Pottery from Tell Arbid - provenance and technological studies

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METHODS: Chemical analysis by WDXRF Thin-sections microscopy MGR-analysis Water permeability Thermal shock resistance

Conclusions

1. Local production

The tannur sample represents the local material. It is a model from a sandy clay tempered with straw. Fine Ware, the group of calcareous Metallic Ware and tannur, correspond to this sample. The other samples of metallic ware show a chemical composition similar to the tannur and, very probably, were made locally. Two other kitchenware samples slightly differ. All kitchenware samples were tempered with varying amounts of ashes, burnt clay and sand.

2. Metallic Wares as imports

We distinguished three groups of Metallic Wares:

- Metallic Wares A and B (non-calcereous North-Mesopotamian Metallic Ware) correspond to the chemical group A and B after Schneider 1989. The two groups differ in their chemical composition. Group A corresponds to the tannur sample. The other samples are more porous and water absorbent. After removing the surface layers, the samples are more permeable.

- Metallic Wares C (calcereous North-Mesopotamian Metallic Ware) are made at various sites. They are the sample of Metallic Ware mostly are red. Ceramic and functional properties vary largely.

- Metallic Wares D (low calcium, high magnesium, chromium and nickel) are manufactured in the third millennium. These are the sample of Metallic Ware mostly are red. Ceramic and functional properties vary largely.

In conclusion, the samples of Metallic Wares A, B, C, and D are made at various sites. They are the sample of Metallic Ware mostly are red. Ceramic and functional properties vary largely.