

## AS CERÂMICAS NO SEU CONTEXTO / *POTTERY WITHIN ITS CONTEXT*

### COMUNICAÇÃO / PAPER

Marcella GIORGIO

#### Ceramics and Society in Pisa in the Middle Ages

This study aims to discuss the complex relationship between ceramics and society in Pisa from the tenth to the fifteenth century, by reprocessing the data from different studies published in recent years and others not yet known, and presenting a first synthesis.

The possibility of achieving socio-economic considerations came from a sample of varied contexts, though still not very large, deriving from stratigraphic excavations conducted in recent years in the historic center of Pisa on wealthy and artisanal sites.

On several occasions in the past there have been the first hypothesis on the interpretation of the quality and quantity of pottery imported to Pisa from the Mediterranean between tenth and early thirteenth century. The situation changed in the early thirteenth century when the maritime republic starts production of glazed ceramic: the archaic majolica. This, manufactured in large quantities and in varied quality standards, sees an almost capillary diffusion in urban areas, changing the ratio of pottery acquisitions from the rest of the Mediterranean. The presence of this indicator on tables more or less privileged could be clarified on the basis of technological and decorative features, as well as on the more direct comparison with other import containers circulating in the city between the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

This research proposed, therefore, to present, briefly, an overview of these studies in order to provide a first synthesis on a sensitive topic such as the socio-economic defining of pisan medieval society