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**OEAI FELLOWS LECTURE SERIES** 

## LIMYRA FROM POST ANTIQUITY INTO OTTOMAN TIME

## CURRENT STATE OF KNOWLEDGE AND THE EVIDENCE OF MATERIAL CULTURE

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The lecture will dwell on the current state of knowledge from post-Antiquity into Ottoman period about Limyra and its harbor Phonix. The research is born primarily on ceramic material from the excavations (in the late 1990s and early 2000s) of the Theater Bath. The finding material of the building complex indicates a continuity of use with different phases from the 3rd century A.D. to the Middle Byzantine period. After the last phase of use a new use of the area as a cemetery took place from the 14th century A.D. onward for more than 200 years. The mixed burial forms and the long-term use of the area as a cemetery is evidence of the religious and spiritual character of Limyra, where one of the oldest centers of Bektaschi— an order from the 15th century— is still in use. While a group of ceramics from the last context of the building complex, before the beginning of the burial activities, offers the opportunity to study the gap in the pottery spectrum after 700 A.D., the anthropological results provide an important cornerstone for the settlement history of Limyra and the population structure in the Beylik-Ottoman period which is well represented by the material culture.

