

PERSPECTIVES ON BALKAN ARCHAEOLOGY 2

THE MECHANISM OF POWER

The Bronze and Iron Ages in Southeastern Europe

**Mario Gavranović, Daniela Heilmann,
Marek Verčík and Pero Ardjanliev (Eds.)**



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The Mechanism of Power

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Perspectives on Balkan Archaeology

Volume 2

Series Editors: Barbara Horejs, Carola Metzner-Nebelsick and Peter Pavúk



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Proceedings of the 3rd PeBA Conference held in Ohrid, 25–28 May 2022



Verlag Marie Leidorf GmbH

2024

368 Seiten mit 168 Abbildungen und 3 Tafeln und 5 Tabellen

Bibliografische Information der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek

Mario Gavranović, Daniela Heilmann, Marek Verčík and Pero Ardjanliev (Eds.)
The Mechanism of Power ; Bronze and Iron Ages in Southeastern Europe.
Rahden/Westf.: Leidorf, 2024
(Perspectives on Balkan Archaeology; Bd. 2)
ISBN 978-3-86757-111-1

Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen Nationalbibliografie.
Detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet über <http://dnb.d-nb.de> abrufbar.

Gedruckt auf alterungsbeständigem Papier
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Verlag Marie Leidorf GmbH
Geschäftsführer: Dr. Bert Wiegel
Stellerloh 65 · D-32369 Rahden/Westf.
Tel: +49/ (0) 57 71/95 10-74
Fax: +49/(0) 57 71/95 10-75
eMail: info@vml.de
Internet: <http://www.vml.de>

ISBN 978-3-86757-111-1
ISSN 2700-1253

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Language editing: Judd Burden
Layout and graphics: Angela Schwab, ÖAW-ÖAI
Cover layout: Angela Schwab, ÖAW-ÖAI

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The Settlement from the Metal Ages at Svinjarička Čuka, Serbia: An Insight into the Bronze and Iron Ages of the Leskovac Basin

Ognjen Mladenović, Aleksandar Bulatović, Barbara Horejs

Abstract

The multilayered site of Svinjarička Čuka within the Leskovac Basin provided an almost unbroken stratigraphic sequence from the Late Eneolithic to the Early Iron Age (ca. 3200–800 BCE). The data collected during the first four excavation campaigns serve as a solid background for incorporating the site into the broader narrative of the Bronze and Iron Ages in the central Balkans. The archaeological material from the Bronze and Iron Ages displays strong connections with contemporary groups within the region while simultaneously indicating connections between local groups (Bubanj-Hum IV, Brnjica) and neighbouring groups from the eastern and northern part of the peninsula, such as Verbicioara, Insula-Banului, Kalakača, and Pšeničevo. Such connections are further indicated by absolute dates for all represented phases of the Bronze Age and the Early Iron Age, which indicate a possible settling gap during the so-called Transitional Period.

Zusammenfassung

Der mehrphasige Fundort Svinjarička Čuka im Becken von Leskovac liefert eine beinahe lückenlose Sequenz vom späten Äneolithikum (Kupferzeit) bis in die frühe Eisenzeit (ca. 3200–800 v.u.Z.). Die bisher gesammelten Daten aus den ersten vier Grabungskampagnen ermöglichen eine erste Einbettung der Ergebnisse in die Entwicklungen des zentralen Balkans in der Bronze- und Eisenzeit. Die metallzeitlichen Fundensembles lassen sich mit den gleichzeitigen Regionalgruppen (Bubanj-Hum IV, Brnjica) gut vergleichen, ebenso wie mit den Gruppen im Osten und Norden, wie beispielsweise Verbicioara, Insula-Banului, Kalakača und Pšeničevo. Die Verbindungen zu diesen Regionen zeigen sich auch in den Radiokarbondaten, die auf eine Lücke der Besiedlung während der sogenannten Übergangsphase zwischen der späten Bronze- und frühen Eisenzeit hinweisen.

Sažetak

Vertikalna stratigrafija na višeslojnom arheološkom lokalitetu Svinjarička čuka u Leskovačkoj kotlini, ukazala je na gotovo neprekidno naseljavanje lokaliteta od poznog eneolita do starijeg gvozdenog doba (c. 3200–800 godina p.n.e.). Podaci prikupljeni tokom prve četiri kampanje istraživanja omogućili su početna razmatranja lokaliteta u okviru šireg narativa bronzanog i gvozdenog doba na teritoriji centralnog Balkana. Pokretni arheološki materijal iz bronzanog i gvozdenog doba ukazuje na jake veze sa arheološkim grupama u regionu, ali i na veze između lokalnih grupa (Bubanj-Hum IV, Brnjica) i arheoloških grupa iz istočnih i severnih delova poluostrva, poput Verbičoare, grupe Insula-Banului, Kalakača, i Pšeničevo grupe. Dobijeni apsolutni datumi za sve faze bronzanog doba i starije gvozdeno doba idu u prilog tim vezama, dok istovremeno ukazuju na mogući prekid života na lokalitetu tokom takozvanog prelaznog perioda iz bronzanog u gvozdeno doba.

Keywords

central Balkans, Leskovac Basin, Middle Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age, Early Iron Age

Introduction

The multilayered site of Svinjarička Čuka lies on a slightly sloping plateau that runs towards the Svinjarička River, within the Pusta Reka region of the Leskovac Basin, in the village of Štulac (**Fig. 1**). It is located in the foothill of the renowned Byzantine archaeological site of Caričin Grad (Iustiniana Prima), covering an area of approximately 7 ha. The prehistoric settling of this region is well-known from previous archaeological literature,¹ although the first systematic archaeological and geophysical surveys at the site of

¹ Garašanin/Ivanović 1958; Bulatović/Jović 2010.



Figure 1 – The position of Svinjarička Čuka within the Leskovac Basin and South Morava Valley (M. Börner)

Svinjarička Čuka were conducted in 2017.² Parallel to surveys, the team conducted a systematic prospection of lithic raw materials from secondary deposits within the Leskovac Basin.³ In the following year, 2018, the ongoing systematic archaeological excavations started within a collaboration between the Austrian Archaeological Institute, the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade, and the National Museum in Leskovac, with the first preliminary results published soon after.⁴

Four excavation campaigns between 2018 and 2022 have determined the stratigraphy of the site, which yielded cultural layers, various archaeological features, and materials attributed to the Early and Middle Neolithic (Starčevo), Late Eneolithic (Coţofeni-Kostolac?), Early, Middle and Late Bronze Age, and the Early Iron Age.⁵ This paper will offer an overview of our current knowledge of the Bronze and Iron Age occupation of the site and its broader contextualisation.

Early Bronze Age

Although no archaeological features attributed to the Early Bronze Age have been recorded during the excavations so far, the evidence of Early Bronze Age occupation at the site is indicated by pottery fragments, which display the stylistic and typological characteristics of the Early Bronze Age in the region (Bubanj-Hum III).⁶ These finds originate from mixed layers, and no features related to the Early Bronze Age have been recorded so far. Further, several absolute dates originating from the Neolithic layers yielded values between the 25th and the 21st century calBCE, corresponding to the chronological span of

² Horejs et al. 2018.

³ Brandl/Hauzenberger 2018.

⁴ Horejs/Bulatović 2019; Horejs et al. 2019a; Horejs et al. 2019b.

⁵ Mladenović et al. 2021; Horejs et al. 2022.

⁶ Garašanin 1959; Bulatović/Stankovski 2012, 317.



Figure 2 – Middle Bronze Age pit (SU 1055) (F. Ostmann)

the Bubanj-Hum III group according to the available Bayesian modelling.⁷ The samples for ¹⁴C data most likely present penetration from the younger layers, which is entirely possible due to the nature of the site on the slope, and the nature of pedology at the site. Hence, it is possible that the dated seeds have fallen through significant cracks in the soil, which occur during the dry months.

Middle Bronze Age

First finds and absolute dates attributed to the Middle Bronze Age were discovered back in 2018, although only within cultural layers, mixed with archaeological materials from other periods.⁸ Such finds were represented by forms typical for the Middle Bronze Age in the region, such as small pear-shaped beakers with trapezoid extensions on the rim and decoration in a manner of finger impression on the rims and bellies of jars.

The first archaeological feature attributed to the Middle Bronze Age was recorded during the following 2019 excavation campaign within Trench N1.⁹ The feature (SU 1055) (**Fig. 2**) represented a pit with an infill comprised of loose ashy grey soil mixed with potsherds, animal bones, and charcoal.¹⁰ The potsherds from the pit are represented by conical, deep conical, and slightly S-profiled bowls (**Pl. 1,13**), conical cups (**Pl. 1,4.6**), pear-shaped beakers with slightly everted rims (**Pl. 1,5**), small pear-shaped beakers with trapezoid extensions on the rims (**Pl. 1,7–10**), and jars decorated with finger impressions on the rim and the belly (**Pl. 1,13**). The absolute dates from the pit yielded a chronological span between the 19th and the 17th century calBCE (**Fig. 5**).¹¹

Late Bronze Age

In terms of the Metal Ages at the site, finds attributed to the Late Bronze Age display the highest number, distributed within the uppermost layers of all excavated areas. The first finds indicating a solid structure

⁷ Bulatović et al. 2020, 1178.

⁸ Horejs et al. 2019a, 189–191.

⁹ Mladenović et al. 2021; Horejs et al. 2022, 303–304.

¹⁰ The dimensions of the Middle Bronze Age pit remain incompletely defined since the pit was disturbed by a later Early Iron Age pit.

¹¹ Horejs et al. 2022.



Figure 3 – Late Bronze Age house (SU 68 and SUs 113–114) (F. Ostmann)



Figure 4 – A cross-section of an oven from the Late Bronze Age house (F. Ostmann)

from the Late Bronze Age (SU 1016) were recorded in 2018 within Trench N1.¹² The presumed structure included a high quantity of well-preserved potsherds, stone, animal bones, lumps of burnt daub,

¹² Horejs/Bulatović 2019, 49–50; Horejs et al. 2019a, 188–190.

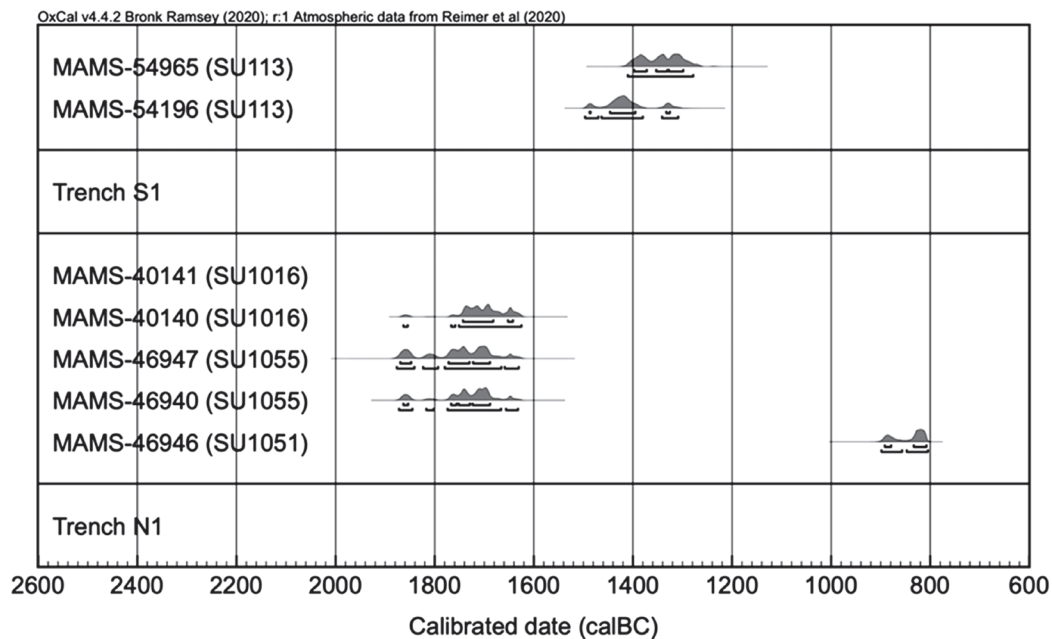


Figure 5 – Absolute dates for Metal Ages at Svinjarička Čuka (B. Horejs and L. Webster)

and possible remains of postholes scattered within a surface of approximately 2.5×4 m. The structure yielded pottery with stylistic and typological characteristics of both the Middle and Late Bronze Age and an absolute date with the span between the mid-18th to the mid-16th century calBCE (**Fig. 5**).¹³ The majority of potsherds related to this concentration/structure are attributed to the Late Bronze Age and represented by S-profiled bowls (**Pl. 1,17**), wide horizontal or everted rims with a plastic ring on the inner side (the so-called Brnjica rim)¹⁴ (**Pl. 1,14–16**), and potsherds ornamented with a series of impressed triangles, oval imprints, incised triangles, filled with white incrustation (**Pl. 1,16**).

Between 2019 and 2022, a Late Bronze Age house (SU 68 + SUs 113–114)¹⁵ was excavated within the southern part of the site in Trench S1.¹⁶ The rectangular plan of the house measured dimensions of approximately 5×3.5 m, with a northwest-southeast orientation (**Fig. 3**). The preservation of house walls was not particularly good, considering that their upper portions were detected at a depth of 0.3 m, and therefore disturbed by ploughing and other agricultural activities. The inner layout of the house was not discerned, besides the possibility that the house was internally divided into the larger northern space and smaller southern space. The house floor was mostly preserved within the presumed southern space, made of stamped clay, and covered with a number of jars sealed with the debris of house walls.¹⁷ Postholes, with varying diameters, were recorded along the eastern and southern house walls. Within the central portion of the house, in the presumed northern space, an oven with several phases of oven floor renewal was recorded (**Fig. 4**). Conical and S-profiled bowls represent the characteristic pottery related to the house (**Pl. 2,1–4**), sometimes with triangular extensions on the rim (**Pl. 2,3**), conical cups (**Pl. 2,5**), beakers with two handles (**Pl. 2,6**), vessels with everted rims and a plastic ring on the inner side (**Pl. 2,7**), jars of various sizes decorated with modelled bands with finger impressions (**Pl. 2,8.10**) and horizontal and vertical modelled ribs (**Pl. 2,9**). The characteristic decoration is incised and pricked triangles forming various motifs and shapes, often filled with white encrustation (**Pl. 2,7.11.13–17**). The absolute date from the inventory layer of the house indicates the time of the 15th/14th century calBCE (**Fig. 5**).¹⁸

¹³ Horejs et al. 2019a, 188–190 pl. 1.

¹⁴ Bulatović/Stankovski 2012, 377–379.

¹⁵ SU 68 is made of architectural remains of the house with in situ inventory, while SUs 113 and 114 are the so-called inventory layers related to the house.

¹⁶ Horejs et al. 2022, 304–307.

¹⁷ The inventory of the house recorded in 2022 is currently in the documentation and conservation process.

¹⁸ Horejs et al. 2022, 306.

Early Iron Age

Features (pits) attributed to the Early Iron Age are the most common in terms of Metal Ages at the site, recorded in each of the excavation seasons. The first Early Iron Age pit (SUs 9 and 14) was discovered in 2018 in Trench S1.¹⁹ The pit's dimensions were 1.85 × 0.65 m, with a depth of 0.65 m. Solely a portion of the pit was excavated as it penetrated the western cross-section of the trench. The infill was comprised of dark brown soil mixed with pieces of burnt daub and sporadic potsherds, which were all concentrated near the bottom. To underline among characteristic pottery are a small pear-shaped beaker and a larger jar decorated with modelled bands with finger impressions.

Two Early Iron Age pits were excavated in Trench N1. The first pit (SU 1046) measured a diameter of approximately 1.8 m, with a depth of 0.4 m. The infill consisted of relatively compact light brown soil mixed with lumps of burnt daub, burnt animal bones, and potsherds. Slightly biconical bowls with inverted and faceted or channelled rims, sometimes with a rectangular extension on the rim, decorated with stamps of concentric circles, horizontal parallel grooves, and incised hatched triangles are the most characteristic pottery type (PI. 3,1–3). Other ceramic forms recorded within the pit include beakers with two handles (PI. 3,4) and jars decorated with horizontal modelled bands with finger impressions (PI. 3,5).

The second Early Iron Age pit (SU 1051) was recorded during the excavations of the aforementioned Middle Bronze Age pit (SU 1055).²⁰ It penetrated and disturbed the Middle Bronze Age pit, yet the colour and consistency of soil clearly separated the two pits, and the separation of archaeological material, primarily pottery. The Early Iron Age pit was sealed with lumps of burnt daub that covered an area of 1.1 × 1.5 m. Beneath, a pit measured the dimensions of 2.2 × 1.2 m, with a total depth of around 1.2 m. The infill comprised of a significant amount of burnt daub, carbonised wood, and potsherds with slightly biconical bowls with inverted and faceted or channelled rims, sometimes with a rectangular extension decorated with parallel horizontal grooves (PI. 3,6–8), pear-shaped jars with modelled horizontal bands with finger impressions (PI. 3,9–10), and beakers with two handles that significantly surpass the rim (PI. 3,11) as the most representative forms. The characteristic decorations are oblique channels, hatched incised hanging triangles, and oblique pricks (PI. 3,12).

Metal Ages of the Leskovac Basin

The cultural stratigraphy of prehistoric sites within the Leskovac Basin has been well determined by recent publications, providing a solid framework for archaeological materials of the Metal Ages from Svinjarička Čuka. The Bubanj-Hum III group marks the Early Bronze Age of the Leskovac Basin,²¹ and scarce ceramic finds from Svinjarička Čuka could also be attributed to the group.

Until recently, The Middle Bronze Age was one of the underdefined periods in Serbia. The period marked as the Middle Bronze Age was not defined in terms of absolute chronology and cultural manifestations until recent research. Based on finds from Bubanj and Ljuljaci, and several characteristic ceramic forms, Aleksandar Bulatović and Jovica Stankovski have coined the term Bubanj-Hum IV-Ljuljaci group as a marker for cultural phenomena of the Middle Bronze Age within the territory of the central Balkans.²² One of the defining ceramic types of this period is a smaller pear-shaped beaker with trapezoidal extensions on the rim (Ljuljaci or the central Balkans type of beaker).²³ Several sites within the Leskovac Basin have yielded the material culture of the Middle Bronze Age, and such beakers are known from sites of Sastanci and Groblje Novo in Kaštavar.²⁴ The absolute chronology of the Bubanj-Hum IV-Ljuljaci group relies on new absolute dates from Middle Bronze Age sites in the territory of northeastern Serbia. Namely, the absolute dates from several settlements and necropolises (Ružana, Čoka Njica, Trnjane, and Hajdučka Česma) all fall within the span between the 20th and the 17th century

¹⁹ Horejs et al. 2019a, 182–183.

²⁰ Horejs et al. 2022, 307–309.

²¹ Bulatović/Jović 2010, 40–41, with cited literature.

²² Kapuran 2009; Bulatović/Stankovski 2012, 343; Kapuran/Milojević 2021.

²³ Bulatović 2021.

²⁴ Bulatović/Jović 2010, pl. 24,82–84; 69,1.

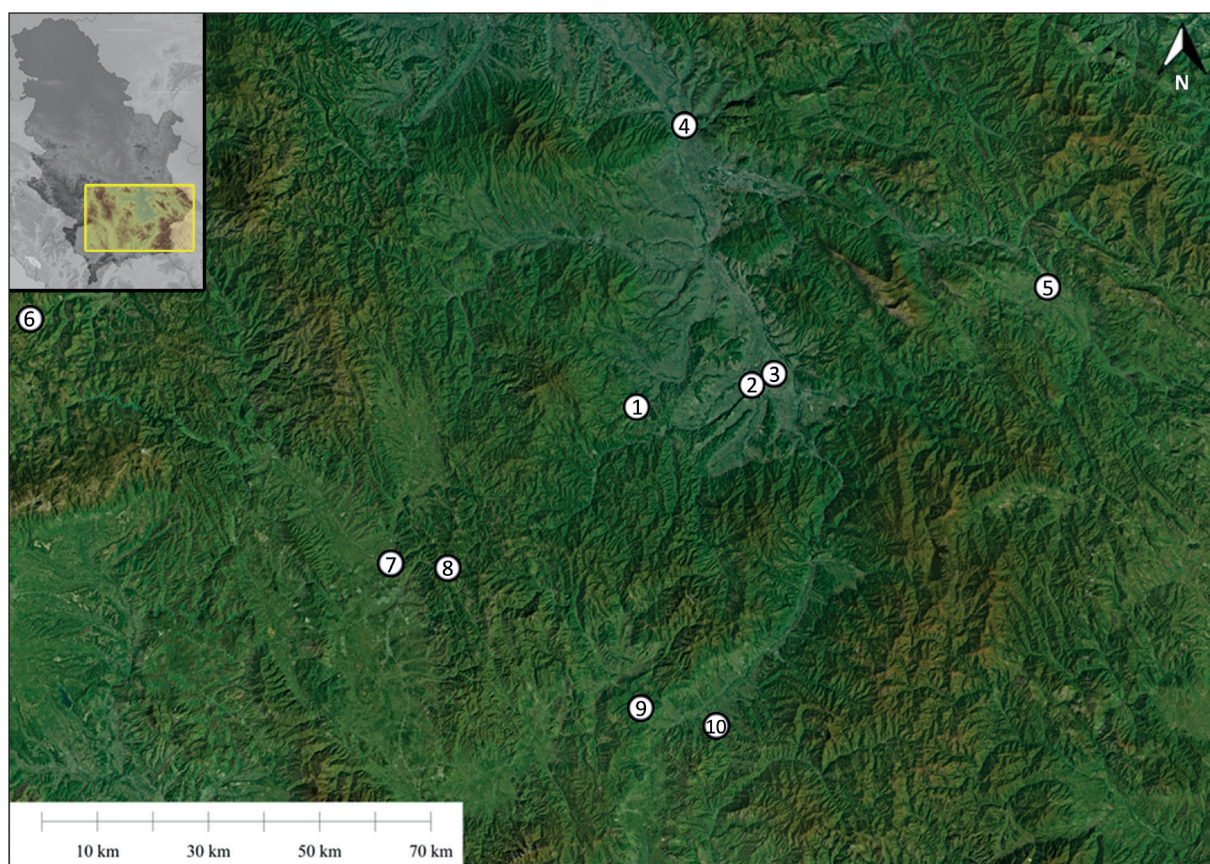


Figure 6 – The distribution of specific decoration correlated with typical Brnjica pottery: 1 Svinjarička Čuka. – 2 Hisar. – 3 Sastanci. – 4 Donja Toponica. – 5 Mađilka. – 6 Delimeđe. – 7 Donja Brnjica. – 8 Graštica. – 9 Končulj. – 10 Krševica (O. Mladenović)

calBCE,²⁵ and a similar span (20th–16th century calBCE) has been obtained from the site of Ljuljaci in the Šumadija region, where beakers with trapezoidal mouth have been recorded within Horizons I and II.²⁶ As aforementioned, the Middle Bronze Age pit from Svinjarička Čuka, with several beakers with trapezoidal mouths, is dated to a period between the 19th and the 17th century calBCE (**Fig. 5**), therefore fitting within the chronological position of the Bubanj-Hum IV-Ljuljaci group. Another absolute date, acquired from a possible Middle/Late Bronze Age dwelling structure at the site of Svinjarička Čuka, likewise fits within the proposed chronological span.²⁷

During the Late Bronze Age, the territory of the Leskovac Basin, with 28 recorded sites (settlements and cemeteries), was within the domain of the Brnjica group and spread in the territory of the South Morava Valley and its surroundings.²⁸ Some of the defining ceramic forms of the Brnjica group, such as S-profiled bowls, everted rims with a plastic ring on the inner side, and fan-shaped and wish-bone handles,²⁹ have all been recorded in relation to Late Bronze Age contexts at the site. Generally, the Late Bronze Age materials from Svinjarička Čuka fit into the existing typology of the Brnjica group by Bulatović and Stankovski,³⁰ although certain specifics have been noticed. Namely, the Late Bronze Age Brnjica pottery from the site is decorated in a quite distinct manner, comprised of incised triangles, triangular pricks, and circular motifs, often covering large portions of vessels (*horror vacui*), and filled

²⁵ Gavranović et al. 2020, 67; Kapuran et al. 2020, 69–70.

²⁶ Bogdanović 1986, 59–70; Gogâltan 1999, 224. There is a possibility that the date for Horizon II corresponds to Horizon III, see Bulatović 2021.

²⁷ Horejs et al. 2019a, 188–190 pl. 1.

²⁸ Srejović 1959/1960; Lazić 1996; Bulatović 2000; Stojić 2001; Bulatović/Stankovski 2012, 353.

²⁹ Bulatović/Stankovski 2012, 355.

³⁰ Bulatović/Stankovski 2012.

with white paste. Such ornamentation has been found at several other Brnjica group sites in the region – Sastanci and Hisar within the Leskovac Basin, Končulj and Krševica near Vranje, Donja Toponica near Niš, Mađilka in Pirot, Graštica and Donja Brnjica in the Kosovo Plain, and Delimeđe near Novi Pazar (**Fig. 6**).³¹ Such a manner of ornamentation is connected with northeastern territories, mainly Verbicioara and Žuto Brdo group, therefore indicating their role in the formation of the Brnjica group at the beginning of the Late Bronze Age.³² This is further supported by the absolute date from the house, which positions it into the 15th/14th century calBCE (**Fig. 5**), meaning slightly earlier than the remaining dates for the Brnjica group (Gradište-Končulj, Gradina-Svinjište, Medijana-Niš, Hisar-Leskovac) between the 14th and the 11th century calBCE.³³ A date similar to ours comes from the Grave VII/1 at the Mađilka cemetery, which displays characteristics of the Paraćin group. It falls between the end of the 16th and the first quarter of the 13th century calBCE, thus representing a chronological and cultural link between the Middle Bronze Age burials in northeastern Serbia and the Paraćin and Brnjica burials within the Great and South Morava basins.³⁴

The earlier phase of the Early Iron Age in the Leskovac Basin (24 sites) is divided into two chronological horizons, the earlier marked by stylistic and typological characteristics of the Gava-Belegiš II culture and the later, marked by forms and decorations typical for groups in the north and the east (Insula-Banului, Kalakača, Pšeničevo).³⁵ According to the forms and decoration, our finds, such as slightly biconical bowls with inverted and channelled rims³⁶ and tongue-shaped handles, and with decoration made of stamped concentric circles, grooves, incised lines and obliques, would belong to the second horizon of the earlier phase of the Early Iron Age in the Leskovac Basin. The slightly biconical bowls from our pits would correspond to types IIa and IIa₁ according to the typology by Bulatović, whose appearance in the South Morava Basin is connected with the Ha A1 – Ha B period (1200–800 BCE), which matches the dating of our pit into the 9th century calBCE (**Fig. 5**).

Discussion

The ongoing excavations at Svinjarička Čuka have confirmed the extent of settling of various prehistoric communities within the Leskovac Basin and indicated its favourable natural conditions for continuous occupation. This can be well observed at the site of Svinjarička Čuka, where an almost unbroken sequence can be traced from the Late Eneolithic to the Early Iron Age. Based on the material culture, primarily pottery, we can observe the evolution of ceramic forms from the Early to the Late Bronze Age, indicating a development rather than an abrupt change. The materials from all the phases of the Bronze Age reaffirm both the idea of continuous socio-cultural development of Bronze Age groups in the region and the idea of different influences from the neighbouring areas on their formation and development. The indicators of contacts are ceramic forms and decoration elements. Without further analyses, it would be ungrateful to discuss the mechanisms of that change. At the state of research, cultural appropriation seems to be the most plausible case. This is emphasised by the existence of an earlier phase of the Brnjica group at the site, confirmed by absolute dates, and marked by ceramic forms and decorations typical for groups of the Danube region, such as Verbicioara and Žuto Brdo. Interestingly, the only gap within the Svinjarička Čuka sequence, according to materials and absolute dates, is between the 14th and the beginning of the 9th century calBCE. Such a huge gap widely matches the so-called Transitional Period between the Bronze and Iron Ages, which is marked by significant changes in material culture and settlement patterns within the South Morava Basin.³⁷ It is possible that some parts of the Leskovac Basin, primarily its hinterland, were omitted from those changes and that life at the site continued following the stabilisation of these

³¹ Jevtić 1990, pl. 3,5.7.9; 4,1.6.7; 5,5; Lazić 1996, pl. 19,1a–3; Bulatović 2007, pl. 51,46–48; 62,14–16; Bulatović/Jović 2010, pl. 10,27; 25,86–89; Bulatović/Stankovski 2012, pl. 15,1–9.

³² Bulatović/Stankovski 2012, 351–352; Bulatović et al. 2021, 63; Bulatović et al. 2023.

³³ Bulatović et al. 2018, pl. 1; Bulatović et al. 2023.

³⁴ Kapuran et al. 2022, 60–61. The grave with a urn characteristic for the Brnjica group (Grave I/2) is dated from mid-13th to the end of 12th century calBCE (unpublished).

³⁵ Bulatović/Jović 2010, 45–47.

³⁶ Bulatović 2009.

³⁷ Bulatović et al. 2021.

new elements within the South Morava Basin during the 9th century BCE. By stabilisation, we refer to a period following the so-called Transitional period, which is marked as the beginning of the Early Iron Age within the South Morava Basin. Life at Svinjarička Čuka continues during the Early Iron Age.

The given data provide an overall picture of the nature and intensity of settling at the site of Svinjarička Čuka during the Metal Ages. Namely, the geophysical survey results did not indicate the existence of a rampart/ditch during any of the presented periods, thus pointing to an open settlement on the right bank of the Svinjarička River. Further, the geophysical surveys provided data on the internal organisation of the site during the Late Bronze Age. It is possible that the houses were oriented north-west-southeast and distributed within a line that followed the bank of the Svinjarička Reka. Everyday activities of inhabitants of the Late Bronze Age settlement are testified through finds of spindle whorls in domestic contexts, indicating textile production, and metal objects and slags, which might point to metallurgical activities at the site. The subsistence of inhabitants of Svinjarička Čuka is testified through faunal remains from Early Iron Age contexts, which point to the dominant representation of domestic animals (sheep/goat, domestic cattle, domestic pig) and utilisation of horses.³⁸ The archaeobotanical data from the site point to a variety of plants, such as cereals, legumes, oil/fibre plants, and wild plants, and the appearance of common millet during the Late Bronze Age and the Early Iron Age.³⁹ Svinjarička Čuka represented an open settlement, with its inhabitants practising agriculture and animal husbandry, invested in everyday activities such as textile production and possibly metallurgy. The material culture from the settlement emphasises its position within the regional networks of trade and exchange of goods and ideas and permanent contacts with the South Morava Basin and its neighbouring territories. Future research through ongoing excavations at Svinjarička Čuka, could provide valuable data on relations between Svinjarička Čuka and concurrent sites in the region and define more precisely its position within Bronze and Iron Age “mechanisms of power”.

Acknowledgements

This paper is the result of the “Neolithic Technologies Trajectories of the Balkans” (NEOTECH) project funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF P32096-G25). We would like to thank the National Museum in Leskovac and colleague Vladimir Stevanović for their support and collaboration on the project. We would also like to thank all the team members who contributed during the four excavation campaigns.

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³⁸ Horejs et al. 2022, 287–292.

³⁹ Horejs et al. 2019a, 217; Filipović et al. 2020; Horejs et al. 2022, 293.

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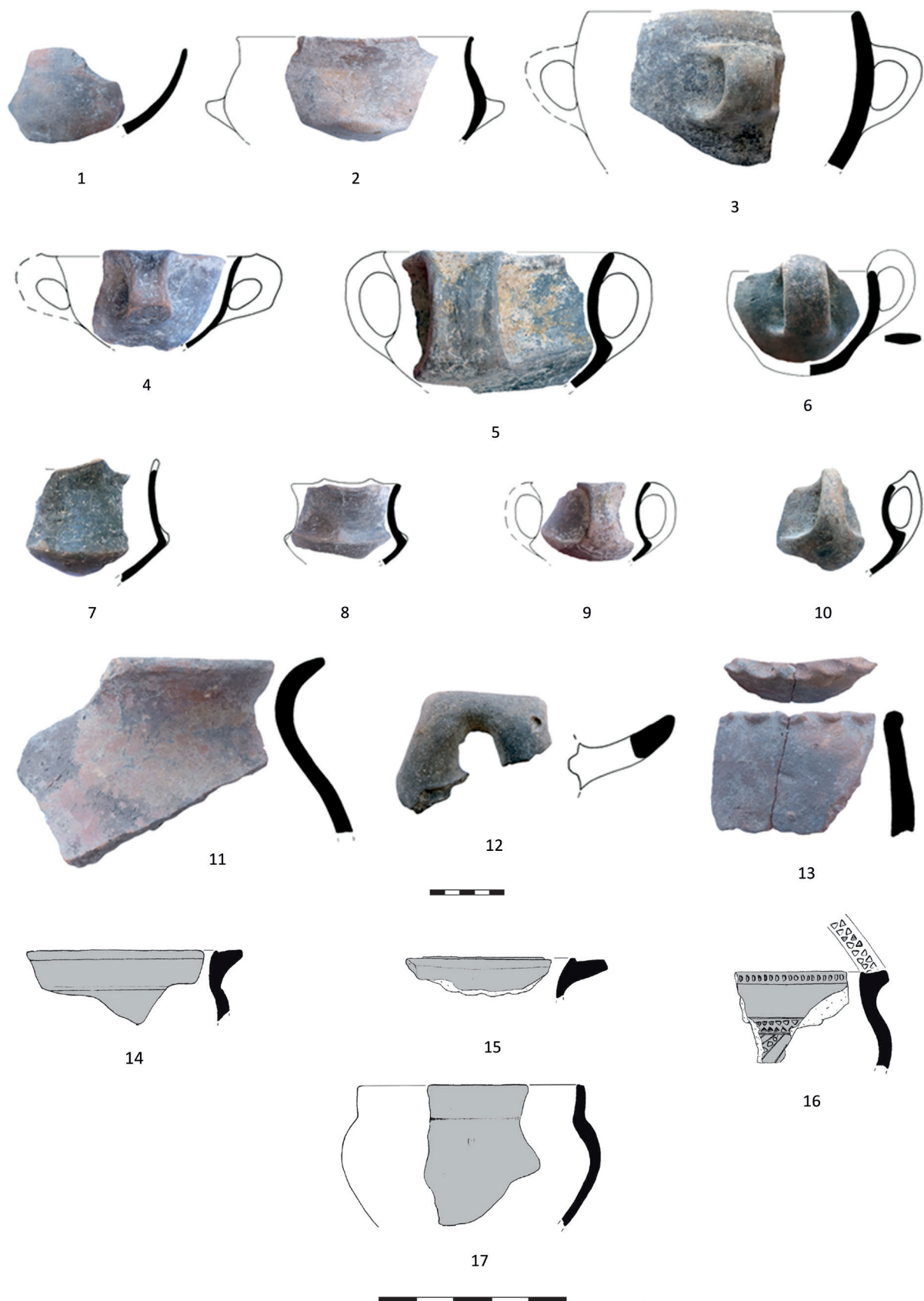


Plate 1 – 1–13 Pottery from the Middle Bronze Age pit SU 1055. – 14–17 Pottery from the Late Bronze Age structure SU 1016 (A. Bulatović)



Plate 2 – Pottery from the Late Bronze Age house SUs 68, 113 and 114 (A. Bulatović)

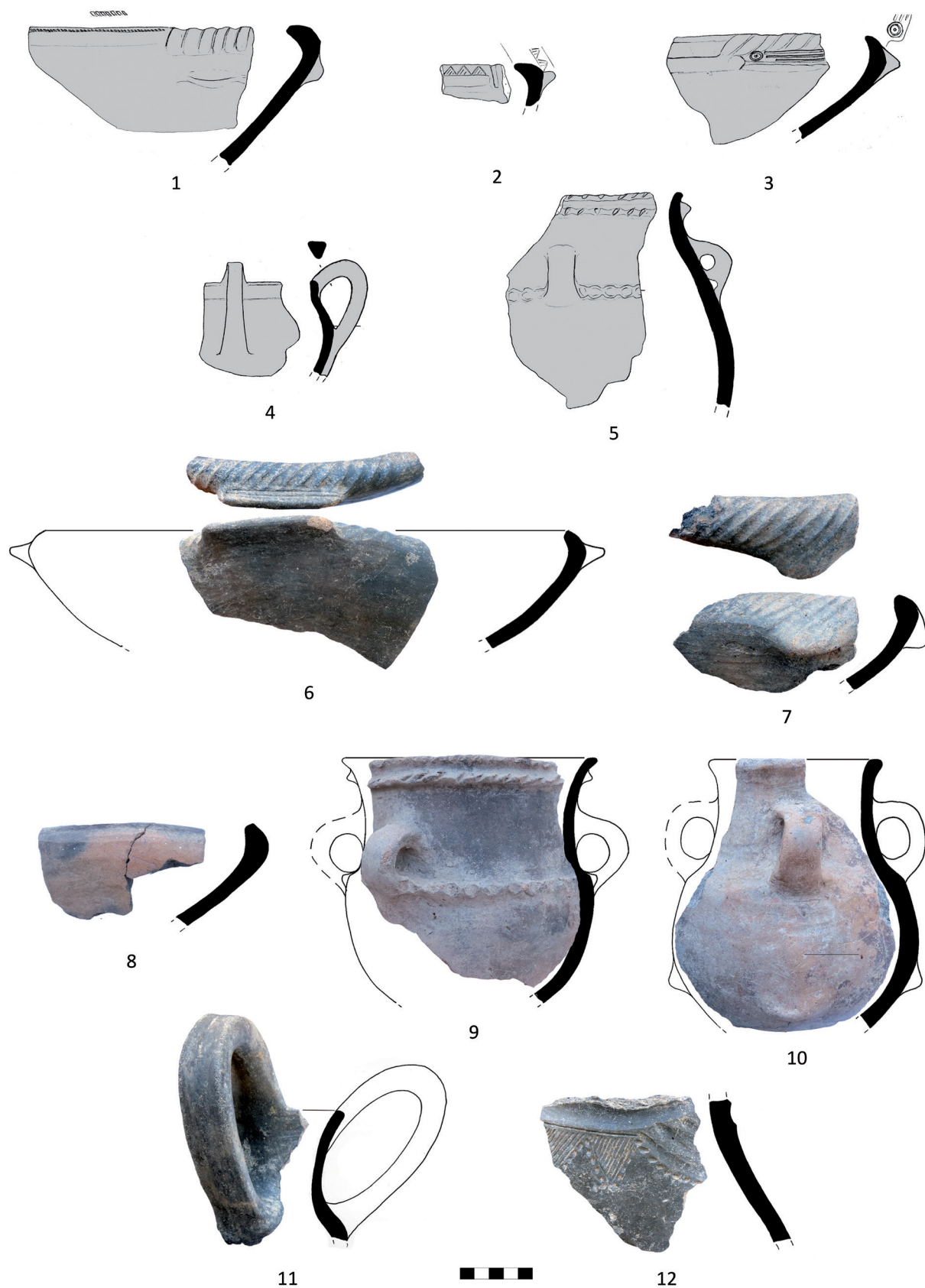


Plate 3 – 1–5 Pottery from the Early Iron Age pit SU 1046. – 5–12 Pottery from the Early Iron Age pit SU 1051
(A. Bulatović)