

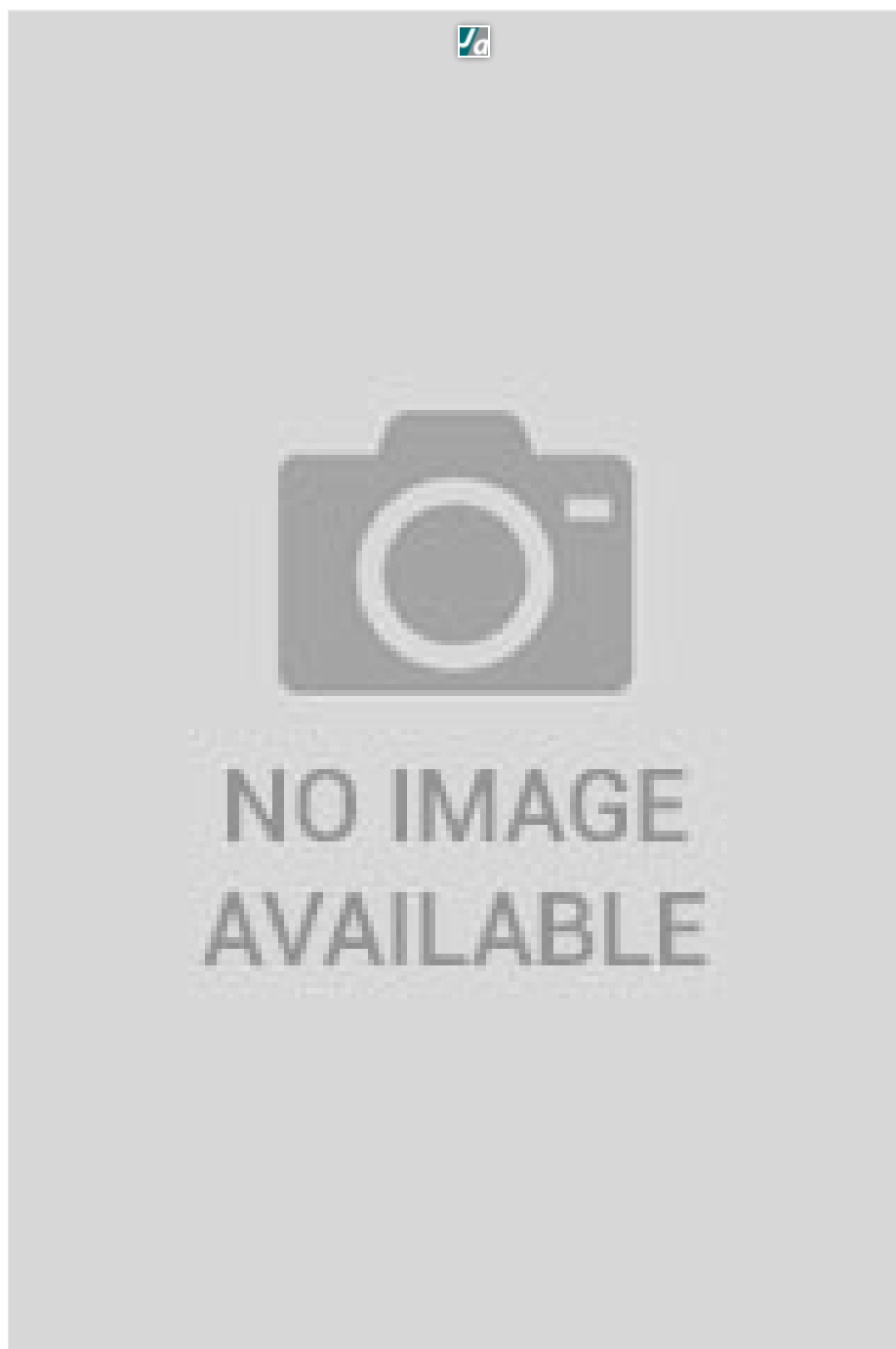
# Two fifth century AD Byzantine silver bowls from Estonia

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## TWO FIFTH CENTURY AD BYZANTINE SILVER BOWLS FROM ESTONIA

TWO FIFTH CENTURY AD BYZANTINE SILVER BOWLS FROM ESTONIA

**Author(s):** Ülle Tamla, Dieter Quast, Stephanie Felten

**Subject(s):** Archaeology

**Published by:** Teaduste Akadeemia Kirjastus

**Keywords:** FIFTH CENTURY AD ; BYZANTINE SILVER BOWLS ; ESTONIA

**Summary/Abstract:** This paper deals with the rare silver bowls found at Kriimani and Varnja in eastern Estonia in the 19th century. The vessels are outwardly similar and have been made in the Byzantine Empire in the late 5th – early 6th century. There are four impressed control stamps of the reign of the Emperor Anastasius I (491–518 AD) on the bottom of the vessel from Varnja. In the paper an archaeological and art historical overview of silverware has been given and the questions of how and why such

luxury items reached so far north are being discussed. Also S. Felten's, a jeweller-conservator's vision of how the Kriimani vessel had been made and how the only partly survived artefact was restored, has been added.

## Details

## Contents

**Journal:** [Eesti Arheoloogia Ajakiri](#)

**Issue Year:** 14/2010

**Issue No:** 2

**Page Range:** 099-122

**Page Count:** 24

**Language:** English

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Two fifth century ad Byzantine silver bowls from Estonia/Kaks viienda sajandi butantsi hobenou eestist. At empires' edge; Project Paphlagonia; regional survey in north-central Turkey. At empires' edge; Project Paphlagonia; regional survey in north-central Turkey. In the second half of the 19th century two silver bowls were discovered in Estonia (Fig. 1). They come from the Byzantine Empire and date to the late 5th early 6th century and they were buried in the same time in Estonia. They are similar and one of them had four control stamps under the bottom dating to the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Anastasius I (491-518 AD). Even if this makes the bowls truly exceptional, there has been no thorough discussion about them. Next to archaeological and art historical analyses of these bowls the question how and why they came to the north is of interest. Krii