

Ancient shipwreck reveals amphorae

Nicosia (CNA) The first amphorae from a 4th century BC ship have been brought to the surface by a team of Cypriot experts.

It is believed that the commercial vessel, possibly carrying wine from the Greek island of Chios, sunk off Cyprus' southern coast. It is said to have been carrying about 500 amphorae.

Dr. Stella Demesticha, Visiting Lecturer of Underwater Archaeology at the University of Cyprus, in charge of the research programme, has said that the wreck lies at a depth of 45 metres and the amphorae had to be brought to the surface for study.

"We cannot be sure of its journey, nor of its destination but we believe it has passed by Chios and other islands in the Aegean around the middle of the 4th century BC and then arrived in Cyprus," she explained.

She noted that so far scientists have not located anything else in the shipwreck except amphorae, adding that the shipwreck is under guard.

"Wine from Chios was believed to be of excellent quality. Of course no wine has been found but we are

almost certain that the amphorae were filled with this very good quality red wine," she said.

Replying to questions, she said the Mazotos shipwreck is the first Cypriot archaeological research.

The project was undertaken by the Research Unit of Archaeology of the University of Cyprus in agreement with the Department of Antiquities and with funding from the Thetis Foundation. The research programme focused on the documentation of the shipwreck using photographic and drawing methods.

The Department of Antiquities believes that the study of this shipwreck is expected to be of great significance for the nautical and economic history of the Eastern Mediterranean as it is one of very few shipwrecks of the Classical period found in the Eastern Mediterranean in such a good state of preservation.

The results will throw light on important research questions such as the commercial relations between the North Aegean and the SE Mediterranean and the role of Cyprus in these transport routes during the last phases of the Cypriot city-kingsdoms, as well as on types and sizes of ships amongst others.



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Θα αποκαλυφτούν οι αμφορείς από το ναυάγιο του Μαζωτού

Την καταγραφή και την επιστημονική περιγραφή του ναυαγίου του Μαζωτού στην περιοχή Λάρνακας, ανέλαβε και διεξάγει ερευνητική μονάδα του Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου ύστερα από συμφωνία με το Τμήμα Αρχαιοτήτων.

Όπως δήλωσε στο ΚΥΠΕ ο διευθυντής του Τμήματος Αρχαιοτήτων Παύλος Φλουρέντζος, το Τμήμα έχει κάνει συμφωνία με την ερευνητική μονάδα του Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου, η οποία έχει αναλάβει να κάνει όλες τις απαιτούμενες ενέργειες για να τεκμηριωθεί σωστά το ναυάγιο.

Επικεφαλής της ομάδας του Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου είναι η ειδική αρχαιολόγος Στέλλα Δεμέστιχα, η οποία φέτος έκανε τις πρώτες ενέργειες επισκόπησης του ναυαγίου.

Όπως ανέφερε ο κ. Φλουρέντζος, έγινε δειγματοληψία αμφορέων διαφόρων τύπων που προέρχονται από διάφορα νησιά του Αιγαίου, και οι οποίοι αυτή τη στιγμή συντηρούνται στο Επαρχιακό Μουσείο Λάρνακας με σκοπό να εκτεθούν όταν και εφόσον συντηρηθούν.

Τέλος, ο κ. Φλουρέντζος ανέφερε ότι η έρευνα θα συνεχίσει με σκοπό να διαπιστωθεί κατά πόσο θα γίνει ανασκαφή στο ναυάγιο.

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Eski batık gemiden amfora çıkıyor

Lefkoşa (KHA) Kıbrıslı Rum uzman bir ekip tarafından, batık gemiden su yüzüne çıkarılan ilk amfora M.Ö 4. yüzyıla ait.

Yunanistan'ın Sakız (Chios) adasından şarap taşıyan ticari geminin Kıbrıs'ın güney sahillerinde battığına inanılıyor. Gemide 500 amforanın bulunduğu ifade edildi.

Kıbrıs Üniversitesi'nde Sualtı Arkeolojisi ziyaretçi öğretim görevlisi ve araştırma

programından sorumlu olan Dr. Stella Demesticha, batık geminin 45 metrelik derinlikte olduğunu araştırma için su yüzüne çıkarılması gerektiğini söyledi.

Demesticha, "yolculuğu ve yönü hakkında emin olamayabiliriz ancak M.Ö 4.yy.da Sakız ve Ege'deki diğer adaları geçerek Kıbrıs'a geldi" diyerek, ekibin şu ana kadar batık geminin içinde amforadan başka herhangi bir şey tespit

etmediğini ve batık geminin koruma altında olduğunu söyledi.

Demesticha "Sakız adasının şaraplarının mükemmel kalitede olduğuna inanılıyor. Tabii hiç şarap bulunmadı ancak amfora çok iyi kalitede kırmızı şarapla doluydu" dedi.

Soruları yanıtlayan Demesticha Mazotos batık gemisinin Kıbrıs'taki ilk arkeolojik araştırma olduğunu söyledi.

