

## THE RELATIONS OF THE CRUCENI-BELEGİŞ CULTURE WITH THE ŽUTO BRDO–GÂRLA MARE CULTURE

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The archaeological investigations concerning the Bronze Age within the area of the Middle and Lower Danube demonstrated the existence of an ethnical-cultural complex characterized through a series of common elements that suggest the relationship among the different ethnical-cultural manifestations within this area. The main common denominator is the ceramics whose ornamentation consists in motifs executed through printing, incision, notches and successive stitches. The motifs were inlaid with white substance. The funerary common ritual, respectively the cremation, the anthropomorphical statues, the bird-shaped representations and the clay little bells suggest similar religious beliefs.

### **Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo cultural group**

The origin of the ornamentation of the ceramics, used initially within a narrow area, respectively in Transdanubia, are difficult to be explained. The archaeological investigations in Hungary in the second half of the 20th century revealed the existence, within this huge complex of inlaid ceramics, of two large areas: the northern-Pannonian inlaid ceramics where the Esztergom and Veszprém cultural groups developed, and, respectively, the southern-Pannonian ceramics of which the Szekszárd and Pécs<sup>1</sup> groups were characteristic.

As a consequence of the pressure exercised by the communities of the Tumular Culture (*Hügelgräberkultur*), warrior populations coming from Central Europe, to which the hiding of the bronze hoards from Koszider<sup>2</sup> horizon are hypothetically related, communities of the northern-Pannonian inlaid ceramics culture (Esztergom group) leave Transdanubia and they

withdraw to the south along the valley of the Sió river, occupying the area between the Danube and the Tisza<sup>3</sup>. The movement to the south of the communities of the northern-Pannonian inlaid ceramics stimulated, but at a reduced extent, elements from the southern area of Transdanubia, too. The grafting of the elements of civilization typical of the communities of the northern-Pannonian inlaid ceramics with local ones (Gerjen, Vatina and Verbicioara) determined the appearance of a new ethnical-cultural manifestation known especially as „Szeremle group”<sup>4</sup>, and recently as „Szeremle-Bjelo Brdo group”<sup>5</sup> in the archaeological literature.

Generally, it is admitted that the formation of the Szeremle-Bjelo Brdo group took place during the Middle Bronze, in the period of transition from Bz. A<sub>2</sub> to Bz. B<sub>1</sub>. The evolution of these communities was considered as being extremely short, respectively to the end of the Bz. B<sub>1</sub> phase in P. Reinecke's modified chronological system<sup>6</sup>. But, the presence of certain ceramic materials typical of the Szeremle group in the region controlled by the Cruceni-Belegiš culture suggests a little bit longer evolution of the communities of Szeremle-Bjelo Brdo type. Their end took place in the period in which the first phase of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture was developing, respectively at the beginning of the so-called „Reinecke” Bz. B<sub>2</sub> phase<sup>7</sup>.

The discoveries typical of the Szeremle group are concentrated along the Danube, between the river mouth of the Sió and that of the Tisza. The eastern limit was the last narrow path of the Danube, at least to Liubcova, unless even to Ostrovu Corbului<sup>8</sup>. The short evolution of this cultural group played a very important role in the genesis of some new ethnical-cultural manifestations. One of them was the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, which developed from the Szeremle communities, that were coming down to the neighbouring of the western side of the Carpathians<sup>9</sup>. The Szeremle cultural group is considered, in the same time, one of the elements that actively participated to the formation of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture.

#### **Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare Culture**

The area of spreading of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture includes the Danubian sector from the confluence of the Danube with the Sava to the confluence of the Danube with the Iskŭr. The most western discovery is

that one from Kovin, and the most eastern finding is, for the moment, that one from Corabia<sup>10</sup>. The location of the discoveries of Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare type point out the fact that the communities of this culture occupied the both banks of the Danube preferring the aits, the holms and the terraces from the river's vicinity, that had been not only food source, but also a major commercial thoroughfare of the prehistory.

The early phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture can be situated, the most probably, in the MD I stage, that means at the end of the Bz. A phase in P. Reinecke's chronological system. The classic phase of this culture is prolonged into the MD III stage, moment in which the first phase of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture evolves, which started later its evolution. The imports from the two cultural environments plead for the co-existence of the two cultures starting from the Bz. B<sub>2</sub>-C phase in P.Reinecke's modified system<sup>11</sup>. According to M. Șandor-Chicideanu, the final phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture can be dated on the base of certain bronze objects found in the horizon II from Balej, these objects being „typical of the Br.D/SD I phase (Br.D meaning the 12th century)”<sup>12</sup>. The end of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture is marked by the appearance of the Bistreț-Ișalnița cultural group along the Inferior Danube, which, even if it is originally connected to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, constitutes a distinct ethnical-cultural manifestation that makes the transition to the Early Hallstatt.

### **Cruceni-Belegiš Culture**

The Cruceni-Belegiš culture was considered to be, initially, the result of a long life together and cultural interpenetration of Periam-Pecica, Otomani and Gârla Mare type, on the Vatina culture background<sup>13</sup>. The recent investigations have brought significant contributions concerning the origin of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture and its début moment. The Cruceni-Belegiš culture was formed on the basis of a mixture of elements of *Litzenkeramik* type belonging to the Gumtransdorf-Drassburg group<sup>14</sup> and inlaid ceramics of Szeremle type, dislocated by the pressure of the communities of the Tumular Culture (*Hügelgräberkultur*) from Central Europe. That mixture was grafted on the local background of Vatina type<sup>15</sup>. The communities of this culture had direct contacts with the communities of the inlaid ceramics from Transdanubia<sup>16</sup>. This matter was proved by

the numerous archaeological findings from the area of the Vatina culture, as for example those from Kać-Popov Salaš<sup>17</sup>, Vatin, Vinča, Gradina on Bosut, in the grave from Vizić-Golokut<sup>18</sup>, Peciu Nou-Stietzel<sup>19</sup>, Foeni-Gomila Lupului I<sup>20</sup>. An early contact of the inlayed ceramics communities with the local communities of Vatina type is met in the region of the Middle Danube, at Hrtkovci-Gomolava, in level IVa, preceeding the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture (level IVb)<sup>21</sup>. The contact of the Mureş culture with the inlayed ceramics communities is suggested by the ceramic fragments decorated with white substance discovered along the lower course of the Mureş, at Pecica-Şanţul Mare<sup>22</sup>.

Partly contemporary to the new Cruceni-Belegiš culture with which it was contiguous in south, the Tumular Culture (*Hügelgräberkultur*) from the Pannonian Plain would contribute to the completion of this culture. Beside the tumular influences, we have to remind those that come from the Urnfield area with which the Cruceni-Belegiš culture got contemporary. The contacts with the Zagreb<sup>23</sup> and Csorva<sup>24</sup> groups - considered also the southern vanguard of the Gava<sup>25</sup> culture - followed after the first contact with Virovitica group.

The borders of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture are relatively well delimited. The communities of these ethnical-cultural manifestations were spread on a large area that included, generally, Eastern Slavonia, Bačka, Srem and Banat (excepting the north-western corner, that seems to have been temporarily controlled by the Tumular Culture communities) (Pl. I). The presence of this culture north to the Drava is not certified for the moment, but the region of Baranja has not been sufficiently investigated<sup>26</sup>. The repertory of the findings from the phases I-II points out a feature specific to this culture, respectively its spreading in the plain regions, on the banks of the rivers. Those places constituted favourable conditions not only for practising agriculture, but also for breeding animals. Following the geographical disposing of the archaeological sites, in concordance with the evolution phases of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, there were noticed few spreading directions. The causes of that movement of populations of Cruceni-Belegiš type were, probably, of economic order (the contacts with the Mycenaean world) and they were maybe the result of a pressure coming from the Pannonian Plain (the so-called „elements of Csórva-Bobda I type”)<sup>27</sup>.

The differences existing in the technology of ceramics manufacturing and burning, as well as in the way of ornamentation determined certain archaeologists<sup>28</sup> to divide in a erroneous manner that cultural manifestation into two distinct cultures, the first one (**Cruceni-Belegiš I**) characterized through the "pseudo-corded" ceramics, and the second one (**Cruceni-Belegiš II**) through the fluted ceramics. The unitary evolution of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture in the plain region of Banat ended, according to M. Gumă, through the appearance of some ethnical-cultural manifestations as for example Bobda II (Bobda-Csorva) and Susani. The extension to east of the Cruceni-Belegiš communities in the phase II, and the constant communication that the Danube was mediating permitted the appearance of some ethnical-cultural manifestations with strong Cruceni-Belegiš traditions as Ticvaniu Mare-Karaburma III and Moldova Nouă-Liborajdea.

The utilization of different terminologies and of P. Reinecke's modified system<sup>29</sup>, sometimes in wrong concordance with the different internal periodizations of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>30</sup>, determined me to include here just the assignment of the archaeological materials discovered in site to one of the phases of evolution of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. I used the chronology proposed by F. Gogâltan<sup>31</sup> in parantheses. It coincides, at a large extent, with the phases of evolution of this culture as well as with the series of bronze hoards chronologically included by M. Petrescu-Dîmbovița<sup>32</sup> and rectified by M. Gumă<sup>33</sup>. Thus, **Late Bz. I** corresponds to the period Bz. B<sub>2</sub> – C in P. Reinecke's modified system and it starts somewhen before 1500 BC. **Late Bz. II** corresponds to the so-called period Reinecke Bz. D. The continuous evolution of the cremation necropoles from Beograd-Karaburma, Timișoara-Fratelia, Peciu Nou, Sarvaș-Gradac etc., as well as the synchronisms that could be noted among the different phases of their internal evolution (for example Cruceni II – Bobda I, Timișoara-Fratelia – Ticvaniu Mare-Fema no. 2 – Beograd-Karaburma III), suggest the adaptation of the chronology proposed by Fl. Gogâltan to the ethnical-cultural realities from Banat at the end of the 2nd millennium BC. In my opinion, the period **Late Bz. II** should be prolonged to the middle of Ha. A<sub>1</sub> phase. The last phase of the Bronze Age, **Late Bz. III**, covers, very probably, the second half of the period Ha. A<sub>1</sub> and the period Ha. A<sub>2</sub>. The **Iron Age I** period is synchronous with Ha. B<sub>1</sub> period, when the so-called penetration of the Gáva culture in Banat marks the beginning of the First Iron Age.

If it is accepted that a part of the so-called groups of transition formed on the basis of a direct contribution of the Cruceni-Belegiš populations (Bobda/Bobda II, Ticvanu Mare-Karaburma III and Moldova Nouă-Liborajdea), represents regionalizations of the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, in my opinion, these groups represent the third – and the last – phase (**Cruceni-Belegiš III**). This phase constitutes, at the same time, the period of transition towards the first Iron Ages whose beginning is marked by the penetration of Gáva communities in Banat, on the brink of the 2<sup>nd</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> millennia BC. (1050/1000 BC)<sup>34</sup>.

East to the Carpathians, as a consequence of the strong influences of Cruceni-Belegiš type, grafted on the local background of Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare type, the Hinova-Mala Vrbica group<sup>35</sup> appears. The archaeological investigations along the lower course of the Danube, downstream of the Iron Gates, delimited the existence of the Bistreț-Ișalnița cultural group<sup>36</sup>. That, even if it was originally connected to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, was constituted in a distinct ethnical-cultural manifestation that followed to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, making the transition towards the Early Hallstatt<sup>37</sup>. The genesis of that cultural group, according to I. Chicideanu, was due to some western influences of type Cruceni-Belegiš, grafted on the local background Gârla Mare<sup>38</sup>. The evolution of that group started somewhere in the interval Reinecke Bz.D (after 1250 BC) and ended „around 1100 BC”<sup>39</sup> (Ha.A<sub>1</sub>). The chronological parallelism with the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture is provided by the similarities among the archaeological materials characteristic of the Bistreț-Ișalnița group and those discovered at Hrtkovci-Gomolava (level IVc) and Dalj-Livadice, in the levels corresponding to the phase II of the evolution of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>40</sup>.

### **The Relations of Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare Culture with Cruceni-Belegiš Culture**

The vicinity between the Cruceni-Belegiš and Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare cultures determined the achievement of cultural contacts. This fact was pointed out through the imports discovered in the spreading areas of the two cultural manifestations (Pl. X). These contacts were observed in several necropolises and settlements from Banat and the region of the Middle Danube (in Srem and Bačka).

The archaeological investigations in the area of the ex-stables of C.A.P. Cruceni (Timiș County), started in 1958 by M. Moga and continued, later, by O. Radu in 1968, emphasized the existence of a cremation necropolis belonging to the Cruceni-Belegiš culture (Pl. X/7)<sup>41</sup>. The inventory of the graves no. 11 (Pl. II/2-4), no. 32 (Pl. II/1) and no. 96 (Pl. III/1-2), included in the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, contained vessels and objects whose ornamentation had been executed with incised and printed motifs inlaid with white substance. The bowl from the grave no. 11<sup>42</sup> (Pl. II/3a-b), through its shape and inlaid ornament, belongs to the developed phase of the Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo group<sup>43</sup>. This fact pleads for dating this grave among the earliest burials within this necropolis. In the inventory of the grave no. 96, a bowl of type S.4 was discovered, similar both to those characteristic of the developed phase of the Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo group, and to those typical of „Dubovac group”<sup>44</sup> (Pl. III/2a-b). Another import within the necropolis from Cruceni is the bird-shaped clanging toy discovered in the funerary inventory of the grave no. 32<sup>45</sup> (Pl. II/1). The bird-shaped clay representation still keeps the white inlay and it has good analogies with the object discovered in the settlement from Mala Vrbica<sup>46</sup>.

The imports of Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare type were discovered also in other Cruceni-Belegiš necropolises from Banat. In the funerary inventory of the grave no. 48, found in the cremation necropolis from Peciu Nou (Timiș County, Pl. X/33)<sup>47</sup>, a white inlaid cup in fragmentary state (Pl. IV/1a-c).

The rescue excavations from the perimeter of the ancient pit of borrowing clay from the vicinity of the locality of Voiteni (Timiș County) emphasized the existence of a cremation necropolis belonging to the Cruceni-Belegiš culture (Pl. X/46)<sup>48</sup>, in which, in the inventory of the grave no. 16 from 1998, is mentioned the discovery of an inlaid cup<sup>49</sup>, similar to that one from the inventory of the grave no. 48 from Peciu Nou. The rescue investigations permitted the achievement of a short sound trench in the Cruceni-Belegiš settlement, situated in the close vicinity of the necropolis. Beside an early medieval necropolis, there was discovered a cultural layer with archaeological materials of Cruceni-Belegiš type. Among these there are noted imports from the classic phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture<sup>50</sup> (Pl. V/1-3).

Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare imports were noted also in the settlements of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture from Banat, respectively in those from Foeni-

*Gomila Lupului II* and *Deta-Dudărie*, findings that complete the general presentation of cultural exchanges and influences from the second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC.

The Crucești-Belegiš settlement from Foeni-*Gomila Lupului II* (Timiș County, Pl. X/17) is located in the close vicinity of the *tell*-settlement belonging to the Vatina culture from the same site (Foeni-*Gomila Lupului I*), archaeological site in which, beside the characteristic materials of this culture an inlaid ceramic fragment was discovered too, an import belonging, probably, to the Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo group<sup>51</sup>. This discovery illustrates the existent contacts between the two ethnical-cultural manifestations from the end of the Middle Bronze. The contacts with the inlaid ceramics world are continued also later by the communities of the Crucești-Belegiš culture. This fact was found in the settlement of this culture situated in the close vicinity of the *tell* belonging to the Vatina culture<sup>52</sup>. In the pit-dwelling house no.2/2000, belonging to the phase I of this culture, there were discovered inlaid ceramic materials characteristic of the classic phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârle Mare culture (Pl.V/4-12, VI/1-3). Similar materials were discovered also in the arranged flooring<sup>53</sup> of the pit-dwelling house no.1/2000, belonging to the II<sup>nd</sup> phase of the Crucești-Belegiš culture (Pl. VI/4).

The presence of numerous archaeological sites in the boundaries of the town of Deta has been mentioned since the end of the 19th century (Pl. X/11)<sup>54</sup>. The rescue excavations executed at Deta-*Dudărie* (Timiș County)<sup>55</sup> in 1999, 2000 and 2005 uncovered a settlement of the Bronze Age superposed by a succession of medieval settlements<sup>56</sup>. Within the archaeological complexes, there were discovered ceramic fragments decorated with pseudo-corded, incisions and flutes, as well as inlaid ceramics with white substance (Žuto Brdo-Gârle Mare). In the pit dug for the sustaining post of the factory G.5 there become outlined a conical large food pit with long cylindrical neck (in the feature C.9). In the brown-yellowish clayed filling there were discovered ceramic fragments of the Crucești-Belegiš culture. There were decorated with vertical, oblique and in garland flutes. Beside these, there were also found ceramic fragments inlaid with white substance typical of the classical phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârle Mare culture<sup>57</sup> (Pl.VI/1-5). In the pit dug for the sustaining post of the factory G.7, in the filling of the feature C.13<sup>58</sup> (an early medieval pit-dwelling house), there were found ceramic fragments typical of the



Cruceni-Belegiš culture, as well as an import from the classic phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture (Pl. VI/10). In the pit dug for the sustaining post of the factory **G.8**, in the filling of the feature C.14 (a food storage pit), beside ceramic materials typical of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, there were also discovered ceramic fragments inlaid with white substance, imports characteristic of the classic phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture<sup>59</sup> (Pl. VII/11-16). A clay drinking horn (*rython* or *trinkhorn*), which has good analogies in the area of the inlaid ceramics from Transdanubia<sup>60</sup>, appeared in the filling of the feature C.41 (also a food storage pit), from the pit dug for the sustaining post of the factory **G.15**.

Extremely interesting is also a ceramic fragment discovered on the left bank of the Timiș, at the northern boundary of the locality of Dragșina (Timiș County, Pl. X/12)<sup>61</sup>. The ceramic fragment belonged to the superior part of a black-greyish vessel (amphora ?) of relatively reduced dimensions. The inferior part of the neck was decorated with double incised lines, disposed as arches, similar to those from the vessels characteristic of the Vatina and Cruceni-Belegiš cultures, that ended on the distinctly profiled shoulder of the vessel. On the superior third part, there is schematically presented a human being that seems to be in a boat. The boat has the prow raised and the peak is twisted outward (Pl. VII/1-2). The human silhouette was represented through two concentric circles that suggest the head, the superior and inferior limbs being represented through two parallel lines oriented obliquely to down. The two concentric perfectly round circles, that make the head of the human silhouette, were executed with the help of a stamp as that one discovered at Cârna-Rampă<sup>62</sup> and at Dubravica-Orașje<sup>63</sup>. The concentric circles that represent in a schematized manner the head are a motif often met in the ornament repertory of the Szeremle group, as well as in that one of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture. It is difficult to mention if these represent an influence of Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo type, group that directly participated at the genesis of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, or one of Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare type, which was a culture with which the Cruceni-Belegiš communities had been partly contemporary<sup>64</sup>.

In the neighbourhood of Gătaia (Timiș County, Pl. X/18) there was discovered a bowl inlaid with white substance belonging to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, which, later, reached the collections of the museum from Szeged (Pl. VII/3). The location relatively far-off by the region of the Middle Danube where the communities of Žuto Brdo-Gârla

Mare type developed for a short time suggests the presence of an import in the area of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>65</sup>.

In the south-eastern corner of Banat, in the cremation necropolis from Liubcova-*Țiglărie* (Caraș-Severin County, Pl. X/24)<sup>66</sup>, the graves included by C. Săcărin in the phase III of the internal periodization of the necropolis<sup>67</sup>, according to M. Șandor-Chicideanu, have no connection to the developed phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture and nor to the typical graves of the Bistreț-Ișalnița group. They were rather characteristic of the first phase of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. This matter is suggested by the amphoras of A1 type from the graves no. 32, 39, 58 and 59, which are found also in the cremation graves from Beograd-*Karaburma*, Ilandža-*Stojkova Zagrada* and Orešac (necropolis II) belonging to the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, even if they have analogies in the necropoles of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture. The undecorated amphoras from graves no. 34 and 69 from Liubcova-*Țiglărie*, endowed with prominences at the base of the neck, have analogies in the funerary inventory from graves no.12 and 14 from Ilandža-*Stojkova Zagrada*, in graves no. 68, 173, 269, 273 from Beograd-*Karaburma* and in that one of the graves no.8 and 10 from necropolis III from Orešac. Two bowls of S.23 type discovered at Liubcova-*Țiglărie* have analogies both in the necropolis from Cruceni, in the funerary inventory of the graves no. 93, 94 and 97, as well as in that of the graves discovered at Dubovac-*Kudelište*. A cup from a funerary unnumbered complex looks through its shape like those typical of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>68</sup>. According to M. Șandor-Chicideanu, the relatively large number of discoveries of bronze objects within the funerary inventory determine us to think over the graves within the area of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, which, often in the phase I, contain metallic inventory<sup>69</sup>.

Archaeological materials that can be included in the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture come from the boundaries of the localities of Vatin and Vršac. In the cremation necropolis from Vatin-*Bele Vode* (Pl. X/44), in a grave discovered in 1893<sup>70</sup>, beside the amphora and the small cup typical of the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, there was discovered a bowl inlaid with white substance belonging to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture<sup>71</sup> (Pl.IX/2). The amphora's shape, typical of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, but with strong influences of type *Hügelgräberkultur*, is decorated with parallel rows of short vertical incisions, as well as incisions in arches characteristic

of the inlaid ceramics. B.Milleker mentions a decoration inlaid with white substance<sup>72</sup> (Pl.IX/3).

In the northern part of the locality of Vatin, in the site *Selo* (Pl. X/45), there were found „villanovien” urns, assigned to the beginning of the Iron Age as B.Milleker considers. A few of those urns were decorated with vertical flutes. In this necropolis there is mentioned the discovery of an antropomorph statue of „Brettidol” type<sup>73</sup> in an urn.

The archaeological materials that could be assigned to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture (*kantharoi* of type K.3, bowls, pyxidia and small cups) were discovered in the boundaries of the locality of Vršac, some of them in less clear archaeological contexts<sup>74</sup>. The archaeological investigations from Vršac-At (Pl. X/47), executed in 1975, uncovered ten cremation graves assigned either to Szeremle group, or to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, while two graves are assigned to the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. A cup with superelevated handle decorated with oblique flutes on the maximum diameter, belonging to the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>75</sup> appeared in this place, too. The presence of the materials characteristic of the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture indicates the presence of some imports in the Žuto-Brdo-Gârla Mare area, and, later, the penetration of some Cruceni-Belegiš communities in the phase II of evolution of this culture.

The same thing is suggested by the findings from Dubovac-*Kudelište* (Pl. X/13). From the types of vessels discovered in this place, there can be mentioned the globular urns with trumpet-shaped mouth and fluted biconical urns, decorated and undecorated bowls with in- or outward rim, cups with superelevated handle, small vessels of type *kantharos*, amphora supports etc. The decoration consists in motifs inlaid with white substance, incisions, pseudo-cord and flute. The ceramics inlaid with white substance discovered at Dubovac-*Kudelište* has good analogies both in the ceramics of the Szeremle group, and in the classic phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture (classic variant)<sup>76</sup>. The presence of the pseudo-cord and fluted vessels indicates the subsequent presence of both phases of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture in the region.

The occupation of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare area by the Cruceni-Belegiš communities is suggested also by the archaeological discoveries from Orešac, where three cremation necropoles were discovered: one belongs to the Szeremele-Bijelo Brdo group, the other to the Cruceni-

Belegiš culture, the latter being considered to be a Hallstatt one<sup>77</sup>. The urn from the grave no. 3 within the necropolis from Orešac-*Proletarska ulica* (necropolis I) (Pl. X/30), assigned to the group Szeremele-Bijelo Brdo, is decorated with the pseudo-corded technique (*Litzen*) and belongs to the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>78</sup>.

In the boundaries of the locality of Ilandža, in the site *Stojkova Zagrada* (Pl. X/21), as a consequence of the archaeological investigations from 1949, there were discovered 18 cremation graves belonging to the both phases of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture and two inhumation graves from the Iron Age<sup>79</sup>. In the grave no. 2, the urn belonging to the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture had as a lid a bowl belonging to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture (Pl. VII/4). The vessels assigned to this culture are mentioned also in the grave no. 4 within this necropolis<sup>80</sup>. The urn of the grave no. 1 is decorated with vertical and in garland flutes, but printed concentric circles – ornament specific to the inlaid ceramics – are present above the handles<sup>81</sup>.

In the south-western corner of Banat, at Perlez-*Batka „S”* (Pl. X/34), the archaeological investigations discovered a settlement and a necropolis assigned to the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. Within the settlement, two urns associated with two vessel supports similar to those discovered at Dubovac were discovered<sup>82</sup>.

The presence of the inlaid ceramics in the necropoles of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture was found also in Srem. At Belegiš-*Stojica gumno* (Pl. X/5)<sup>83</sup>, in the inventory of the grave no. 78, there was discovered a cup, which belongs to the group<sup>84</sup> (Pl. VIII/4) through its shape and decoration. This import suggests that, at the beginning of the evolution of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture (phase Cruceni-Belegiš I), the communities of the group Szeremele-Bijelo Brdo were still evolving. The influence of the inlaid ceramics is emphasized also by the urn of the grave no. 58, a biconical amphora with high cylindrical neck and outward rim, ornamented with bands of circular incised lines on the neck and arches on the superior third part of the vessel (Pl. VIII/5). The decoration is completed by a row of printed concentric circles disposed on the vessel shoulder, close to the neck's base<sup>85</sup>.

In the cremation plane necropolis from Beograd-*Karaburma* (Pl. X/6), in the graves no. 61, 157 and 277 there were discovered ceramic artefacts characteristic of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture. The urn of the grave no.

61, a biconical amphora with trumpet-shaped neck and outward rim was decorated with vertical incised lines on the maximum diameter of the vessel and with printed circles of different dimensions on the shoulder and on the neck. The flat rim also decorated with incised lines and printed concentric circles, characteristic both of Szeremle cultural group, and of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture (Pl.VIII/1). The grave is dated by J. Todorovič in the first functioning phase of the necropolis, respectively at the horizon of Bz. B<sub>1</sub> period in P. Reinecke's modified system<sup>86</sup>. The urn of the grave no. 277 (Pl. VIII/2), a globular amphora with a partly maintained cylindrical neck, was decorated with circular, curved and zigzag incised lines, hachured rhombs as well as with concentric hachured circles<sup>87</sup>. The grave no. 157 was dated in the first phase of the evolution of this necropolis on the basis of a miniature clay sample of house, whose decoration consists in incised lines and printed concentric circles inlaid with white substance. It was assigned to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture<sup>88</sup> (Pl. VII/5-7). The object is unique for this period anticipating the funerary practices characteristic of the Villanova culture<sup>89</sup>. According to M. Șandor-Chicideanu, the amphoras used as urns in the three graves, especially that from the grave no. 61, are similar with those of type A.2 from the western area of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture<sup>90</sup>. In her opinion, the vessels of *kantharos* type from the graves no. 265<sup>91</sup>, 266<sup>92</sup>, 287<sup>93</sup>, 297<sup>94</sup>, 305<sup>95</sup> are comparable as shape to the vessels of K3 type from the shape repertory of Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare, but with a less elaborate decoration<sup>96</sup>.

Also in Srem, at Erdevik-Lice (Pl. X/15), the archaeological investigations uncovered a prehistoric settlement with more cultural layers. In the layer belonging to the Bronze Age, there were discovered typical ceramic materials inlaid with white substance, mixed with ceramic materials belonging to the Vatina culture and to the first phase of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>97</sup>.

The imports of Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo type in the area of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture (Belegiš-*Stojica gumno*), as well as those of Cruceni-Belegiš type in the Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo group from Odžaci-*Filipovačke livade* (Pl. X/28), Orešac-*Proletarska ulica* (Pl. X/30), Mošorin-*Stubarlija Surduk/Dukatar Surduk* plead for a short co-existence in time of the two ethnical-cultural manifestations.

The findings of Cruceni-Belegiš type from Bačka emphasize the fact that this culture, even since the first phase of its evolution, penetrates west

to the Tisza and occupies the area of the inlaid ceramics communities of Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo type. In the boundaries of the locality of Odžaci, in the site *Filipovačke livade*, the surveys and the sound trenches from 1965 revealed the existence of a cultural layer with ceramic materials belonging to the Bjelo Brdo-Szeremle cultural group. Among these materials, we can mention a *kantharos* assigned to the first phase of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>98</sup>. The archaeological investigations from the boundary of the locality of Kać, in the sites *Popov Salaš* (site no.1) and *Čot I* (site no. 2) revealed the effective presence of the Cruceni-Belegiš communities south to Bačka, still since the phase I of the evolution of this culture. In the site *Popov Salaš* (site no. 1), the archaeological investigations between 1960-1965 showed the existence of a prehistoric site with a succession of dwellings from different periods of time. In the level belonging to the Bronze Age, beside the materials belonging to the Vatina culture, there were also discovered ceramic materials typical of the complex of the inlaid ceramics (phase I) and of the Otomani culture. The latest levels belong to the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, phases I-II<sup>99</sup>. The rescue excavations in the site *Čot I* (site no. 2) uncovered a settlement with several cultural layers, belonging to the Baden, Kostolac, „Dubovac”, Belegiš I and so-called „Belegiš-Gava” cultures. The stratigraphy of this site is both vertical and horizontal<sup>100</sup>. We have to mention also the discoveries from the sites *Livade*<sup>101</sup>, *Popov Salaš* (site no. 2)<sup>102</sup> and *Čot I* (site I)<sup>103</sup>, where ceramic fragments characteristic of the first two phases of the evolution of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture appear. Ceramic materials assigned to the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture are noted in the sites *Čot II*<sup>104</sup> and *Vinograd*<sup>105</sup>.

At Mošorin-*Stubarlija Surduk/Dukatar Surduk* (Pl. X/26), the archaeological investigations uncovered 35 cremation graves and 6 inhumation graves. Five of the cremation graves contained inlaid ceramics of Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo type, the others being typical of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, phases I-II. The graves no. 17 and 27 contained, beside vessels typical of the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, vessels of type Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo<sup>106</sup> (Pl. VIII/6). The surveys and the sound trenches made at the sites *Siget* (Pl. X/25)<sup>107</sup> and *Vinograd* (Pl. X/27)<sup>108</sup>, from the boundaries of the locality of Mošorin, proved the existence of the ceramic materials characteristic of the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, beside the ceramic materials assigned to the complex of the inlaid ceramics. This fact demonstrates the control exerted over this territory by

the Cruceni-Belegiš communities, even since the first phase of their evolution.

As a result of the surveys executed in the boundaries of the localities of Đurđevo-*Velike njive* (Pl. X/14) and of Šajkaš-*Inački breg* (Pl. X/38), there were discovered both inlaid ceramic fragments and pottery typical of the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. Similar discoveries were made also in the boundaries of the locality of Titel, respectively on the bank of the Tisza, in the settlement no. 4 (Pl. X/39)<sup>109</sup>, as well as in the site *Demljankov Surduk* (Pl. X/40)<sup>110</sup>. Also in the boundary of the locality of Titel, in the site *Kalvarija* (Pl. X/42), there was found an entire vessel of *kantharos* type, initially considered a grave characteristic of the inlaid pottery<sup>111</sup>. According to M. Șandor-Chicideanu, the vessel can be assigned rather to the group Szeremle or to the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>112</sup>. The archaeological investigations seem to answer the question whether these discoveries are proofs of the cultural contacts already emphasized in other archaeological sites from Bačka or they prove a gradual penetration of the Cruceni-Belegiš communities.

The control of the Cruceni-Belegiš communities over Bačka in the phase II of the evolution of this culture is suggested by the archaeological discoveries within the boundaries of the localities Titel (in the sites *Donje Titelskog polje* (Pl. X/41)<sup>113</sup> and *Rogulicev Surduk* (Pl. X/43)<sup>114</sup>), Čurug - *Slatina*, sites no. 3 (Pl. X/8)<sup>115</sup> and 4 (Pl. X/9)<sup>116</sup> and Šajkaš-*Salašina* (Pl. X/37)<sup>117</sup>.

In the Eastern Slavonia, the archaeological investigations from Dalj-*Livadice* (Pl. X/10) uncovered a prehistoric site with a cultural layer of 1.5 m in depth, where more settlements belonging to the Bronze Age are found. The stratigraphy of 1.5 m in depth was unclear. In the first level there were discovered, beside materials of type „Late Vatina”/”Vatina-Belegiš” (Cruceni-Belegiš I), inlaid ceramic fragments of Bijelo Brdo-Dalj type. There were also found four antropomorph idols in this level. In the second level, there were discovered fluted pottery belonging to the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>118</sup>, among them being noticed materials somehow like those belonging to the Bistreț-Ișalnița culture<sup>119</sup>.

Ceramic fragments belonging to the „Vatin-Belegiš phase” (Cruceni-Belegiš I) of a spinning wheel, as well as a fragment of a bowl with ornaments characteristic of the south-Pannonian inlaid ceramics were

discovered as a result of archaeological investigations in the boundary of the locality of Oriolik, in the site *Vinogradi* (Pl. X/32).

Close to the river mouth of the Drava in the Danube, in the boundaries of the locality of Aljmaš, in the *Podunavlje* site (Pl. X/1), the fortuitous discoveries and the sound trenches proved the existence of a prehistoric settlement with materials assigned to Bijelo Brdo – Dalj group and „to Vatina - Belegiš group”<sup>120</sup>.

The surveys from Erdut-*Veliki Varod*, in the steep bank of the Danube (Pl. X/16), permitted the identification of a settlement with cultural levels from several historical periods. The inlayed pottery of Bijelo Brdo-Dalj type and Cruceni-Belegiš, phase II<sup>121</sup> belonged to the Bronze Age.

The extension to the eastern part of Banat of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture is pointed out also by the new discoveries within the boundaries of the locality of Iam (Caraș-Severin County), in the site *Sat Bătrân* (Pl. X/20). Beside archaeological materials characteristic of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture there was also discovered an urn with conical leg, decorated with vertical flutes on the belly and circular flutes on the leg. Adriana Radu considers that the grave is characteristic of the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. Thus, the necropolis from Iam-*Sat Bătrân* and that one from Vrani are the most southern discoveries of Cruceni-Belegiš in Romanian Banat<sup>122</sup>.

At Svinița-*Piatra Elișovei* (Caraș-Severin County, Pl. X/36) there is mentioned the discovery, beside ceramic fragments characteristic of the phase II of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, of an urn decorated with circular flutes on the neck and oblique flutes on the belly which are flanked with four conical prominences (Pl. VIII/3). This urn is dated in Bz.D – first half of the Ha.A<sub>1</sub> phase<sup>123</sup>. The resemblance with certain amphoras discovered in the necropoles of Cruceni-Belegiš (Cruceni, Dubovac) could plead for the hypothesis of a late import or even of some Cruceni-Belegiš graves, phase II<sup>124</sup>, in the western area of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture.

The penetration of some Cruceni-Belegiš communities in the western area of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture can be observed even since the first phase of the culture (for example Liubcova-*Țiglărie*, phase III of the necropolis, in C. Săcărin's periodization). This penetration is better documented with materials characteristic of the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture (for example Dubovac, Vršac, Iam, Svinița). Thus, this hypothesis of the existence of a collision region between the Cruceni-



Belegiš and Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare cultures in the southern region of Yugoslav Banat seems to be a historic reality. As plausible as this seems to be also the gradual awarding of this territory by the Cruceni-Belegiš communities in phase II of this culture's evolution<sup>125</sup>.

The rich repertory of ceramic shapes of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture contributes to the understanding of the general view of the cultural and commercial contacts existent between the two cultural manifestations. Thus, the amphoras of A1 type, even if they are more spread in the eastern area of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, in the western area, the similar shapes can not be certainly assigned to this because they are characteristic of the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, where this type seems to have a less developed shoulder<sup>126</sup>. M. Șandor-Chicideanu considers that it is possible that the amphoras from Dubovac, Liubcova, Moșorin come from features which could belong to Cruceni-Belegiš culture<sup>127</sup>. The amphoras of A14 type are not characteristic of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture. Those discovered at Dubovac are similar to those from the area of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, to which this type has to belong to<sup>128</sup>. The bowls of S23 type, discovered at Dubovac-*Kudelište* and Liubcova-*Țiglărie*, are typical of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture and they prove the infiltration of the communities of this culture in the area of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare communities. The presence of a bowl of S23 type in a grave, certainly belonging to the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, discovered in the necropolis from Plosca-*Cabana de metal* (Dolj County, Pl. X/35), seems to be the most eastern Cruceni-Belegiš import within the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare area<sup>129</sup>. The bowl S21 and S22 types, present in the necropoles from Dubovac-*Kudelište* and Mala Vrbica-*Livade*<sup>130</sup> are also assigned to the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. The vessels of *kantharoi* K2 and K3 types seem to have developed from the baroque shapes with rhomb mouth of the Vatina culture. They became common shapes for more cultural areas: Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo, Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare and Cruceni-Belegiš<sup>131</sup>. The *Kantharos* K2 type (for example Belegiš-*Stojica gumno* – 2 pieces.; Beograd-*Karaburma* – 1 piece; Sarvaš-*Gradac* – 1 piece) is met both in the typology of the Cruceni-Belegiš ceramics (phase I), and in those of the inlaid ceramics of Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo and Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare types. Beyond the fact that it proves a certain chronological synchronism between the Cruceni-Belegiš culture and the Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo group, the K2 type emphasizes also a parallel evolution with the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, with which it is related,

too. The *Kantharos* of K.3 type (for example Belegiš-*Stojica gumno* – 1 piece; Beograd-*Karaburma* – 4 pieces; Vršac-*Ludoš* – 1 piece; Surčin – 1 piece) is less present within the area of the Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo group, upstream the confluence of the Danube with the Tisza but it frequently appears in the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture both at west and at east of the Iron Gates, as well as in the sites of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture (phase I)<sup>132</sup>.

The cultural and commercial contacts between the Cruceni-Belegiš and Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare cultures could be suggested also by the discoveries of bronze objects. The distribution of the cordformed pendants in the area of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare communities is possibly to have been mediated by the Cruceni-Belegiš populations. In the area of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, this category of jewelry was extremely used during the phase I while they were abandoned during the phase II. This hypothesis can be sustained by the discoveries from the Cruceni-Belegiš necropolises from Cruceni, Beograd-*Karaburma*, Belegiš-*Stojica gumno*<sup>133</sup>.

The influences exerted by the Cruceni-Belegiš communities in the area of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture, the final phase, determined the appearance of Bistreţ-Işalniţa cultural group. That was a distinct cultural group that developed in parallel with the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš<sup>134</sup> culture. This matter is proved by the bowls discovered at Dalj-*Livadice* and Hrtkovci-*Gomolava* (level IVc), similar to identity with those of S34 and S35 types from the repertory of shapes characteristic of the cultural group Bistreţ-Işalniţa<sup>135</sup>.

Extremely interesting is the association of the imports of Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare type with the vessels decorated in the „pseudo-corded” technique (*Litzen* type), that are characteristic of the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. This association permits a good chronological synchronization of the classic phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture with the beginning of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. If the imports of Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare type in the Cruceni-Belegiš area are relatively numerous, those of Cruceni-Belegiš type, decorated with pseudo-corded (*Litzen*) are extremely rare (Dubovac-*Kudelište*, Orešac-*Proletarska ulica*, necropolis I). The lack of the vessels with pseudo-corded ornaments in the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare area, but the large number of inlaid vessels belonging to this culture in the area controlled by the Cruceni-Belegiš culture can be explained through the interest of the Cruceni-Belegiš communities for the area controlled by the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare communities. The Danube

constituted one of the major commercial thoroughfares of the prehistory. The parallel short evolution of the phase I of the Cruceni Belegiș culture with the classic phase of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture can be added to this explanation. Within this short parallel evolution, the pseudo-corded technique (*Litzen*) was abandoned. The next archaeological investigations, corroborated with new <sup>14</sup>C data, will confirm or refute these hypotheses.

### Conclusions

On the basis of the archaeological discoveries both from the area of the inlaid ceramics communities of Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo and Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare types, and from the area of the Cruceni-Belegiș culture, we can formulate a few conclusions concerning the relationship between the two ethnical-cultural manifestations:

1. The appearance of the Cruceni-Belegiș culture coincides with the phase II (classical phase) of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture. During the phase I, the Cruceni-Belegiș communities (concentrated on the Danube's course, from the river mouth of the Drava close to the western part of the Carpathians, south to Bačka and in Banat) evolve for a short period of time in parallel with the late Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo communities.

2. Even if it comes out a contribution of the inlaid ceramics of type Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo in the formation of the Cruceni-Belegiș culture, this does not dim the massive genetic background of the Vatin culture. This background is proved by the perpetuation of some ceramic ornaments and of some vessels shapes as for example the *kantharos*.

3. From a typological point of view, there are common ceramic shapes (*kantharos* of k2 and k3 types and the amphora of A1 type) in the area of Cruceni-Belegiș și Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare cultures. These shapes, especially the *kantharos*, plead for a certain contemporary existence of the two cultures.

4. The archaeological discoveries from the south-eastern region of Banat

(Dubovac-Kudelište, Vatin-Bele Vode, Vršac-At și Vršac-Ludoș (Pl. X/48), Liubcova-Țigărie), where it is noted a massive mixture of materials characteristic of the two cultures, suggest the existence, in the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiș culture, of a collision region<sup>136</sup>. This region will be occupied later by the communities of this culture (during the phase II of

Cruceni-Belegiš culture). Their presence in the regions occupied before by the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture is demonstrated by the necropoles of Cruceni-Belegiš culture (phase II) discovered at Banatska Palanka-*Rudine* (Pl. X/2)<sup>137</sup>, Iam-Sat Bătrân, Liubcova-*Țigărie*, and maybe at Svinița-*Piatra Elișovei*, as well as by the fluted ceramic fragments with which the bronze hoards discovered at Kličevac-*Rastovača*<sup>138</sup> and Kličevac-*Katanski brod*<sup>139</sup> are associated.

5. The repertory of the discoveries of Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare type from Banat (Pl. X) (imports in the area controlled by Cruceni-Belegiš culture) emphasizes the fact that the most northern discoveries are those from Cruceni, Foeni, Peciu Nou, Voiteni and Deta. This matter points out the interest of the Cruceni-Belegiš communities for the civilization of the Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare culture.

6. The cultural contacts between the Cruceni-Belegiš and Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare cultures are emphasized also by the appearance of the Bistreț-Ișalnița group, formed on Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare background on which the Cruceni-Belegiš influences were grafted. The chronological parallelism between the two ethnical-cultural manifestations is demonstrated by the ceramic materials similar to those of Bistreț-Ișalnița type, discovered in the Cruceni-Belegiš area, at Hrtkovci-*Gomolava* and Dalj-*Livadice*.

The next archaeological investigations will certainly bring new information concerning the cultural contacts between the two ethnical-cultural related manifestations.

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#### NOTES

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3. Tasić, N., 1974, 462-463; Tasić, N., 1988, 48-53, abb. 2; Medović, M., 1996a, 165, map 1; Kiss, V., 1998, 165-167; Șandor-Chicideanu M., 2003, vol. I, 15, 208.
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5. Șandor-Chicideanu M., 2003, vol. I, 15,208.
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7. Șandor-Chicideanu M., 2003, vol. I, 199, 208.
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9. Șandor-Chicideanu M., 2003, vol. I, 217.
10. Șandor-Chicideanu M., 2003, vol. I, 35.
11. Șandor-Chicideanu M., 2003, vol. I, 209.
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29. "Reinecke-Willvonseder-Holste-Torbrüge-Rittershofer Bz. A<sub>2</sub>" (Gogâltan Fl., 1999, 15-19, 42-43, with the old bibliography).
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34. Gumă M., 1993, 181, 190-191.
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47. Gumă M., 1992, 29; Gumă M., 1993, 151, 293, no. 114, Medeleț Fl., 1995, 289-293, 295-301; Chicideanu I., 1995, 186; Gumă M., 1997, 55; Gogâltan Fl., 1998, 205, Pl. X/21; Rogozea P., 1998, 189, Pl. I/40; prof. Fl. Medeleț's premature death ceased the working of the archaeological material from the investigated necropolis. But it will be published in future.
48. El Susi G., 1990, 249-251; Gumă M., 1992, 29; Gumă M., 1993, 15, 298, no. 168; Medeleț Fl., 289, note 6, 290, 292-293, 295, 299-300; Chicideanu I., 1995, 168, Gumă M., 1997, 55; Gogâltan Fl., 1998, 205, Pl. X/30; Rogozea P., 1998, 189, Pl. I/41; Szentmiklosi Al., 1998, 197-207; Luca A.S., 2005, 404, no.657, pct. 1/a.
49. Rescue investigations executed by prof. Fl. Medeleț, now being processing and publishing.
50. Novel investigations executed by prof. Florin Medeleț in 1986.
51. Gogâltan Fl., 2004, 88-89, 142, Pl. VI/3.
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53. Probably an arrangement for hydro-isolating with ceramic fragments disposed horizontally as for strengthening the structure.
54. Milleker B., 1897, 34; Milleker B., 1905, 34; Milleker B., 1906, 26-27; Gumă M., 1993; 252, 288; Gumă M., 1997, 55; Gogâltan Fl., 1998, 205, Pl. 10/11; Gogâltan Fl., 1999, 93-94; Luca A.S., 2005, 121, no.197, pct. 2/a.
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57. Szentmiklosi Al., 2005a, 639.
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71. Milleker B., 1897, 125, Pl. II/1-3, 128; Milleker B., 1905, 36, Pl. XV/1b; Trbuhović V.B., 1968, 64, fig. 34.
72. Milleker B., 1897, 125, Pl. II/1-3, 128, 130; Milleker B., 1905, 35, Pl. XV/1c (in text it is wrong „XV/1a”).
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138. Jacanović D., 1997, 252, 256, Pl. III/11-6, here it is mentioned with the name of Kličevac I - *Pomrlovo*; Jacanović D., 2000, 35-56; site *Rastovača* is situated at the eastern extremity of the island Ostrovo, situated in front of the river mouth of the Mlava in the Danube. The bronze hoard weighing 3810.5 gr. was found in a biconical urn with pseudo-corded ornaments, typical of the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. The 110 objects date, in D. Jacanović's opinion, in the period Ha.A<sub>1</sub>. The author considers that the urn with pseudo-corded motifs is characteristic of the end of the phase I and the beginning of the phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture. „That corresponds to the time after 1230, i.e. to the period Br D – Ha A according to Reinecke, and it was accepted by most archaeologists.” (sic!). The phase II of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture, characterized by the generalization of the fluted ornaments and of some typical forms is dated in the Reinecke Bz. D period (Late Bz. II), the transition between the two phases taking place, probably, at the end of the Reinecke Bz.C period, moment when the amphoras („urns”) of variant A appear, according to the typology of S.Forenbaher (Forenbaher, S., 1988, 24-25, 29-30, 32-33). This type of urns are assigned by N.Tasić to the phase Ic from the phase I of the Cruceni-Belegiš culture (Tasić, N., 2001, 317). In my opinion, the vessel seems to be rather used again and it could belong to a metallurgist craftsman. The conditions of the discovery could suggest also a votive character of its hiding.
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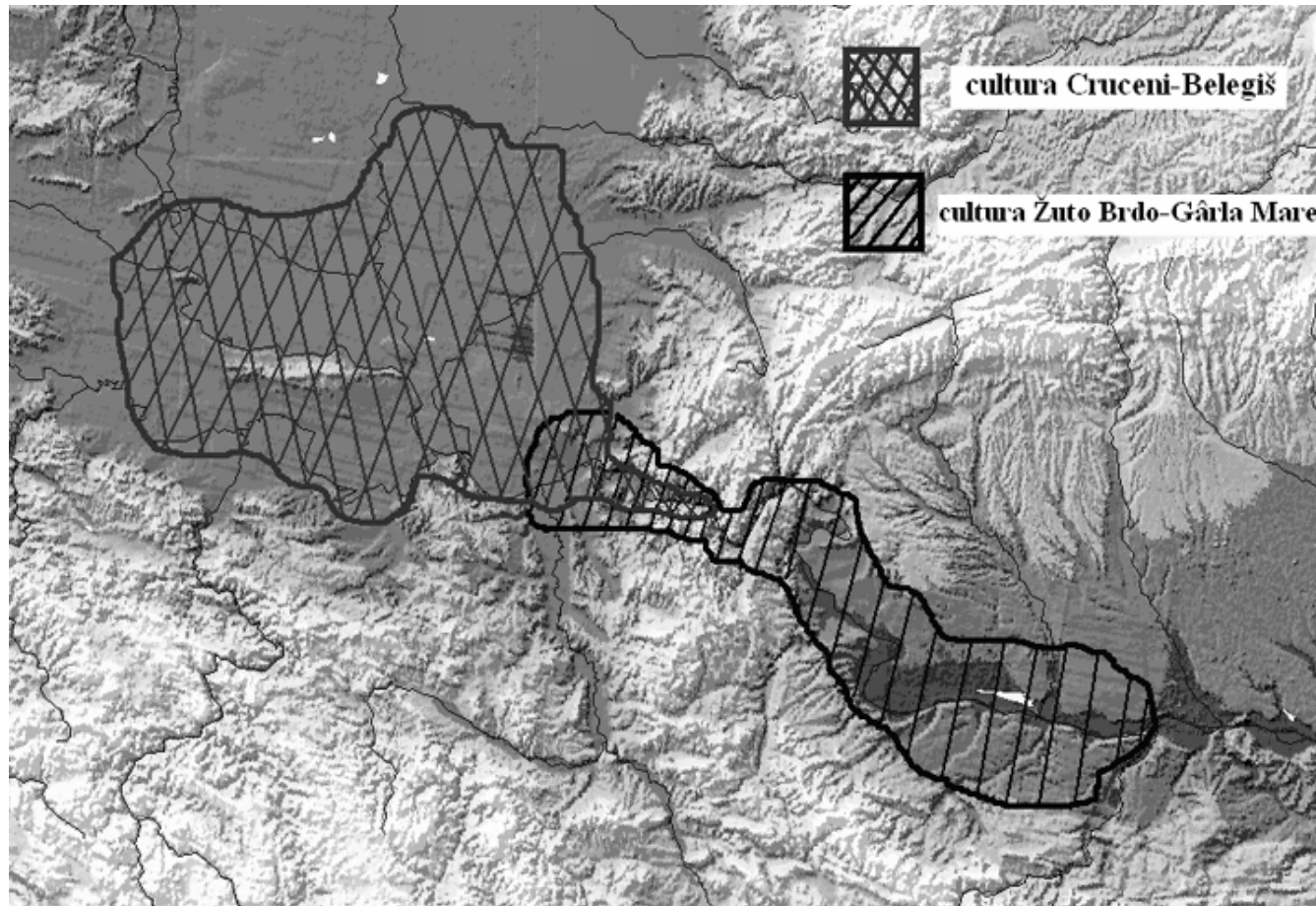
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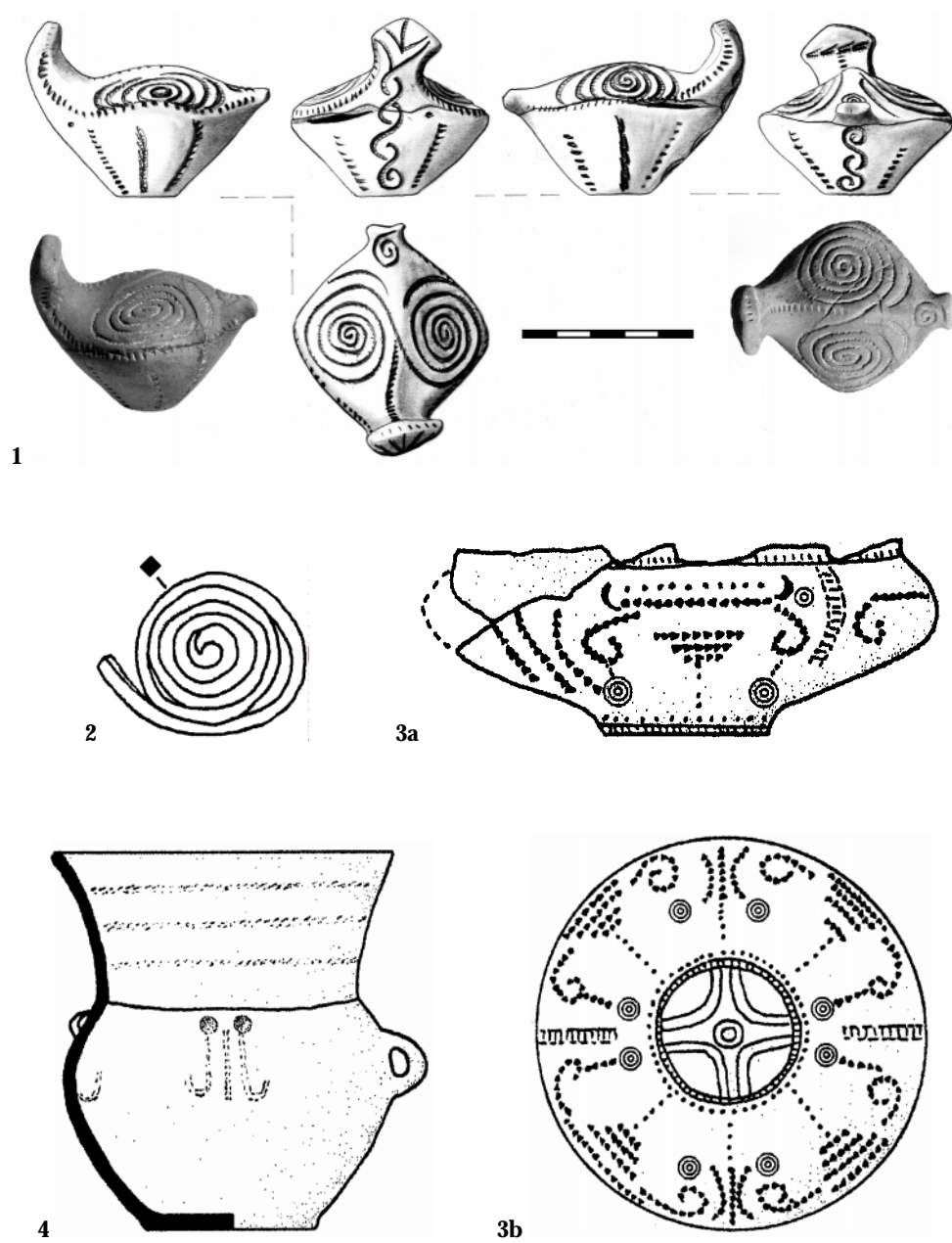
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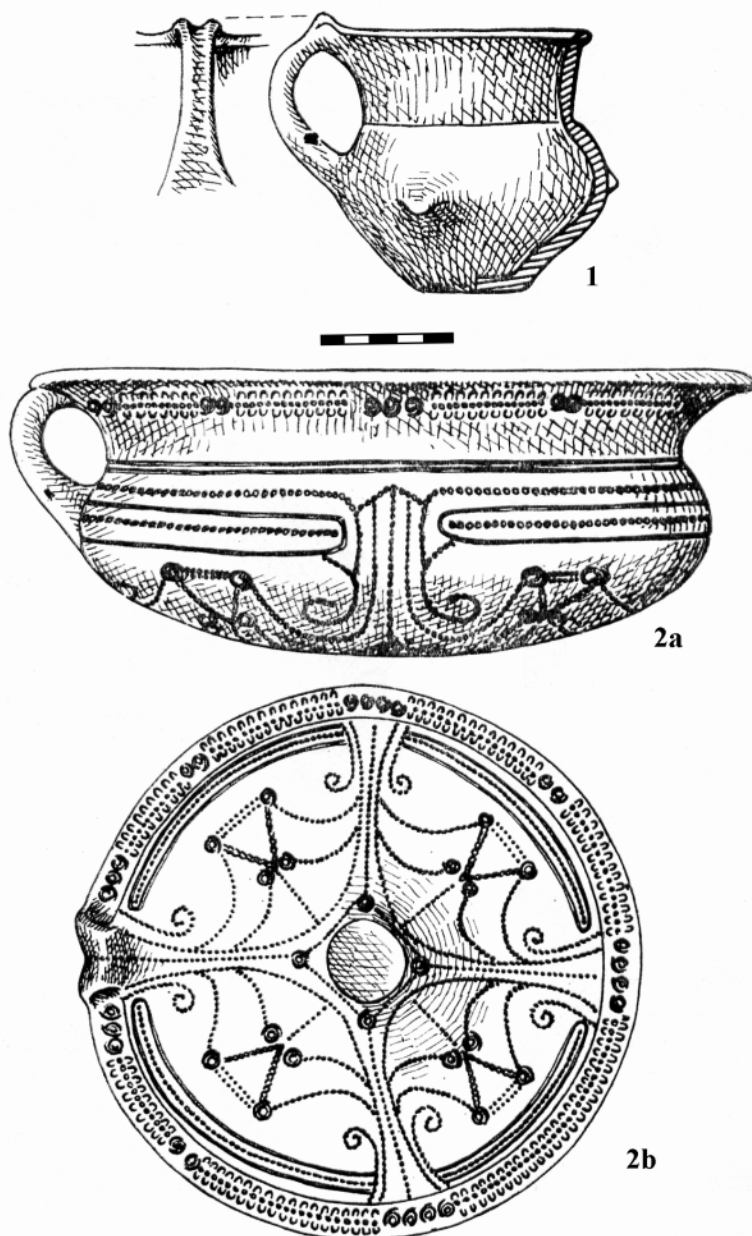


Pl. I : Map of spreading of Cruceni-Belegiš and Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare cultures

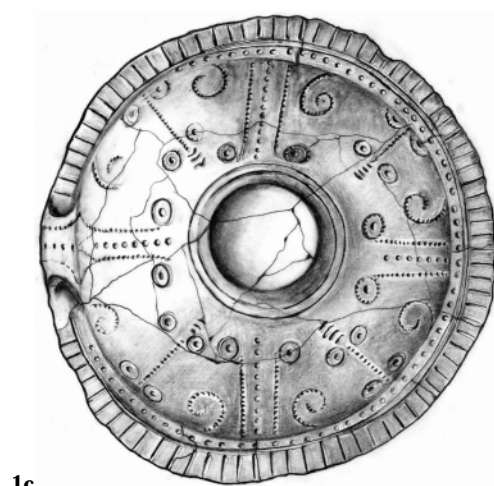
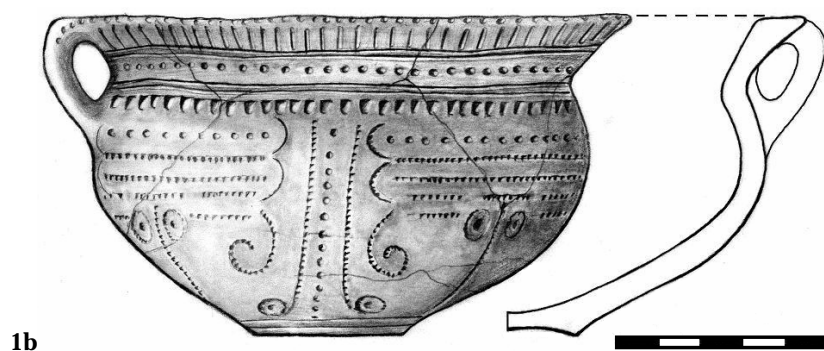
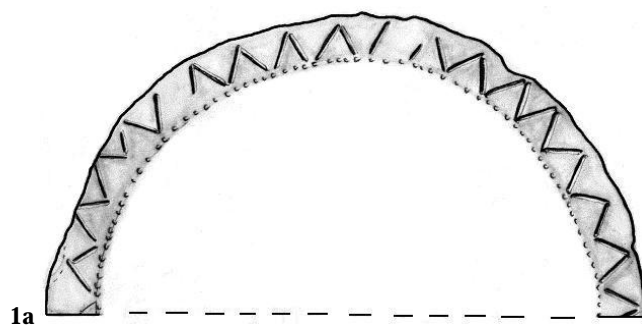




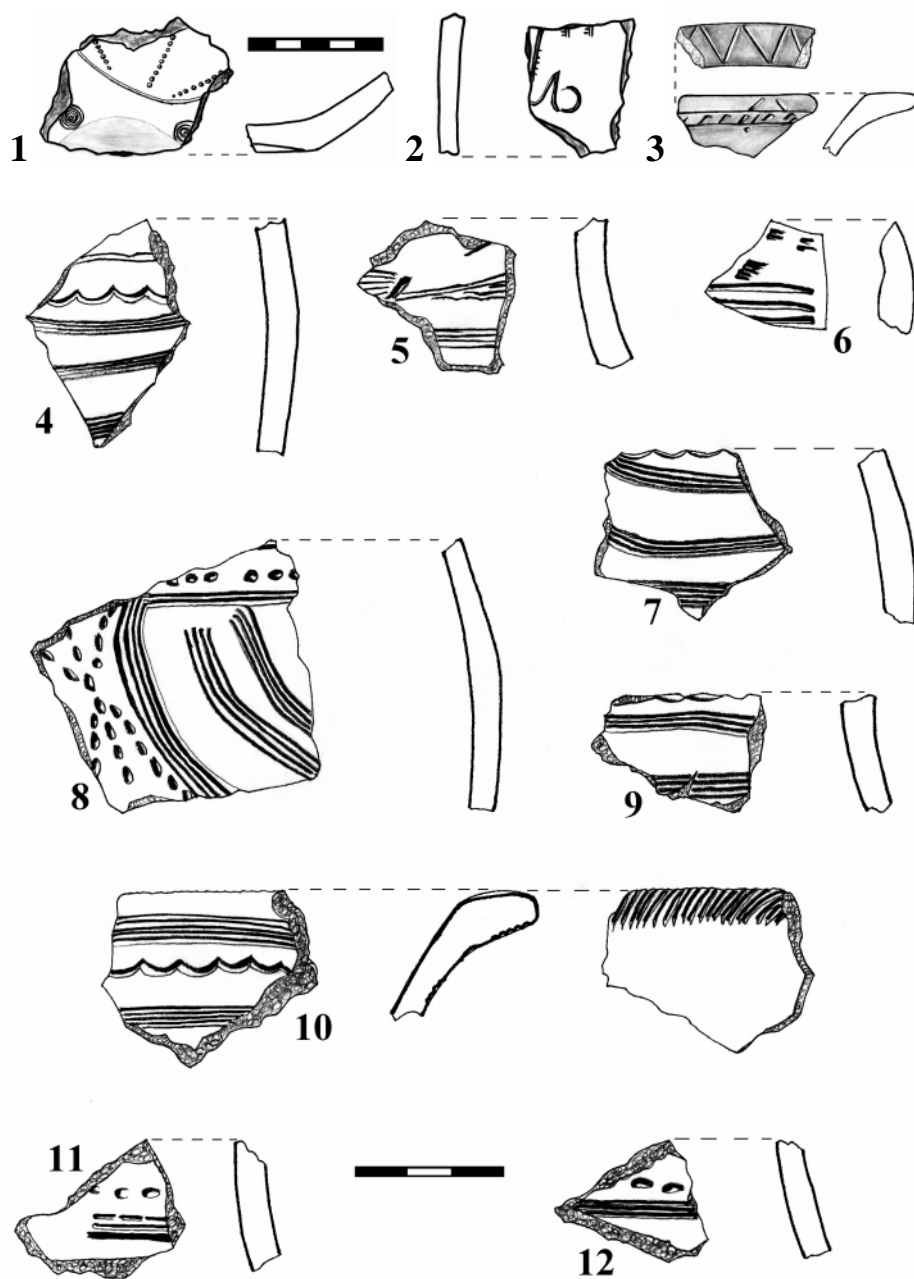
Pl. II: Cruceni, grave no.32 (1), grave no.11 (2-4 )



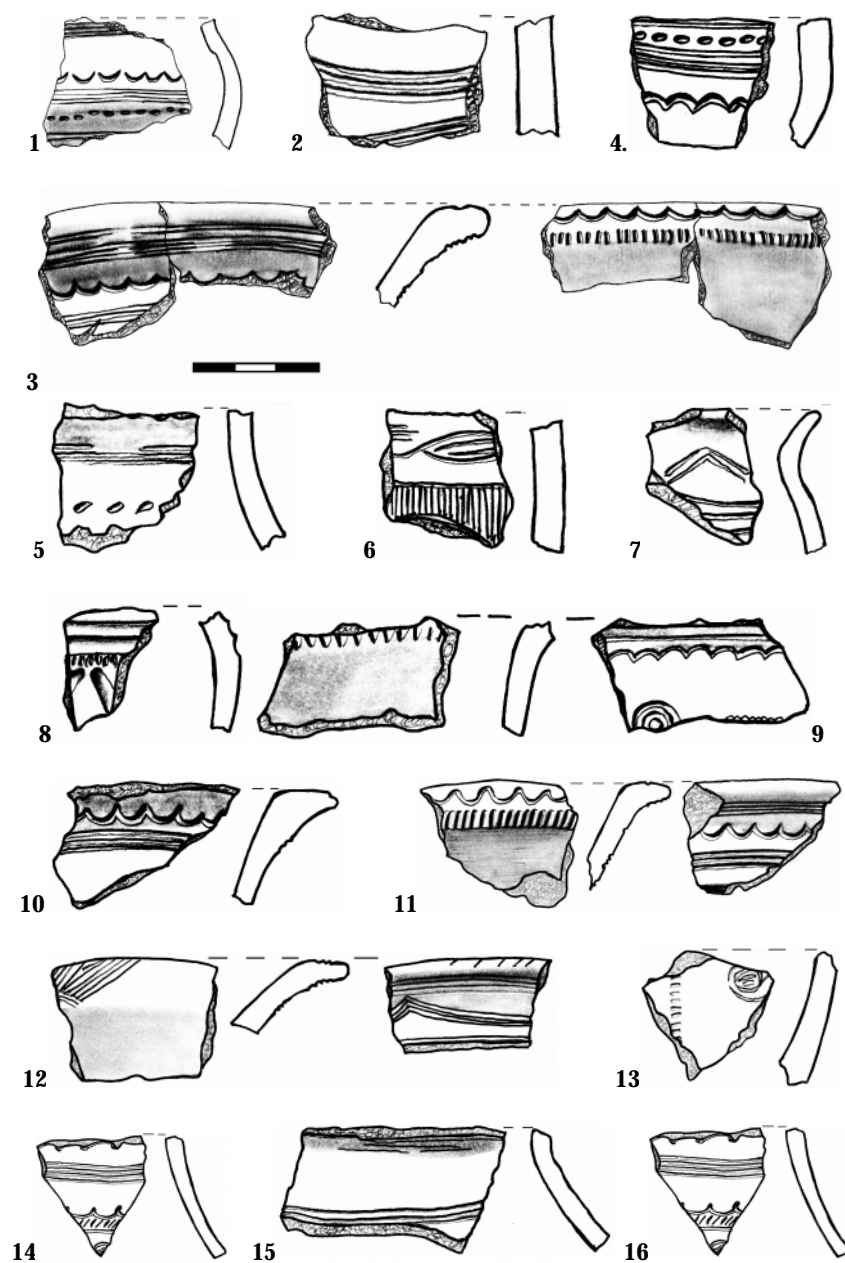
Pl. III : Cruceni – grave no.96 (2-4).



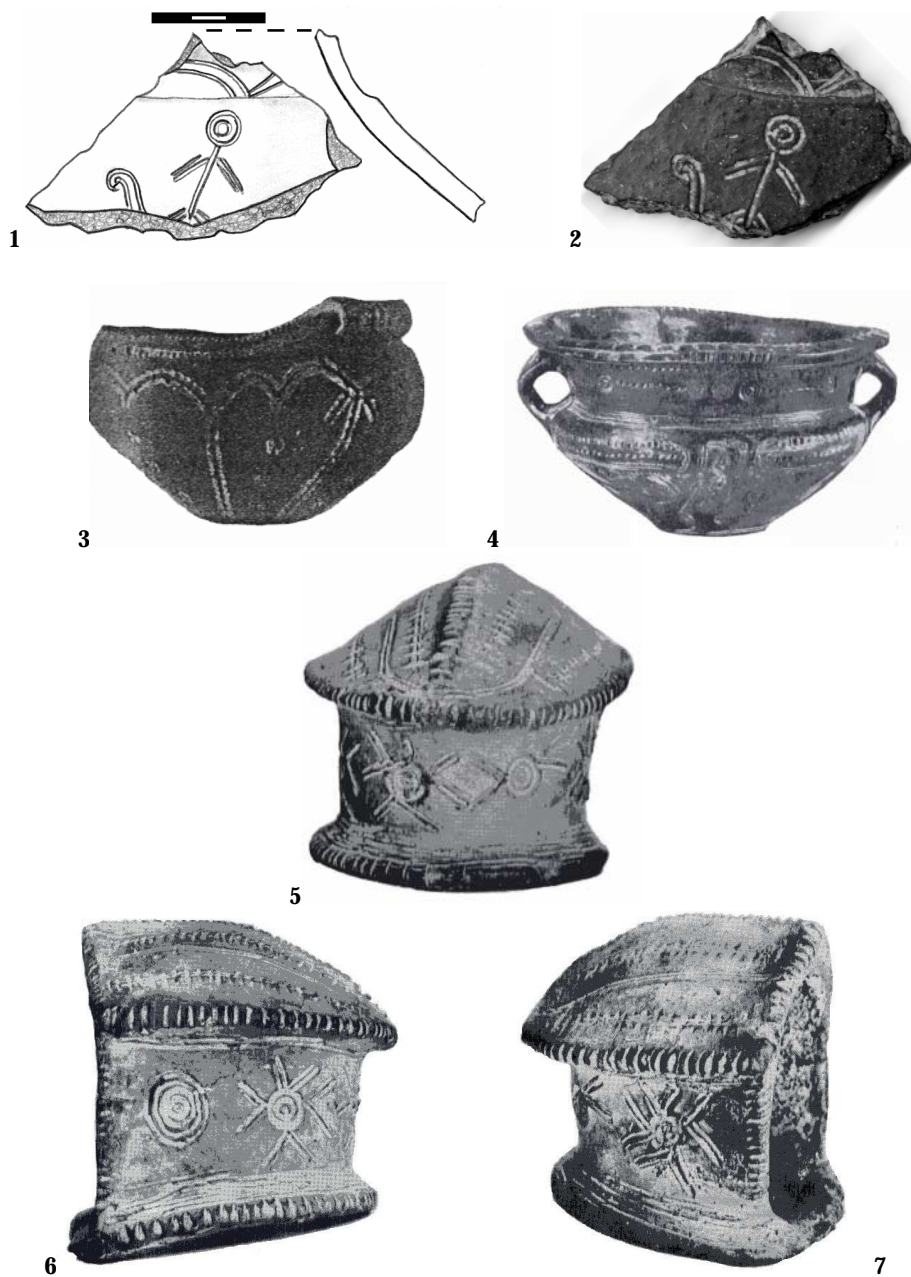
Pl. IV : Peciu Nou: grave no. 48



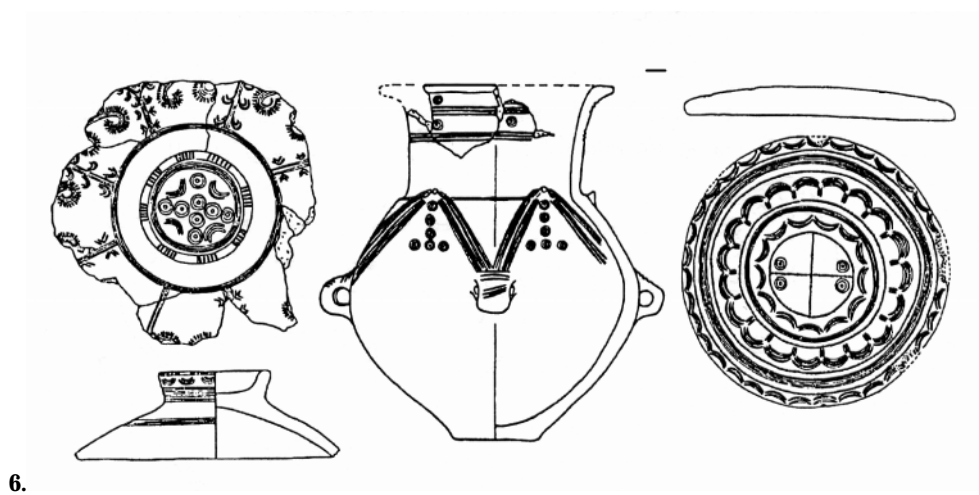
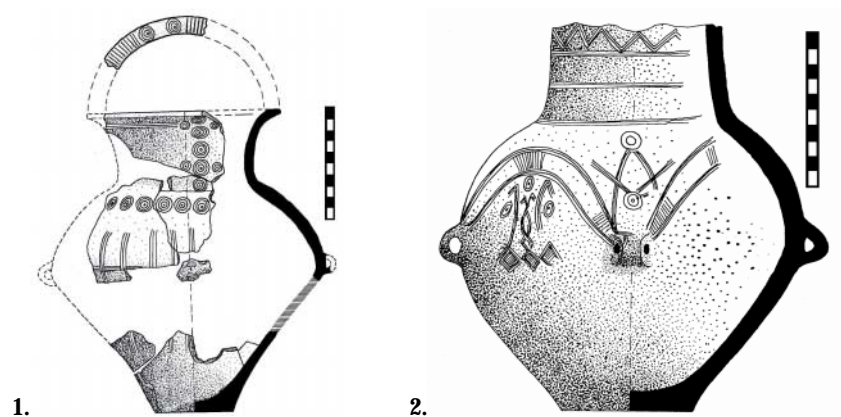
Pl. V : Voiteni-Ciacova: ceramic fragments from the settlement (1-3); Foeni-Gomila Lupului II  
 – ceramic fragments from the pit-dwelling house no.2/2000 (4 -12).



Pl. VI : Foeni-Gomila Lupului II - ceramic fragments discovered in pit-dwelling houses no.2/2000 (1-3) and no.1/2000 (4) ; Deta-Dudărie – ceramic fragments discovered in G.5, C.9 (5-9), G.7, C.13 (10), G.8, C.14 (11-16).



Pl. VII : Dragsina – isolated finding (1-2); Gătaia (3); Ilandža-Stoikova Zagrada, grave no. 2 (4);  
Beograd-Karaburma, miniature clay house discovered in the grave no.157 (5-7).



Pl. VIII : Beograd-*Karaburma*, grave no. 61 (1) and no.277 (2); Svinița-*Piatra Elișovei*, urn of Cruceni- Belegiș type, phase II (3); Belegiș-*Stojica gumno*, grave no.78 (4) and no.58 (5); Moșorin-*Stubarlija Surduk/Dukatar*, grave no.17 (6).



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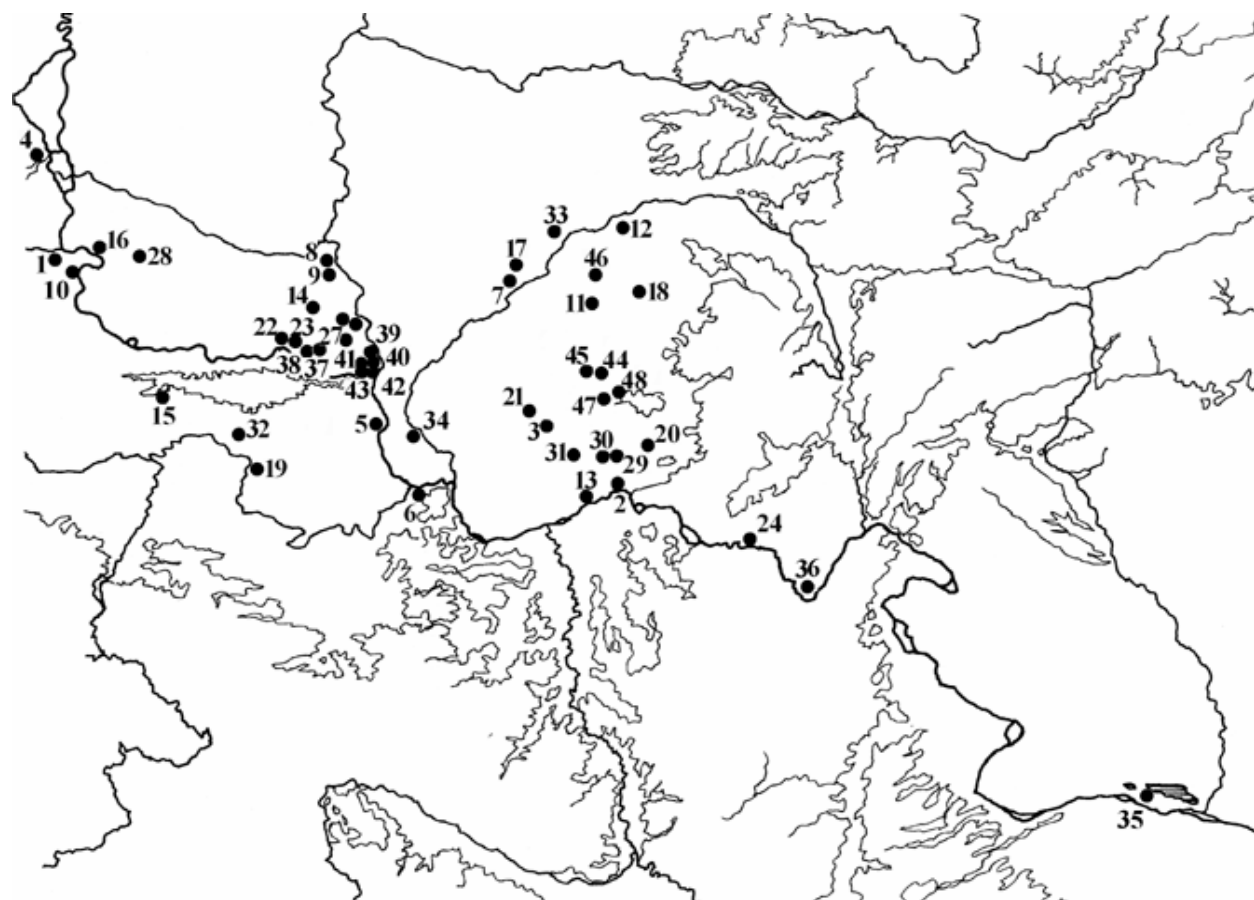
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Pl. IX : Vatin-Bele Vode, cremation grave discovered in 1893 (1-3).





Pl. X: Map of the archaeological sites with discoveries assigned to the Crveni-Belegiš and Žuto Brdo-Gârla Mare cultures and to the Szeremle-Bijelo Brdo cultural group

