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THE EARLY IRON AGE REGIONAL GROUPS IN THE UŽICE AREA

In memory of Mihailo Zotović

Abstract: In the region of Užice, there were several smaller Early Iron Age groups situated around Kosjerić, Požega, Užice and Priboj whose material culture dates from the 7th to the 4th century BC. An analysis of this material shows that there are chronological differences in the development of these microareas. The group around Priboj attained its climax in the second half of the 7th and the beginning of the 6th century and after a period of decline had a certain cultural revival in the 4th century. The group around Požega developed from the second half of 7th to the first half of the 5th century, and the groups around Užice and Kosjerić from the first half of the 6th to the first half of the 5th century BC.

The Early Iron Age in Serbia is best known in the southwest. Although the settlements in this area are not sufficiently investigated, numerous mound necropolises give a more or less complete picture of the cultural development in this area between the 7th and the 4th century BC.

Immediately after the Second World War, in 1952 and 1953, Milutin and Draga Garašanin excavated systematically the Bronze and Early Iron Age mounds in Ražana near Kosjerić and in Kriva Reka by Čajetina. Accidental but important discoveries of Early Iron Age graves under the mounds were made in the following years in Vrane near Arilje, Srednja Dobrinja in the vicinity of Požega, Uzići near Požega, Godljevo near Kosjerić, Kremna near Užice etc. However, a more complete picture of

Early Iron Age culture in this area was obtained as a result of the significant excavations by Mihailo Zotović, primarily in Pilatovići, on the sites “Ravni Lug” and “Trnjane”, and in the valley of the Poblaćnica river, west of Priboj, around the villages Zabrnjica and Krajčinovići.¹ (Fig. 1)

These investigations produced a large quantity of material dating to the Early Iron Age, so that it is possible to follow relatively precisely the cultural development in this area from the 7th to the 4th century BC., and even to speak of certain chronological and territorial differences among these sites, i. e. microregions. It is possible to determine several small groups: one is situated in the surrounding of Kosjerić with the sites Ražana and Godljevo; another is around Užička Požega with Pilatovići, Glumač and Uzići; Srednja Dobrinja in the north, and Vrane near Arilje in the south can be to a certain extent connected with this group. In the surrounding of Užice and Čajetina one can discern another small group which includes the sites Kriva reka and Kremna. In the west, near Bajina Bašta, there is Višesava. Finally, there is another group in the south, in the valley of Poblaćnica, which includes Krajčinovići and Zabrnjica. In this review of the Early Iron Age sites in southwest Serbia the mound necropolis of Štrpci, several kilometers north of Priboj, but on the Bosnian side of the frontier, should be included because it belongs culturally to this area and shows similarities to the material from the Poblaćnica valley. Otherwise, all these finds show similarities to the material from the Glasinac plateau in east Bosnia and the Early Iron Age culture in that area, as they belong in a wider sense to the Early Iron Age Glasinac group.²

Our results in this paper are based on the present state of research. In the region of Užice there are many mound necropolises of which some are fully excavated, some not at all, and some partially (in the Poblaćnica valley there are over 100 mounds registered, of which 13 are excavated), so that our conclusions, or rather our suppositions, may be corrected to a greater or lesser degree in the future.

Our chronological and chorological conclusions are based mainly on the typology of fibulae, which, particularly in the Iron Age, were numerous and various, thus chronologically very sensitive (Fig. 2). Working on the volume dealing with fibulae of the Central Balkan area for the series

¹ Zotović 1985, 16 ff.

² Zotović 1985, 16 ff. ; Garašanin 1973, 470 ff. ; Vasić 1977, 20 ff. : also, Fiala 1899, 53 ff. For Glasinac, Benac/Čović 1957.

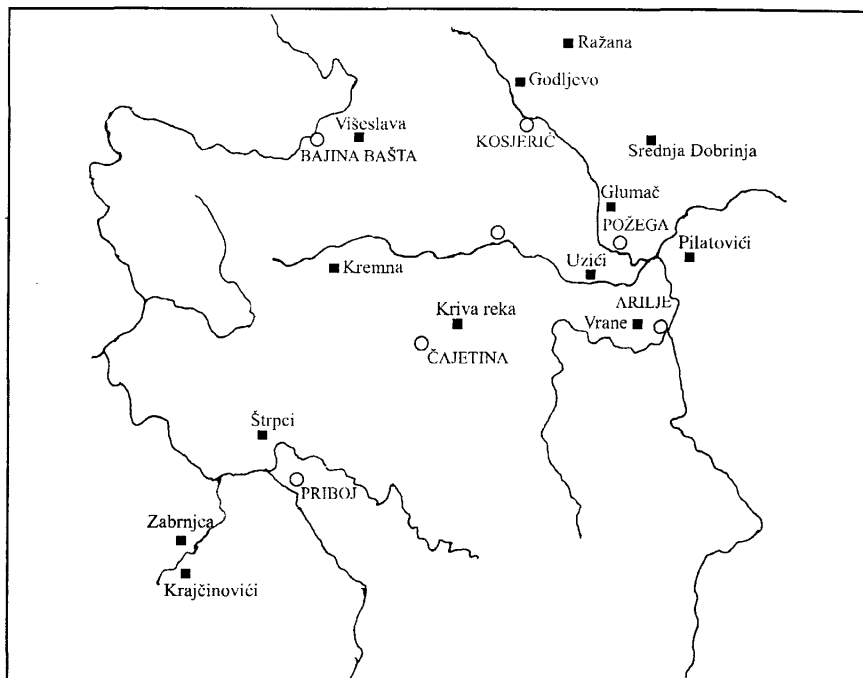


Fig. 1. The Early Iron Age Sites in the U žice area

“Prehistoric Bronze Finds”(PBF)³, I had the opportunity to become acquainted with all the accessible material, thanks to the kindness and understanding of colleagues from the Museums in U žice and Priboj, Jarmila Djurić, Ljiljana Mandić and Savo Derikonjić, to whom I express my deepest gratitude. Apart from the fibulae, other material relevant to the chronology and cultural determination of regional differences in this area will also be taken into account.

In the vicinity of Kosjerić there are two sites of importance: a large necropolis with graves under mounds at the site “Anište” in the village Ražana, which Draga and Milutin Garašanin excavated in 1952/53,⁴ and a mound with several dislocated graves in the village Godljevo.⁵

³ The volume “Die Fibeln im Zentralbalkan”, PBF XIV, 12, is in print.

⁴ These excavations were never published completely. The material has been published partially on several occasions but without relevant data: M. and D. Garašanin 1956, 11 ff.; D. Garašanin 1967, 31 ff.; D. Garašanin 1967a, 41 ff.; M. Garašanin 1973, 470 ff.; R. Vasić 1977 Pl. 24; M. Zotović 1985, 71 ff.

⁵ M. Zotović 1967, 153 ff.; M. Zotović 1985, 76 f.; R. Vasić 1977, Pl. 25.

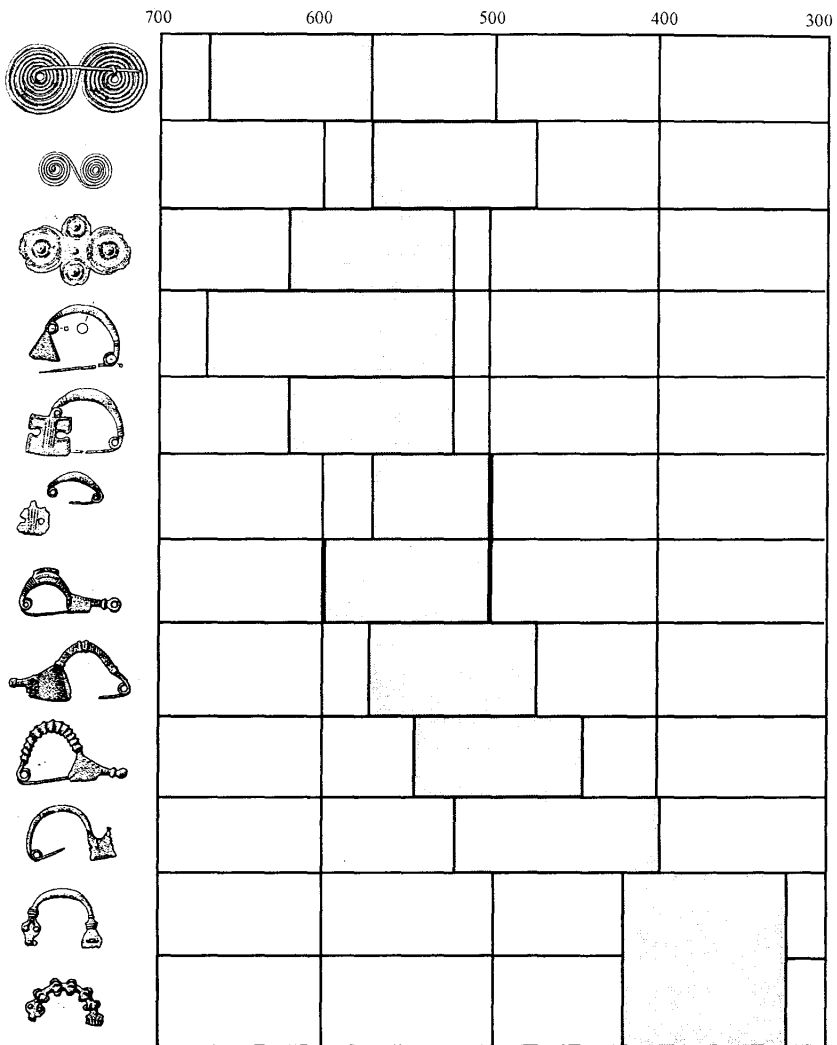


Fig. 2. The Chronology of Various Fibulae Types in the Užice area

In Ražana fibulae were found mainly in mounds V and VII, while only a few were found in mounds IV and VIII. Mound V provided small spectacle fibulae without an “8” between the two discs, small double-looped fibulae with catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield and Glasinac plate fibulae with and without petals along the edge. These fibulae are characteristic mainly of the middle of the 6th and the beginning of the second half of the 6th century, but they appear earlier and remain in use till later.

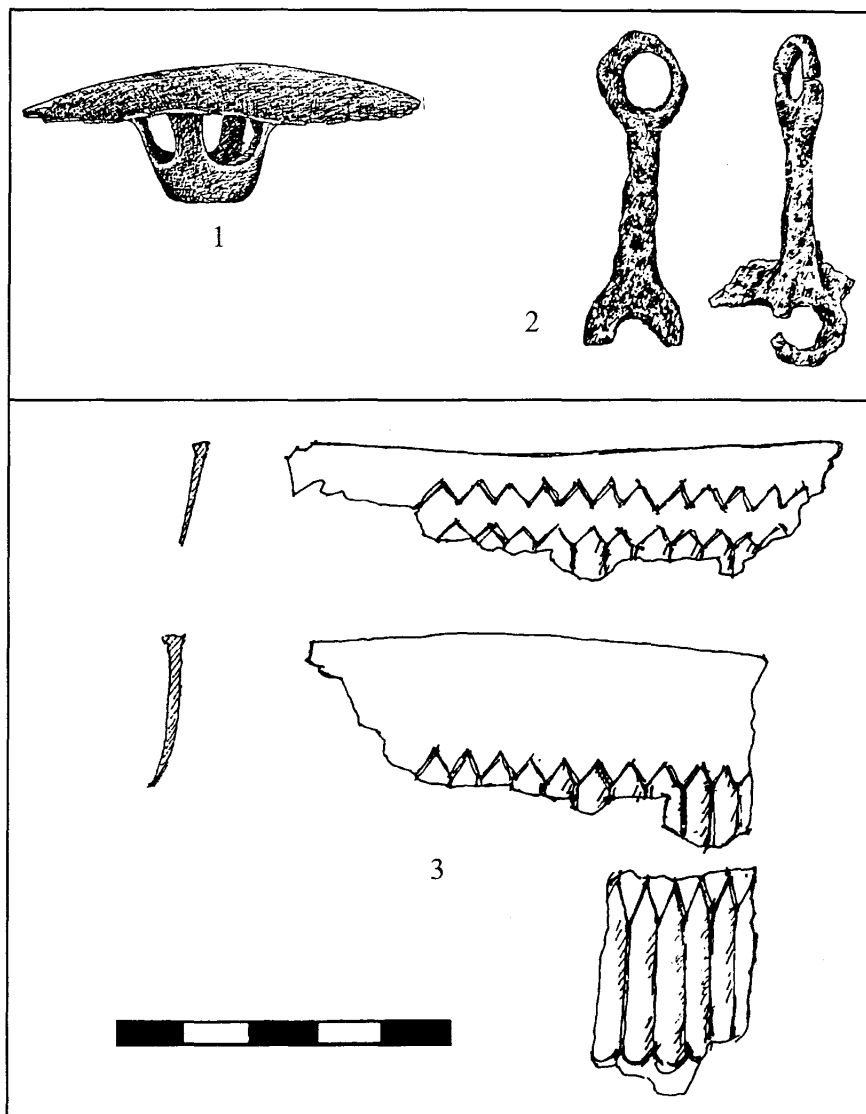


Fig. 3. 1.2 Ražana; 3 Srednja Dobrinja

For this reason we are inclined to date mound V approximately between 575 and 500 BC. An Illyrian helmet of the later variant found in the same mound could be dated around 500 BC⁶ and parts of horse harness: bronze

⁶ M. Garašanin 1957, 37 ff.

button and iron bits of Vekerzug type belong to the end of the 6th century.⁷ (Fig. 3, 1. 2) Mound VII contained mainly Glasinac one-looped fibulae with elongated triangular or trapezoidal catch-plate of all three types of bow - boat-shaped, knotted and ribbed. This mound also contained two double-looped fibulae having rectangular catch-plate with two holes and a crested fibula with rectangular catch-plate. Mound VII can be considered somewhat later than mound V and dated between 550 and 475 BC. The rare fibulae from mounds IV and VIII belong to the same types as those from mound VII and are contemporary.

Fibulae from Godljevo are also Glasinac types with elongated trapezoidal or triangular catch-plate: four with boat-shaped bow, six with knotted bow and one with ribbed bow. They suggest a dating to the second half of the 6th century BC. From among other finds from Godljevo one should mention two bronze armbands of type Mramorac, the only find of this jewelry type in the Užice region, and a bronze pin with loop-head (Schlaufennadel), neither of which contradicts the above dating.

Briefly, the finds from the vicinity of Kosjerić point to the beginnings of settlement in this area in the first half of the 6th century, an intensive development in the second half of the same century, and a decrease of this intensity in the first half of the 5th century BC.

In 1952/53, Milutin and Draga Garašanin excavated systematically several mounds with graves belonging mainly to the Early Iron Age in the village Kriva Reka by Čajetina, on the site "Višovina".⁸ Fibulae were found mostly in mound VI, and occasionally in mounds I, IV and VII. In mound VI all three types of Glasinac one-loop fibulae with elongated trapezoidal or triangular catch-plate were discovered, with boat-shaped bow, knotted bow and ribbed bow, which indicates the dating of graves in this mound between 550 and 475 BC. In mound VII two Glasinac fibulae with knotted bows were found, as well as two double-shank pins with double-looped twisted head (Type IIIb)⁹ and an iron shield umbo, which suggest the second half of the 6th century as a most probable date. Mound I contained also two

⁷ Unpublished, Mus. Užice, inv. 707 and 719. For bits comp. W. M. Werner 1988, 12 ff. Similar button was found on Glasinac in Rusanovići XVIII, 1 - 1896 (N. Lucentini 1981, 67 ff. Pl. 15, 11).

⁸ Comp. n. 3. Also, R. Vasić 1977, Pl. 29. Fragments of the bronze belt (Pl. 29, 1) belong to the Middle Bronze Age and are incorrectly included here.

⁹ For the typology and chronology of double-shank pins in the Balkans, see Vasić 1982.

knotted Glasinac fibulae and a double-shank pin with double-looped head (Type IIIa) while in mound IV a one-loop fibula with rectangular catch-plate - an imitation of the type Marvinci - was found. These finds indicate a similar dating for both mounds.

West of Kriva reka, in the U žice area, a mound was discovered in the village Kremna.¹⁰ It contained a grave with six fibulae - five fibulae with knotted bows and one with boat-shaped bow and rectangular catch-plate. The last form is well known in Glasinac where it belongs to the middle or the third quarter of the 6th century. The grave in Kremna probably dates to the same period.

The finds from Kriva reka and Kremna indicate the second half of the 6th century as a period of most intensive development in this area.

East of U žice, in the surrounding of U žička Požega, several Early Iron Age necropolises with mounds were discovered, in Uzići, Pilatovići, then Srednja Dobrinja to the north and Vrane by Arilje to the south.

The most important results in this area are provided by the excavations of Mihailo Zotović in Pilatovići, on the sites "Ravni Lug" in 1970/73 and "Trnjaci" in 1977/78.¹¹ It should be mentioned, however, that some material, including fibulae, from the Pilatovići site "Ravni lug" was obtained by the U žice Museum as accidental finds in 1954, 1962 and 1964.¹² In 1954 two fibulae with catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield and two Glasinac knotted fibulae were acquired, in 1962 16 fibulae, all three Glasinac types with elongated catch-plate and in 1964 nine Glasinac knotted fibulae. The systematic excavations from 1970 to 1973 uncovered fibulae in mounds II, III, V and VII. Mound II contained an iron two-looped bow fibula with triangular catch-plate and a large bow fibula with catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield, which indicates the dating of this mound to the second half of the 7th century. Graves in mound III contained only large bow fibulae with Boeotian shield catch-plate and Glasinac plate fibulae which date this mound from the second half of the 7th to the middle of the 6th century. Mound V contained small spectacle fibulae without an "8" in the centre, double looped bow fibulae with triangular catch-plate and catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield but also Glasinac knotted fibulae with elongated catch-plate, which indicates that this mound was in use as a burial place for

¹⁰ M. Zotović 1972, 1 ff.; R. Vasić 1977, Pl. 30.

¹¹ M. Zotović 1974, 27 ff.; M. Zotović 1985, 80 ff.; 88 ff.; R. Vasić 1977, Pl. 26. 27.

¹² Unpublished, Mus. U žice, inv. 406-414; old inv. 4227-4242; 4605-4613.

a longer period, dating from the end of the 7th to the end of the 6th century. Mound VII contained some small spectacle fibulae and bow fibulae with catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield, but Glasinac knotted fibulae are predominant. A bow fibula with rectangular catch-plate of type Marvinci was also found. The earliest graves in the mound belong to the first half of the 6th century but the largest number are dated to the second half. Bearing in mind also the fibulae from mounds destroyed in 1954, 1962 and 1964, one could say that the necropolis on the site "Ravni lug" was in use from the second half of the 7th to the first half of the 5th century BC.

In the princely mound on the site "Trnjaci" several graves were found, of which only one grave - grave 2 - contained fibulae. Of the fourteen fibulae found (there were possibly more but due to corrosion they are unidentifiable), six are small bow fibulae with catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield, two Glasinac knotted fibulae, two fibulae with thick bow and rectangular catch-plate, two fibulae with boat-shaped bow and rectangular catch-plate and two small spectacle fibulae. This combination of fibulae corresponds chronologically to the middle or the beginning of the second half of the 6th century, so we are inclined to date grave 2 in this period.

Other objects in the grave, a belt of bronze astragaloid sticks, amber beads and pottery are dated likewise. Gold ornaments - leaves, saltaleoni and a ribbed fragment, perhaps the lower part of a stylized bee, have parallels in the princely graves in Atenica near Čačak¹³ and in some graves on Glasinac.¹⁴ Three imported bronze vessels from this grave: a big vessel - basin with bossed edge, a bowl with conical neck and ribbed belly and a phiale decorated with lotus leaves are forms found on Glasinac in the graves dated to the second half of the 7th and the first half of the 6th century.¹⁵ Having in mind that these vessels were objects of particular prestige, they could have been placed in the grave a decade or two later.

As well as the objects in grave 2, there was other material found in the mound indicating a similar dating. The central grave does not contain any object of this kind, but 25 bronze "Scythian" arrows and a horse figurine which date probably to the 6th century were found in the peripheral grave.¹⁶

¹³ M. Djuknić-B. Jovanović 1965, Pl. XV, 5-7. 14. 15. 17; XIX, 6. 7. 12. 13; XXI, 3. 8.

¹⁴ M. Hoernes 1889, 137, Fig. 204 (Sokolac, mound III); F. Fiala 1899, 23, Fig. 33 (Okruško, mound III). Both spirals of golden wire are found in graves, dating to the 6th century.

¹⁵ For bronze vessels on Glasinac, comp. notes 22 and 29.

¹⁶ M. Zotović 1985, 97, Pl. 32, 3. 4.

The horse figurine most probably represents a figural decoration on a phalera, of a type which is found in the princely grave in Artand in northeast Hungary and dates to the middle of the 6th century.¹⁷ Parts of bronze vessels with figural decoration were also found in the mound: fragmented handles and a lion figurine which probably belong to a hydria or crater. In style the lion belongs to the late archaic period but is earlier than the lions on the hydria from Novi Pazar and could be dated to the third quarter of the 6th century.¹⁸ All this speaks in favour of a supposition that the princely mound in Pilatovići was in use in the second and the third quarter of the 6th century.¹⁹

The female grave from the destroyed mound in the village Uzići, not far from Pilatovići, contained two large fibulae with catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield, and the male grave contained fragments of an iron spectacle fibula.²⁰ This dates the mound to the second half of the 7th or the beginning of the 6th century BC which corresponds to the chronology of graves in Pilatovići.

Iron Age mounds were found at two sites in Srednja Dobrinja, "Rogušica" and "Zabrani"²¹. In Rogušica two types of Glasinac bow fibulae with elongated catch-plate were found: with boat-shaped bow and ribbed bow, but also one Glasinac plate fibula. We should mention also fragments of one or two bronze lotus phialai from this site (Fig. 3, 3), which are similar to the phialai found in the princely mound in Pilatovići, on Glasinac (Osovo, Potpećine) and in Donja Dolina.²² These finds date from the first half of the 6th to the beginning of the 5th century BC. In "Zabrani" the same two types of Glasinac fibulae with elongated catch-plate were found: with boat-shaped bow and with ribbed bow, as well as one double-looped fibula with catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield and a large spectacle fibula of iron. Besides, this mound provided a two-shank pin with double-looped head and rings (Type IIIc) and a two-shank pin with head in the form of an irregular cross (Type Vc). This material dates to the period between the

¹⁷ M. Parducz 1965, 171 ff., Fig. 10, 3; Pl. 7, 2.

¹⁸ I thank Prof. Werner Gauer from the University in Tübingen whom I consulted concerning this lion.

¹⁹ One has to bear in mind, however, that the entire material from this mound is not yet published and all conclusions have to be brought with caution.

²⁰ R. Vasić 1977, Pl. 28; M. Zotović 1985, 75 ff.

²¹ M. Zotović 1985, 74.

²² Unpublished, Mus. U žice, without inv. nr. For Osovo and Potpećine, B. Čović 1983, 148, Pl. 32, 9; 33, 14; for Donja Dolina, Z. Marić 1964, Pl. 12, 2.

middle of the 7th and the beginning of the 5th century. On account of that, the beginning of Iron Age settlement in Srednja Dobrinja can be placed already in the 7th century and lasted until the beginning of the 5th century. The main intensity is noted around the middle and at the beginning of the second half of the 6th century.

In Vrane near Arilje²³ bow fibulae with rectangular catch-plate and Glasinac fibulae with boat-shaped and knotted bow are found, as well as a two-shank pin with triangular head (Type Ic). This material corresponds to the third quarter of the 6th century. There is also a ceramic jug, decorated with incisions and white encrustation, which Maja Parović-Pešikan dated to the 7th century because of imitation of the leaf frieze decoration on Geometric pottery.²⁴ Metal finds from Vrane are more recent so we are inclined to date this jug to the 6th century. A fragmented jug from mound VII in Ražana, of the same form and with similar decoration, is also dated to the 6th century because of metal finds in the mound.²⁵

Further to the southwest Franz Fiala excavated several mounds in the village Štrpci near Priboj on the Bosnian side of the border in 1899.²⁶ Of nine excavated mounds, fibulae were found in mounds I, III, IV and VI. In mound I a so-called Peschiera fibula with violin-shaped bow was found. It is dated to the Late Bronze Age and is not included in this analysis. Graves in mound III contained double-looped fibulae with catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield and Glasinac plate fibulae, a bow fibula with triangular catch-plate and Glasinac fibulae with elongated catch-plate and boat-shaped and knotted bow, so that it can be dated from the second half of the 7th to the second half of the 6th century. Mound IV contained Glasinac fibulae with knotted bow, spectacle fibulae without an "8" in the middle, Glasinac plate fibulae and double-looped bow fibulae with catch plate in the form of a Boeotian shield. It can be dated as mound III. In mound VI double-looped fibulae with catch plate in the form of a Boeotian shield and Glasinac plate fibulae were found. The mound belongs to the first half of the 6th century or even somewhat earlier. The remaining mounds from Štrpci which did not contain fibulae should be dated similarly. In mound V a Glasinac type

²³ M. Zotović 1985, 74.

²⁴ M. Parović-Pešikan 1986, 32 Pl. II, 23; 36 f.

²⁵ Unpublished, Mus. Užice. inv. 340.

²⁶ F. Fiala 1899, 53 ff. It is interesting to mention that Milica Kosorić also excavated two mounds in Štrpci in 1989 but they did not contain any graves. Comp. M. Kosorić 1990, 23 ff.

of sword was found, and in mound VII a two-shank pin with double-looped head (Type IIIa), together with a Greek skyphos. According to the finds in mound I life in this area began already in the Middle or the Late Bronze Age, but it was extremely intensive only in the Early Iron Age (the second half of the 7th/ the first half of the 6th century BC). All activity ceased after that but a certain revival can be noticed in the 4th century, judging by a hoard of eight Scharnier fibulae and other material, discovered in the same village at the end of the 19th century.²⁷

In the valley of the Pobračnica river, 13 mounds have been excavated. Fibulae were found in mounds V, VI, VII and XIII at the site "Oborište" near the village Zabrnjica, and in mound IX at the site "Rudine" near Krajčinovići.²⁸ Most of the fibulae come from mounds V and XIII, which also contained the greatest number of graves: bronze and iron spectacle fibulae without an "8" in the middle, Glasinac plate fibulae in many variations, double-looped fibulae with triangular catch-plate and with catch-plate in the form of a Boeotian shield. In mound XIII several Scharnier fibulae with pearl-like and star-like ornaments on the bow were also found, together with an Early Latene fibula. Among other finds in this mound, the grave with a Glasinac type sword and greaves decorated with incisions and bosses was most prominent. In mounds VI and VII fibulae were rare: several iron double-looped fibulae with triangular catch-plate, the ribbed bow of a Glasinac fibula and two bow fibulae with rectangular catch-plate. Mound IX provided a Glasinac fibula with boat-shaped bow, found outside a grave, and a Scharnier fibula with two pearls on the bow, found in a grave together with a silver boat-shaped earring and fragments of pottery made on the wheel. From this, one can conclude that the earliest Iron Age finds in the Pobračnica valley date to the first half of the 7th century. The cultural development was particularly intensive during the second half of the 7th and the first half of the 6th century. After that the importance of this area declined in the 6th and 5th century while in the 4th century one notices a certain revival of cultural development in the area.

This review of the dating of various sites in the U žice region shows that not all microregions developed at the same time. In the 7th century one follows intensive cultural development in the valley of the Pobračnica (where greaves with rings were uncovered), in Štrpci and partly in the area of Požega

²⁷ M. Hoernes 1901, 23 ff.

²⁸ M. Zotović 1990, 84 f. Fig. 6.

(Pilatovići). This development continued in these areas in the first half of the 6th century, and some activity is noticed also in the surrounding of Kosjerić in Ražana, where the earliest finds date to this period. In the second half of the 6th century life in the Poblaćnica valley and in Štrpci declined, but it continued in the area of Požega and achieved its climax, as Greek bronze vessels in Pilatovići and Srednja Dobrinja testify. The intensive cultural development in this period can be noticed around Užice (Kriva reka, Kremna) and Kosjerić (Ražana, Godljevo). In the 5th century life continued in these areas to some extent - the Illyrian helmet from Ražana belongs most probably to the beginning of the 5th century (the grave where it was found, was poor and its only other content was a spear). In the 4th century some cultural development is noticed only in the valley of Poblaćnica and in Štrpci. Although a relatively small number of mounds has been investigated, one can conclude that the centres of power in southwest Serbia, dated to the 7th century BC, moved from the Poblaćnica valley towards Požega, Užice and Kosjerić in the 6th century. Later in the 4th century they were again noticed in the southwest but their activity was less intensive. (Fig. 4)

Is this a case of the rise and decline of several smaller groups in this region during four centuries, or is there a migration of some groups from the west to the east of the region and if so, to what extent, is a question which can be answered more precisely only when the entire relevant material is published and analysed. This should include further excavations in the area.

Similar transfer of power centres is noticeable on the Glasinac plateau in this period. Bearing in mind that an analysis of the entire Glasinac material is not yet possible because much of it is still unpublished, we shall deal briefly only with imported bronze vessels and defensive arms, items which may indicate the importance and wealth of various smaller groups on the Glasinac plateau.

Bronze vessels were found on Glasinac in Ilijak, Brezje, Bjelosavići, Čitluci, Potpećine, Osovo, Brankovići, Kusače, Rusanovići and Zagradje.²⁹ The graves in Ilijak (II, 1; XIII, 1 - 1893) are the oldest and belong to the middle and the second half of the 7th century. They contained big basins whose edges are bossed, bowls with ribbed bellies, phialai and a skyphos.

²⁹ A. Benac-B. Čović 1957, Pl. XVII, 1-4 (Ilijak); XXIII, 1. 8. 9 (Brezje); XXVIII, 1. 2 (Osovo); XXX, 5 (Čitluci); B. Čović 1983, 148 ff.; R. Vasić 1983, 185 ff.

	Ražana	Kriva reka	Srednja dobrinja	Pilatovići	Štrpci	Poblaćnica
650						
600						
550						
500						
450						
400						
350						
300						

Fig. 4. *The Chronology of the Early Iron Age sites in the Užice area*

The graves in Brezje (I, 1. 2 - 1895) which contained phialai, in Čitluci (I, 5 - from 1895) a bowl with ribbed belly and in Osovo (II, 1 - 1897) a basin and a lotus phialae, date to the end of the 7th and the beginning of the 6th century BC. A grave which contained a bronze oinochoe, discovered in 1880 before systematic excavations on Glasinac in a mound near the village Bjelosavići, can be similarly dated. The graves from Potpećine (XVII, 1 - 1892) and Brankovići (V, 1 - 1897) which contained lotus phialai and phialai decorated with griffons and a grave from Podgradec - Kusače (I - 1890) which contained a bowl with ribbed belly are more recent and belong to the 6th century. The grave from Zagradje (I, 3 - 1897) with fragments of a bronze vessel dates to the end of the 6th century. The grave from Čitluci (V, 1 - 1892) which contained two jugs with ribbed bellies and a strainer belongs to the second half of the 5th century, as possibly a grave from Rusanovići (VIII, 3 - 1895) which contained the fragmented handle of a similar vessel.

Defensive arms consist of a Corinthian helmet found in Arareva Gromila (I, 1 - 1890) and fragments of Illyrian helmets in Taline (I, 1 - 1892) and Rusanovići (VIII, 3 - 1895)³⁰, three pairs of greaves with bossed

³⁰ Č. Truhelka 1893. 78 Fig. 48; A. Benac-B. Čović 1957, Pl. XXXX, 1; B. Čović 1983. 151; B. Čović 1987. 630.

decoration in Ilijak (II, 1; IX, 1; XIII, 1 - 1893),³¹ a pair of Greek graves and a bronze umbo in Čitluci (I, 5 - 1892)³², and a fragment of an iron umbo in Vrlazije (VII, 1 - 1894).³³ The graves in Ilijak belong to the 7th century, the grave from Čitluci to the end of the 7th or the beginning of the 6th century, the grave from Arareva Gromila to the middle or to the beginning of the second half of the 6th century, while the graves in Taline and Vrlazije date to the 6th century. The grave from Rusanovići belongs to the end of the 5th or the beginning of the 4th century BC.

Ilijak, Brezje and Vrlazije are situated south of the road Sarajevo-Rogatica. Bjelosavići is close to this road, Čitluci, Potpećine, Arareva Gromila and Taline are to the north of it, and Osovo and Brankovići are to the northeast. Thus we can conclude that the earliest centres of power on Glasinac in the Iron Age were in Ilijak in the 7th century BC. At the end of the 7th century several strong centres appear to the north and south of the road Sarajevo-Rogatica, judging by the finds in Ilijak, Brezje, Čitluci and Osovo. During the 6th century the centres around Ilijak and Brezje decreased in strength, but those in Čitluci and Arareva Gromila reached their full development. At the same time an important centre appeared to the east in Brankovići. The bronze vessel finds from the second half of the 5th century in Čitluci indicate continuous cultural development at this site.

The analysis of silver objects found on Glasinac shows similar trends.³⁴ The earliest silver objects are found in Čitluci in the graves dating to the beginning of the 6th century. The graves from the end of the 6th and the beginning of the 5th century which contained silver objects are numerous around Čitluci and Potpećine, north of the Sarajevo-Rogatica road, while in the 4th century they are most numerous in Rusanovići, Rudine and Gosinja, south of the road and in the vicinity of the sites Ilijak and Brezje. These data support the opinion that there was an important centre in Čitluci during the 6th and 5th century, but it decreased in power in the 4th century when the groups, south of the Sarajevo-Rogatica road regained their importance.

With these examples, from the Glasinac plateau, of the cultural development in microareas, I conclude this discussion. Its aim is to suggest

³¹ F. Fiala 1895, 4 ff. Fig. 8. 9. 23. 24. 39; A. Benac-B. Čović 1957, Pl. XVI, 2. 3; XIX, 11.

³² F. Fiala 1893, 133, Fig. 11. 13; A. Benac-B. Čović 1957, Pl. XXX, 6. 7.

³³ N. Lucentini 1981, 67 f. Pl. 19, 11.

³⁴ R. Vasić 1994, 12 f.

a possible analysis of regional and territorial differences in the development of particular small Early Iron Age groups. The complete publication of the Iron Age material from the Užice region will doubtless enable further and deeper study of the problem.

Translated by Ana Vasić

РЕГИОНАЛНЕ ГРУПЕ СТАРИЈЕГ ГВОЗДЕНОГ ДОБА У УЖИЧКОЈ ОКОЛИНИ

Резиме

Од свих подручја на територији Србије старије гвоздено доба је најбоље познато у њеном југозападном делу, у ширем подручју Ужица. Наиме, иако су насеља овде слабо истражена, велики број некропола са хумкама даје прилично целовиту слику о културном развоју на овом простору од VII до IV века пре н. е.

Одмах после Другог светског рата Милутин и Драга Гарашанин су 1952. и 1953. г. водили на овом подручју већа систематска ископавања у Ражани код Косјерића и Кривој Реци код Чајетине, где је откривено више хумки из бронзаног и гвозденог доба. Томе су следила случајна али важна открића гробова под хумкама у Вранама код Ариља, Средњој Добрињи северно од Пожеге, Узићима код Пожеге, Годљеви код Косјерића, Кремни код Ужица итд. Потпуну слику о налазиштима старијег гвозденог доба на овом подручју дали су, међутим, тек радови Михајла Зотовића, пре свега ископавања тумула у Пилатовићима код Пожеге на локалитетима Равни луг и Трњаци и у долини реке Поблаћнице, југозападно од Прибоја, око села Крајчиновићи и Забрњица.

Сви ови радови дали су обиље материјала из старијег гвозденог доба тако да је могуће релативно јасно пратити културни развој на овом простору од VII до краја IV века пре н. е., и, штавише, уочити одређене хронолошке и територијалне разлике у оквиру микро предела у овој регији. У том смислу се може одредити више мањих група и то око Косјерића - Ражана и Годљево, око Пожеге - Пилатовићи, Узићи, Средња Добриња, Вране; око Ужица и Чајетине - Крива Река, Кремна; даље код Бајине Баште, Вишесава: у долини Поблаћнице - Крајчиновићи и Забрњица. У овај преглед локалитета Ужичке регије треба уврстити и налазе из села Штрпци, удаљеног 3 km од Прибоја али на босанској страни, који су географски блиски материјалу из долине Поблаћнице. Сви ови налази слабије или јаче се везују за многобројне налазе са Гласиначке висоравни у источној Босни.

Резултати који су овде изнети заснивају се на тренутном стању истражености терена и у будућности могу свакако бити измењени, с обзиром на велики број неистражених хумки у југозападној Србији. Хронологија се претежно заснива на типологији фибула, врсти покретног материјала који је у праисторији, и то нарочито у гвоздено доба, био бројан и подложен сталним изменама и утицајима, па тако хронолошки доста осетљив. У прегледу материјала из Ужица и Прибоја, који је добрим делом необјављен, имао сам помоћ и подршку колега из Ужичког и Прибојског музеја, Јармиле Ђурић, Љиљане Мандић и Сава Дерикоњића, којима се овде најлепше захваљујем.

После детаљне анализе, дошло се до закључка да има разлика у датовању материјала са појединих од поменутих мањиг подручја. У VII веку интензиван културни развој се може пратити у долини Побраћнице, затим у хумкама у селу Штрпци код Прибоја и само делимично у околини Пожеге - Пилатовићи. Овај развој се наставља у првој половини VI века на тим подручјима, али се запажа одређена активност и код Косјерића-Ражана, где се најстарији налази датују у то време. У другој половини VI века развој у долини Побраћнице замире, али се наставља око Пожеге-Пилатовићи, Средња Добриња, Вране, где достиже врхунац, док је исто тако уочљив око Ужица - Крива Река, и око Косјерића- Ражана, Годљево. У 5. веку живот се наставља само делимично на овом подручју, док се у IV веку обнавља до извесне мере у долини Побраћнице и око Штрбаца. Има се утисак да су се главни интензитет живота који је у VII веку био уочљив претежно на западу у долини Побраћнице и само делимично код Пожеге, временом се потпуно померио ка североистоку у околину Ужица, Пожеге и Косјерића, да би се у IV веку поново вратио на запад.

Да ли је реч само о јачању и слабљењу појединих мањих група на овом простору током четири века или треба у оквиру тога рачунати и са миграцијама становништва са запада на исток и у којој мери, питање је на које ће моћи да буде прецизније одговорено тек детаљним публиковањем и анализом целокупног релевантног материјала. И наравно новим ископавањима на овом простору.

На крају следи кратка анализа налаза импортованог бронзаног посуђа и одбрамбеног оружја на Гласинцу, на основу које се указује на сличне трансфере центара моћи на овој висоравни током старијег гвозденог доба.

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