

## **ABSTRACT**

Most of the material that is studied in this thesis, which includes the Hellenistic and Roman Period unguentaria of Patara, came from the cemeteries at the site. These pieces were mostly gathered from the 1993-2005 excavations of underground buried tombs. 52% of the material coming from the underground buried tombs, followed by Tepecik cemetery burials with 27%, the No. 3 Temple-tomb with 11%, the Hurmalık Bath with 4%, the Theatre with 3% and the Main Street and Survey with 1% of each (Fig. 2). 203 of the 967 pieces form the catalogue of this paper. The largest quantity of material comes from tombs 34, 42 and 46. This study is necessary because of the large numbers of unguentaria discovered at this site.

The aim of this study is the identification of the unguentaria of Patara, the presentation of this data according to its place of manufacture and its importance in the general typology of unguentaria and evidence for probable production at this site. Also an attempt is made to establish evidence concerning the trade relationships and areas of influence upon and from the city.

Although the unguentaria of Hellenistic Period are studied in a chronological system, the Roman ones studied in a typological system due to the various new forms that appear in this period.

From the study of this material, it can be observed that the use of unguentaria in Patara continued in the period between the 4th century B.C. until the 7th century A.D. without interruption. Their most intensive use was between the 2nd century B.C. and the 1st century A.D., coinciding with the establishment of Lycian league. This intensive use and probably the production of the pottery on site must be related to this period of political and economic prosperity.

Although a large variation in the material is to be observed between the 4th century and 3rd century B.C., their use was as not frequent as during the 2nd century

B.C. Especially with the frequent use of unguentaria in the cemeteries during the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C. may show a probable production that meet this local demand.

The development of unguentaria in Patara between the 4th century B.C. and the 1st century B.C. follows the pattern in the rest of the Mediterranean world. However, by the end of the 1st century B.C., the globular form unguentaria which is found at Patara and in Xanthos Valley (Xanthos, Letoon Tlos) becomes important. While the bulbous shape unguentaria which took the place of fusiform or spindle shaped unguentaria at the end of the 1st century in all the ancient world is rare in Patara (1% with 12 examples), this globular form is very frequent and popular in the Xanthos Valley, especially at Patara (Fig. 1). This new shape by its quality and nature is a descendent of the fusiform or spindle shape unguentaria, which was very frequently found at this site during the 2nd century B.C. Also the large quantity of this new shape (13% with 129 examples) shows that production began in the 2nd century B.C. and continued until the end of the 1st century A.D. with the globular form unguentaria.