. Sokolovska 1986, 47, fig. 15: 3–4. Sokolovska 1993, 142, fig. 3c.

18. Sokolovska 1986, figs. 18:2–3.

19. Georgiev 2017, 106–107, T.X: 13–16.

20. Supra note 16.

cemeteries²¹. Grey variants are also present. The transition of the shape towards the classical type of kantharos is best visible on the samples from the site of Kale near the village of Krševica in Southern Serbia, dated even later, in the 4th–3rd c. BC, on which traditional decoration with burnished stripes is still preserved²².

In the same deposit of the so-called “ceramic hoard” at Gradište near Negotino, there are several deep bowls with horizontal handles made of gray fabric, covered with slip or burnished vertical stripes, giving the surface a slight shine (fig. 4a–b)²³. They strongly resemble the Archaic variant of skyphoi (or stemless cups), which appeared as grave offerings in the cemeteries of Lower Axios in the early 6th c.²⁴. In the late 6th or early 5th c. they also appeared in grey variants²⁵. The development of the shape is visible in the ring foot which replaced the flat bottom of the earlier shape, and in the massive flat rim. Some samples from the Negotino “ceramic hoard” preserve two horizontal handles attached on the upper part of the body and horizontal grooves below the rim, an earlier type of decoration, which appeared on gray variants of the jugs with cut away neck of the 7th and 6th c. BC.

Kantharoid kotyles and stemless cups were favorite products of the local workshops in the Lower Axios and Thermaic gulf, as well as in the wider area in the Northern Aegean during the Archaic period; they are classified as local pottery manufactured mainly in the emporia or at areas with mixed population of locals and settlers²⁶. Obviously, their popularity among the locals continued for a century and a half, along with other traditional shapes, such as jugs with cut away neck and beaked oinochoai.

The “ceramic hoard” at Gradište near Negotino apparently belongs to a destroyed kiln. The vases were dated in the first half of the 4th c. based on fragments of painted Attic pottery from the end of the 5th and early 4th c. BC, presumably originating from disturbed graves which predated the kiln²⁷. If



Fig. 4. Deep bowls: a, b. Gradište, Negotino.

the hoard did not include imitations of the imported 4th century shapes, the date would be questionable.

Group II comprises oinochoai, large plain amphoras with vertical handles, stamnoid pyxides, chytras, skyphoi and bowls with incurved rim which are the most frequent imitations of imported shapes of the second group of local grey ware. Having in mind that they are mainly dated in the first half of the 4th century and that the number of completely preserved samples is small, it is difficult to determine the development of the shapes.

There are two variants of oinochoai: the first type has a continuous curved transition between the globular body and the neck, and a raised base or flat bottom, resembling the earlier shape (fig. 5a); in the second type, the neck is taller and set off the body (fig. 5b)²⁸. It seems that the variants with trefoil opening are preferred over those with round mouth. They were made of the same local micaceous clay fired grey, with slipped surface, shiny on some samples, attempting to imitate black-glaze

21. Ristov 1993, 98, fig. 4b, T.2:7. Papazovska-Sanev 2012, 418, fig. 5.

22. Popović et al. 2012, cat. nos. 54–58.

23. Sokolovska 1986, 47, fig. 15: 10–12, 14. Sokolovska 1993, 142, fig. 5, 6.

24. Supra note 16. Tiverios 2012, 181, fig. 4ε, named this group of vessels “ionicising eggshell”, with the main center of production at Karabournaki.

25. Ristov 1992, 102, T.I:3, sample in grave no. 72 at the cemetery Suva Reka, near Gevgelija.

26. Tiverios 2012, 185.

27. Sokolovska 1993, 144; both variants, although with chronological difference based on shape, belong to the same “ceramic hoard” at the Gradište-Negotino.

28. Sokolovska 1993, 144.



Fig. 5. Trefoil oinochoe: **a, b.** Gradište, Negotino; **c.** Vardarski Rid, Gevgelija.

imported ceramics. The excavations at Vardarski Rid have shown that this type of local gray wares continued to be produced even later in the 4th century. In the closed deposit of the so-called “House with poles”, securely dated in the last decade of the 4th c. BC, the only completely preserved vessel is a trefoil oinochoe made of brown clay decorated with burnished vertical stripes; its profile resembles the earlier examples with a continuous curvature of the body towards the short neck (fig. 5c)²⁹.

Grey variants of stamnoid pyxides (fig. 6) are

mainly known by the samples at the cemetery of Isar-Marvinci from the first half of the 4th c. BC, where they served as a convenient container for cremated remains of the deceased³⁰.

Two samples of large amphoras with vertical handles share some similar features, e.g. the globular body with short neck, but differ in the rim, base, handles and surface finishing. The sample from Gradište-Negotino (fig. 7a) has a horizontal outturned rim, a ring base and a slipped shiny surface³¹, while the vase from Vardarski Rid (fig. 7b)

29. Karpuzova 2005, 179–201, 188, fig. 20.

30. Sokolovska 1987, 84, T.2:5, T.3.12; T.6.1. Stamnoid pyxides are popular burial offerings in later graves of the Hellenistic period, often decorated in West slope.

31. Sokolovska 1993, 144, fig. 7.



Fig. 6. Stamnoid pyxis, cemetery at Isar, Marvinci.

has a flat base, a flaring rim and double handles³². The latter is made of fine greyish-brown fabric and dates from the middle of the 4th c. BC.

Skyphoi are most frequent at sites in the regions of Skopje and Negotino and are represented with both variants of Attic kotyle (fig. 8a). They are manu-

factured with micaceous clay sometimes with sand inclusions; they are well-fired and show various degrees of surface finishing. Most of the vessels are covered with slip or mechanically burnished surface which resulted in different shades of gray and a slight shine, resembling the black glaze of the imported samples. Among the small open shapes, there are also bowls with flat or incurved rim, imitating imported black-glaze samples (fig. 8b).

All these shapes, made in various techniques or decoration depending on the style or production centers are known in the wider region, especially on the coastline of the Northern Aegean, as early as the Iron Age or the Archaic period. Since no imported samples or their local imitations are known along the Axios river from these earlier periods, they cannot be classified in the first group of vessels. They appear in gray variants during the late 5th or early 4th c. BC, at the same time when imported Attic or Olynthian red-figure or black-glaze samples arrived along the river³³, directly affecting the local production.

In the second group of local imitations, we should note the presence of vessels which attempt to imitate the painted decoration of the imported



Fig. 7. Amphora with vertical handles: **a.** Gradište, Negotino; **b.** Vradarski Rid, Gevgelija.

32. Blaževska 2006, 274–275, cat. no. 389.

33. Supra note 9.

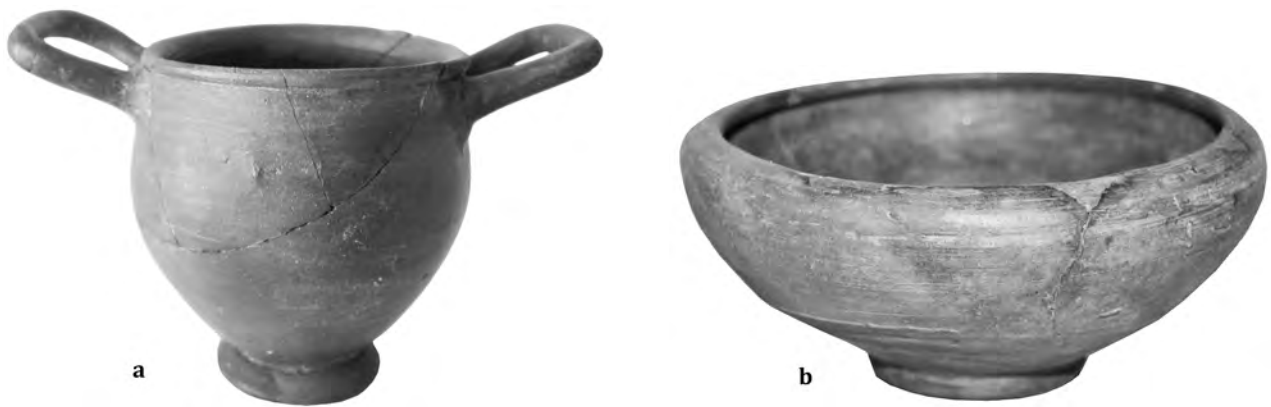


Fig. 8. a. Skyphos, Gradište, Brazda, Skopje. b. Bowl with incurved rim, Gradište, Negotino.

samples. The most frequent shapes are trefoiled or beaked oinochoai, skyphoi, few kantharoi and shallow plates, usually made of red fired micaceous clay. The most common painted motifs are large stylized palmettes and various floral designs, combined with horizontal bands, using a variety of tones ranging from red to brown or black matt paint. They

were discovered on almost all the above-mentioned sites³⁴, but their analysis deserves a separate study, whose length is beyond the limits of this paper. For the needs of the present study, only the few samples from Demir Kapija which belong to two different shapes would be presented.

Two small oinochoai and two plates found in



Fig. 9. Oinochoai: a, b. Demir Kapija.

34. For various sites, see Sanev 2013, figs. 69, 72–73, 77, 81–82; 86–93. For examples at Vardarski Rid, Blaževska 2006, 43–44, cat. no. 21–22. For examples from Gradište-Knežje, see Mitrevski 2016, figs. 14 and 37a; For examples from Kale-Krševica, see Popović et al. 2012, cat. nos. 25, 28–30, 32, 38. The similar production is known further to southwest in the region of ancient Lychnidos (modern Ohrid), see Bitrakova-Grozdanova 2017, 259–260, fig. 20–21.

Demir Kapija represent the local attempts for imitations of painted vessels³⁵. Both oinochoai were discovered during the 1970s and draw special attention because of the combination of the surviving local shape and fabric and the painted decoration that draws upon imported prototypes (figs. 9a, b). The first sample is made of yellowish clay with thick walls, while the second is made of grayish fabric with coarse thick sidewalls and poorly fired. Both have a trefoil mouth, a neck which continuously curves towards the body with the largest diameter in the middle. The strap handle which surmounts the rim is preserved on the first sample only. Since the lower body of the first vase is restored, the accurate description of the base cannot be given, while the second specimen is raised on a high, heavy base with a vertical profile. Both samples have small spouts placed on the middle part of the body. On the upper half of the body and on the neck, there are traces of black paint, attempting to imitate a large palmette. The paint is matt and flaky on the surface. The same motif is found on the second oinochoe, where dark brown matt paint is scarcely preserved on the surface. Both vessels combined elements of the local Archaic or Classical shapes of feeder jugs and oinochoai and painted motifs of imported samples. Both oinochoai date in the second half of the 4th c. BC and stand as survivals of earlier shapes.

The two broad-rimmed plates with a thick edge are obvious imitations of the third, imported sample (fig. 10a–b)³⁶. This is a popular Attic shape of the late 5th and 4th c. BC, with a flat floor, a broad convex rim and a high ring foot. Regarding the shape, our samples find the closest parallels among the black-glaze or unglazed samples from the second quarter of the 4th c. BC at the Athenian Agora³⁷. The imported sample from Demir Kapija is painted with a large palmette in the middle and eggs and dots below within two horizontal lines. The contours are rendered in a thin black-glaze line, while the whole plate is covered with a glaze of various reddish to greenish shine³⁸. Both imitations are identical in shape, but not in the painted decoration



Fig. 10. Plates: a, b. Demir Kapija.

and glaze, which is preserved in traces. Plates of identical or similar shape, coarsely made and with painted decoration are also found at Gradište-Knežje (ancient Bylazora) and Kale-Krševica³⁹.

Group III: This less attractive group consists of handmade local vessels with a long history of production and almost unchanged shapes and decoration. It consists of mainly large coarse pots or pyraunoi with horseshoe or spur handles, sometimes decorated with bands with impressed fingers. They were mostly used as kitchen storage or cooking vessels, but sometimes also as an urn for cremation burials, as in the case of the completely preserved large pot from the Eastern cemetery at Isar Marvinci, dated in the late 5th c. BC (fig. 11)⁴⁰. The late-4th c. BC closed deposit in the above-mentioned “House with poles” at Vardarski Rid, gives an excellent example of the simultaneous presence of all three

35. Sokolovska 1973–74, 188, T.III, sl. 6; Mikulčić 2005, 88, T.III: 437–IV and 468–IV; Sanev 2013, 25–26, figs. 12, 13.

36. Sokolovska 1986, fig. 18:5.

37. *Agora* XII, 145–146, fig. 9, 1020–1021.

38. I am not familiar with the place of origin of the imported sample.

39. Mitrevski 2016, fig. 37a. Popović et al. 2012, cat. no 38.

40. For selection of handmade vessels from various sites along Axios see: Sokolovska 1986, 79–80, T.1:8, T.9–T.10.



Fig. 11. Handmade pot, Isar, Marvinci.

groups of Classical pottery well into the early Hellenistic period: local grey wares imitations of imported vessels and traditional earlier shapes, local handmade pots along with imported Attic black-glaze, mainly bowls with stamped decoration and various cups.

Local grey pottery is attested among the different populations of a wide region in the Southeastern Balkans. The technology of grey ware production especially in the Lower Axios was known to the local potters since the early 6th c. BC. Although there is no evidence for most part of the 5th c., obviously it became a dominant production peaking in the late 5th and first half of the 4th c. BC.

The area of dissemination of the grey wares of similar shapes and similar surface finishing opens a question for the local centers of production. The largest concentration of local grey wares is recorded in the Upper valley of Axios in the region around Skopje (Gradište-Brazda), in the Middle Axios river (Gradište-Negotino) and at Demir Kapija. Towards the north, in the basin of South Morava River, large quantities of grey wares with identical or similar

shapes and manner of production are found on the site of Kale near the village of Krševica in Southern Serbia, where researchers propose the existence of a local workshop(s) not just for grey vessels, but also for fine painted vessels⁴¹. To the east of Axios, large quantities of the same pottery was discovered at the site of Gradište-Knežje near Sv. Nikole, the possible Paionian capital Bylazora.

Actual workshops or kilns have not been discovered yet, except for the possible presence of a kiln at Gradište near Negotino, an assumption of earlier researchers⁴². The noticeable differences in the production quality, fabric, firing and especially in surface finishing of vessels found in the different areas or even within the same settlement or town, suggest the existence of diverse workshops or potters in each community. All three groups of the above-presented local gray vessels were made by local potters, who were familiar with the local shapes and the technology of production of reduced oxygen in the kiln.

Regarding the local imitations of imported painted vessels, there are visible differences in the quality between different samples and as I mentioned before in the text, they require a separate study. The specimen presented here are excellent examples of combined features of imported and local pottery, pointing to a not very skilled local potter. Whether the workshop was situated in Demir Kapija or somewhere else, is uncertain. The rich finds in Demir Kapija suggest that the town developed as an emporion of settlers in the Classical period, who were attracted to the inland region because of the rich natural sources of wood, minerals and metal ores⁴³. We cannot be certain that there were immigrant potters among the settlers, or if local potters presumably learnt the craft in one of the many centers in the south, or if they simply imitated imported samples.

This overview of the local grey ware production along the Axios river during the 5th and 4th c. BC, typical for the northern periphery of the Northern Aegean, will hopefully be supplemented by a new research on this topic in the future.

41. Popović et al. 2012, 33–35.

42. On the same place, a modern factory for bricks is built, meaning that the high-quality clay beds still exist in the area.

43. Papazoglou 1988, 326. Vučković-Todorović 1959, white-ground lekythoi discovered in Demir Kapija assumed presence of Athenian settlers.

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Περίληψη

Τοπική κεραμική παραγωγή κατά μήκος του Αξιού ποταμού στον 5ο και 4ο αιώνα π.Χ.

Silvana Blaževska

Ο αυξημένος αριθμός των εισηγμένων αγγείων από τα αττικά ή ολυνθιακά εργαστήρια κατά μήκος του Αξιού ποταμού στον ύστερο 5ο και στη διάρκεια του 4ου αι. π.Χ. επηρέασε την τοπική κεραμική παραγωγή. Οι κεραμείς αντέγραφαν με επιτυχία τα βασικά σχήματα, αλλά σπανιότερα τη γραπτή διακόσμηση ή τη στιλπνή επιφάνεια. Αντ' αυτού, υπάρχουν μεγάλες ποσότητες γκρίζων αγγείων, με επιχρισμένη ή στιλβωμένη επιφάνεια, μία τεχνολογία παραγωγής που είναι γνωστή στα τοπικά εργαστήρια της περιοχής ήδη από τον πρώιμο 6ο αι. π.Χ.

Η εργασία επικεντρώνεται στην τοπική κεραμική παραγωγή της κλασικής περιόδου, αναλύοντας παραδείγματα που βρέθηκαν σε λίγες αρχαιολογικές θέσεις κατά μήκος του Αξιού.