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LAMPES ANTIQUES DU BILAD ES SHAM

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ANCIENT LAMPS OF BILAD ES SHAM

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LAMP-MOULD FROM JIYEH (SOUTHERN LEBANON)

A VARIANT OF OVOID LAMPS

IN THE BYZANTINE AND EARLY ISLAMIC LEVANT

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Abstract: *The ancient unearthing (1997) of a plaster mould of a lamp at Jiyeh (south of Beirut), an active centre of pottery production, prompts the author to a detailed examination of the ovoids lamps dated to the Byzantine-Early Islamic periods, 6th/7th cent. AD. — regardless of the absence of this type of lamp in Jiyeh itself (they are numerous at Chhîm). The review recalls the very large number of lamps of this type found from Byblos to Mt Carmel, as well as in Galilee, and their typology — the author focusing on Types 1 and 7 only. These lamps are most likely of Phoenician origin, also found in Cyprus and in Cilicia. Their chronology extends from the mid-6th cent. to the late 7th cent. AD, eventually later, without major changes in their typology or decoration, except in Galilee.*

Résumé: La trouvaille ancienne (1997) d'un moule de lampe en plâtre à Jiyeh (sud de Beyrouth), centre actif de production céramique, conduit l'auteur à examiner en détail les lampes ovoïdes byzantines et d'époque islamique ancienne des 6^e/ 7^e s. ap. J.-C. — malgré l'absence de ce type de lampe à Jiyeh même (nombreuses à Chhîm). L'étude porte sur les découvertes en grand nombre de lampes de ce type depuis Byblos jusqu'au Mt Carmel, mais aussi en Galilée, et sur leur typologie — l'auteur s'attachant seulement aux Types 1 et 7. Ces lampes sont certainement d'origine phénicienne, trouvées également à Chypre et en Cilicie. Leur production s'échelonne du milieu du 6^e s. jusqu'à la fin du 7^e s. ap. J.-C., ou un peu plus tard, sans grands changements typologiques ou décoratifs, sauf peut-être en Galilée

Introduction

My initial objective was to present a simple and somewhat boring list of the late antique oil lamps excavated recently by the joint expedition of the Polish Center of Mediterranean Archaeology of Warsaw University and the Directorate General of Antiquities at Chhîm and Jiyeh, two sites situated in coastal part of southern Lebanon.¹ However, after assembling a long list of recorded lamps and fragments (more than 200 from Chhîm and more than 60 from Jiyeh), I realized that such a paper would simply have been too confusing, mainly due to the space restrictions and the variety of types to be presented. Instead, I have chosen one object and one type of lamp in the

1. I want to extend my sincere thanks to Dina Frangié and Jean-François Salles for inviting me to present this paper during the Petra-Amman colloque. Their constant encouragement enabled me to reconsider many of my previous views and to reorganize the material excavated at Chhîm and Jiyeh. The final version of the paper was written during my Fulbright Fellowship at the A. and M. Sharp Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World at Brown University. I want to thank Katharina Galor and Susan Alcock for hosting me at the Institute and providing me with such a perfect work conditions. The English text was revised and much improved by Michael Zimmerman (Brown University), to whom I address my warm thanks.

hope that it will offer a more consistent and more inspiring subject for specialists working in the late antique and Early Islamic Eastern Mediterranean.

Mould from Jiyeh-Porphyreon

During the first season of rescue excavations conducted in 1997 at Jiyeh, south of Beirut, a fragment of a lamp-mould made of plaster was found in the rubble covering the floor of the late antique domestic quarter (*fig. 1*). Measuring some 9 x 5 cm, it preserved an impression of the upper half of a lamp – its shoulder, channel on the nozzle and a wick-hole. Decoration was composed of circles on the shoulder filled with six-petalled rosettes divided by small triangles and a stylized Latin cross with bifurcated arms ending in the dots depicted on the nozzle.

In antiquity, Jiyeh was most probably known as the Hellenistic city of Porphyreon, and then as a simple, but still very large, village on the Mediterranean coast situated on the Roman road south of ancient Berytus and 15 km north of Sidon.² The preserved part of the site consists of the Byzantine basilica, the late antique habitations organized in a kind of an insula, and the necropolis from the same period. Recently an important center of pottery production dated to the late Hellenistic and early Roman period was also discovered.³ Among the finds were lamps with incompletely punched through wick-holes, a solid argument in favor of the local production of the lamps in the late 2nd-early 1st century BC.

Unfortunately, the above-mentioned mould did not come from such as well-known archaeological context. The rooms of the domestic quarter were already cleared by Roger Saidah in 1975, and his important contribution to the site history remains unpublished. The most that can be said is that the pottery material associated with the mould was exclusively late antique, with an emphasis on the 5th and 6th century AD. The unusual nature of the find, however, invites us to make some preliminary remarks.

Although this mould can be considered firm evidence of the production of this particular model of lamp at the site, no fragment matching the mould was found in Jiyeh and the identification of the fabric is therefore impossible. In search for the more precise chronology we have to turn to parallels.

The identification of the type of lamp that was once produced in the mould did not present that great challenge. Even a less experienced eye will recognize in the mould a type of the lamps dated usually to the late 6th-7th century AD and widely known from archaeological sites scattered across the Levantine coast, in Phoenicia, Galilee, in northern Palestine, and also in Cyprus.

Lamps of this type have ovoid shape with sunken discus, small filling hole, trapezoidal, sometimes sunken channel on the nozzle, a small, triangular or pyramidal handle, decorated shoulders and almond-shaped base, in some cases flat, in others with accentuated ridges. They tend to be similar in size, approximately 10 x 7 cm, and were manufactured in moulds composed of two separate elements, one for the upper, and one for the lower half of the lamp. Wick-holes bear traces of the punching of the clay right before the firing in the kiln.

The closest parallel found so far for the lamp represented in the mould comes from Cyprus, has no provenance and is on display in Nicosia Museum (*fig. 2*). Published by Thérèse Oziol, it was dated, on the basis of unknown criteria, to the 6th century AD.⁴ Even if the details are slightly different, one can recognize the striking similarity of the shape and decoration. We should not forget that one model of a lamp could serve as a prototype for several moulds in different, sometimes distant places.

Much more doubtful is the identification of the local fabric. A quick search in the database

2. Cf. SAIDAH, 1977; WALISZEWSKI, 2004. The project is supported by the Polish Center of Mediterranean Archaeology of the Warsaw University and the Directorate General of Antiquities of Lebanon.

3. DOMZALSKI *et al.*, 2004.

4. OZIOL, 1977, pp. 255-256, no. 800, pl. 44.

of the excavations at nearby Chhîm, another archaeological project of the Warsaw University and the Directorate General of Antiquities, has produced one small fragment with an almost identical decoration as on the mould from Jiyeh, made from a distinctive pale orange-light brown fabric containing several small red inclusions. The majority of Byzantine lamps identified at Chhîm was made of this clay, sometimes containing white and black inclusions as well. Does this answer our question? Not necessarily — another fragment from Chhîm, decorated in almost the same way, was made of different light brown fabric.

It turned out that the excavations of the Roman and Byzantine village at Chhîm — some 30 km south of Beirut, yielded several fragments of this type in different variants. On the whole, they constitute more than 60% of all the Byzantine lamps and almost a half of the Early Islamic. Unfortunately, the mixed, unsealed character of the Early Islamic debris in the houses greatly decreases the value of the stratigraphic observation for the chronology of the lamps. We can nevertheless trace their presence up to the end of the 7th / beginning of the 8th century AD. It is much more difficult to determine the date at which they appear. There are, however, some indications of their origin. Cistern E.IV, situated near one of the olive-presses in the late antique village, also yielded a pottery group containing this type of lamp, the latest fragments of which were dated to the mid-6th century AD.

Almost every fragment from Chhîm is made of a pale orange fabric with red inclusions, although some lamps were more well-fired and have a clear relief, while others were poorly fired and had a worn surface. There are also exceptions: a few fragments were made of a pale brown-rose, poorly fired fabric, which is most probably local in origin. As for the fragments from Jiyeh, they are divided into two fabrics: pale orange with red inclusions and a brown-brick, poorly fired fabric from the local workshop in Jiyeh, but from an earlier period.

Although the lamp from Nicosia Museum seems to be a very close parallel to the mould from Jiyeh, a margin of uncertainty remains. A lamp made in the mould could theoretically have had a closed discus or an open filling hole. Moreover, the shape of the handle can be reconstructed only hypothetically as a pyramidal knob. Therefore, to increase the probability of our identification and to find more information about this particular type of lamp, I decided to gather the possibly broadest representation of examples, though I cannot claim that this list is exhaustive.

Ovoid lamps in the Levant. History of research

The channel-nozzle or, more broadly, ovoid lamp represented by the mould from Jiyeh existed long before the Byzantine period and also has considerable evidence in the scholarly literature. Linked geographically to the Levantine coast, it seems to have predecessors known in Galilee and the southern part of coastal Phoenicia as early as the late 3rd, 4th and early 5th century AD. In 1978, Renate Rosenthal and Renee Sivan remarked that one of the ovoid lamps from the Schloessinger Collection, dated to the late 3rd — first half of the 4th century AD, could be considered a forerunner to the Byzantine channel lamps. This lamp had sunken discus, channel-nozzle, small triangular handle and stamped decoration.⁵ In an article published in 1989, Varda Sussmann proposed a typology of what she calls the 'Northern Stamped Lamps', divided into eight groups.⁶ The elongated bodies of the lamps bear a distinctive geometric decoration made by incisions or stamps. Some of the examples have a channel on the nozzle as well as a small protruding handle at the back. Particularly instructive is her type 5c, dated to the 4th century AD, since it shows all the characteristics of the later lamps attested to by the mould from Jiyeh: ovoid shape, sunken discus, channel on the nozzle and small pyramidal handle.⁷

5. ROSENTHAL and SIVAN, 1978, pp. 110-111, lamp no. 449, acquired in Jerusalem.

6. SUSSMAN, 1989.

7. SUSSMAN, 1989, lamps nos. 34-35.

Due to incomplete evidence from the Lebanese coast, Sussman insisted on a northern Palestinian provenance for this lamp type. More careful examination of the published material invites us to reconsider that view. The search for the origins of the type should be extended to the whole region between Beirut and Carmel, where several examples similar to the 'Northern Stamped Lamps' were unearthed.⁸ In either case, further study of ovoid lamps in Syro-Palestine is certainly warranted.

The number of ovoid lamps known from the sites across the Levant increases during the Byzantine period.⁹ A short account of the discoveries of the lamps similar or identical with the mould from Jiyeh begins with the tomb excavated at al-Bassa in Western Galilee, where an interesting series of late Roman, Byzantine and Early Islamic lamps were found and published in 1933.¹⁰ The whole group, including lamps of our type, were erroneously ascribed to the end of the 4th century AD. Although the mistake was later corrected in 1942 by Florence Day, the chronology of al-Bassa lamps exerted a significant influence on the research in the whole region and beyond.¹¹

An important group of 200 lamps was acquired in late 1930s from a tomb at Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon. Published by Margeritte Meurdrac, some of the lamps form now a part of the Louvre collection.¹² Fifty of them belonged to Meurdrac series 3, chronologically the latest, which fits well the definition of the Byzantine ovoid lamp with its distinctive sunken discus, channel-nozzle and small knob. They are described as unevenly made, one well fired with a rose-red fabric, the other poorly-fired, with a pale rose, whitish or gray fabric. Unfortunately, the date of the lamps given by the author, 4th century AD, follows the chronology proposed by the excavators of the al-Bassa tomb. Many of the lamps from Sahlet al-Mathaneh were republished in the Louvre catalogue with a more accurate chronology given (between the end of the 5th and the beginning of the 7th century AD).¹³ The authors of the catalogue were able to discern four variants of the lamps, on the basis of general morphological characteristics: presence or absence of the channel on the nozzle and a small or large filling hole.

Another significant group of the lamps was found in the Jewish necropolis at Beth She'arim, in the Catacomb 20.¹⁴ Nine examples published by Nahman Avigad were ascribed to the same type of ovoid lamps and divided into three variants. The first variant had a wide, plain channel and a broken discus, the second one had a narrower and decorated channel, and the third one was of fine execution and decoration, but also had a broken discus. The distribution and chronology of the known examples led him to conclude that the lamps of that type were indigenous to the northern part of Israel and should be dated to the end of the 6th and the beginning of the 7th century AD. A hoard of the coins dated to the second half of the 6th century, found in one of the lamps of the same type in the Catacomb 24, corroborates this assertion.¹⁵

8. An example said to come from Sidon was published by LYON-CAEN and HOFF, 1986, no. 270, p. 153; another example was found in a tomb at Debbaal, HAJJAR, 1965, lamp F.480, pl. XXI; cf. also lamps from Tyre in: BIKAI *et al.*, 1996, Group 7, p. 67, nos. 84, 86; from Umm al-'Amed south of Tyre, DUNAND-DURU, 1962, fig. 89 a, e, g, h; two more examples, Q 2319 and Q 2320 from the British Museum, were published by BAILEY, 1988; more recent discoveries from Galilee, dated by the excavators to the 4th-6th century AD, were reported by AVIAM and STERN, 1997, p. 93, nos. 5, 9 and by STERN, 1997, p. 120, nos. 41-42.

9. The reader will find in *Table 1* all the necessary informations concerning the lamps of our type 1 and type 7. Consequently, due to the limited space, I have limited the presentation of the derivatives in the text to the most significant examples.

10. ILIFFE, 1933, pp. 84-87.

11. DAY, 1942; the 4th century AD date for al-Bassa lamps was used as late as in 1990 by MODRZEWSKA-PIANETTI, 1990.

12. MEURDRAC, 1937, pp. 130-143, pls. XXVI-XXVIII; LYON-CAEN, 1986, pp. 133-141.

13. LYON-CAEN and HOFF, 1986, p. 133.

14. AVIGAD, 1976, nos. 36-44, pp. 190-192.

15. ELGAVISH, 1962, p. 216. 175 ovoid lamps, classified as type 58, were found in Catacomb 24.

In addition, recent excavations at Beth Shean have produced hundreds of lamps and lamp fragments. Among the late antique and Early Islamic material published by Shulamit Hadad, two types of lamps deserve our attention. Type 30 corresponds exactly to the type represented by the mould from Jiyeh.¹⁶ According to the author « Type 30 is widespread in northern Palestine and Lebanon, as well as Cyprus ». Unfortunately, « The lamps from Beth Shean were not found in clear stratigraphic contexts that permit their dating; a date of the sixth to mid-seventh centuries CE is suggested for this type ». ¹⁷ A variant of this lamp, with a large filling hole that replaces the discus, is presented as type 35 and seems to be much more common in Beth Shean than the previous one.¹⁸ The chronological span for this type is more prolonged and covers the entire Umayyad period. Also, the remains of a pottery workshop containing the lamps in the kiln suggest the local production of the type in Beth Shean.

The list of lamps presented in the *Table 1* (cf. *fig. 22*) argues in favor of a late chronology for the type, corresponding to the mid-6th to mid-7th century AD for the lamps with small filling hole, and from the whole Umayyad period until the earthquake of 749 AD for the type with a large filling hole.

Whether these lamps were also made in Cyprus remains unclear, but there is yet another discovery made in Cilicia in 1968 that forces us to deal with the problem of the production centers and the distribution of this particular type. In a late Roman bath building in Anemurium, the astonishing discovery of about 650 complete lamps was made; lamps belonging to our type were classified as Form 2.¹⁹ The lamps bear no traces of burning, and some wick-holes were never punched through: the excavators suggested that it might well have been the stock of a merchant or shopkeeper. The lamps were divided into 26 variants, according to the decoration or minor changes in the shape, with each variant containing some 20 or 30 copies. Unfortunately, the Anemurium hoard remains an isolated find and therefore very difficult to interpret. Was Cilicia and the region of Antioch one of the production centers for the lamps exported to Syria-Palestine, just like the late antique amphoras found in great numbers along the Levantine coast? Only the laboratory analysis of several fragments of lamps from Cilicia, Cyprus, Lebanon and Palestine can provide adequate answers to this question.²⁰

Despite its very incomplete character, the description of the fabric given by some of the authors enable us at least to draw some preliminary conclusions. According to Meurdrac, the lamps of this type excavated near Sidon were of uneven making, well- and poorly-fired, as well as a match to a number of different fabrics.²¹ The same can be said about Chhîm, which is situated only 15 km from Sidon. A pale orange, sometimes light brown fabric, attested too at Sidon, Chhîm, probably Beirut, Nahariya, Beth She'arim, Sepphoris, Beth Shean, Kh. al-Karak and Caesarea Maritima, seems to be the most widespread.²² Some lamps have reddish-brown slip, some have red inclusions, and all were well-fired. A poorly-fired red or brown-red fabric is also attested to

16. HADAD, 2002, nos. 313-316, pp. 70-72. Only 5 fragments of this type were found in Beth Shean.

17. HADAD, 2002, p. 72.

18. HADAD, 2002, nos. 339-355, pp. 78-82. According to the author, 24 lamps of this type and 110 fragments were recorded during excavations.

19. WILLIAMS and TAYLOR, 1975, pp. 77-84, form II, figs. 3-6. There are also some reports about the ovoid lamps found in Tarsus, although I was unable to confirm this information, cf. GOLDMAN, 1950, p. 97, pl. 105.299, no. 308.

20. BAILEY, 1988, p. 287 expressed the view that the lamps from Anemurium were locally made versions of the typically Levantine type of lamp.

21. MEURDRAC, 1937.

22. MEURDRAC, 1937; BAILEY, 1988, p. 287; DAUPHIN, 1984, pp. 113-114; AVIGAD, 1976, p. 190-191; NAGY *et al.*, 1996, p. 223; HADAD, 2002, p. 71 nad 78; DELOUGAZ, 1960, p. 39, pl. 44.16-17; ADAN-BAYEWITZ, 1986, pp. 113-114; VINE-HARTELIUS 1986, p. 392.

at Sidon, Chhîm and in Cyprus,²³ including a light red lamp at Sarepta (Sarafand),²⁴ as well as a yellow-gray lamp with cream slip from Cyprus.²⁵ A pale rose, poorly fired fabric identified at Chhîm as the evidence of a local production was also found in Sidon. Meurdrac also mentions a gray, unslipped and poorly fired lamp found at Sidon, Hadad, and Beth Shean.²⁶ Without a comprehensive analysis of all identified fabrics, this list has a very limited scientific value and should be treated merely as an indication of the direction in which future research needs to go.

Typology of the Byzantine and Early Islamic ovoid lamps in the Levant

This type consists of several variants. Only close parallels to the mould from Jiyeh were chosen for presentation, as the term « ovoid lamp » contains dozens of variants and hundreds of known examples. Ovoid lamps from Byzantine Phoenicia in general deserve a much more detailed study.²⁷ This typology is based on purely morphological criteria: unfortunately, the lack of any refinement in the chronology of lamps prevents us from a proper typology based on multiple traits.

A first glimpse at the lamps gives an impression that there are two basic variants of the type: one with a discus and a small filling-hole and another one with a large filling-hole replacing the discus. Both have the same shape. More careful analysis of the known examples, however, reveals that there are more differences inside the variant with the discus, and that the differences between the lamps with a discus and a large filling-hole are secondary. The typology proposed below, another step on the path to understand the development of the late antique lamps in the Eastern Mediterranean, is based on this conviction.

Type 1 (figs. 3, 4, 5) - Slightly elongated ovoid body, narrowed at the end of the nozzle, larger at the back; a sunken discus with a small filling-hole in the middle, joins a slightly sunken, flat and trapezoidal channel on the nozzle; a small pyramidal or triangular knob is associated with the ridge accentuating the discus; decorated shoulders and almond-shape base, in some cases flat, in other with accentuated ridges. The lamps inside this group are very homogenous, but slight differences sometimes appear between lamps. For example, the nozzles may be more or less rounded or pointed, and the lamp from Kh. al-Karak has a much thinner and lower section than the lamp from Metulla.²⁸ We should also note the striking resemblance between the mould from Jiyeh and the lamp from the Nicosia Museum in Cyprus, especially in terms of decoration. Moreover, lamp no. 24 from Sidon and lamp no. 73 both have a characteristic ridge around the channel, discus and the knob. We can therefore conclude that this particular type of lamp seems to be more typical for the region of Sidon, and that the lamps found in Cyprus were imported from the Phoenician coast.

Type 2 (fig. 6) - Shorter and wider ovoid body, shorter and wider channel. Represented by the hoard of lamps from Anemurium, Cilicia.

Type 3 (fig. 7) - Very like Type 1, only the line dividing the discus from the channel is straight.

Type 4 (fig. 8) - Short, wide ovoid body; no dividing line between discus and channel; knob handle instead of pyramidal or triangular.

Type 5 (fig. 9) - More oval body and discus, no dividing line between undecorated discus and channel.

Type 6 (fig. 10) - Shorter and wider ovoid body than in the Type 1; large round discus with a small filling hole; no dividing line between a discus and a channel.

23. MEURDRAC, 1937; OZIOL, 1977, pp. 255-256.

24. PRITCHARD, 1988, pp. 190, 194-195.

25. OZIOL-POUILLOUX, 1969, p. 112.

26. MEURDRAC, 1937; HADAD, 2002, p. 78.

27. The author is working currently on such a study, taking as a departure point the abundant material from Chhîm and Jiyeh.

28. DELOUGAZ and HAINES, 1960, pl. 60.28; TSAFERIS, 1982, p. 29, fig. 3.6.

Type 7 (fig. 11) - Lamps identical with Type 1 except one major difference: a large filling hole replaces the discus. **Type 8** (fig. 12) - Body like in Type 1; a ridge, in some cases thick, accentuates a round discus and a narrow channel; no dividing line between a discus and a channel.

Type 9 (fig. 13) - Rounded and less ovoid body; discus and channel accentuated by a ridge like in Type 8.

Type 10 (fig. 14) - Elongated and rounded body; discus and channel accentuated by a ridge like in Type 8 and 9; elongated channel.

Type 11 (fig. 15) - Elongated ovoid body, sunken and undecorated discus, medium-size filling hole. Two lamps of this type bear impressed coin decoration on the shoulders.

Type 12 (fig. 16) - Body as in Type 1 except one major difference: a loop-handle replaces a piramidal knob; large filling hole.²⁹

Type 13 (fig. 17) - First step towards the evolution of Type 1: body has still the same shape but the shoulders are flattened; no dividing line between discus and channel.

Type 14 (fig. 18) - Evolution continues: elongated ovoid body; no dividing line between discus and channel; conical knob moved away from the discus ridge.

Type 15 (fig. 19) - Similar to Type 14, but discus and channel are interconnected on one level; conical knob like in Type 14.

Type 16 (fig. 20) - Similar to Type 14 and 15 but without channel; sunken discus; conical knob like in Type 14 and 15.

Decoration

Relief decoration of the lamps falls into three groups: geometric, floral and zoomorphic. Subtypes of the main groups may also contain other elements like Christian symbols or human figures.³⁰ The presentation below is based on a careful examination of all known Type 1 lamps, although these general remarks apply to all remaining types.

The first series includes geometric patterns, as well as some floral motifs exploited in geometric compositions.

- Lamps nos. 24, 73 (cf. fig. 4): the shoulders covered with a net pattern; dots inside the rhomboidal fields; 5-arm star on the discus and stylized floral motif on the channel.
- Lamps nos. 31, 68: guilloche with dots inside the round medaillons and triangles dividing them on the shoulders; concentric circles on the discus.
- Lamps nos. 10, 11, 12, 72 (cf. fig. 2): medaillons filled up with six-petalled elements, divided by small triangles up and down; petals or beams on the discus, on the channel Latin cross with bifurcated arms terminated by dots.
- Lamp no. 8: round shields divided by small triangles on the shoulders; cross with dots on the channel.
- Lamp no. 46: intertwined lozenges and circles on the shoulders.
- Lamp no. 69: lozenges with leaves inside.
- Lamp no. 56: intertwined leaves and circles; stylized floral motif on the channel.
- Lamp no. 57: shoulders stamped with coins; concentric circles on discus.
- Lamp no. 11: cross-shaped elements intertwined with four-petalled elements on the shoulders; beams on the discus.
- Lamp no. 59: heart-shaped elements on the shoulders; on the channel bifurcated cross with dots.
- Lamp nos. 20, 36: two-petalled elements decorated with dots and triangles; circles form on the discus a cross-like motif.

29. I decided to exclude the lamp from Kornos Cave on Cyprus, despite its similarity to the type, cf. CATLING and DIKIGOROPOULOS, 1970, fig. 8, p. 55.

30. MEURDRAC, 1937, proposed the same subdivision for the lamps from Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon. Vegetal and zoomorphic decoration as well as geometric patterns on lamps from Beth Shean are presented by HADAD, 2002, pp. 81-82.

The second series is floral.

- Lamp no. 35: simple plants placed horizontally on the shoulders.
- Lamp no. 28: ivy (?) scrolls on the shoulders; traces of wheel pattern on discus.
- Lamp no. 16 (cf. fig. 3): diagonal pattern of simple plants with dots on the shoulders; wheel pattern on the discus.
- Lamp no. 14 (cf. fig. 5): floral scroll on the shoulders; Greek cross with bifurcated arms on discus.
- Lamp no. 60: ivy (?) scroll; ring decorated with small circles on discus.
- Lamp no. 27: floral scroll with baskets full of fruits; traces of ring decorated with small circles.

The third series is zoomorphic.

- Lamp no. 65: peacocks (?) confronted on the shoulders; wheel pattern on discus; Greek cross on the channel.
- Lamp no. 70: dolphins and vases with stylized floral motif on the shoulders; ring decorated with small circles on discus; « Jerusalem » cross in the circle on discus.
- Lamp no. 32: two pairs of ostriches flanking two vases; ring decorated with small circles on discus.

Although only three different groups of decoration are discernible, we should underline the great variety of motifs within each series. There are few repetitive elements like crosses, impressed coins or wheel patterns on the discus. Many lamps have no decoration whatsoever on the channel. Taking into consideration the whole corpus of Byzantine lamps in the Levant the presence of Christian motifs on so many examples is somewhat unusual. It would be natural to assume that the production and distribution of these lamps were associated with christianized regions.

Similarities between some lamps suggest that they might come from the same workshops or at least that the exchange of artistic ideas between the workshops in the region was quite strong. Lamp no. 24 from Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon and lamp no. 73 from Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseum zu Mainz have an almost identical net pattern, but differ because of the discus and channel decoration. Other close similarities exist between lamp no. 68 and lamp no. 31 from Shelomi, lamp no. 72 (Nicosia Museum), no. 12 (mould from Jiyeh), lamps nos. 10-11 from Ghiné north-east of Beirut, lamp no. 20 (Sahlet al-Mathaneh), and no. 36 (from al-Bassa).

The artistic *koiné* of the time is beyond any doubt. Mosaic pavements, preserved in so many examples across Palestine and Lebanon, afford us the opportunity to illustrate the extent to which the inhabitants of the 6th or 7th century province of *Phoenicia Maritima* shared the same artistic taste and used the same motifs on different products of the local craftsmanship. The net pattern on lamps nos. 24, 73 reflects the very same motif as mosaics from the northern aisle of the church at Chhîm (dated 498 AD)³¹ and the church at 'Ain es-Samaké (second half of the 6th century AD).³² Birds flanking an amphora were a popular motif in the Beit Mery church as well (second half of the 6th century AD).³³ The mosaic provides perfect parallels for the baskets and heart-shaped motifs depicted on so many lamps. Two-petalled elements from lamp no. 36 can be compared to identical patterns found on the border of the church mosaic at Ghiné (second half of the 6th century AD).³⁴ Pairs of different animals divided by trees were a popular motif used as an ornamentation of the intercolumnia in the church at Qabr Hiram near Tyre (dated 575 AD).³⁵

31. WALISZEWSKI, TARAZI, 2002, p. 46, fig. 49.

32. DONCEEL-VOÛTE, 1988, fig. 312.

33. DONCEEL-VOÛTE, 1988, fig. 321.

34. DONCEEL-VOÛTE, 1988, fig. 338.

35. DONCEEL-VOÛTE, 1988, figs. 405-413.

Distribution of the lamps (fig 21)

The provenance of the lamps has already been mentioned in this text on several occasions, and *Table 1* offers a comprehensive summary of the accessible data. Due to the lack of extensive archaeological projects in Lebanon until recently, the geographical distribution of finds was limited mainly to northern part of Israel, although many authors expressed their belief that this type of ovoid lamp was of Phoenician origin.

Nahman Avigad wrote in 1976 that the lamps from Catacomb 20 in Beth She'arim « are indigenous only to the northern part of the country » (*i.e.* Israel).³⁶ T. Oziol, rejecting a Cypriote origin for the type, called it Syro-Palestinian and searched for their centers of production « plus au Nord » without making any precision.³⁷ The authors of the Louvre catalogue gave an accurate account of the geographical distribution of the type saying that « Ces lampes proviennent le plus souvent de sites de la côte phénicienne ou du Nord de la Palestine: Byblos, Tyr, environs de Sidon, El Bassa (Betsed), Césarée, Beth Shê'arim ... Des exemplaires ont également été trouvés à Chypre et plus récemment à Anamur, en Cilicie ». ³⁸ For Varda Sussman « This type of lamp was popular in Syria, in the northern part of the country in Christian communities, and in Phoenicia, but the lamps reached the south as well and are quite common in Caesarea ». ³⁹ Most recently, Shulamit Hadad described the geographical setting of type 30 (with discus) as northern Palestine, Lebanon and Cyprus, and type 35 (with large filling hole) as being manufactured locally in Beth Shean, as attested by the discovery of lamps in the kilns of the theater pottery workshop.⁴⁰

A summary of the data in *Table 1* makes it clear, however, that the majority of the Type 1 lamps and their derivatives were found on the Phoenician coast, between Byblos, Ghiné and Beirut in the north and Carmel in the south, which corresponds to the southern territory of the late antique province of *Phoenicia Maritima*. Distribution of the Type 7 lamp, however, is limited mainly to the territory of *Palaestina Secunda*, which explains the presence of the examples at Pella. The discovery of Type 7 lamps in the kiln at Beth Shean only strengthens the impression that this type was produced locally in Galilee.

The discovery of these lamps in Cyprus and in Cilicia, however, demands further investigation. At present we cannot confirm or deny the wider production of lamps at any of these locations, except Anemurium. We can only reiterate that the problem of importation of clay products and short-distance trade between the region of Antioch, Cyprus and Palestine is far from being solved. Recent petrographic analysis of clay sarcophagi and tiles from western Galilee and Cyprus, dated to the period between the second half of the 2nd century AD and the mid-4th century AD, confirm that they were imported to Galilee from either the region north of Limassol in Cyprus, or from the area north of Antioch.⁴¹ Moreover, the unpublished results of petrographic analysis of terracotta tiles from the Byzantine basilica at Chhîm point to the Antioch region as the place of their origin.

Some of the lamps on our list have a broken discus (nos. 31, 46, 73, 56, 35, 36). The most popular explanation for this phenomenon is to associate it with the Jewish population inhabiting Galilee and many coastal cities, including Phoenicia. Our sources, however, point to yet another possibility. The prohibition of graven images among late antique Jewish communities obeyed as

36. AVIGAD, 1976, p. 192.

37. OZIOL, 1977, pp. 255-256.

38. LYON-CAEN and HOFF 1986, p. 133.

39. SUSSMAN, 1996, pp. 356-357.

40. HADAD, 2002, p. 82.

41. SHAPIRO, 1997.

strictly as it was in the past, which the mosaic pavements of many Galilean synagogues prove beyond any doubt. Moreover, the discs of not only Type 1 lamps, but also most other lamps, bear no traces of figural representation. Therefore, perhaps we should abandon the idea of distribution of different types of lamps according to religion and seek another, more pragmatic answer: to brake the discus meant also to make the filling hole larger and to facilitate the refueling of the lamp as well as the adjustment or the replacement of the wick. To complicate matters, I will instantly contradict myself by saying that it is very hard to believe that the geographical distribution of lamps with a broken discus corresponds to that of Jewish settlements only by coincidence. If we take into consideration that the lamps with a large filling hole (Type 7) seem to develop in Galilee, the question becomes even more intriguing. Perhaps the problem can be solved by a chronological analysis of the finds. Evidence from Beth Shean and from Pella, where lamps with large filling holes were found in the controlled stratigraphic contexts, seems to suggest an exclusively Umayyad date for the development of this particular type.⁴² By that time, almost every lamp in the region already had a large filling hole.

Chronology of the lamps

Much has already been said about the chronology of individual lamps. Despite the initial confusion introduced by the excavator of the al-Bassa tomb, the unrealistic date of the late 4th century AD was soon abandoned in favor of a later date pointing to the 6th, or more precisely, the mid-6th century AD as the time when the fully developed type of this variant of ovoid lamps appeared.⁴³

In 1956, an interesting Type 1 lamp was found on the sea-shore in Caesarea Maritima. The unusual decoration on its shoulders bore impressions of coins — *nummi* — minted sometime between 610 and 650 AD.⁴⁴ Another lamp of this type decorated with impressions of the coins of Justinian (527-565 AD), said to be from Tyre, is a part of the Louvre collection.⁴⁵ Both finds can serve as a convenient *terminus post quem* for the production of these lamps, but we know nothing about the time that elapsed between the moment when the coins were minted and when they were used by the potter.

Three different coin hoards have been associated with lamps of this type. The first one, discovered at Beth She'arim in 1956 in Catacomb 24, was dated to the second half of the 6th century AD.⁴⁶ The second one — fifty gold coins of the years 603-665 AD — was found inside a lamp with a large filling hole at Horvat Qav, near Sepphoris.⁴⁷ The last hoard of silver coins was discovered at Beth Shean along with a Type 7 lamp, in a shop from the Umayyad period.⁴⁸ The latest gold coin in the hoard dated to the earthquake of 749 AD; two more fragments of an identical type of lamp were found in a destruction layer associated with the earthquake.

In a few cases, well-controlled stratigraphic excavations were of great use in refining the chronology of this type. A Type 1 lamp, for example, was discovered at Caesarea Maritima in the latrine of the bath, together with a coin from late 6th or early 7th century AD.⁴⁹ According to the

42. Cf. Table 1.

43. Cf. AVIGAD, 1976, p. 192.

44. KINDLER, 1958.

45. LYON-CAEN and HOFF, 1986, no. 216, p. 141. There are also two other lamps bearing the impressions of Byzantine coins: one from Beth She'arim, another from the Nicosia Museum on Cyprus, cf. KINDLER, 1958 and OZIOL, 1977, pp. 255-256, no. 801, pl. 44.

46. ELGAVISH, 1962, p. 216.

47. GORIN-ROSEN and STERN, 1993, p. 18.

48. HADAD, 2002, p. 82.

49. HORTON, 1996, pp. 185-186, fig. 4 (Type 30).

excavators, fragments of such lamps were associated with 90% Late Byzantine pottery and with less than 40% Early Islamic. Two recently published Type 1 lamps were found in the tomb at the ecclesiastical farm at Shelomi. The lamps' context was dated on the basis of pottery analysis to the second half of the 7th or early 8th century AD.⁵⁰ Also, a hoard of Type 2 lamps discovered in abandoned late Roman bath building at Anemurium in Cilicia was dated to the mid-7th century AD.⁵¹

Taking into consideration all the above-mentioned arguments, it seems reasonable to conclude that the ovoid lamps with discus, or at least Type 1, appear around the mid-6th century and continue to be produced until the end of the 7th century or slightly after.⁵²

A Type 7 lamp, with a large filling hole instead of discus, was discovered at Pella in Tomb 7 of the East Cemetery. Its suggested use-span was from *ca.* 521/22 to *ca.* 650 AD.⁵³ Another was found in the Umayyad stratum at West Church complex, assigned generally to the 7th century AD,⁵⁴ and yet another in the destruction level associated with the earthquake of 749 AD.⁵⁵ It seems, therefore, that Type 7 appeared at the same time or slightly later than the lamps with a discus, but remained in use for a longer period of time. Additional evidence for this comes from Bet Shean, where this lamp is present in the destruction level of earthquake of 749 AD but absent from the Abbasid layer.⁵⁶

Concluding remarks

The mould discovered at Jiyeh raises a very important question: how diversified and how homogenous was the production of the lamps in the Byzantine and Early Islamic Levant? The examples mentioned above show striking similarities between the lamps from Chhîm and Sidon (on the most basic, regional level), as well as between Chhîm and Beth Shean, or Jiyeh and Cyprus (on the interregional level).

The origins of this type still demand more research. In this regard, the almost total absence of the lamps in the material published so far from the recent excavations in downtown Beirut is striking. Perhaps future publications will yield lamps from the layers dated to the earthquake of 551 AD or right after.

Also, it seems for the moment that this type of lamp remained remarkably unchanged in form and decoration. In order to build a more refined typology, we will have to rely on finds from better dated centers of production or better stratified archaeological contexts. Additionally, a more careful analysis of fabrics is needed. The creation of a database of samples from different sources could help us answer the question of whether this particular type of lamp was marketed across the Levant or limited to the region of its production.

Concentration of the known examples of the lamps on the coast between Beirut and Carmel seems to suggest the existence, in terms of the material culture and economy, of a homogenous region (southern Phoenicia), where the prototypes of the 'Northern Stamped Lamps' developed and transformed into the Byzantine ovoid and then into the Early Islamic channel-nozzle lamps. The development of an independent Type 7 with a large filling hole restricted to Galilee again fits

50. DAUPHIN and KINGSLEY, 2003, pp. 69-70, figs. 11-12.

51. WILLIAMS and TAYLOR, 1975.

52. In Sh. Hadad's opinion, her type 30 went out of use around the mid-7th century AD, cf. HADAD, 2002, p. 72.

53. SMITH, 1973, pp. 219-220, pl. 67.190 and pl. 81.190.

54. SMITH, 1973, pp. 219-220, pl. 30.1315 and p. 233.

55. MCNICOLL *et al.*, 1982: pp. 127-130, pp. 139-144, pl. 140, no. 10, pl. 143, no. 4.

56. HADAD, 2002, p. 82.

well the picture of what we know about late antique regionalism in Palestine. Such an evolution also corresponds with the view expressed by Paul Reynolds, who pointed out that Chhîm, situated so close to ancient Berytus, looked towards the south in terms of ceramic tradition and economic ties.⁵⁷

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57. ORTALI TARAZI *et al.* 2002, p. 131.

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Table 1: Typology and distribution of the ovoid lamps in the Levant with special reference to Waliszewski Type 1 and Type 7. Chronology of the lamps follows strictly the authors of the publication. The same applies to the description of their fabric and context.

TABLE 1						
TYPOLOGY AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE OVOID LAMPS IN THE LEVANT						
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO WALISZEWSKI TYPE 1 AND TYPE 7						
Chronology of the lamps follows strictly the authors of the publication. The same applies to the description of their fabric and context.						
No.	Provenance	Type	Dimensions / Fabric	Decoration	Context/Date	Reference
CILICIA						
1	Anemurium (fig. 6)	2	Complete; Form II, type 12.	Shoulders: birds; channel: bifurcated cross.	In disused late Roman bath building; suggested date: mid-7th c. AD.	Williams, Taylor, 1975; fig. 4; different variants of this type are attested at Anemurium.
CYPRUS						
2	Salamis	1	Complete; 9.4 x 6.9 x 3.2 cm; Oziol no. 466, Type 7e; "argile jaune clair, virant au gris".	Shoulders: palms, fruit trees; channel: cross.	Found in sector T II near the temple of Zeus; "dites chrétiennes, ont été fabriquées en grand nombre à partir de la fin du IIIe siècle p. c. et jusqu'à la fin du Ve siècle environ".	Oziol, Pouilloux, 1969, p. 24, fig. 17; pp. 111-112; pl. X.466; pl. XIX.466.
PHOENICIA MARITIMA						
3	Byblos	1	Complete; 9 x 7 cm	Discus: peacock (?); shoulders: floral scroll, birds (?).	Surface find; between the colonnade and the Crusaders castle	Dunand, 1939, p. 39; Dunand, 1937, no. 1195, pl. CLXXIV.
4	Chhîm (fig. 16)	12	Complete; 9.0 x 6.8 cm; 5 small filling-holes.	Shoulders: floral scroll.	Tomb B, central room.	Ortali-Tarazi <i>et al.</i> , 2002, pp. 122-123, fig. 32.
5	Chhîm (fig. 18)	14	Complete; 9.4 x 2.8 cm.	Shoulders: zigzag pattern.	Tomb A, niche 06.	Ortali-Tarazi <i>et al.</i> , 2002, pp. 118-119, fig. 24.1.
6	Chhîm	1	Complete; 9.8 x 3.4 cm.	Discus: beams around the filling hole; shoulders: crosse and leaves.	Tomb B, central room.	Ortali-Tarazi <i>et al.</i> , 2002, pp. 122-123, fig. 32.
7	Chhîm (fig. 20)	16	CHM 75L; Frgt. of upper half; brown-brick, poorly fired.	Shoulders: vine-trellis with grape-bunches.	Roman-Byzantine village; house E.V.	Unpublished.
8	Chhîm	1	CHM 92L; frgt. of upper half; pale orange – light brown, small red inclusions.	Shoulders: circular shields divided by small triangles. Channel: bifurcated Latin cross.	Roman-Byzantine village; house E.VII.	Unpublished.
9	Chhîm	7	CHM 84L; frgt. of upper half; light brown, traces of red-brown slip.	Shoulders: scale pattern.	Roman-Byzantine village; house E.VII.	Unpublished.
10	Ghiné	1	Frgt. of upper half; L. 6,5 cm.	Shoulders: medallions with 4 –petalled elements, divided by small triangles.	Church in the Roman temple; rooms 3 & 5 north of the temple.	Chéhab 1958, 160-161; Chéhab 1959, pl. CIII.3.
11	Ghiné	1	Frgt. of upper half; L. 7 cm.	Discus: lines radiating from filling hole; shoulders: medallions with 6-petalled elements, divided by small triangles.	Church in the Roman temple; rooms 3 & 5 north of the temple.	Chéhab 1958, 160; Chéhab 1959, pl. CIII.5.

12	Jiyeh (fig. 1)	1	Plaster mould for upper half of the lamp; 9 x 5 cm.	Shoulders: medallions filled with six-petalled elements divided by small triangles	Late antique habitations; found in 1997 by the expedition of Warsaw University and DGA	Unpublished.
13	Kafr Dura (Hermon area)	1	Complete; red-buff ware.	Discus: traces of two concentric circles.	Found in the temple, loc. 2; described as Byzantine.	Dar, 1993, pp. 222-223, pl. 11.31, photo p. 293, fig. 88.
14	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon (fig. 5)	1	Complete; Louvre AGR Inv. CA 6217; "terre jaune-rouge, facture nette".	Discus: "une croix grecque pattée"; shoulders: un rinceau orné de feuilles".	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXVI.4; Lyon-Caen & Hoff 1986, no. 202, pp. 137-138.
15	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon	1	Complete; Louvre AGR Inv. CA 6215; 9 x 7 x 3 cm; "terre jaune-rouge, facture nette".	Discus: "une rosace inscrite dans un cercle"; channel: "une plant stylisée"; shoulders: "de chaque côté de l'appendice de préhension, cinq dauphins tournés vers le bec".	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXVI.7; Lyon-Caen & Hoff 1986, no. 199, pp. 137-138.
16	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon (fig. 3)	1	Complete; Louvre AGR Inv. CA 6238; 10 x 8 x 3 cm; "terre jaune-rouge, facture nette".	Discus: "un anneau garni de plusieurs disques pastilles"; shoulders: "des tiges feuillues couchées en oblique."	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXVII.1; Lyon-Caen & Hoff 1986, no. 203, p. 138.
17	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon (fig. 14)	10	Complete.	Discus: concentric circles; shoulders: peacocks flanking vase.	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXIX.9.
18	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon (fig. 15)	11	Complete.	Shoulders: fish, bird, circles with crosses, antithetic human heads in profile.	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXIX.7.
19	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon (fig. 17)	13	Complete.	Discus: plants; shoulders: geometric patterns; channel: basket with fruits.	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXIX.3.
20	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon	1	Complete.	Discus: circles form on the discus a cross-like motif; shoulders: 2-petalled elements decorated with dots and triangles;	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXVIII.7.
21	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon (fig. 19)	15	Complete.	Discus: floral pattern; shoulders: geometric pattern.	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXVII.3.
22	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon (fig. 12)	8	Complete.	Discus: leaves around the filling hole; shoulders: guilloche with circles inside; discus: leaf.	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXIX.2.
23	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon (fig. 9)	5	Complete; Louvre AGR Inv. CA 6213; 9 x 7 x 2 cm; "terre jaune-rouge, facture peu nette".	Discus: un personnage ailé vêtu d'une tunique, les bras écartés et les pieds tournés vers la gauche. Représentation chrétienne d'un ange ?; shoulders: "un décor de rinceaux spirales de chaque côté de l'appendice de préhension."	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac, 1937, pl. XXVII.6; Lyon-Caen & Hoff 1986, nos. 185, 135.
24	Sahlet al-Mathaneh near Sidon	1	Complete; Louvre AGR Inv. CA 6220; 9 x 6 x 3 cm; "terre jaune-rouge, facture nette".	Discus: "une étoile à cinq branches cantonnée de boules et inscrite dans un cercle"; shoulders: net pattern; channel, "une tige ondulée garnie de boules".	Tomb; first half of the 4th c. AD.	Meurdrac 1937, pl. XXVII.4; Lyon-Caen & Hoff 1986, no. 208, p. 139.
25	Sarepta (Sarafand)	1	Frgt. of upper and lower half; 9,4 x 3,7 cm; 2.5YR 6/8 light red.	Discus: beam pattern surrounded by a circle; shoulders: fish(?) and an unidentified figure, possibly an octopus; channel: stylized plant.	Southeastern part of the site, level 1 Dat. Ogolne dla grupy XIV : 350-450 AD	Pritchard, 1988, nos. 61, 190 & 194-195, figs. 70, 72 & 76.

26	Sarepta (Sarafand)	1	Frgt. of upper half; 2.5YR 6/6 light red.	Discus: 3 concentric circles; shoulders: tendrils and dots.	Southeastern part of the site, level 1 Group XIV dated 350-450 AD.	Pritchard, 1988, nos. 62, 190 & 194-195, figs. 70, 72 & 76.
27	Sarepta (Sarafand)	1	Frgt. of upper half 2.5YR 6/8 light red	Discus: traces of ring with dots; shoulders: tendrils and baskets filled with fruits.	Southeastern part of the site, level 2 Group XIV dated 350-450 AD.	Pritchard, 1988, nos. 64, 190-191 & 194-195, figs. 70, 72 & 76.
28	Sarepta (Sarafand)	1	frgt. of upper half	Discus: traces of beam pattern; shoulders: ivy (?) scrolls.	Southeastern part of the site; Group XIV dated 350-450 AD.	Pritchard, 1988, nos. 69, 191 & 194-195, figs. 70, 72 & 76.
29	Shavei Zion (Kh. al-Mallaha, ancient Nea Kome?)	1	Frgt. of upper half.	Discus: two fish; shoulders: stars and squares; channel: traces of fish (?).	5 th c. AD.	Prausnitz, 1967, pp. 45-46, fig. 15.14; pl. 26.a.
30	Shavei Zion (Kh. al-Mallaha, ancient Nea Kome?)	7	Frgt. of lamp	Shoulders: Jerusalem crosses in circles divided by small triangles.	5 th c. AD.	Prausnitz, 1967, pp. 45-46, fig. 15.16; pl. 26.b.
31	Shelomi	1	Complete.	"Guilloche decoration and cross within the wick-channel",	Burial chamber. Second half of the 7th or early 8th c.; "manufactured in N. Palestine".	Dauphin, Kingsley, 2003, fig. 12.
32	Shelomi	1	Complete.	Discus: ring decorated with small circles; shoulders: "pairs of walking ostriches".	Burial chamber. Second half of the 7th or early 8th c.; "manufactured in N. Palestine".	Dauphin, Kingsley, 2003, fig. 11.
33	Sidon (fig. 13)	9	Complete; Louvre AO Inv. AO 5742; 10,5 x 7 x 3,3 cm; "terre jaune pale, engobe jaune-rouge, facture peu nette".	Discus: "une corbeille garnie de globules". Shoulders: "de chaque côté de l'appendice de préhension, deux palmipèdes affrontés à un vase à pied sur un semis de petites fleurs à trois boules".	"Mission Renan".	Lyon-Caen & Hoff, 1986, no. 200, p. 138.
34	Tell Keisan	7	Complete, W. 2.3 cm; reddish yellow ware, good clay, well fired; 5YR 7/6.	Shoulders: "undulating lines separating sets of concentric leaf shapes".	Late 6th – second half of the 7th c.; many parallels from Caesarea.	Hartelius, 1980, pp. 89-90, fig. 29.2.
PALAESTINA SECUNDA, PALAESTINA PRIMA						
35	al-Bassa	1	Complete.	Broken discus; shoulders: plants placed horizontally.	Tomb, c. 396 AD.	Iliffe, 1934, pp. 84- 87, fig. 5.
36	al-Bassa	1	Complete.	Shoulders: 2-petalled elements.	Tomb, c. 396 AD.	Iliffe 1934, pp. 84- 87, fig. 6.
37	Bet Shean (Scythopolis)	1	Complete; 9.5 x 3.5 cm; orange-brown clay.	Shoulders: scales and dots; cross on the base.	Area E, entrance of the vaults under the temple; 6th to mid- 7th c. AD.	Hadad, 2002, type 30; p. 70, no. 313, pp. 71-72.
38	Bet Shean (Scythopolis)	1	Complete; reddish- brown clay.	Discus – Greek cross; shoulders: vegetal design; channel: floral motif	Area E, fill near the temple; 6th to mid- 7th c. AD.	Hadad, 2002, type 30; p. 70, no. 316, pp. 71-72.
39	Bet Shean (Scythopolis)	7	Complete; 9,4 x 3,7 cm; "light brown clay, traces of brown slip".	Shoulders: scale pattern.	Area E, fill near the temple. Umayyad period.	Hadad, 2002, type 35; no. 353, pp. 78-82, 165.
40	Bet Shean (Scythopolis)	7	Complete; 9,3 x 3,3 cm; "light brown clay".	Shoulders: scale pattern. Channel: palm branch.	Area E, fill near the temple. Umayyad period.	Hadad, 2002, type 35; no. 343, pp. 78- 82, 165.
41	Bet Shean (Scythopolis)	7	Complete; 9,2 x 2,9 cm; "light brown clay, fired to gray on surface".	Shoulders: 4-petalled elements and circles with dots. Channel: fish.	Area B. Umayyad period.	Hadad, 2002, type 35; no. 345, pp. 78- 82, 165.

42	Bet Shean (Scythopolis)	7	Complete; 9,8 x 3,8 cm; "light brown clay, traces of brown slip".	Shoulders: 4-petalled elements and circles with geometric patterns inside.	Area G. Umayyad period.	Hadad, 2002, type 35; no. 346, pp. 78-82, 165.
43	Bet Shean (Scythopolis)	7	Complete; 9,2 x 2,9 cm; "light brown clay, fired to gray on surface".	Shoulders: 4-petalled elements and circles with dots. Channel: fish.	Area B. Umayyad period.	Hadad, 2002, type 35; no. 345, pp. 78-82, 165.
44	Bet Shean (Scythopolis)	7	Complete; 9,5 x 3,6 cm; "light brown clay, brown slip".	Shoulders: tendrils of ivy-leaves;	Area B. Umayyad period.	Hadad, 2002, type 35; no. 348, pp. 78-82, 165.
45	Beth She'arim	1	Complete.	Discus: concentric circles; shoulders: nilotic scenes – two pairs of birds and plants; channel: coin monogram.		Kindler, 1958, pp. 106-109, pl. 24.D.
46	Beth She'arim	1	Complete, broken discus, yellowish-brown clay.	Shoulders: alternating lozenges and circles.	Catacomb 20. Dated to the end of the 6th – beginning of the 7th c. AD.	Avigad, 1976, no. 36, pp. 190-192, pl. LXXI.36.
47	Beth She'arim (fig. 7)	3	Complete; fine brown clay.	Shoulders: tendrils and circles.	Catacomb 20. Dated to the end of the 6th – beginning of the 7th c. AD.	Avigad, 1976, no. 42, pp. 190-192, pl. LXXI.
48	Beth She'arim	7	Complete; yellowish-brown clay, red slip.	Shoulders: net pattern; channel: guilloche.	Catacomb 20. Dated to the end of the 6th – beginning of the 7th c. AD.	Avigad, 1976, no. 37, pp. 190-192, pl. LXXI.
49	Beth She'arim (fig. 11)	7	Complete; light yellow clay, red slip.	Shoulders: alternating 4-petalled flowers and circles with Jerusalem crosses; channel: palm-branch.	Catacomb 20. Dated to the end of the 6th – beginning of the 7th c. AD.	Avigad, 1976, no. 38, pp. 190-192, pl. LXXI.
50	Beth She'arim	7	Complete; light brown clay, red-brown slip.	Shoulders: vine leaves; channel: guilloche.	Catacomb 20. Dated to the end of the 6th – beginning of the 7th c. AD.	Avigad, 1976, no. 39, pp. 190-192, pl. LXXI.
51	Beth She'arim	7	Almost complete; light brown clay.	Shoulders: two birds facing plant; channel: guilloche.	Catacomb 20. Dated to the end of the 6th – beginning of the 7th c. AD.	Avigad, 1976, no. 40, pp. 190-192, pl. LXXI.
52	Beth She'arim	7	Complete; brown clay.	Shoulders: herringbone pattern.	Catacomb 20. Dated to the end of the 6th – beginning of the 7th c. AD.	Avigad, 1976, no. 41, pp. 190-192, pl. LXXI.
53	Beth She'arim	7	Complete; fine brown clay.	Shoulders: geometrical patterns.	Catacomb 20. Dated to the end of the 6th – beginning of the 7th c. AD.	Avigad, 1976, no. 43, pp. 190-192, pl. LXXI.
54	Caesarea Maritima	1	Fragment; 9,3 x 6,7 x 2,7 cm; Grainy fabric, exterior "light yellowish brown" 7.5 YR 7/4.	Broken discus; shoulders: geometric zigzag patterns.	This type constitute 50% of finds in Late Byzantine Building (Stratum 4).	Adan-Bayewitz, 1986, pp. 113-114, ill. 122.a. 7 other fragments of this type cf. p. 114, ill. 123-124 & figs. 5.20-22 & 6.1.
55	Caesarea Maritima	1	Complete; 9,6 x 7,0 x 3,1 cm; Exterior color light yellowish brown 7.5 YR 7/6; prevalent extant surface color is "brownish gray" 5 YR 4/1.	Discus: concentric circles; shoulders and channel: stylized floral designs.	This type constitute 50% of finds in Late Byzantine Building (Stratum 4).	Adan-Bayewitz, 1986, pp. 113-114, ill. 125 and fig. 6.2; Slightly larger version than previous and in heavier fabric.

56	Caesarea Maritima	1	Complete.	Shoulders: alternating pattern of circles and leaves; channel: palm-branch.	Field E, 6 th bath in Caesarea' suburbs.; found together with imitation of Alexandrian/Justinian coin (late 6 th or early 7 th c); context dated between late 6 th c. and 640 AD.	Horton, 1996, lamp 6.12.10, pp. 185-186, fig. 4.
57	Caesarea Maritima	1	Frgt. of upper half.	Discus: 2 concentric circles; shoulders: impressions of coins.	Found on the sea-shore in 1956; coins dated 610-650 AD.	Kindler, 1958, pp. 106-109, pl. 24.C
58	Hammat Gader	7	Complete.	Shoulders: 4-petalled elements and circles with cross-shape elements; channel: guilloche pattern.	Roman bath; 6 th -7 th c.; described as Northern Lamp type, "Hammat Gader lamp seems to be later specimens of Sussman 1989 typology piriform body".	Coen Uzzielli, 1997, p. 326, pl. VII.2.
59	Kh. al-Karak	1	Almost complete.	Discus: broken, traces of geometrical pattern; shoulders: geometric pattern of heart-shaped elements; channel: bifurcated Latin cross.	Byzantine church.	Delougaz, 1960, no. 28, p. 39, pl. 60.28.
60	Nia'né	1	Almost complete; Louvre AO Inv. AO 1286; 9 x 7 x 3,2 cm; "terre rose, concrétions calcaires, facture nette".	Discus: "un anneau garni de boules"; shoulders: "un rinceau de lierre de chaque côté de l'appendice de préhension".	Mission Clermont-Ganneau, 1881.	Lyon-Caen and Hoff, 1986, no. 204, pp. 138-139.
61	Pella	7	Complete; 7.5YR7/4 & 10R4/8.	Vine leaves with bunches of grapes and rosaces or stars; floral motif on nozzle	Tomb 7 East Cemetery Use-span from 521/22 suggested to 650	Smith, 1973, pp. 219-220, pl. 67.190 & pl. 81.190
62	Pella	7	Complete; 7.5YR7/4 & 2.5YR5/8; ware dense and well levigated, good quality.	Shoulders: vine leaves with bunches of grapes and rosaces or stars; channel: floral motif.	Umayyad stratum in Area I, West Church complex, assigned to 7 th c.	Smith, 1973, pp. 219-220, pl. 30.1315 & p. 233.
63	Sepphoris	1	Complete, L. 10 cm; brown-orange;	Discus: "radiating lines around filling-hole"; shoulders: "flower blossoms framed by spiraling vines"; channel: vine-tendril.	Late 6 th to first half of the 7 th c.	Nagy <i>et al.</i> , 1996, p. 223, no. 119.
64	Sepphoris	1	Complete, L. 10 cm; orange.	Discus: "raised round globules around hole"; shoulders: single guilloche; channel: spiraling vine.	Late 6 th to first half of the 7 th c.	Nagy <i>et al.</i> , 1996, p. 223, no. 120.
UNCERTAIN PROVENANCE						
65	British Museum	1	Complete; 10,5 x 6,8 cm; pale orange clay.	Discus: wheel pattern shoulder: peacocks flanking vine; channel: bifurcated cross.	Written on lamp: Beirut; 7 th c. AD; situate production of the type in province of Syria, from Cilicia to Egypt and Cyprus.	Bailey, 1988, Q2326 MLA, p. 287, pl. 60.

66	R. Mouterde collection from Beirut. (fig. 8)	4	Complete.	Shoulders: floral scrolls. Channel: basket full of fruits.	Unknown provenance.	Rey-Coquais, 1963, no. 39.
67	Musée du Louvre (fig. 10)	6	Complete; AO Inv. AO 24545; 9 x 7 x 3,5 cm; "terre rose, concrétions calcaires, facture nette".	Discus: "un personnage cornu, d'aspect faunesque, sans doute le dieu Pan, la tête tournée vers la droite; ses mains semblent agiter des castagnettes. Un long bâtin recourbé est placé derrière lui. à sa gauche, se trouve une flûte à six becs; shoulders: alternance des feuilles lancéolées et de fleurs à quatre pétales.	Unknown provenance.	Lyon-Caen & Hoff, 1986, nos. 184, 135.
68	Musée du Louvre	1	Complete; AO Inv. AO 24559; 10,5 x 7,5 x 2,8 cm; "terre jaune-rouge, concrétions calcaires, facture nette".	Discus: "un motif rayonnant inscrit dans un cercle"; shoulders: "un entrelacs rempli de pastilles et cantonné de petits triangles en relief".	Unknown provenance.	Lyon-Caen & Hoff, 1986, no. 210, pp. 139-140.
69	Musée du Louvre	1	Complete; AO Inv. AO 24566; 10,3 x 7,8 x 3 cm; "terre brun-rouge clair, concrétions calcaires, facture peu nette".	Discus: "un anneau"; shoulders: "des losanges accolés contenant une feuille lancéolée".	Unknown provenance.	Lyon-Caen & Hoff, 1986, no. 212, p. 140.
70	Musée du Louvre	1	Complete; AE Inv. E 29943; 10,5 x 7 x 3,5 cm; "terre brun-rouge clair, concrétions calcaires, facture peu nette".	Discus: "un bourrelet circulaire. Le décor intérieur a disparu"; shoulders: "de chaque côté de l'appendice de préhension, un dauphin avec un grand oeil, un vase contenant une branche stylisée ornée sur sa panse d'une croix pattée cantonnée de boules."; canal: "une croix cantonnée de quatre boules inscrites dans un cercle au-dessus d'un motif en forme d'oeil".	Unknown provenance.	Lyon-Caen & Hoff, 1986, no. 213, p. 140.
71	Musée du Louvre	7	Complete; AO Inv. AO 24529; 10 x 7 x 4 cm; "terre rose, concrétions calcaires au revers, facture peu nette".	Shoulders: "alternance de disques ornés d'un treillis et de quatre feuilles de chaque côté d'un minuscule appendice de préhension"; channel: "un décor de treillis".	Unknown provenance.	Lyon-Caen & Hoff, 1986, no. 217, p. 141.
72	Nicosia Museum, Cyprus (fig. 2)	1	Complete; 10 x 7,5 x 3,5 cm; "saumon clair, pure et bien cuite".	Discus: cross-shaped 4-petalled element; shoulders: medallions with 6-petalled elements, divided by small triangles; channel: bifurcated Latin cross.	Before 7th-8th c. AD; Type 19 series 5; production in the northern part of Syria-Palestine.	Oziol, 1977, no. 800, pp. 255-256, pl. 44.
73	Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseum zu Mainz (fig. 4)	1	Complete; 9,7 x 7,1 x 3,5 cm; "grauer ton".	Broken discus; shoulders: net pattern; channel: geometric motif.	4th-5th c. AD, based on parallel from el-Jish; called syro-palestinian.	Menzel, 1969, p. 100, fig. 82.4.

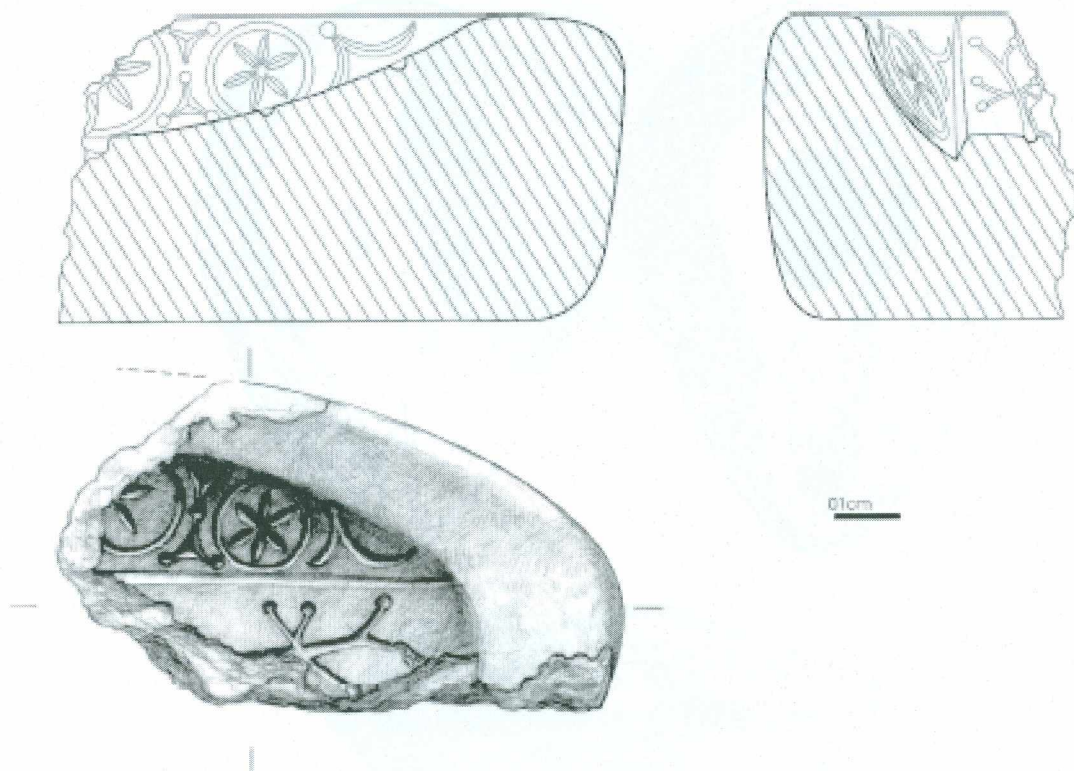


Fig. 1. Lamp mould n°12, Type 1. (Polish center of Mediterranean Archaeology, Warsaw University)



Fig. 2. Lamp n° 72, Type 1 (after Oziol 1977, n° 800, pl. 44)

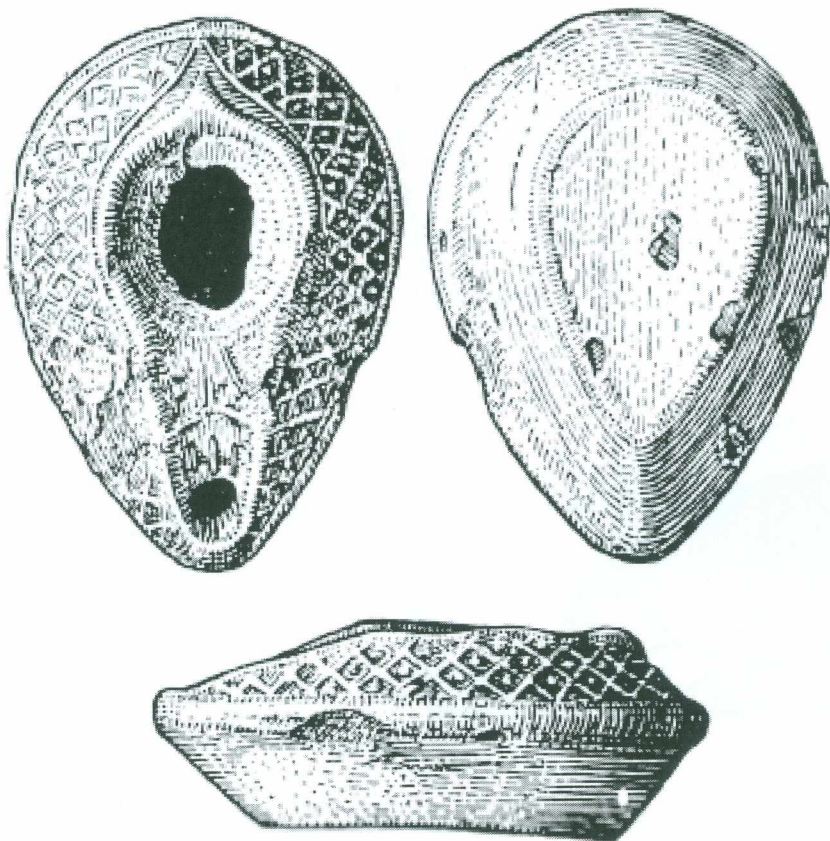


Fig. 4. Lamp n° 73, Type 1 (after Menzel 1969, fig. 82.4)



Fig. 5. Lamp n° 14, Type 1 (after Meurdrac 1937, pl. XXVI.4)

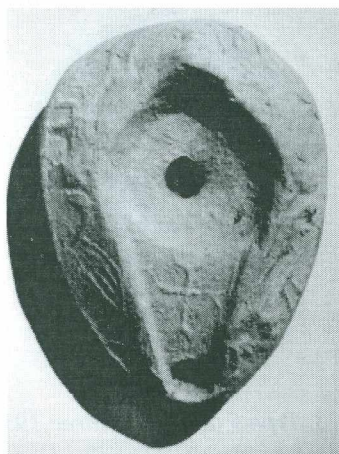


Fig. 6. Lamp n° 1, Type 2 (after William-Taylor 1975, fig. 4)

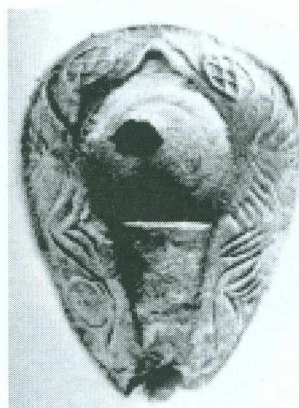


Fig. 7. Lamp n° 47, Type 3 (after Avigad 1976, n°42, pl. LXXI)



Fig. 8. Lamp n° 66, Type 4 (after Rey-Coquais 1963, n° 39)

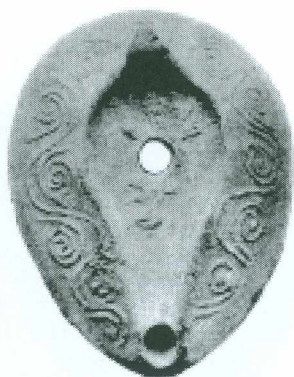


Fig. 9. Lamp n° 23, Type 5 (after Meurdrac 1937, pl. XXVII.6)



Fig. 10. Lamp n° 67, Type 6 (after Lyon-Caen and Hoff 1986, n° 184, p. 135)



Fig. 11. Lamp n° 49, Type 7 (after Avigad 1976, n° 38, pl. LXXI)



Fig. 12. Lamp n° 22, Type 8 (after Meurdrac 1937, pl. XXIX.2)



Fig. 13. Lamp n° 33, Type 9 (after Lyon-Caen and Hoff 1986, n° 200, p. 138)

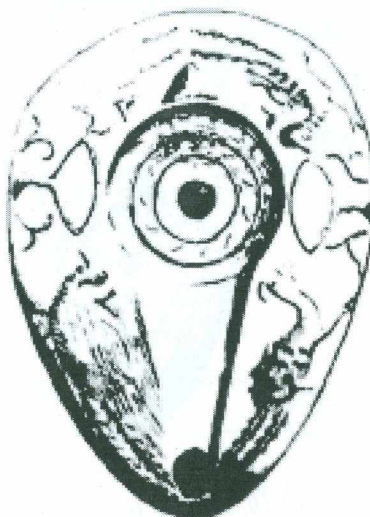


Fig. 14. Lamp n° 17, Type 10 (after Meurdrac 1937, p. XXIX.9)

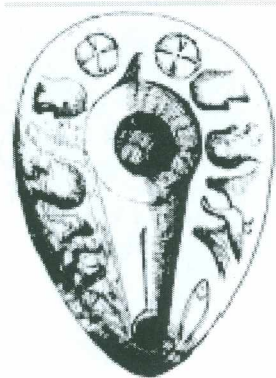


Fig. 15. Lamp n° 18, Type 11 (after Meurdrac 1937, p. XXIX.7)

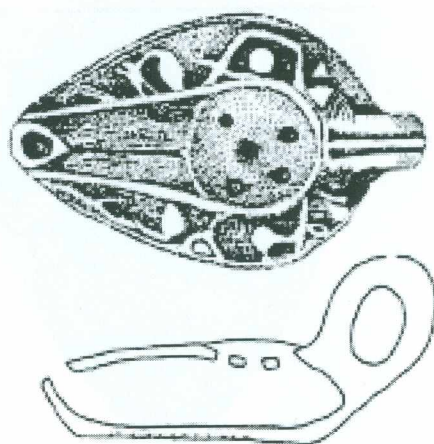


Fig. 16. Lamp n° 4, Type 12 (after Ortali-Tarazi et al. 2002, p. 123, fig. 32)

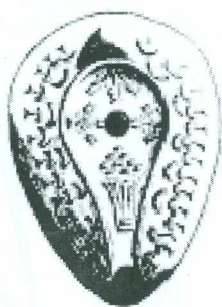


Fig. 17. Lamp n° 19, Type 13 (after Meurdrac 1937, pl. XXIX.3)

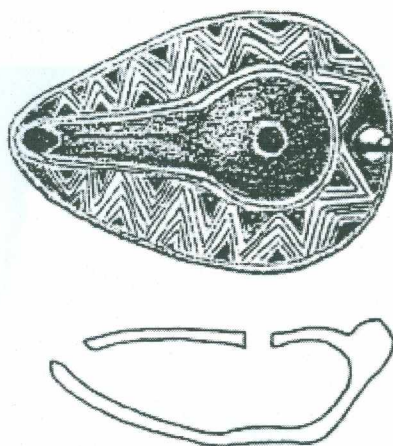


Fig. 18. Lamp n° 5, Type 14 (after Ortali-Tarazi et al. 2002, p. 119, fig. 24.1)

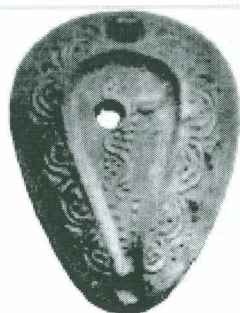


Fig. 19. Lamp n° 21, Type 15 (after Meurdrac 1937, p. XXVII.3)

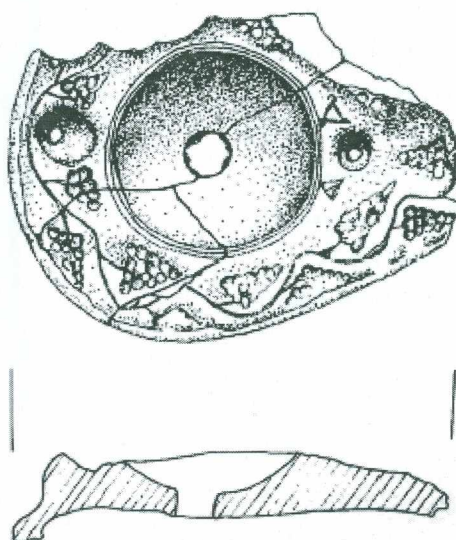


Fig. 20. Lamp n° 7, Type 16 (Polish Center of Mediterranean Archaeology, Warsaw University)

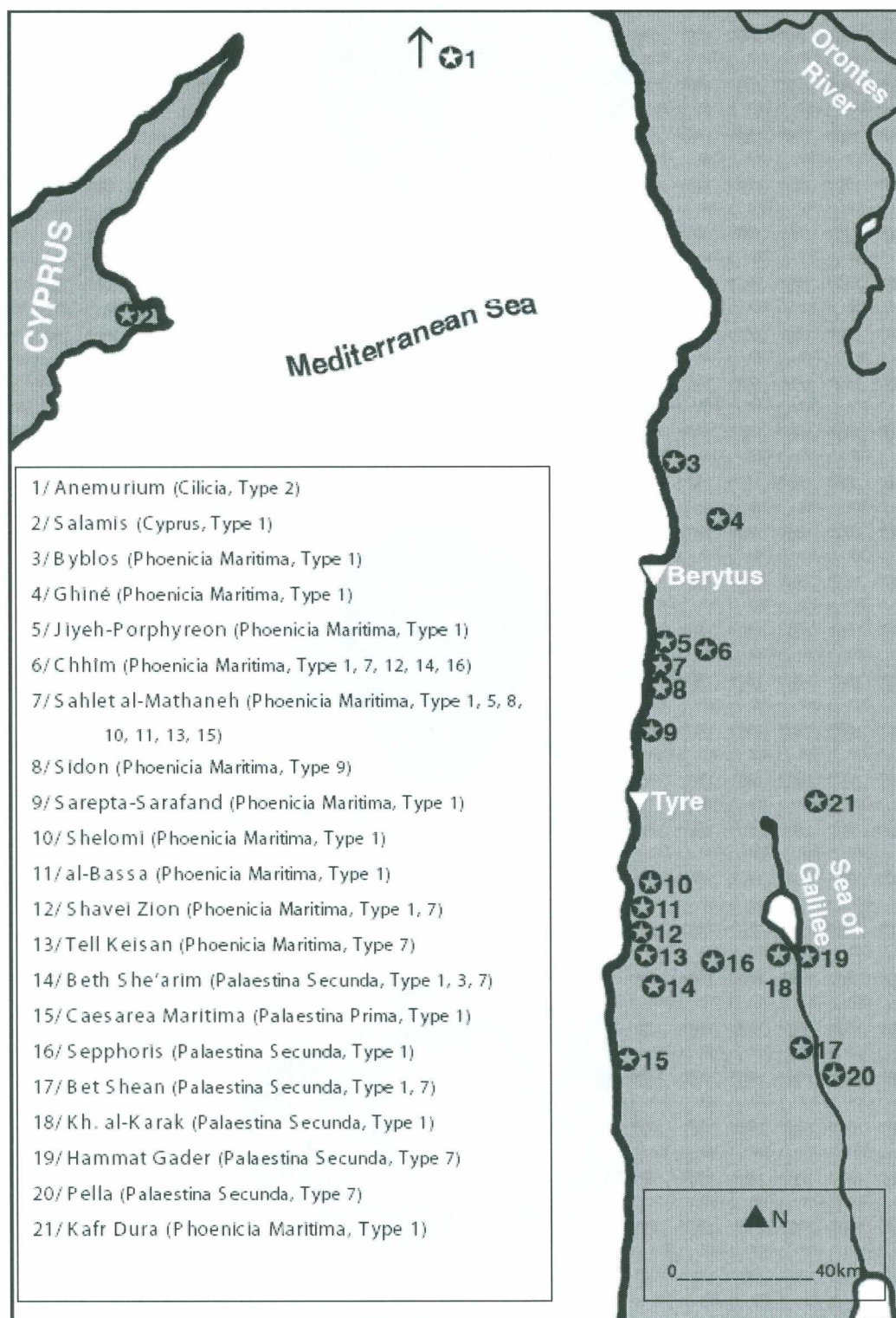


Fig. 21. Geographical distribution of the ovoid lamps Types 1-16 (T. Waliszewski)