# Borislav Jovanović **EARLY LA TÈNE PEĆINE NECROPOLIS**





#### INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

# **BORISLAV JOVANOVIĆ**

# EARLY LA TÈNE PEĆINE NECROPOLIS



Editor Aleksandar Kapuran

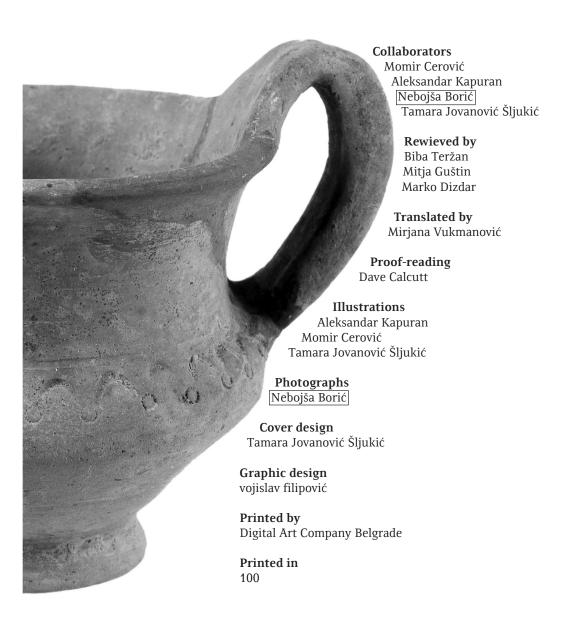
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# **FOREWORD**

associations.

On November 13<sup>th</sup> 2015, Dr Borislav Jovanović, a member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts and one of Serbia's greatest and most important archaeologists of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century, left us for ever. His legacy includes a large number of important discoveries and scientific works that secured him a place in the Pantheon of Serbian and World archaeology. The numerous congresses and symposia where he was invited to present the results of his investigations bear witness to his importance and the respect paid to him by colleagues worldwide. His versatility and dedica-

tion – demonstrated by his wide scope of archaeological investigations, from the Early Neolithic, through the earliest examples of mining and metallurgy to the La Tène period – illustrate, in the best possible way, his intellectual importance and expertise, which he unselfishly shared with his younger associates. This is why we liked and respected him, aware that his experience would be of invaluable help to us for further training and the mastering of conundrums, which he so successfully resolved. Only now, when he is no longer with us, do we appreciate how much we miss him.

The intention of the publication Early La Tène Pećine Necropolis is to bring together archaeological material regarding Early La Tène in Central Europe and the Danube Basin that has been assembled and systematised over decades. Borislav Jovanović started to tackle this problem immediately after the discovery of the necropolis at Pećine, near Viminacium, and after the extensive investigations of the Scordiscan settlement at Gomolava had been finished. He published the most interesting finds and grave associations from Pećine in the most important journals and proceedings of international conferences, but his intention was to end his brilliant career as an academician with a first-class scientific work, which would bring together and elucidate the connections between the Early La Tène necropoleis in the region from Central Europe to the south of the Carpathian Basin. Sadly, he died before he was able to finish the monograph on which he devotedly worked for so many years. He left voluminous documentation consisting of his notes, comments, conclusions, analogies, drawings, photographs and transparencies, and reconstructions of the grave

As a young associate of Borislav Jovanović, together with Nebojša Borić, for many years I took part in the systematisation of this huge amount of material and, at many meetings in the Institute of Archaeology in Kneza Miloša Street and later in his study on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the SASA building, we listened to the content of the monograph

that he was working on, but also had the opportunity to hear many anecdotes, which he used to inspire and cheer us up. Despite all that, he showed immense modesty regarding the role he played in Serbian archaeology in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. However, only he and no one else could have written a monograph of such scope and importance. As a result of our many conversations and the time we spent working together, the Institute of Archaeology did me the honour of setting me the task to try to interpret his vision of the necropolis at Pećine as exactly as possible. Additionally, I considered it appropriate to contribute to chapters 8 and 9 and, consequently, I apologise to readers who will notice differences in style and expressions, as I am unable to imitate the literary style which Borislav Jovanović so easily mastered.

Finally, it should be emphasised that this monograph would not have been finished without the great help and support of his family, his spouse Katarina and daughter Tamara. Borislav Jovanović always stressed the role played by Dr Ljubica Zotović and Časlav Jordović as directors of the Viminacium investigations in the course of the discovery of the Pećine necropolis, also the work of Prof. Živko Mikić, who performed the anthropological analyses of the skeletal remains and the importance of the graduation thesis 'Celtic Necropolis Pećine' (Keltska nekropola Pećine), by our colleague Momir Cerović. We also owe immense gratitude to the reviewers B. Tržan, M. Guštin and M. Dizdar who helped with corrections in the course of the preparation of this manuscript. Last but not least, we must mention the role played by Dr Miomir Korać, Director of the Institute of Archaeology, without whose understanding, support and help this monograph could not have been prepared and published. Although I did my best not to violate the concept of the monograph conceived by Borislav Jovanović, I hope he would not have been offended by some rather small changes to the sequence of the chapters and, for that, I offer him my deepest apologies.

Editor
Dr Aleksandar Kapuran
Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Archaeology

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# 8. DIAGNOSTIC FINDS FROM THE PEĆINE NECROPOLIS\*

\* This chapter was summarised and supplemented by A. Kapuran on the basis of abundant published and unpublished material left by the late B. Jovanović

The general picture of the material culture of the eastern group of Celts in the Danube Basin was acquired, as we have seen, primarily on the basis of material from systematically investigated necropoleis. The most distinctive mark on that culture was made by the pottery, whose mass production was possible in that period thanks to the use of the potter's wheel. Metal objects are known, primarily from bronze and iron jewellery and weapons, as a characteristic of the La Tène civilisation. Generally speaking, products of bronze and iron metalwork from the La Tène period in the Danube Basin are typologically identified and dated on the basis of grave associations. Finds from settlements are sparse and incomparably more poorly preserved.

Analysis of the objects of material culture originating from the Pećine necropolis indicates, primarily, that it was relatively short-lived.<sup>82</sup> The most attractive artefacts were mainly found in female graves and are chronological as well as typological representatives of their age. We might claim that jewellery chronologically predating the horizon of the Čurug hoard<sup>83</sup> has not been recorded at Pećine. The jewellery garniture from the Čurug hoard was probably an inheritance of some prominent person from the tribal aristocracy of the local Pannonian or Illyrian decent, so we may assume that jewellery from that hoard was probably of the status character. The use and production of the Čurug type of jewellery stops abruptly with the arrival of the Celts in the Danube Basin. It seems that this was not just the result of a change in fashion but also of the disappearance of the independent military aristocracy of the autochthonous tribes from the Early Iron Age. With their later intrusion south of the Sava and the Danube and deep into the Morava Valley, the Celts broke the unity of the Thracian and Illyrian tribes in the central Balkan region.<sup>84</sup> Accepting them as allies, the Celts imposed their material culture and disrupted their further independent development. This was the reason why the La Tène culture was the sole culture in the northern parts of the Central Balkans significantly before the arrival of the Romans. For precisely this reason, the necropolis at Pećine has great importance for the understanding of ethno-cultural fusions in the Late Iron Age in the south-eastern part of the Carpathian Basin (Srem and South Banat). Burials of the autochthonous population together with the Celts are the best confirmation of the military or political alliances of those populations, as is also the case with the Celtic necropoleis in Transylvania. 85 If we accept the viewpoint that material culture is not an indication of ethnic origin in prehistory and proto-history, then the disappearance of the traditions of the local population probably suggests their population division, leading to the indubitable conclusion that they had been assimilated by the Celts.

<sup>80</sup> Jovanović 1987: 828.

<sup>81</sup> Jovanović 1987: 832.

<sup>82</sup> Jovanović 1992: 85.

<sup>83</sup> Grbić 1928.

<sup>84</sup> Jovanović 1984: 48.

<sup>85</sup> Jovanović 1984: 48.

#### 8.1. JEWELLERY

#### **8.1.1.** Fibulas

As could be seen in the previous chapter on the distribution of groups and subgroups of graves at Pećine, the grave associations were very heterogeneous. Despite being susceptible to changes in construction and style, fibulas are also used as the best method of dating at the other La Tène necropoleis, as they are characteristic of each individual culture. Fibulas, in fact, were the most important functional-decorative elements of clothing both of males and females in the Celtic communities and they were primarily used for holding together parts of clothing from the Late Bronze Age until the medieval times. Something that also increased the specific value of fibulas was their unchanged role in prehistory as 'safety pins', generally made of metal. Also well known is their role in keeping clothing

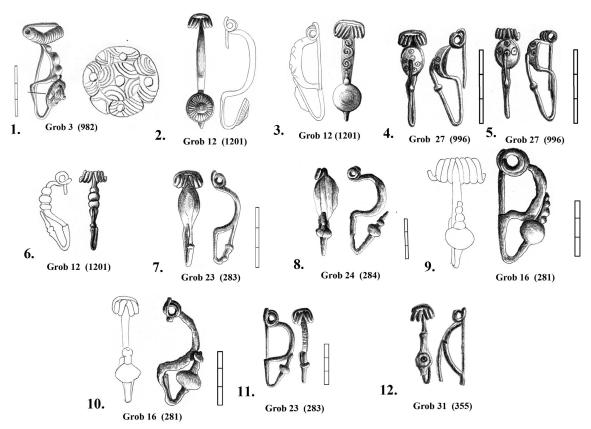


Fig. 37 – Diagnostic fibulas from the Pećine necropolis

in the desired shape, adapted to specific (actual) circumstances. Where burials are concerned, fibulas played the same role in the presentation of the distinct type of ritual textile garment. It is, thus, also understandable the considerable number of fibulas, particularly in the rich female graves and, less frequently, in warrior graves, as they were an important part of the costume and of the identity as well. Chronologically very relevant, two recorded

<sup>86</sup> Although an adequate term in Serbian would be clasp, in our and world archaeology the term fibula is accepted. Lat. *fibula*, -ae, from Latin verb *figere*, *figo*, -xi, -xum – attach, hook up; Petković 2010: 13; Jovanović 2007: 822, Sl. 2/A; Vasić 1999: 99, Taf. 50/837.



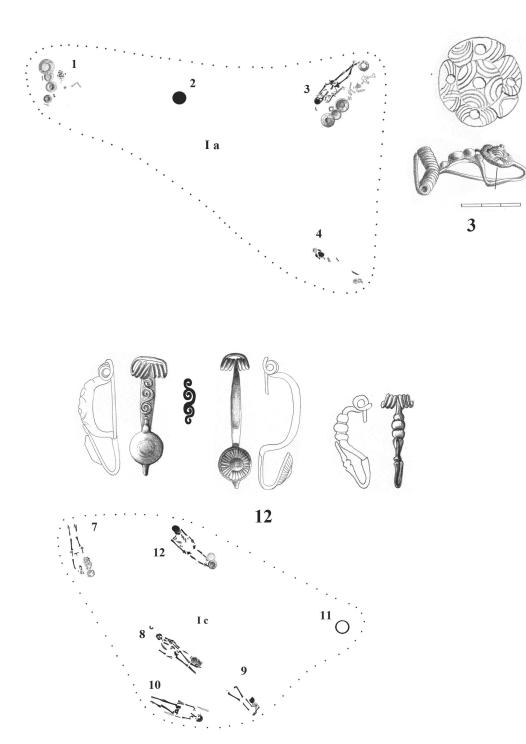


Fig. 38 – Fibulas from the subgroupes Ia and Ic

fibula garnitures from Pećine could be used as a decisive point for dating the graves where they were deposited if they were discovered in an undisturbed, *in situ*, position.

Three types of fibulas have been encountered at the Pećine necropolis and we consider as the earliest, one fragmented fibula, which might be of the Certosa type (Pl. 19/3),<sup>87</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> At this necropolis, investigated at the beginning of the last century, during campaigns in 1904–1905, 217 graves were discovered; Hudson 1968: 7.

and is directly followed by the Early La Tène fibulas of Münsingen and the Dux or Duchcov type (Figure 37). Responsible for a more precise dating of subgroups Ia and Ic from the first group of graves are the assemblages (sets) of fibulas found in grave 3 and grave 12, as they represent a text book example of determination within a relative chronology (Figure 38) and for which there are chronological and typological analogies at the Münsingen-Rain



Fig. 39 – Fibula from the grave N°3



Fig. 40 – Coral decoration

necropolis (southwest Switzerland).88 The next type of dress jewellery - fibulas - recorded at Pećine comes from a large memorial hoard discovered in the thermal spring at Duchcov (Dux) in north-western Bohemia.89 Fibulas from the Münsingen-Rain necropolis confirmed the heterogeneity, consistency of ornamental motifs and the longevity of the style and were used as a chronological indicator for the chronological parallels with the series evolving from the typology of the Duchcov hoard. They are present within the same territory but in considerably smaller numbers. Such a manner of dress decoration also spread among the Eastern Celts during their long-lasting migrations and settling in the Carpathian Basin, Danube Valley and the Central Balkans.

Subgroups Ia and Ic offered a rare opportunity to have luxurious fibulas in the same burials as obvious evidence that they had been used during the same time period. Garnitures of the earliest Early La Tène fibulas of the Münsingen type of central European origin were preserved almost in their original appearance in graves 3 and 12. In fact, these were the graves of two well-off women whose shrouds or elements of funerary garment were most probably fastened with two separate sets of fibulas of the same design and style, and accompanied by selected pottery vessels.

The first fibula to be discussed comes from grave 3 and was made of bronze wire with long springs wrapped around the pin (Figure 39) (Pl.4/5). The high bow is decorated with two pairs of astragal-like protuberances, small-

er near the ends and larger in the middle. The bent back foot has a circular extension with an inlaid coral ornament (Figure 40). Bronze fibulas with a circular expansion on a bent back foot appear in two variants. One group has an engraved or relief vegetal ornament on the bow and such fibulas are called 'votive' (Figure 41), while the other group has a smooth bow (Figure 42). A horizontal expansion supports a rosette made of inlaid corals

<sup>88</sup> Kruta 1971.

<sup>89</sup> Bujna 1998: 171.

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or glass paste and is a well-known characteristic of the whole series at the Münsingen-Rain necropolis, so we may call them 'rosette fibulas'. This fibula type is also known as 'fibulas with plate-shaped foot' and they are, by all appearances, contemporary with the deposition of the Duchcov hoard (in the LT A/B1), while their origin has not been clearly defined. It is certain, for the time being, that they originate from the territory of Switzerland<sup>90</sup> and, according to the classification proposed by J. Bujna, the fibulas from graves 3 and 12 belong to the types A1, A3 and A5.<sup>91</sup>

Specimens almost identical to the rosette fibula from grave 3 at Pećine were recorded at the Münsingen-Rain necropolis, in the female grave 130 and in grave 49 (which is somewhat later),92 as well as in grave 8 at the Kamenin necropolis in Slovakia.93 Similar specimens, with smaller rosettes, were encountered among the artefacts from the Mána necropolis, in grave 13,94 and in grave 20 at the Chotin necropolis, both in Slovakia.95 They were also found in grave 6 at the Broc necropolis in Switzerland, 96 at the necropolis near Sopron in Hungary<sup>97</sup>, and at many other necropoleis in Central Europe and in the Carpathian Basin. This type belongs to the third phase of evolution of the 'Swiss type' fibulas which, from the contact zone at Dürnnberg, spread east towards the Danube Basin, most probably through the craftsmen who transferred the techniques of decoration of this luxurious jewellery.98

From a chronological point of view, rosette fibulas are related to the phase L/M-LT



Fig. 41 − Fibula from the grave N°12



Fig. 42 − Fibula from the grave N°12

B2a<sup>99</sup> and last until the end of the Early La Tène period. However, according to other chronological systems, they could be earlier and dated to the LT B1b-1c, lasting until LT B2a.<sup>100</sup> The same dating applies to rosette fibulas from the necropoleis in the Carpathian Basin.<sup>101</sup> This is additionally corroborated by the larger number of coils in the spring, as on the specimen from grave 3 at Pećine. The mentioned fibula type connects, at the same time, the Eastern Celts who were invading Greece on the one hand, while on the other, settling in south Pannonia and the Balkans.<sup>102</sup>

<sup>90</sup> Bujna 1998: 171.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Bujna 1998: Abb. 1.

<sup>92</sup> Hodson 1968:18, Pl. 52/549, 550; Pl. 22/797.

<sup>93</sup> Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: Obr. 31/2, 3.

<sup>94</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. VI/1-6.

<sup>95</sup> Ratimorská 1974: Taf. III/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> Raftery1988: Fig. 79/1-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> Lajos 1934: 142, Taf. XXXIV/3.

<sup>98</sup> Bujna 1988: 186.

<sup>99</sup> Bujna 1988: 186.

<sup>100</sup> Waldhauser 1988: Abb. 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 18/3.

<sup>102</sup> Guštin 1998: 230, 231.

Earlier graves at Pećine yielded certain typological or even chronological innovations regarding other necropoleis in the Serbian Danube Basin. On a third fibula of the same type, the bent back foot, instead of with a rosette, was decorated with a disc of red paste (Figure 41). There are no great differences recorded between the mentioned types and they are all included in the expected variants of this valuable and highly esteemed jewellery among the Celtic population. This was also the case with some similar finds at the Mannersdorf necropolis in eastern Austria, where a certain hybrid form of the rosette and votive fibulas is also recorded, as can be seen in grave associations 10, 13 and 22.<sup>103</sup>



Fig. 43 – Fibula from the grave N°23

Another type of fibulas are 'drum' fibulas (*Pauken* type), which are almost always found in pairs and the specimens from grave 27 at Pećine (Pl. 31/6) (Figure 43) are decorated with engraved concentric circles. The closest analogies for this fibula type from Pećine can be seen at the Chotin necropolis. <sup>104</sup> An identical fibula type in graves 12 and 31 at the Dubnik necropolis is dated to the LT B2b<sup>105</sup>, as well as at the Remeta Mare necropolis. <sup>106</sup> Typologically resembling this fibula type is a specimen from grave 23 at the Pećine necropolis (Figure 43) that has an expanded bow with facets and a bent back foot joined to the expansion, and a fibula from grave 24 with a foot decorated with one smaller and one larger knob (Figure 37/8).

A number of variants of the Duchcov type of fibula have been recorded in almost all grave associations at the Pećine necropolis, predominately in subgroup IIa (Figure 44). One of the variants of the Dux type, made of thin bronze wire with large spring coils and a large knob on the bent back foot (Pl. 4/6, 4) (Figure 45), has rather close analogies with the fibulas from grave 7 at the Letky necropolis<sup>107</sup> and grave 21 at the Chotin necropolis.<sup>108</sup> In the Carpathian Basin we relate this fibula type to the period at the end of the LT B1 and the beginning of the LT B2.<sup>109</sup> The fibula from grave 32, also decorated with a large knob on a bent back foot and with three pairs of coils in the spring (Figure 46), belongs to a somewhat later variant.

A fibula made of bronze or iron wire, of a rather large size, with a bent back foot and two large coils in the spring, known as a 'warrior fibula', was found in grave 33 (Pl. 42/1), while one fragmented piece of a spring of the same type was found in grave 38 (Pl. 47/9). Warrior fibulas have analogies with specimens discovered in the warrior graves at the Chotin and Mána necropoleis<sup>110</sup> in Slovakia,<sup>111</sup> as well as at the sites of Magyarszerdahely-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf, 41/6, 7; 49/11; 55/10, 11.

<sup>104</sup> Ratimorska 1974: Taf. IV/9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. X/1, 2.

<sup>106</sup> Rustoiu 2012: Fig. 9/7,8.

<sup>107</sup> Waldhauser, Sedlaček 1987: Taf. 9/17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> Ratimorska 1974: Taf. IV/12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 3/2.

<sup>110</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. IX/4.

<sup>111</sup> Ratimorska 1974: Taf. II/10; V/4.



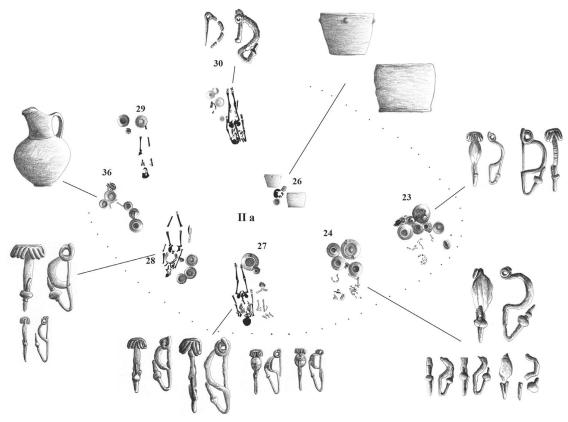


Fig. 44 - Distribution of the fibulas and the other diagnostic finds from the subgroupe of graves IIa

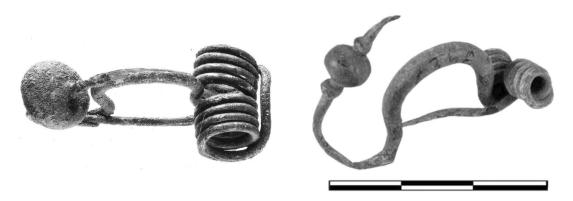


Fig. 45 – Fibula from the grave N°3

Fig. 46 – Fibula from the grave  $N^{\circ}32$ 

Homoki-dűlő $^{112}$  and Rezi-Rezicseri in Hungary. $^{113}$  They could be dated, according to J. Bujna, to the LT B2 period. $^{114}$ 

The last fibula type from the Pećine necropolis is one specimen of a rather small size with a shallow bow and a bent back foot ending in a discoid expansion, which was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>112</sup> Horvath 1987: Pl. XII/6.

<sup>113</sup> Horvath 1987: Pl. XXXI/7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> Bujna 2003: Obr. 64/7.



Fig. 47 – Fibula from the grave N°27

firmly attached to the bow by a 'paw' (Pl. 38/2) (Figure 37/12). The recess on the disc was probably used to inlay a rosette of glass paste. This type could be attributed to the earlier phase of fibulas of the Middle La Tène scheme and, according to the periodisations by J. Bujna and J. Waldhauser, is dated to the LT C1b. 115 An identical dating should also be accepted for the specimens originating from Romania, in the east of the Carpathian Basin. 116

#### 8.1.2. Earrings

Early La Tène earrings in the territory of Serbia were only known before the discovery of the Pećine necropolis from Karaburma. For this jewellery type, J. Todorović justifiably emphasised its autochthonous origin and exclusive dating to the earliest phase of interments at the largest La Tène necropolis in Serbia. 117 The number of these earrings increased in the course of investigations at Pećine and also after the discovery of one grave near Kostolac. 118 Typologically close in form and techniques of production, earrings are a reliable chronological element, particularly if they are found in closed grave associations of different origin and provenance. 119 The modelling of this jewellery type did not essentially change from its prototype, a cast or wire-made hoop with open ends and always an element of the female costume. The best characteristic, which speaks of the level of



Fig. 48 – Earrings from the grave N°19

popularity of this jewellery type in the pre- and proto-history, is the recognisable form and technology of production of the earrings and it is, at the same time, a reliable element for dating a crucial chronological point in the Balkans, in this instance the time of the first settling of the Celts at the end of  $4^{\rm th}$  and the beginning of  $3^{\rm rd}$  century BCE. Jewellery of this type is exceptionally rare in Celtic female costume, particularly silver specimens. Conse-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>115</sup> Bujna 1982: Abb. 4/32; Waldhauser 1987: Abb. 4/111.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>116</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 3/6.

<sup>117</sup> Todorović 1972: 87.

<sup>118</sup> Јовановић 1994; Јацановић 1988: Т. 1.

<sup>119</sup> Jovanović 2007: 883.

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quently, this unites the four mentioned graves as dating from the same time (to the graves from Karaburma, Pećine and Kostolac, the specimen from the Remeta Mare necropolis<sup>120</sup> should also be added).

In inhumation burial 19 at Pećine, besides the pair of silver earrings (Pl. 19/2) (Figure 48) and the pair of bronze earrings (Pl. 19/1), rather heterogeneous grave goods, regarding both their form and provenance, were discovered (a fibula, which is perhaps of the Certosa type, pottery with Scythian characteristics and one Early La Tène buckle). 121 The end of the earring, shaped as a cone with a smooth extension turning into a twisted end, classifies it to variant b from the cremation burial at Karaburma, where two more earrings decorated with double coils of thin silver wire have also been found. 122 Close analogies in Central Europe were recorded at the Dürnnbergu necropolis near Salzburg. 123 The appearance of this jewellery type could be associated with population movements. This possibly indicates that certain women (of autochthonous descent) were buried within the Celtic community because they were, by all appearances, chosen by the Celtic warriors, but not as a war trophy (slaves), so they were buried according to the same funerary ritual as women of Celtic origin.<sup>124</sup> Such a situation suggests two possible conclusions; either autochthonous jewellery was adopted by the Celtic women, or the native women were accepted into the Celtic community and subsequently adopted the culture of the newcomers. The mixing of the Celts with natives is also mentioned in historical sources... After the Celts subjugated the Pannonians... Galatians, called the Scordisci live mixed with the Illyrians and Thracians... 125 Hence, an indirect conclusion could be drawn that preparations for the conquering migration to the south of the Balkans lasted approximately the lifetime of those adapted women. Models for the origin of these earrings from the end of Early Iron Age can be seen among the bracelets from the necropoleis at Doroslovo<sup>126</sup> and Glasinac (Čitluci tumulus I),<sup>127</sup> in the IIc phase at Donja Dolina, 128 then in the Szentes-Vekerzug culture of south-eastern Pannonia (Chotin Ia necropolis) and Malaka Bresnica in Bulgaria.<sup>129</sup> Another pair of earrings discovered in grave 19 belongs to the type of simple earrings of smooth bronze wire of ellipsoid cross section with touching tapering ends (Pl. 19/1).

### 8.1.3. Torcs

The first specimens of necklaces – torcs – had already appeared in the Bronze Age, and were mostly made of a single piece of metal. They could have been encountered in almost every part of the European continent during the Early Iron Age. In the Late Iron Age, during the La Tène culture, torcs were symbols of warriors and were made of bronze, gold, silver and iron. Some specimens were elaborately decorated by engraving, or had ornaments of enamel, or were simply twisted. In the Late Hallstatt or Early La Tène, in male

<sup>120</sup> Rustoiu, Ursutiu 2013: Fig. 6.

<sup>121</sup> Јовановић 1994: 112.

<sup>122</sup> Besides the earrings in the grave, a string of beads and one lanceolate belt buckle were also found; Todorović 1972: T. XXV/3, 4.

<sup>123</sup> Pauli 1978: 34; T. 138.

<sup>124</sup> Jovanović 2007: 824.

<sup>125</sup> Papazoglu 2007: 210, 266.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>126</sup> A pair of large bronze bracelets from grave 54 has approximately the shape of the earrings from grave 19 at Pećine; Трајковић 2008: 78, 230.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>127</sup> Benac, Čović 1957: T. XXXII/11.

<sup>128</sup> Marić 1964: 40, T. XIV/3, 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> Chorchorowski 1985: 68, Fig.13; Dušek 1961: 61, T. IV/2.

<sup>130</sup> Vasić 1997: 740.

graves they confirmed the social standing of the deceased<sup>131</sup> and, according to Tacitus, they also demonstrated obedience to the gods.<sup>132</sup> There is also the opinion that it was not until the Celts that torcs became a symbol of warriors, tribal chiefs and heroes.<sup>133</sup> Three types of torcs were discovered at the Pećine necropolis; specimens made of tubular sheet bronze, those made of solid cast bronze wire and with a smooth surface or those made of solid cast wire decorated with protuberances (Figure 49).

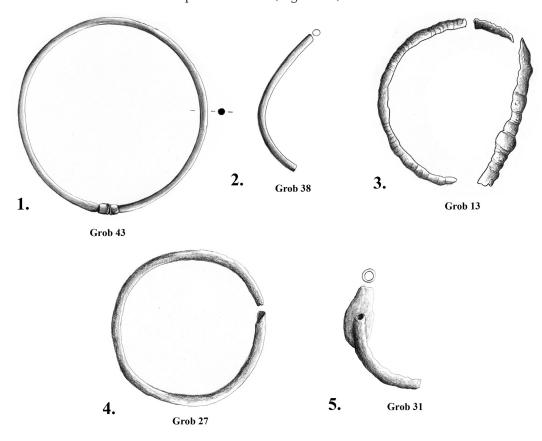


Fig. 49 – Torcs from the Pećine necropolis

The solid cast fragmented torc of iron wire with a smooth surface, from grave 38 at Pećine (Pl. 48/10) (Figure 49/2) shows certain analogies with a torc from grave 46 at the Mannersdorf necropolis, <sup>134</sup> dated to the LT C1a, as well as examples from graves 64, 71 and 98 at the Dürnnberg necropolis. <sup>135</sup> The torc from grave 13 (Pl. 13/10) (Figure 49/3) suffered significant deformation while burning on the pyre. It was made of solid cast iron wire and decorated with rather small globular protuberances. Although its original appearance is difficult to reconstruct, due to its exposure to very high temperature, we think that closer analogies for this type of jewellery are conspicuous in one specimen from grave 62 at the Dürnnberg necropolis. <sup>136</sup> For the torc with ends modelled as stamps, from grave

<sup>131</sup> Lorenz 1980: 136.

<sup>132</sup> Aldhouse Green 2004: 328.

<sup>133</sup> Vasić 1997b: 740.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> Ramsl 2011: Pp. 51, 52, 212; Taf. 75/1;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> Moosleitner, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Pp. 26: Taf. 127/2; Taf. 138/3; Taf. 163/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> Moosleitner, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Pp. 25; Taf. 121/b2



43 (Figure 49/1), there are numerous analogies at the necropoleis of central and south-eastern Europe and, as its closest analogous specimens, finds in grave 118 at the Ranis necropolis, <sup>137</sup> in grave 1922 at the Koštice necropolis, <sup>138</sup> then at the Repin<sup>139</sup> and Tušlovce necropoleis in Slovakia should be considered. According to the chronological system of J. Bujna, this torc type is assigned to the phase LT B2a and B21, <sup>140</sup> while in the territory of Romania it is dated to the LT B2. <sup>141</sup> Torcs showing certain typological resemblances, but with more elaborate decoration, were encountered at the Pişcolt necropolis <sup>142</sup> and on specimens from grave 39 at the Mána necropolis (Lt B2), <sup>143</sup> and also from grave 153 at the Mannersdorf necropolis. <sup>144</sup>

Torcs made of tubular sheet bronze from grave 31 (Pl. 38/3) (Figure 49/5), and tubular sheet iron from grave 27 (Pl. 31/3) (Figure 49/4), were widely distributed throughout central and eastern Europe from the period LT B1,<sup>145</sup> but are not chronologically relevant because they also appear in the later phases of the La Tène period. Torcs made of tubular sheet metal from Pećine have earlier models, such as the torc from grave 8 at the Nebringen necropolis.<sup>146</sup> The problem for a more precise dating is the absence of a tang used for 'locking' the ends, although they could simply be inserted one into the other.

#### 8.1.4. Bracelets

Bracelets are the most heterogeneous types of personal jewellery at the Early La Tène Pećine necropolis and they were worn by men and women alike. The typology of bracelets ranges from the simplest forms, solid cast and with a smooth surface, to the elaborate luxurious composite specimens, which could be said to represent the masterpieces of Celtic art and craft. Based on their material, they were classified as bronze or iron specimens. In three graves both types were found together, six graves contained exclusively bronze bracelets and only iron bracelets were found in 4 burials.

Iron-made bracelets are classified into four variants: solid cast (large) without decoration (Pl. 6/4), thin and solid cast (Pl. 26/19; Pl. 28/12; Pl. 31/3), thin and decorated with a series of protuberances (Pl. 13/11) and bracelets of iron with inlays of decorated corals (Pl. 53/1) (Figure 50). Only one specimen had overlapping vertical shaped ends (Pl. 26/19), while all others were shaped as closed circles. Such a jewellery type had models in the Early Iron Age, but was accepted and developed during the Late Iron Age, as confirmed at La Tène necropoleis from western Europe to Asia Minor. Undecorated smooth bracelets made of iron have been found in many graves at the Münsingen necropolis, while a smaller quantity was found at the Dürnnberg, Nebringen and Mána necropoleis in Central Europe. Bujna classifies specimens with overlapping ends as ER-U-B, and dates them to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> Peshel 1975: Pp. 208; Abb.4/2; Abb. 6/42, 43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>138</sup> Kruta 1979: Fig. 16a/10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>139</sup> Kruta 1979: Fig. 27/5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>140</sup> Bujna 1982: Abb. 4/4.

<sup>141</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 1/9.

<sup>142</sup> Németi 1992: Fig. 25/5a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>143</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XVII/7.

<sup>144</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 163/3.

<sup>145</sup> Waldhauser 1987: Abb. 4/28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>146</sup> Krämer 1964: Pp. 26; Taf. 5/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>147</sup> Hodson 1968: Pl. 19/745; 25/660; 30/579, 580; 37/516; 40/447; 42/461; 49/353.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>148</sup> Moosleitner, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Taf. 160/15–17; 169/7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>149</sup> Krämer 1964: Taf. 2/4.

the period LT B2/C1.<sup>150</sup> In Hungary they were encountered at the Rezi-Rezicseri<sup>151</sup>and Magyarszerdahely-Homoki dűlő<sup>152</sup> necropoleis and in Romania at the Pişcolt necropolis.<sup>153</sup> This bracelet type from the territory of Romania is dated to the LT B2.<sup>154</sup> The type of thin iron bracelet with globular protuberances from grave 13 at Pećine (Figure 50/4) is known from graves 93 and 100 at the Mána necropolis, where they are dated to the LT B2.<sup>155</sup> Bujna classifies them as type B1-B: DU 9A, and dates them accordingly.<sup>156</sup> The bracelet from

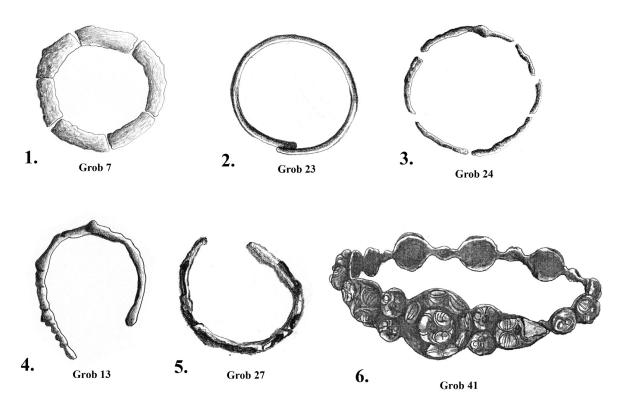


Fig. 50 – Iron bracelets from the Pećine necropolis

grave 9a at the Dubnik necropolis was dated to the same period.  $^{157}$  Bracelets of this type were found in Hungary in grave 59 at the Rezi-Rezicseri necropolis  $^{158}$  and in Romania they were discovered in Arad and also dated to the LT B2.  $^{159}$  Bracelets of tubular sheet iron, like the specimen from grave 27 (Figure 50/5), belong, according to Bujna, to the type ER-V-A and date from the LT B2/C1-C1a.  $^{160}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> Bujna 2005: Obr. 89/ER-U-B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>151</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. XXVIII/12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>152</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. XI/10; XII/11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> Németi1989: Fig. 20/7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>154</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 1/13.

<sup>155</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf . XXX/13; XXXIII/14.

<sup>156</sup> Bujna 2005: Obr. 82/B1-B: DU 9A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>157</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. VII/5.

<sup>158</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. XXX/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>159</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 1/10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>160</sup> Bujna 2005: Obr. 89/ER-V-A.



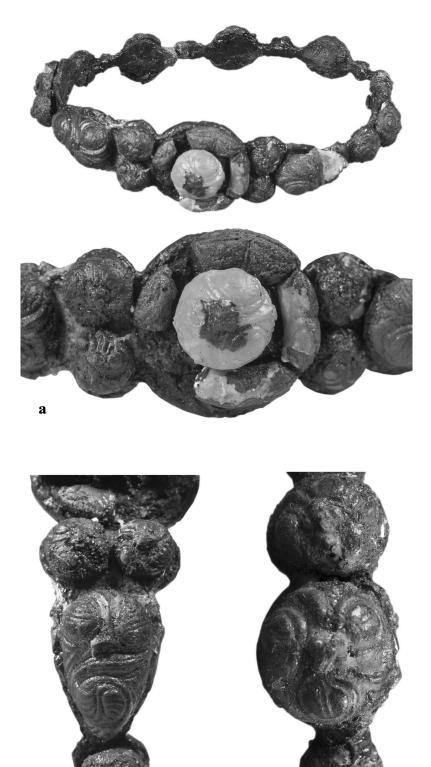


Fig. 51 - Votive bracelet from the grave  $N^{\circ}41$ 

The bracelet from grave 41 is, according to its style and symbolic expression, one of the rare examples of La Tène art in this region of the Danube Basin (Figure 51), although it has analogies at certain necropoleis in the Carpathian Basin and in Central Europe. It is hardly comprehensible that it remained preserved to such extent, in contrast to other grave goods, which were burnt on the pyre. In the foreground are floral motifs shaped as triskeles, while oval medallions belong to the category characteristic of the 'Cheshire Cat' style. Here we encounter a dilemma with the floral or vegetal character of decoration on the one hand and free associations close to anthropomorphism on the other (Figures 51a, 51b, and 51c). We cannot avoid the impression that such elements resemble human masks and that additionally suggests the difficult to grasp symbolism, so characteristic of Celtic art (Figure 52). The votive iron bracelet with corals, as emphasised earlier, considering the









Fig. 52 – Votive bracelet from the grave N°41

context of discovery but also according to all stylistic characteristics, is closely related to the fibulas of the Münsingen type. Amber and corals combined with bronze represented a common decoration characteristic of the mentioned cultural circle, from the La Tène necropoleis in Switzerland to the Middle Danube and the Carpathian Basin. The distribution of these uniform ornaments on jewellery is the result of intensive communication during the gradual occupation of territory in south-eastern Europe and the need for this 'fashionable trend' of prestigious objects to be available in the furthermost Celtic enclaves. 161 Consequently, it was unusual and almost inconceivable to discover specimens made of iron, as is the case with the bracelet in grave 41 at Pećine. It is supposed that amber was highly valued, not only because of its beauty and suitability for processing (carving) but also because of its apotropaic and healing properties. 162 A similar situation existed with coral, and in both cases objects of these valuable materials indicated prestige and the high social standing of the owner. The question could also be raised as to whether the reason for using iron for the construction of the votive bracelet was also a challenge for the craftsman to work with such a difficult material. Engraving coral and amber required great skill and experience, not only because the raw material was expensive but because the material was very delicate. All this taken together results in the fact that jewellery of the Münsingen type is associated exclusively with luxurious objects from the graves 'des princes Celtes'. The bracelet from grave 41 has, in a central position, a rosette, which resembles,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>161</sup> Popović, Jovanović 2005: 28.

<sup>162</sup> Palavestra 1993: 9.



particularly in its spherical elements, the fibulas of the Münsingen type that have a coral *cabochon*. The remaining three damaged or fragmented frames of bracelets (from Pećine and the Pişcolt necropolis) are fashioned in approximately the same way. It is difficult or impossible to establish what material was used for their decoration but it could be reasonably assumed that there were similar tripartite motifs carved in coral. The origin of such coral ornaments should be looked for in the territory of Central Europe, in Slovakia and Bohemia, but it could be assumed that this type of jewellery may also have been produced

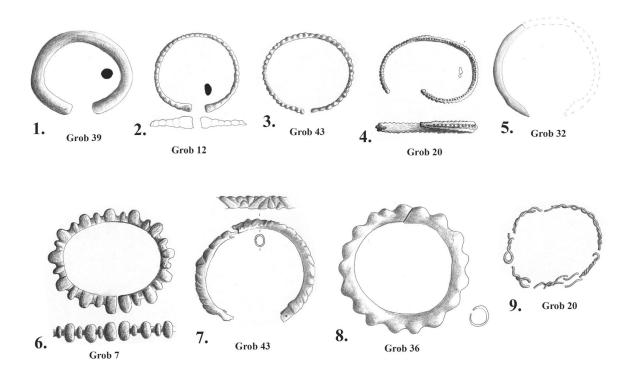


Fig. 53 – Bronze bracelets from the Pećine necropolis

in the workshops in the north-eastern parts of the Carpathian Basin. Also pointing in the same direction is the find of an almost identical bracelet from grave 951 belonging to horizon 4 of the Ludas necropolis, where almost identical inlays of decorated coral have been found. Bujna also mentions one typologically similar bracelet, which has a cast bronze construction and comes from grave 18/72 at the Chotin necropolis, which he ascribes to type M-B and dates to the LT B2c. It is possible that artisans produced coral ornaments in one workshop and they were later inlaid into bronze and iron jewellery. Grave 41 at Pećine, with the bracelets 'des princes Celtes', is dated to the end of 4th and the beginning of the 3rd century BCE, i.e., at the time when the Celts were moving towards the Central Balkans. It is rather interesting that graves on the eastern periphery of the Carpathian Basin often have more affluent grave assemblages, so one feels that with the striking weapons and jewellery they wanted to astound and frighten their indigent neighbours. If the same of the carpathian is a stound and frighten their indigent neighbours.

<sup>163</sup> Popović, Jovanović 2005: 28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>164</sup> Szabó, Tankó 2012: 101-102, Fig. 158.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>165</sup> Bujna 2005: Obr. 71/M-B; Ratimorska 1981: Tab. XIV/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>166</sup> Popović, Jovanović 2005: 29.

Bronze bracelets at the Pećine necropolis were deposited equally in inhumation and cremation burials and were jewellery used by both males and females (Figure 53/1). The simplest form are solid cast open-ended bracelets made of smooth bronze wire (Pl. 49/1), and are frequent finds in the La Tène graves at the necropoleis in Central Europe, such as Münsingen,<sup>167</sup> Dürnnberg<sup>168</sup> and Mannersdorf.<sup>169</sup>

Bracelets of tubular sheet bronze with their ends inserted in each other (Pl. 53/2) (Figure 53/7, 8) are most frequently decorated with embossing. They were usually discovered in pairs, and the specimens from grave 43 at Pećine have models in Central Europe among the specimens from the necropoleis at Münsingen<sup>170</sup> and Mannersdorf.<sup>171</sup> In Bohemia they were encountered at the Letky<sup>172</sup> and Jenišűv Újezd necropoleis, where they are dated to the LT B1c/2,<sup>173</sup> while in Hungary they were recorded at the Gyoma-Egei Halom<sup>174</sup> and Héviz<sup>175</sup> necropoleis. This type of tubular bracelet at the site of Ciumești in Romania is dated to the transitional period from the LT B to LT C<sup>176</sup>.

Solid cast bronze bracelets with expanded ends and decorated with circular protuberances, like the pair from grave 12 at Pećine (Figure 53/2), have analogies in Central Europe among the finds from the Mannersdorf,<sup>177</sup> Nebringen,<sup>178</sup> Dubnik and Trnovec nad Váhom<sup>179</sup> necropoleis, which are dated to the LT B2b.<sup>180</sup> They also appear in the Carpathian Basin at the necropoleis at Heviz,<sup>181</sup> Keszthely-Felső-Dobrogo<sup>182</sup> and Rezi-Rezicseri.<sup>183</sup> Bujna classifies this type of ring-like jewellery into group A4-A, and dates them to the LT B1/B2.<sup>184</sup> The pair of bracelets from grave 43 (Figure 53/3) differs from the previous specimens only by virtue of the missing expanded ends, and Bujna classifies them into type B1-Aa and dates them to the LT B1<sup>185</sup> and, according to Waldhauser, they date from the Early La Tène, i.e., the LT B1a.<sup>186</sup>

The solid cast bracelets with alternately arranged smaller and larger circular astragals from grave 7 at Pećine (Figure 53/6) have close analogies with a bracelet from grave 3 discovered, together with a set of 'drum' fibulas of the *Pauken* type, at the Balatongyörők-Kövesmezö necropolis. Bujna classifies bracelets of such composition into type D4-B and D4-C and dates them to the period of the LT B2c-B2/C1. Bracelets of a similar shape

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<sup>167</sup> Hodson 1967: Pl. 3/760; 10/749, 750; 78/157.
<sup>168</sup> Moosleitner, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Taf. 148/8; 158/1, 2.
169 Ramsl 2011: Taf. 38/6.
<sup>170</sup> Hodson 1967: Pl. 17/79, 770; 46/512; 55/429, 430, 431.
<sup>171</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 56/8b; 123/15a.
172 Waldhauser, Sedláček 1987: Taf. 9/8.
<sup>173</sup> Raftery 1988: 22, Fig. 6/6.
174 Szabó 1988: Fig. 29.
175 Horváth 1987: Pl.VII/10.
176 Zirra 1971: Abb. 8/13, 14.
<sup>177</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 71/3a; 72/3b: 93/2a, b; 105/5a, b; 106/2a, b; 162/5; 181/5.
178 Krämer 1964: Taf. 3/6, 7.
179 Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: Taf. IV/2.
<sup>180</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. XXVI/4, 5.
181 Horváth 1987: Pl.VIII/4.
182 Horváth 1987: Pl.IX/11.
183 Horváth 1987: Pl.XV/1,2.
184 Buina 2005: Obr. 3/a4-A.
<sup>185</sup> Bujna 2005: Obr. 8/B1-Aa.
186 Waldhauser 1987: Abb.4/23.
187 Horváth 1987: Pl. IV/8
<sup>188</sup> Bujna 2005: Obj. 22/D4-B, D4-C.
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# EARLY LA TÈNE PEĆINE NECROPOLIS



and decorated with astragals were grave goods at the Rezi-Rezicseri<sup>189</sup> and Szomod-Kenderhegy<sup>190</sup> necropolies in Hungary. Certain analogies are encountered with one specimen (although of a closed type) at the Mannersdorf necropolis,<sup>191</sup> while in other parts of Central Europe they have closer analogies with specimens from the necropoleis at Mána,<sup>192</sup> Letky,<sup>193</sup> Trnovec nad Váhom,<sup>194</sup> Hurbanovo<sup>195</sup> and Chotin.<sup>196</sup> They are also known from

the site of Ciriş-Tarean in Romania, and date from the LT C1.<sup>197</sup> Many bracelets compatible with this jewellery type come from Dalj in Slavonia, although Majnarić-Pandžić dates them to the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> and into the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE,<sup>198</sup> while a specimen from Osijek dates to the transition period from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE.<sup>199</sup> A large number of bracelets, which resemble a specimen from grave 7 at Pećine, were discovered in the graves at the Pişcolt necropolis.<sup>200</sup> According to the periodisation of J. Waldhauser, they are dated to the LT B2.<sup>201</sup>

An exceptionally rare type of bracelet at other necropoleis of the La Tène period is the fragmented specimen made of joined segments of entwined bronze wire, found in grave 20 at Pećine (Figure 53/9). Probably because of the fragility of the material and its susceptibility to corrosion only a few specimens of this type have been recorded. There are analogies at the Mána necropolis, in graves 16 and 63<sup>202</sup>, and in one female burial at the Nymbruk Zálábi necropolis, where they are dated



Fig. 54 – Bracelet from the grave N°36

to the LT B2.<sup>203</sup> Almost identical parts of such a bracelet were found in the Early La Tène grave 4 at the Srednica necropolis near Ptuj.<sup>204</sup> Bracelets of entwined bronze wire belong, according to Bujna, to type H3-Ad and they date from the LT B2a-c.<sup>205</sup>

A significant number of bracelets made by hammering sheet bronze into semicircular expansions, like the specimens from graves 31 and 36 at Pećine (Figure 53/8, Figure 54), was encountered at the Broc necropolis in Switzerland, where they have been found

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>189</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. XXVII/11.

<sup>190</sup> Vadasz 1987: Pl. III/1.

<sup>191</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 227/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>192</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XV/10.

<sup>193</sup> Waldhauser, Sedláček 1987: Taf. 16/11, 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>194</sup> Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: Taf, VIII/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>195</sup> Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: Taf, XXIII/7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>196</sup> Ratimorska 1974: Taf. III/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>197</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 15/8a.

<sup>198</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: 20; T. VI.

<sup>199</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: 39; T. XXV/10, 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>200</sup> Németi1989: Fig. 1/6; Fig. 2/8; 18/2, 5; Fig. 5/4; 14/2a, b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>201</sup> Waldhauser 1987: Abb. 4/66.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>202</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. X/11; XXVIII/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>203</sup> Raftery 1988: 23, Fig. 7/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>204</sup> Kavur, Ljubšina-Tušek 2016: Sl. 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>205</sup> Bujna 2005: Obr. 50/H3-Ad; Obr. 54.

together with Münsingen fibulas (which are dated to the LT B1),<sup>206</sup> at the Dobra Voda<sup>207</sup> necropolis and in the group of La Tène finds from Vukovar.<sup>208</sup> This type of bracelet from the sites of Bratei/Ariel, Sanisläu and Diosig in Romania are dated to a somewhat later period i.e., to the transition from the LT C1 to C2.<sup>209</sup> This bracelet type, according to Bujna, is categorised as type E3-B, and dated to the LT B2/C1-C1a period.<sup>210</sup>



Fig. 55 – Bracelet from the grave N°32



Fig. 56 – Bracelet from the grave N°32

The bracelet with open ends made of thin hammered sheet bronze, with serrated edges and a moulded, also serrated, longitudinal rib that was discovered in grave 20 (Pl. 20/4) (Figure 53/4) is a unique find for which no analogies have been found in the La Tène culture of south-eastern and Central Europe. The only artefact corresponding to that specimen, according the technique of manufacture and its cross section, is the type characterised by Bujna as type K4-A: PA 83.<sup>211</sup>

The solid cast bronze bracelet from grave 32 (Pl. 40/16) (Figure 55), with ends resembling stylised serpents' heads, is of a hybrid character. Such a zoomorphic representation has its closest analogies with one specimen from the Trebeniško Kale necropolis.212 There are also analogies with one bracelet of a 'leech shape' from Prilep that is dated to the mid 5th century BCE.213 The decoration of bracelets with stylised serpents' heads has models in the silver jewellery of the Mramorac type from the end of the Early Iron Age that is recorded in the hoards from Čurug, 214 Sremska Mitrovica, 215 Mramorac 216 and Glasinac. 217 Bracelets of the Mramorac type represent jewellery popular in the Early Iron Age within a large area from Chalkidiki via Macedonia and the Central Balkans to the Danube Valley, suggesting the existence of many workshops producing this type of jewellery for the leading mem-

bers of the tribal society.  $^{218}$  Mikulčić is of the opinion that such a kind of stylisation began its expansion northward from Pelagonia towards the Illyrian and Thracian territories.  $^{219}$  They are extensively dated in the period from the  $6^{\rm th}$  to the  $4^{\rm th}$  centuries BCE.  $^{220}$  This jew-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>206</sup> Raftery1988: 72, Fig. 79/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>207</sup> Holodńák, Waldhauser 1987: Taf. 4/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>208</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: 51; T. XLIX/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>209</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 3/16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>210</sup> Bujna 2005: Obr. 34. F3-B, Obr. 39.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>211</sup> Bujna 2005: Obr. 66/K4-A: PA 83.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>212</sup> Лахтов 1959: 20, 31; Т. IV/13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>213</sup> Lahtov 1965: 73; T. X/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>214</sup> Grbić 1928; Гарашанин 1973: Т 113.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>215</sup> Гарашанин 1973: 513.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>216</sup> Гарашанин 1973: Т. 110/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>217</sup> Čović 1987: Sl 36.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>218</sup> Гарашанин 1992: 298.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>219</sup> Mikulčić 1966: 42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>220</sup> Гарашанин 1973: 514.



ellery type could indicate the autochthonous component of the population, as the Pećine necropolis has revealed in many instances.

The last type of bracelet at the Pećine necropolis is the string of alternately arranged iron and glass beads. They were burned on the pyre (Figure 56) and their disfigured remains were found in a kantharos from grave 32 (Pl. 40/17). Thanks to the efforts of conservators, the original appearance was reconstructed (beads were of a biconical shape), but because of the large degree of deformation it was not possible to look for closer parallels. A similar type of strings of beads was encountered at Velika near Požega<sup>221</sup> and at the Mána necropolis in grave 37, and both date from the LT B2.

#### 8.1.5. Ankle rings

All types of ankle rings discovered in graves of the Early La Tène community that buried their dead at the Pećine necropolis have always been found in pairs, and were present in both inhumation and cremation burials alike. The ankle rings were made of either solid cast bronze or tubular sheet bronze (Figure 57). A pair of spirally twisted ankle rings made of solid cast bronze and with thickened (stamp-like or buffer) terminals (Figure 57/1, Figure 58) that were discovered on the legs of a deceased woman in grave 12 (Pl. 11/8, 9) is a unique find among the La Tène jewellery recorded at the necropoleis of southeastern Europe, and no adequate analogies have been found for them.

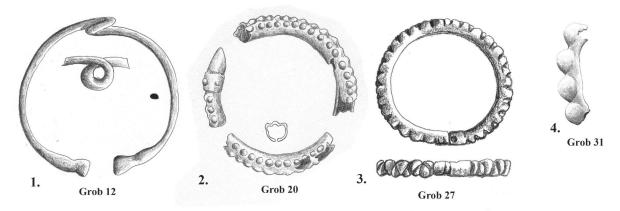


Fig. 57 – Ankle rings from the Pećine necropolis

Tubular ankle rings 'crumpled' by hammering were recorded in substantial quantities in Central Europe and are mostly dated to the LT B2.<sup>223</sup> This jewellery type, which was found in grave 27 at Pećine (Figures 57/3 and 59), is associated with the rosette fibulas<sup>224</sup> found at the Münsingen necropolis. The same ankle ring type is a frequent find at the necropoleis of Mannersdorf,<sup>225</sup> Nebringen,<sup>226</sup> Mána,<sup>227</sup> Stránce,<sup>228</sup> and Blučina near Brno, and they are all dated to the LT B2.<sup>229</sup> They were also discovered in the Carpathian Basin, in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>221</sup> Popović 1996: 106: Fig. 3/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>222</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XVI/10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>223</sup> Peschel 1974: Abb. 1, 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>224</sup> Hodson 1968: in graves 61, 81, 84, 102, 132, 135, 136, 149, 157.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>225</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 193/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>226</sup> Krämer 1964: Taf. 4/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>227</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. VII/5, 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>228</sup> Waldhauser 1983: Taf. 30/19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>229</sup> Schwappack 1974: 112; Taf. XXII/25, 26.



Fig. 58 – Ankle ring from the grave N°12



Fig. 59 – Ankle ring from the grave N°27

necropoleis of Pişcolt,<sup>230</sup> Magyarszerdahely-Homoki dűlő<sup>231</sup> and Rezi-Rezicseri.<sup>232</sup> According to the typological systems proposed by Waldhauser and Bujna, they could be dated to the LT B2a and LT B2b.<sup>233</sup>

Ankle rings made of tubular sheet bronze and hammered to have 'three-horned' protrusions were found in grave 20 (Figure 57/2). There are many analogies for this jewellery type, which are considered to have been very popular among the Celtic population. The clearest confirmation of this opinion is the fact that they appear within a large area from Switzerland to the Central Balkans, at the necropoleis of Münsingen, 234 Mannersdorf, 235 Mána, 236 Chotin, 237 Hurbanovo<sup>238</sup> and Dubnik<sup>239</sup>, where they were dated to the LT B2b. 240 In the Carpathian region, they were found at the necropoleis of Rezi-Rezicseri<sup>241</sup> and Pişcolt.<sup>242</sup> Bujna classifies this type of ankle ring into the C4-a group and dates it to the LT B2/C1.243 At the sites of Piatra Craivei (Romania) and Poiana (Moldavia) such an ankle ring type is dated rather later – to the period of the LT D1.244

# 8.1.6. Hairpins

One of the most important diagnostic finds related to the autochthonous component of the population buried at Pećine are two double pins made of bronze wire and with the head shaped as the letter 'M' (type Trebenište variant IVa) (Figure 60/1, 2) characteristic of the final phase of the Early Iron Age in the Central Balkans and which had been in use for a relatively long period of time, from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 2<sup>nd</sup> cen-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>230</sup> Nemeti 1974: Pl. III/8, 9; V/5, 6; Fig. 1/1, 2, 5; Fig. 2/10a, b; 4/7a, b; 11/1a, b; 19/6a, b; 20/9a, b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>231</sup> Horvath 1987: Pl. XII/2, 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>232</sup> Horvath 1987: Pl. XXII/11, 15; XXV/7; XXVII/12, 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>233</sup> Waldhauser 1987: Abb. 4/53; Bujna 1982: Abb. 4/11.Hodson 1968: in grave 140.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>234</sup> Hodson 1968: in grave 140.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>235</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 74/4a, b; 197/4a, b; 201/12a, b; 211/5a, b; 217/3a, b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>236</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XII/10, 13; XIII/12, 13: XVI/11, 12; XXI/6, 7; XXVII/7, 8; XXXIII/10; XXXV/4, 5; LV/16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>237</sup> Ratimorska 1974: Taf. IV/1, 3, Pp. 9 0...

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>238</sup> Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: Tab. XXIII/3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>239</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. II/7, 8; VIII/14, 15; X/8, 9; XXIII/6, 7; XXX/12, 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>240</sup> Buina 1991: 254.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>241</sup> Horvath 1987: Pl. XXIX/5, 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>242</sup> Nemeti 1988: Fig. 5/8a,b; Fig.18/1a, b, 7b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>243</sup> Bujna 2005: Obr. 16/C4-a; Obr. 17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>244</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 3/18; Abb. 23/58.



tury BCE.245 Fragments of two pins of the same type were found in grave 10 at Pećine (Pl. 9/4, 5) and could be dated to the end of the 4th century BCE. A grave association corresponding to the context of this autochthonous burial was found at the Mannersdorf necropolis where, in grave 76, a pin with an ' $\Omega$ ' head together with a spearhead of the 'Illyrian type' was discovered. 246 Such a context of finds in the Balkan region is usually associated with the Glasinac region and in Serbia particularly it is usually associated with the horizon of princely tombs and dates from the transition from Ha C to Ha D1, while at Glasinac it continued until the disappearance of that culture. Also, we find the best analogies in tumulus III at Rudine in Rusanovići, dated to the very end of that culture, i.e., phase Vb,247 which corresponds to the LT B1/B2 period (around 300 BCE). Those pins were made of various materials but luxurious specimens were forged from precious metals. The bronze core of those decorative objects was covered with layers of silver and later electrum was also used. The hairpins hint at influences from Thrace, which is considered to have been the centre of their production in southern Europe and the Danube Valley between the 5th and 4th century BCE.

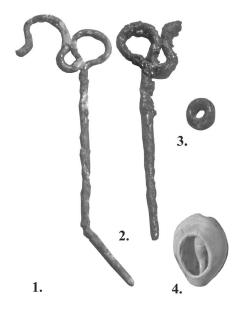


Fig. 60 – Finds from the grave N°10

#### 8.1.7. Finger rings

The sole finger ring at Pećine was found in grave 27 (Pl. 31/4) and was a finger ring of the 'saddle' ('figure eight') type, made of silver (Figure 61). While finger rings are rather infrequent at the necropoleis of the Central Balkans and the Danube Basin (except the Pişcolt necropolis in Romania<sup>248</sup>), many more of them were recorded in the area of Central Europe where it is related to the Münsingen-Rain horizon and, apart from in that necropolis, they were also distributed in the territory of southern Germany, Switzerland and Slovakia. Distribution of this jewellery in the Carpathian Basin is mainly around the Danube.<sup>249</sup> Silver finger rings of the saddle type

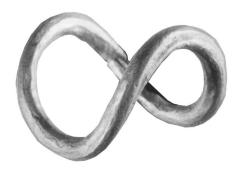


Fig. 61 – Fingerring from the grave N°27

are most numerous at the Münsingen necropolis, where they were found in 10 burials,<sup>250</sup> while the specimens from other graves were made of various metals.<sup>251</sup> Such finger rings, but made of gold, Waldhauser dates to the LT A2-LT B2.<sup>252</sup> Similar specimens were en-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>245</sup> Vasić 2003: 123,125.In the village of Ljuljaci, in the most important barrow related to the period of Triballian domination, this type of silver pin was the most luxurious find from the end of the Early Iron Age; Срејовић 1991: Т. II/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>246</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 71/5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>247</sup> Čović 1987: 633, T. LXV/1, 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>248</sup> Waldhauser 1998: Abb. 1; Abb. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>249</sup> Rustoiu 2016: Fig. 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>250</sup> Hodson 1968: Pl. 35/532; 59/315; 60/361; 61/311; 63/145; 64/385–388; 79/155; 86/177.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>251</sup> Hodson 1968: Pl. 33/572; 38/440; 58/324; 69/99–102.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>252</sup> Waldhauser 1998: Tab. 10.

countered at Slovakian necropoleis, in grave 20 at Blučina,<sup>253</sup> grave 34 at Chotin,<sup>254</sup> at Mána in graves 91 and 112<sup>255</sup>and at Kamenin in graves 8, 12 and 19.<sup>256</sup> Similar types were recorded at the necropoleis of Mannersdorf, grave 209<sup>257</sup> and Broc, grave 6.<sup>258</sup> Bujna dates this jewellery type to a wider chronological span, from the LT B1 to LT C1.<sup>259</sup> It is interesting to mention that finger rings of this type have not been found at the necropoleis of Karaburma or Rospi Ćuprija.



Fig. 62 – Glass bead from the grave  $N^{\circ}10$ 

#### 8.1.8. Beads

Beads made of glass paste and decorated with 'eyes' were found in graves 9 (Pl. 1, 2) and 18 (Pl. 18/1) at Pećine. Such a method of the decoration of glass beads is characteristic of the Early Iron Age and suggests an indigenous origin of the deceased. After analysing the finds from the Sopron-Krautacher necropolis, E. Jerem came to conclusion that the multi-coloured glass beads originated from the production centres in Slovenia. For the other type of less frequent glass beads of a biconical shape, as in the specimen from grave 10 (Pl. 9/1) (Figure 62), it could be claimed that they came from Celtic workshops. Such beads are widely spread within the territory where the Celtic tribes were passing and we can mention analogies from grave 17 at Nebringen.

#### 8.1.9. Bronze appliqués

Rare finds of decorative appliqués, i.e., decorations on clothes or military equipment have been recorded in only one instance at the Pećine necropolis. In grave 1, two circular appliqués made of thin sheet bronze with bosses in the central part and perforations for attaching to clothes or leather belts (Pl. 2/6) were discovered. In grave 9 at the Letky necropolis similar objects were found, which have been assumed to be decorations for belts.<sup>263</sup> Nevertheless, where finds from Pećine are concerned, we are more inclined to take the opinion that those were ornaments on the wooden shield of a warrior, as other fragments of defensive equipment were found in the same grave assemblage.

## 8.1.10 Cowry snail shells

Grave 10 at the Pećine necropolis, which, according to all its characteristics, belongs to a member of the autochthonous population co-opted into Celtic society, contained, among other things, one cowry snail shell laid by his feet (Pl. 9/8) (Figure 60/4). These types of objects have been identified in many texts as 'cowry shells' and, because of this,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>253</sup> Schwappach 1974: Taf. XXII/18, 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>254</sup> Ratimorska 1974: Taf. V/3, 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>255</sup> Banadik 1983: Taf. 31/1; 40/1; 42/16; 50/10; 55/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>256</sup> Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: obr. 31: 16, 17; Tab. 40/6,11; 41/5,10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>257</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 196/3a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>258</sup> Raftery 1988: Fig. 79/11, 12.

<sup>259</sup> Buina 2005: Obr. 56.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>260</sup> Jerem 1981: 210-211.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>261</sup> Todorović 1968: 63.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>262</sup> Krämer 1964: Taf. 5/17. 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>263</sup> Waldhauser, Sedlaček 1987: Taf. 10/16-18.

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Drechsler Bižić considered it appropriate to point out that the wrong terminology is used, because these are cowry (sea) snails.<sup>264</sup> Finds of this kind are characteristic for the Early Iron Age and were usually associated with Certosa fibulas or the strings of beads of variegated glass paste.<sup>265</sup> As they originated from the Indian Ocean and from the coasts of Africa they were probably a re-imported material which, according to certain opinions, also arrived from the territory of Slovenia (perhaps from Dolenjska or Bela Krajina?) and were discovered in great quantities at the necropolis and settlement at Sopron.<sup>266</sup> Cowry snail shells were, in the Antique period, associated with the cult of Aphrodite, hence women wore them for fertility. However, their magic characteristics cannot be reduced only to fertility as they have also been found in male graves.<sup>267</sup> Considering the finds from prehistoric graves in the territory of the Japodes, jewellery decorated with cowry snail shells was most frequent in Slovenia and Bosnia,<sup>268</sup> but there are also some specimens from Central Europe, as is recorded in one grave at the Milčice necropolis.<sup>269</sup> The Early La Tène grave (no. 43) from the Muhi-Cosmadomb necropolis, which was situated in the central zone of the Carpathian Basin, also had a cowry snail shell in the grave assemblage.<sup>270</sup>

#### 8.2. WEAPONS

#### 8.2.1. Swords

The invasion by the Celts of the territory of south Pannonia and the Danube Basin in the  $4^{\rm th}$  century BCE resulted in, among other things, changes in the types of weapons. In addition to the spearheads and rather scarce single-edged swords as weapons common in the graves of the pre-Celtic populations, there started to appear long swords, spearheads, shields, battle knives and belt garnitures worn by all males. In some instances there were traces in the graves of sheaths, not only for swords, but also for spears and battle knives.

Rescue archaeological investigations revealed only 11 graves (burials 1, 10, 14, 21, 22, 23, 25, 30, 38, 39 and 40) with weapons or pieces of defensive equipment, and these were identified as warrior graves. As a result, the most surprising thing is still the relatively small number of warrior graves with the usual offerings of weapons, of which the long double-edged Celtic swords are particularly interesting. At Pećine, only two long swords in two graves have been discovered. Long swords gradually came into use after the domination of short swords and they are characterised by the scabbards decorated in the 'Hungarian style' (which, in the Danube Basin, represents the evolution of the Waldalgesheim style from Central Europe)<sup>271</sup> or by the composition of the antithetically depicted dragons (lyre motif), which are dated to the period before the attack on Delphi.

It is interesting that generally mentioned in literature is the style of 'decorated' swords despite the fact that always only the scabbards were decorated. Engraving as a technique for decorating sword scabbards could be traced from the west and Central Eu-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>264</sup> Drechsler-Bižić, R. 1991: 80.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>265</sup> Medović 2007: 71.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>266</sup> Jerem 1981: Taf. 3/11, 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>267</sup> Drechsler-Bižić 1991: 80.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>268</sup> Drechsler-Bižić 1991: 84-85.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>269</sup> Sedlačkova, Waldhauser 1987: Abb. 22/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>270</sup> Hellebrandt 1996-1997: Abb. 23/16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>271</sup> Szabó 1988: 21.

rope.<sup>272</sup> Characteristic of the richly decorated scabbards or sheaths of the Celtic swords is the motif of a zoomorphic lyre, which is assumed to be a reflection of local traditions.<sup>273</sup> Examples of such decoration of military equipment in the territory of the Scordisci were encountered on swords from Sremska Mitrovica, Kupinovo, Gardoš<sup>274</sup> and Vršac,<sup>275</sup> as well as from Negotin, specifically Čubra.<sup>276</sup> The stylistic unity of this small group of decorated scabbards could also be understood as a visual trait of the distinct Celtic population within this composite prehistoric community. There is a possibility that the pronounced decora-

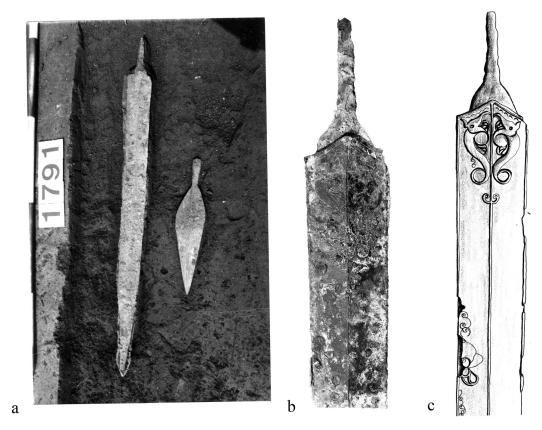


Fig. 63 – Sword from the grave N°38

tion on the weapons was instigated by military prestige and not by ethnic descent. The decorating of scabbards with floral motifs was, according to J. Todorović, characteristic at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE and largely spread during the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE.<sup>277</sup> However, nowadays, that chronology has shifted to the end of 4<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE.<sup>278</sup> Thus, in Central Europe, vegetal ornament is known as the 'Waldalgesheim' style and the zoomorphic representation of dragons as the 'De Navarro' style (Figure 63a, b). The double-edged sword in a scabbard from grave 38 at the Pećine ne-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>272</sup> Duval 1974: Fig. 2–3; Szabó 2008: Fig. 12, 13, 19, 20, 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>273</sup> Jovanović 1992: 90.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>274</sup> Todorović 1968: Sl. 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>275</sup> Hunyadi1942: Taf. XLVI/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>276</sup> Поповић и Сладић 1997: 103; Сл. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>277</sup> Todorović 1968: 67.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>278</sup> Sabo, Petres 1992.

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cropolis (Pl. 47/3), according to its stylistic and typological characteristics, belongs to the De Navarro II group. <sup>279</sup> The ornamental composition includes a pair of dragons and vegetal ornaments of stylised foliage, leaves and a lotus plant. Particularly significant is the motif of symmetrically arranged dragons, which create an S-lyre in combination with vegetal ornaments depicted along just one side of the scabbard. The lyre itself is finished with an indistinctive motif, which could even be a palmette. The asymmetry of the vegetal ornament is perceived in the decoration of just one edge of the scabbard, below the 'lyre', and this indicates a manner of decoration characteristic of sites in the Carpathian Basin (Hungarian type swords). <sup>280</sup> The reinforcement of the scabbard tip with an acute triangle with smaller and larger protuberances classifies it into type 5 A1, according to Th. Lejars. <sup>281</sup> This is also the case with the carrying ring or stud, which was on the back of the scabbard and is also ascribed to Lejars' group 5. <sup>282</sup> If we ignore the vegetal ornaments, the greatest similarities and analogies are with the swords from graves 29 and 325 at Karaburma. <sup>283</sup> It is

dated to the phase Beograd 2, i.e., the LT C, according to D. Božič. 284 and corresponds with the dating of the scabbard attaching ring by Th. Lejars.<sup>285</sup> The tip of the sword scabbard from grave 38 at Pećine, J. Bujna also dates to the LT C1.286 From eastern Slavonia also comes one sword (from inhumation burial 29 in Osijek) decorated with a motif of dragons of type I.<sup>287</sup> We encountered similar finds decorated with a 'lyre' motif at the sites of Taliándörögd and Csabrendek in Hungary,288 in the close neighbourhood of Pećine, and also in graves 124 and 137 at the Pişcolt necropolis in Romania, which are also dated to the LT B2 period.<sup>289</sup> An interesting parallel is the sword in grave 40 from the same necropolis that also has vegetal ornament exclusively in the central zone of the scabbard, below the lyre motif.<sup>290</sup> Many swords with identically decorated scabbards were encountered at the Dubnik I necropolis in Slovakia<sup>291</sup>, in the central European region, where they are dated to the LT B2b.

One ritually disfigured double-edged sword (Pl. 24/1) (Figure 64), together with fragments of a decorated scabbard (Figure 65), was found among the grave



Fig. 64 – Sword from the grave N°22



Fig. 65 – Decorated scabbard of the sword from the grave  $N^{\circ}22$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>279</sup> Jovanović 1992: 28, 90.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>280</sup> Jovanović 1992: 91; Szabó 1988: 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>281</sup> Lejars 1994: 23, 35-36, 158.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>282</sup> Lejars 1994: 35-36, 28/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>283</sup> Todorović 1972: T. XII/8; XLI/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>284</sup> Božič 1981: Tab. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>285</sup> Lejars 1994: 28/3, 49.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>286</sup> Bujna 1982: Abb.5/49.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>287</sup> Spajić 1962: T. XVI/12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>288</sup> Szabó 1988: Fig. 24 a, b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>289</sup> Nemeti 1989: Fig. 8/1a; Fig. 10/1a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>290</sup> Németi 1974: Pl. VI/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>291</sup> Bujna 1989: 282. Taf. XII/3; XIII/2; XXXII/3; XXXIII/5.

goods in warrior grave 22 at Pećine. The ritual of intentionally deforming weapons in Celtic graves is not sufficiently clear at this time. It appears from time to time, but without precise rules, so it seems that it was an individual act that is not possible to explain more precisely.<sup>292</sup> Also, the custom of deforming weapons is more frequent in cremation burials than in inhumations. Additional elements for the more precise dating of the deformed sword were provided by fragments of a scabbard that somehow avoided total disfiguration while burning on the pyre. It is sheet iron decorated with many tiny stamped circles. This manner of scabbard decoration appears in the Mokronog group, at Veliko Mraševo<sup>293</sup> and on one chance find from Dobova, where it was dated to the LT C2.<sup>294</sup> An almost identical manner of decoration was recorded at the Hasan-Fagža necropolis in Komburovo<sup>295</sup> and Poduene <sup>296</sup> in Bulgaria, which are assumed to date from the Late La Tène period.<sup>297</sup> At the Magyarszerdahely-Homoki dűlő necropolis in Hungary, in grave 30, which is dated to the LT B2, a sword scabbard decorated in a similar way was found.<sup>298</sup>

## 8.2.2. Belt garnitures

Belt garnitures have, in the first instance, a practical purpose, but they could also have been an element of costume, so it is little wonder that they were used during the La Tène period to a large extent, as is best confirmed by the large number of these finds —in both male and female burials. According to the situation encountered in inhumation and

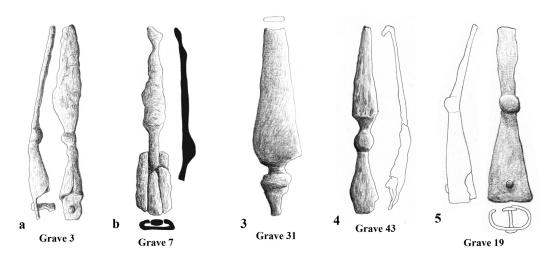


Fig. 66 – The lancelate bucklets from the Pećine necropolis

cremation burials at the Pećine necropolis, three variants of belt garnitures can be distinguished: 1) a belt made of strap segments of sheet iron; 2) a belt made of two-ply twisted segments of iron wire; 3) leather belts joined together by circular rings. It is probable that each part of the mentioned garniture types had segments of leather, as is indicated by the rivets preserved on the metal parts of the belts, rings and segments of iron straps.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>292</sup> Поповић 2011: 86.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>293</sup> Božič 1984: 80.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>294</sup> Guštin 1977: 71, T.5/7, T. 8/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>295</sup> Todorović 1965: 72, Fig. 2/7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>296</sup> Woźniak 1974: Taf. 2/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>297</sup> Woźniak 1974: 181.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>298</sup> Horváth 1987: 94, Pl. XIII/1c.



It is characteristic of the belt garnitures from Pećine that only one type of buckle had been in use, the so-called 'lanceolate buckles' made of sheet iron (Pl. 4/1) (Figure 66) that have been found in graves 3 (Pl. 4/1), 7 (Pl. 6/5), 19 (Pl. 19/5), 31 (Pl. 38/7, 4) and 43 (Pl. 54/5). The lanceolate buckle consists of three elements: an elongated conical tip ending in a hook (tang), then there is a tapering segment shaped like a small knob and at the end is a tubular 'socket' with a rivet for attaching the leather part of the belt.<sup>299</sup> There are two variants of such a buckle: with a pointed tip like a lance (Pl. 4/1) and with a blunt

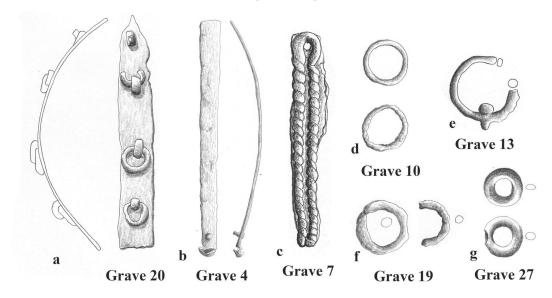


Fig. 67 – Parts of the belt garnitures from the Pećine necropolis

tip (i.e., the tip of the buckle is not conical but vertical) (Pl. 19/5). Buckles of this type, if undecorated, are not chronologically relevant, as they appear in the Early (Pećine, Pişcolt, and Kósd³00) as well as at the beginning of the Middle La Tène (Kupinovo, Pişcolt, Radosty-an³01). Buckles were decorated during the Middle La Tène period, so some of them have zoomorphic features and are dated to the first half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE.³02 J. Bujna also studied the typology and chronology of lanceolate buckles and he dated the above mentioned elements of belt garnitures to the period from the LT B2b/c to LT C.³03 Close analogies for the lanceolate buckles were recorded at Karaburma,³04 at the Pişcolt necropolis,³05 at Kupinovo³06 and at many sites in the Carpathian Basin. The lanceolate buckle from grave 19 also has certain analogies with specimens from the Pişcolt necropolis.³07

The belt garniture from grave 20 consisted of five segments made of sheet iron straps. Preserved on two segments are hooks with a loop that were used as joining links (Pl. 27/7c, 7e). One of the segments tapers towards the end, while on the front side are four

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 299}$  Teleagă 2008: 105, Abb. 9/3.

<sup>300</sup> Hunyady 1942: XXXIII/10, 11.

<sup>301</sup> Hunyady 1942: XXXIII/16.

<sup>302</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: 28; T X/5, 5a, 6, 6a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>303</sup> Bujna 2011: Obr. 22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>304</sup> Todorović 1972: T. XL/11.

<sup>305</sup> Nemeti 1988: Fig. 1/9; Fig. 15/7; 28/5; 12/4; 14/1; 15/7; 4/2; 7/2c.

<sup>306</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: 28; T X/5, 5a, 6, 6a.

<sup>307</sup> Nemeti 1989: Fig. 17/8; 12/40; 24/3b.

rivets holding three iron rings, with a fourth missing (Pl. 22/7a) (Figure 67/a). The next segment has one narrow end shaped as a circular astragal (Pl. 22/7b). The last segment represents two straps joined by a rivet (Pl. 22/7d). We recorded analogies for this type of belt at the Pişcolt,<sup>308</sup> Curtuiuşeni/Érkörtvèlyes<sup>309</sup> and Dürnnberg necropoleis,<sup>310</sup> although typologically closest is the belt garniture from the Remeta Mare necropolis<sup>311</sup> and the Chotin necropolis.<sup>312</sup>

The find from grave 3 also belongs to a similar type of segmental belt made of straps of sheet iron (Pl. 4/1-3) (Figure 67/b). Judging by the lanceolate buckle with a flattened socket with a rivet (Pl. 4/1), other segments of the belt were leather straps. The iron arched strap with a hook and rivet (Pl. 4/2) could have been a segment attached to the lanceolate buckle on the other end of the belt. The three rings with 'tangs' (Pl. 4/3) might have been used for hanging decorative pendants, as we encountered on the belt from grave 20 (Pl. 22/7a).

In grave 7, besides the corroded lanceolate buckle, fragments of two-ply twisted wire were discovered (Pl. 6/6) (Figure 67c). These could have been segments of a composite type belt, similar to the specimen from Kupinovo, 313 which is assumed to have been an element of female attire. However, it is more likely that it was an entwined band for attaching a scabbard to the belt, similar to the one found in grave 9 at the Remeta Mare necropolis. 314 A distinct find is an object made of two-ply twisted wire that has a loop at one end and a fanlike expansion at the other, similar to the belts of the Dalj type, although this analogy is not sufficiently clear. The problem is the damage, which does not allow an assumption of the original appearance (Pl. 6/2).

It could not be claimed with any certainty that the object from grave 31 (Pl. 38/4) was the tip of a sword scabbard, battle knife or short knife, but it is most probable that in this case it was also a fragmented belt buckle, as is suggested by the specimens in figure 67. The sheet iron is corroded, so there is little possibility to perceive the original shape of this object.

Some belt garnitures consisting of several leather straps also had metal rings of various shapes,<sup>315</sup> of circular or biconical cross section (similar to whorls) (Figure 67/d, e, f, g). They were found in graves 10 (Pl. 9/6), 13 (Pl.13/14), 19 (Pl. 19/6), 23 (Pl. 26/12, 16) and 27 (Pl. 31/9, 10).

## 8.2.3. Metal rings

Among the many objects from grave 23, two iron whorls or rings of biconical shape should also be mentioned. The first one belongs to the 'hollow two-piece rings' type, of biconical cross section and made of tubular sheet iron with no ornaments (Pl. 26/12) (Figure 68), while the entire surface of the other one was elaborately decorated. Finds of hollow rings have been recorded in many Early La Tène graves in Central Europe, mostly in male burials but they were also present, though in smaller numbers, in female and child burials. Considering the burial context, Raftery came to the conclusion that they could

<sup>308</sup> Nemeti 1993: Fig. 6/4; 7/2; 11/4; 21/7b; 19/28-33.

<sup>309</sup> Teleaga 2008: 134, Taf. 7/8.13.

<sup>310</sup> Moosleitner, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Taf. 131/21; 140/5; 141/4.

<sup>311</sup> Rustoiu 2012: Pl. 9/19.

<sup>312</sup> Ratimorska 1981: Tab. XIV/1.

<sup>313</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: X/9

<sup>314</sup> Rustoiu 2012: Pl. 8.

<sup>315</sup> Dizdar 2013: Sl. 64.



have had a dual function; on the one hand they could have been objects which additionally secured sword scabbards to the belt, and on the other they could simply have been pendants on the belt.<sup>316</sup> The function of these objects as segments of the belt garnitures is explained in a similar way by Bujna.<sup>317</sup> It is possible that a combination of these two joined rings was used as a buckle for a belt made of canvas, as the same author explains.<sup>318</sup> Also according to Bunja, the hoop of the 'hollow two-piece ring' type, as in the specimen from grave 23 (Pl. 26/12) belongs to the LT B2a-c,<sup>319</sup> while specimens from grave 27 (Pl. 31/9, 10) also belong to the LT B2.<sup>320</sup>

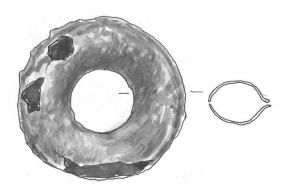


Fig. 68 - Hollow two-piece ring from the grave N°23

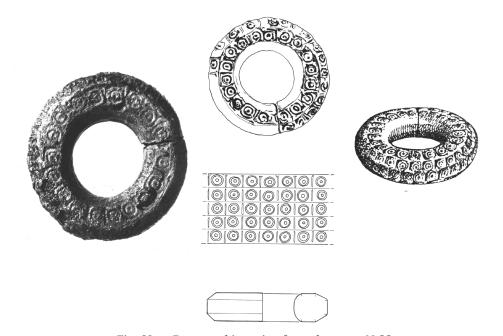


Fig. 69  $\,-\,$  Decorated iron ring from the grave  $N^{\circ}23$ 

A biconical ring made of solid cast iron found in grave 23 represents an exceptional specimen of this type, very precisely decorated with rectangular segments within which were stamped concentric circles (Pl. 26/16) (Figure 69). The artisan responsible for manufacturing this object had extensive knowledge of geometry, as not a single circle interferes with another within the segment and there is no overlapping. Such a manner of decoration required great skill for working at such a fine scale where ornaments were stamped with amazing precision. We, therefore, assume that such an object could have been of a votive character, but it could have also been an ornament on a belt garniture or perhaps a holder

<sup>316</sup> Raftery 1988: Fig. 2/A, B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>317</sup> Bujna 2011: 14, Obr. 15-18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>318</sup> Bujna 2011: 14, Obr. 51/2

<sup>319</sup> Bujna 2011: 14, Obr. 27/5-6

<sup>320</sup> Bujna 2011: 14, Obr. 26/16-17/

for a sword scabbard. The single analogy for an object of this type was recorded in grave 49 at the Münsingen necropolis, where a ring with similar decoration was lying on the pelvis of the deceased, so we could assume that it was part of the belt garniture.<sup>321</sup> Where the style of decoration is concerned, only relatively close analogies were recorded on the earlier mentioned sword scabbards. So, this type of object reveals that the function of rings of that type, which appear in the La Tène period, is not sufficiently clear. As a result, their practical or magic value has not been sufficiently explained.<sup>322</sup> It is only certain for now that they date from the LT A to LT B2/C1.<sup>323</sup>

## 8.2.4. Spearheads

Spears are throwing or stabbing weapons, with a long or short blade, and were an indispensable piece of weaponry of La Tène period warriors. They appear during the Iron Age more frequently than before and this is associated with certain changes in combat technique and the introduction of the spear as a basic offensive weapon.<sup>324</sup> Spearheads

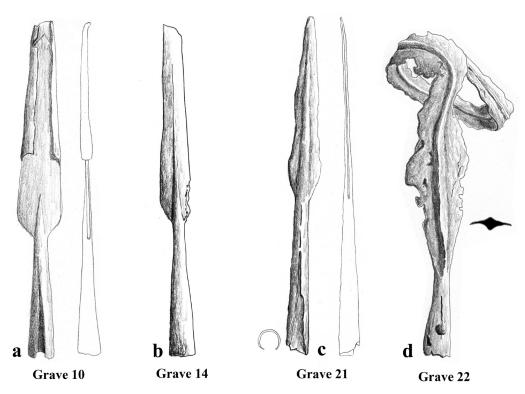


Fig. 70 – Spearheads with narrow blades from the Pećine necropolis

were varied, forged from bronze or iron and their length varied from 1 meter with a narrow, short or broad blade (up to 0.20 m).<sup>325</sup> Different types of this offensive weapon were produced in the Late Iron Age and two basic variants were encountered at the Pećine necropolis. These are specimens with a narrow (Figure 70) and a wide blade (Figure 71).

<sup>321</sup> Hodson 1968: Pl. 223/835b.

<sup>322</sup> Raftery 1988: 19.

<sup>323</sup> Raftery 1988: 19.

<sup>324</sup> Vasić 1997: 500, 501.

<sup>325</sup> Vasić 1997: 501.



A specimen with a very elongated rhomboid blade (with sharp angles) and a short pronounced rib that was in metal sheath was discovered in grave 10 (Pl. 9/2) (Figure 70a). The described shape of the blade has its closest analogies with spearheads from the final phase of the Early Iron Age and that closely corresponds with the autochthonous component of the grave assemblage. Similar spearheads were found at the necropolis at Sinjac Polje near Bela Palanka (tumulus 1, grave 1),<sup>326</sup> and at the necropolis at Tri Čeljusti,<sup>327</sup> and at Romaja,<sup>328</sup> as well as among the La Tène weapons discovered by chance in the vicinity of Smederevo.<sup>329</sup> A spearhead with a sheath was the grave good in grave 18 at Djepfeld near Doroslovo,<sup>330</sup> and was also encountered among the objects from tumulus II at Ljuljaci<sup>331</sup>and in Donja Dolina.<sup>332</sup>

A spearhead from grave 14 corresponds typologically and chronologically to the previous specimen. It is of a larger size and has a long socket and a carinated rhomboid blade (Pl. 14/1) (Figure 70/b). Spearheads of similar shape were discovered in grave 98 at the Dürnnberg necropolis,<sup>333</sup> and in grave 11 at Szentlőrinc.<sup>334</sup>

A short spearhead with an elongated blade and a pronounced rib was discovered in grave 30 (Pl. 37/8) (Figure 71/a). Its tip was driven into the ground next to the head of the deceased. Such a spearhead type was has also been found at the Monte Bibele necropolis, <sup>335</sup> Giessen 'Trieb' (tumulus 2)<sup>336</sup> and in grave 96/25 at Dürnnberg. This type of weapon is dated, according to J. Bujna, to the period of the LT B2b. <sup>338</sup>

The spearhead from grave 21 has an exceptionally narrow blade and a long socket with a clearly pronounced rib (Pl. 21/2) (Figure 70c). We recorded analogies for this type in grave 79 at the Münsingen necropolis $^{339}$  and in grave 158 at the Pilismarót-Basaharc necropolis. $^{340}$ 

A single specimen of a purposely disfigured spearhead was found in grave 22 (Pl. 24/2) (Figure 70/d). It is a spearhead with an exceptionally long blade and a short socket, with a pronounced rib and one preserved rivet. Analogies for this spearhead type were encountered at the necropoleis at Monte Bibele,<sup>341</sup> Mannersdorf,<sup>342</sup> Münsingen<sup>343</sup> and Rezi-Rezicseri.<sup>344</sup>

The best example of a spearhead from the Early La Tène was discovered in grave 22 at Pećine (Pl. 26/31) (Figure 71/e). It is characterised by a wide (heart-shaped) blade

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326 Kapuran, Blagojević, Bizjak 2015: Fig. 6/1.
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>327</sup> Kuzman 1985: Т. Б/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>328</sup> Đurić et al 1975: T. XI/5.

<sup>329</sup> Sladić 1998: 300; 301/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>330</sup> Трајковић 2008: 43-44, 197.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>331</sup> Срејовић 1991: Т. II/7.

<sup>332</sup> Marić 1964: T. XV/26.

<sup>333</sup> Moosleitner, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Taf. 98B/3.

<sup>334</sup> Szabo 1988: Fig. 7.

<sup>335</sup> Lejars 2008: 185.

 $<sup>^{336}</sup>$  Raftery 1988: Fig. 10/10.

<sup>337</sup> Moosleitner, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Taf. 161/26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>338</sup> Bujna 1982: Abb. 5/46.

<sup>339</sup> Hodson 1968: Pl. 35/531.

<sup>340</sup> Bognár-Kutzián 1974: T. B/2c.

<sup>341</sup> Lejars 2008: 190, 191, 207, 221.

<sup>342</sup> Ramsl 1988: Taf. 66/6.

<sup>343</sup> Hodson 1968: Pl. 40/448.

<sup>344</sup> Horvath 1987: Pl. XVII/1a.

with a long haft, a pronounced rib and one rivet and next to it were the metal parts of the sheath (the iron sides of the leather covers) (Pl. 26/22). There are many analogies for this type of spearhead and we mention just a few. In the first place there are specimens from the necropoleis at Monte Bibele,<sup>345</sup> Maloměřice near Brno,<sup>346</sup> Palarikovo,<sup>347</sup> Sobocisko,<sup>348</sup> Hurbanovo,<sup>349</sup> Mannersdorf (a votive spearhead),<sup>350</sup> Münsingen,<sup>351</sup> Sopron-Bécsidomb,<sup>352</sup> Balatongyőrők-Kővesmező,<sup>353</sup> Muhi Kosmadomb,<sup>354</sup> and Karaburma.<sup>355</sup> J. Bujna dates this

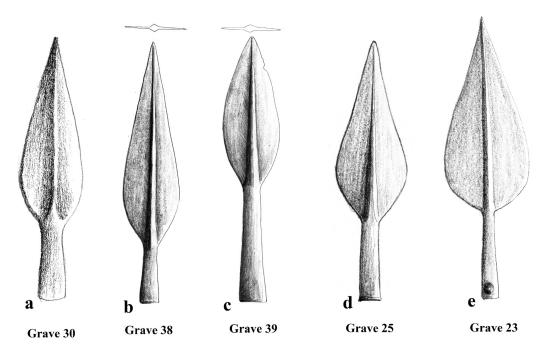


Fig. 71 – Spearheads with wide blades from the Pećine necropolis

type of spearhead, from the necropolis at Dubnik (graves 16, 17, 31), to the LT B2b, $^{356}$  the same period as Božič, who dates such spearheads to the phase of Beograd I,  $^{357}$  while Waldhauser dates them to the LT C1b. $^{358}$  A similar type is also recorded in Oltenia and dated to the LT B2. $^{359}$ 

The spearhead from grave 25 has a shorter socket and a shorter rhomboid blade, rounded on its edges and with a pronounced rib (Pl. 25/6) (Figure 71/d). There are analo-

<sup>345</sup> Lejars 2008: 202.

<sup>346</sup> Raftery1988: Fig. 35/5.

<sup>347</sup> Raftery1988: Fig. 44/1.

<sup>348</sup> Raftery1988: Fig. 76/13

<sup>349</sup> Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: Obr. 19/2, 3.

<sup>350</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 185; 190/2.

<sup>351</sup> Hodson 1968: Pl. 85/171.

<sup>352</sup> Szabo 1988: Fig. 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>353</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. II/1.

<sup>354</sup> Hellebrandt 1996-1997: Abb. 28/18.

<sup>355</sup> Todorović 1972: T XIX/1; XXII/3; XXXIII/6.

<sup>356</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. XIII/3; XV/9; XXX/6; Bujna 1982: Abb. 5/41.

<sup>357</sup> Božič 1981: T. I/4.

<sup>358</sup> Waldhauser 1987: Abb. 3/47.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>359</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 23/4.



gies for this spearhead type recorded at the necropoleis at Ménfőcsanak in Hungary<sup>360</sup> and Pişcolt in Romania.<sup>361</sup> According to the chronological system proposed by Waldhauser, these spearheads are dated to the LT C1 period,<sup>362</sup> but we consider that this is too late and that they should be dated to the preceding horizon.

An uncommon type of spearhead with a short and broad blade, a pronounced rib and a very long haft was discovered in grave 39 (Pl. 49/3) (Figure 71/c). Spearheads of this shape are not frequent in the La Tène period and there are analogies with one chance find from the vicinity of Smederevo, <sup>363</sup> one specimen from Judenau in Austria, <sup>364</sup> and from the necropoleis at Letky, <sup>365</sup> Mána, <sup>366</sup> Kietrz, <sup>367</sup>Sobocisko, <sup>368</sup> Malunje <sup>369</sup> and Pişcolt. <sup>370</sup> A similar type of spearhead, which is assumed to be of Illyrian provenance, was discovered in grave 76 at the Mannersdorf necropolis. <sup>371</sup> These finds are dated, according to Waldhauser, to the LT B2/C1 period. <sup>372</sup>

In grave 38, one long spearhead with an elongated flaring blade, a rather short haft and a pronounced rib (Pl. 47/6) (Figure 71/b) was found that has analogies with specimens from Ering (Germany),<sup>373</sup> Chotin,<sup>374</sup> Estztergom-Szentkirályu,<sup>375</sup> Tokod-Arpadakni<sup>376</sup> and Pişcolt.<sup>377</sup> Such a spearhead with a long blade of a flared shape is dated, according to Waldhauser, to the LT C1a<sup>378</sup> and, considering the find of such a spearhead in grave 30 (together with a sword of the De Navarro II type) at the Dubnik necropolis, it could also be dated to the LT B2b,<sup>379</sup> or a little earlier, to the LT B1.<sup>380</sup>

One conical butt made of sheet iron and an integral part of a spear was discovered in grave 22 (Pl. 24/3). The butt made it easier to drive the spear into the ground in clashes between infantry and cavalry. According to Waldhauser, this type of conical butt is dated to the LT B2a.  $^{381}$ 

<sup>360</sup> Uzsoki 1987: Pl. XIV/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>361</sup> Nemeti 1989: Fig. 3/2; Nemeti 1993: Fig. 1/3.

<sup>362</sup> Waldahuser 1987: Abb. 3/46.

<sup>363</sup> Sladić 1998: 300; 301/3.

<sup>364</sup> Raftery 1988: Fig. 27/1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>365</sup> Waldhauser, Sedlaček 1987: Taf. 12/12; 15/7.

<sup>366</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XXXVIII/7.

<sup>367</sup> Raftery 1988: Fig. 73/3.

<sup>368</sup> Raftery 1988: Fig. 74/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>369</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić1970: T. XXI/6.

<sup>370</sup> Németi 1988: Fig. 4/8.

<sup>371</sup> Ramsl 1988: Taf. 91/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>372</sup> Waldhauser1987: Abb. 3/40, 41.

<sup>373</sup> Raftery1988: Fig. 61/9.

<sup>374</sup> Ratimorska 1974: Taf. II/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>375</sup> Kelemen 1987: Pl. X/10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>376</sup> Kelemen 1987: Pl. XIII/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>377</sup> Nemeti 1993: Fig. 27/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>378</sup> Waldhauser1987: Abb. 3/43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>379</sup> Bujna 1989: XXXII/4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>380</sup> Bujna 1982: Abb. 5/39.

<sup>381</sup> Waldahuser 1987: Abb. 3/54.

#### 8.2.5. Battle knives<sup>382</sup>

An offensive knife with a large, long curved blade can also be found in literature as a battle knife (*Hiebmesser*). These battle knives are also known as the Dürnnberg type, and M. Dizdar thinks that an important element for their classification is their shape, i.e., whether the blade is straight or curved upward and also how the handle is divided with globular protuberances.<sup>383</sup> On the basis of those elements, the author classified finds from the Zvonimirovo necropolis into the types Zvonimirovo LT 12, Brežice 6 and Osijek 1.

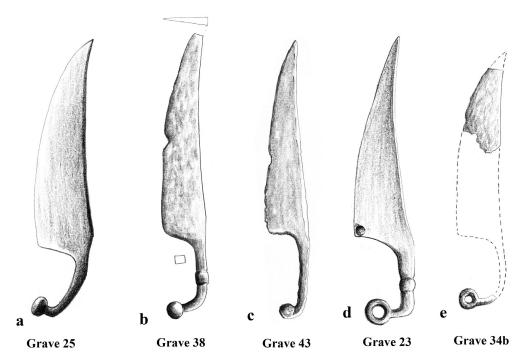


Fig. 72 – Battle knives from the Pećine necropolis

Battle knives without a ring pommel and with a straighter and longer blade belong to the earlier types (LT B-C), while for the later La Tène period, typical are the specimens from graves 12, 92 and 114 from Karaburma<sup>384</sup> which, according to M. Dizdar, belong to the Osijek 1 type.<sup>385</sup> Many knife blades terminated in a globular or biconical protuberance, as is the case in the earlier graves 324 and 325 at Karaburma.<sup>386</sup> One fragmented battle knife from grave 34b (Pl. 43/5b) might also belong to the same type of weapon.

Battle knives were encountered at the Pećine necropolis in warrior graves 23, 25 and 34 and graves 38 and 43 (Figure 72). In grave 25 a battle knife with a curved blade and a slanting handle with a globular protuberance at the end (Pl. 29/7) (Figure 72/a) was discovered. This knife type is an earlier variant, which has its closest analogies in the find from Boljevci. This type of weapon is dated in Romania to the transition from the LT B2 to LT C. 388

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>382</sup> This type of weapon, according to some authors, could also have been used, because of its weight and large size, for food preparation, i.e. as some kind of butcher's knife for cutting meat.

<sup>383</sup> Dizdar 2013: 122, 123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>384</sup> Todorović 1972: 75, T. IV/5; XXVII/12.

<sup>385</sup> Dizdar 2013: 135.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>386</sup> Todorović 1972: XLI/ 4, 4.

<sup>387</sup> Majnanić-Pandžić 1970: T. II/11.

<sup>388</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 3/22.



A battle knife from grave 43 at Pećine, for which a straight blade is characteristic (Pl. 54/6) (Figure 72/c), belongs to the Brežice type.<sup>389</sup> This type of battle knife is, according to the typology of V. Zirra, dated to the LT B2/C.<sup>390</sup>

A specimen from grave 38, with a straight blade and one globular protuberance at the beginning and another at the handle's end (Pl. 48/7) (Figure 72/b), belongs to the group Zvonimirovo LT 12 and is dated to the LT B2-Lt C1.<sup>391</sup> Similar battle knives were recorded at Boljevci,<sup>392</sup> in grave 59 at Karaburma,<sup>393</sup> in grave 180 at Pişcolt,<sup>394</sup> and in the vicinity of Smederevo.<sup>395</sup>

We suppose that the battle knife from grave 23, with a curved blade with a rivet and a handle with a ring pommel bent at a right angle (Pl. 26/23) (Figure 72/d) had a leather sheath, as bronze grooved straps from the sides of the sheath were found next to the knife. Nevertheless, according to some other opinions these might have been iron elements of shield reinforcement. This type of battle knife with a rivet is characteristic of the Serbian Danube Basin and the ring pommel occurs within all territories inhabited by the Celts,  $^{396}$  and is dated in Romania to the LT C1/2. $^{397}$ 

There are also opinions that such a knife type had a practical purpose in everyday food preparation, i.e. it was used for butchering meat,<sup>398</sup> as the angle of the blade is unsuitable for close combat and the short handle was not easy to manipulate in battle. Its value was also in the quantity of iron used for its production. Specimens of these knives in graves 25 and 34 at the Pećine necropolis were found together with a set of pottery vessels for serving and drinking wine. Battle knives were recorded in graves 89, 92 and 105 at the Dürnnberg necropolis,<sup>399</sup> while at the Mannersdorf necropolis they were recorded in many more grave associations.<sup>400</sup>

# 8.2.6. Iron knives

A rather large amount of short and long iron knives were encountered at the Pećine necropolis as well as at other La Tène necropoleis. As in most instances, they were in poor condition due to corrosion and, consequently, we could not classify them into chronologically relevant types. J. Todorović proposed a theory according to which the Celtic warriors, under the influence of the Illyrian tribes, whom they came in contact with, started to produce knives with rather long blades that resembled makchaira. 401

Three types of short knives, equally present in male and female burials, were encountered in the graves at the Pećine necropolis (Figure 73). Most numerous are curved knives, then straight knives. One blade that was probably part of a razor was also discovered. Most typologically relevant for curved knives is the specimen from grave 13 (Pl.

<sup>389</sup> Guštin 1984: 115.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>390</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 1/16.

<sup>391</sup> Dizdar 2013: 123; T. 12/1.

<sup>392</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: T. XV/5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>393</sup> Todorović 1972: T. XX/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>394</sup> Nemeti 1988: Fig. 9/7.

<sup>395</sup> Sladić 1998: 300; 301/7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>396</sup> Gaspari at al 2004: 273., Map. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>397</sup> Zirra 1971: Abb. 16/21.

<sup>398</sup> Dizdar 2013: 122.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>399</sup> Moosleitner, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Taf. 155/2; 162/16; 168/5; 132/7; 139/13; 175/19; 183/1.

<sup>400</sup> Ramsl 2011: Taf. 46/22; 52/19; 125/9; 128/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>401</sup> Todorović 1974: 87.

13/16) (Figure 73/a). It has a broad blade and a preserved piece of sheet iron for attaching to the hilt. According to the analogies, but not regarding its size, this knife mostly resembles a short single-edged sword from Široko.<sup>402</sup> A curved knife with a long haft from grave 24 at Pećine is of an almost identical shape (Pl. 28/13) (Figure 73/b), and somewhat less similar is a curved knife with a preserved ring for attaching a handle, from grave 30 (Pl. 37/7) (Figure 73/c) and a curved knife with a haft, from grave 33 (Pl. 42/5) (Figure 73/d).

A rather small curved knife from grave 31, with a segment of a wooden handle preserved (Pl. 38/9) (Figure 73/f) has some analogies with knives from Kupinovo and Boljevci, 403 with one knife from an unknown site at Bežanija 404 and knives from graves 60, 66 and 111 at Karaburma. 405 An identical type was found at the Pişcolt necropolis in Romania. 406 A single-edged knife from grave 39, shaped like a sickle and with a long haft (Pl. 49/4) (Figure 73/g) also has analogies with one specimen from Boljevci. 407

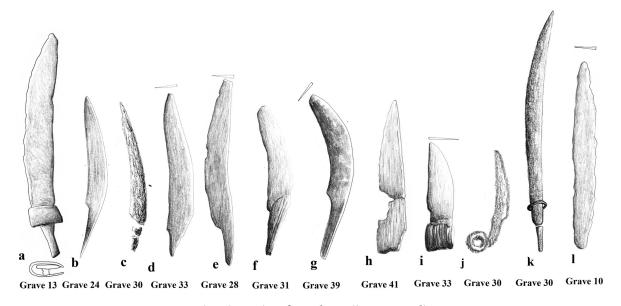


Fig. 73 – Knives from the Pećine necropolis

Straight knives are represented by a fragmented specimen from grave 28 (Pl. 34/7) (Figure 73/e), $^{408}$  and there is also one straight single-edged knife without a haft from grave 41 (Pl. 52/9) (Figure 73/h) and a short single-edged blade with preserved traces of a wooden handle, from grave 33 (Pl. 42/2) (Figure 73/i). One short blade with a ring at the end that was discovered in grave 30 (Pl. 37/6) could be a fragment of a razor and it has analogies with a razor blade from Zvonimirovo.  $^{409}$  The knife in grave 28 (Pl. 34/7) has analogies among the finds from the Dürnnberg necropolis.  $^{410}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>402</sup> Парович-Пешикан 1988: 178, Рис. 1.

<sup>403</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: T. XIII//12; II/13.

<sup>404</sup> Sladić 1998: 179.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>405</sup> Todorović 1972: 35, T. XXXIII/5; T. XXIV/6; T. XXI/14.

<sup>406</sup> Nemeti 1974: Pl. 1/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>407</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: T. II/9.

<sup>408</sup> Majnarić-Pandžić 1970: T. XV/3.

<sup>409</sup> Dizdar 2013: T. 23/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>410</sup> Moosleitner, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Taf. 133/12; 140/10.



The next knife type from the Pećine necropolis was found in grave 30 and, according to typologies, it was a long knife (Pl. 37/3) (Figure 73/k) with a hilt on which there was a ring for attaching hilt-plates. Such a knife is characteristic of the final phases of the Early Iron Age and could be encountered in an arsenal typical of the Late Iron Age. This knife type closely resembles imported Greek makchaira swords (from the  $6^{th}$  to the  $4^{th}$  century BCE)<sup>411</sup> and, regarding its form, it is close to *sica*, which is more characteristic of the Daco-Getan cultural circle established in the Carpathian Basin.<sup>412</sup> Closer analogies could be seen on one *kopis* resembling a makchaira from the Dardanian necropolis at Donja Toponica, and Most na Soči.<sup>413</sup>

The last type of knife encountered at the Pećine necropolis is a straight single-edged knife from a native burial 10 (Pl. 9/3) (Figure 73/l), damaged by corrosion. This type of weapon is, judging by the double pins with an 'M' head, from the same context, generally dated to the transition from the Early to the Late Iron Age. As an analogy, a specimen from grave 18 at the Djepfeld necropolis (Doroslovo) could be considered, <sup>414</sup> which was attributed to the Early La Tène of the Serbian Danube Valley, i.e., the Čurug phase, <sup>415</sup> while a somewhat earlier specimen was recorded at Donja Dolina. <sup>416</sup> Swords from Rutevac and Krajčinovići that are dated to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries BCE belong to the same type of weapons. <sup>417</sup>

#### 8.2.7. Axes

Axes are very infrequently found pieces of weaponry of Celtic warriors. It seems that only warriors in the Dolenjska region had axes as their standard military equipment and they were probably taken over from the military tradition of the local population. One fragmented, most probably 'hollow' socket axe (Pl. 40/9) was found in grave 32 at Pećine and could indicate the already mentioned autochthonous traditions and influences, as a bracelet with its ends shaped as serpents' heads was found in the same assemblage. It is also interesting that it was found in a female grave. Considering that, in this case, we have found just a fragment of a blade, any further discussion about this find would be of no avail. We can only mention one axe with a hollow rectangular socket that was found in grave 34/72 at the Chotin necropolis.

# 8.2.8. Shield fragments

The shield was a basic piece of armour of Celtic warriors. It was usually made of wood and was strengthened with a metal cover along the edges or in the centre on the face and there was a grip or handle on the reverse. These metal parts of shields are usually the sole remains of the shields deposited in the graves of warriors upon their death. In the central section of the shield was usually an iron boss, 420 which strengthened the middle rib and was made in various ways.

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<sup>411</sup> Парович-Пешикан 1988: 178.
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>412</sup> Zirra: 1974: Pl. V/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>413</sup> Трбуховић, Трбуховић 1970: 69/2; Gaspari, Mlinar 2005: Fig. 5/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>414</sup> Трајковић 2008: 43, 44.

<sup>415</sup> Božič 1981: 315.

<sup>416</sup> Marić 1964: T. XV/31: XI/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>417</sup> Парович-Пешикан 1988: 178, 179, Рис. 1.

<sup>418</sup> Božič 1984: 77.

<sup>419</sup> Ratimorska 1981: Tab. XXIV/10.

<sup>420</sup> Božič 1984: 77, 78, Sl. 24/1.; Rapin 1991.

Fragments of shields have been found in graves 1 (Pl. 2/7), 23 (Pl. 26/20), 31 (Pl. 38/7) and 40 (Pl. 51/1-3) at the Pećine necropolis. The bosses are represented only by the chronologically earlier bipartite type and in two basic shapes: made in a square shape of slightly concave sheet iron (Pl. 26/20) (Figure 74/e, Figure 75/a) and in the shape of an elongated rectangle (Pl. 51/1) (Figure 74/f, 75/b), also made of concave sheet iron. On both variants the rivets and perforations remained as visible evidence of how they were attached to the wooden shield frame.<sup>421</sup> The production of those types of bosses stopped in the Middle and Late La Tène, i.e., it was considered outdated after the conflicts of the Celts and the Hoplites when a re-design, i.e. the adaptation of old variants of weapons,

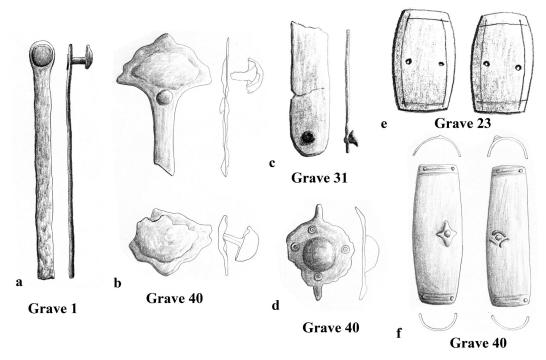


Fig. 74 – Parts of the shields from the Pećine necropolis

most probably took place. Domaradzki thinks that this boss type belongs to group I, characteristic of the LT B2 in the territory of eastern Europe. On the inside of the shield there was an iron handle or grip, which was expanded at the ends to allow the insertion of the rivets that attached it to the wooden structure. Iron handles were sometimes decorated (Pl. 51/2, 3a) (Figure 74/b), as could be seen on one specimen from Batina near Osijek (Kiskőszeg). The most interesting example of shield handle decoration is the specimen from Nagydém, decorated with a disc of glass paste. The boss from grave 23 has its closest analogies with a find from grave 8 at the Stránce necropolis.

Bipartite concave bosses with star like rivets in the centre, as encountered in grave 40 (Figure 74/f, 75/b), are very similar to the specimens from Kobarid (Bizjakova Hiša) in Slo-

<sup>421</sup> Božič 1984: Sl. 24.

<sup>422</sup> Dizdar 2013: 153.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>423</sup> Domaradzki 1977: 65.

<sup>424</sup> Hunyady 1942: XVI/12.

<sup>425</sup> Hunyady 1942: XII/19

<sup>426</sup> Waldhauser 1987: Taf. 28/23, 24.



venia<sup>427</sup> and to the objects from grave 40 at the Pişcolt necropolis in Romania. We might say that grave 30 at the necropolis in Magyarszerdahely-Homolki dűlő<sup>429</sup> is perhaps closest to grave 40 at Pećine regarding the shape of the boss and the handle. Bosses discovered in warrior graves at Pećine are dated by Waldhauser to the LT B2a.  $^{430}$ 

In grave 1 a fragment of a simple grip was found, with straight sides and an expanded end with a rivet (Pl. 2/7) (Figure 74/a), while in grave 40 a fragmented grip with its ends shaped as fans with protomes (Pl. 51/2, 3a) (Figure 74/c) was found. This grip, although not in the manner of its decoration, reveals similarities to the finds from Bizjakova Hiša in Kobarid in Slovenia, <sup>431</sup>

from grave 40 at the Pişcolt necropolis in Romania,  $^{432}$  from grave 30 at the necropolis of Magyarszerdahely-Homoki dűlő,  $^{433}$  from grave 9 at the Remeta Mare necropolis  $^{434}$  and from the necropoleis in Sobocisko in Poland,  $^{435}$  in Batina  $^{436}$  and in Zvonimirovo.  $^{437}$ 

The decorative plating of the shield from grave 40, consisting of a circular medallion with a protruding central part and 'eyes' with inlaid white glass paste arranged in a cruciform pattern (Figure 74/d, Figure 75c), is not a common piece of military equipment of the Early La Tène period. It has its closest analogies with a find from grave 1, in tumulus 2 at the Sinjac necropolis near Bela Palanka in the Nišava Valley, dated to the final phase of the Early Iron Age, 438 and one from grave 37 at the Dürnnberg necropolis. 439

If we are wrong regarding the objects from grave 23 (Pl. 26/22, 23), which we consider to be fragments of a leather sheath for a battle knife or spear, there is a possibility that the iron, lengthwise bent, strap reinforcements could also be fragments of a shield.



Fig. 75a, b – Bipartite concave bosses from the grave  $N^{\circ}40$ 



Fig. 75c - Decorative plating from the grave  $N^{\circ}40$ 

## 8.2.9. Whetstones

Objects used for sharpening metal blades, that is, whetstones, are also not very frequent finds in the graves of La Tène warriors. Two kinds of sharpening tools, of stone and of iron, were encountered at the Pećine necropolis. An iron sharpener of a spindle shape

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>427</sup> Mlinar, Gerbec 2011: Pp.70/18–20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>428</sup> Németi 1974: Pl. VI/3.

<sup>429</sup> Horvath 1987: Pl. XIII.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>430</sup> Waldhauser 1987: Abb. 3/16, 17.

<sup>431</sup> Mlinar, Gerbec 2011: Pp.71/22, 23.

<sup>432</sup> Németi 1974: Pl. VI/2.

<sup>433</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. XIII/6.

<sup>434</sup> Rustoiu 2012: Fig. 8.

<sup>435</sup> Raftery 1988: Fig. 76/12.

<sup>436</sup> Vinski-Gasparini 1959: Sl. 1/9.

<sup>437</sup> Dizdar 2013: 165; T. 8/3; 18/9

<sup>438</sup> Kapuran, Blagojević, Bizjak 2015: Fig. 9/3.

<sup>439</sup> Schwappach 1974: Taf. XIV/4, 5, 8, 9.

with a ring at one end was found in grave 38 (Pl. 47/8) and was part of a warrior's equipment that was probably worn attached to the belt. This find is also quite rare and they are not preserved in larger quantities at the necropoleis of Celtic warriors. We have found just one analogy for it in grave 32 at the Pişcolt necropolis.<sup>440</sup>

Whetstones have been found in three graves at Pećine; two specimens were in grave 32, one of which has an asymmetrical cylindrical shape (Pl. 40/14), while the other was of a semicircular cross section with a recess in the middle and a perforation near the tip (Pl. 40/15). The function of the recess in the central zone is not entirely clear and could also be seen on the whetstone from grave 5 at the Kamenin necropolis. 441 Elongated whetstones of rectangular cross section, without a perforation, were encountered in graves 33 (Pl. 42/3) and 34 (Pl. 43/6b) at the Pećine necropolis.

#### 8.3. POTTERY

The typologically earliest Celtic pottery from the area of the Serbian Danube Valley (south-eastern Carpathian Basin) was discovered at the Pećine necropolis. Pottery vessels are the most numerous objects found in grave associations and comprise vessels of various shapes, dimensions and purposes. The largest proportion of this pottery is grey in colour, thrown on a potter's wheel but not very well fired and, hence, of coarse fabric, which leads us to conclude that it was produced exclusively for funerary rituals.

After settling on the banks of the Sava and the Danube, the Celts accepted certain autochthonous ethnic elements and, over the course of time, this resulted in the creation of a distinct culture of the Late Iron Age. 443 Therefore, three groups of objects can be distinguished in Celtic La Tène pottery: vessel shapes that the Celts brought as their own product, pottery of the autochthonous population and pottery that is the result of a mixture of autochthonous and Celtic pottery shapes. 444 Only some phases of this process are evident at the Pećine necropolis, particularly in the assemblages which are assumed to have belonged to the autochthonous population. Pottery vessels, together with animal bones, were regular elements of the funerary ritual, with vessels representing serving sets with the remains of food and drink, direct evidence of the provision of food and drink to the deceased on his journey to the afterlife. 445 What the pottery was like that the Celts encountered in the Serbian Danube Valley, we can not define with any certainty, but it was most probably pottery known from the late phase of the Early Iron Age, i.e., in the phase of 'channelled pottery'. 446 The Rača-Ljuljaci culture existed in the area of the Serbian Danube Basin and in the Morava Valley at that time and almost identical pottery shapes (beakers and oinochoai) from their tumuli and settlements also appear at the Pećine necropolis.

Pottery from Pećine, with the exception of specimens from the native burials, bears all the characteristics of Celtic grey pottery. The prevailing vessels are bowls and amphorae, somewhat less frequent are jugs, while pots are the least frequent pottery shape.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>440</sup> Németi1988: Fig. 5/4.

<sup>441</sup> Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: Obr. 32/15.

<sup>442</sup> Jovanović 1987: 829.

<sup>443</sup> Sladić 1986: 50.

<sup>444</sup> Sladić 1986: 50.

<sup>445</sup> Dizdar 2013, 269.

<sup>446</sup> Sladić 1986: 51.



#### 8.3.1. Beakers

Two types beakers were recorded at the Pećine necropolis, that is, beakers of various shapes with one handle(earlier types) and biconical beakers with two tall strap handles (chronologically later shapes). The tradition of the use of such tableware commenced in the region in the Early Eneolithic and has been confirmed in the ceramography of the Pločnik phase of the Vinča culture.

Two-handled beakers, so popular among the Scordisci, are frequently encountered at Pećine, even before the establishment of the well-known La Tène alliance in the Middle Danube Basin. The adoption of models for such a pottery type was probably the result of contact with Hellenistic pottery and, consequently, we could call them 'pseudo-kantharoi', as they are actually imitations of those vessels.

#### 8.3.2. Beakers with one handle

Beakers with pronounced autochthonous features belong to an earlier category as, regarding their shape and decoration, they have elements of the Rača-Ljuljaci and Mramorac horizon from the end of the Early Iron Age. 447 A beaker with a pronounced belly decorated with vertical channels and with a tall handle, from the native grave 4 (Pl. 5/1) (Figure 76/e), is classified into that group, along with two conical beakers with a slanting rim, a pronounced foot and a tall handle, also from grave 4 (Pl. 5/2) and grave 8 (Pl. 7.3) (Figure 76/c, d), one biconical beaker with one handle and decorated with oblique incisions on the shoulder from grave 9 (Pl. 8/3) (Figure 76/f), and one biconical beaker with a 'two-horned' handle (Pl. 7/4) (Figure 76/a), and one identical 'two-horned' handle from grave 14 (Pl. 14/2) (Figure 76/b). The beakers from graves 2, 8 and 14 have analogies with pottery discovered in the Zlot cave<sup>448</sup> and in the tumuli at Ljuljaci. A pottery vessel with one handle from native grave 9 (Pl. 8/3) has its closest analogies with the Early Iron Age grave 17, of the Scythian type, from the Mána necropolis.<sup>449</sup> A model for beakers with two-horned (zoomorphic) handles could be found in the Dalj group and at Donja Dolina, as well as in the Martijanec-Kaptol group in southern Pannonia. 450 Similar motifs in beaker decoration have also been encountered at the Sopron necropolis, in grave 22,451 and at Pristol in the Danube Basin, where they are dated to the period between the 6th and 4th century BCE. 452 This type of beaker appears in the Morava Valley at Supska (Stubline) 453 and at Hisar near Leskovac. 454

A distinct group of pottery vessels includes two cups from graves 32 and 37. The beaker from grave 37 is of a carinated biconical shape with an attached zoomorphic handle (Pl. 46.1) (Figure 76/i). The handle is modelled as a jumping lioness or wolf and is considered an exceptionally rare find in the Carpathian Basin. Analogies could only be found on bowls from the Szob necropolis, although in that case a horse was represented. Despite being found as part of a pottery assemblage of Celtic provenance, the beaker with one handle decorated with a 'fir tree branch' motif (Pl. 32.6) (Figure 76/g) stands out from

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>447</sup> Vasić 1987: 657; Jevtić 1983: 55, Т. XIV/1, 3, 6; Срејовић 1991: Т. IV/1, 2.

<sup>448</sup> Vasić 1977: 19, Pl. 20/3; Kapuran 2013: Pl. 1/15, 16.

<sup>449</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. II/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>450</sup> Vinski-Gasparini 1987: 8, T. XXIII/68; T. XXI/10; Čović 1987: T. XXVI/19; T. XXVIII/10, XXIX/17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>451</sup> Jerem 1981: Taf. 4/1, 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>452</sup> Crâcuinescu 1999: 43, Fig. 4/5–7.

<sup>453</sup> Stojić 1986: T. 36/10.

<sup>454</sup> Stojić 2007: Fig. 22; 26.

<sup>455</sup> Szendrei 1890: 192; Duval 1977: 154, Fig. 364.

the La Tène character of the burial. Metopes filled with stamped semicircles appear on the carinated shoulder of the vessel and the rim is decorated with an impressed ornament.

A distinct type of latenoid beaker is a specimen from grave 13 with a rather long cylindrical neck, without handles and on a pronounced foot (Pl. 12/6) (Figure 76/h). A beaker without a handle, in grave 26 (Pl. 30/1), was laid next to the head of the deceased.



Fig. 76 – One handle beakers from the Pećine necropolis

Finally, one single-handled beaker should also be mentioned, discovered outside the burial context and perhaps originated from some of the devastated graves (Figure 76/j). Despite its pronounced 'S' profile, this beaker had a tall moulded foot. It is decorated with a series of stamped concentric circles on the body. There are analogies for this type of find in the Danube Basin, near Dindeşti, Cluj and Mureş in Romania and they are dated, by V. Zirra, to the LT  $\rm C.^{456}$ 

## 8.3.3. Beakers with two handles - Kantharoi

Where the general chronology of *kantharoi* – imitations of the Hellenistic forms - is concerned, their larger series make possible a more precise identification of their appearance in the Middle Danube Basin and their evolution in the mentioned area. In that context, the Pećine necropolis plays an important part. *Kantharoi* represent a distinct shape

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>456</sup> Zirra 1978: Fig.7/ 4, 5, 7.



of drinking vessel which was used in the Balkan territory from the early prehistory to the period of the domination of Greek and Roman culture. <sup>457</sup> In the La Tène period, they were a distinct characteristic of the Scordiscan material culture.



Fig. 78 – Kantharoi from the Pećine necropolis

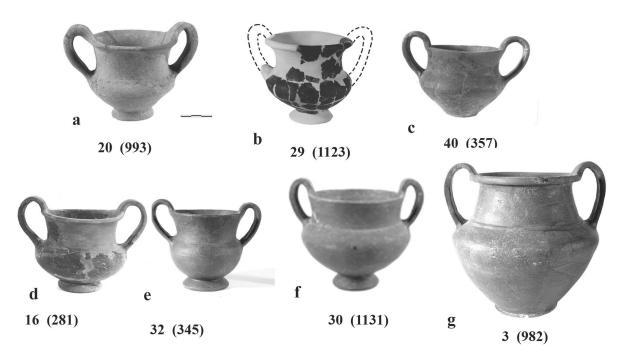


Fig. 79 – Kantharoi from the Pećine necropolis

Beakers at the Pećine necropolis are classified into two basic groups: one includes tall cups with a cylindrical neck, a large mouth and vertical handles (Figure 78), the other group includes rather shallow beakers with obliquely set handles (Figure 79). The origin and evolution of the mentioned groups of pottery vessels has drawn considerable attention because these beakers are very significant to the character of the Celtic pottery industry. Perhaps it was a case of two different pottery types, which are only technically alike? According to this opinion, the small beakers with a short neck and obliquely set handles should be of local provenance with traditions in the Balkan-Danubian regions and dating from the early Eneolithic, while the other shape with a cylindrical neck on a tall,

<sup>457</sup> Popović 2015: 187.

<sup>458</sup> Jovanović 1987: 829.

moulded foot is a copy of the Hellenistic model. There is yet another opinion proposed by M. Dizdar, that there is another type of kantharoi at this necropolis that he called the 'Pećine type'.<sup>459</sup> This author thinks that those were a funerary offering (judging by their large dimensions), which could be used as containers for food (a funeral feast) intended



Fig. 80 – Kantharos from the grave N°20

for the afterlife of the deceased. Although they have two handles, Dizdar thinks this should not always mean that they were kantharoi. 460 Just two out of all the discovered kantharoi had decoration, the specimens from graves 20461 and 27. The decoration in the first case consisted of a series of stamped arches linked together by stamped concentric circles (Pl. 21/10) (Figure 80). Ornaments on La Tène pottery executed by stamping appear in two typological patterns: the first has elaborate motifs executed in multiple series of semicircles or running spirals ending in rosettes, as is the case at the necropoleis of Pişcolt, Karaburma and Pećine. 462 The second is reduced to a different series of arches and concentric circles. One such pattern is the impressed (relief) or engraved, shortened arches sometimes without circles at the ends. This last

motif, simplistic in its technique of execution and composition and with a complete absence of stamping, also marks the end of this manner of pottery decoration among the Eastern Celts. A motif consisting of entirely separated engraved arches can be seen on a jug from grave 55 at the Pişcolt necropolis, but in this case they are arranged in vertical parallel rows. An even better example is the vessels from the Bordoghalom necropolis. It is clear that the execution of the mentioned variants of ornamental motifs was simplifying, thus transforming the impressed arches into short arched incisions, as was the case with the next kantharos type.

The manner of decoration of the kantharos from grave 20 is characteristic of the Middle La Tène period in the Carpathian Basin and the Danube Valley and was encountered on various types of pottery vessels, such as LT 12 from Zvonimirovo, 466 a beaker from Vatin, 467 a vessel from Boljetin 468 and in grave 108 at the Pişcolt necropolis, 469 pots from graves 2 and 11 at the Magyarszerdahely-Hokoi dűlő necropolis, 470 and pottery from Békásmegyer 471 and Szombathely. 472 This type of decoration appears in Transylvania on pottery dating from the period of the LT C. 473 A motif of stamped arcades with small circles

<sup>459</sup> Dizdar 2013: 304-305.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>460</sup> Dizdar 2013: 304; in graves 3, 17, 24 and 27.

<sup>461</sup> Jovanović 2003.

<sup>462</sup> Jovanović 2003: 285.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>463</sup> Jovanović 2003: 285.

<sup>464</sup> Nemeti 1992: 82, Fig. 7, 3.

<sup>465</sup> Hellebrandt 1993: 17/1,1a; 19/7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>466</sup> Dizdar 2013: T. 28–29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>467</sup> Todorović 1968: T. XLVIII/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>468</sup> Поповић и Сладић 1997: Sl. 4/4.

<sup>469</sup> Németi1992: 82, Fig. 13, 17.

<sup>470</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. X/10; XI/9.

<sup>471</sup> Hunyady 1942: LXXVIII.

<sup>472</sup> Hunyady 1942:LXV/5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>473</sup> Zirra 1978: Fig. 4/13.



is recorded at the necropoleis of Dvory nad Žitavou,<sup>474</sup> Baje and Dürnnberg,<sup>475</sup> in Central Europe.

The second group is best represented by a kantharos from grave 27, decorated with engraving on the shoulder. Using this method, a horizontal frieze with a double arcade interlinked with small horizontal lines was created (Pl. 32/11) (Figure 81).

At the end of this section devoted to the *kantharoi* at Pećine, we come to the conclusion that the types of kantharoi recorded at the mentioned necropolis are as follows:

- *Kantharoi* of the first group that were found in graves 1 (Pl. 1/2), 3 (Pl. 3/13), 17 (Pl. 17/3), 24 (Pl. 27/1), 27 (Pl. 32/11), 34 (Pl. 43/1a), 35 (Pl. 45/3) and 41 (Pl. 52/8).
- *Kantharoi* of the second group discovered in graves 3 (Pl. 3/14), 16 (Pl. 16/7), 20 (Pl. 21/10), 29 (Pl. 35/2), 30 (Pl. 36/9), 32 (Pl. 39/4) and 40 (Pl. 50/7).



Fig. 81 – Kantharos from the grave N°27 (detail)

## 8.3.4. Cups

The reason cups are not such frequent finds at the Pećine necropolis is perhaps because of the fact that we identified certain types of single-handled vessels as beakers. The first specimen was found in grave 28 (Pl. 33/5). It is a simple cylindrical container with a handle of a considerable size (Figure 82). The second type is a specimen from grave 26



Fig. 82 - Grave N°28



Fig. 83 – Grave N°26



Fig. 84

(Pl. 30/1) that was initially identified as a handmade beaker. However, as it does not have a handle and it is made of coarse fabric, we consider that it should rather be identified as a cup (Figure 83). The third vessel comes from the cultural layer and, judging by the size and the root of one missing handle, we consider that it should also be identified as a cup. (Figure 84).

<sup>474</sup> Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: Tab. XXIX/19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>475</sup> Schwappach 1974: Taf. III/5, 6; XIII/9.

#### 8.3.5. Bowls

Bowls are vessels intended for consuming food from but they could also be used as lids for pots or amphorae. They are characterised by a relatively short height, a profiled rim of a larger diameter, a rounded shoulder and a pronounced base. In the grave associations at the Pećine necropolis bowls of the following shapes were encountered:

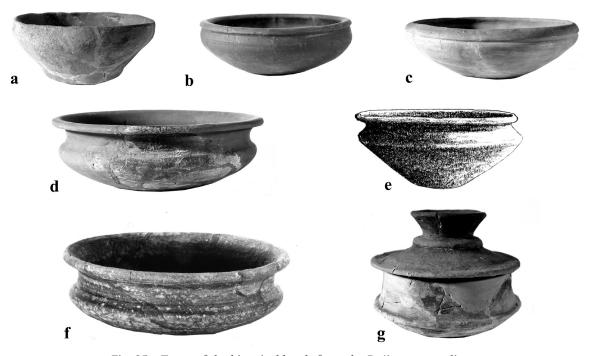


Fig. 85 – Types of the biconical bowls from the Pećine necropolis

- Rounded biconical bowls, mostly with thick walls and usually of coarse fabric and rough execution that could be a recurrence from the Early Iron Age or perhaps reveal influences from the autochthonous cultures on the Celtic population buried at this necropolis (Figure 85/a). Such simple forms could also be found in the native population graves of 4 (Pl. 5/3), 15 (Pl. 15/1) and 19 (Pl. 19/8) as well as in the La Tène graves of 23 (Pl. 25/2), 25 (Pl. 29/4), 33 (Pl. 41/7), 36 (Pl. 45/4) and 40 (Pl. 50/8). Identical bowls are recorded in the graves at the Karaburma necropolis, <sup>476</sup> but handmade specimens can be traced from the central European necropoleis such as Mannersdorf, where they are dated to the LT B2a, <sup>477</sup> and are also encountered in graves 18 and 22 at the Dubnik necropolis <sup>478</sup> and in grave 22 at Nebringen. <sup>479</sup>

- Semi spherical bowls with a slightly pronounced rim (Figure 85/b) are of diagnostic importance as they are characteristic of pottery production in the Early La Tène period. Vessels of this type have been recorded at the Early La Tène necropoleis at Donji Grad in Osijek and at Karaburma. Bowls of this type were found as grave offerings at the Pećine necropolis, in grave associations 3 (Pl. 3/11, 12), 13 (Pl. 12/3), 16 (Pl. 16/6), 26 (Pl. 25/4) and 30 (Pl. 36/11). Such a bowl type has certain analogies with a bowl from grave 41 and

<sup>476</sup> Todorović 1972: 49.

<sup>477</sup> Ramsl 2011: 211, Abb. 134/157/6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>478</sup> Bujna 1989: T. XIX/28; T. XXI/22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>479</sup> Krämer 1964: T. 77/D3.



especially one from grave 34 at Karaburma, where a richly decorated kantharos with missing protomes on the handles and also one kantharos with two tall handles have also been found. This type of object in Transylvania as well as in the Carpathian Basin is dated to the LT B2, $^{480}$  as is the case at the necropoleis in Mána $^{481}$  and Letky. $^{482}$ 

- Bowls thrown on a potter's wheel with a gentle 'S' profile, a pronounced downward turned (reinforced) rim and sometimes decorated with a deep groove (Figure 85/c). Such bowls were found in graves 23 (Pl. 25/9) and 33 (Pl. 41/4) at the Pećine necropolis. Bowls of this type characterise the horizon of the earliest graves at Karaburma as can be seen in grave 63,<sup>483</sup> while in the Mána necropolis they appear in grave 40,<sup>484</sup>and at the Trnovec nad Vahom necropolis in grave 222.<sup>485</sup> Also included in the second variant of this bowl type is one bowl with a slightly pronounced rim from grave 1 at Pećine (Pl. 1/4), which has certain analogies with grave 11 at Magyarszerdahely-Homolki dőlo,<sup>486</sup> grave 24 at Rezi-Rezicseri<sup>487</sup> and grave 17 at the Dubnik necropolis, where it is dated to the LT B2b period.<sup>488</sup>

- Biconical bowls with a pronounced 'S' profile were discovered in graves 13 (Pl. 12/1), 17 (Pl. 17/4), 23 (Pl. 25/1, 2, 3), 28 (Pl. 33/6) and 32 (Pl. 39/2) (Figure 85/d). This type of bowl was encountered at the Mannersdorf necropolis, where it is dated to the LT B1c period, 489 while in Transylvania it is dated to the LT C. 490 This type of bowl is, in Hungary, also dated to the Early La Tène period, 491 while it appears in grave LT 12 at the Zvonimirovo necropolis in Slavonia together with a kantharos with a stamped decoration and dates from the LT C2 horizon. 492 Some variants of this type were found in grave 5 at the Chotin necropolis. 493

- A small number of finds consists of bowls of a conical shape with a carinated transition from the shoulder to the body and an everted rim (Figure 85/e). This bowl type was only found in grave 25 (Pl. 29/5) and grave 40 (Pl. 50.9) at Pećine. An identical shape was recorded at the Karaburma necropolis, in graves 36 and  $50^{494}$  and is dated to the later phases of the La Tène period, that is, in the Beograd 3 phase in the Danube Basin<sup>495</sup> and in the territory of Hungary.<sup>496</sup>

- Deep biconical bowls are characterised by an elongated neck, i.e., the segment joining the rim and the shoulder (Figure 85/f). This type of bowl was found in graves 1 (Pl. 1/3, 5), 12 (Pl. 11/10), 13 (Pl. 12/6, 2) and grave 24 (Pl. 27/5) at the Pećine necropolis. Such bowl shapes were recorded in considerable numbers at the Mána necropolis where

<sup>480</sup> Zirra 1978: Fig. 3/6.

<sup>481</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XXVI/12; XLIII/10.

<sup>482</sup> Waldhauser, Sedlaček 1987: Taf. 17/17.

<sup>483</sup> Todorović 1972: 26, 27: Božič 1981: Tabla 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>484</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XVIII/10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>485</sup> Benadik, Vlček, Ambros 1957: Taf. V/21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>486</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. XI/13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>487</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. XXII/2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>488</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. XVI/22.

<sup>489</sup> Ramsl 2011: 211.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>490</sup> Zirra 1987: Fig. 3/9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>491</sup> Szabó 1971: 42, Fig 9/5.

<sup>492</sup> Dizdar 2013: 69.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>493</sup> Ratimorska 1974: Taf. 1/11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>494</sup> Todorović 1972: XIV; T. XVII.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>495</sup> Božič 1981: Tab. 2.

<sup>496</sup> Szabó 1971: 42, Fig. 9/23.

of particular significance is grave 3,<sup>497</sup> with two deep bowls dated to the LT B2, as well as a bowl from grave 14 at the Dubnik necropolis.<sup>498</sup> One deep bowl from grave 23 (Pl. 25/5) is a borderline case between deep bowls and pots, so it could also be classified into the category of pots which, in the territory of Romania, are also dated to the LT C period.<sup>499</sup>

In just one case, in burial 24, one rare type of bowl was discovered with a tall vertical neck and a lid (Pl. 27/6) (Figure 85/g) that mostly resembles a *pyxis*. Bowls with lids in our territory are more closely related to the final phases of the La Tène period, as is revealed by the finds from Surčin, Stari Slankamen, Vajuga-Pesak and Zemun (Radio stanica). Yet another bowl with a lid was discovered in a cult pit at the fortified settlement of Kale in Krševica, and is dated to the mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE. <sup>501</sup>

# 8.3.6. Biconical pots – amphorae

Amphorae at Pećine, judging by the quantity of specimens discovered in grave associations, closely follow bowls in their numbers and they were probably containers used in funeral rituals for offerings of wine or some other drink for the deceased. As pottery shapes called amphorae, which precede the classical Greek and Roman periods, we include vessels whose mouth is significantly narrower than the body, and with a tall elongated neck, which makes the pouring of the contents possible only if they are inclined at a considerably acute angle. In the same way, pots also make the storing of the contents somewhat more secure, but they have rims of a larger diameter (i.e., they have a somewhat wider opened mouth and they are also of a larger size). Amphorae from the Pećine necropolis belong to the Szentes-Vekerzug types I, II and IV, characteristic of the central Carpathian Basin, Slovakia and Transylvania in the periods of the LT B and C. For According to the elements typical of amphorae we could classify them at the Pećine necropolis into the following groups:

- Flask amphorae are characterised by a small mouth and a narrow neck which extends into a rounded body or shoulder, while the base is of a smaller diameter (Figure 86/a-g). This type of amphora is typical of the Early La Tène period and was found in graves 3 (Pl. 3/10a-c), 13 (Pl. 12/5), 16 (Pl. 16/3), 17 (Pl. 17/2), 24 (Pl. 27/4), 25 (Pl. 29/3), 30 (Pl. 36/13), 32 (Pl. 39/5) and 38 (Pl. 48/1) at the Pećine necropolis. At the Pećine necropolis, only this group of amphorae (except one *kantharos*) was decorated with stamped ornaments, as can be seen on the specimens from graves 3 and 37 (Figure 86/c, g). There is also a possibility that the fragment of the shoulder of a rather big vessel with stamped ornaments from grave 31 (Pl. 38/8) could be a fragment of a flask amphora. Such a manner of decoration of pottery vessels in the Central Balkans and in the Middle Danube region was not a frequent occurrence.<sup>503</sup> Stamped decoration on vessels from the Early and Middle La Tène periods is justifiably considered a reliable element for pottery dating, particularly in closed associations, as they were mostly discovered in graves. This system of decoration, from a chronological point of view, could be associated with both phases of the Middle La Tène, although more closely to the earlier phase.<sup>504</sup> A flask amphora from grave 3 had, on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>497</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. III/6, 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>498</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. XII/3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>499</sup> Zirra 1978: Fig. 3/26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>500</sup> Popović 2000: Pl. 6/2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 15, 16.

<sup>501</sup> Поповић 2012: 51, 99/131.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>502</sup> Zirra 1974: 49, Pl. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>503</sup> Jovanović 2003: 283.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>504</sup> Jovanović 2003: 283.



four sides of the neck, an ornament of cross-shaped rectangular fields with a stylised letter 'S', while between them were impressed trapeziums, each containing three concentric circles (Pl. 3/10a-c). The stamps were impressed in a pronounced groove on the neck of the amphora, thus making it possible to find a few analogies for such a method of decoration. The closest analogies for rectangular stamps, although decorated in the centre with a double 'S' motif, could be found on an amphora from grave 111 at the Dürnnberg necropolis, however here they are combined with stamped arcades.<sup>505</sup> This was also the case with a vessel from Remeta Mare<sup>506</sup> and a vessel from grave 23.8 at the Kistokaj-Kültelkek ne-

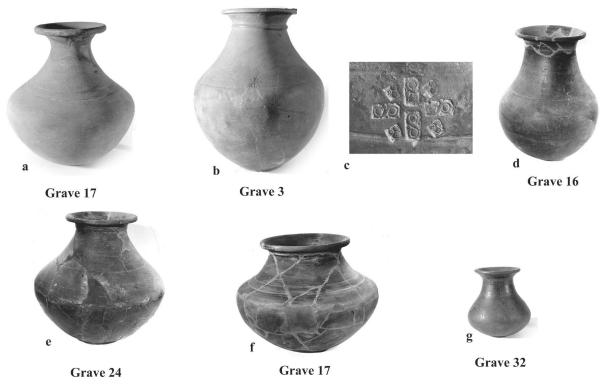


Fig. 86 – Biconical pots - amphoraes from the Pećine necropolis

cropolis.<sup>507</sup> An identical ornament was also recorded on a flask amphora from grave 19 at the Mána necropolis and on a bowl with a tall hollow foot from the same grave.<sup>508</sup> The same motif was also encountered on an amphora from grave 32 at the Dubnik necropolis.<sup>509</sup> An amphora from grave 1888 at the site of Sopron-Béscsidomb is also decorated in a similar way, although with cross-shaped stamped rhombi and a stylised wavy line.<sup>510</sup>

Some of the flask amphorae were of small (miniature) dimensions, as illustrated by the specimen from grave 32 (Pl. 39/5) (Figure 86/g), for which there are analogies in grave 4 at the Mannersdorf necropolis,  $^{511}$  as well as at Rezi-Rezicseri  $^{512}$  and at the Mána ne-

<sup>505</sup> Moosleinter, Pauli, Penninger 1974: Taf. 175/B10.

<sup>506</sup> Rustou, Megaw 2011: Fig. 9d.

<sup>507</sup> Hellebrandt 1994: 32.8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>508</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XI/5. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>509</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. XXXV/11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>510</sup> Szabó 1988: Fig. 10.

<sup>511</sup> Ramsl 2011: Abb. 150.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>512</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. XVII/5.

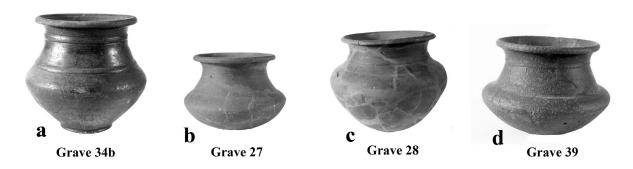


Fig. 87 – Types of the biconical pots from the Pećine necropolis

cropolis.<sup>513</sup> Miniature amphorae are grave offerings characteristic of graves within groups 1 and 3 at the Mannersdorf necropolis, with some of them decorated with stamped ornament consisting of concentric circles and running 'S' spirals.<sup>514</sup> This type of vessel was encountered in many graves at the Dubnik necropolis<sup>515</sup> and in the Carpathian Basin and Transylvania, and is dated to the LT B and LT C periods.<sup>516</sup>



Fig. 88 – Types of the biconical pots from the Pećine necropolis

- Flask amphorae with a long cylindrical neck (Figure 87) have simple decoration consisting of one horizontal rib and, at the Pećine necropolis, were found in graves 27 (Pl. 32/12), 28 (Pl. 33/4), 34b (Pl. 43/3b) and 39 (Pl. 49/2). Early La Tène pottery vessels of significant diagnostic relevance, like the flask amphorae with a recognisable spindle-shaped elongated neck, disappeared from usage at the end of Middle La Tène period and were replaced by wine sets imported (or plundered) from Greece or northern Italy. Specimens similar to those from Pećine were found in grave 85 at the Mána necropolis.<sup>517</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>513</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. IV/5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>514</sup> Ramsl 2011: Abb. 138, 140.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>515</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. II/12; VI/7; VIII/17, 19; XIX/24; XXII/25; XXVIII/8; XXIX/9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>516</sup> Zirra 1987: Fig. 4; 16, 18, 20–22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>517</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XXXI/13.



- Amphorae with a short neck, which could be said to represent transitional forms from deep bowls to amphorae (Figure 88), are the most abundant pottery shape at the necropolis and were found in graves 13 (Pl. 12/2, 4), 16 (Pl. 16/4, 5), 17 (Pl. 17/1), 20 (Pl. 21/9), 23 (Pl. 25/6, 7), 24 (Pl. 27/2, 3), 28 (Pl. 33/3), 29 (Pl. 35/1), 32 (Pl. 39/3, 7), 36 (Pl. 45/5) and 38 (Pl. 48/4).

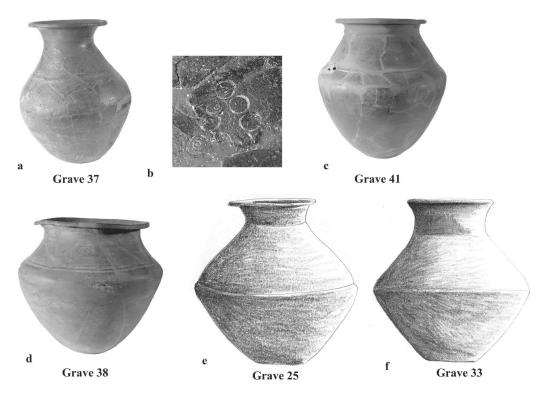


Fig. 89 – Types of the biconical pots - amphoraes from the Pećine necropolis

- Carinated biconical amphorae with an everted rim (pot amphorae), characterised by their narrow neck and carination between the neck and the body, and a base of a small diameter, are the least frequent finds in the grave associations at the necropolis (Figure 89). This type of vessel was found in graves 25 (Pl. 29/2), 33 (Pl. 41/6) and 41 (Pl. 52/6, 7). An identical shape of pot amphora was recorded at the Dubnik necropolis, where it is dated to the LT B1b period. The stamped ornament consisting of concentric circles arranged in triangles that decorated the pot amphora from grave 37 (Pl. 46/2) (Figure 89/b) has close analogies with vessels discovered in graves 116 and 127 at the Mannersdorf necropolis, in grave 28 at the Rezi-Rezicseri necropolis, <sup>519</sup> in grave 20 at the Chotin necropolis<sup>520</sup> and in graves 124 and 137 at the Mána necropolis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>518</sup> Bujna 1989: Taf. XXXIV/22, 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>519</sup> Horváth 1987: Pl. XXIII/10.

<sup>520</sup> Ratimorska 1974: Taf. III/7.

<sup>521</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. XLVI/7, 8; LV/10.

#### 8.3.7. Pots

As the final examples of pottery production that were used in funerary rituals and found in the grave association at the Pećine necropolis there are two pots (in graves 26 and 27) which clearly reveal certain autochthonous influences. The pot in grave 26 is of a simple shape and a smaller size, with a conical body made of a coarse fabric and decorated with alternating tongue and wart-like pseudo-handles (Pl. 30/2) (Figure 90/d). Analogies for such a shape were recorded at a recently discovered necropolis from the end of the Early Iron Age at Sinjac Polje near Bela Palanka, where the remains of one among many cremated individuals within tumulus I<sup>522</sup> had been deposited. A similar handmade pot was

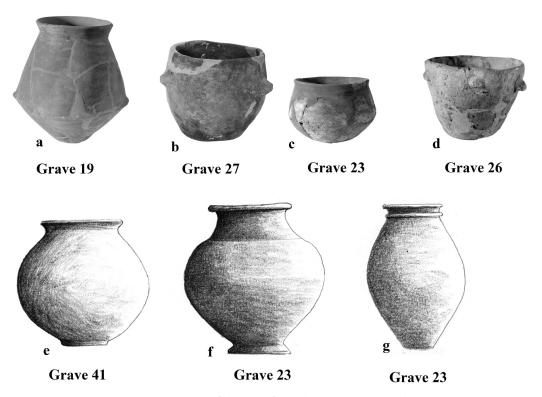


Fig. 90 – Types of the pots from the Pećine necropolis

found in grave 21 at the Dubnik necropolis in Slovakia, together with pottery showing strong Hallstatt features.<sup>523</sup> The mentioned pot reveals a certain similarity to the specimen from Pećine, not only where the shape is concerned but also regarding the funerary context. The second pot, from grave 27, of a semi spherical shape, is also handmade of coarse fabric and is decorated with simple alternating wart and tongue-like pseudo-handles on the shoulder (Pl. 21/13) (Figure 90/b). This specimen also differs in the style and technique of manufacture from other grave goods, which are of a conspicuously La Tène provenance, and could also be understood as being a native influence in the funerary ritual.

Yet another type of pot with autochthonous characteristics was found in grave 19 (Pl. 19/9) (Figure 90/a). It is of an elongated biconical form, handmade, with a long neck and a pronounced shoulder. This specimen bears a strong resemblance to a pot from the Middle La Tène infant burial discovered at Mokranjske Stene near Negotin. It is consid-

<sup>522</sup> Kapuran, Blagojević, Bizjak 2015: Pl. V/10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>523</sup> Bujna 1989: 17.



ered that pots of this shape were recurrent forms from the Ferigile culture in Oltenia from the end of the Early Iron Age.<sup>524</sup> A similar specimen was recorded in a burial with Scythian characteristics at the Mána necropolis.<sup>525</sup>

Pots of the La Tène shapes, thrown on a potter's wheel are the already mentioned types of pot amphorae from graves 25 and 33, while the specimen from grave 23 (Pl. 25/8) (Figure 90/f) is a pot of a globular shape, with a pronounced neck and foot. Another pot comes from grave 33 and is of a distinctive globular shape with a slightly everted and pronounced rim (Pl. 41/8) (Figure 89/e). It is assumed the tall and spindle-shaped pot of a rather unusual shape from grave 23 (Pl. 25/10) (Figure 90/g) was not adequately reconstructed.

# 8.3.8. Oinochoai (Beaked jugs)

A single oinochoe vessel at the Pećine necropolis was discovered in grave 25 (Pl. 29/1) (Figure 91). The oinochoe is a vessel for pouring wine, a jug made of metal or pottery with a vertical handle and a trefoil mouth. In contrast to antique vessels, oinochoai do not have even traces of moulded ornaments except one rib at the junction of the neck and shoulder. 526 On the specimen from grave 25 there is just such a moulded rib and horizontal channels below it. This oinochoe of the 'prohus' type, except in certain elements, shows a similarity to the jugs from grave 3 at Trebeniško Kale and, judging by the finds of biconical bowls, an iron spearhead and a battle knife, it could be dated to the end of 4th century BCE.527 It also reveals certain features of Early Hellenistic pottery such as a short ring-like foot, a low strap handle curved in the form of a question mark and decoration consisting of horizontal lines on the shoulder and body.

We have recorded similar beaked jugs in the territory of Serbia at the necropolis from the end of the Early Iron Age in Ljuljaci, <sup>528</sup> as well as in the princely tomb at Atenica near Čačak, <sup>529</sup> and there is also an isolated find from Blagotin. <sup>530</sup> Objects of this kind are related to the almost identical jugs from the Adriatic coast, from Epirus

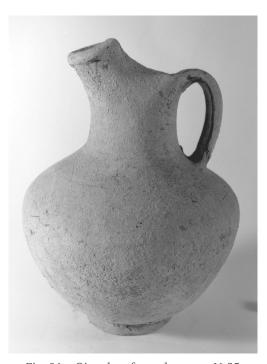


Fig. 91 – Oinochoe from the grave  $N^{\circ}25$ 

or Albania, from the end of 6<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE.<sup>531</sup> Workshops in Epirus from the Late Geometric and Archaic period, like Vica, for instance, are essential, regarding their stylistic and typological characteristics, for the identification of artefacts from the Central Balkans (e.g. from Atenica).<sup>532</sup> They are, in literature, also denoted as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>524</sup> Kapuran 2013: Pl. III/17.

<sup>525</sup> Benadik 1983: Taf. II/7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>526</sup> Паровић-Пешикан 1988а: 37.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>527</sup> Паровић-Пешикан 1988а: 46.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>528</sup> Срејовић 1991.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>529</sup> Ђукнић, Јовановић 1966: Т. XIII/11; XXVI/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>530</sup> Sladić 1988: 313, 314/6, 7.

<sup>531</sup> Sladić 1988: 313, 254.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>532</sup> Паровић-Пешикан 1988a: 35.

'Corinthian oinochoai' and are dated to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries BCE.<sup>533</sup> A number of similar objects come from the sites of Pristol in Romania,<sup>534</sup> Graešica<sup>535</sup>and Vardarski Rid<sup>536</sup> in Macedonia, where they are dated to the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE. The dilemma still remains whether we can relate such finds to the return of the Celtic army after the defeat at Delphi or if they should be considered as earlier finds, imitations of metal jugs of an identical shape which were very popular among the Early La Tène populations in Central Europe.

## 8.3.9. Ceramic whorls and rings

Two interesting objects have been found among the other grave goods at the necropolis. One is a conical whorl with a cruciform perforation, from grave 24 (Pl. 28/14) and the other is a circular ring from grave 27 (Pl. 32/15) that could have been the stand for a vessel with a base of a small diameter. Where other necropoleis in the Carpathian Basin are concerned, ceramic biconical whorls were found in grave 9 at the Curtuiuşeni/Érkötrvélyes necropolis which is, according to E. Teleagi, dated to the LT B2-C1.<sup>537</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>533</sup> Паровић-Пешикан 1988a: 35.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>534</sup> Crâcuinescu 1999: Fig. 4/10.

<sup>535</sup> Mikulčić 1968: Sl. 23/j.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>536</sup> Митревски 2001: Фот. 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>537</sup> Teleagă 2008: 85, 135, Taf. 8/9.6.

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