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## NEW FINDS AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF THE EARLY BRONZE AGE IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE CENTRAL BALKANS

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*Abstract.* – In this paper, new sites are presented which were explored throughout the protective excavations conducted along the E 75 motorway, as well as new indicative finds from the sites in north-eastern Macedonia. These results will complete the picture of life in the Early Bronze Age communities of the territory of Southern Pomoravlje and Gornja Pčinja, as well as that of their relationship with the neighbouring populations. Of particular importance are the results of the investigation of this territory's first explored necropolis from this period, which enriched our knowledge of the spiritual life of these communities.

*Key words.* – Early Bronze Age, Southern Pomoravlje, Gornja Pčinja, Armenochori culture, Bubanj–Hum III culture.

The south-eastern part of Serbia, comprising the basin of the upper course and middle course of the South Morava was, for a long time, considered to be a mainly unexplored area, at least in terms of sites from the Early Bronze Age. A small number of explored sites were known, such as Bubanj in Novo Selo, Velika Humska Čuka in Hum and Česma in Vrtište, whilst the majority of the finds from this period consisted of accidental or individual finds registered at unexplored sites, or at unmarked or unreliable locations.<sup>1</sup> Only in recent years, by investigating the wider area of the E 75 and E 80 motorways and by resuming the explorations at Bubanj and in Hum, along with other archaeological research, has the number of sites from this period increased and, thereby, the knowledge of this period has been enhanced. All these results, including the results of older research, were combined

into one monograph, as well as in a number of articles.<sup>2</sup> Shortly after that, however, during the protective explorations of the sites endangered by the construction of the E 75 motorway, a few very significant sites were discovered on the Leskovac–Bujanovac section of the road,<sup>3</sup> which offer extremely important information about the material and spiritual culture of the communities who, in the Early Bronze Age, populated the South Morava basin and the Pčinja valley, as well as their

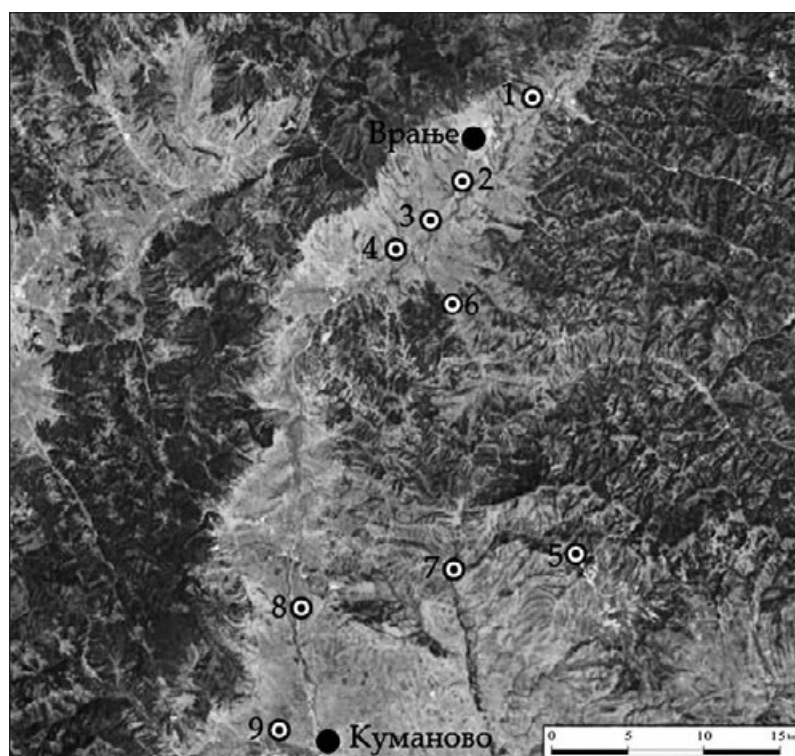
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<sup>1</sup> Гарашанин, Ајдић, Дејановић 1971, кат. бр. 226; Гарашанин 1973, 164–206 and quoted literature; Стојић, Јоцић 2006, 67–77.

<sup>2</sup> Булатовић, Станковски 2012; Bulatović 2011, 1–14; Bulatović 2013, 1–14.

<sup>3</sup> Булатовић, Капуран 2013, 70–79.

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## List of sites:

1. Meanište site, Ranutovac;
2. Golo Rebro site, Donji Neradovac;
3. Kovačke Njive site, Pavlovac;
4. Gradište site, Davidovac;
5. Taticev kamen site, Kokino Selo, Republic of Macedonia;
6. Tri Kruške site, Klinovac;
7. Dve Mogili site, Pelince, Republic of Macedonia;
8. Banjka–Kaldrma site, Miratovac;
9. Pribovce site, Lopate, Republic of Macedonia.

## Списак локалитета:

1. Меаниште, Ранутовац
2. Голо ребро, Доњи Нерадовац
3. Ковачке њиве, Павловац
4. Градиште, Давидовац
5. Татићев камен, Кокино Село, Р. Македонија
6. Три крушке, Клиновац
7. Две могили, Пелинце, Р. Македонија
8. Бањка–калдрма, Миратовац
9. Прибовце, Лопате, Р. Македонија

Map 1. Early Bronze Age sites in the upper course of the South Morava and in Gornja Pčinja

Карта 1. Локалитети ране бронзане доба у горњем току Јужне Мораве и у Горњој Пчињи

relationships with the neighbouring populations.<sup>4</sup> After these explorations, which gave rise to new indicative information about this period, a need to write a study that would integrate all the available data arose, with its focus on the new, unpublished sites and finds, allowing a comprehensive insight into the problems of the origins and development of the Early Bronze Age culture in the south of the central Balkans.

## SITES AND FINDS

### 1. Ranutovac, Meanište site, Vranje<sup>5</sup>

The site of Meanište is situated around 5 km north of Vranje, on the southern outskirts of the village of Ranutovac (Map 1/1). From a geological perspective, the site is positioned partially in the alluvial plain (the eastern part of the Iron Age settlement and the Early Bronze Age necropolis), and partially in the area with moderate washout and gullies (the western part of the Iron Age settlement). The necropolis is at a distance of around 600 m west of the current South Morava river bed. It consisted of two parts, the northern and the

southern, about 20 m apart. No burial traces have been discovered between the two parts. The northern part is poorly preserved, since the graves were dug to a very small relative depth (less than 0.2 m in places), and the upper part of the necropolis was destroyed by agricultural and other ground works. In the southern part of the necropolis (Fig. 1), with a surface area of around 100 m<sup>2</sup> which was much better preserved, cremated human remains were interred in shallow pits, approximately 0.5 m in diameter, into which, in most cases, one or more round stones or large pebbles were placed. In some graves the remains of the deceased were covered with a vessel, most usually a cup or a bowl. In all the graves offerings were noted, such as one or more

<sup>4</sup> Explorations were conducted by teams from the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade and the Department of Archaeology of the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade, during the period of August 2011 – July 2013.

<sup>5</sup> The site was explored by a team from the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade (under the leadership of A. Bulatović) in the period of April – July 2012. The publication detailing the results of the site explorations is being prepared.



*Fig. 1. Necropolis in Ranutovac, southern part, view from the south.*

*Сл. 1. Некропола у Ранутовицу, јужни део, поглед са југа*

whole vessels (Figs. 2, 3) or fragments of vessels, whilst in grave 2, in the northern part of the necropolis, along with the vessels there was a perforated axe made of polished grey stone of a compact structure. The graves were then covered with a circular construction 1–2 m in diameter, which was made of broken stone, whilst some graves were encircled with a stone ring 1.5–3 m in diameter. According to the quantity of stone from the destroyed grave constructions and the appearance of the few preserved whole ones, it is assumed that the northern (destroyed) part of the necropolis had similar stone constructions above the graves, whilst the remains of the deceased had the same ritual treatment as in the southern part. 13 graves in the northern part of the necropolis and 10 in the southern part were discovered and explored.

The only difference between these two parts of the necropolis, from the aspect of grave ritual, was that in

the southern part of the necropolis, burnt vessels were not noted, whilst in the northern part, several burnt vessels were discovered. That is to say, in grave 3 in the northern part of the necropolis, vitrified vessels (two bowls, a dual vessel, an oven model and an askos) were discovered with the remains of a deceased male of between 20 and 29 years of age which had, apparently, been burnt on a funeral pyre at a very high temperature together with the deceased and then, with the remains of the deceased, interred in the grave.<sup>6</sup> Near the grave, on its south-eastern side, an area of scorched earth of an irregular shape, almost 2 m long, around 1 m wide and

<sup>6</sup> For the information regarding the temperature of burning of the deceased, as well as for the anthropological analyses, I thank H. Miladinović and D. Bizjak who performed a complete anthropological analysis.



Fig. 2 and 3. Necropolis in Ranutovac, northern part, grave 7 and 10

Сл. 2 и 3. Некропола у Ранутовоцу, северни део, гроб 7 и 10

1–4 cm thick, onto which the still hot remains from the pyre were laid before being placed in the pit, was noted.

Other differences in the ritual, the grave constructions and the manner of burial in these two parts of the necropolis, were not discerned. However, certain differences in the stylistic-typological characteristics of the ceramics were recorded. In the southern part of the necropolis (grave 21) was, for example, noted a beaker of a sharper profile, whilst that kind of profile was not evident in vessels in the northern part. In addition, in the southern part of the necropolis, on several cups and bowls (grave 17) were noted plastic triangular extensions on the rim, which were also not present on the vessels in graves in the northern part of the necropolis. A much larger number of vessels from both parts of the necropolis, however, have similar stylistic-typological characteristics. The most prevalent type of vessels in the necropolis is that of the pear-shaped beakers with two handles, with a ribbon-like cross section that exceed the rim (Pl. I/5–7, 12–14), followed by hemispherical or, more rarely, biconical cups (Pl. I/2) also with a handle, with a ribbon-like cross section that exceeds the rim (Pl. I/3, 11) and bowls. The bowls are of a hemispherical or S profile (more rarely conical), with ribbon-shaped handles that exceed the rim, decorated with small button-like motifs with an indentation in the middle on the belly (Pl. I/1) or with triangular plastic extensions on the rim (Pl. I/10). Along with the globular amphorae with a cylindrical neck and four ribbon-shaped handles on the belly (Pl. II/15), which appear relatively often, a vessel was noted with four tunnel-like handles on the

belly, standing on a tall bell-shaped hollow foot, with four elongated oval perforations (Pl. I/9), as well as a dual vessel that had been burnt at a high temperature (Pl. I/4). Besides the plastic decorations, an ornament resembling an incised hanging triangle combined with small circular pricks was noted on one fragment (Pl. I/17). Very indicative are the finds of baked clay which represent stylised oven models.<sup>7</sup> Four oven models have been discovered in total, three of which have a similar shape, with a vertical cylinder and a horizontal part with a small handle on the back of it, and whose front end has the shape of a shovel (Pl. I/8), whilst one example was modelled into a bird shape, with small circular perforations on its body (Pl. II/16). The vessels from the necropolis mostly have a polished exterior either brown, ochre or dark brown in colour.

## 2. Donji Neradovac, Golo Rebro site, Vranje<sup>8</sup>

We are actually only discussing one fragment of a sharp profiled belly, with a triangular plastic handle (Pl. II/18), which was noted in a layer of river sediment above the Roman cultural layer.<sup>9</sup> Clearly, the fragment reached this place in the runoff from the nearby hill, or it drifted there in the South Morava, whose current river

<sup>7</sup> Bulatović 2013, 1–13, fig. 1–4.

<sup>8</sup> The site was explored by a team from the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade (under the leadership of V. Filipović) in September 2011.

<sup>9</sup> Филиповић, Јеремић, Булатовић 2012, 136–137.

bed is around 500 m south-east of the site (Map 1/2). The fragment is grey in colour and with a smooth finish.

### 3. Pavlovac, Kovačke Njive site, Vranje<sup>10</sup>

The village of Pavlovac is situated around 7 km south of Vranje (Map 1/3), whilst the site of Kovačke Njive comprises the south-eastern outskirts of Donji Pavlovac. The site is located outside the alluvial plain, on a terrain with moderate washout and gullies, around 250 m north of the current South Morava river bed. At this site were noted the remains of Middle and Late Neolithic settlements, along with Early Bronze Age finds, as well as pits from the Iron Age and the Middle Ages. The Early Bronze Age finds were discovered in a pit from the Iron Age with a more or less circular base, approximately 1.5 m in diameter and around 1.2 m deep. It would appear that we are dealing here with the remains of the cultural layer from the Early Bronze Age, which was destroyed by this pit. The pit was registered in the northernmost square of the explored sector, thus it is assumed that the cultural layer (settlement?) from the Early Bronze Age is located north of the explored part of the site, in the area which was not threatened by the building of the motorway.

The finds from the pit comprise a fragment of a shallow conical vessel with semicircular plastic extensions on the rim (Pl. II/19), a fragment of a pear-shaped beaker with an arched handle of a ribbon-like cross section (Pl. II/22), fragments of deeper vessels with plastic extensions on the rim (Pl. II/20, 21), as well as rough textured vessels of larger dimensions, decorated with imprints made with a fingertip on the fresh surface of the vessel (Pl. II/23), and rectangular handles with a split in the middle (Pl. II/24). The ceramics were mostly dark brown or dark in colour, with a polished surface.

### 4. Davidovac, Gradište site, Bujanovac<sup>11</sup>

Davidovac is situated around 10 km south-west of Vranje, on the widest part of the Vranje–Bujanovac valley (Map 1/4). The Gradište site is located in the north-western outskirts of the village, on top of the hill to the west of the motorway, as well as on the southern, northern and eastern slopes of the hill. This is a terrain that passes from the alluvial plain to the plateau, and is ideal for building a settlement. On the south-western edge of the site, not far from the Roman *thermae*, a shallow, circular, Early Bronze Age pit was explored (Fig. 4) which was approximately 0.2 m deep and 0.7 m in diameter, in which a drum (tarabuka) made of baked clay, three larger and two smaller fragments of different bowls,

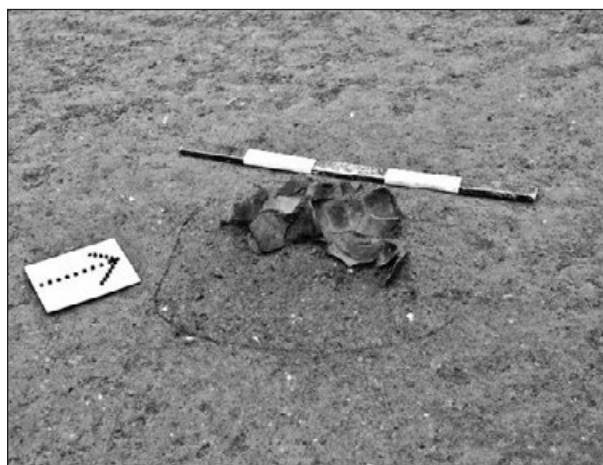


Fig. 4. Ritual pit in Davidovac

Сл. 4. Ритуална јама у Давидовцу

as well as a larger fragment of an amphora (almost a half) were found. The belly of the amphora is elongated, with one vertically and one horizontally placed handle of ribbon-like cross section, and a small and slightly everted rim (Pl. III/29). The drum is modelled into an hourglass shape, with four oval perforations on each cone, which were probably used for attaching and tightening the skin (Pl. III/30). The height of the drum is 16.5 cm, with almost the same diameter at both open ends. The dimensions of the perforations on the lower cone are 4 x 2 cm, whilst on the upper cone they are slightly smaller at 3 x 1.5 cm. The bowls have a hemispherical shape with a short, oblique, everted rim or a rim with a slight S profile, and handles with a ribbon-like cross section which exceed the level of the rim (Pl. II/25–28). One of the bowls is decorated with a plastic ornament on the rim, which resembles two joined horn-like extensions (Pl. II/25). The bowls are baked and have a black-ochre colour, the amphora is grey and dark brown in colour, whilst the drum is black. The ceramics have semi polished or polished surfaces. Although the majority of the area of this site was explored, aside

<sup>10</sup> The site was explored by a team from the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade and the Department of Archaeology of the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade (under the leadership of J. Vuković and A. Bulatović) in the period October – December 2011.

<sup>11</sup> The site was explored by a team from the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade in the period of August – December 2011. The leaders were S. Petković (Antiquity) and A. Bulatović (prehistory).

from this pit there were no other finds from this period. It is assumed that the settlement which this pit, of a probably ritual character, belongs to (at least based on its content and context), is situated west of the explored part of the site, on the vast plateau outside the endangered zone.

### 5. Kokino Selo, Taticev kamen site, Kumanovo

The site is located on a dominant mountain elevation, at an altitude of about 1000 m, on the left side of the Kumano–Arbanaško road, around 35 km north-east of Kumanovo (Map 1/5).<sup>12</sup> The site has been previously published, but the finds presented in this paper have not yet been published. They are significant because they illustrate some characteristic stylistic elements of ceramics from the Early Bronze Age in this territory.<sup>13</sup> The site comprises two distinct areas, both sacral complexes – the megalithic observatory and a ritual space.<sup>14</sup> The megalithic observatory is situated on the top of the site and consists of a lower flattened plateau on a rock, with four stone chairs facing east, and some higher rocks on the eastern horizon, approximately 20 m from the plateau, on which some triangular and rectangular notches are marked for tracking the movement of the sun. The ritual space is located on the northern slope of the site, below the peak and is approximately 80 m long and 50 m wide. Pits were noted there, sometimes with circular stone constructions over and around them, in which were stored offerings such as whole vessels or fragments of vessels (Fig. 5), stone tools, parts of anthropomorphic and zoomorphic figurines, fragments of house daub and other items. Since the terrain drops very steeply towards the north, it was retained with several layers of dry stone wall. It was noted that the rituals related to the sacrificial pits were in use over a longer period, from the Early to the Late Bronze Age, and that the oldest pits were located in the eastern part of the ritual space.

The most numerous finds from the ritual space are the ceramic vessels. Certainly, the most common types of vessels from the Early Bronze Age are the beakers with two handles, mostly of a ribbon-like cross section, and bowls with rounded shoulders and inverted rims. On rare examples of beakers the handles exceed the level of the rim, but more numerous are examples with handles at the same level as the rim or slightly exceeding it (Pl. III/38).<sup>15</sup> The bowls with inverted rims often have them decorated with plastic extensions of different shapes (rectangular, hornlike or trapezoidal), by far the most numerous of which are the extensions of triangular



Fig. 5. Shrine in Kokino Selo, ritual pit with offerings of beakers and a funnel, detail.

Сл. 5. Светилиште у Кокином Селу, обредна јама са даровима у виду пехара и левка, детаљ

shape (Pl. III/32, 33, 35).<sup>16</sup> These bowls often have one or two ribbon-shaped handles on the rim (Pl. III/31), but there are examples with horizontally or obliquely placed handles of an oval cross-section which exceed the level of the rim (Pl. III/34). Besides the aforementioned vessels, globular amphorae with a cylindrical neck, hemispherical vessels on a hollow conical foot, bowls with an S profile and others were also noted at this site. The ornaments are rare and consist of plastic decorations such as button-like motifs with an indent in the middle, plastic vertical ribs, horseshoe shaped handles and the already mentioned plastic extensions on the rims of the vessels. Decorations such as incised triangles, zigzag or wavy lines, which usually follow the small circular indentations, are scarce (Pl. III/36).<sup>17</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Станковски 2002, 29–48; Булатовић, Станковски 2012, 85–95 and quoted literature.

<sup>13</sup> The site of Taticev kamen has been explored since 2001, under the leadership of J. Stankovski, to whom I am grateful for the provided material.

<sup>14</sup> For further details regarding the observatory and the ritual space see: Булатовић, Станковски 2012, 269–277.

<sup>15</sup> Булатовић, Станковски 2012, Т. LIX/4, LX/15, 16, LXI/20, LXII/36.

<sup>16</sup> Булатовић, Станковски 2012, Т. LX/9–11, LXI/18, 21, 22, 24–28.

<sup>17</sup> Булатовић, Станковски 2012, Т. LIX/1, 6, 7, LX/13, 14, LXI/20, 23, LXII/32–44.

Apart from the vessels, two oven models, of a simpler form than the examples from the necropolis in Ranutovac, were also noted as offerings in the ritual space.

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The sites that were discovered during the protective archaeological campaign, conducted along the E 75 motorway, especially the necropolis in Ranutovac, provided important information about the life of the Early Bronze Age communities in the territory of south-eastern Serbia. First of all, the location of the sites of Kovačke Njive in Pavlovac and Gradište in Davidovac confirmed that, in the Early Bronze Age, in Southern Pomoravlje, the settlements were formed mainly on the terraces of larger rivers,<sup>18</sup> assuming the cultural layer noted in Pavlovac and the pit in Davidovac actually belong to the settlements. From a geological perspective, these settlements were formed on the edge of the alluvial plain, in places where they pass into a terrain of moderate washout and gullies, an area where the configuration of the terrain gently rises. They appear, at least based on current information, exclusively on the left bank of the South Morava.<sup>19</sup> Certainly, one of the most significant results obtained throughout the exploration of these sites was the large number of different types of vessels, which significantly added to the knowledge of the material culture of the Early Bronze Age communities in this territory. Previous researchers were understandably cautious throughout the cultural determination of the Early Bronze Age communities around the upper and middle course of the South Morava, since finds with characteristic features were lacking. Based on the small number of existing finds, it was assumed that the Bubanj–Hum III culture stretched to the Skopje Valley in the south, where it came into contact with the Armenochori culture.<sup>20</sup> Just a few years ago, findings were published which indicate that this territory belonged to a border area where the influences of Bubanj–Hum III culture<sup>21</sup> from the north and Armenochori culture from the south were combined, which more or less confirmed these assumptions. However, what remained were the problems of delimitation and the chronological relationship between these two cultures, which were again made topical with explorations of the Early Bronze Age sites in north-eastern Macedonia. Specifically, ceramic production from the sites in Kokino Selo and Pelince pointed to much stronger cultural links with the north, the Bubanj–Hum III

culture, as well as with the sites in western Bulgaria, rather than with the Armenochori culture in the south,<sup>22</sup> whilst on the other hand, at the site in Lopate, not far from Kumanovo, ceramics exclusively from the Armenochori culture were noted.<sup>23</sup> The only certain thing is that, at least for a brief period, these cultures were concurrent, given that, at the sites in Kokino Selo and Pelince, the finds with visible influences from the Armenochori culture were noted.<sup>24</sup> Unfortunately, since we still do not have at our disposal any absolute dates, the question of the exact mutual relationship between the communities from these cultures remains open. The necropolis discovered in Ranutovac, as well as the finds from the other sites presented in this paper have, however, served to supplement our current understanding, at least in the sense of the interpretation of the material and spiritual culture in this region in the Early Bronze Age, which will be further discussed later in this paper.

The most indicative type of vessel from this period, characteristic of both cultures, is a pear-shaped beaker with two handles. It was noted, however, that these beakers in Armenochori culture are mostly of a slimmer shape, and that the handles considerably exceed the level of the rim of the vessel, whilst in Bubanj–Hum III culture they are mainly stocky, with handles predominantly at the same level as the rim, or only slightly above it.<sup>25</sup> The fact that a large number of these vessels of a recognisable appearance was noted in a wide area of the central Balkans in the Early Bronze Age, led some authors to define a specific culture named after

<sup>18</sup> Булатовић, Станковски 2012, 197–198.

<sup>19</sup> A possible reason for this is the motorway which passes along the left bank of the river, whilst the right bank remains unexplored. However, it is more likely that the left bank was more suitable for living, since it faces east and, as such, has a more favourable position regarding the cardinal points, which was an important parameter in choosing a place for a settlement in prehistory.

<sup>20</sup> The finds from Armenochori and neighbouring sites were singled out and classified into the Early Bronze Age by W. Heurtley (1939, 85), however, the Armenochori culture was ultimately defined by M. Garašanin (1958, 122–123). About the prevalence of the culture see: Garašanin 1983, 720. Macedonian authors for this culture in the territory of Pelagonia and southern Macedonia use the name Karamani or Pelagonian cultural group (Китаноски 1978, 51; Mitrevski 2003, 44).

<sup>21</sup> Булатовић 2007, 35.

<sup>22</sup> Mitrevski 2003, 45; Alexandrov 2007, 229; Bulatović 2011, 8.

<sup>23</sup> Sanev 1999, 130, 133–134.

<sup>24</sup> Булатовић, Станковски 2012, 341.

<sup>25</sup> Bulatović 2011, 4.

them – *the culture (horizon) of two handled beakers*.<sup>26</sup> It is interesting that, at the necropolis in Ranutovac, even though it is located more than 50 km north of the northernmost site of the Armenochori culture (Lopate near Kumanovo), finds characteristic of the Armenochori culture were noted in the largest number. These are mainly beakers with handles that exceed the level of the rim (Pl. I/5, 12, 14), although the shape of some of these beakers actually represents a variant of both the Armenochori and Bubanj–Hum III type of beakers (Pl. I/6–7, 13). The finds also included a dual vessel (Pl. I/4), a globular amphora with a cylindrical neck (Pl. II/15), cups with a handle that greatly exceeds the level of the rim (Pl. I/2, 3, 11), a vessel on a tall foot (Pl. I/9), an askos and others. The aforementioned type of beaker with handles that exceed the level of the rim appear in a wide area from eastern Albania (Maliq III, Tren IIIa),<sup>27</sup> to Thrace (Ezero I–II, Junacite III, Razkopenica V),<sup>28</sup> and from northern Greece (Armenochori, Kastanas – from layer 26, Xeropigado, Archontiko, Sitagroi Vb),<sup>29</sup> through Macedonia (Bukri, Kravari, Suvodol, Karamani, Lopate),<sup>30</sup> to Southern Pomoravlje (Ranutovac), also sporadically in the homeland of the Bubanj–Hum III cultural group (Bubanj),<sup>31</sup> and in the south of Greece.<sup>32</sup> Similar beakers, with handles placed on the vessel's shoulder, have already appeared in a larger number from the settlement Troy II.<sup>33</sup> Along with these beakers, in the southern part of the necropolis in Ranutovac, were noted globular amphorae with a cylindrical neck, also characteristic of the Early Bronze Age in the territory of Troy (starting from the settlement of Troy II),<sup>34</sup> through Thrace and northern Greece, to Macedonia.<sup>35</sup> An askos was found in the southern part of the necropolis, and these vessels are characteristic of Early Bronze Age Thrace and the northern Aegean,<sup>36</sup> although they are also known from previous periods.<sup>37</sup> A classic shape of askos, as is the case of the example from Ranutovac, appears in Troy only from settlement IV, which chronologically coincides with the EH III period, that is the EBA III period, to which settlements in south-eastern Serbia belong.<sup>38</sup> As well as in Troy, askoi of the Early Bronze Age (EH II/III) were noted in the previously mentioned territory that comprises Thrace (Bereketskata Mogila, Djadovo – II stratum, Karanovo VII),<sup>39</sup> northern Greece (Agios Mamas)<sup>40</sup> and eastern Albania (Maliq IIIa).<sup>41</sup> The dual vessel (Pl. I/4), noted in grave 1 in the northern part of the necropolis in Ranutovac, however, is not characteristic of the material culture of the communities in this territory. These vessels appear here only sporadically, and mostly with

ceramic inventory characteristic of this territory (Razkopenica VI, the oldest stratum at Donja Brnjica, Novačka Ćuprija and Star Karaorman).<sup>42</sup> These kinds of vessels, however, very often occur in the Middle and Late Bronze Age in the northern and central part of the Balkans.

The vessel that stands out, by virtue of its appearance, is most certainly the one on a tall hollow bell-shaped foot (drum?), found in grave 6 in the northern part of the necropolis (Pl. I/9). The vessels on tall feet, but without perforations, were noted at the sites of Tsoungiza and Zygouries,<sup>43</sup> whilst those on shorter feet, with similar perforations to those on the vessel from Ranutovac, were also noted at Zygouries and Troy I,<sup>44</sup> which points to a southern origin of the tall bell-shaped feet.<sup>45</sup>

The finds that unambiguously connect the necropolis in Ranutovac with the communities that lived in the south, in the territory of the Armenochori culture, are the stylised oven models (Pl. I/8, Pl. II/16). These models were noted solely in the territory of northern

<sup>26</sup> Stojić 1996, 248–250; Nikolova 1999, 233–234.

<sup>27</sup> Prendi, Bunguri 2008, T. VII, XXXIV/3, XLVII/6.

<sup>28</sup> Лещаков 1992, 18, 44, обр. 4/м, 17/е; Nikolova 1999, 227, fig. 10. 2; Detev 1981, fig. 37.

<sup>29</sup> Heurtley 1939, cat. no. 318–349; Aslanis 1985, Taf. V/15; Maniatis, Ziota 2011, fig. 8; Papaefthymiou-Papanthimou, Pilali-Papasteriou 1997, 152, fig. 4; Rutter 1982, fig. 1/1; Renfrew et al. 1986, fig. 13. 20, 13. 20/25.

<sup>30</sup> Симоска, Санев 1976, кат. бр. 239, 242; Симоска 1984, сл. 8, 13; Симоска 1984а, сл. 4; Sanev 1999, Pl. VI.

<sup>31</sup> Гарашанин, Ђурић 1983, кат. бр. 162, 164. This type of beaker, together with a dual vessel, was noted in the oldest stratum at D. Brnjica (Срејовић 2002, 169, сл. 25).

<sup>32</sup> Rutter 1982, fig. 1/1; Rutter 2008, fig. 15.

<sup>33</sup> Blegen et al. 1950, type A43, fig. 370a.

<sup>34</sup> Blegen et al. 1950, fig. 389/35. 485, 395/35. 521.

<sup>35</sup> Лещаков 1992, обр. 17/и, 26/а1; Aslanis 1985, T. 111/9; Blegen 1928, fig. 95–97; Булатовић, Станковски 2012, T. LIX/1.

<sup>36</sup> Blegen et al. 1951, fig. 154b/D29.

<sup>37</sup> Георгиев et al. 1979, обр. 174/ж, з.

<sup>38</sup> Kokowski 2010, 66.

<sup>39</sup> Лещаков 1992, обр. 11/а, б, 18/ж, 26/и.

<sup>40</sup> Heurtley 1939, cat. no. 191, 192; Aslanis 1985, Taf. 110/11, 119/8.

<sup>41</sup> Prendi, Bunguri 2008, T. XXII/7.

<sup>42</sup> Detev 1981, fig. 37; Срејовић 2002, 169, сл. 25; Крстић et al. 1986, T. XVI/1–3; Нацев 2009, кат. бр. 65.

<sup>43</sup> Pullen 2011, fig. 6. 75–6. 76; Blegen 1928, fig. 116.

<sup>44</sup> Blegen et al. 1950, fig. 262/27; Blegen 1928, fig. 117.

<sup>45</sup> Regarding the possibility that this object actually represents a drum will be discussed further in the text.



Greece, eastern Albania and Macedonia, and, chronologically, they are tied to the Early Bronze Age and the beginning of the Middle Bronze Age.<sup>46</sup> In Ranutovac, as many as four such examples were found which, considering also the stylistic-typological features of other ceramics from the necropolis, confirms that the necropolis belongs to the Armenochori cultural circle and excludes the possibility that they are only culturally influenced or imported from the south.

The ceramics from the other sites, on the whole, also resemble the ceramics of the Early Bronze Age (EBA III) from the territory of northern Greece, although they also have elements of the Bubanj–Hum III culture (Davidovac, Pavlovac). The vessel with the globular belly and large ribbon-shaped, obliquely placed handles, from the pit in Davidovac, is reminiscent of those from Kastanas (strata 22 and 23).<sup>47</sup> The bowls with a slight S profile, or with an inverted rim with plastic decorations were noted at all the sites presented in this paper, with the exception of Golo Rebro. These decorations are one of the main characteristics of the Early Bronze Age in Southern Pomoravlje and, judging by the analogies, also in north-eastern Macedonia (Kokino, Pelince) and western Bulgaria,<sup>48</sup> with sporadic appearances in Pelagonia (Bukri) as well.<sup>49</sup> According to some authors, these decorations survived from the previous period (Bubanj–Hum II, or Glina IV in western Bulgaria),<sup>50</sup> and they are of an autochthonous origin.<sup>51</sup> There is, however, also the possibility that they originated from the Aegean Early Bronze Age, since these types of decorations (identical to the one on the bowl from Pavlovac – Pl. III/35) were frequently present on the bowls from the settlement of Troy I, although some examples from Troy were decorated with engraved representations of the human face.<sup>52</sup> This second assumption is less likely since the chronological period between Troy I and the Early Bronze Age (EBA III) in the interior of the Balkans is quite long, and within that period similar decorations on ceramics, which could possibly link these two cultures, have not been seen, meaning they obviously originate from the north and east, from the Bubanj–Hum II culture, or from the culture of the Early Bronze Age (EBA III) of western Bulgaria. The bowls with an inverted rim and short ribbon-shaped handles that exceed the level of the rim (Pl. III/31) or with either horizontally or obliquely placed handles on the rim (Pl. III/34) are, on the other hand, a typical occurrence of the Early Bronze Age in Thrace and the northern Aegean. The bowls with vertical handles were noted at Kastanas from stratum 26<sup>53</sup>

and Ezero (strata II–III),<sup>54</sup> and the earliest examples date back to Troy I.<sup>55</sup> The bowls with horizontal handles were discovered at Sitagroi (stratum Vb),<sup>56</sup> Agios Mamas (pit D28), Kritsana (stratum IV), Kastanas (stratum 24),<sup>57</sup> Karanovo VII,<sup>58</sup> as well as many other sites throughout this territory.

Another interesting find is a ceramic, hourglass shaped, bottomless object, found in the pit in Davidovac which, according to analogies with other prehistoric sites, represents a drum (tarabuka). Similar items are known in prehistoric cultures all over Europe<sup>59</sup> and, based on the shape and dimensions of these drums, the vessel on a tall, hollow, bell-shaped foot from the necropolis in Ranutovac could also be interpreted as a drum (Pl. I/9), except that the skin on the example from Ranutovac was pulled tight by tunnel-like handles,<sup>60</sup> and on the example from Davidovac using the oval perforations.<sup>61</sup>

The spiritual life of the communities of the Early Bronze Age in this area is already well-known, primarily due to the ritual places in Pelince and Kokino, as well as the observatory in Kokino. The custom of storing offerings, in the form of whole or parts of vessels, or objects of stone, bone, ceramics and the like, either in the ground or on a rock with circular stone constructions around and above the pits, as noted in Kokino (Fig. 5) and Pelince has, for now, no analogy in the immediate vicinity. A similar ritual place, where the ritual pits with gifts were surrounded by a large trench, was discovered in Kazanlak, near Stara Zagora.<sup>62</sup> The

<sup>46</sup> For detail regarding the purpose, chronology, distribution and cultural affiliation of these oven models see: Bulatović 2013, 1–13, with quoted literature.

<sup>47</sup> Aslanis 1985, Taf. 40/8, 57/16.

<sup>48</sup> Alexandrov 1998, fig. 3/8, fig. 5.

<sup>49</sup> Симоска 1984, сл. 6.

<sup>50</sup> Alexandrov 2007, 228–229, Pl. VIII.

<sup>51</sup> Bulatović 2011, 8–9.

<sup>52</sup> Blegen et al. 1950, fig. 253/18.

<sup>53</sup> Aslanis 1985, Taf. 8/18.

<sup>54</sup> Лещаков 1992, обр. 4/а.

<sup>55</sup> Blegen et al. 1950, fig. 266/1.

<sup>56</sup> Renfrew et al. 1986, fig. 13. 27/16, 19.

<sup>57</sup> Aslanis 1985, Taf. 12/12, 106/4, 111/3, 112/3.

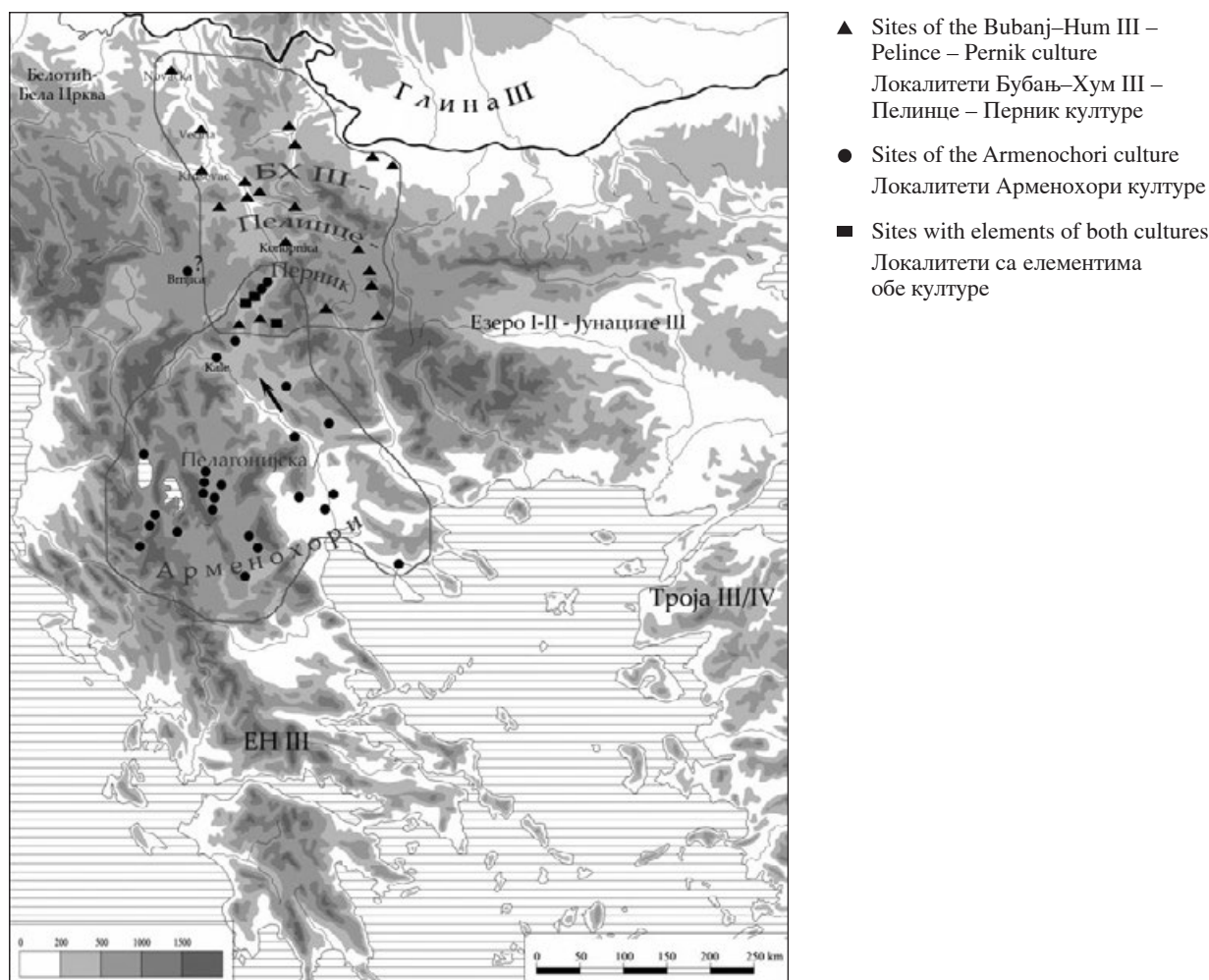
<sup>58</sup> Лещаков 1992, обр. 26/о.

<sup>59</sup> Гергов 2011, 269–273; Wyatt 2008, 1–22; Aiano 2006, 31–42.

<sup>60</sup> Гергов 2011, обр. 4; Aiano 2006, fig. 1–8; Wyatt 2008, fig. 1.

<sup>61</sup> Гергов 2011, обр. 1, 2.

<sup>62</sup> НИКОЛОВ 2008, 23–32.



Map 2. More significant sites of Bubanj–Hum III – Pelince – Pernik culture and Armenochori culture

Карта 2. Важнији локалитети Бубањ–Хум III – Пелинце – Перник културе и Арменохори културе

finds from these pits belong to the Early Bronze Age III of Thrace,<sup>63</sup> which chronologically corresponds to the sites in Kokino Selo and Pelince. Pits from the Bronze Age containing different offerings are characteristic of shrines in the region of the Southern Rhodopes, but they also appear in western Bulgaria,<sup>64</sup> which could point to the direction through which this custom arrived in the southern parts of the central Balkans as well. Some similarities with these rituals have been observed in Cretan mountain shrines, from the beginning of the MMII period, in which a circular space was formed using river stones, where offerings were deposited, similar to those from Kokino Selo and Pelince.<sup>65</sup> The shallow pit discovered in Davidovac probably belongs to that sacral idea of storing offerings in the ground, into the bosom of the Great Mother,

the goddess of fertility and protector of crops, whereby several, almost whole vessels and one drum were deposited, although around this pit a stone construction was not noted (Fig. 4). These customs which, according to the analogies of finds and the distribution of the sites, belong to the Aegean–Thracian cultural circle, later expanded into the interior region of the Balkans.<sup>66</sup> The necropolises from the Early Bronze Age with exclusively cremated deceased, as in Ranutovac,

<sup>63</sup> Николов 2008, 32.

<sup>64</sup> Костова 2006, 2.

<sup>65</sup> Nowicki 1994, 34.

<sup>66</sup> Пековић, Јевтић 2007, 125–140.

have, so far, not been noted, either in these areas, or in any distant regions.<sup>67</sup> In this period the deceased were usually inhumed, very rarely cremated, and only then in the biritual necropolises in which inhumation dominated. At the Xeropigado necropolis, in the north-west of Greece, for example, where more than 200 graves with inhumation have been discovered, only 12 were cremations, or around 5%.<sup>68</sup> Necropolises with only inhumed deceased were noted in Thrace. In Albania, tumuli with inhumed deceased are prevalent, whilst graves with cremated deceased are extremely rare and appear solely in the north of Albania in the Early Bronze Age, whereas in the Middle Bronze Age they also appear in the south of Albania.<sup>69</sup> In the area of the central Balkans, in the Early Bronze Age, the custom of solely cremation burials has not been noted, but there are numerous necropolises with biritual burials. In the area of the Belotić–Bela Crkva culture, several graves with cremated deceased were noted,<sup>70</sup> and at the necropolises under the tumuli in the West Morava valley, both rituals were more or less equally present.<sup>71</sup> The closest territory in which, around this time, the almost exclusive ritual of cremation burials was noted is Oltenia.<sup>72</sup> However, due to the large distance between the regions, it cannot be linked with this custom in the far south-east of Serbia.

For now, the necropolis in Ranutovac, where exclusively cremated deceased were noted, remains the only one of its kind in the territory of the central Balkans, and it is possible that the reason for this sole ritual is social, micro regional, sacral, economic or some other in nature, and it does not necessarily have to be linked with the cultural affiliation of the communities that practiced it. Nevertheless, it has to be mentioned that the spiritual concept of storing offerings in shallow pits with circular stone constructions at the necropolis of Ranutovac closely resembles the rituals noted in nearby Kokino Selo, Pelince and Davidovac, as well as the other sacred places which belong to the Aegean–Thracian sacral area.

The necropolis in Ranutovac can, at this time, only be chronologically determined by relative dates. Closest to this necropolis, according to both the burial custom (both inhumation and cremation) as well as the grave offerings (beakers with two handles), is the necropolis of Xeropigado, in the north-west of Greece, which has been chronologically determined using absolute dates. This necropolis is dated to a period of about seven centuries, starting at the end of the 25<sup>th</sup> century BC.<sup>73</sup> The house at Archontiko, in which 12

beakers with two handles were found, similar to the examples from Kokino Selo, Ranutovac and others, was dated to the periods 2275–2139; 2199–2135 and 2196–2050 BC (23<sup>rd</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> century BC). At the same site, oven models similar to those in Ranutovac were also discovered, which connect these two sites from the perspective of material culture as well.<sup>74</sup> Maliq – strata IIIa–IIIb, as well as Kastanas – strata 26–22b (the most numerous analogies with the ceramics from our sites were noted in stratum 22b) in which was identified a large number of stylistic-typological characteristics identical or similar to the ceramics from the sites of the upper course of the South Morava and from Gornja Pčinja, were also dated to the period of the final quarter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC.<sup>75</sup> To approximately the same period we can date the presented finds from Davidovac, Neradovac and Pavlovac, whilst it should be noted that the mutual chronological relation between these sites cannot be precisely determined without absolute dates.

The dates for the Bubanj–Hum III culture, whose cultural elements, together with the elements of the Early Bronze Age of western Bulgaria,<sup>76</sup> dominate on the ceramics from the sites in Pelince and Kokino Selo, appear to be slightly younger, at least in the far north of its territory. Thus, the pit from the Early Bronze Age at Novačka Čuprija, with finds characteristic of the Bubanj–Hum III culture, was determined by calibrated dates to 2160–1850 BC,<sup>77</sup> whilst the oldest stratum

<sup>67</sup> In central Greece and in the Peloponnese, for example, in the Early Bronze Age (EH I–III) necropolises with burnt deceased were not noted (Weiberg 2007, 188), nor in Thrace (Todorova 2003, 295–296) or Muntenia (Schuster 2003, 109–119).

<sup>68</sup> Maniatis, Ziota 2011, 461.

<sup>69</sup> Prendi, Bunguri 2008, 225.

<sup>70</sup> Гарашанин 1973, 361–367.

<sup>71</sup> Дмитровић 2009, 115.

<sup>72</sup> Schuster 2003, 138.

<sup>73</sup> Maniatis, Ziota 2011, 461–478.

<sup>74</sup> Παπλευθυμιον–Παπανθιμον, Πιλαλη–Παπαστεριον 1998, 87.

<sup>75</sup> Prendi, Bunguri 2008, 274; Aslanis 1985, 318, Abb. 130.

<sup>76</sup> For this culture that covered the territory of western Bulgaria, Southern Pomoravlje, eastern Serbia and north-eastern Macedonia, the proposed name was Bubanj III – Pernik culture (Nikolova 1999, 233), that is Bubanj–Hum III – Pelince II–III – Pernik culture (Bulatović 2011, 11). S. Alexandrov also considers that the territory of south-western Bulgaria in the Early Bronze Age (EBA III) belonged to the cultural area of the central Balkans (Alexandrov 1998, 231).

<sup>77</sup> Крстић et al. 1986, 34.

at Ljuljaci is dated to 1950–1900 BC.<sup>78</sup> Stratum III at Junacite, where beakers of the Bubanj–Hum III type were noted along with other finds, is dated to 2300–2000 BC.<sup>79</sup>

As can be seen, all the known dates for both cultures are derived from different sites, which are, additionally, quite far apart from each other. Therefore, based on these dates, their chronological relation cannot be defined. The only certain thing is that the territory of the upper course of the South Morava and north-eastern Macedonia were, at least for a short while, a contact zone between the Bubanj–Hum III and Armenochori cultures (Map 2), whilst their more precise chronological relation can only be determined with a series of absolute dates, from several indicative sites.

According to some elements noted on the ceramics from absolutely dated sites of the Early and Middle Bronze Age in the central Balkans, such as the vessels with horizontally placed handles with horn-like extensions, beakers with two handles which exceed the level of the rim (Ljuljaci – second horizon),<sup>80</sup> or dual vessels (Novačka Čuprija),<sup>81</sup> it can be determined that the period in which the Armenochori culture spread towards the north and actually met the Bubanj–Hum III culture in the region of Kumanovo and in the upper course of the South Morava, was somewhere between the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC.

## CONCLUSION

Based on all previously presented data, as well as the data presented in this paper about the material, and especially the spiritual culture of the communities from this territory, if we take a wider view of the Early Bronze Age Balkans, it is possible to discern a certain cultural unity in the territory of the northern Aegean, Thrace, northern Greece and the Central Balkans, which can be defined as a uniform cultural zone. This cultural unity is the result of the development of the autochthonous cultures, but also the interaction of the cultures from the Aegean circle with cultures from the interior of the Balkan Peninsula throughout the previous periods. Within this uniform cultural zone, among others, can also be defined two almost concurrent cultural manifestations, the Bubanj–Hum III – Pelince – Pernik culture (complex), which comprises western Bulgaria, Southern Pomoravlje, eastern Serbia and north-eastern Macedonia, and the Armenochori (Pelagonian) culture, whose territory stretches from northern and western

Greece, and eastern Albania in the south, to northern Macedonia in the north. The results of the explorations of the new sites and the finds presented in this paper confirmed the assumptions that the Armenochori culture included, at least in one period of its existence, the territory of Southern Pomoravlje as well. Based on the available data, it cannot be determined, with any precision, the time at which this group started its expansion towards the north, that is to say when it spread to Southern Pomoravlje. However, according to the available data and absolute dates, it is generally assumed that it happened at sometime towards the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> or the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC. Based on the topography of the Early Bronze Age sites in the territory of north-eastern Macedonia and the upper course of the South Morava, it can be said that the Early Bronze Age was a relatively peaceful period, as the settlements were set in lowland parts of the territory, and hill fort settlements were absent. In the mountainous region a larger, possibly even regional shrine (Kokino) was formed, where stylistic-typological elements of both cultures were noted, whilst smaller ritual places (Davidovac, Pelince) were also organised in the lowland parts of the territory, probably near settlements. Such topographical features of the sites, considering the presence of finds from both cultures in some of them, point to the fact that, even if there were certain cultural or ethnic changes in this period, such as cultural penetrations or migrations from the south, they were not violent, but gradual and led to the peaceful coexistence of the communities of both cultures.

These two, obviously related cultures, with pottery inventory of very similar stylistic-typological characteristics, probably arose from similar cultural roots. However, their cultural-chronological relation, unfortunately, cannot be more precisely defined without a series of absolute dates and further research.

Within the cultures from the end of the Early and into the Middle Bronze Age in the central Balkans, however, the elements of the Armenochori culture are recognisable, which would indicate that, apart from the autochthonous Bubanj–Hum III culture, this culture also left its mark on the genesis and the development of the Middle Bronze Age in the Balkans.

<sup>78</sup> Богдановић 1986, 70.

<sup>79</sup> Nikolova 1999, 226.

<sup>80</sup> Богдановић 1986, кат. бр. 50, 51.

<sup>81</sup> Крстић et al. 1986, Т. XVII/1–3.

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## Резиме:

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## НОВИ НАЛАЗИ КАО ПРИЛОГ ПРОУЧАВАЊУ РАНОГ БРОНЗАНОГ ДОБА У ЈУЖНОМ ДЕЛУ ЦЕНТРАЛНОГ БАЛКАНА

*Кључне речи.* – Рано бронзано доба, јужно Поморавље, Горња Пчиња, Арменохори култура, Бубањ–Хум III култура.

У овом раду су представљени резултати истраживања локалитета раног бронзаног доба који су евидентирани на траси аутопута Е 75, у околини Врања, као и нови налази са локалитета Татићев камен у Кокином Селу код Куманова, у Републици Македонији.

Реч је о резултатима истраживања некрополе спаљених покојника у Ранутовцу, затим ритуалне јаме у Давидовцу, као и налазима из Доњег Нерадовца, Павловца и Кокиног Села (карта 1). Некропола у Ранутовцу, која се налази на око 5 km северно од Врања, састојала се из два дела – јужног и северног, на међусобној удаљености од око 20 m. Јужни део некрополе је био много боље очуван и у њему су констатовани гробови које су чиниле плитке јаме, са слободно похрањеним остацима спаљеног покојника, који су у неким случајевима били покривени посудом (сл. 1–3). У гробовима су констатовани прилози у виду целих посуда или већих фрагмената посуда (Т. I/1–17), а око јама и изнад њих је формирана кружна камена конструкција пречника 1–2 m. У северном делу некрополе откривено је и истражено 13 гробова, а у јужном делу 10 гробова. Осим посуда, у гробовима су нађени стилизовани модели пећи (Т. I/8, Т. II/16) и једна камена перфорирана секира.

У Давидовцу, удаљеном 10 km јужно од Врања, приликом заштитних ископавања 2011. године откривена је једна кружна јама, пречника око 0,7 m и дубине око 0,2 m (сл. 4), у којој су нађени један бубањ од печене земље (Т. III/30), затим три већа и два мања фрагмента различитих здела, као и већи фрагмент амфоре (Т. II/25–28, Т. III/29).

У Павловцу, на око 7 km јужно од Врања, на локалитету Ковачке њиве, откривено је неколико налаза који припадају раном бронзаном добу (Т. II/19–24), а један фрагмент керамике из тог периода откривен је и на локалитету Голо ребро у Доњем Нерадовцу, на око 3 km јужно од Врања (Т. II/18).

Сви локалитети налазе се на тераси на левој обали Јужне Мораве, на рубу алувијалне равни.

Стилско-типолошке карактеристике керамике из Ранутовца и Доњег Нерадовца одговарају Арменохори култури, која је у рано бронзано доба (ЕВА III) обухватала територију северне Грчке, источне Албаније и Пелагоније, док налази из Павловца, Давидовца и Кокиног Села имају карактеристике и Арменохори културе, али и Бубањ–Хум III културе, као и културе раног бронзаног доба западне Бугарске (Перник култура).

Сакрални обичај похрањивања дарова у земљу, у виду целих посуда или њихових делова, као и других предмета, са кружним каменим конструкцијама око јама и изнад ње, констатован у Кокину (сл. 5) и Пелинцу, али и у Давидовцу (али без камене конструкције), свакако припада Егејско-трачком сакралном ареалу, а веома сличан духовни концепт похрањивања дарова у плитке јаме окружене и покривене кружним каменим конструкцијама присутан је и на некрополи у Ранутовцу.

На основу свих раније презентованих података, као и података представљених у овом раду о материјалној, а нарочито духовној култури заједница раног бронзаног доба на овој територији, на Балкану је, шире посматрано, могуће уочити извесно културно јединство на територији северне Егеје, Тракије, северне Грчке и централног Балкана, које се може дефинисати као јединствена културна зона. Ово културно јединство је резултат развоја аутохтоних култура, али и међусобних утицаја култура из Егејског круга и култура из унутрашњости Балканског полуострва током претходних периода. Унутар те јединствене културне зоне могу се дефинисати, између осталих, и две приближно истовремене културне манифестације: Бубањ – Хум III – Пелинце – Перник култура (комплекс), која обухвата западну Бугарску, јужно

Поморавље, источну Србију и североисточну Македонију, и Арменохори (Пелагоњијску) културу, чија се територија простире од северне и западне Грчке, и источне Албаније, на југу, до северне Македоније, на северу (карта 2).

Резултати истраживања нових локалитета и налази презентовани у овом раду потврдили су претпоставке да Арменохори култура обухвата, бар у једном периоду своје егзистенције, и територију јужног Поморавља. На основу доступних података не може се тачно одредити време када

је ова група започела експанзију према северу, односно када се проширила до јужног Поморавља, али се, према доступним подацима и апсолутним датумима, претпоставља да се то оквирно догодило крајем III или почетком II миленијума пре н. е.

Утицај Арменохори културе је препознатљив и у културама средњег бронзаног доба на централном Балкану, чиме је ова култура оставила траг и у генези и развоју бронзаног доба на Балканском полуострву.



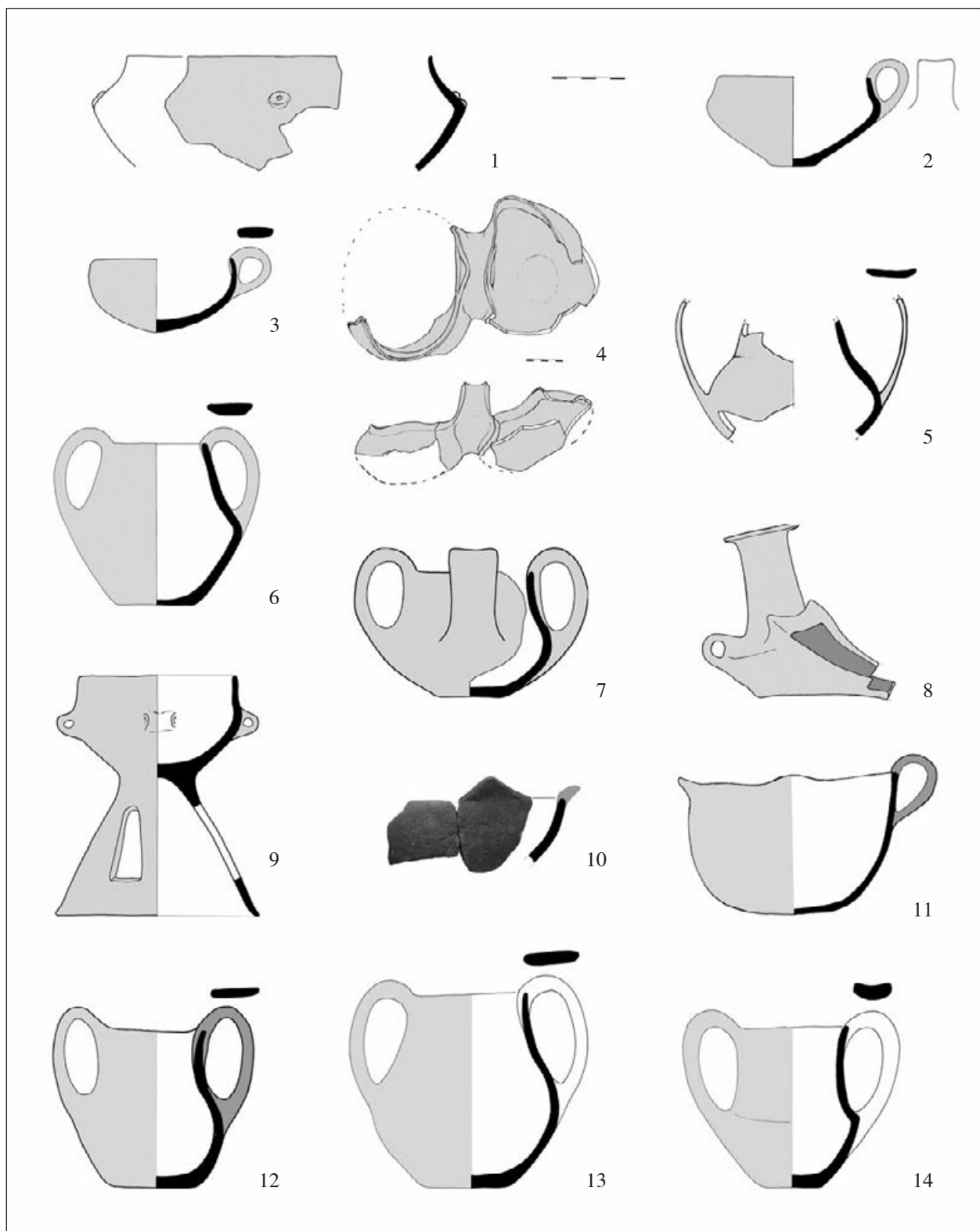
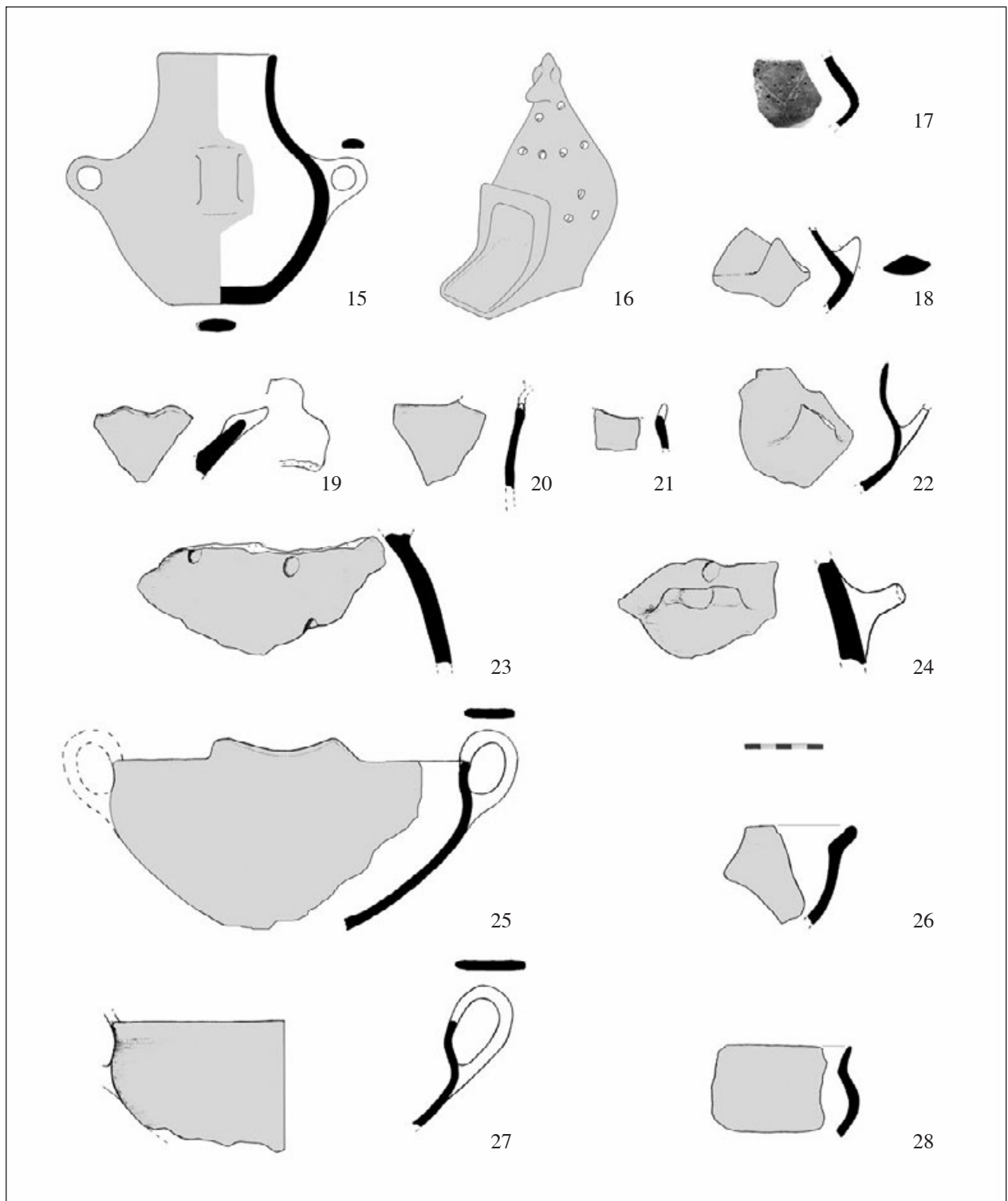


Plate I – Finds from the necropolis in Ranutovac, northern part (1, 3, 6, 8 – grave 7; 2 – grave 2; 4, 5 – grave 1; 7 – grave 5; 9 – grave 6); southern part (10–12 – grave 17; 13 – grave 20; 14 – grave 21)

Табла I – Налази из некрополе у Ранутовоцу, северни део (1, 3, 6, 8 – гроб 7; 2 – гроб 2; 4, 5 – гроб 1; 7 – гроб 5; 9 – гроб 6); јужни део (10–12 – гроб 17; 13 – гроб 20; 14 – гроб 21)



*Plate II – Finds from the southern part of the necropolis in Ranutovac (15 – grave 15; 16 – grave 20); fragment from the northern part of the necropolis (17 – grave 1); find from Donji Neradovac, Golo Rebro site (18); finds from Pavlovac, Kovačke Njive site (19–24); Davidovac, Gradište site, pit finds (25–28)*

*Табла II – Налази из јужног дела некрополе у Ранутовицу (15 – гроб 15; 16 – гроб 20); фрагменти из северног дела некрополе (17 – гроб 1); налаз из Доњеј Нерадовица, локалитетј Голо ребро (18) налази из Павловица, локалитетј Ковачке њиве (19–24); Давидовац, локалитетј Градиште, налази из јаме (25–28)*

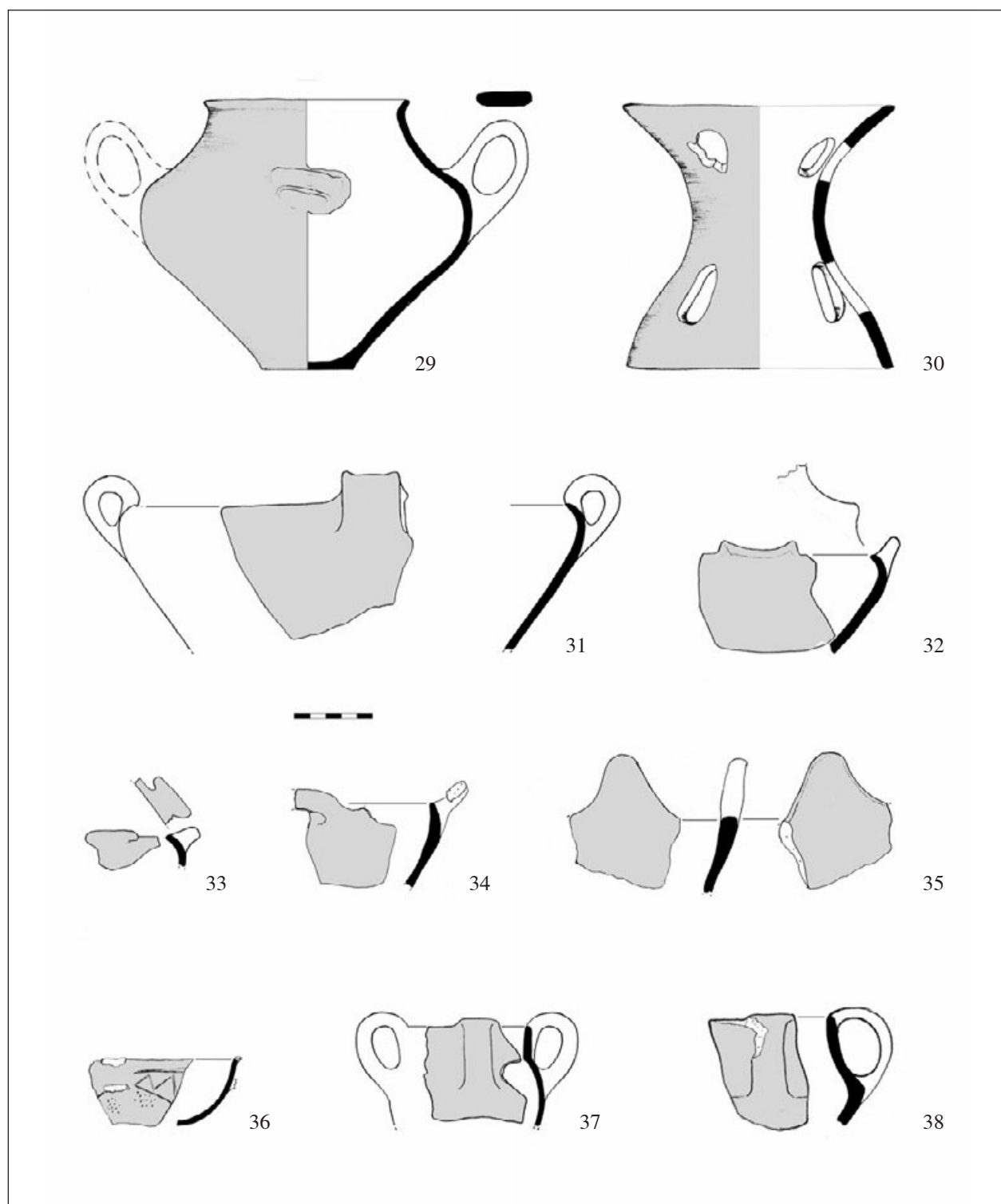


Plate III – Davidovac, Gradište site, pit finds (29, 30);  
finds from the shrine at Tatikev Kamen site, Kokino Selo, Republic of Macedonia (31–38)

Табла III – Давидовац, локалитет Гradiште, налази из јаме (29, 30);  
налази из светилишта на локалитету Таџићев камен, Кокино Село, Република Македонија (31–38)