

North meets East

Current Research on Ancient Ports VI

Topic: *Economy and Harbours*
Date: *01.12. – 03.12.2021*
Venue: *Hybrid | Institute for Archaeology and Cultural History of the Ancient Mediterranean, UHH*
Organisation: *Sebastian Adlung, Aylin Güngör, Andreas Külzer, Martina Seifert, Leon Ziemer*
Deadline: *15.11.2021*
Languages: *German | English*

The sixth workshop in the series "North meets East" - dealing with ports and harbour cities dating from prehistoric times to the Middle Ages - will take place at the University of Hamburg from 1st to 3rd December 2021. The main aim of this year's workshop is to explore the economic importance of harbours and landing sites as a driving force for the regions they connect and the resulting impact on migration movements of different populations. The particular focus will lay not only on river, coastal and overseas ports, but also on all factors relevant to economic regions, such as the choice, use and equipment of a site (including natural conditions and access to resources, technical achievements, but also political and social framework conditions).

Based on the assumption that not only the geographical location is essential for the success of exchange, the focus will be on the 'human impact' as a key factor of the success story of harbours in the economic area of the ancient Mediterranean. Central to the question of different levels is how the economic aspect becomes evident in the archaeological record. Papers dealing with trading centres, goods, infrastructure, actors and internal processes of movements of goods are explicitly welcome. As an introduction, the workshop will deal with models of theoretical approach. As usual, one session of the harbour workshop is dedicated to recent research in underwater archaeology.

The four sections planned will focus on the following questions:

- (1) Movements of goods and infrastructure:** *Every harbour is the result of the adjustment of needs to its user groups: can a harbour facility therefore be of central concern for the economic success or failure of entire regions? The contributions in this section focus on the equipment and adjustments of facilities and infrastructure to the goods handled, extensions to the road networks of the surrounding area to support transport volumes, the creation of storage facilities meeting demands and needs, and structural changes in the architecture to create optimal loading facilities.*
- (2) People in the ports:** *Harbours are not only places for handling goods; they are places of interest for a large number of trades and travellers. These travellers had different roles and functions (e.g. migration and settlement movements) and will be considered here. Which facilities were particularly designed for travellers in a harbour and how is this reflected in the archaeological record? In addition, trades and businesses that were involved in the daily operation of the harbour are also of interest. How were ships supplied, which people were involved in administration and had an overview of the daily activities in the port?*
- (3) Knowledge and technology transfer:** *Harbours are also places where the knowledge about the production of goods and their proper handling are transferred and exchanged. This also includes knowledge and skills for the construction of specific facilities relevant for coastal sites. Thus, ports serve as a storage of knowledge that can be quickly communicated through harbour networks. This section is dedicated to harbour facilities as well as specialized regional knowledge. How does a captain know where to anchor - what navigational tools and landmarks can be identified? Do certain traded goods require special facilities that are crucial in the port of departure and destination?*
- (4) Current excavation results:** *Archaeological results dealing with underwater archaeological work of harbour installations, ancient wrecks or excavations from hinterland of harbours are welcome additions in this section.*

Please send your abstract of no more than 300-500 words (including the speaker's name, German or English title of your paper) and indicate the session you would like to attend as a word or pdf-document until 29.10.2021 to martina_seifert@uni-hamburg.de We will inform you until 05.11.2021 whether your talk or poster is accepted. The conference will be published in the series Gateways and offers the opportunity to publish your paper right after. For further questions please contact Aylin Güngör and Leon Ziemer: North-meets-East@poladium.de