Abstract

This thesis presents the first complete publication and typological analysis of the ceramic assemblage recovered from the Darband Wall in southern Uzbekistan during the Czech–Uzbek archaeological expeditions of 2018 and 2022. The Darband Wall, part of the Iron Gates corridor between Bactria and Sogdiana, occupies a key strategic location within a broader network of frontier fortifications. The studied assemblage, derived entirely from systematic surface collection, includes diagnostic rims, bases, and occasional decorated body sherds from the wall's rampart, towers, and adjacent scatters.

The research applies a morphological classification adapted for unstratified, survey-derived ceramics, distinguishing vessel forms by orifice type, contour, and base morphology. Comparative analysis draws on well-published reference sequences from Uzundara, Kurganzol, Kampyrtepa, Old Termez, and other regional sites.

Due to the absence of stratigraphic context, only a small proportion of the material could be securely dated; most forms are placed within broad chronological brackets from the Hellenistic to Kushano–Sasanian periods. A detailed catalogue and full profile drawings are published in the supplementary section, ensuring the accessibility of the dataset for future comparative and technological studies. By integrating typological documentation with a complete open record of the material, the thesis establishes a reference point for the ceramic geography of the Bactro–Sogdian frontier and contributes to the broader understanding of the Darband Wall's historical context.