

STUDI DI ANTICHITÀ 14

Abstracts

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Indicatori di pratiche culturali nel sito fortificato dell'età del Bronzo di Portorusso (Otranto-Le): evidenze archeologiche e analisi dei residui organici.

The archaeological investigations carried out in the fortified settlement of Portorusso brought to light an area characterised by the presence of fire structures, near which were deposited particular objects: miniature ceramic containers, bone ornaments, copper alloy artifacts, seashells. The integrated analysis of the archaeological evidence, along with the chemical characterization of organic residues on some pottery sherds, suggest a cultural function of this area. The residue analysis indicate the consumption of fermented beverages and the use of plant oils, possibly perfumed, during the rituals.

Katia Mannino

Da Manduria al 'MAR' di Castro: il cratere protolucano della Collezione Antonio Lazzari.

This paper presents, for the first time, a Proto-Lucanian bell-shaped crater belonged to the famous geologist Antonio Lazzari and currently exhibited at the Archaeological Museum of Castro (Lecce). The vase comes, according to oral sources, from the Messapian settlement of Manduria. On the main side, there is a maenad with thyrsus between two silens; on the secondary side, three draped youths. For shape and decoration, the crater compares with the vessels made around 430 BC by the Amykos Painter, considered, according to various clues, a vase painter active in the potter's quarter of Metaponto, discovered in the Seventies. In the contribution, the crater of Castro, as well as being analysed under the stylistic aspect, is presented in the wider context of the Proto-Lucanian imports in Messapia. The aim is to understand the contribution of this new interesting document to the discussion about the mechanisms regulating the acquisition of Greek figure pottery by the Messapian populations. The research developed by the Classical Archaeology sector of the university of Salento contributed to clarify this issue, highlighting the significant role of imported artefacts in the self-representation dynamics of the local aristocracies.

Bianca Ferrara, Francesco Meo

Vesti per la Dea dall'Edificio quadrato nel Santuario di Hera alla foce del Sele (Paestum).

The Square Building is one of the most interesting archaeological contexts discovered in the Sanctuary of Hera near the mouth of the Sele river. It has long been a source of inspiration for scholarly reflection and academic debate. The present article has two objectives. Firstly, it seeks to contribute to the ongoing recontextualisation of all the monuments in the sanctuary on the basis of archive documents and materials for which no description has yet been published. Regarding the Square Building in particular, the two deposits found during the excavations begun by Paola Zancani in the 1950s are of special relevance. The second objective is to use new methods to investigate the many loom weights found in the building, in order to enrich the scientific debate and verify the various hypotheses concerning the function of this peculiar building.

Anna Maria Grasso

Viticulture and wine production in the medieval Salento.

Viticulture and wine production were an important resource in the middle Ages: grapes supplemented the local diet and consumption of wine was highly recommended because of its health-giving properties. Furthermore, the use of wine in Christian liturgy expanded demand and conferred a sacred dimension on it, and rulers and ecclesiastical bodies frequently defended and encouraged cultivation and production. This study seeks to understand this expansion, particularly in medieval southern Apulia. It integrates historical sources with archaeological and archaeobotanical data, reviews the research and seeks to identify trends.

Milena Primavera

La vegetazione di Yumuktepe (Turchia) tra Neolitico e Medioevo: dati antracologici preliminari.

The article presents the preliminary outcomes of the anthracological analysis carried out at Yumuktepe, located on the coastal plain of Mersin (southeast Turkey). The mound of Yumuktepe, characterized by a complex stratigraphy, is the result of the intensive human occupation of the area, ranging from the early neolithic (7.000 B.C.) to the Middle Ages (XII century). The contribution discusses the result of archaeobotanical analysis performed on charcoal remains collected from some archaeological contexts and offers a first reconstruction of the vegetation of the area during the neolithic and the Middle Ages. These two periods represent the two extreme points of a process of exploitation and transformation of environment, whose dynamics is preserved by means of plant remains hidden in the succession of layers that make up the hill of Yumuktepe.

Paul Arthur, Maria Teresa Giannotta, Marco Leo Imperiale, Maria Teresa Lettieri, Florinda Notarstefano

L'analisi funzionale delle ceramiche altomedievali nel Salento: il contributo delle indagini sui residui organici.

The paper illustrates preliminary results of an interdisciplinary research on medieval cooking wares and amphorae of local production, found during various archaeological excavations in southern Apulia, aimed at understanding the use of certain forms and their role in reconstructing food and diet. Twenty pottery samples have been analysed through FT-IR spectroscopic and gas chromatography / mass spectrometry so as to identify organic residues. The results of the analyses on cooking pots confirm the role of stews and soups based on plants, sometimes with the addition of meats or animal proteins. The sampled amphorae dating to the 7th and 8th centuries contained wine and were lined with pitch from conifers (Pinaceae). Later amphorae revealed the presence of oil, probably olive oil.

Fiorella De luca

Un insediamento antico sulle sponde settentrionali del Mar Piccolo – Taranto.

This essay, based on data included in the territorial informative System (Sit) of the Ancient topography and photogrammetry laboratory of the università del Salento, analyses a specific portion of territory of Taranto, on the northern coast of Mar Piccolo: the masseria S. Pietro complex and the closest territory. This area has proved a peculiar and interesting concentration of presences during the ancient era. the masseria S. Pietro complex consists of roman buildings ruins, perhaps of a villa, some caves of a rocky settlement and a XIV century basilica building. the systematic surface survey proved a dense distribution of settlements in the whole considered area and, in general, in every portion of territory at north of Mar Piccolo; while the known data testify an occupation since the first half of the imperial age, the surface survey proved the presence of Bronze age fictile materials.