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LIFE AND DEATH IN
MEDIAEVAL AND EARLY
MODERN TIMES

ŽIVOT I SMRT U SREDNJEM
I RANOM NOVOM VIJEKU

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Milica Radišić

On regional characteristics of the 10th - 11th century cemeteries in the western and southern Bačka

The article analyses cemeteries and single grave finds from the 10th and the 11th centuries in the western and southern Bačka, where certain regional characteristics of archaeological remains are observed. Culturally and chronologically, these localities belong to the so-called Bijelo Brdo culture, which spread throughout the Carpathian Basin at the time of the Hungarian conquest and foundation of their state. The group of finds presented here resembles to a great extent the repertoire of grave finds from the opposite bank of the Danube, i.e. north-eastern Croatia and southern Hungary (Syrmia and Baranya counties), suggesting that the Danube, at least in this part, could have represented a transportation route and a contact zone, rather than a barrier separating Medieval populations. Given the very low level of research of the Medieval archaeological material from Bačka, in this article I would like to present the most characteristic finds and to interpret them in the light of the current state of knowledge. The aim of this work is to better understand the social and cultural milieu in the south of the Carpathian-Pannonian region, especially within the context of the still under-studied (and controversial) Bijelo Brdo phenomenon.

Wednesday, 6th June 2018, Second Afternoon Session, Session chair: Juraj Belaj

Lucia Nezvalová

You shall not be buried on our ground - Unusual ways of burying the dead in the Early Middle Ages

The territories of present-day south-western Slovakia and Moravia were the core of the Great Moravia in the Early Middle Ages. That is one of the reasons why they had similar burial customs for the whole of the period. Inhumation in supine position with the west-eastern orientation of the body was the typical burial rite in that area from the beginning of the 9th century. Dead were buried usually on cemeteries either with or without presence of a church. However, the exceptions occur. Deceased were found also within the settlements and on places without any trace of residence or burial ground. I am planning to examine solely this type of findings. I will focus on the period from the 9th to the 12th century. At first I will analyse isolated burials and then I will focus on the dead found in various situations within the settlements. Settlement burials can be divided into three categories. Individuals buried in proper grave pits belong to the first category. Deceased found in various kinds of objects which had