

Lithuanian spiral disks from the Polish perspective

Ludwika Sawicka

The collection of the State Archaeological Museum in Warsaw has more than a dozen items from a very interesting site of Pakalniškiai, former Pakalniszki (raj. Panevėžys, fig. 1.9). They come from the excavations conducted by Maria Butrymówna in 1897 (cf. Majewski, 1900; Spycyn, 1902). During my work on these finds the spiral disks (pl. I.4) inspired my special interest. They belong to the category of quite rare artefacts of a relatively narrow chronology. They have been mentioned in literature many times (cf. Gričivienė, Tautavičius, 1994, p. 76–77; Kulikauskienė, Rimantienė, 1966, p. 323; LAA, 1978, p. 6; Michelbertas, 1986, p. 86; 1997, p. 19–20; Kulikauskas, Kulikauskienė, Tautavičius, 1961, p. 194), yet as their finds are more and more numerous there has appeared a need for an update of the chronological and stylistic analysis of the known disks.

Flat spiral disks are cast in bronze as a whole, their front part is richly decorated and the back part is plain (pl. I.4). Their diameters range between 5 and ca 12 cm, while their thickness does not exceed 1–2 mm. So far 30 items from 13 sites are known¹. All the finds of the type have characteristic key-hole shaped apertures. Their central part is a decorated surface imitating the tightly coiled

wire. The edges of the disks are decorated with two kinds of open-work ornament (pl. II.1–4) which surrounds the whole perimeter of the disk (pl. III.1–2) or is divided into three closely adjacent (pl. I.1) or slightly distant parts (pl. I.2). The most frequent is a zigzag line along the outer edge. Open-work decoration of single or pairs of scrolls appeared only at disks from Pakalniškiai, Pajuostis and Sargėnai. These may be traces of less a local style, for artefacts with similar ornaments are known from Latvia (tutulus brooches from Gailiši and Aizezeri), which has been first noted by Harri Moora (Moora, 1938a, p. 448–449). Only the item from Nemenčinė (pl. I.3) (Kulikauskas, 1958, fig. 13:5) and the negative from the mould from the fortified settlement of Sacrificial Hill [Aukuro Kalnas] at Kernavė (Bitner-Wróblewska (ed.), 2002, p. 106–107, fig. 59; Luchtanas, 2001, fig. 1:1) differ from the open-work standard and are decorated with knobs on the outer edge.

The edges of the perimeter and of the central aperture are often decorated with an ornament imitating incised wire, sometimes doubled, making up a pattern resembling a braid. It should be marked that the ornament was cast together with the disk. The central apertures in the key-hole shape are finished at the outer edge with a baguette thicker than the rest of the artefact, which is cut at one end and was used for fastening the disk. It seems that this fastening was cast solid and only later cut on the right or left-hand side. What is interesting in every case, where including two disks grave complex is known, one of them is cut on the left and the second on the right-hand side (Pakalniškiai, Barrow 3 and 11, Paragaudis, Barrow III, Grave 2, Barrow V, Grave 1, Barrow XXIV, Grave 2, Jonelaičiai, Grave 1 and 3, Sargėnai, Grave 207). Both disks from Bajoriškiai are cut on the left-hand side but it is not certain if they come from the same burial. This difference has been first noticed by Mykolas Michelbertas (Michelbertas, 1997, p. 20), who, however, stated that it is not possible to describe the disks as 'right-' or 'left-handed,' for, e.g., in Grave 2 from Barrow III at Paragau-

¹ 1 from Adakavas (Die vorgeschichtliche Sammlung... tabl. 10:5; LAA, 1978, p. 6), 2 from Bajoryszki (Makarenko, 1910, p. 4; LAA, 1978, p. 6), 2 from Dargužiai (Strazdas, 1998, p. 208), 4 from Jonelaičiai (Urbanavičius, 1974, p. 57–58; LAA, 1978, p. 6), 1 from Nemenčinė (Kulikauskas, 1958, p. 25; LAA, 1978, p. 6; LLM, p. 323), 1 from Paalksniai (Michelbertas, 1998, p. 145–146), 2 from Pajuostis (LAA, 1978, p. 6), 4 from Pakalniškiai (Majewski, 1900, p. 93), 8 from Paragaudis (Michelbertas, 1997, p. 81–82), 1 from Pašventupė (LAA, 1978, p. 6), 1 from Pušalotas (LAA, 1978, p. 6), 2 from Sargėnai (Kulikauskienė, Rimantienė, 1966, p. 323; Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė, 1959, p. 35–36), and 1 from an unknown site located in modern Lithuania which used to belong to province Ostpreußen. The mention of the presence of a similar find at Veršvai (Kulikauskas, 1958, p. 25) has no confirmation in the archaeological material.

dis in both disks the cuts were directed towards the occiput and in other burials, towards the face. It seems, however, that case of Grave 2 from Barrow III at Paragaudis is an exception.

The head decorations, including spiral disks, popular among the ancient inhabitants of the area of modern Lithuania are found almost exclusively in women's graves. The late variant of a decoration made from coiled wire which was found in the remains of a little casket put in a man's grave is an exception (Vaitkevičius, 2002, p. 82–83).

It is difficult to unequivocally determine the origin of spiral-disks. The way of decorating their central part in order to imitate the tightly coiled wire allowed to assume that these artefacts derive their style from earlier ornaments equipped with a loop, known, i.a., from Grave 7 in Barrow A at Kurmaičiai (pl. IV.1–6) (Grigalavičienė, 1995, p. 179–182; Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė, 1959, p. 30; Kulikauskas, 1968, p. 16; Michelbertas, 1986, p. 85), Barrow 3 at Ėgliškiai (Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė, 1997, p. 20, fig. 9) or the Latvian sites (Graudonis, 2001, fig. 8). However it can not be excluded, that the issue is more complicated. Brooches of similar style are known from the east region of the Middle Volga, around the Vjatka and Kama rivers, up to the Ural mountains. Ornaments of the Pianobor, Azelino, Bachmutinsk and Lomovatovo cultures may be mentioned here (Boroffka, Prishschepa, 2002–2003, p. 179)². The most interesting are decorative bangles, brooches, buckles and appliqué ornaments from Pjanobor Culture (pl. IV.7, 10, 13–14) (Smirnov, 1949, 1961, p. 97; Goriunova, 1961, p. 68; Gening, 1970, pl. VI.2; Dubynin, 1974, p. 234), which is dated to 3rd c. BC–2nd c. AD (Gening, 1970; Gening, 1988). Pendants, brooches and appliqué ornaments found at Ščerbinskoe hill-fort of Djakovo Culture (pl. IV.8–9, 11–12), although dated to the Late Roman Period, are also of unusual interest (Dubynin, 1974, p. 232–234). For the special attention deserve artefacts from a bronze hoard from Uzliissia in Ukraine (pl. IV.15–16) (Boroffka, Prishschepa, 2002–2003, fig. 4:1–2). In respect of the style two brooches from Uzliissia may be considered as an intermediate element between brooches from the Middle Volga – Ural region and Lithuanian spiral-disks in question. Such an assumption would explain also the origin of so characteristic for spiral-disks key-hole shaped apertures, which in

Middle Volgian brooches was necessary for fastening the pin. Nevertheless they are an exceptional finding in Ukraine and it is difficult to exactly determine their genesis (Boroffka, Prishschepa, 2002–2003, p. 178). The most similar to the Middle Volga – Ural region ornaments are spiral-disks known from the sites of Brushed Pottery Culture (Nemenčinė and casting mould from Kernavė). Both of them do not have an open-work decoration. It could be a trace of migration and gradual conversion of one motif by population of different archaeological cultures. Considering discussed spiral-disks as a result of modification of Middle Volgian stylistic idea, connected with such elements of local patterns as ornaments of the kind known from Kurmaičiai and Ėgliškiai would be a very attractive hypothesis. However the distance between these sites and Nemenčinė and Kernavė must not be forgotten. This highly interesting issue undoubtedly needs further, particularly chronological, investigations.

DISTRIBUTION AND CULTURAL AFFILIATION

In their majority the disks were found at burial grounds of the Lithuanian-Latvian Barrow Culture (fig. 1) (Griciuvienė, Tautavičius, 1994, p. 76). As many as 26 of the 30 known disks were discovered at the sites of that culture. Partly, these are finds made in the 19th and early 20th century which are not well-documented, yet it is possible to determine their cultural affiliation. The disk from Adakavas, former Odachowo (fig. 1.1, pl. 1.2) (Die vorgeschichtliche Sammlung..., pl. 10:8; Paegle, 1927, p. 53) comes from the barrows excavated in the early 19th century, probably by Dionizy Paszkiewicz (LAA, 1977, p. 19, cf. Łobojko, 1823, p. 146; Niezabitowski, 1823, p. 158; Kulikauskas, Zabiela, 1999, p. 22–24). The disks from Bajorišškiai, former Bojaryszki (fig. 1.2) (Makarenko, 1910, p. 104), Pajuostis³ (fig. 1.8, pl. II.1) (Michelbertas, 2004, p. 5) and Pakalniškiai (pl. I.4) (Majewski, 1900, p. 92; Spicyn, 1902, p. 95) were also found in barrows. Little is known about the circumstances of the discovery of the disk at Pašventupė (fig. 1.11, pl. II.3) (LAA, 1977, p. 85). Together with twelve other artefacts it was bought on March 11, 1914, from a collector called Bordinski, and became part of the collection of the Department of Archaeology of Eastern Europe and Siberia in

² I would like to express my gratitude to Ph.D. Rasa Banytė-Rowell for drawing my attention to this direction of searching.

³ I would like to express my gratitude to M. A. Kristina Rickevičiūtė and to the Direktor of the Vytauto Didžiojo karo muziejus for allowing me to study it.

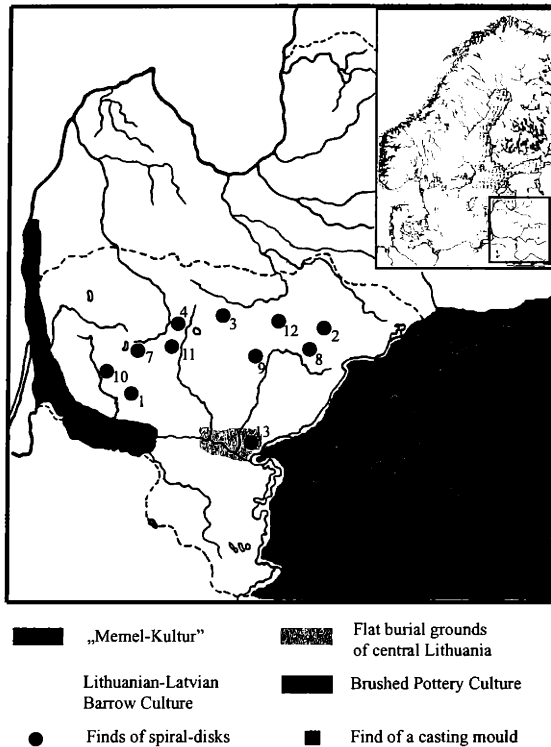


Fig. 1. Distribution of spiral-disks and their cultural affiliation (acc. to Michelbertas, 1997; Tautavičius, 1982; Vasks, 2001; Engel, 1933 and the author).

1 – Adakavas, 2 – Bajoriškiiai, 3 – Dargužiai, 4 – Jonelaičiai, 5 – Kernavė, 6 – Nemenčinė, 7 – Paalksniai, 8 – Pajuostis, 9 – Pakalniškiai, 10 – Paragaudis, 11 – Pašventupė, 12 – Pušalotas, 13 – Sargėnai.

1 žemėlapis. Plokštėlinių antsmilkinių paplitimas ir archeologinės kultūros

the Hermitage⁴. Similarly, there are no exact data on the discovery of the disk from Pušalotas (fig. 1.12, pl. I.1) (LAA, 1977, p. 93)⁵. Both these sites are, however, located at the area occupied by the Lithuanian-Latvian Barrow Culture. Finds of the discussed disks were made also at regular excavations at burial grounds of this culture, at Jonelaičiai (fig. 1.4, pl. II.5–7, III.1–10) (Urbanavičius, 1974, p. 58), Paalksniai (fig. 1.7) (Michelbertas, 1998,

p. 145) and Paragaudis (fig. 1.10) (Michelbertas, 1997) and two items were accidentally discovered at Dargužiai (fig. 1.3) (Strazdas, 1998, p. 208). It is surprising that despite such an evident concentration of the disks and their clear connection with the above-mentioned culture, no similar artefacts were found at the area of modern Latvia. This may be because, as it has been already suggested in literature, we have to do with a local group occupying a large territory (LAA, 1977, p. 11).

Only very few finds come from an area outside the territory of the Lithuanian-Latvian Barrow Culture. These are 2 disks found in Grave 207 at the flat cemetery of Sargėnai (fig. 1.13) in central Lithuania (Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė, 1959, p. 35–36), which were most probably imports from the north.

⁴ I would like to express my gratitude to Zlata Aleksandrova Lvovna, Ph. D., from the Department of Archaeology of Eastern Europe and Siberia of the State Hermitage Museum for allowing me to use this information.

⁵ I would like to express my gratitude to M. A. Kristina Rickevičiūtė and to the Direktor of the Vytauto Didžiojo karo muziejus for allowing me to study it.

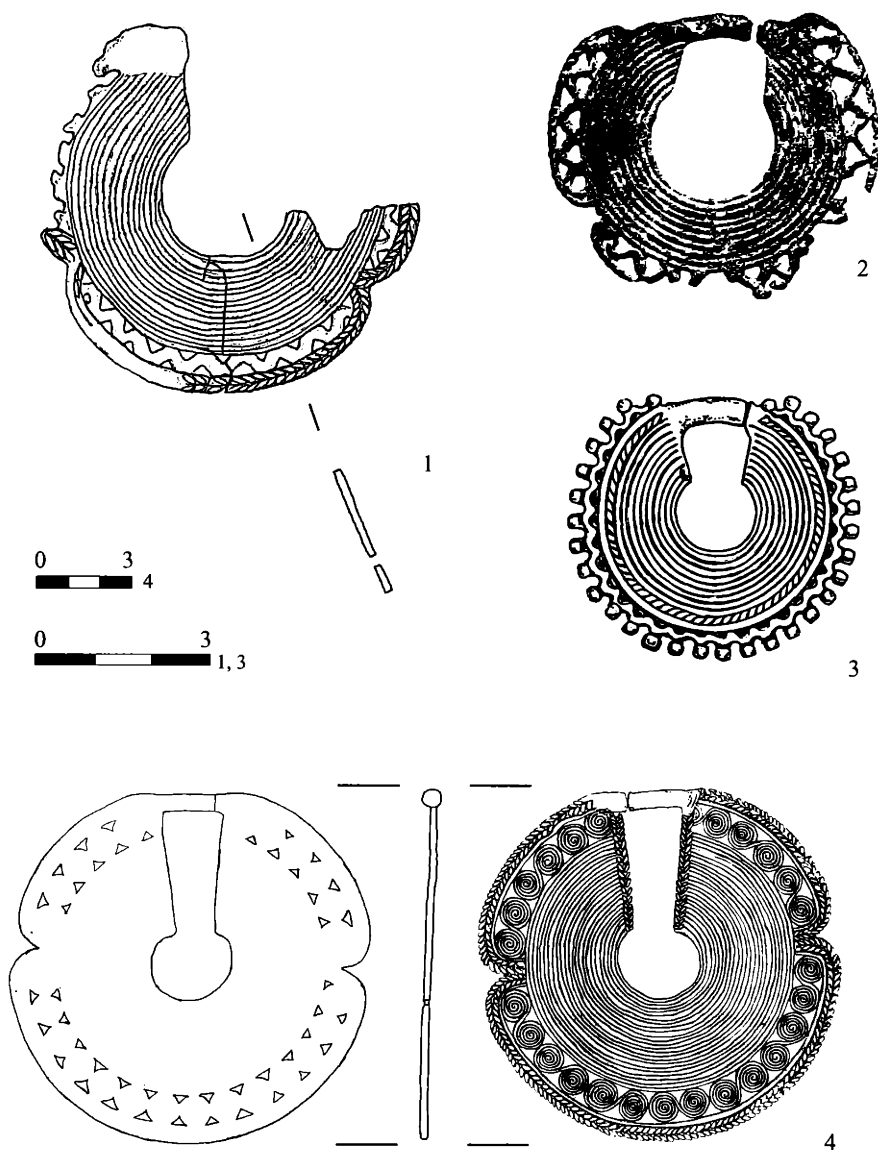


Plate I. 1 – Disk from Pušalotas (collection of Lietuvos nacionalinis muziejus); 2 – Disk from Adakavas, without scale (acc. to Die vorgeschichtliche Sammlung...); 3 – Disk from Nemenčinė (acc. to Kulikauskas, 1958); 4 – Disk from Pakalniškiai (collection of Państwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne).

1 pav. 1 – antsmilkinis iš Pušaloto; 2 – antsmilkinis iš Adakavo; 3 – antsmilkinis iš Nemenčinės; 4 – antsmilkinis iš Pakalniškių

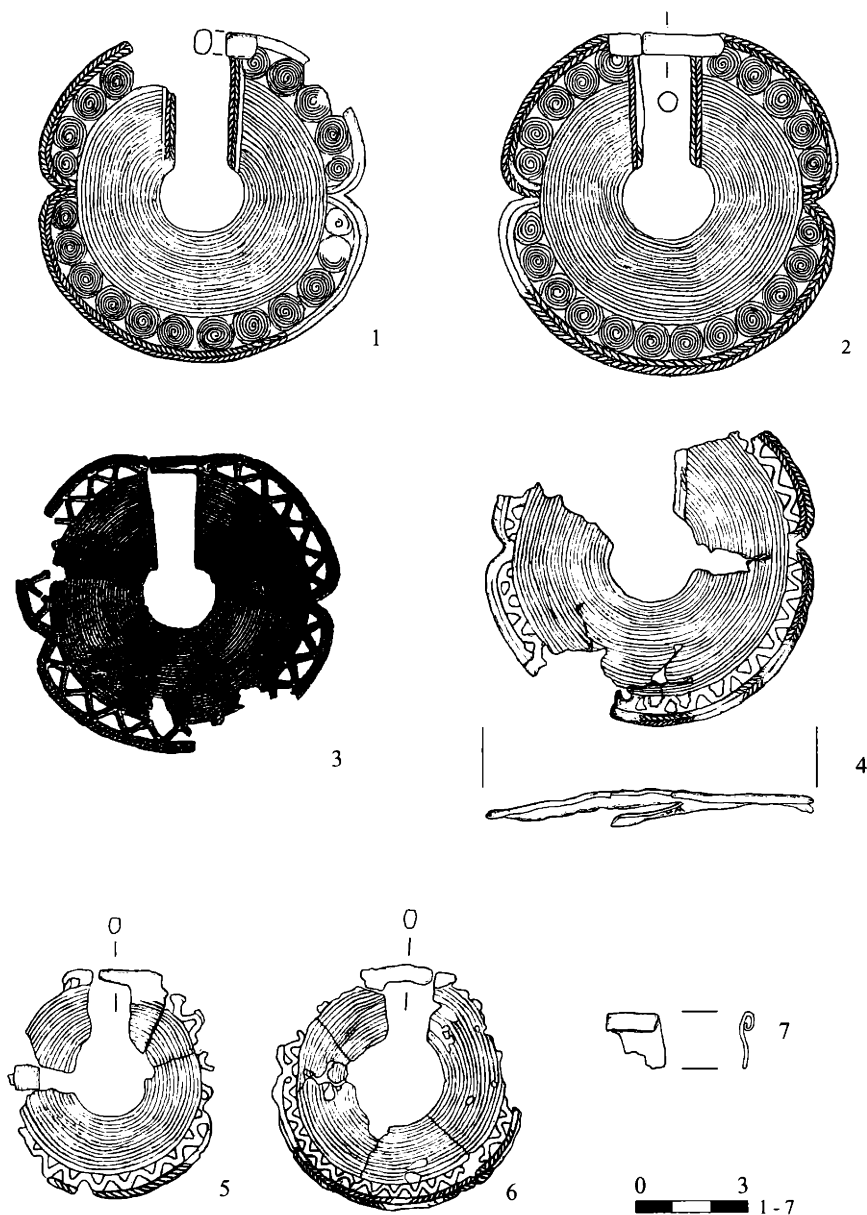


Plate II. 1-2 – Disks from Pajuostis (collection of Vytauto Didžiojo karo muziejus); 3 – Disk from Pašventupė (acc. to Photo from The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg Archives); 4 – Disk of unknown provenience, presumably from “Memelgebiet” (collection of Museum für Vor- und Frühgeschichte); 5-7 – Grave 1 from Jonelaičiai (collection of Lietuvos nacionalinis muziejus).

II pav. 1, 2 – antsmilkiniai iš Pajuosčio; 3 – antsmilkinis iš Pašventupės; 4 – antsmilkinis be aiškios radimo vietos, spėjama, iš „Memelgebiet“ (Klaipėdos krašto); 5-7 – Jonelaičių kapo Nr. 1 radiniai

Two finds made in settlement contexts are of particular interest. The first one is the disk from Nemenčinė (fig. 1.6, pl. I.3) (Kulikauskas, 1958, p. 25) and the second one is a casting mould from the fortified settlement of Sacrificial Hill at Kernavė (fig. 1.5) (Luchtanas, 1994, p. 51). Both the disk from Nemenčinė and the disk known from its negative from Kernavė are made in a similar style, different from the standard dominating at the Lithuanian-Latvian Barrow Culture. The open-work decoration is replaced in their case by a row of knobs on the outer edge. Both were found in the contexts of the Brushed Pottery Culture. At the moment it is difficult to determine whether the disks appeared first in the Brushed Pottery Culture and then the idea was borrowed and developed by the Lithuanian-Latvian Barrow Culture or, vice versa, the disks were first used at the area of the Lithuanian-Latvian Barrow Culture and the idea was transformed by the Brushed Pottery Culture population. In the light of findings from Uzlissia the first interpretation seems to be closer to the truth. However it may be assumed that these were not long-lasting processes, for the disks seem to have appeared in only one phase.

Except for the above-described items, one artefact was found outside the area of northern Lithuania. The Museum für Vor- und Frühgeschichte in Berlin has one disk (pl. II.4) coming from the collection of the former Prussia Museum⁶. Unfortunately, its exact provenience is unknown. The only established fact is that it was attached to a plate with finds of a rather broad chronology extending from the Early Roman Period (bracelet with bud-shaped terminals [*mit Endknöpfen*]) to the Migration Period (brooch with a solid catchplate decorated with metopes). The Prussia Museum inventory number deciphered at one of the bracelets and the description indicate that it came from Samland Peninsula. This is also confirmed by the style of its decoration and of the five remaining bracelets with moulded terminals. However, it remains a mystery how all the artefacts from the plate were related. As this find has not been mentioned in any publication or archive materials, it is impossible to say where exactly this disk came from. Its Samland origin can not be excluded, yet it is more probable that it was found in the part of modern Lithuania, which used to belong to the Province

of East Prussia [Ostpreußen], that is in so called Memelgebiet [Mažoji Lietuva]. Its exact find spot can not be established and the list of possible sites is quite long (cf. Engel, 1931, p. 84–87; Engel, la Baume, 1937, p. 262).

CHRONOLOGY

Most commonly the disks are generally dated in the literature to the 1st–2nd century (Griciuvienė, Tautavičius, 1994, p. 76–77; Kulikauskienė, Rimantienė, 1966, p. 323; Tautavičius, 1978, p. 6), single finds are dated only to the 1st or only to the 2nd century (Kulikauskienė, Rimantienė, 1966, p. 323). A few have been dated to the 2nd–3rd century (Kulikauskas, 1958, p. 25; Urbanavičius, 1974 p. 58). There is also one very broad dating to the 1st–4th century (Kulikauskas, Kulikauskienė, Tautavičius, 1961, p. 194). In terms of relative chronology the disks are considered to come from the late Phase B1 and early Phase B2 (Michelbertas, 1998, p. 146) or from within Phase B2 with the possibility of appearance in B2/C1 (Michelbertas, 1986, p. 86). In the light of such a diversity it is worthwhile to make a more detailed analysis of all the information which could make the dating more precise.

Only few disks of the discussed type were found in one burial complex with well-determined artefacts. In still fewer cases their context has been published, which makes it considerably difficult to establish the precise dating of this interesting category of finds. According to the publication of the results of Massalitinov's research (Makarenko, 1910, p. 104) the disks he found in Bajoriškiai come from a burial, which contained also: a large brooch (18 cm), neck-ring with very thick, bent terminals, 2 pins with cross-shaped heads, 11 bracelets, a socketed axe, two spearheads, and an ornamental tutulus brooch. This list inspires doubt firstly because it seems to represent grave goods typical both for men's and women's burials. The relatively large number of bracelets also suggests that these goods do not come from one burial. Moreover, inasmuch as the majority of finds can be linked, on the basis of a very brief description, to the Early Roman Period, or perhaps even its earlier phase (the neck-ring with bent terminals), the pin with a cross-shaped head indicates a much later dating. The methods and speed of Colonel Massalitinov's work also suggest that the assemblages he distinguished should not be considered as reliable.

There are no concrete data on the context in which the disk from Adakavas (pl. I.2) was discovered. The bar-

⁶ I would like to express my gratitude to Ph. D. Paweł Szymański for drawing my attention to this artefact and to the Director and the staff of the Museum für Vor- und Frühgeschichte for allowing me to study it.

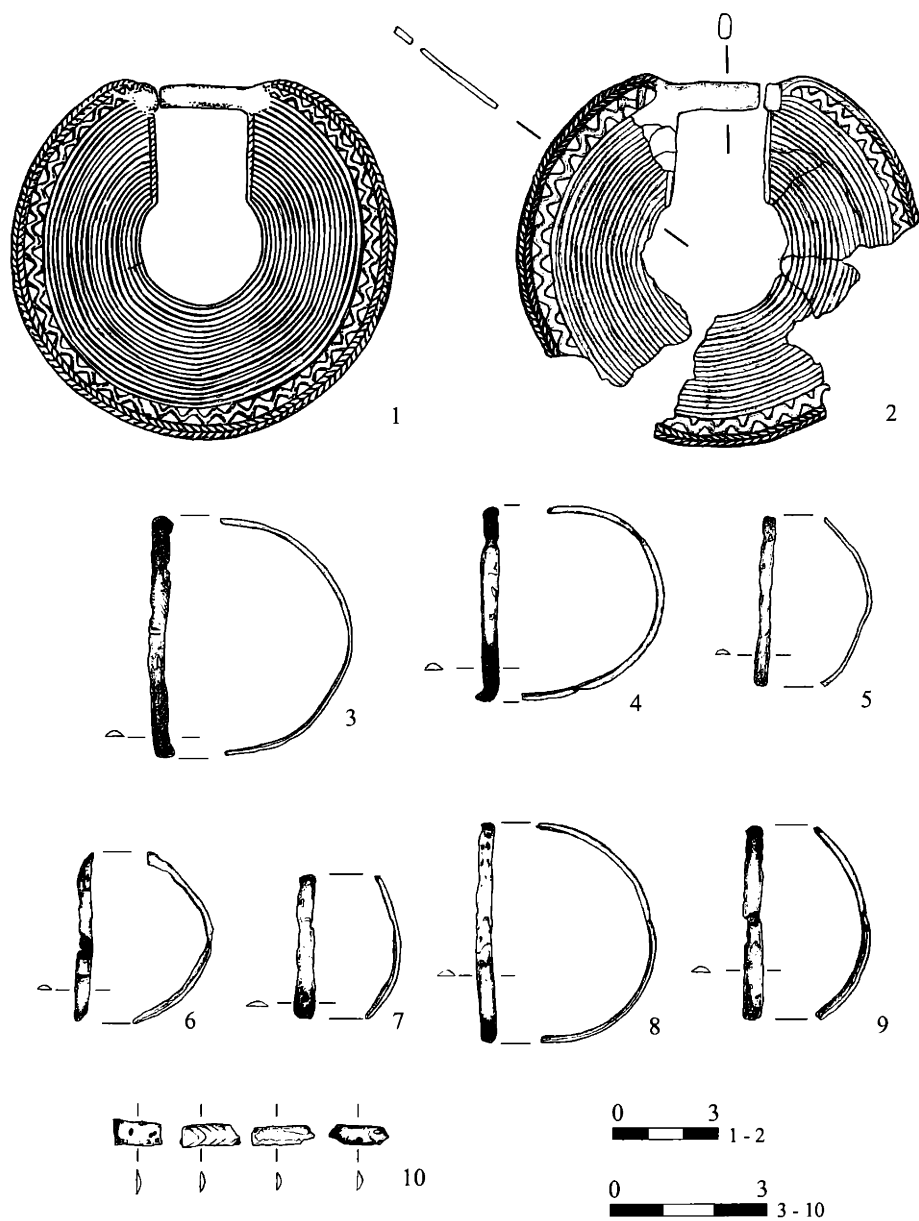


Plate III. 1-10 – Grave 3 from Jonelaičiai (collection of Lietuvos nacionalinis muziejus).

III pav. 1-10 – Jonelaičių kapo Nr. 3 radiniai

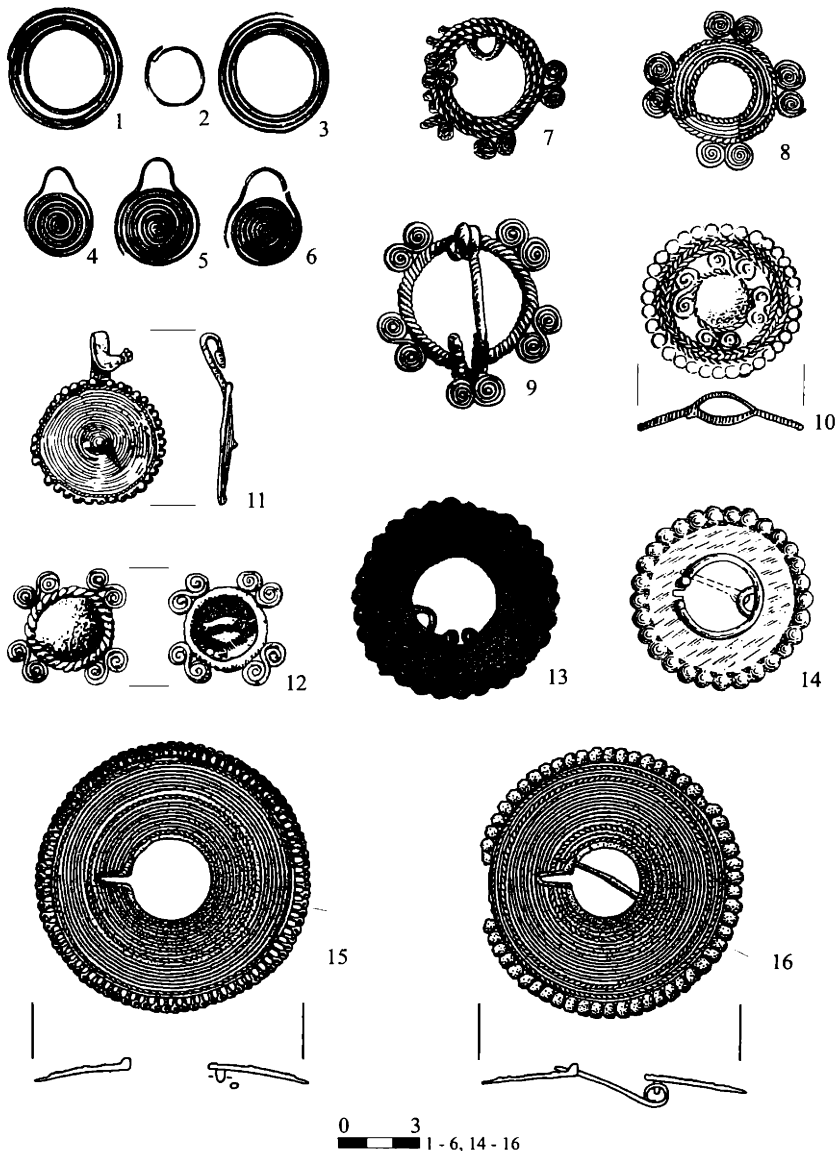


Plate IV. 1-6 – Grave 7 Barrow A at Kurmaičiai (acc. to Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė, 1959); 7 – Brooch/buckle from Mari-Lugovskij cemetery (acc. to Smirnov, 1949); 8-9, 11-12 – Ornaments from Ščerbinskoe hill-fort (acc. to Dubynin, 1974); 10 – Brooch/buckle from Bereznjakovskij hill-fort (acc. to Goriunova, 1961); 13 – Brooch/buckle from Košibevo cemetery (acc. to Smirnov, 1961); 14 – Brooch/buckle from Čeganda II cemetery (acc. to Gening, 1970); 15-16 – Brooches/buckles from Uzliissia (acc. to Boroffka, Prishchepa, 2002-2003); 7-13 – without scale.

IV pav. 1-6 – Kurmaičių pilkapio A, kapo Nr. 7 radiniai; 7 – segė iš Mari-Lugovskij kapinyno; 8, 9, 11, 12 – daiktai iš Ščerbinskoe piliakalnio; 10 – segė iš Berezniaki piliakalnio; 13 – segė iš Košibejevo kapinyno; 14 – segė iš Čeganda II kapinyno; 15, 16 – segės iš Uzliissia; 7-13 – be mastelio

rows in the neighbourhood of Adakavas were excavated in the early 19th century and although a whole series of finds from the Roman Period is known from these investigations (*Die vorgeschichtliche Sammlung...*, pl. 10:3–8, fig. 11; Aspelin, 1884, fig. 1886–1890) it is not possible to assign them to concrete burial complexes.

There is no absolute certainty as to the context in which the disks from Pajuostis (pl. II.1–2) were found. A pair of these artefacts was unearthed during the excavations conducted by a country lovers' society from Panevėžys in 1925. The only record of the investigations is a letter to Petras Tarasenko by K. Šulga, who conducted them, dated from August 7, 1925 (Michelbertas, 2004, p. 5). It says that one of the barrows at the edge was dug and a human skeleton was uncovered in it. On the neck there was a neck-ring and a necklace made of bronze pendants and multi-coloured glass beads. On the arms bronze bracelets were found. Šulga also says that next to the bones pieces of some rusted object (handle), i.e., remains of a socketed axe, were discovered. The finds from these excavations were stored in the museum at Panevėžys until the second World War. The then Vytautas the Great Museum of Culture (*Vytauto Didžiojo kultūros muziejus*) in Kaunas stored more than a dozen items (Inv. no 989:1–13) including two spiral disks (Inv. no 989:12–13), a neck-ring with knob-shaped terminals, a necklace of bronze tubes, pendants and glass beads, two strongly profiled brooches, a pin with a spool-shaped head, Type H after Beckmann (Beckmann, 1969, p. 110, fig. 1:H, table 21) bracelets with a round cross-section and bracelets of Group I and II after Michelbertas (Michelbertas, 1986, p. 135–137), glass beads and a socketed axe. Today these finds are interpreted as representing two burials, a man's one with the socketed axe and a woman's one with the disks (Michelbertas, 2004, p. 5). This scant information does not allow to make any definite statements on the composition of the complex in which the disks were found. It may be only said that the above-mentioned ornaments could have come from one burial. This hypothetical assemblage should be dated rather to Phase B2 than to the early B2/C1 although the latter can not be entirely excluded.

The finds found during regular excavation works at Jonelaičiai were found in a disturbed Grave 1 together with a fragment of rolled bronze plaque (pin Type A?, pl. II.5–7) and in Grave 3 they were accompanied by tiny fragments of two narrow bronze bracelets made of semi-circular band (pl. III.1–10) (Urbanavičius, 1974, p. 57–

58). The eye brooch connected with this complex (LAA, 1978, p. 6) is in fact a stray find, which gave the investigator an indication that there were more burials from the Roman Period at the site, which had been disturbed (Urbanavičius, 1974, p. 58).

The find from Nemenčinė (pl. I.3) can not be used for establishing a more precise chronology, either. This small disk with no open-work decoration was found in a hearth together with pottery, Djakovo type clay weights and a quern, and was the most exact dating find in that complex, providing, according to the investigator, a considerably late date of the 2nd–3rd century (Kulikauskas, 1958, p. 25).

The casting mould from the fortified settlement of Sacrificial Hill at Kernavė is closely connected to the disk from Nemenčinė. Except decoration with knobs an additional, rare element similar for the two disks is the ornament of single incised wire separating the centre of the disk from the knobs (Bitner-Wróblewska (ed.), 2002, p. 106–107, fig. 59; Luchtanas, 2001, p. 22–24). The discussed mould was found in a habitation layer determining the earliest phase of the fortified settlement. The layer contained numerous fragments of Brushed Pottery Culture ceramics, more than a dozen fragments of vessels with black, polished surface, the Djakovo type weights and biconical spindle whorls (Luchtanas, 1994, p. 51).

Grave 207 from Sargėnai⁷ had two disks together with two massive bracelets, a pin with a spool-shaped head, an awl, two triangular bronze pendants and glass beads (Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė, 1959, p. 36).

A disk found relatively recently in a disturbed Barrow V at Paalksniai appeared together with fragments of open-work pin head (Michelbertas, 1998, p. 145–146). This pin used to have an iron shaft and a leaf-shaped head, and similar artefacts were found at Moškėnai-Laukupėnai. The disk itself is untypical because links of bronze wire, which may have served for attaching more ornaments, are fixed to its open-work decoration. The barrow has been dated to the late Phase B1 and early Phase B2.

⁷ Grave 153 [Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė, 1959, p. 35–36] mentioned in literature is in fact the Grave 207 [Kulikauskienė, Rimantienė, 1966, 323]. No 153 is the number of the field records and eventually that burial was assigned the number of 207. Probably these discrepancies are the reason why four spiral disks are mentioned for the site of Sargėnai [LAA, 1978, p. 6] whereas in fact only two were found.

Some more information is provided by the disks found at Pakalniškiai, where Maria Butrymówna conducted her investigations in 1897. Her descriptions allow to distinguish with a considerable certainty two grave complexes. In a burial from Barrow 3 two disks were found together with a neck-ring with trumpet-shaped terminals, Group II after Michelbertas (Michelbertas, 1986, p. 88), a brooch with a triangular foot similar to Type A.100 (Almgren, 1923, p. 52, pl. V.100), 2 pins with spool-shaped heads Type H after Beckmann, and a set of knob-ended pendants, 2 massive bracelets, 4 thin round bracelets Group I after Michelbertas (Michelbertas, 1986, p. 135–136), 2 cross pendants, several bronze beads and tubes, a ring of bronze wire and a bronze chain (Majewski, 1900, p. 93–94; Spicyn, 1902, p. 96). In a burial from Barrow 11, however, two disks were found together with an imported brooch with enamel Type I.32 after Exner (Exner, 1940, p. 82; Michelbertas, 2001, p. 48), a brooch with a triangular foot similar to Type A.100, two pins with spool-shaped heads Type H after Beckmann, and a set of pin pendants ended with triangular plates, 2 massive bracelets, 2 thin round bracelets Group I after Michelbertas, several moon-shaped pendants, a necklace of bronze crosses, clay and glass beads, a bronze pendant circular in shape with an inscribed cross decorated with knobs at the centre and ends, several appliqué ornaments from bronze plaques and 3 rings of bronze wire (Majewski, 1900, p. 93–103; Spicyn, 1902, p. 97–98). Both complexes can be quite definitely dated to the late Phase B2.

Many chronological indications are given by the burial complexes from Paragaudis. In Grave 2 from Barrow III two disks appeared together with a thin round bracelet Group I after Michelbertas, similar to the one found at Pakalniškiai (Michelbertas, 1997, p. 45–46). In Grave I from Barrow V two disks were found with an eye brooch of the main series Type A.53, a fragment of an iron awl, a coiled bronze bracelet and ill-preserved remains of a necklace, probably made of cylindrical bronze pendants (Michelbertas, 1997, p. 46). In Grave 1 from Barrow XXV one disk appeared with another ornament worn at the temple, made of 3.5 coils of round wire. This complex also had remains of a shaft of an iron pin the head of which has not been preserved and small fragments of a bracelet with half-round cross-section (Michelbertas,

1997, p. 58). In Grave 2 from Barrow XXIV and Grave 1 from Barrow XXVII the disks were the only grave goods (Michelbertas, 1997, p. 57–58, 60) which seems to contradict the claim that they were found only in rich burials.

Among the finds which co-occurred with the spiral disks the best dating ones are the brooches. Both the eye brooch of the Prussian series and the brooches with triangular feet from the first group should be linked with Phase B2. In central European Barbaricum the brooch A.53 is typical for sub-Phase B1c (Godłowski, 1985, p. 41–42) however they seem to occur in the Dollkeim-Kovrovo and Bogaczewo Cultures in sub-Phase B2a (Nowakowski, 1995, p. 27), whereas brooches similar to Type A.100 determine the sub-Phase B2b (cf. Godłowski, 1977, p. 16; Godłowski, Szadkowska, 1972, p. 97; Godłowski, Wichman, 1998, p. 54; Andrzejowski, 1992, p. 115; Juga, 2001, p. 113; Piotrowski, Szela, 2001, p. 167; Moora, 1938, p. 72). The neck-rings with trumpet-shaped terminals, ornaments worn on the temples made from coiled wire, pins with spool-shaped heads, and bracelets with round cross-section of Group I appear both together with finds characteristic for Phase B2 and with later ones. It seems that the bracelets with half-round cross-section, which in turn co-occurred also with Late Roman neck-rings (Michelbertas, 1986, table 2) have the broadest dating. Almost all the types which appeared together with the spiral disks co-occurred also with eye brooches of the Prussian series. The exceptions are the brooches with triangular feet Group I (similar to A.100) which are well fixed in Phase B2b and pins with spool-shaped heads which appeared also with the brooches mentioned above (Michelbertas, 1986, table 2). All that seems to allow to limit the dating of the spiral disks to Phase B2.

Spiral disks are very interesting category of artefacts. Their characteristic style and beauty permits to acknowledge them as one of the most important kind of Lithuanian ornaments dated to the Roman Period. Very interesting is their distribution. Their appearance only in the southern part of the Lithuanian-Latvian Barrow Culture remains unexplained. But the most intriguing is that perhaps disks found at sites of different cultures could be a sign of contacts between them. Especially they could point at some relations between the Lithuanian-Latvian Barrow Culture and the Brushed Pottery Culture in the Phase B2.

References

Abbreviations

- ATL – Archeologiniai tyrinėjimai Lietuvoje, Vilnius
 KSIMK – Kratkije Soobščzenija Instituta Istorii Materialnoj Kulturi, Moskva
 LAA – Lietuvos TSR archeologijos atlasas, Vilnius
 MAB – Monumenta Archaeologica Barbarica, Kraków–Warszawa
 MIA – Materiały i issledowanija po archeologii SSSR, Moskva
 MSiW – Materiały Starożytne i Wczesnośredniowieczne, Warszawa
 „Prussia“ – Prussia. Zeitschrift für Heimatkunde und Heimatschutz, Königsberg i. Pr.
- Almgren O., 1923. Studien über Nordeuropäische Fibelformen der ersten nachchristlichen Jahrhunderte mit Berücksichtigung der provinzialrömischen und südrussischen Formen. Leipzig.
- Andrzejowski J., 1992. Strongly profiled brooches with triangular foot in the Roman provinces and in Barbaricum. In: *Problem der relativen und absoluten Chronologie ab Latènezeit bis zum Frühmittelalter*, ed. K. Godłowski, R. Madyda-Legutko R. Kraków, p. 111–120.
- Aspelin J. R., 1884. Antiquités du Nord Finno-Ougrien. T. 5. Helsingfors.
- Beckmann B., 1969. Die baltische Metallnadeln der römischen Kaiserzeit. In: *Saalburg Jahrbuch*. XXVI, p. 107–120.
- Bitner-Wróblewska A. (ed.), 2002. Kernavė – litewska Troja. Katalog wystawy ze zbiorów Państwowego Muzeum-Rezerwatu Archeologii i Historii w Kernavė, Litwa. Warszawa.
- Boroffka N., Prishchepa B. A., 2002–2003. A bronze hoard from Uzlissia, Ukraine. In: *Dacia. Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne*. XLVI–XLVII, p. 173–184.
- Dubynin A. F., 1974. Ščerbinskoje gorodišče. In: *Djakovskaja kul'tura*. Moskva, p. 198–254.
- Engel C., 1931. Die Kultur des Memellandes in vorgeschichtlicher Zeit. Memel.
- Engel C., 1939. Das jüngste heidnische Zeitalter in Masuren. In: „Prussia“. 33, p. 41–57.
- Engel C., la Baume W., 1937. Kulturen und Völker der Frühzeit im Preußenlande. Königsberg.
- Exner K., 1940. Die provinzialrömischen Emailfibeln der Rheinlande. In: *Bericht der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission*. 29, p. 31–121.
- Gening V. F., 1970. Istorija naselenija Udmurtskogo Prikam'ja v Pjanoborskiju epochu. Čast I, Čegandskaia kultura (III v. do n. e. – II v. n. e.). In: *Trudy Udmurtskoi Archeologičeskoj Ekspeditsii*. 4 (=Voprosy Archeologii Urala, 10). Sverdlovsk, Izhevsk.
- Gening V. F., 1988. Ėtničeskaia istorija Zapadnogo Priuralja na rubeže našej ery. Pjanoborskaja epocha. III v. do n.é. – II v. n.é. Moskva.
- Godłowski K., 1977. Materiały do poznania kultury przeworskiej na Górnym Śląsku, część II. In: *MSiW*. IV, p. 7–237.
- Godłowski K., 1985. Przemiany kulturowe i osadnicze w południowej i środkowej Polsce w młodszym okresie przedrzymskim i w okresie rzymskim. Kraków.
- Godłowski K., Szadkowska L., 1972. Cmentarzysko z okresu rzymskiego w Tarnowie, powiat Opole. In: *Opolski Rocznik Muzealny*. V/2, p. 5–246.
- Godłowski K., Wichman T., 1998. Chmielów Piaskowy. Ein Gräberfeld der Przeworsk-Kultur im Świętokrzyskie-Gebirge. In: *MAB*. VI. Kraków.
- Gorjunova E. I., 1961. Ėtničeskaja istorija Volgo-Okskogo meždurečja. In: *MLA*. 94.
- Graudonis J., 2001. Agro metālu periods. In: *Latvijas senākā vēsture 9.g.t. pr. Kr. – 1200 g.* Ed. Ē. Murgurvičs, A. Vasks. Rīga, p. 116–185.
- Griciuvienė E., Tautavičius A., 1994. Od epoki brązu do średniowiecza. In: *Starożytności Litwy. Katalog wystawy Muzeum Narodowego Litwy z Wilna*. 4.03.–30.06.1994 Warszawa. Warszawa, p. 75–116.
- Grigalavičienė E., 1995. Žalvario ir ankstyvasis geležies amžius Lietuvoje. Vilnius.
- Juga A., 2001. Grób 153 z cmentarzyska w Taltach na Pojezierzu Mazurskim. In: *Officina archaeologica optima. Studia ofiarowane Jerzemu Okuliczow-Kozarynowi w siedemdziesiątą rocznicę urodzin*. Ed. W. Nowakowski, A. Szela, p. 109–116.
- Kulikauskas P., 1958. Nemenčinės piliakalnis. In: *Iš lietuvių kultūros istorijos*. I, p. 20–43.
- Kulikauskas P., 1968. Kurmaičių kapinynas. In: *Lietuvos archeologiniai paminklai. Lietuvos pajūrio I–VII a. kapinynai*. Ed. A. Tautavičius. Vilnius, p. 12–56.
- Kulikauskas P., Kulikauskienė R., Tautavičius A., 1961. Lietuvos archeologijos bruožai. Vilnius.
- Kulikauskas P., Zabiela G., 1999. A Lietuvos archeologijos istorija (iki 1945 m.). Vilnius.
- Kulikauskienė R., Rimantienė R., 1966. Lietuvių liaudies menas. Senovės lietuvių papuošalai. II knyga. Vilnius.
- LAA, 1977. Lietuvos TSR archeologijos atlasas, I–XIII a. pilkapynai ir senkapiai. T. III. Ed. R. Rimantienė.
- LAA, 1978. Lietuvos TSR archeologijos atlasas, I–XIII a. radiniai. T. IV. Ed. A. Tautavičius.
- Luchtanas A., 1994. „Aukuro kalno“ piliakalnio Kernavėje tyrinėjimai. In: *ATL 1992 ir 1993 metais*, p. 50–53.
- Luchtanas A., 2001. K voprosu ob iščezenovėniū kultury štrichovannoi keramiki v baseine Neris (gorodišča i selišča v Kernavė). In: *Archaeologia Litwana*. 2, p. 22–28.
- Lobjoko J., 1823. Starożytności krajowe. Groby olbrzymie na Żmudzi i inne zabytki starożytności tego kraju z rękopismu rossyjskiego. In: *Dziennik Wileński*. II, nr 6, p. 145–157.
- Majewski E., 1900. Kurhany w Pakalniszkach w pow. Poniwieskim. In: *Światowit*. II, p. 92–103.
- Makarenko M., 1910. Zabytki przedhistoryczne guberni Kowieńskiej. In: *Kwartalnik Litewski*. T. II, p. 103–119.
- Michelbertas M., 1986. Senasis geležies amžius Lietuvoje. Vilnius.
- Michelbertas M., 1997. Paragaudžio pilkapynas. Vilnius.
- Michelbertas M., 1998. Tyrinėjimai Paalksnuose. In: *ATL 1996 ir 1997 metais*, p. 145–150.
- Michelbertas M., 2001. Corpus der römischen Funde im europäischen Barbaricum. Litauen. Vilnius.
- Michelbertas M., 2004. Pajuosčio pilkapynas. Monografija. Vilnius.

Moor H., 1938. Die Eisenzeit in Lettland bis etwa 500 n. Chr. II Teil: Analyse. Tartu.

Moor H., 1938a. Tutuli de l'âge du fer romain dans la region de la Baltique orientale. In: *Litterarum societas Esthonica 1838-1938. Liber saecularis*. Tartu, p. 447-454.

Niezabitowski K., 1823. Krótki spis niektórych starożytnych zabytków, znajdujących się w zbiorach obywatela prowincyi Żmudzkiej Dionizego Paszkiewicza pisarza ziem powiatu rossieńskiego. In: *Dziennik Wileński*. T. II, nr 6, p. 157-161.

Nowakowski W., 1995. Od *Galindai* do *Galinditae*. Z badań nad pradziejami bałtyjskiego ludu z Pojezierza Mazurskiego. In: *Barbaricum*. T. 4.

Paegle E., 1927. Dažas dienas Vilnā. In: *Latvijas Saule*. Nr 53./54., p. 588-593.

Piotrowski M., Szela A., 2001. Pogranicze trzech światów – cmentarzysko kultury przeworskiej w Dziezrzgowie, na północnym Mazowszu. In: *Officina archaeologica optima. Studia ofiarowane Jerzemu Okuliczow-Kozarynowi w siedemdziesiąt rocznicę urodzin*. Ed. W. Nowakowski, A. Szela, p. 165-173.

Smirnov A. P., 1949. Mogilniki pjanoborskoj kultury. In: *KSIMK*. 25, vyp. XXV, p. 22-32.

Smirnov A. P., 1961. Železnij vek čuvaškogo Povolžja. In: *MLA*. 95.

Spicyn A. A., 1902. Kurgany bliz d. Pakalniszek Kovienskoj gub. In: *Izvestija Impieratorskoj Archeologičeskoj Komissii*, vyp. 2. S. Peterburg, p. 95-98.

Strazdas A., 1998. Geležies amžiaus paminklų žvalgomyje tyrinėjimai 1996 ir 1997 metais. In: *ATL 1996 ir 1997 metais*, p. 207-209.

Urbanavičius V., 1974. Jonelaičių (Šiaulių raj.) švedkapis. In: *AETL 1972 ir 1973 metais*, p. 57-58.

Vaitkevičius V., 2002. Pilviškių pilkapynas. In: *ATL 2000 metais*, p. 81-83.

Vasks A., Agrais dzelzs laikmets. 1.– 400.g. In: *Latvijas senākā vēsture 9.g.t. pr. Kr. – 1200 g.* Ed. Ē. Mugurēvičs, A. Vasks. Rīga, p. 186-231.

Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė R., 1959. Senovės lietuvių moterų galvos dangai ir jos papuošalai. In: *Iš lietuvių kultūros istorijos*. T. II, p. 30-53.

Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė R., 1997. Senovės lietuvių drabužiai ir jų papuošalai (I–XVI a.). Vilnius.

Die vorgeschichtliche Sammlung des Kurzemer (Kurländischen) Provinzialmuseums zu Jelgava (Mitau). 1818-1938. Riga, 1939.

LITUVIŠKI ANTSMILKINIAI IŠ LENKIŠKOS PERSPEKTYVOS

Ludwika Sawicka

Santrauka

Lietiški plokštėliniai antsmilkiniai su rakto skylutės pavidalo išpjova priklauso vienai įdomiausių radinių kategorijų iš Lietuvos teritorijos ankstyvojo romėniškojo laikotarpio paminklų. Iki šiol žinoma 30 antsmilkinių iš 13 radimviečių (1 pav.), daugiausia priklausančių Lietuvos–Latvijos pilkapių kultūrai.

Antsmilkinių vidurinę dalį sudaro plokštuma, imituojanti stipriai susuktą vielą, pakraščiai puošti dviejų tipų ažūrinio raštu. Tik ant dviejų daiktų, aptiktų brūkšniuotosios keramikos kultūros paminkluose, ažūrinis raštas pakeistas iškilimų eile. Šie papuošalai nešioti moterų smilkinių vietoje, dažniausiai po antsmilkinį abiejose galvos pusėse. Konstrukcijos detalės rodo, kad jie galėjo būti skirti moterims ir „dešiniuosius“ ir „dešiniuosius“.

Sunku vienareikšmiškai nurodyti šių daiktų kilmę. Dažniausiai jie kildinami iš įvijinių papuošalų su auselėmis, aptiktų Kurmaičiuose ir Egliškiuose. Tačiau verta atkreipti dėmesį į panašių stilistinių požūrių segių seriją, žinomą Volgos vidurupio, Kamos upės teritorijoje ir iki pat Uralo. Jų aptikta tarp Pjanoborsko kultūros ir kitų minėto regiono kultūrų daiktų, datuojamų nuo III a. pr. m. e. iki II m. e. a. Panašiai ornamentuotų dirbinių žinoma ir Djakovo kultūros paminkluose.

Plokštėlinius antsmilkinius daugiausia reikia sieti su Lietuvos–Latvijos pilkapių kultūra, tačiau, kas įdomu, tik su pietine šios kultūros dalimi, esančia dabartinės Lietuvos teritorijoje. Atkreipia dėmesį du daiktai, besiskiriantys gaminimo stiliumi, aptikti brūkšniuotosios kultūros paminkluose. Tai antsmilkinis iš Nemenčinės ir tokio antsmilkinio liejimo forma iš Kernavės. Jie gali rodyti ryšius tarp šių dviejų kultūrų, kurių pobūdis reikalauja tolesnių nuodugnių tyrinėjimų.

Pagal Sargėnų, Pakalniškių ir Paragaudžio kapų kompleksus galima gana tiksliai apibūdinti šio tipo antsmilkinių nešiojimo laiką – tai ankstyvojo romėniškojo laikotarpio B2 periodas. Minėtuose paminkluose atskiri antsmilkiniai buvo rasti kartu su A53 tipo prūsų serijos akinė sege, artimomis A100 tipui segėmis trikampe kojele, antkakle kūginiais galais (II gr. pagal Michelbertą), ritiniais smeigtukais, masyviomis apskrito pjūvio akinėmis apyrankėmis (I gr. pagal Michelbertą).

Aiškesnį atsakymą apie plokštėlinių antsmilkinių kilmę, paplitimą įvairių kultūrų kontekste galima gauti tik toliau smulkiai tyrinėjant.

Iš lenkų kalbos vertė M. Michelbertas

Įteikta 2006 m. vasario mėn.