

Summary

Glass Finds from the “Tarsus Cumhuriyet Square” Excavations

At Tarsus, the area of “Cumhuriyet (Republic) Square” has been the subject of excavations since 1997 under the direction of Prof.Dr. Levent Zorođlu. In the 1997 and 1998 seasons, large quantities of Roman and Byzantine glass finds were found in different areas adjacent to the “Roman Street”.

Almost all of the glassware was blown without the use of a mould. However, some pieces were found that were produced using a mould for blown glass. Most of the glassware was of a yellow-green colour, but dark-green, blue-green and a few pieces of dark-blue colour were found. The decorative techniques employed to embellish the glassware seems to have been limited to simple spiral threading which was made with pale, dark-blue glass paste. A group of thin walled fragments had cut and engraved decoration on their surfaces.

From our excavations it was determined that different varieties of glass lamps, glass bottles, glass cups and glass plates were used in Tarsus. These glass fragments are important for the information they provide about the Near East and Anatolian glass industry. These fragments show the artistic connection between glass production in the Near East and in Anatolia.