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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

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Preface

This is the first PhD supplementum of Studia academica Šumenensia and by this we hope to establish a tradition by which to present to the academic audience in Bulgaria and abroad the most recent achievements of the PhD students at the Depatment of History and Archaeology at Shumen University. The diversity of topics studied by our PhD students is due to the research interests of their tutors and the Department stuff. In some cases, however, it was the PhD students' main interest that was taken into account when setting the topic of their research. Unlike, the Studia academica Šumenensia whose issues are based on specific topics, this is not the case with the PhD Supplementum. It is therefore not surprising that this volume contains studies in Archaeology, History, etc.

In the volume under consideration it is more than half of all the contributions that are in the field of Archaeology. All of them are dealing with specific topics which covered as early as middle and late paleolithic period and reached up till the late antique period. Thus, Ivaylo Krumov is dealing with a short anylisis of a collection of more than 200 cores that were found during systematic archaeological excavations in 1950s in Samuilitsa cave. His study shed light on the nature, meaning and the development of the Levallois technology and conceptions which are among the most discussed topics in bibliography based on this collection. Different criteria are used such as raw material, technological, typological, functional amd monomethric.

The second artcicle on Prehistory, in fact, is dealing with flint tools from the Pleistocene which are kept in the so-called 'Y. Shopov's Collection'. The artefacts originated from various sites near the dam 'Shiroka poliana', Batak municipality and consists of cores, debitage, tools. For instance, the group of cores consists of proto-cores, one platform cores, bi platform core of plates, Levallois methods and discoid cores, cores with a changed orientation, pieces and fragments of the cores; the group of debitage includes plates or slivers, that have been used in the preparation, initial phase, the waste material from the exploitation of the cores; the group of tools includes graters with indentations and concave retouch, graters from late Paleolithic type with signs of Paleolithic workshops, retouched and processed debris on both sides, of Levallois fragment, pseudolevallois spear, cutters, punches with indentations or concave retouches, processed on both sides - including leaf-shaped spear and graters -knives.

The next two articles are dealing with the Late antiquity in two regions of modern Bulgaria – Upper Thracian valley and Middle Struma valley. The former article is dealing with the publication of pottery which derives from burials in northeastern part of modern town of Nova Zagora. Of

9 studied items 5 are mugs, two – bowls and a small amphora and an oinchoe. The analysis of the pottery vessel and particularly the specifics of their type, various kind of ornamentation etc., which dated them to the 4th century, set them among the local type pootery. These specifics with the glass beads from a necklace and a bronze coin, minted in the period of descendants of emperor Constantine date the burial goods from the end of 3rd century till the third quarter of 4th century AD.

The latter article provides new information about the shapes and territorial distribution of the Macedonian grayware in the region under consideration which also is attested in the Republic of of Macedonia (Stobi, Scupi, Isar Marvinci and Stankina Cheshma near Valandovo, Gorica near Vinica, Heraclea Lyncestis), Greece (Thessaloniki, Athens) and Bulgaria (Kyustendil, Pernik, Dupnitsa, Blagoevgrad, Sandanski and Petrich) in 4th-5th century AD. The material studied is kept in the Archaeological collection in Strumyani, Bulgaria. The study focuses on their fabric, shapes, capacity and function.

The article of Mariana Cecke belongs to the local-studies type. It reveals one of the Bulgarian villages in modern Romania that escaped the fate of many others of this kind located in Wallachia. A lot of facts are stated, which show the efforts of its citizens to save their traditions and cultures, which they had before they settled in the foreign country - to defend their traditions, as much as the circumstances allowed in the last two-three decades of the 19th century.

The last historical study is devoted to the early political career of one of most prominent Bulgarian politicians in the first half of 20th century – Nikola Mushanov. The article is the first attempt of this kind to follow the early poltical career of that democrat, trying as mush as possible to trace all his initial political activities based on a rich and varied documentary material; mainly the documents left by N. Mushanov himself are used. It seems that his growing up in the party hierarchy was faster than usual, and his serious personal qualities and high moral led him to the post of the leader of the Ruse party organization and allowed him to be elected as a member of The Twelfth Parliament only at the age of 30.

The final article concerns the so-called 'Integrated management system' (IMS) that was implemented and maintained at different levels by the municipality of Shumen according to the international standards ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 14001:2004 and declared policy management. The municipality has adopted and applied the standards for providing administrative services to users presented in the Customer charter of Shumen municipality and the activities are in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Bulgaria and with the Rules of the municipal administration approved since April 2007.

Shumen, November 2016 I. Topalilov, B. Georgiev, S. Nedelcheva

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Levallois Cores from Samuilitsa II cave in Northwest Bulgaria

Ivaylo Krumov

Abstract: The focus of this paper is the collection from Samuilitsa II cave, founded in the 50s of the 20th century by N. Dzhambazov. This was the only collection that was found in a stratigraphic context with a homogeneous character from a chronological and cultural point of view. It contains more than 200 cores. This paper is an attempt for a brief analysis of this collection in the context of the so called Levallois technique.

Key words: Paleolithic, cores, Levalois technique

Резюме: Обект на тази статия е една колекция от пещерата Самуилица II с находки, открити през 50-те години на 20-ти век от Николай Джамбазов. Това е единствената колекция, открита в стратиграфски контекст с хомогенен характер от хронологическа и културна гледна точка. Тази колекция обхваща повече от 200 ядра. Тази статия е опит за кратък анализ на тази колекция в контекста на така наречената левалуазка техника.

The focus of this paper is the collection from Samuilitsa II cave, found in the 50s years of the 20th century by N. Dzhambazov.[1] This was the only collection that was found in a stratigraphic context with a homogeneous character from a chronological and cultural point of view. It contains more than 200 cores. This paper is an attempt for a brief analysis of this collection in the context of the so called Levallois technique.

The archaeological research along the Iskar River' defile started in 1920 by the well-known Bulgarian paleontologist and prehistoric R. Popov. In 1924 he made small trenches in the Temnata cave near the village of Karlukovo. The findings – stone and bone artifacts - were published later in a small monograph in 1931.[2]

[1] Dzhambazov 1959, 47 – 53; 1981, 62.
[2] Popov 1931.

The prehistoric research into the Iskar's defile continued in 1957 by a team from the Archaeological institute and museum of Bulgarian academy of Sciences (further NAIM - BAS) led by N. Dzhambazov. He made systematic excavations in a number of caves. More familiar of them are the caves Pesht near the village of Staro selo, and both Samuilitsa I and Samuilitsa II near the village of Kunino. There have been found considerable groups from the middle and late Paleolithic in Samuilitsa II, but the lack of data about the stratigraphy and the chronology had prevented a detailed research to be done. In 1981 N. Dzhambazov had published the stone and bone artifacts from Samuilitza II.[3] There had been presented cores (Levallois, discoidal, single-platform and double-platform, etc.), middle and late Paleolithic artifacts, as well as flakes and blades. Unfortunately, after his publication it was impossible for a long time to reach the artifacts of cores. Few years ago they had been taken as an inventory of NAIM - BAS. Due to the absence of the artifacts of cores N. Sirakov had analyzed and published after the 80s of the 20th century the gathered by Dzhambazov middle Paleolithic materials only partially – tools and flakes.[4] Since 1984 until 1994 a scientific team from NAIM – BAS, Jagellonian University in Krakow, Poland and the University of Bordeaux I from France had started professional Paleolithic research into the Temnata cave and the rock tunnel Prohodna. Their aim was to make an additional study of the already known data and to make interdisciplinary analyses of the findings. A reconstruction of the paleo-environment of the Karlukovo' karst was the main goal of this research project.[5] The Last research of this region has been done in 1994 by S. Ivanova in Skandalna cave and Tz. Tzonev in Samuilitsa I. There was not found any archaeological material from the Paleolithic in an integral context.

The Samuilitsa cave II is situated about 2 km north of the village of Kunino and has west exposure. It is situated in the periphery of one of the tributaries of the Iskar River. In the near past it was an active place where water collected, but in the present time it has dried up. The cave is formed from Mastriks' limestone.[6] The morphology of the region is diverse with different types of karst forms (caves, caverns, etc.). The underground and surface water played the important role for the formation of these forms but also the lithology of the rocks. The progressive erosion and digging of the valley led to a significant lowering of the river's erosion basis. This is the way in which many caves and other karst forms were created. The youngest caves

[3] Dzhambazov 1981.
[4] Sirakov 1983.
[5] Kozlowski *et al*. 1992; 1994.
[6] Sirakov 1983, 5.

are situated near the erosion basis of the river and still continue to be active – they are full of water and stalagmites, stalactites and other forms still create. In the upper parts of the canyon caves are situated, where the processes of formation of the karst had finished. These are dry caves, full of sediments. Namely there were found remains of humans and animals. The cave's sediments preserve organic and inorganic remnants from destruction.[7] Such dry caves are both Samuilitsa I and II, Prohodna and Temnata cave, etc. There exist serious evidences that paleo-environment around the Samuilitsa II cave was very diverse and conducive about settlement of hunting-gathering human groups.[8] The erosion basis of the river Iskar had been situated much higher than the present level; almost all the tributaries of the river had functioned; the flora and the fauna had been presented in a wide variety and the region had been rich of flint material. All these factors enabled one intensive settlement in the Karlukovo's karst and exploitation of the paleo-environment by the Paleolithic human.

The nature, meaning and development of the Levallois technology and conception are some of the most discussed topics in the historiography of the Paleolithic studies even today. The tasks of this study require having a look at the role of this important Paleolithic technique. This means to consider the geochronology and periodization of the Paleolithic era as well as the geographic context of these changes. During the Quaternary the more developed forms of humans appeared (*Homo Sapiens Neanderthalensis* and *Homo Sapiens Sapiens*). This biological evolution was accompanied by development of the way in which the stone tools used to be processed. This topic is a subject of many scientific discussions. On the basis of the technical-typological analysis of the stone artifacts several different techniques could be differentiated: Clactonian, typical for the early Paleolithic, Mousterian and levallois, specific for the middle Paleolithic and late Paleolithic techniques.

Levallois technique arose during the Riss icing, but later on the Clactonian technique. Along with the levallois technique a tendency in the treatment of the row material had been developed, which marked an important stage in the prehistoric lithic technology. Apart from different technological discoveries that arose, spread, disappeared, and some of them appeared again, there existed two main ways of blades and flakes acquiring:

1. Technique of core exploitation without preliminary special preparation. This exploitation is specific for the early Paleolithic.

[7] Pawlikowski 1992, 241 – 243.
[8] Kozlowski *et al*. 1994.

2. Technique of core exploitation, with a preliminary stage of preparation. Typical examples are the levallois cores with specifically prepared platform side and flake surfaces through separation of centripetal flakes. The aim was levallois flakes to be obtained. The main aim of the preparation of the raw material used to be the manufacturing of tools.

So this levallois technique was set apart as a different Paleolithic technique by H. Breuil in 1951.[9] The new tendencies of research are related to the name of F. Bordes, who accepted the levallois flakes as an analytical category in his typological system of classification of late and middle Paleolithic industries. In 1947 he defined the levallois technique as a technique of targeted preparation of striking platform. He clearly defined this technique in 1950. At the same time he also stressed on the fact that the surface had been also preliminary prepared. Then he defined the meaning of levallois flake as a 'flake, which form is destined due to a special preparation of the core platform before its separation'.[10] Later several researchers continue developing of the conception of the levallois technique. F. Bordes is the one who differentiated the three main techniques in the middle Paleolithic:

1. Clactonian that used one-platform and multisided cores without preliminary preparation;
2. Mousterian technique – where the exploitation was of discoidal core;
3. Levallois technique – exploitation of the levallois core.

At the end of the 70s of the 20th century a talk about a production chain had started and terms appeared that lately became an integral part of the studies, concerning stone ensembles – economy of stone raw materials and economy of debitage.[11]

In this analysis of the cores from the Samuilitsa II cave I use the classical or the so called conventional method that is approved in the research of the prehistoric stone ensembles. It is expressed in the separation of different types of artifacts (cores, semi- manufactures and tools) into a given ensemble. In other words I make a classification on the basis of certain marks (form, number of striking platforms, etc.)

[9] Kozlowski 1972.
[10] Bordes 1961.
[11] Boeda 1993, 392 - 404; Marks & Walkman 1987, 11 – 20, Ruvellion 1994, 269 – 271; 1995, 425 – 441; Tuffreau *et al*. 1994, 23 – 45; Locht & Swinnen 1994, 89 – 103; Collina-Girard & Turq 1991, 49 – 74.

The study of cores has the next few levels of analysis:

- Raw material, sources and extraction;
- Technical-typological analysis;
- Typological classification of the cores;
- An attempt of chronology and a cultural definition.

I use different criteria for the analysis, which concerned different aspects of characteristics of the cores. The criteria are: raw materials, technological, typological, functional and morphometric.

The research of the raw material is an important stage from the entire analysis. Due to the raw material we receive information about the place from where the Paleolithic group used to obtain and use the given type of raw material (for example flint raw material type C, plenty of which is in the region of the Samuilitsa II cave).

The technic-typological analysis is the other important point that gives us information about the way a given type of core had been made, or in other words to follow the technological chain: the obtainment of the raw material, the preparation and the exploitation of the core.

The stone ensemble from the Samuilitsa II cave has the middle Paleolithic characteristics (it is on the borderline between Middle and Upper Paleolithic), but plenty of typical late Paleolithic forms of cores are presented due to the mixture with later levels. F. Bordes defines several types, typical for the middle Paleolithic, where he defines the following types of Levallois cores:

- Proto-levallois flakes;
- Levallois flakes;
- Levallois blades;
- Levallois points.

Determining the functional characteristics of the cores is the next stage of the analysis, that way we try to understand what kind of semi-manufactures the core used for designing blades, bladeless flakes etc. Keeping in mind that the debitage - semi-manufactures and tools from Samuilitsa II – is published, we can make a technological and typical connection to great extent. One other important point is that some of the cores used to be reutilized – they had been used later as a type of tools.

As a result of the morphometric data (length, width, wide of the core) and also length-width of the negatives on the cores we can make the following conclusions:

In what extend the given core had been exploited:

- Initial stage of exploitation;
- Advanced stage of exploitation;

- Final stage of exploitation.

What are the dimensions of the received semi-manufactures: so that we can specify their functional belonging?

All these give us a reason to make conclusions about the main technical characteristics of the core exploitation and the development of the technological conception in diachronic aspect.

The main conclusion is that from the typical levallois cores predominantly typical levallois flakes had been separated, and less untypical such.

The stone industry from the Samuilitsa II cave is without detailed defined stratigraphic context and this is the main reason why the comparison with other ensembles from the territory of Bulgaria and other regions could be only more general. From the technical-typological point of view this collection is found analogous to the archaeological materials from the Temnata cave, Muselievo, Bacho Kiro, Ivanchovi kolibi, Tanin ruchei, Kremenliev ruchei, Kremenliev sklad, Shevar dere, Shenkin sklad, etc.[12] Outside Bulgarian national borders the collection from Samuilitsa II finds parallels to the region of Levanta (Boker Tachtit, Roch ein Mor, Ksar Akil, Antelias, Abu Halka, etc).[13] There are also similar places with similar tendencies of stone industries in the territory of Ukraine.[14]

The Samuilitsa II cave had been used multiple times from the Paleolithic groups of Middle and Late Paleolithic. The most intensive it was in the middle Paleolithic. The archaeological data from the late Paleolithic is sporadic and we could not make any significant conclusions about this period.

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Ivaylo Krumov, The University of Shumen, Department of History and archaeology, 9712 Shumen, BULGARIA
krumes@abv.bg

Levallois Cores from Samuilitsa II Cave in Northwest Bulgaria.

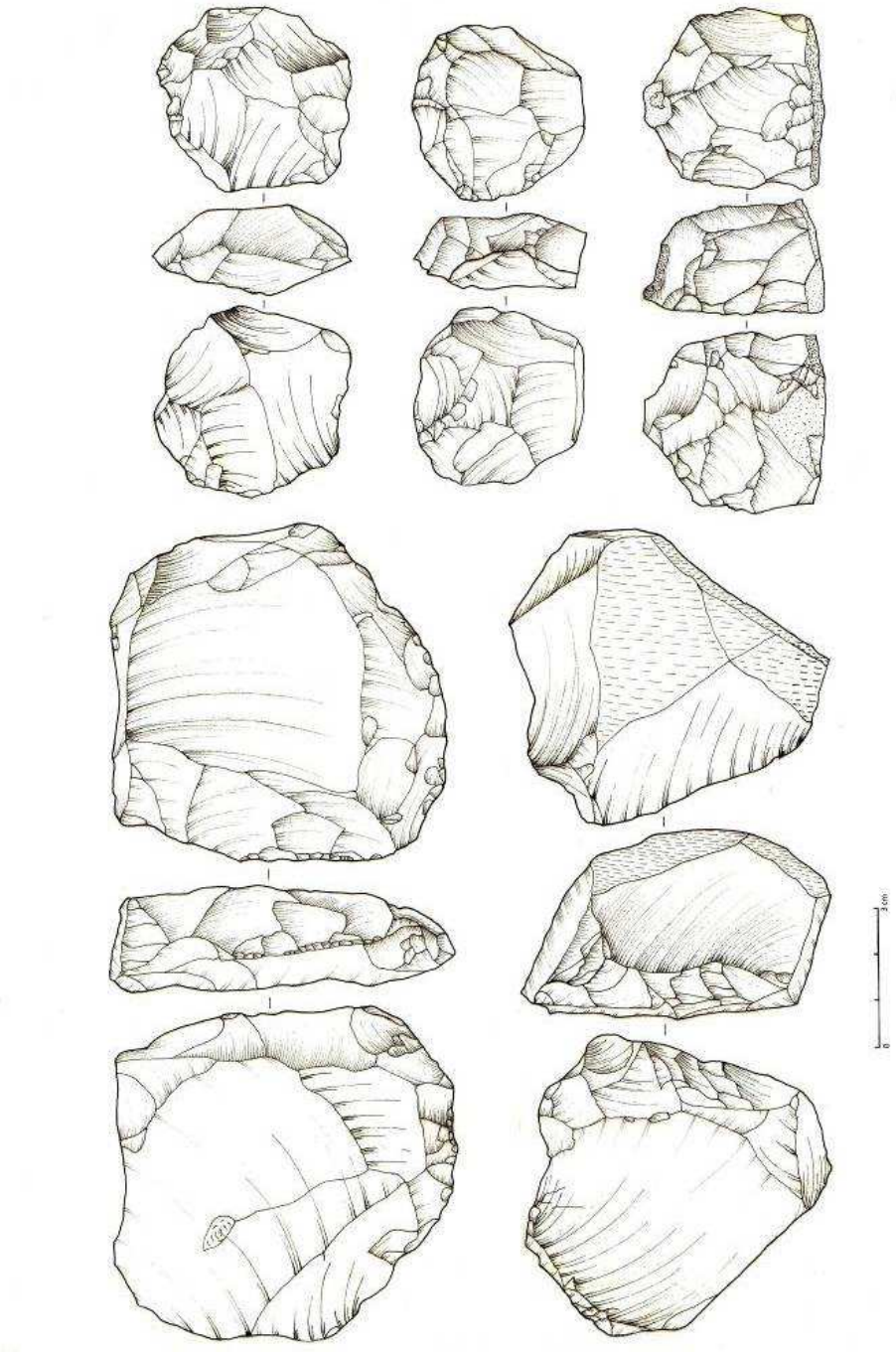


Table. I. Samuilitsa II cave. Levallois cores

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Middle and Upper Paleolithic period in the Western Rhodopes

Vesselin Stankov

Abstract: The Paleolithic troves serving as the foundation of Shopov's collection, are located near *Shiroka poliana* dam, in the area of *Shiroka poliana* State Game Station, Batak municipality. As the name suggests, *Shiroka poliana* (translates as 'wide field), this area has a wide ridge plateau, 1400-1500 m. above the sea level. Shopov himself located several troves of flint tools, confirmed later by archaeologists in the areas of *Ivanchovi kolibi*, *Tannin ruchei*, *Shenkin sklad*, etc. It was found, that the flint tools were from the Pleistocene age (period of the Ice Age). Flint fragments and fragments of Shopov's collection are dated as Middle and Late Paleolithic period.

Key words: Western Rhodopes, Kremenete, Shopov, Gravettian period, Middle Paleolithic

Резюме: Палеолитните находища, дали основата на колекция Шопов, се намират в района на днешен яз. „Широка поляна", територия на ДДС „Широка поляна", Община Батак. Местността „Широка поляна" е с широка билна заравненост намираща се на 1400-1500 м. надморска височина. Самият Шопов локализира няколко находища на кремъчни сечива, потвърдени по-късно и от археолозите в местностите Иванчови колиби, Танин ручей, Шенкин склад и др. Установява се, че възрастта на кремъчните оръдия на труда имат най-общо плейстоценска възраст (период на ледената епоха). Кремъчните отломъци и фрагменти от колекция Шопов са датирани като среден и късен палеолит.

In the period from 1958 until the end of the 1980s the secondary school history teacher Yosif Shopov from Sofia collected an impressive collection of flint stone artefacts. As a hobby prehistorian he cooperated with the National Archaeological Institute with museum (NAIM) at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS) and often lectured with Professor Georgi Georgiev – the head of the Prehistory department. After a study of the finds by Shopov it appears that for the first time Bulgaria registered a trove of flint tools from the early Paleolithic located south of the Stara Planina

mountain range. For the first time in Bulgaria was discovered fist hammers from pre- Chelles period and the Chelles period and other tools from the early Paleolithic age.

The trove is located in the center of the Western Rhodopes, near *Vasil Kolarov* dam,[1] the area of *Shiroka poliana*, Batak municipality.[2] An archaeological research was conducted in October 1966 in the area of *Shiroka poliana* under the leadership of Senior research associate Nikolai Dzhambazov of NAIM at BAS, Nedyalka Gizdova from the former District National Museum in Pazardzhik, Hristo Manov from the Historical Museum in Batak, with the participation of J. Shopov. The first in-depth research led to good results, confirming the initial dating of the site. The findings receive international attention. In the following year, in October, 1967, in Bulgaria was organized an international symposium on the oldest history of humankind.[3] On this occasion the trove, called the *Kremenete* complex, was visited by the foreign associate prof. Sergei Nikolayevich Bibikov - director of the Archaeological Museum in the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. It was suggested that a scientific base could be established in this location.

In 1989, NAIM at BAS redeemed from the heirs of J. Shopov much of his collection.[4] This gave reason to the prehistorians, S. Ivanova and N. Sirakov, to initiate a new expedition to the Rhodope Mountains, to the location where Shopov gathered a large part of his collection. The goal was to complete the finds and map the area. This happened in 1990 when Shopov hired a local guide, who knew well and was thoroughly familiar with Shopov's knowledge of the area and his collecting activity.

The Paleolithic troves serving as the foundation of Shopov's collection, are located near the *Shiroka poliana* dam, in the area of *Shiroka poliana* State Game Station, Batak municipality. As the name suggests, 'Shiroka poliana' (translates as 'wide field'), this area has a wide plateau, located at 1400-1500 m. above the sea level. Shopov himself located several troves of flint tools, confirmed later by archaeologists in the areas of *Ivanchovi kolibi*, *Tannin ruchei*, *Shenkin sklad* and others. It was found that the flint tools were from the Pleistocene age (a period of the Ice Age).[5] Flint fragments and fragments of Shopov's collection are dated as Middle and Late Paleolithic. Artifacts found in localized areas (ensembles) are divided into the following groups: cores, debitage, tools.

[1] Today – *Goliam Beglik* dam, Batak municipality, Bulgaria.
[2] *Septemvriisko zname*, No 64/16 August 1961.
[3] *Rabotnichesko delo* No 57/ 21 February 1967; Mihaylov 1970, 36-37.
[4] Ivanova & Sirakova 1993, 17.
[5] Ivanova & Sirakov 1993, 18.

The group of cores consists of: proto-cores, one platform cores, bi platform core of plates, Levallois methods and discoid cores, cores with a changed orientation, pieces and fragments of the cores.

The group of debitage includes: plates or slivers, that have been used in the preparation, initial phase, the waste material from the exploitation of the cores. The foundations formed with one hit prevail, and fragments of natural basis are second. Less are those formed with more than one hit. Prevailing are debris with medium (3 cm) and large size (5 cm).

The group of tools includes: graters with indentations and concave retouch, graters from late Paleolithic type with signs of Paleolithic workshops, retouched and processed debris on both sides, of Levallois fragment, pseudolevallois spear, cutters, punches with indentations or concave retouches, processed on both sides - including leaf-shaped spear and graters -knives.

With few exceptions the main raw material for the production of these tools is opal- chalcedony. This material relates primarily to the group of Middle Paleolithic forms, and a small part relates to the late Paleolithic forms.

Regarding the dating of gravity elements, they are comparable with those of the Iskar gorge and Temna dupka.[6] The Gravettian period[7] is dated between 29000-25000 B.C. and the epi – Gravettian - between 20000-13000 B.C.[8]

Of all the tools found in the area of *Shiroka poliana* most are of Middle Paleolithic Period with leaf-shaped spears. They are characterized by a flat retouch, covering almost entirely both surfaces – well-formed edges, substructure and spears. In technology and morphology these forms are almost similar to those of Musalievo (Pleven) and Samuilitsa (near the village Kunino, Vratsa).[9] Thus *Shiroka poliana* is attributed to the group of Middle Paleolithic troves of leaf-shaped spears of the East Balkan group - Risovacha (East Serbia), Orlova chukka, Ruse, *Kozarnika* cave (Belogradchik area), and Madara (northeast Bulgaria).

Regarding these cultures the opinion of the researchers that they relate to the Middle and the beginning of the Late Paleolithic Period - 50000-35000 BC is confirmed increasingly. The inclusion of the Rhodope region makes it the most southern point of the Eastern Balkan

[6] Sirakov et *al*. 1990, 7-51.

[7] The Gravettian period- it covers the Upper, Late Paleolithic, named as the Orinyak period, after the name of the cave Orinyak, Canton Upper Garonne, France.

[8] Sirakov *et al*. 1990, 169-171.

[9] Dzhambazov 1959.

Mousterian,[10] where the leaf-shaped spears are spread and shows an unexplored area of the movement of Homo sapiens in the Balkans.[11]

In the area of *Shiroka poliana* and especially in the Middle Paleolithic trove 'Orphehopovus II' were found artifacts[12] dating at the beginning of early Virum,[13] i.e. the period before Eastern Balkan mousterian with leaf-shaped spears.

Rabotnichesko delo, No 52/21 February 1967
Septemvriisko zname, No 64/16 August 1961

Dzhambazov, N. (1959) 'Razkopki v peshterara Samuilitsa II', *Archeologiya* 1-2, 47-53.

Ivanova, S. & Sirakov, N. (1993) 'Novi Danni za sredniya i kasniya paleolit v Zapadnite Rodopi (kolektsiya I. Shopov)', in: V. Nikolov (ed.) *Praistoricheski izskedvaniya. Sbornik v pamet na prof. Georgi Georgiev* (Sofia), 15-25.

Mihaylov, S. (1970) 'Arheologiyata v Rodopite', *Rodopi* 8-9, 36-37.

Sirakov, N., Sirakova, S. & Ferries, C. (1990) 'Temnata cave near Karloukovo (N. Bulgaria), an important geological sequence in Northern Balkans', *Studia Praehistorica* 10, 7-51.

Sirakova, S. (1993) 'Za tipologiya na listovidnite formi v iztochnobalkanskiya mustetien s listovidni varhove, in: V. Nikolov (ed.) *Praistoricheski izsledvaniya. Sbornik v pamet na prof. Georgi Georgiev* (Sofia), 41-51.

Vesselin Stankov, The University of Shumen, Department of History and archaeology, 9712 Shumen, BULGARIA
vesostankov@mail.bg

[10] Le Moustier is located in the Dordogne, France. The findings of this period of the Middle Paleolithic cover the territory of all Europe during the period 200 000 (until recently was considered by 100,000 years) to 35 000 years B.C. - Paleolithic in Bulgaria and Europe – <http://bg-archaeology.blogspot.com/>

[11] Ivanova & Sirakova 1993, 25.

[12] Region of *Orpheus* hut, south of *Shiroka poliana*, in the direction of Borino village, Dospat Municipality.

[13] Virum - last Ice Age period.

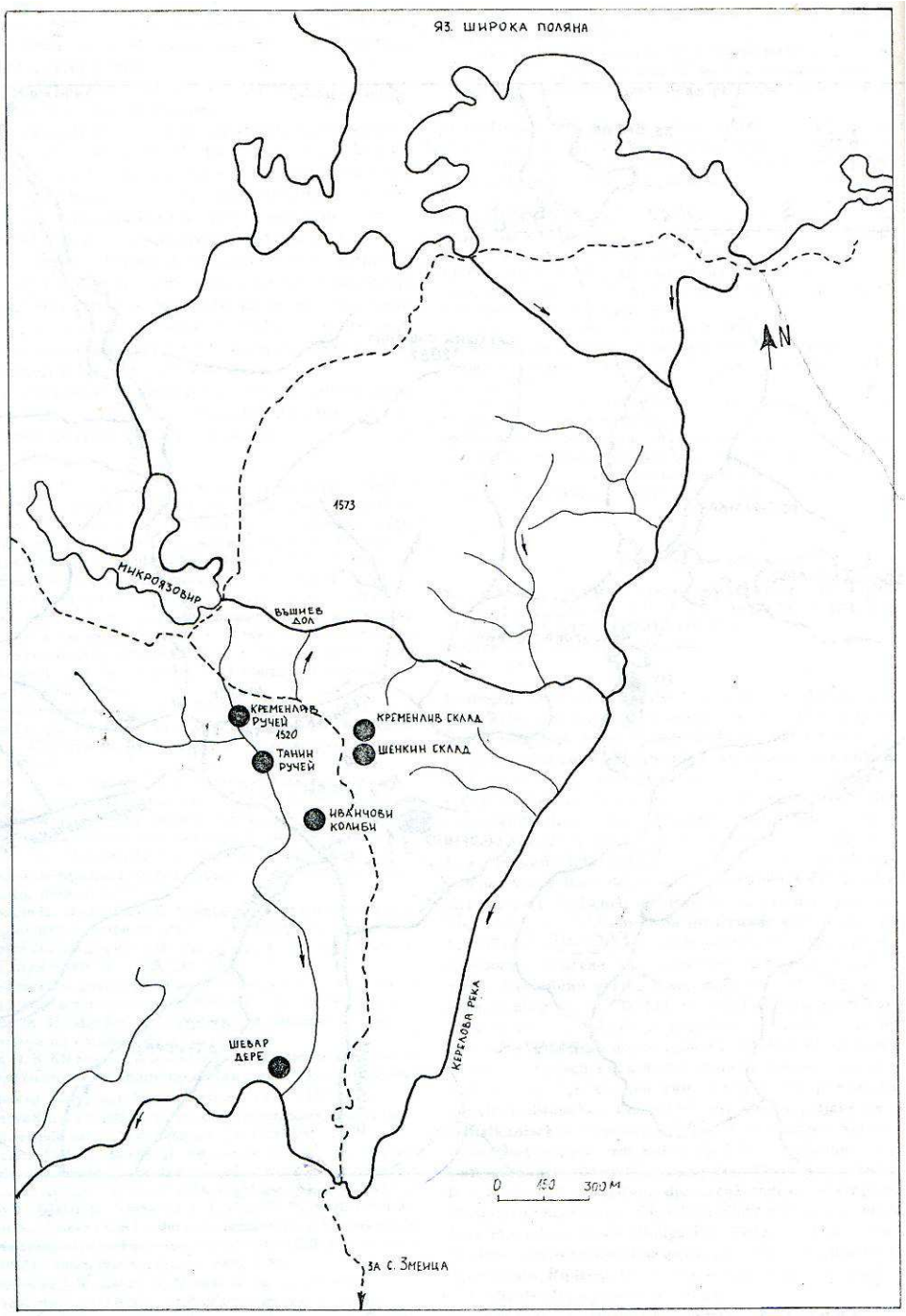


Fig. 1. Paleolithic deposits near the dam 'Shiroka polyana' (after Ivanova & Sirakov 1993)

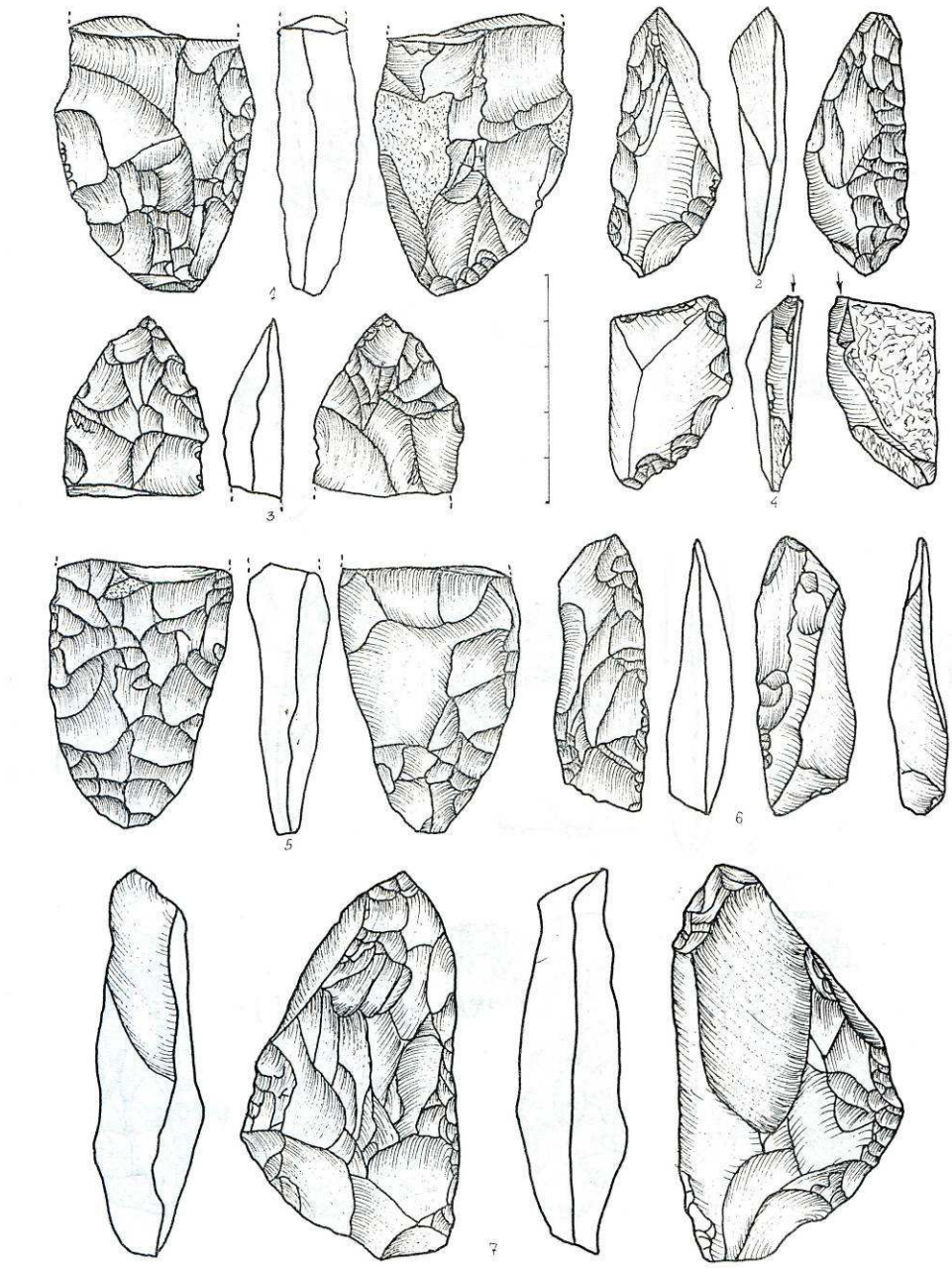


Table 1. Frond peaks - 1,3,5; scraper-knife - 2,6,7 from *Shenkin sklad*, *Ivanchovi kolibi* and *Tanin ruchei* (after Ivanova & Sirakov 1993).

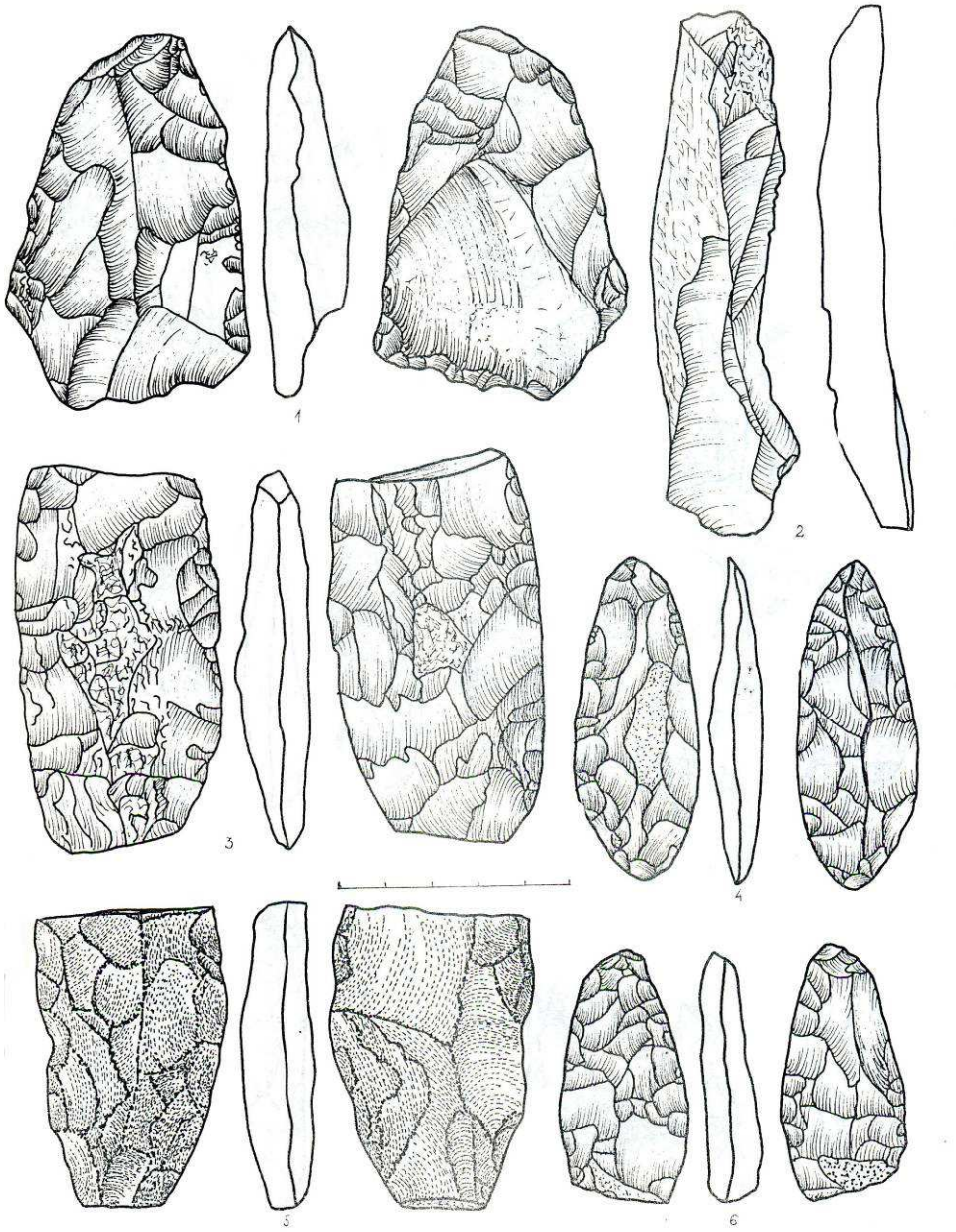


Table 2. Flint tools from *Ivanchovi kolibi*, *Kremenliv ruchei* and *Tanin ruchei*. Scraper-knife - 1 plate - 2 leaf-shaped peaks - 3,4,6 (after Ivanova & Sirakov 1993)

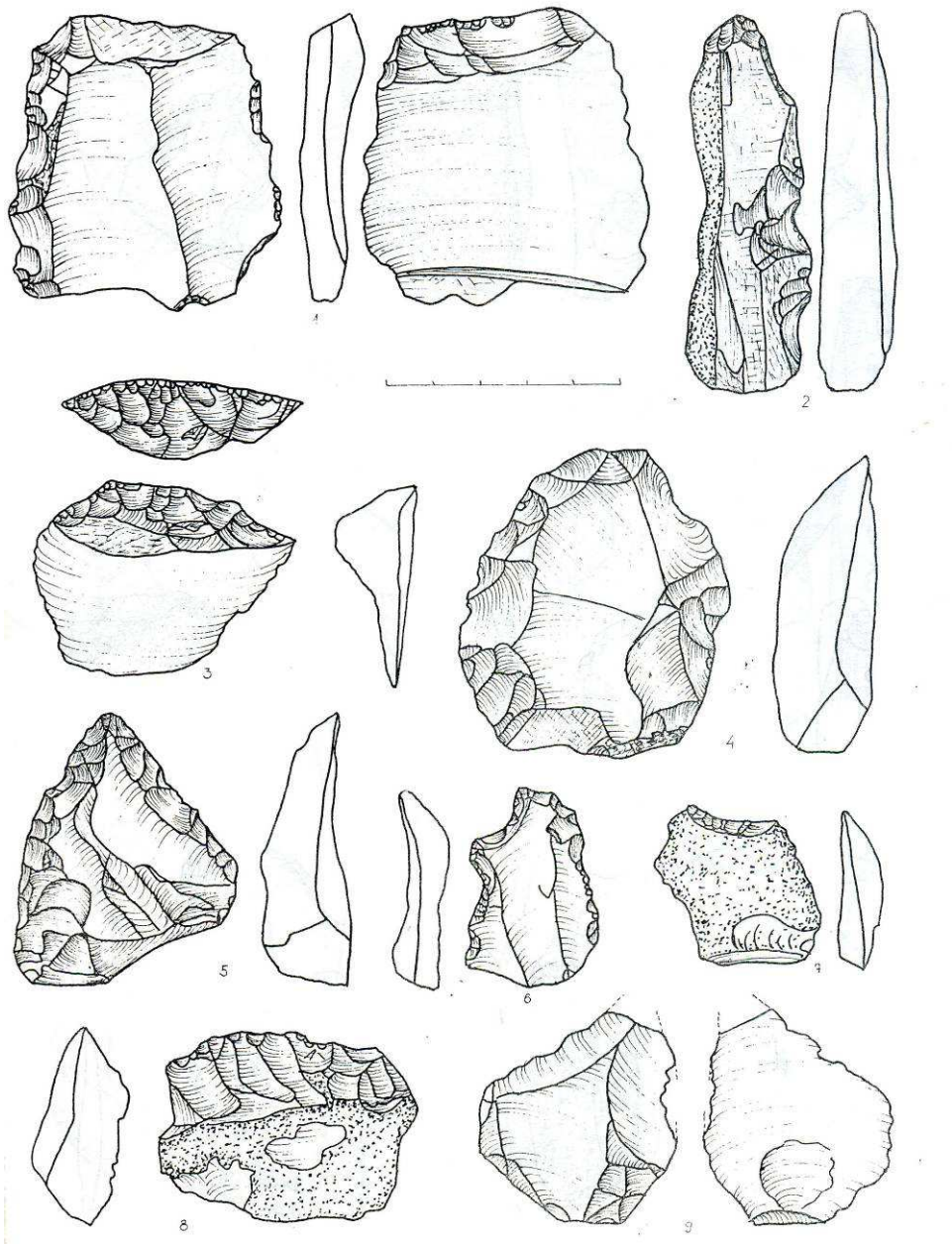


Table 3. Flint tools from *Ivanchovi kolibi*, *Shavar dere*, *Tanin ruchei* and *Shenkin sklad*. Longitudinal scraper - 1.2; cross-scraper - 3.7; convergent scraper - 4.5; cannon with serrated and concave retouching - 6; pseudo levaluazki peak - 8 (after Ivanova & Sirakov 1993).

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Inventory of late antique burials on the territory of the town of Nova Zagora

Krasimir Velkov

Abstract: The artefacts represented from late antique graves are found under different circumstances in the Northeastern part of the town of Nova Zagora. Some of them were accidentally found, others - during excavation works in the necropolis from the late Bronze age in the 80s of the twentieth century.

The information about the finds from the fund of the archaeological department and the investigation in the 80s is scarce.

Only the date of the investigation is mentioned on the finds - 1983 together with the grave numbers they came from. This scarce information hinders the dating which was made on the basis of parallels of the finds.

In the six registered graves were found 9 clay vessels: 5 mugs, two bowls, a small amphora and an oinochoe. Glass beads from a necklace, typical of the time, came out from grave N 2 and a bronze coin, minted in the period of ruling of the descendants of emperor Constantine (306-337).

The clay vessels, especially the mugs show characteristic features of the late Roman fourth century, namely red glazing only on part of the body and coarse clay. Some have handmade glazing, some are dipped. A typical characteristic feature is the high neck, the small base and bevelled lower part. The ornamentation has the distinctive qualities of 4th century of the region, the type 'cogwheel' cuts on parts of the body and stamps. There are graffiti on two objects.

The presented graves and the artefacts found in them contribute with one more localization and increase the number of the known late antique necropolises dating from the end of 3rd century and the third quarter of 4th century in the Bulgarian territory. They confirm the custom of placing clay vessels although small in number as grave gifts, as well as the typical of the period presence of ornaments and coins in the graves.

Keywords: Nova Zagora, late antique burials, 4th century AD, inventory, ceramics, ornaments, beads

Резюме: Представени са артефакти, произхождащи от късноантични гробове, открити при различни обстоятелства в североизточната част на гр. Нова Загора. Едни от находките са открити случайно, а други в процеса на археологическо проучване на некропол от късната бронзова епоха през 80-те години на XX век.

Сведенията за находките от фонда на отдел „Археология" и за проучванията през 80 години са много оскъдни.

Inventory of late antique burials on the territory of the town of Nova Zagora

Липсват данни за гробните съоръжения и начина на погребване в късноантичните гробове. На откритите находки е отбелязана само годината на проучване – 1983 г., и номерацията на гробовете, от които произхождат.

Оскъдната информация затруднява датировката, която е направена въз основа паралели на находките.

В шестте регистрирани гроба са открити 9 глинени съда. Преобладават чашките - 5 екземпляра. Открити са и две глинени паници, малка амфорка и ойнохое. От гроб № 2 произхождат и често срещаните в периода мъниста от стъклена паста от тъмносиньо стъкло и бронзова монета, отсечена при наследниците на имп. Константин (306-337).

Глинените съдове, особено чашите показват типични характеристики за късноримския IV век, с наличието на червено лаково покритие само върху част от тялото на съдовете и по-грубата глина, от която са изработени те. Лаковото покритие върху някои от тях е нанесено на ръка, а не чрез потапяне. Характерно е издължаване на шийката на съдовете, малките дъна и скосяването на долната част на предметите. Украсата е типична за IV век в района, тип „зъбчато колело", набраздяване върху част от телата на съдовете, щемпелувана украса. Върху два предмета има графити.

Представените артефакти, произхождащи от късноантични погребения, увеличават броя на некрополите с датировка от края на III - третата четвърт на IV век от територията на България.

Потвърждават поставянето, макар и на по-малък брой глинени съдове, като гробен дар и характерното за некрополите от този период наличие на накити и монети в гробовете.

The town of Nova Zagora is located in the utmost north-eastern part of Stara Zagora field which is part of the Upper Thracian valley and is 6 km away from the southern slopes of the Surnena Sredna Gora Mountain. The town is situated alongside and between the rivers of Chatal Azmak to the west and Durashki Azmak to the east. The Blatnitsa river, a feeder of the Sazliika, runs southeast and south of the town. The average altitude of the town is 130 m.

A lot of archaeological sites were registered within the boundaries or in close proximity of the present- day town. Some of them were completely or partially studied during the archaeological excavations: the pre-historic settlement 'Hlebozavoda' (the Bread factory),[1] Nova Zagora Bronze age settlement,[2] the prehistoric settlement in the Thracian district (Komunalni usligi), inhabited in the period of late Bronze and Early Iron age[3] and the Late Bronze age necropolis, located near the town park.[4]

The act of compiling a list of the partially or completely investigated prehistoric objects known to us, shows the serious attention

[1] Kancheva-Ruseva 1991, N 181.
[2] Kancheva-Ruseva 1991, N 182.
[3] Kancheva-Ruseva 1991, N 183.
[4] Kancheva-Ruseva 1991, N 188.

they have drawn. The published results from the investigations have indisputably contributed to archaeology.[5]

The good state of the investigation of the prehistoric period is in contrast with the investigation of Antiquity and Middle ages. One of the reasons may be the lack of timely information provided about the antique and medieval materials during the archaeological excavations.

The goal of this paper are the newly uncovered burials and inventory from the late antiquity within the territory of the present day town of Nova Zagora, some of them discovered occasionally during the investigation of prehistoric archaeological sites. The graves were discovered in the north eastern part of the town where the park is situated. The territory of the park is known as Bokluk tarla (in Turkish for dunghill). It is 1000 m long, situated 50 m north –east from the administrative centre of the town (fig. I). The territory is on either side of the Durashki Azmak river. The present day road Stara Zagora –Nova Zagora - Sliven passes through its northern part. On both sides of the river, north and south of the road ceramics fragments can be found, which date back to the Roman period.

There is information about a settlement with a large territory, comprising almost the whole north eastern part of the park in the museum archive.[6] Under different circumstances two ceramic mugs were registered, which were entered into the inventory book of the Archaeology department with the information that they belong to a grave on the right bank of the Durashki Azmak river - inv. № 1099, and to a roman graveyard inv.№ 1100 between the shooting ground of Nova Zagora town and The Durashki Azmak river. Actually the territory is the same but with one more reference point added.

The burial found in the south part of the area in 1974 initiates the archaeological excavations carried out with intermittent intervals in the period 1974-1984. M. Kanchev and T. Kancheva discovered 21 graves from the late Bronze age covering an area of 200 square meters[7] as well as late Bronze age graves together with a Christian burial which dates back to the Medieval age, referring to the medieval settlement in 11th -12th century.[8]

The objective of the present statement is introducing for scholarly publicity and interpretation the artifacts filed in the museum's fund[9] in the

[5] Katincharov 1972a, 43-55; 1972b, 242-247; Kanchev 1973; 1984, 156,157; Kanchev & Kancheva 1990, 8-13.
[6] Kanchev 1967, 85.
[7] Kanchev & Kancheva 1990, 8.
[8] Velkov 2001, 276, 277.
[9] The graves have provisional numbers 5 for inv. N 1099 and 6 for inv. N 1100.

60s of the twentieth century and providing information about the inventory from the four graves that were found during the excavations in 1974-1984.

The information about the finds and the investigation works in the 80s of 20th century is scarce. It is limited to the above mentioned facts (the two graves and the finds of the 60s) and for the rest of the objects only the year is mentioned. That is 1983 together with the graves numbers where they were found.[10] There is no information about the funerary ritual. Thus the scarce information makes dating difficult. Among the grave inventory the pottery vessels are nine in number -5 of them are mugs. The inventory was presented alongside with a bronze coin and 7 glass beans from a necklace.

The mugs found in the graves have either one, or two or four handles. The two-handled and the four-handled are improved versions of the most common type of red glazed ceramics in the period 2nd -3rd century concerning their shape and made in the Roman province of Thrace. This type was used as the most popular burial gift in the necropolises of the period.[11]

The mugs with one handle (fig. II, 1, 2) are analogous to type III from the villa near the town of Ivailovgrad and are dated 2nd-4th century.[12] The mugs with one handle from the Nova Zagora necropolis are characterized with beveled lower part and coarse make.

One of the mugs has two handles. What makes it different from the typical of the period mugs with two handles is the tallest neck (fig. II, 3).

The four-handled mugs have a biconical shape and long neck (tab. II, figs. 3, 4). The long neck is a distinctive feature of the two and four handled cups of the secondary burials in the tell near the village of Staro selo, Sliven region.[13] They were dated with coins minted in the period 324-327 to 360-363.

The mugs have an underside recessed towards the bottom base which gives the impression of having a tall foot. The base is small. It measures 2, 8-2, 9 cm. Only № 4 has a base with a diameter of 4 cm. The beveled and the small bases make mugs unstable.[14]

The decoration represents horizontal incised lines and flutes, horizontal rows decoration type cogwheel, as well as stamped decoration – concentric circles; rosettes – seven–leaved or eight-leaved in a row or in a group.

[10] The information and the finds have been provided by Tatyana Kancheva–Ruseva. I would like to use the opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to her.
[11] Kovachev 2009, 9 and the cited literature.
[12] Kabakchieva 1986, 18, table 18, 251.
[13] Kovachev 2013, 68, table XXI, fig. 2; 80, table XXXIII, figs. 1, 2, 3.
[14] Naidenova 1985, 30.

The decoration with horizontal lines of shallow square small pits, made with cogwheel is a distinctive feature of the ceramics in the furnaces in the village of Karanovo[15] dated back to the middle of the 3rd to the end of the third quarter of the 4th century.[16]

The vessels with stamped decoration are known from the necropolis Meritchleri,[17] those with stamped decoration and cogwheel decoration from Pautalia, dated back to the first half of the 4th century.[18]

A characteristic feature of the Late Roman red glazed ceramic is applying brown red glaze only on a small part of the upper exterior and interior surface on the dishes.[19] It is worth mentioning that the glazing of the cups from the Nova Zagora necropolis is only made to the upper part of the vessels and not all were made by dipping. Some of them were glazed by hand. The proof is the lack of glaze under the handles. The same peculiarity can be seen on the ceramics from the late antique necropolis near the village of Karanovo.[20]

Bowls (figs. III, 6, 7). There are two of them. They have the shape of an inverted truncated cone and are made of coarse clay of dark brown to black colour after firing with no glazing. The throat of fig. 6 is wide, drawn out and rounded whereas the one of fig.7 has a sophisticated profile. They have a flat base. Traces of thread cut on the bottom made by a fast potter's wheel can be seen on fig. 7.

The names they have been given are different. They are known as cups,[21] and bowls.[22] They came from excavations in the village of Lyubenets, dated 2nd - 3rd century,[23] the village of Staro selo dated 3rd –4th century, [24] Chatalka with coarse clay,[25] one of which with a coin from emperor Arcadius (396-408),[26] the village of Peychinovo, Ruse region with late coins from emperor Constantius II (350-355),[27] the village of Beden, Smolyan region.[28]

[15] Borisov 2013b, 284.
[16] Borisov 2013b, 307.
[17] Aladzhov 1965, fig. 13, and table B II 6, 1.
[18] Ruseva-Slokoska 1964, 42.
[19] Kabakchieva 1986, 153.
[20] The information and the finds have been provided by Veselin Ignatov (assistant director of the investigations 1989/90) and I would like to thank him.
[21] Dimova 1966, 18; Vaklinova 1972, 15.
[22] Kuzmanov 1985, 44, table 25, 1-4.
[23] Ignatov & Velkov 2009, 113, 124, table LVI, 16-3.
[24] Kovachev 2009, 65, table XXXXL-8.
[25] Buyukliev 1986, 98, table 36, 489, 4 92.
[26] Buyukliev 1986, 59.
[27] Dimova 1966, 13.
[28] Vaklinova 1972, 150, 151, fig. 4, a, b.

The poorly refined clay, as well as the lack of glazing make us dating them most probably to 4th century.

Small amphora (fig. III, 8). There is only one item representing small amphorae which used to be placed as grave gifts in the North eastern region of Thrace in Roman times.[29] The term amphora - like jugs was used in the literature referring to late roman 4th century to early Byzantine 6th century.[30] The amphora has a biconical body, made of refined clay, which is ocher coloured after firing. It has short neck with a shape of inverted truncated cone, sophisticated profiled mouth. The object combines elements of refined clay tableware from 2nd-3rd century and the coarse, rough ones characteristic of the second half of 4th century and the beginning of 5th century. The clay is refined. Its colour after firing, as well as the technical characteristics of the amphora is similar to those of Kuzmanov's type II.[31] The decoration is identical – incised body, handles with an elliptical section. The difference consists of the red glazing on the upper part of the body done not by dipping and the coarser handles. The amphorae found in the village of Lubenets[32] and the village of Staro selo[33] are dated towards the end of 3rd-4th century. In my opinion the dating of this particular object should be the first half, third quarter of 4th century.

Oinohoe (fig. III, 9). A small jug with a trefoil mouth. It represents objects rarely found in burials from this period in the region. A similar jug was found during the investigations of a mound necropolis near Kabile,[34] in a grave with incineration, together with a coin of the emperor Geta (209-212). A similar small jug was found in a grave in a necropolis near the basilicas in the territory of the village Polski Gradets.[35] A small red clay jug with similar parameters was found in a mound near the village of Staro selo, Sliven region[36] together with some coins of emperor Constantius II (350-355) and emperor Constantius Galles (353-354).

Another example of a similar find came from a grave with incineration from the necropolis Chatalka.[37] He considers them characteristic

[29] Kovachev 1998, 58.
[30] Kuzmanov 1985, 32, 33.
[31] Kuzmanov 1985, 31.
[32] Ignatov & Velkov 2009, 116, LX-26.
[33] Kovachev 2009, 57, table XXV, 3.
[34] Getov 1982, 50.
[35] Borisov 2013b, 142.
[36] Kovachev 2009, 62, T. XXXXI 1.
[37] Buyukliev 1986, 59, table 35, 474.

of the late antique necropolises. The mound near the town of Ivaylovgrad,[38] a flat necropolis on the territory of Strandzhata near the city of Pleven,[39] late antique necropolis near Beden[40] are represented by one item each. Jugs of the type oinochoe were found among the Roman ceramics from Oltenia.[41]

Comparing the oinchoe from Nova Zagora to the one from Pernik,[42] Odartsi[43] and the one presented by Kuzmanov[44] put the Nova Zagora oinochoe closer to this type of vessels from the late Roman period, due to its graceful proportions, small mouth and comparatively fine clay.

Beads. The beads are few in number. They are made of glass paste, dark blue in colour and various in forms. They were found in grave № 2 and most probably belonged to a necklace.

The bead (fig. IV, 10) of dark blue glass has the shape of polyhedral. There were a lot in the area of the necropolis near Karanovo,[45] Tvarditsa,[46] Staroselets[47] and Polski Gradets.[48]

The six beads are as follows: a dark blue glass bead spindle - shaped (fig. IV, 11); a dark blue glass bead with an almost cylindrical form (fig. IV, 12); beads (fig. IV, 13); four dark blue glass beads with spherical form. They can be found in necklaces in the late antique necropolises near Karanovo,[49] Staroselets,[50] Burgas[51] and Strandjata area near Pleven.[52]

Coin A bronze coin in a poor state was found in grave № 2. We can judge by its appearance that it belongs to the descendants of emperor Constantine (306-337).

[38] Mladenova 1971, 45-47, fig. 10.
[39] Tabakova –Tsanova 1981, 107, fig. 21, 2.
[40] Vaklinova 1972, 155.
[41] Popilian 1976, Pl. XLIX, tipul 12, 526, 527.
[42] Lyubenova 1981, 138, 139, fig. 53, 1,2,3.
[43] Doncheva-Petkova & Toptanov 1982, 106, т. 2, 8, 9, 10.
[44] Kuzmanov 1985, type VI, cat. N 53-66 and type VII, cat.N 57-69,3-36, table 20, 21.
[45] The information and the finds have been provided by Veselin Ignatov (assistant director of the investigations 1989/90) and I would like to thank him.
[46] Velkov *et al*. 2007, 251; Velkov & Kuncheva-Ruseva 2015, 261.
[47] Dankova *et al*. 1991, 330, fig. 12/3.
[48] Borisov 2013b, 96, fig. 68 b.
[49] The information and the finds have been provided by Veselin Ignatov (assistant director of the investigations 1989/90) and I would like to thank him.
[50] Dankova *et al*. 1991, 330, fig. 12/3.
[51] Lazarov 1967, 9, 50.
[52] Tabakova-Tsanova 1981, 156-158.

The presented graves and the artifacts found in them contribute with one more localization and increase the number of the known late antique necropolises of the end of 3rd–third quarter and 4th century in the territory of Bulgaria. They confirm the custom of placing clay vessels although small in number as grave gifts, as well as the typical for the period presence of ornaments and coins in the graves.

Catalogue

Fig. II 1. Grave № 5. A clay mug, refined clay with mixture of small quartz particles, dark ochre after firing. It has a biconical shape with a shortened lower part and elongated upper part. The neck is very small and has the shape of an inverted truncated cone. The mouth is slightly receding in the interior and exterior. The base is small, thick, and slightly concave. It has one handle, elliptical section, starting at the base of the neck and finishing in the middle of the shoulders. In the middle part of the neck there is decoration of horizontal incised flute. The lower part of the vessel is incised. Dimensions: 8, 8 cm high, mouth length-6, 8 cm, body length-8, 8cm; base length-2, 8 cm. The mouth is partially restored. Inv. № 1099.

Fig. II 2. Grave № 4. A Clay mug made of refined, purified clay of ochre, cream colour after firing. The body has a biconical shape with a short lower part and long upper part. The neck has the shape of an inverted truncated cone. The mouth is slightly beveled in the interior and exterior. The base represents a small thick foot. The mug has one handle with triangular section, starting from the base of the neck and finishing above the most protruding part of the body. At the base of the neck there is decoration of two groups of three stamped eight–leaved rosettes. Red glazing on the upper body inside and outside. The handle is coarsely attached to the vessel. Poorly pressed in the lower part. Dimensions: 9,3 cm high, mouth length-6,4 cm; body diameter – 8 cm, bottom diameter-2,8 cm. Restored.

Fig. II 3. Grave № 6. A clay mug made of refined clay mixed with tiny quartz particles. Ochre after firing. It has a biconical shape of a boy with elongated neck, an inverted truncated cone, drawn out and profiled mouth. The bottom is small. It is two-handled. They are symmetrical starting at the base of the neck and showing the most protruded part of the body. The handles have triangular section with longitudinal flutes. Decoration of two horizontal flutes on the neck. A light flute separates the body from the neck, traces of reddish glazing on the outside. Dimensions: height-7,4 cm; mouth length-7, 8 cm; body length-8, 2 cm; base length-2, 9 cm.

The handles are roughly attached. On the lower body part there are graffiti - **K**, incised before firing. Inv. № 1100.

Fig. II 4. Grave № 2. A Clay mug, made of poorly refined clay mixed with tiny quartz particles. Brick coloured after firing. Body with a biconical form. The neck is high, inverted truncated cone, drawn out and a profiled mouth. Small foot as base, slightly concave. The mug has four symmetrical handles, from the middle of the neck to the most protruded part of the body. The handles have a flat section, longitudinal flutes on both ends. In the middle of the neck – decoration type 'cogwheel' of two parallel lines. The same decoration is on the protruded part of the body. On a small section, between two of the handles, the lines become three. On the middle of the shoulders – stamped decoration of seven–leaved rosette. On the upper part of the neck – decoration of three horizontal flutes with different size. A light flute highlights the body and the neck. Dimensions: height-10, 8 cm; mouth length-11, 7 cm, body length-12 cm, base length–4 cm. Poorly polished with traces of tearing of the quartz particles. Unevenly fired. The neck is broken during firing. The handles are roughly attached to the vessel.

Fig. II 5. Grave № 3. A Clay mug of refined purified ochre clay after firing. The body has a biconical shape, with a cylindrical neck, drawn out and beveled rim of the mouth. The bottom is a small foot, concave with a bud in the middle. Four symmetrical handles at the middle of the neck to the most protruded body part. The handles have triangular section and longitudinal flute. Under the rim of the mouth – a belt of three horizontal incised lines. There is decoration of two horizontal incised lines at the base of the neck. In the space between them – a belt of symmetrical concentrated circles with a dot in the middle. Incision on the underside. On the upper side of the body – decoration with a light brown glaze. Dimensions: height-9, 1 cm; mouth length-8, 5 cm; body diameter -10, 4 cm; bottom diameter-2, 8 cm.

Fig. III 6. Grave № 1. A clay bowl, made of poorly refined clay mixed with small quartz particles, dark brown to black colour after firing. It has the shape of inverted truncated cone. The rim of the neck-wide, drawn out and slightly rounded. The base is flat and even. Dimensions: height-6, 3 cm; mouth length-15, 4 cm; bottom length-7, 4cm. Glued.

Fig. III 7. Grave № 4. A Clay bowl, made of poorly refined clay, mixed with small quartz particles, dark brown to black colour after firing. The Form of inverted truncated cone. He mouth is drawn out and

elaborately profiled. The bottom is wide, even with thread cuts. Dimensions: height-5, 1 cm; mouth length-15, 8 cm; bottom length-6, 8 cm. Glued.

Fig. III 8. Grave № 1. Small clay amphora, refined clay, ochre in colour after firing. Biconical shape of the body. Short neck with the shape of an inverted truncated cone, elaborate profiled mouth. The bottom is short foot, slightly concave. Two symmetrical handles from the base of the neck to the lower half of the shoulders. Elliptical handles with deep vertical flute. In the middle of the shoulders – decoration of three horizontal parallel lines. The underside is furrowed. On the upper side of the vessel - dark red glazing by hand. No glazing under the handles, on the handles themselves and the mouth. Incised graffiti before firing on the upper body **DIK**. Dimensions: height-18, 9 cm; mouth length-5, 5 cm; body length-13, 8 cm; bottom length-5, 8 cm.

Fig. III 9. Grave № 4. A Clay oinochoe, made of clay mixed with tiny quartz particles, grey – black colour after firing. It has spherical shape of the body, cylindrical in its lower part neck, widening funnel – like towards the mouth. The mouth is slightly beveled to the inside. The bottom is a short thick foot, slightly concave. The handle starts on the middle of the neck and finishes at the most protruded part of the body. Dimensions: height -10,3cm; mouth length-3,7 cm; body length-7,4 cm; bottom length-3, 2 cm. The mouth is restored.

Fig. IV 10. Grave № 2. A dark blue glass beam with fourteen sided polyeder shape. Dimensions: 8 mm long, 8 mm wide; opening length – 4 mm. Glued.

Fig. IV 11. Grave № 2. A dark blue glass beam with spindle-like shape. Dimensions: 16 mm long, body length – 5 mm, opening length -1mm.

Fig. IV 12. Grave № 2. A dark glass beam with almost cylindrical shape. Dimensions: length–12 mm; body length-4 mm; opening length-1 mm.

Fig. IV 13. Grave № 2. Dark blue beams with spherical shape and dimensions: the biggest one –length – 5 mm, height - 4 mm; to the smallest height –4 mm, length - 3 mm– four in number altogether.

Grave № 2. A bronze coin of 4th century, descendants of emperor Konstantin (306 -337).

The illustrations belong to Galina Yordanova, an artist-restorer at Nova Zagora Historical Museum.

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Krasimir Velkov, The University of Shumen, Department of History and archaeology, 9712 Shumen, BULGARIA
dakras@abv.bg

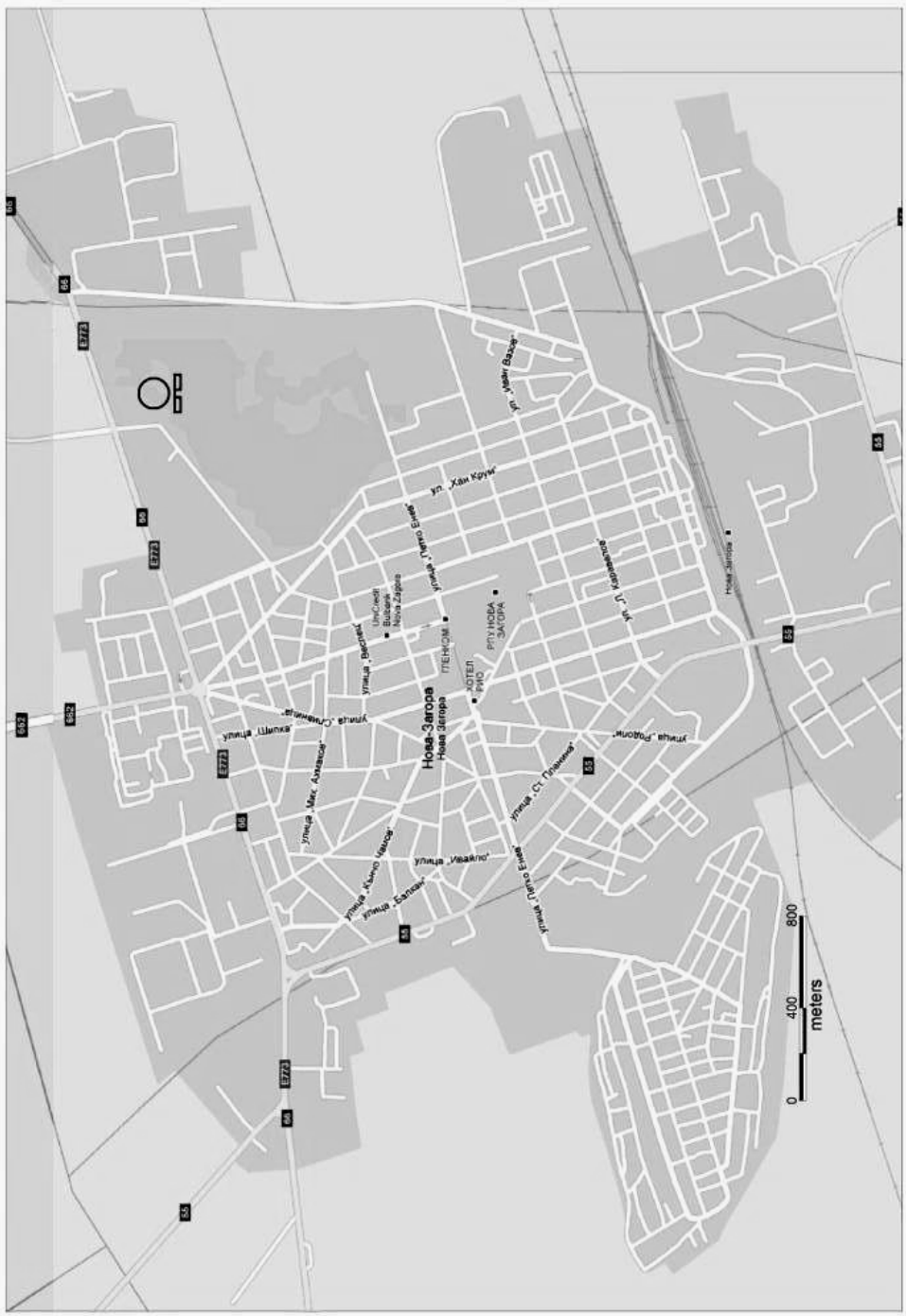


Fig. I Layout of the town of Nova Zagora with the registered late antique burials on the territory of the park in the town.

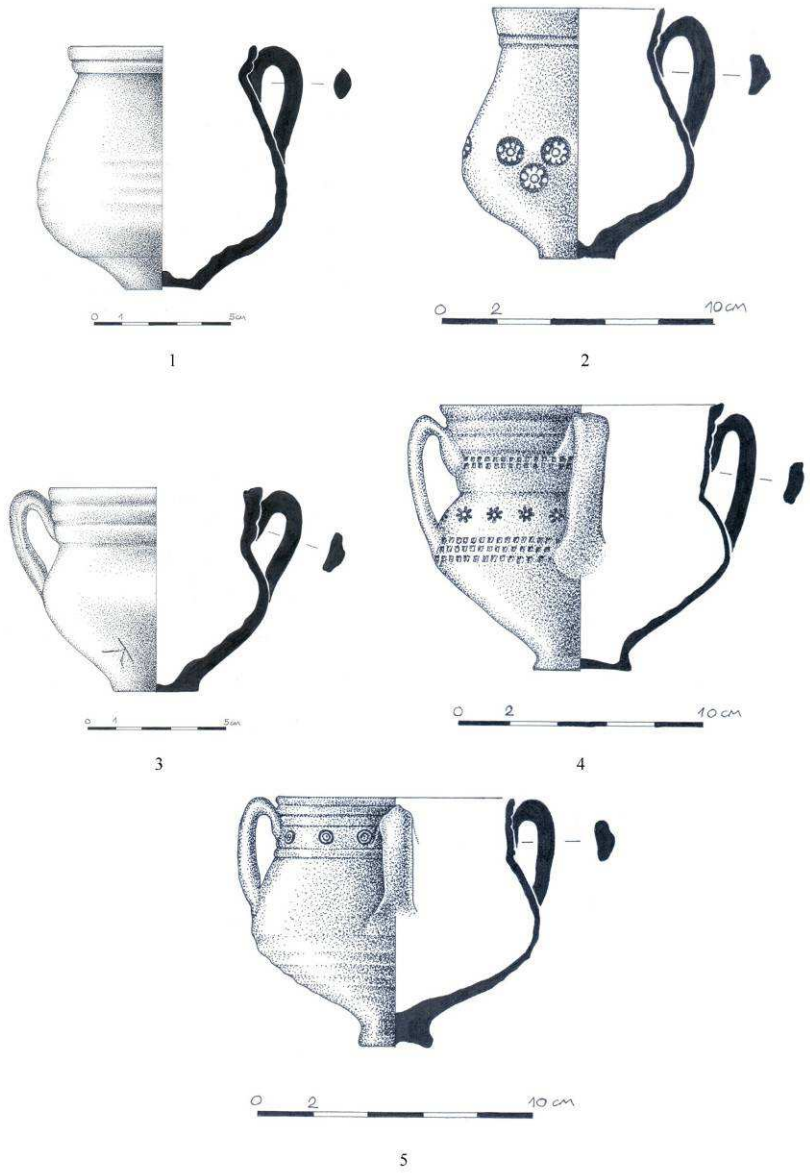
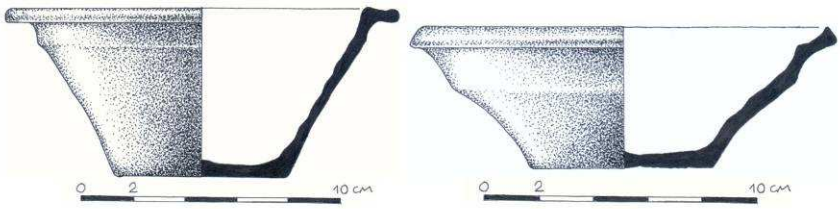
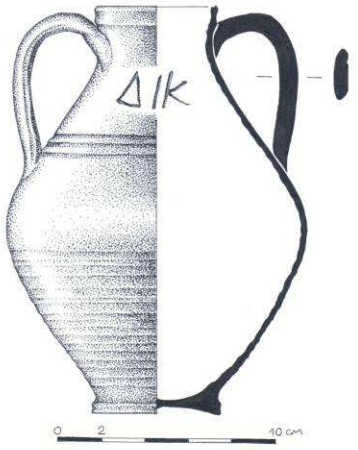


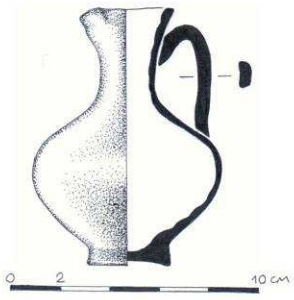
Fig. II - 1, 2 one-handled mugs; 3 - two-handled mugs; 4, 5 – four-handled mugs.



6 7



8



9

Fig. III - 6, 7 – bowls; 8 - small amphora; 9 - oinochoe.

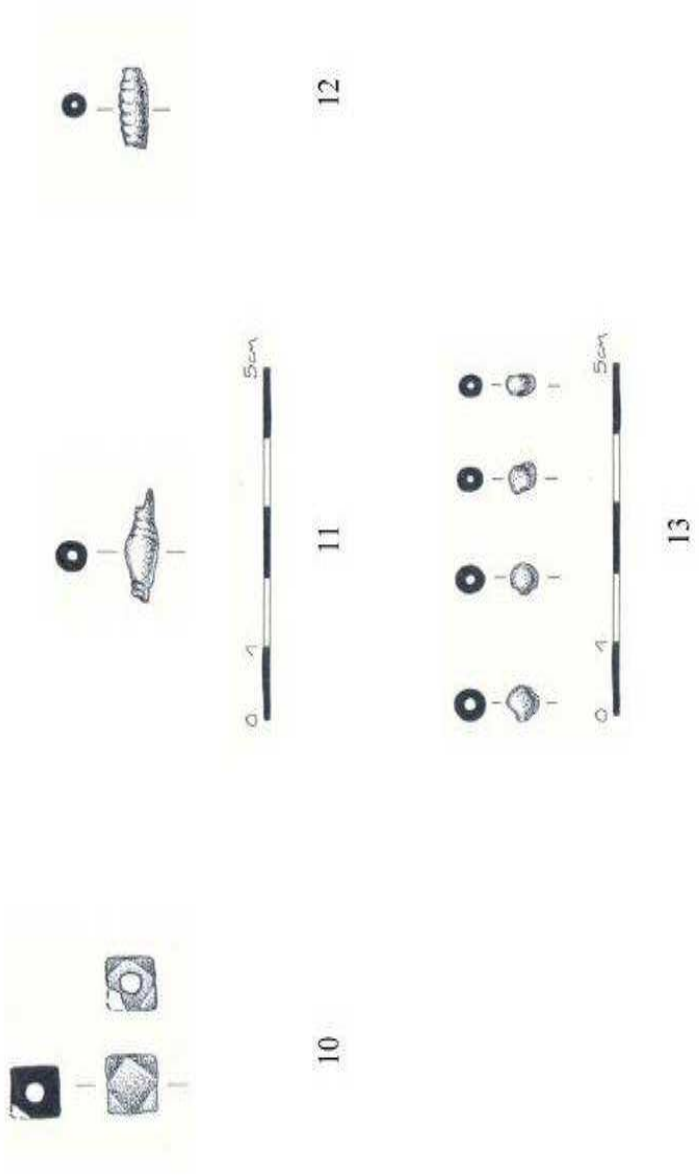


Fig. IV – Dark blue glass paste beads from a necklace; 10 - shape of polyether - 1 item;
11- spindle shaped - 1 item; 12 – with the shape of a cylinder - 1 item; 13 – spherical shape - 4 items

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Toward the typology of Macedonian Gray Ware: unpublished vessels from the territory of *Parthicopolis*, Bulgaria

Alexandrina Tsoneva

Abstract: This article provides new information about the shapes and territorial distribution of the Macedonian gray ware from the Middle Strymon valley by discussing six vessels (inv. # 247, 302-306) from the Archaeological collection in Strumyani, Bulgaria. It makes observations on their fabric, shapes, capacity and function. High concentration of such pottery is attested in Republic of Macedonia (Stobi, Scupi, Isar Marvinci and Stankina Cheshma near Valandovo, Gorica near Vinica, Heraclea Lyncestis), Greece (Thessaloniki, Athens) and Bulgaria (Kyustendil, Pernik, Dupnitsa, Blagoevgrad, Sandanski and Petrich). Based on examples from secure stratified contexts from sites in Bulgaria and Republic of Macedonia the vessels from Strumyani are identified as Macedonian Gray Ware dating from the 4th–5th century AD.

Key words: Macedonian Gray Ware, Roman Pottery, Late antiquity, Ancient Macedonia.

Резюме: Тази статия допринася за изследването на репертоара от форми и териториалния обхват на „сивата македонска керамика" от долината на Средна Струма. Тук се публикуват за първи път шест цели съда (Инв. № 247, 302-306) намиращи се в Археологическа сбирка в с. Струмяни, България. Наблюдения са направени върху състава на глината, формите, тяхната вместимост и функция. Базирайки се на точни паралели произхождащи от добре датирани стратиграфски контексти от обекти в България и Република Македония, съдовете от Струмяни са идентифицирани като „сива македонска керамика" от IV-V в. сл. Хр

This article presents a group of intact vessels discovered by treasure hunters and deposited in the Archaeological collection of Strumyani. The main aim is to generate graphic and photo documentation and to put them against the background of the studies of the so-called Macedonian Gray Ware in the Middle Strymon valley. The group, consisting of six vessels – plate, bowl, jugs (inv. # 247, 302, 303, 304, 305 and 306; pls. I-VI), is currently

stored in the Archaeological collection of Strumyani.[1] Since information regarding their original context is unavailable, I also examine various aspects of the vessels based on their shape, fabric, function and paralels.

Since all vessels are undamaged, this could indicate several suggestion of their original archaeological context. It is possible that they originate from the village of Gradeshnica[2] where an ancient town and necropoleis have been located. Another option could be the neighborhood of Mirkovo in the village of Strumyani,[3] where Late Antique town and necropoleis are found. The options presented above, however, should be regarded as hypothetical (Map 1).

Macedonian Gray Ware belongs to the category of domestic pottery, more specifically tableware. Among the basic features are the use of good quality clay of gray and brown or dark color, with frequently polished shining surface. The vessels normally have stamped or incised decorations on the rims and walls. The variety of decoration motifs are circles, lozenges, diamonds, series of grooves. The common shapes are dishes/plates, bowls, cups, jugs and vessels with two or three handles.

The Strumyani group clearly falls into the category of Macedonian Gray Ware. The following vessels can be identified with confidence: a plate (Form 5: #304), a bowl (Form 2: #305) and four one handled jugs (Forms 10 and 11: #247, 302, 303 and 306). Attributing them to particular shapes is based on the pottery typology from Stobi put forward by Anderson-Stojanović. In several cases, singular examples from Isar Marvinci and Pautalia have been adduced. All vessels are undamaged, except the plate #304 which was additionally restored. In the Catalogue presented below basic descriptions are offered supplemented with relevant comparanda from stratified complexes, sometimes with available historic dates. This approach is justified on account of the fact that Strumyani vessels have been stripped of their original context.

Catalogue

Inv. # 304 **(pls. I-II, fig. 1)** is a plate with shallow wall and rim. The base is flat. Lustrous surface. In the center of the floor a circular band of rouletting with decoration of stamped circles. H. 2, D. rim 22, D. base 18. The paste color is from brownish gray (7.5YR 5/3 and 7.5YR 5/1) to very

[1] I want to thank to Daniela Podgorska (Museum of Strumyani) for her assistance and information about these vessels. It remains unclear, however, when and by whom the vessels were brought in the museum. Available descriptions in the inventory books were made in 2010 providing no information about their origin.

[2] Dremsizova – Nelchinova 1987, 60; Malgorzata Grębska-Kulova (RHM – Blagoevgrad) (pers. com.).

[3] Dremsizova – Nelchinova 1987, 123.

dark gray (7.5YR 3/1) The cross-section is gray (7.5YR 5/1). The fabric contains mica (ca. 10%) and organic material (3%).

Parallels: Anderson-Stojanović 1992, pl. 52, #459 (**Form 5**); Ončevska Todorovska 2010, pl. 23, fig. 50 (**date:** 4th-5th century AD).

Inv. # 305 **(pls. I-II, fig. 2)** is a hemispherical bowl with wide, horizontal rim and ring base. In the center of the floor a circular band of rouletting. Two grooves at the rim in the interior and decoration of stamped circles. H. 5, D. rim 22, D. base 10. The paste color is from gray to black (7.5YR 5/1 and 7.5YR 2.5/1). The cross-section is light brown (7.5YR 6/3). The fabric contains mica (ca. 15%), organic material (10%) and very small pebbles (2%).

Parallels: Anderson-Stojanović 1992, pl. 50, ##442-443 (**Form 2a**); Staikova 1989, fig. 3 a; Ončevska Todorovska 2010, pl. 26, fig.73 (**date:**4th century AD).

Inv. # 247 **(pls. III-IV, fig. 3)** is a jug with biconical body and small ring foot. One handle. H. 18.5, D. rim 8, D. base 5. The paste color is from graysh brown (7.5YR 5/1 and 7.5YR 5/2) to very dark gray (7.5YR 3/1) The cross-section is gray (7.5YR 5/1). The fabric contains mica (ca. 20%) and organic material (7%). Capacity: 300 ml.[4]

Parallels: Staikova 1989, fig. 7.

Inv. # 306 **(pls. III-IV, fig. 4)** is a large necked jug with plump body and ring foot. A series of grooves on the neck and body. One twisted handle. H. 25, D. rim 7, D. base 6. The paste color is gray (7.5YR 5/1). The cross-section is dark gray (7.5YR 4/1). The fabric contains mica (ca. 10%), organic material (3%) and small pebbles (10%). Capacity: 750 ml.

Parallels: Anderson-Stojanović 1992, pl. 54, #472 (**Form 10**); Ončevska Todorovska 2010, pl. 25, fig. 67 (**date:**4th-5th century AD).

Inv. # 302 **(pls. V-VI, fig. 5)** is a short necked jug with plump body and ring foot. The rim, partially preserved, is formed as trefoil. A series of grooves below the rim, neck and body. One handle. H. 22, D. rim 7, D. base 8. The paste color is gray (7.5YR 5/1). The cross-section is gray (7.5YR 5/1). The fabric contains mica (ca. 20%), organic material (7%) and small pebbles (3%). Capacity: 750 ml.

Inv. # 303 **(pls. V-VI, fig. 6)** is a trefoil jug. Short neck, plump body and ring foot. One handle. A series of grooves on the neck and around body.

[4] The capacity of all jugs was determind by measuring with water.

Lustrous surface. H. 23 D. rim 6, D. base 5.5. The paste color is gray (7.5YR 5/1). The cross-section is gray (7.5YR 5/1). The fabric contains mica (ca. 10%) and organic material (7%). Capacity: 750 ml.

Parallels: Anderson-Stojanović 1992, pl. 54, #473 (**Form 11**); Isar Marvinci: Ončevska Todorovska 2010, pl. 26, fig.73 (**date:** end of 4th century AD).

Discussion

Macedonian Gray Ware or Macedonian terra sigillata grise was first identified by John Hayes in his book *Late Roman Pottery* in 1972.[5] His observations are based on the examples from Thessaloniki, Corinth and Athens. After him, Virginia Anderson-Stojanović puts together a typology dividing the tableware vessels in 11 different shapes with subtypes. Her research, however, is based only on materials from the American-Yuogoslavian excavations at Stobi, Macedonia.[6] The color of pottery at Stobi varies from light to dark gray and grayish brown (10YR and 7.5YR).[7]

Ončevska Todorovska's book published in 2010[8] expands substantially the base of Anderson-Stojanović's study by including data from several sites in Republic of Macedonia dated from the 3rd century to 6th century AD. Among the sites included in her study are: Stobi, Scupi, Isar Marvinci and Stankina Cheshma near Valandovo, Heraclea Lyncestis, etc. Noteworthy is the fact that Ončevska Todorovska relied on the typology of Anderson-Stojanović, while utilizing additional stratigraphic data from the above mentioned sites in order to provide better absolute chronology.

Archaeological excavations on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia have shown that the production of Macedonian Gray Ware began during the second half of the 4th century and continued throughout the 5th and by the beginning of the 6th century AD it gradually faded away.[9] By and large the Macedonian Gray Ware can be found in a wide range of archaeological contexts, e.g. pottery production centers,[10] towns (public buildings and basilicas),[11] villas,[12] necropoleis.[13]

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[5] Hayes 1972, 405–407. See also Hayes 2008, 90–91, 1425–1428.
[6] Anderson-Stojanović 1992, 61–72.
[7] Anderson-Stojanović 1992, 61.
[8] Ončevska Todorovska 2010.
[9] Ončevska Todorovska 2010, 123.
[10] Pautalia–Kyustendil (Bulgaria).
[11] Parthticopolis–Sandanski (Bulgaria), unpublished material; Stobi–Gradsko, Skupi–Skopje, Gorica near Vinica (Republic of Macedonia); Thessaloniki (Greece).
[12] Kralev dol–Pernik district (Bulgaria).
[13] Skupi - Skopje (Republic of Macedonia); *Parthticopolis*–Sandanski (Bulgaria); Thessaloniki (Greece).

Although in Bulgaria there are numerous examples of this ware, mainly along the Upper and Middle Strymon River valleys (Map 1), for decades there has been only one fundamental typological study based on the pottery from Pautalia.[14] Subsequent excavations have increased the number of sites associated with Macedonian Gray Ware, e.g. the newly-found site near Cherven bryag, Dupnitsa district,[15] the settlement on the Krakra hill[16] and the Roman villa located near the village of Kralev dol,[17] Pernik district. Even though new excavations and field surveys continue to enrich the database even further, e.g. Simitli,[18] Kocherinovo[19] and Kresna,[20] Blagoevgrad district, Parthicopolis (Sandanski)[21] and Heraclea Sintica near Petrich,[22] the lack of a systematic study in Bulgarian historiography is apparent. Moreover, regular excavations in the Middle Strymon River valley have shown that Macedonian Gray Ware is especially abundant in the Late Roman strata of Parthicopolis and Heraclea Sintica. Future publications of this pottery will provide important benchmarks in the attempt to generate a new typology, and possibly isolate regional specifics in the pottery production. Then we would be in a position to establsih whether the Macedonian Gray Ware from this region was related to pre-existing local pottery traditions, or it received inspiration from further afield, e.g. the Middle Vardar River valley.

[14] Staikova 1989, 139–156.

[15] The pottery from the archaeological site was processed by the author and will be included in her PhD Dissertation. The fragments of Macedonian Gray Ware were kindly given to me by Assist. Prof. Svetla Petrova (NAIM-BAS) to whom I am grateful.

[16] Lyubenova 1981, 121, 126–127, figs. 22, 37, 39; 139–141, figs. 55–56.

[17] Naidenova 1985, 33.

[18] Kulov 2007, 132–142; figs. 10. 1-2, 4-8.

[19] Bozkova 1992, 245–251; figs. 4-6; Katsarova 2005, 227–228 pls. 8-9.

[20] Garbov 2015, 81–87; Nr. 1128-5, 1128-7, 1128-3, 1128-08.

[21] Ivanov *et al*. 1969, 175–186, abb. 62–64; Petkov & Somova 2003, 24–31; 37–43, also unpublished Macedonian Gray ware from the territory of Sandanski will be included by the author in her PhD Dissertation. I would like to thank Vladimir Petkov from the Archaeological museum in Sandanski for the opportunity to examine this unpublished material.

[22] Milchev 1960, fig. 18. Also unpublished materials collected from Kozhuh locality and now stored at the Historical Museum of Pertich. I am grateful to Sotir Ivanov for the opportunity to examine this vessels. Alexandrova 2015, 144, figs. 2-11 identified this type of pottery as 'black slip'. Unpublished pottery from the necropolis 'Red rocks'('Chervenite skali') and 'Metlata' now stored at the Regional Historical Museum of Blagoevgrad. See: Toptanov & Danailova 1996, 82 and Bozhinova 2015, 238–254. For a summary on the *necropoleis*, see Nankov 2015, 14–16.

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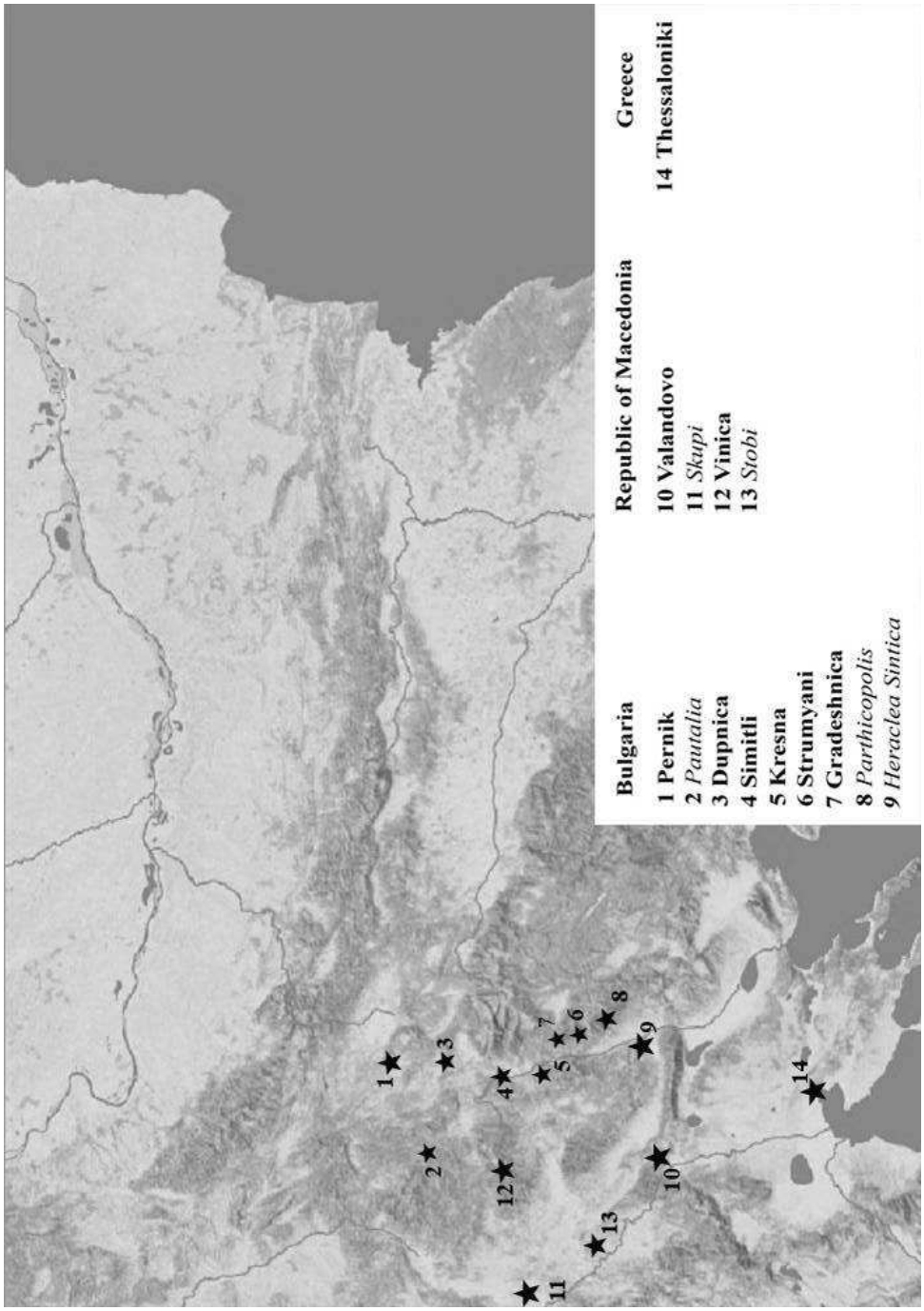
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Alexandrina Tsoneva, The University of Shumen, Department of History and archaeology, 9712 Shumen, BULGARIA
alexandrina_tsoneva88@abv.bg



Map 1. Findspot of Macedonian Gray Ware.

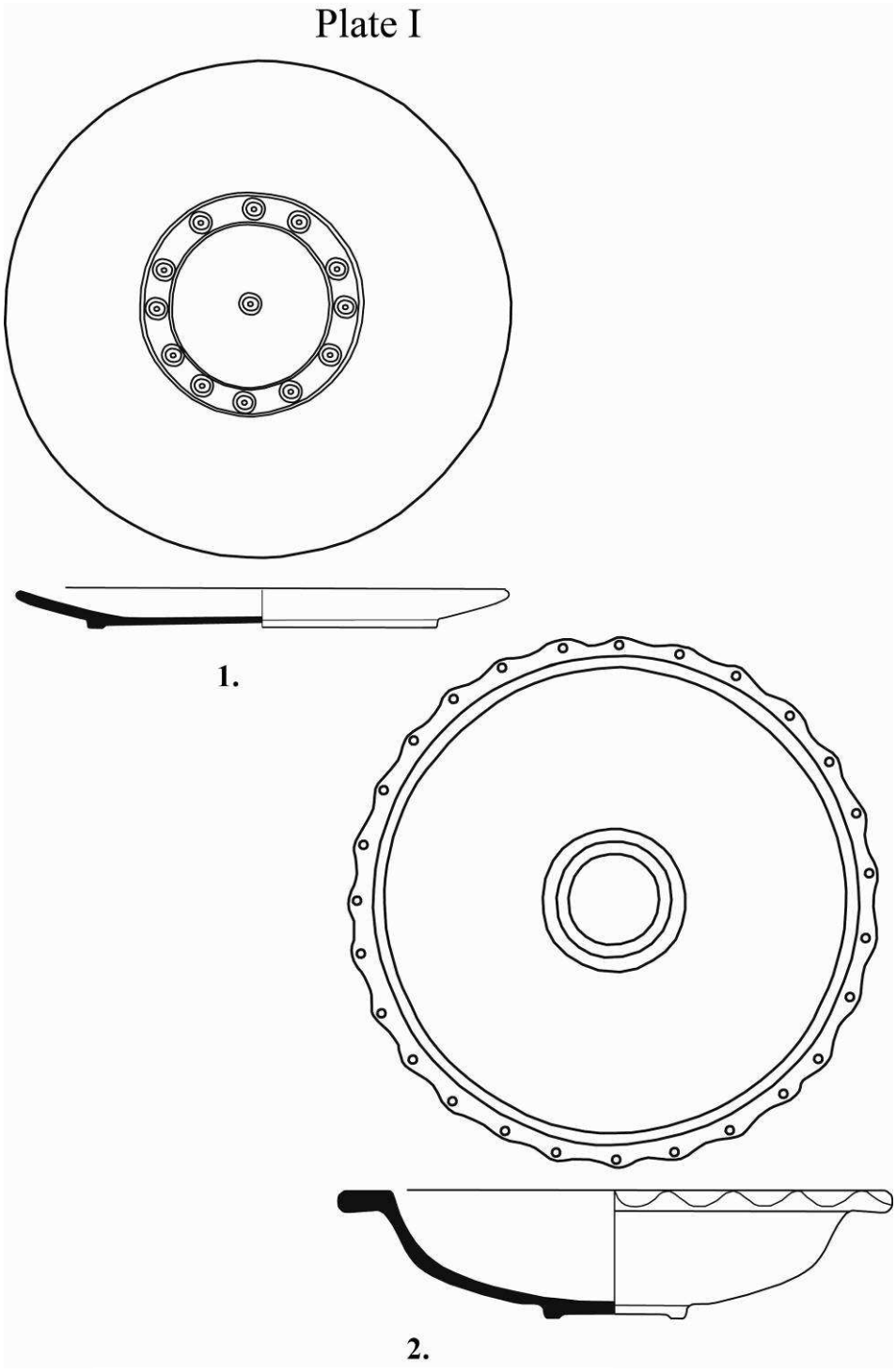
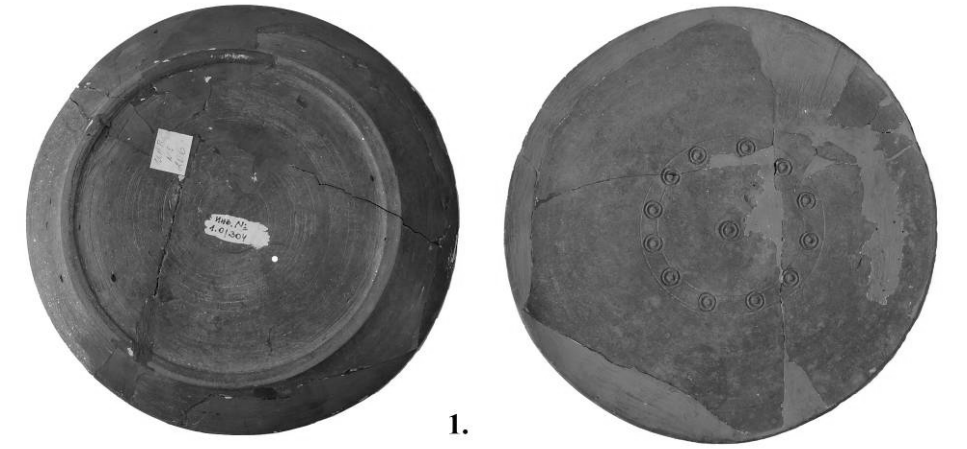
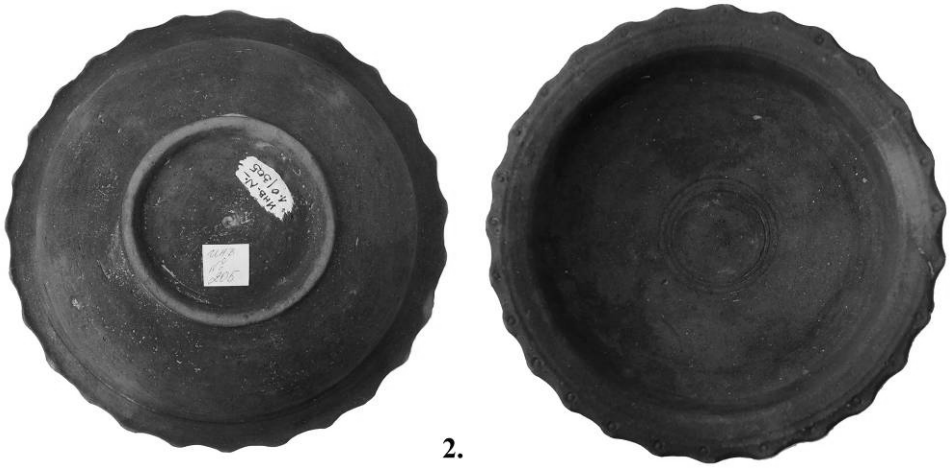


Plate I. Macedonian Gray Ware. Plate and bowl.

Plate II



1.



2.

Plate II. Macedonian Gray Ware. Plate and bowl.

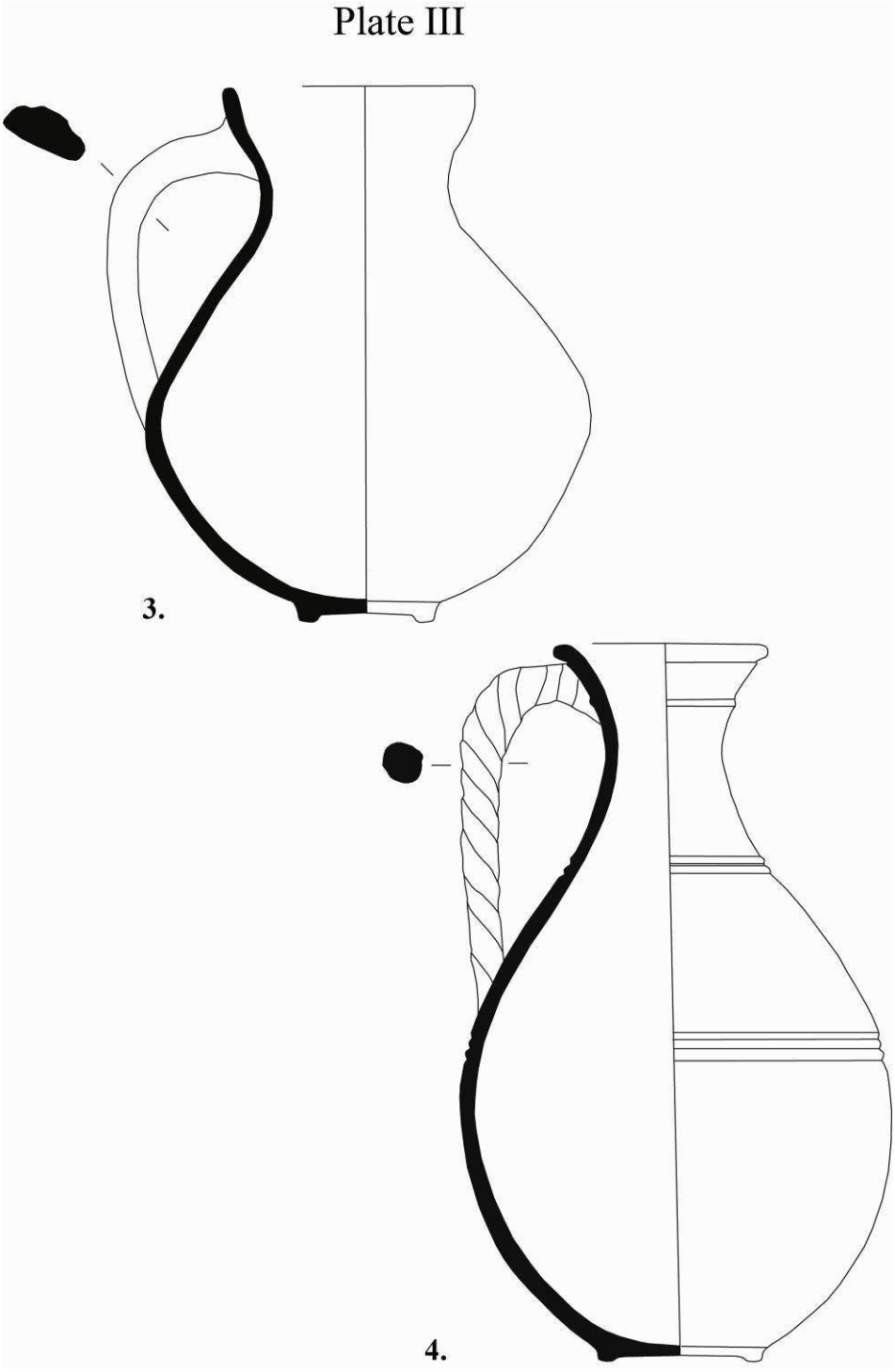
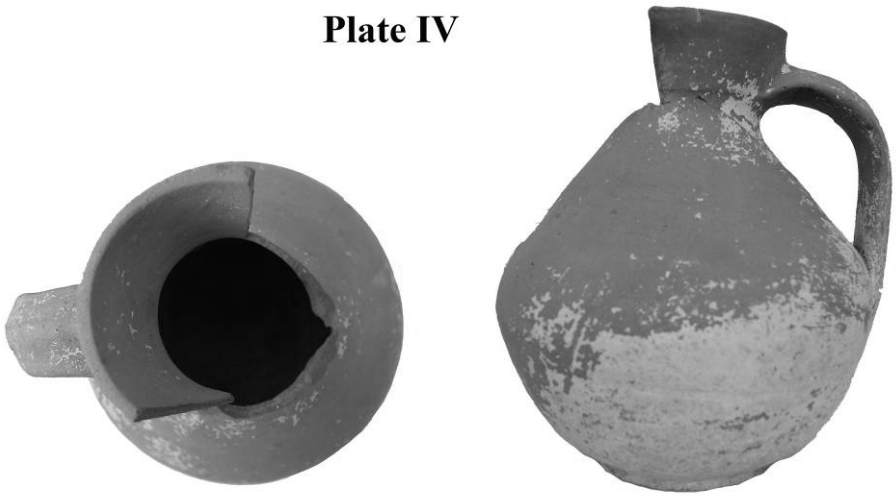


Plate III. Macedonian Gray Ware. Jugs.

Plate IV



3.



4.

Plate IV. Macedonian Gray Ware. Jugs.

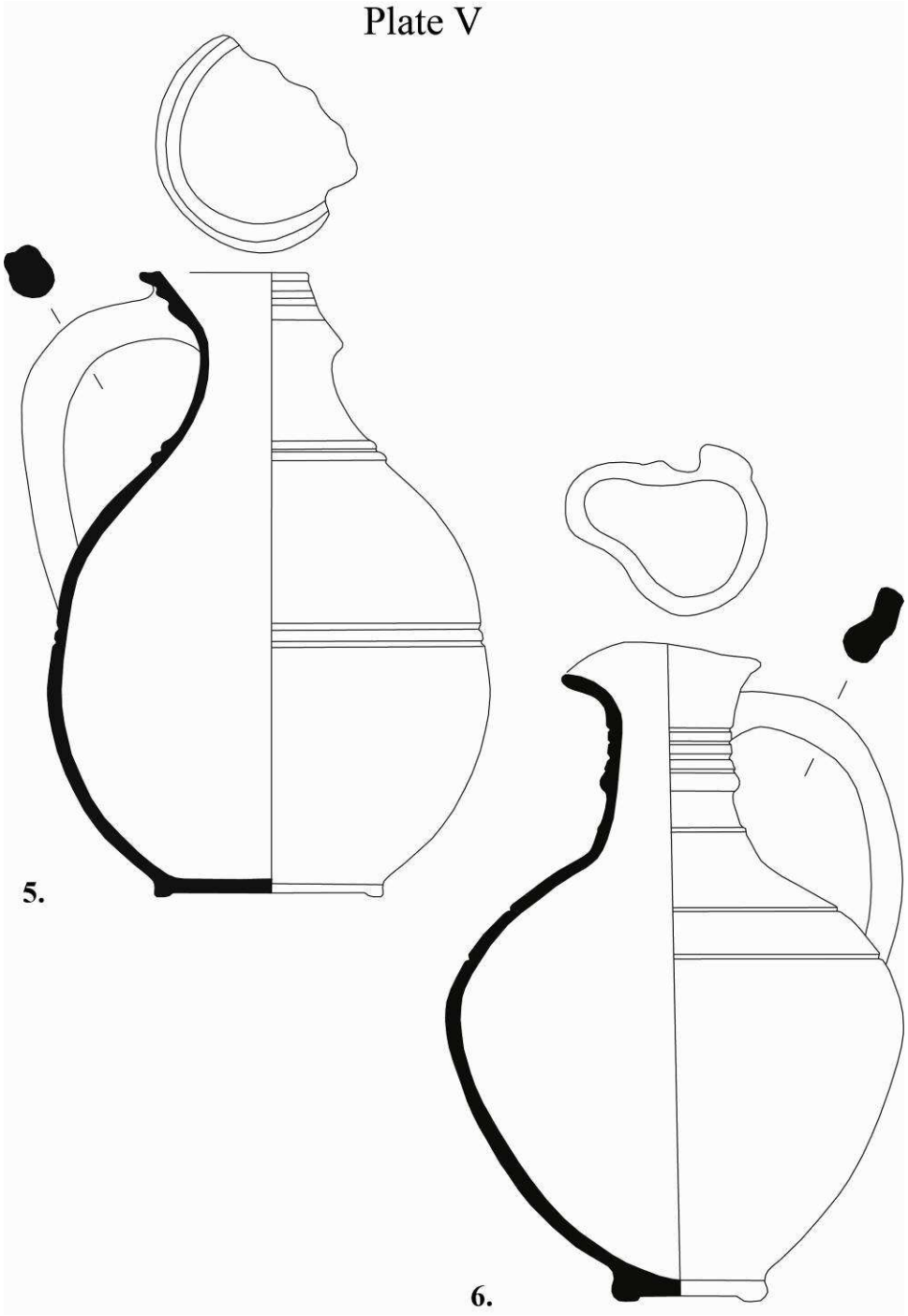


Plate V. Macedonian Gray Ware. Jugs.

Plate VI



5.



6.

Plate VI. Macedonian Gray Ware. Jugs.

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Gauriciu – the biggest Bulgarian village in Romania

Mariana Ceche

Abstract: In contrast to many other villages in Romania, which are now one way or another 'integrated' within the Romanian nation, the Gauriciu village manages to resist the assimilation and dissimilation processes of the government in Bucharest. Today, it is a real 'Bulgarian oasis'. This is the main reason it attracted our attention towards its past, and especially towards the period of the Liberation, towards the end of the 19th century. During that time, the Bulgarian population living there had an even more acute sense of ethnical belonging. This is due to several reasons, the main two of which are: the closed way of life that its inhabitants live and the close proximity to the Bulgarian border and the opportunity to maintain their connection with their fellow countrymen south of the river Danube in the territory of Northern Bulgaria. Another factor is the proximity to the town of Alexandria, which in the stated period also had numerous Bulgarian population with acute ethnical identity. A lot of facts are stated, which show the efforts of its citizens to save their traditions and cultures, which they had before they settled in the foreign country - to defend their traditions, as much as the circumstances allowed in the last two-three decades of the 19th century.

Key words: Bulgarians, assimilation and dissimilation, Bulgarian ethnical identity, traditions and culture

Резюме: За разлика от много селища в Румъния, които днес вече са в една или друга степен „приобщени" към румънската нация, с. Гъуричу успява да устои на асимилационните и дисимилационни процеси на управляващите в Букурещ. Днес то е един истински „български оазис". Това е и главната причина, поради която то привлича нашето внимание към неговото минало и по-специално за периода от Освобождението до края на XIX в. По това време живеещото в него българско население е с още по-будно етническо съзнание. Това се дължи на редица причини, от които по-съществени са две: затвореният начин на живот, който жителите му водят и на второ място - близостта на селото до границите на България и възможността да поддържат контакти със своите сънародници на юг от р. Дунав, в пределите на Северна България. Не е без значение и близостта му до гр. Александрия, в който през посочения период също е налице значително българско население с будно етническо самосъзнание. Посочени са много факти, извлечени от румънски и български

източници, които показват усилията на жителите му да съхранят своя бит и култура, каквито са имали от времето преди заселването им в него и от друга страна - да отстояват, доколкото това са позволявали условията, своите традиции и в последните две-три десетилетия на XIX в.

The demography of Bulgaria during the period of Ottoman reign (14th-19th century) is quite dynamic. The atrocities committed by the Ottoman invaders during the conquest of the country made quite a large part of the Bulgarian population seek refuge in the surrounding Balkan countries as early as the end of the 14th century. This trend continued in the following centuries. One of the primary reasons for the displacement of the Bulgarian population was their big disappointment caused by the fact that the wars that Austria and Russia led against the Ottoman Empire did not result in their liberation.

One of the preferred countries for resettlement was nearby Wallachia. A large number of Bulgarian expatriates found a new home in different parts of the country. Most of them settled in the regions in the immediate vicinity of the Danube river. We underline this fact, because the village of Gauriciu was founded in one of these regions. It is unique not only because it grows immensely in population, but also because it remains today the largest Bulgarian orthodox village in Romania.

Despite that, the history of that village has not been in the focus of Bulgarian historiography. Romanian science, on the other hand, has demonstrated some interest in it. The publications by Romanian scientists, however, are too subjective. Their primary weakness is their blatant attempt to belittle the role of the citizens of this village in the social and political life of the country.

The aim of this paper is to highlight the ethnic composition of the village since its establishment until the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, its livelihood and its participation the political life of the country during this period.

* * *

Gauriciu is located in Marginia county, Teleorman district. It is located in the valley of Gauriciu river, after which it is named. The village is in the middle of the road between the cities Zimnic and Alexandria.[1] It has an old and rich history – according to the Romanian scholar Tanase Marin, the first mentions of the village date back from the 16th century. Almost the entire population here was Bulgarian and spoke Bulgarian language.

[1] Lahovari 1900, 489.

The village kept this name until 1967, when it was renamed with a state decree to Izvoarele, after the many springs located in its vicinity.

Initially the village was located near a fountain in the estate of Gauriciu. The water of this fountain came from a hill, called 'Chumna vra', where the hovels of the expatriates were. Due to a outbreak of plague, the Bulgarian colonists abandoned it and settled east, in the valley of Gauriciu river. The hill has kept its name up to present.[2] According to the same scholar, in 1831 the village had 184 families, in 1861 – 185 families.[3]

In the end of the 19th century, there were 345 families in the village, which had a total population of 1378 people. According to the 'Grand dictionary of geography', the Bulgarians in Gauriciu moved there as a results of the events that took place in Bulgaria in 1821.[4] Chased by the Ottomans, they settled in the region in question.[5] The information provided in the dictionary is also confirmed by Gustav Weigand, who in 1898-1899 states that it has a population of 1300 people.[6] Later, in 1908 the village was also visited by the famous Bulgarian linguist and ethnographer Stoyan Romansky, who found a population of 2160 people.[7] According to him the Bulgarian settlers were from the Pleven region.[8] The stated population of 2160 people is very close to the one offered by Tanase, who states that in 1912 in Gauriciu there were 2435 people.[9]

The first arrivals in the village were shepherds, who came together with their livestock. Having found a good pasture, they build hovels (underground dwellings). Afterwards other Bulgarians also arrived and together they created a colony.[10] It is likely that the fruitful arable land they found was the reason they settled permanently. After their settlement the population earned its living working as serfs in the land of local boyars and landowners. Among them were the innkeeper Alexandru, keeper of the keys of the princely stores, the boyar Grecanu, head of the princely inn, the boyar Paraskev, Chernya Popovic, Nikolae Trusnya, Konstantin Veresku, as well as the Greeks Beldiman and Kiryak Mosku, Grigore Vorvoryanu, K. Vorvoryanu and Gr. Kantakuzinu, who owned 2550 hectares of the 'Shoimu' estate. After

[2] Tănase 1985, 6-7.
[3] Tănase 1985, 4.
[4] This most likely refers to the 'Zavera'. For more information, see Bobchev 1930, 13, 20, 23.
[5] Lahovari 1900, 489.
[6] Ishirkov 1902, 155.
[7] See Andreychin 1959.
[8] Mladenov 1993, 247.
[9] Tănase 1985, 4.
[10] Lahovari 1900, 490.

his death, he was succeeded by Nic. Grigore Kantakuzino and Nikolae Gika. Local peasants also worked in the estate owned by Petre D. Iliesku. It is remarkable that the dwelling of this boyar was preserved much later.

The primary source of livelihood of the locals were agriculture and livestock breeding.[11] The first land settlement in the village was conducted by a law in 1864, passed by prince Alexandru Yon Kuza. Thanks to this law, 149 families received land. A bit later, in 1895, more families received land from the Paulaska estate. The land settlement continued in 1897 with the rest of the land, located in the area of 'Dyado Stoyan's vineyard'. It was located near the small railway station 'Ulmulec', 3 kilometers away from Gauriciu. In 1900 90 more families received land from the Beiu estate.

In the end of the 19th century the livestock bred in the region amounted to 4958 heads of livestock, among which 281 horses, 34 donkeys, 963 cattle and 3476 small animals, 214 pigs. Growing vines was also a tradition.[12]

In the 1840-1884 period Gauriciu was united with the village of Branceni. The distance between the two villages was 7 kilometers of straight road. This merge was done because the people of Gauriciu were misled that they could not maintain their own town hall on their own money. In 1884 the village won the right to have its own town hall and thus became independent. This state was maintained until 1908, when the town hall was moved to the nearby village of Smardioasa. This decision was taken as punishment for the participation of the village in the biggest peasant revolt in the history of Romania (1907).

The first school in the village was opened on the 23d of April 1843. The 28 year old son of a local tax collector, Ianku Petre, was appointed teacher. The building of the school was a hovel made out of woven sticks, plastered with mud. Out of a total of 88 kids, only 19 were interested in education. In 1880 the priest Banu became the teacher. His salary of 28 leu per month was provided by the state. He taught until 1882, when the Law for the reorganization of the Church was introduced and pursuant to it the state paid the salaries of priests. This law made Banu move to the village of Konstesti in the same region. His place was taken by the teacher Petre Pencescu, born in the village and graduated from the Bucharest real school. He taught there until 1907, when he was moved to the village of Tarnavele, Vlaska region. His moving was caused by his participation in the aforementioned revolt in 1907, where he led the local peasant insurgents.

In 1880 the first public building was constructed, which was used as both a school and town hall. It was a single room, six meters long, four meters

[11] Tănase 1985, 12.
[12] Tănase 1985, 12.

wide and three meters high. The walls and the ceiling were plastered just as the school, with mud. In the winter it was warmed with a tile stove. A little later, in 1889, the floor was covered with boards, and the stove was changed with an iron one. In 1904 the first kindergarten was opened in the village.[13]

Even though the population of Gauriciu was almost exclusively Bulgarian and spoke Bulgarian language, in practice there was no Bulgarian school in the village. The inhabitants of Gauriciu knew that their forefathers were Bulgarians, who came from the other side of the Danube. Till the end of the 70s of the 20th century some of the older people said that they had family in Bulgaria. Today however it is rather hard to find out which villages exactly they came from.

The Bulgarian character of the village made it an almost closed society. There were but a few cases when an inhabitant of the village married someone from a nearby populated place. As late as the 60s and the 70s of the previous century marriages with people outside this village were rare. After that, the young people started seeking realization outside the village, in nearby cities and the capital. The population remained non-assimilated also because its people rarely had contacts with the nearby Romanian villages.

According to the records preserved, near the village there were no harder and more diligent workers then the 'bugars' in Gauriciu, as they were called in the other villages. The Bulgarians kept their old specific festivities, such as Lazaritsa, Dragayka and Babinden, when they danced the village circle dance, made weddings and celebrated St. Trifon Zarezan (the wine festivity).

Lazaritsa is an early Christian holiday and was celebrated in the eve of Palm Sunday, when well-dressed girls and young women walked from house to house with braids of flowers and baskets to collect treats. When they entered a house, they said 'Lazaritsa, prazaritsa'.

On 'Zarezan' or 'St. Trifon' (February 1st or 14th) the men first went to church, carrying with them grains of corn, wheat, vines and wine. After the church service they went to the vineyards, together with the priest, and stopped at the vines of the best farmer where the ritual was actually carried out. There they prayed that the year will be fruitful for everybody. Only men were present at the 'Zarezan' ritual.

'Babinden' was celebrated up to the 50s of the 20th century, only by women. On the 21st of January all young mothers visited the old women who helped them at childbirth, bringing food and celebrated tougher with them until late at night. Such traditions were also kept in Bulgaria, which is yet another proof of the Bulgarian character of the village.

[13] Tănase 1985, 8-11.

'Dragayka' was a celebration that is no longer kept. On the day of the celebration only young women, called 'dragayki' danced a circle dance. They wore white shirts, wide white skirts with numerous baby hats, symbolizing fertility. This celebration took place in the end of June.[14]

The names given by the old settlers of some of the places around the village are also very interesting – for instance Cumina vra ('Peak plague'), the place, where, as we stated before, the first settler arrived. 'Goruna' or the 'Tree' is a place where today we can find an abandoned well in the middle of a fairground located at a crossroads. It is known that there was a big oak in this place, the last standing from an old forest that existed in this region a long time ago.

'Fitova forest', better known as 'Fitu Manafu's well' was located west of the village.

'The Tomi well', or as it is known to the locals – 'Toma's fountain' is 800 meters away from the southwestern part of the village. It is considered that it was initially built of stone by Bulgarian craftsmen to satisfy the needs of the people who worked in the stone pits for the construction of the Rosior de Vede – Zimnic railwaty. Later the fountain was restored by the local mayor Toma Tanase, and because of this today it is named after him.

The place that is located today just at the outskirts of the village is called 'Pri salkama'. Before 1920 there was an acacia forest here, called 'Krankata'. The forest was uprooted, because a heavy fighting between Romanians and Germans took place there during World War I. The German army entered this area after crossing the Danube close to the city of Zimnic.

'Mitran's' is an area located 7-8 kilometers away from the village. A long time ago in this area there were 5-6 hovels, where people from Alexandria had settled. Mitran was the wealthiest of the settlers. They had vegetable gardens. The well in this area existed almost as late as the 1930s. Its water was drinkable, and in the local language the place was known as 'Mitranov geran'.

The 'Baba Dana' well was located south of Mitran. Here, as well as at Mitran, there were hovels, occupied by families who came from Alexandria. It is named after an old woman who lived in one of the hovels. She dug a well with water good for drinking, and for this reason the well was named after her, i.e. 'The well of Baba Dana'. Nearby was a road which connected the village of Suhaya with the city of Alexandria. In that place Dana also had an inn. The travelers and drivers, carrying fish caught in the big swamps near the aforementioned village stopped and rested in Dana's small inn. Near this area, across the river in the land of the village of Suhaya there was a mound which does not exist today. It is known as Dana's mound. It can be seen on a

[14] Tănase 1985, 8-9.

topographical map drawn before 1920.[15] We mention all these facts for a reason, because the names of these areas are of Bulgarian origin.

The citizens of Gauriciu participated actively in the 1877-1878 war that is known in Bulgaria as the Russian-Ottoman war, and in Romania as the War for independence. Some of them fought on the battlefield; others helped the Romanian army with food and livestock.

After the restoration of the Bulgarian state in 1878 there is no evidence for the inhabitants of Gauriciu returning to their places of origin south of the Danube river. The reasons for this are that despite their low social status, thanks to the fertile land and the possession of livestock they managed to make a living.

Remaining at their new domicile, unlike the Bulgarians in the other Romanian populated places and especially in the cities, they kept their Bulgarian ethnic self-identification in the following decades. The tested methods of the Romanian ruling elite for assimilator through schooling the Church and the military (this is only true for the young men from the village) from the last quarter of the 19th century had no effect on them.

Despite being a foreign ethnic element, after 1878 the population of Gauriciu did not stay indifferent to the developments of the political life in Romania. As is known, at the end of the 20th century, and afterwards, two political parties headed the government in Bucharest in turns – the liberals and the conservatives. Due to their large dependence on the local landowners, the majority of the population of Gauriciu was coerced to vote for one of the two parties at different elections.[16] There is evidence showing that even in the end of the 19th century there was influence of the ideas of socialism in the village. In August 1898 George Marinescu, a worker from Zimnic, founded a socialist club in Gauriciu. Marin Dima Gacu was chosen as chairman of the club, Angel Ionescu – as secretary, Flora Matei – as cashier. At club meetings the peasants complained about the heavy conditions that they were in, as well as about the unfavorable conditions that they had in the contracts with the owners of the estate, where they worked. The owner of the estate was George Vernescu, a member of the Liberal party. The peasants who worked for the landowner G. Konstantin, a member of the Conservative party, were in an even worse position. They were forced to pay two fifths of their income to the landowner, which meant that half of their crop was taken away. At a gathering on September 27th, 1898 representatives of the club advised the villagers how to vote at the elections. Again they received complaints about the two landowners, who imposed new agricultural plights. At the local elections that took place in

[15] Tănase 1985, 18-19.
[16] The situation in Bulgaria is similar. On this topic, see Georgiev 2014; 2016.

November in the same year the Socialist party won and three of its candidates were elected in the municipal council.[17] This is clear evidence that despite their non-Romanian origin, the villagers made attempts to defend their rights.

* * *

At first glance the life in the village of Gauriciu in the last quarter of the 19th century is not different from that in other Romanian villages. Under that mask however complicated processes were taking place, primarily driven by the ethnicity of the population. Firstly, we need to address the stark conservatism of the population in the village. This is caused primarily by the constant ethnic composition of the population in the village, but also by its low positioning in the social stratification. This conservatism helped to preserve the language, life and traditions. It slowed down the progress, but in the same time preserved the good knowledge of life of the previous generations. Serious changes would not happen for two more decades. The beginning of the 20th century does not mark a serious borderline in the Romanian sociopolitical life, other than the turn of the century. Nevertheless, the new strive towards overthrowing of patriarchal order can be felt. The large change in this direction happens during the First World War and shortly after it. It influences the population of Gauriciu, but this can be a topic for a further study.

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Mariana Ceche, The University of Shumen, Department of History and archaeology, 9712 Shumen, BULGARIA
marirom@abv.bg

[17] Tănase 1985, 19-20.

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The beginning of the political career of Nikola Mushanov

Todor Todorov

Abstract: This article traces the early political career of Nicola Mushanov. He is a prominent Bulgarian politician of the new generation. Born in Draynovo, he studied law in France. In the first years after his return to Bulgaria he is not involved in politics. He becomes a member of the Democratic Party at the end of the nineteenth century but because of his good legal training he is soon selected in its central leadership. Unlike other politicians he remained loyal to the party and its principles until his death in the second half of the twentieth century.

Key words: Nikola Mushanov, Bulgarian politicians, nineteenth century, Drianovo, Democratic Party

Резюме: Настоящата статия проследява ранната политическа кариера на Никола Мушанов. Той е виден български политик от новото поколение. Роден е в град Дряново. Завършва право във Франция. В първите години след завръщането си в България не се занимава с политическа дейност. Включва се в Демократическата партия едва в края на XIX век, но поради добрата си юридическа подготовка е избран скоро в централното й ръководство. За разлика от други политици, остава верен на тази партия и нейните принципи чак до смъртта си през втората половина на XX век.

Nikola Mushanov belongs to the younger generation of Bulgarian political and public figures who were involved in the public political life in the late 19thand early 20thcentury. Born in the town of Draynovo, he studied law in France. After his return to Bulgaria he worked as a judicial magistrate. Soon after that he joined the public and political life of the country. His political affiliations were to the Democratic Party. He became its member when it was still led by its founder Petko Karavelov. After his death he was one of the closest associates of its new party leader - Alexander Malinov, the friendship with whom lasted until the death of the latter in 1938. From then on until the prohibition of the Democratic Party in 1946 he was its recognized leader.

As a prominent politician Mushanov held several state posts: he was appointed several times as minister, and from 1931 to 1934 he was Prime Minister.

Nevertheless it should be noted that his personality up to now has not been a subject of any study by Bulgarian history. His rich and varied activities were mentioned mainly in publications on the self-government of the Democratic Party (1908 - 1911), or in the times when this party participated in the government of the country (1918 – 1919, 1931 - 1934 and 1944).[1] Apart from Al. Girginov's works,[2] in other research the activities of N. Mushanov are definitely presented in negative light, which is quite natural, because these were works that appeared in the period mainly between 1944 and 1989. As for the Democratic Party, as well as for N. Mushanov, the most common epithet is 'reactionary'.[3]

This article is an attempt to trace all initial political activities of that eminent democrat, and has been written on the basis of rich and varied documentary materials; mainly the documents left by N. Mushanov himself are used. These are his 'Memoirs' - (a Diary)[4] which miraculously survived in the tumultuous times he lived in the last years of his life, memories of his contemporaries are also used- Al. Malinov, Gr. Cheshmedzhiev, D. Kazasov, P. Peshev, T. Vlaykov and other public figures.[5] We should also especially note the place given to the press, especially the newspapers of the Democratic Party itself. Among them the main one with respect to N. Mushanov is 'Pryaporets' newspaper in which we also find articles by this prominent politician. Valuable clues exist also in 'Zname' which was issued in the early political career of Mushanov. An especially valuable source for the political views of N. Mushanov proved to be the shorthand records of the Parliament. The speeches at the beginning of his career were not many but they were a clear indicator of his political principles and views on very specific issues.

The present study is the first attempt to touch upon the early political biography of Nikola Mushanov. It does not claim to be comprehensive, although it mostly covers the biography of the eminent statesman. The aim of the author is to lay the foundations for a serious study. I hope that this work fulfills its purpose.

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[1] Kosev 1995; Kumanov 1993; Kozhuharov 1968; Naumov 1967, 1973, 53-67; Stoyanova 1989, 37-53; Ognyanov 1993.

[2] Girginov 1922a; 1922b.

[3] Vasilev 1962, 83-102; Radulov 1976.

[4] CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book I, sh. 1-61, book II, sh. 1-60, book III, sh. 1-60, book IV, sh. 1-60, book V, sh. 1-61; a. e. 2, book VI, sh. 2-61, etc. See also Kumanov,& Noncheva 1992

[5] Vlaikov 1930; Malinov 1993; Peshev 1993; Sekulov 1911; Cheshmedzhiev 1988, etc.

Nikola Mushanov was a politician of the younger generation who grew up during the years of the newly liberated Bulgaria. As confessed by himself, up to graduating high school he did not have even a vague idea of the internal political life, the split of the Great Liberal Party, the reasons for it and so on. Being a student abroad also kept him away from political passions.[6]

In 1893 Mushanov returned to Bulgaria. His intentions were to work as a lawyer. Immediately after his return he was appointed as a judge in St. Zagora. The opposition against the National Liberals was very active.[7] Perhaps this was one of the reasons for Mushanov soon to get interested in distribution of political power. This was necessary also for his job, at least because there were political law suits in Stara Zagora. In that period however the authorities did not press the young judge to enter the National Liberal Party. The opposition also did not invite him and until Stambolov's fall from power he remained depoliticized.[8]

One of the reasons not to enter the politics was the fact that he was about to do his military service. After that he was employed again in St. Zagora as District Prosecutor. During his work on this position he faced all the meanness of the political reality because he had to investigate election crimes. Some of them put him against the men of the day. Under the pressure of leading party members-*(the so called Narodniaks),* in the autumn of 1896 the Stara Zagora District Prosecutor was moved to a new position - Judge in the city of Ruse, where he remained until the end of 1896. In the early 1897, with the insistence of the Head Secretary of The Ministry of Justice he was appointed as prosecutor in the city of Varna. There, due to the tasks assigned by his superiors, he got involved in a serious scandal with the governor of the city of Varna and other prominent Narodniaks. The latter provoked N. Mushanov to make a final decision to leave the public service and to return to the city of Ruse, where he continued working as a lawyer.

Highly offended by the attitude of his superiors, he issued a private Brochure on his own account which described the Varna scandal.[9] The fall of Stambolov from power unleashed a wave of forcibly detained willingness of the society to live freely. On the crest of the 'anti- Stambolov movement' 'The People's Party' was established headed by K. Stoilov.[10] The watchful eye of the new lawyer, however, did not miss the fact that behind the

[6] CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book III, sh. 45-46.
[7] Georgiev 2013, 178 and in the cited literature.
[8] CSA, f. 1303k, op.1, a. e. 1, notebook III, 46-47.
[9] CSA, f. 1303к, op. 1, a. e. 1, book III, sh. 47; see also Mushanov 1898.
[10] See Nikolova 1986, 14 f.; 2004, 17 f.

widely proclaimed promises for restoring the civil liberties, after the government change the repressive measures against the main political opponents of Stambolov's regime were not repealed: Petko Karavelov unfairly convicted for killing Hristo Belchev – a former finance minister in Stambolov`s office, continued to serve the time of his sentence in the Black Mosque in the capital,[11] while Dragan Tsankov who was in exile from December 1886, was not allowed to return to the country.[12]

In the difficult years of transition to society democratization the young lawyer gradually accepted the beliefs of the liberals grouped around P. Karavelov. During the summer and the fall of 1894 the propaganda of the Liberals – supporters of Karavelov was gradually[13] restored and attracted the attention of N. Mushanov who resided already for more than a year in the country. However, he still did not dare to express openly his views and for a long time remained a 'member of no party'. Similar civil behavior was very rare in the historical period when almost all officials hurried up to attest their devotion to the new government and to deny Stambolov's rule.[14] The fact that the occupying a high public position young lawyer defied the euphoria speaks positively about his personal moral qualities.

The fact that he did not enter the People's Party shows clearly that he disapproved of the measures taken by the Narodniaks with regard to the political life.

The platform of Radoslavov's supporters obviously did not attract him because of the anti-Russian moods, and the small Tsankov's fraction[15] obviously was out of his sight.

We should bear in mind that in 1894 he was only 22 years old, - an age which was quite insufficient to be nominated for a member of The Parliament.

The actions of the Narodniaks – (members and supporters of The People's Party) in 1896 apparently convinced N. Mushanov that that party would not keep the promises made public in 1894. The premature dismissal of the Eighth Parliament and the elections for Ninth Parliament with increased presence of administration and the power structures apparently repelled the young prosecutor from St. Zagora from the methods used by the rulers. Moreover, probably some orders of the superiors related to the

[11] Bliznashki 2011, 71-72; Sazdov 2002, 7-8; Dafinov 1996, 23 f.; Kozhuharov 1968, 31 f.
[12] Shishmanov 1928, 14-29. See also Nikolova 1994, 14 f.
[13] Sazdov 1987, 72 f.
[14] A similar point of view had the newly issued political newspapers *Naroden priyatel*, No 1/ 31 May 1894; *Zakonnost* (Burgas), No. 1/10 July 1894; *Narodna volya* (Ruse), No. 11/ 21 May 1894 etc. See also Yurukov 1922, 179.
[15] In that time its influence in St. Zagora, Varna and Ruse wasn't significant – see Zhivkov 2014, 30-31.

election process, contrary to the spirit of the law and to his personal beliefs, convinced him that his way is different.

In 1897 the time for closer involvement with politics came and Mushanov gradually directed himself to the democrats,[16] assessing himself as a 'born democrat', considering his family environment. One of the main reasons for that choice was his becoming friends with Ivan Belinov - a former officer and lawyer, leader of the Democratic Party in the city of Ruse.[17] Under his influence the young lawyer became quickly closer to Karavelov's supporters and still in 1897 he entered their party. Immediately arises the question about the causes which attracted the attention of Nikola Mushanov to that political formation. Particular clues on this matter he gave in his memoirs. Foremost among them was the personality on the party leader Petko Karavelov. He was one of the few great Bulgarian statesmen who did not compromise himself through deals, corruption, backroom arrangements and so on. His honesty was so legendary that it was commented on even by foreign observers.[18] To his political aura contributed also his martyrdom during his many stays in the Black Mosque where he was subjected to torture by Stambolov's supporters.[19]

Secondly, the young Mushanov liked very much the ideas asserted by Karavelov and his close supporters, particularly with respect to the civil rights. As confessed by his nephew St. Mushanov, while still a student in Aix-en-Provence, his uncle was strongly influenced by the French freedom-loving spirit.[20] Thirdly, we should point out the fact that at the time when N. Mushanov chose a party, most of the political forces were not fully consolidated. The People's Party, as mentioned above, repelled with its actions the young lawyer, as The People's Liberal Party at that time was highly compromised. From the larger political forces remained The Liberal (Radoslavov's) Party and The Democratic Party because the Tsankov's supporters were still not well organized, and the Socialists, besides being a small party, were not of serious interest to N. Mushanov in ideological aspect. He himself did not like Radoslavov's supporters, already known to the public as 'sopadzhii'. Although, many of their activists lived in Ruse,

[16] In 1896 Karavelov's supporters changed the name of their party to 'Democratic' on the grounds that the name 'liberal' was already irretrievably compromised in the Bulgarian society – Sazdov 1987, 55.
[17] See Tashev 1999, 48.
[18] See Sazdov 2002, 7-8 and the cited literature. On N. Mushanov's high appreciation to P. Karavelov - see CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book III, sh. 49-50.
[19] Pantev *et ali*. 1999, 65-66; Radev 1973, 592-594; Stoyanovich-Adzheleto 1992, 12930.
[20] BASA, IV, op. 1, a.e. 111.

including the men of law - (Dr. D. Vachov, M. Petkov, etc.,[21] they failed to attract Mushanov for their cause. In that situation as his almost sole alternative remained the Democrats, who were also quite strong in Ruse.

And at last but not least we should emphasize that the young lawyer did not dream of a clerical career. Having a tough character, he, without being provided for, rejected the pressure of the superiors and did not comply with the politicians of the day. This gave him a chance of his own choice in politics. Until 1897 many prominent citizens joined Karavelov who were representatives of a new generation striving for the establishment of new morality. A significant number of them were men of law. N. Mushanov already knew some of them - (I. Belinov, Al. Malinov, Al. Konstantinov, Hr. Slaveykov, M. Takev, etc.), and to others felt respect. For him those people were 'a guarantee of integrity' of the proclaimed political ideas. He liked also very much the articles in 'Zname' newspaper appealing for a change in the political relations and to a new public education.[22] All those facts played a role in attracting the promising young man to the Democratic Party. Furthermore it happened at a time when the organization was restructured to become a modern political party. Mushanov himself stated that immediately after its establishment in Ruse the democratic organization was weak and consisted of barely 60-70 people. This didn't discourage him because at least up to the end of 19th century the young man didn't think about occupying any responsible public position. The first stage of his political carrier began by ascending in the local organization. The Ruse group began to issue the "Narodna Volya" newspaper – ('The People's Will'), whose editor in chief became Mushanov.[23] At that time The Papanchev's Supplement to The Law of The Press required the editors in chief to have higher education.[24] The responsibility taken by them was high because at that time a number of editors in chief, as well as prominent political figures, were imprisoned because of insulting the Knyaz, the government or ministers.

The first several years of the public-political activity of Mushanov passed in the local organization of The Party in the city of Ruse. Gradually the young lawyer began to build his reputation as one of its regional leaders. He was assisted in this respect by his solid education, the independent lawyer's profession and his orator's talent. He was unable to

[21] On the activity of The Liberals – Radoslavov's supporters in that period, see Georgiev 2001, 127-128.
[22] CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book III, sh. 50-51.
[23] CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book III, sh. 52.
[24] The debates about enacting that law see in Georgiev 2014, 114-115 and the cited literature.

participate in the elections in the spring of 1899 because he was under the age of 30 years, but he went to agitate in his native Dryanovo, where he helped the local socialist Bonyu Lungov - a member of the Democrats - to win the elections over the liberal Burgundzhiev.[25]

To gain some popularity and to clear his name of slanders, Mushanov, as mentioned above, prepared and issued the brochure 'The Justice and Varna Scandals' in 1898 in Ruse. Still in the motto dedicated to N. Benev and G. Sgurev – (ministers of interior affairs and of justice) indicated that it was an anti-narodniak brochure. The preface began with the finding that the law in Bulgaria was still 'a cobweb fishing the weak, the defenseless citizens, as the notables go through the web (as the wasps do) - with their crimes'. The expression 'national interest', - continued the author, - 'conceals the tyranny in the government'. He noted 'that the arbitrary actions of the central authority suppress the public opinion'.[26] The young lawyer noted that 'Varna scandals reflect the 'state of anarchy' that lies 'on the back of Bulgarian citizens'. He characterized the justice as 'disgrace' and appealed to the citizens to show more activity. The interference of the executive authority in the work of justice was for him an expression of political offense vitiating the established social order. There he pointed out also the problem of morality of some of the most prominent Narodniaks, which during the period of losing their power,[27] sounded particularly relevant. Naturally the new Democrat advertised his own Party as well, noting that of all the press only 'Zname' newspaper (the main issue of the Democrats), and partly 'Narodni Prava' newspaper (the issue of the liberals) express their opinion on problems.[28]

The external conditions also somewhat helped Mushanov to gain good reputation more quickly. At the end of the 19th and early 20th century the political situation was very tense due to the severe economic and financial crisis in the country and in Europe.[29] Instead of taking measures to its suppression, the government of Stoilov undertook large state construction works, which almost led Bulgaria to bankruptcy.[30] This forced Radoslavov's supporters, who replaced the Narodniaks, to restore the tithe which led to

[25] CSA, f. 1303к, op. 1, a. e. 1, book II, sh. 47.
[26] Mushanov 1898, 5-6.
[27] Statelova & Tankova 2001, 157.
[28] Mushanov 1898, 81-83.
[29] Topalov 1963, 47-74.
[30] At its coming to power the government of D. Grekov, which replaced the Stoilov's government, found over 91 000 000 levs debt, current payments of 17 750 000 levs, 1 360 000 levs available and about 2 600 000 levs of expected revenues – Tenev 1942, 157-158.

huge rural unrest. They were especially numerous in the district of Ruse which was one of the grain producing areas.[31] The Democrats were among the fiercest opponents of the Liberals there. The unpopular action of the government gave them a serious advantage in the fight against the government and they hurried to use it. The imposition of martial law in Ruse district increased the tensions and increased the popularity of N. Mushanov and his party fellows. At that time district governor in Ruse was the liberal D. Mantov (former Popular Liberal), known for his rigid methods. He wanted very much to connect Iv. Belinov to the riots and when both with Mushanov he prepared to leave for Sofia, Mantov gave orders for them to be taken down from the train and taken to the police station. There Belinov was arrested, but Mushanov was released.[32] The authority still did not consider him as a sufficiently dangerous opponent. Soon, however, Radoslavov's supporters lost influence in the region of Ruse[33] and the Democrats made active attempts to replace them.

Mushanov played an active role in that process. Gradually many young and intelligent citizens joined the Democratic Party in Ruse and it became the second strongest political group after the Narodniaks. N. Mushanov climbed up rapidly the ladder of the party hierarchy, first as secretary and then as Vice-Chairman of the organization in Ruse.[34] That put him in second place, immediately after the undisputed national leader I. Belinov. A similar progress was not common considering the numerous local misunderstandings, friendships and so on.

As a consequence of the turmoil the monarch intervened and the Liberal Party fell from power. In the parliamentary elections held on 28 January 1901 initially none of the participating parties succeeded to win majority, but soon it was established by the Democrats and the progressive Liberals, and the Narodniaks which supported them.[35] The fact that P. Karavelov occupied the prime minister's position gave the Democrats confidence, but N. Mushanov was not able to benefit from it significantly because to the date of the elections he still was under 30 years as was required for the nominees. Notwithstanding, he climbed up rapidly the ladder of the party hierarchy because the man from Ruse - Ivan Belinov went to Sofia to take his place as minister and Mushanov who was his deputy became in fact the leader of the local Democrats.[36]

[31] For more details see Georgiev 2007, 69-70 and the cited literature.
[32] CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book III, sh. 52.
[33] Georgiev 2007, 322
[34] CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book III, sh. 54.
[35]On the election results, see Palangurski 2011, 133-134.
[36] CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book II, sh. 46-47, book IV, sh. 14.

During that period he dreamed of becoming a member of the parliament, but there was little chance for him to be nominated in Ruse where many elder and more experienced party activists among the Democrats were striving for the same position. Therefore, to prepare the ground for his future nomination the young Democrat went back to his native Dryanovo. Karavelov's supporters there didn't have any positions and Mushanov had to start from scratch. He gathered 30-40 young craftsmen and held with them a Constituent Meeting after which the enthusiastic new Democrats made a parade through the city. Soon the young Democratic group gained strength and started to compete with Narodniaks.

The severe financial problems and the inability to enter into favorable external loan led to the fall of Karavelov's government from power.[37] After Karavelov's resignation on December 21, 1901 Ferdinand entrusted the power to the progressive Liberals headed by Dr. Danev who this time ran as independent. The Eleventh Parliament was suspended and new parliamentary elections were scheduled and later held on February 17, 1902.[38] N. Mushanov was nominated in them. It was the first time he took part in such a forum as a potential candidate.

Mushanov was nominated in his native Dryanovo in coalition with the narodniak Stefan Lafchiev (his former teacher in the Sliven High School), and with H. Stoychev – a lawyer in Tryavna. At that time the Democratic Party fell into serious crisis. It was intensified by the fact that in the early 1902 Ivan Belinov died, who until then played the role of the figure uniting the party supporters. In the new environment P. Karavelov tried in vain to achieve unity.[39] The 'young' Democrats did not listen and in the most places entered into coalitions with representatives of the Bulgarian Agrarian People's Union while the 'elder' Party members stood up for Karavelov's maxim of independent struggle, or were bounded to candidates of right-wing parties.

We should immediately note that the young lawyer from Ruse occupied a place among 'the elder'. During the election campaign he even shared Karavelov's costs in his transition from Ruse to Gabrovo.[40] He helped him not only financially, but also accompanied him in his tours across the country. He took keen interest in the position of the leader in many controversial political issues, including the recent past.[41] He had a very high opinion of the elder party leader. He considered him extremely honest, moral and unpretentious, 'a person above petty things'. He did not

[37]On the debate in The Parliament, see Georgiev 2014, 414-5.
[38] On the election Campaign - see Palangurski 2011, 160-161.
[39] *Pryaporets*, No. 69/ 1 Febr. 1902.
[40] CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book III, sh. 57-58.
[41] CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book IV, sh. 13.

glorify him in his memoirs and acknowledged some quirks of his character, but he respected what he had done for Bulgaria.[42]

In Dryanovo which was not a big town, during the parliamentary elections in the winter of 1902 five tickets were nominated. The votes weren't unanimous but because N. Mushanov run for Parliament from his home town his ticket was ahead of the rest and he succeeded.[43] There, without fear to be annulled, Mushanov, still before his accreditation, expressed his opinion on April 26, 1902 regarding the problem constantly debated on: 'the erudition' of the members of The Parliament. The dispute whether the MPs – Turks who were not literate in Bulgarian should remain in The Parliament was permanent, and as a rule each Party in power decided in their favor because they were always going with the majority regardless of its political views.[44] As a rule the opposition always offered cancellation of the elections. The case then was not much different and the young member of the parliament from Dryanovo stood before his colleagues with a preliminary prepared speech. In it he drew the attention to the development of the dispute since The First Ordinary Parliament up to the recently completed work of the Tenth Parliament. Recognizing that the previous governments accepted the illiterate regularly elected Turks as eligible members of The Parliament, Mushanov immediately added that this was done under the specific condition, that this interpretation was made in the absence (in the first meetings) or in violation of the Election Law, which indicated explicitly that the elected persons should know written and spoken Bulgarian. To put the governing men in an awkward position the young member of The Parliament reminded that in The Tenth Parliament Dr. Tsankov (at that time chairman of The Twelfth Parliament) explicitly appealed that 'the members of the Bulgarian Parliament should be Bulgarians'. He strongly defended the position that the clause of the literacy should be observed, interpreting the contrary as 'offending the national dignity'.[45] His tone was not sharp, but the arguments were explicit. The MPs listened to him carefully. Mushanov received the support of his party members P. Karavelov and M. Takev[46] but as in most such cases the problem was solved in favor of the majority and the semi-literate Turkish MPs remained in The Parliament.[47]

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[42] More detailed information about the contacts between Mushanov and Karavelov - see in CSA, f. 1303k, op. 1, a. e. 1, book IV, sh. 1 and next.

[43] CSA, f. 1303k, op. .1, a. e. 1, note book III, sh. 57. See also SD, 12, I, 42-65.

[44]On the matter see Palangurski 2008.

[45] SD, 12, I, 25-27.

[46] SD, 12, I, 27-30.

[47]In The Twelfth Ordinary Parliament were elected and accredited a total of 12 Turks, more than half of whom were from the Progressive Liberal Party, or joined it later – Palangurski 2011, 181-185.

After his first appearance the new member of The Parliament, who has already acquired confidence, prompted by the party leader, began to participate more actively in the debates. He was chosen as a member of the delegation that visited the palace 'to present' the answer to Ferdinand.[48] As a law graduate the member of The Parliament from Dryanovo participated also in the parliamentary committee at the Ministry of Justice. He had also some claims with respect to "Tsar –Osvoboditel" Committee, a representative of which departed to Russia in the middle of 1902 as a part of the delegation accompanying the Knyaz and the Prime Minister.[49] Thus, only 30 years old, Mushanov entered 'the big' Bulgarian politics taking advantage of the upheaval in the Democratic Party. Of course, we should not underestimate the personal qualities that for less than a decade shot him to the top of the state hierarchy.

The first years of N. Mushanov's political career were different from those of many other politicians of his generation. It should first be noted that he didn't use protections by close relatives or friends, and gained his reputation by himself. The young man, who acquired higher judicial education in France, after his return to Bulgaria stood away from the politics for a long time. In his work as a prosecutor and a judge he tried to be impartial which brought him great public respect, but also serious trouble. It can definitely be said that the young lawyer was not striving for high public positions, but rather wanted to grow as a specialist in his field. Over time, however, the highly politicized environment in which he worked forced him to take a specific position. Due to a number of reasons, stated above, his choice fell on the Democrats, who in his eyes seemed more principled than the other politicians.

His growing up in the party hierarchy was faster than usually, mainly because of the serious personal qualities and his high moral. So, just within few years N. Mushanov came to the position of the leader of the Ruse party organization and only at the age of 30 he was elected as a member of The Twelfth Parliament.

BASA – Bulgarian academy of Sciences Archive (Sofia)

CSA – Central State archive (Sofia)

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Todor Todorov, The University of Shumen, Department of History and archaeology, 9712 Shumen, BULGARIA
tst_1975@abv.bg

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Integrated management system of Shumen municipality at the beginning of the 21th century

Svetlozar Stoyanov

Abstract: The presented topic is an attempt in brief and in general terms to propose the conclusion that in June 2007 the administration of the municipality of Shumen implemented and maintained at different levels an 'Integrated management system' (IMS), according to the international standards ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 14001:2004 and declared policy management. The municipality has adopted and applied the standards for providing services to users of administrative services presented in the Customer charter of Shumen municipality and the activities are in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Bulgaria and with the approved since April 2007 Rules of the municipal administration.

Key words: Municipal administration, Integrated management system, administrative services

Резюме: Представената тематика прави опит, накратко и в най-общ план, да предложи извода, че към юни 2007 г. администрацията на Община Шумен прилага и поддържа на различните нива „Интегрирана система за управление" (ИСУ), съобразно изискванията на международните стандарти ISO 9001:2000 и ISO 14001:2004, както и декларирана Политика за управление. Общината е приела и прилага стандарти за обслужване на потребителите на административни услуги, представени в т.н. Харта на клиента на Община Шумен, като дейностите са съгласно законите на Република България и влезлия в сила от април 2007 г. Устройствен правилник на общинската администрация.

In 2003 Shumen municipality introduces and conducts successful certification audit of an 'Integrated management system' (further-IMS), according to the international standards ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 14001:1996 (2004) and in 2006 according to the international specification OHSAS 18001:2002.[1]

[1] Prezentatsiya 2006.

The municipal management understands the importance and positive impact of European practices and in this connection creates conditions for the development, documentation, implementation, maintenance and continuous improvement in Shumen municipality of IMS. It is oriented towards the population of the municipality, in which the management presented by the mayor of Shumen municipality, officially declares 'Management policy in the Shumen municipality' and is committed to work towards:

• Satisfying the needs of citizens and corporate bodies in the municipality of Shumen through sustainable economic growth: increasing the competitiveness of the local economy, improving the quality of public services and quality of life of the population in conditions of transparency, legality, efficiency and effectiveness in the actions, in a corruption-free administration.[2]

The staff of the municipal administration is familiar with the management policy of the municipality of Shumen and understanding its goals, implements them and maintains them at all levels. For effective implementation of the management policy, municipal management determines its base – general and specific objectives:

• realization of legitimate local government in terms of transparency, efficiency and effectiveness, as well as administrative and legal services to citizens and corporate bodies in accordance with the requirements for continuous improvement of environmental activities arising from the characteristics of settlements in the municipality of Shumen, and the condition of the infrastructure;

• optimization of the municipal offerred and provided public services and improving the efficiency of the system of information management in order to increase possibilities for the collection, analysis and distribution of information;

• improving the infrastructure of the municipality in order to effectively service the business and the population through equitable distribution of infrastructure services, improving their quality and access to them all;

• priority development of agriculture and related food industry by increasing the competitiveness of agricultural production and increase its contribution to socio-economic development of the municipality;

• development of cost effective tourism as part of the process of accelerating the overall economic development and to maintain the environment – nature and cultural heritage;

• improving the material base, maximum range for compulsory education and full integration of minority children with special educational needs;

[2] AK –DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 4, chl. 6-14.

• improving the environment for human resource development, promoting employment, supporting reforms in education, health and culture, effective protection of citizens' rights, maintaining public order;

• providing access to any medical care to the needy by improving the quality and accessibility of medical services;

• introduction of energy saving and waste-free technologies to achieve environmentally friendly and competitive effect and provide public access to information about the state of the environment; Restructuring of industries polluting the environment and treatment of domestic wastewater collection, transportation and disposal of household waste, construction of landfill for municipal solid waste.

The Integrated management system (IMS):

• regulates all processes related to the activities of the municipality with documents:

- liability management;
- resource management;
- management of documents and records;

• regulates:

- internal communications between officials;
- the establishment of mechanisms for effective planning and management of mismatched needs and expectations of citizens;
- correct actions to eliminate the existing problems;
- actions to prevent problems in the future;

• determines:

- the requisite competence;
- the need for training;
- the powers and responsibilities of all municipal employees.

The introduction of IMS in Shumen municipality provides:

• unity and understanding of the objectives;

• motivation of the municipal administration and its management for quality performance of duties and responsibilities, as well as continuous improvement;

• mechanisms for regular information on citizens' needs and focus efforts to increase their satisfaction with the administrative services of the municipality;

• the possibility of rational planning and resource management, methods for determining the effectiveness of the practices for utilizing available financial resources;

• excellent opportunity for familiarization and knowledge of system processes in the municipality of Shumen, their relationships, parameters and tools to provide work without deviation;

• availability of comprehensive, readily accessible and systematized information which is distributed and updated in a timely manner[3];

• efficient and timely services to citizens, opportunity for giving signals and complaints[4];

• achieving transparency in work processes.[5]

Shumen municipality is the first municipality in Bulgaria certified to the ISO 14001:1996.

The main tasks of Shumen municipality regarding the implementation of the requirements of ISO 14001:1996 are as follows:

• The main processes in the municipality of Shumen are related to the administrative services to citizens, corporate bodies and other customers by providing fast, effective services in accordance with the law and the environment, rational use of natural resources and health and safety at work.[6]

With the System of quality management two main objectives are achieved:

• one – there are spelled out procedures and rules of operation;

• two – services that are provided to customers, are in accordance with their requirements and international standards. It guarantees that the quality of work of the municipal administration will be maintained over time.

System implementation enables:

• quick and accurate identification of processes and the need to improve them;

• better regulated and planned activities;

• municipal administration to work better with clear responsibilities and relationships.

The system of quality management is open to continuous improvement, which enables them to be amended, modified and developed according to the needs at hand.

The introduction of IMS is a logical result of municipal policy for constant improvement in quality and environmental protection.

Practically, Shumen municipality was working according to rules similar to the requirements of IMS-based management policy and objectives related to the quality and the environment, as well as built in the municipality channels for inter-organizational and external communication. Thus the introduction of the new system did not cause any difficulties.

With the introduction of the system of quality management and environmental protection are developed:

[3] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 13.
[4] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 11.
[5] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 12.
[6] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 4, chl. 9.

• a register of normative documents (relevance, validity, order for distribution, legality);
• a review of the structure:
- specific rules for responding to disasters and emergencies;
- network storage of information and its distribution;
- centre for information and services (one-stop shop; tracking of incoming and outgoing information);
- reevaluation of internal operational documents (control system);
- plans and reports (control);
• law of public procurement:
- one register;
- one employee;
- regarding the aspects of the environment;
- reaction upon breach of contract conditions;
• in customer relations:
- a journal proposals, alerts and complaints;
- a journal inbound/outbound applications;
- form for registration of admitting;
- a reception hall for proposals, alerts and complaints;
- book for opinions, suggestions and comments from the public;
- box for opinions, suggestions, complaints;
- questionnaire;
- entrepreneur's desk;
- an Internet site;
- open discussion of the municipal government with citizens and members of community organizations and others.

Municipal management introduces, maintains, implements and continuously improves IMS Shumen municipality, which is in accordance with International standards ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 14001:1996, and contains guidelines on the management and eight documented procedures regulating the processes and activities in the municipality of Shumen, to be followed by all managers and employees in the municipal administration.[7]

Deputy mayor for social policy and health performs the position of 'Authorised representative leadership' by keeping track of the maintenance and improvement of IMS Shumen municipality and informs the management about the results.

The activities of the authorized representative of management in maintaining IMS is assisted by a person in charge of the environment, who

[7] UP - April 2007, chl. 30, al. 3.

monitors and coordinates the management of the environment and the degree of implementation of the regulatory framework associated with it.

In developing the IMS, which automates the entire municipal administration, as well as in the implementation and utilization of new computer equipment, participates the department of 'Information services and technology'.

Directorate 'Social policy and health' through the technical secretary, carried out the necessary actions in the continuous operation, maintenance and development of IMS Shumen municipality, according to the international standards ISO 9000:2000 and ISO 14001:2004.

The management of Shumen municipality was motivated, engaged and realized its responsibilities for the need to maintain and inform all staff about the importance of complying with the requirements of the implemented IMS, as it is the obligation to the employees of the municipal administration, ie with their daily work contribution to raising the prestige of the municipal administration and to increase the confidence of citizens and institutions to local authorities in strict accordance with the declared policy management of the municipality and according to the requirements of ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 14001:2004.[8]

The Management policy of Shumen municipality is declared and shows the various levels of local administration placed in prominent places. Due to the specific requirements of the International standard ISO 14001:1996 and therefore carried out by the municipality business management the policy is disclosed to the public using media and WEB-page of Shumen municipality.[9]

The laws and regulations are identified and recorded in the Register of normative documents. The lists of the laws and regulations are updated immediately in case of change. Current copies are distributed to the municipal administration at various levels and to the clerks at their workplaces.

The Municipal government systematically oversees the implementation of the objectives of the municipality, through plans, reports, statements and more. There is weekly monitoring of the levels of the municipal administration, the correspondence between the plan – the deadlines – the achieved goals.[10]

Shumen municipality has identified interested parties and their requirements are identified as follows:[11]

[8] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 9, al. 1; UP – April 2007, chl. 72, al. 2.
[9] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 12-13.
[10] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 13.
[11] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 15, al. 1.

• clients of the municipality (citizens, companies, institutions, non-governmental organizations);
• partners;
• suppliers;
• staff of the municipality.

The requirements of stakeholders are identified by:

• a journal of incoming/outgoing application in the center for information and services to citizens;
• book for opinions, suggestions and comments from the public;
• a journal of proposals, alerts and complaints;
• an admission registration form.

Comments and suggestions from citizens are received through the Internet-site of the municipality and boxes in the lobbies. Communication is done via telephone, written correspondence, e-mail, Internet, monthly briefings with the media, a monthly visiting day, the personal involvement of the mayor in social and public events.

Coordination within the municipal administration is realized on the following levels:

• first level – between the mayor and deputy mayors and chief secretary of the municipality in implementation of the decisions of the mayor by accurately distinguishing the person in charge and the deadlines for implementation, specifying the degree of interaction in the implementation of interrelated decisions, determining the leading directorate, granting an order, a report on the implementation of the decisions after the deadline;

• second level – between deputy mayors, the chief secretary of the municipality and the directors of directorates in their areas in implementation of the decisions of the mayor by prompt acquaintance with of the decisions taken by higher level specified implementation period, giving specific instructions whose section of the same or other areas is imperative, joint study and solving problems, determining the degree of responsibility, reporting on committed assessment of the work;

• third level – between directors of departments and heads of departments in their areas by clarifying the leading employee from the respective deputy mayor or chief secretary. Establishing personal contacts with other specialists, detailing the task and place for everybody, the order for a workgroup, if necessary and setting the deadline for the report;

• fourth level – between directors of departments, heads of departments and employees from the relevant departments by identifying the employee who will perform the specific task, determining of period of performance, reporting and evaluation of the work.

Coordination and interaction between the directorates, departments and sectors is carried out on the basis of their functional characteristics and/or in accordance with the resolutions of the mayor, deputy mayors and chief secretary of the municipality, indicated on incoming correspondence and documentation.

In extreme situations, deputy mayors may request information from departments subordinate to the other deputy mayors without prior coordination.

If necessary, coordination and interaction between the directorates, departments and sectors is carried out on the basis of an order from the mayor.

When in the resolution of the mayor concerns more than one deputy mayor, a leading role has the first on the list and after consultation with his colleagues, he or she signs this document for directorates, departments and sectors that are associated with the problem.

In accordance with the resolution of the mayor, deputy mayors and chief secretary of the municipality, the accountable director or head of department, coordinates the task with their colleagues, makes a report, or prepares the necessary documents up to the specified deadline.

The respective director and head of department takes personal responsibility for the task in its sphere of activity, regardless of which locations are written in the resolution.

In the interaction between the directorates or departments resulting from their functional characteristics, a guiding role has the director or head of department, who prepares the final document.

It was noted that the management policy of Shumen municipality is the result of the commitment of the municipal government to minimize pollution and harmful environmental impacts and reduce to minimum risks for personnel's health and safety, the continuous improvement in IMS in accordance with current legislation.

The mission of Shumen municipality is to serve the public interest effectively and efficiently for maximum results and quality of administrative services with a minimum expenditure of financial and human resources, where the objectives are are as follows:

• strategic goals:

- implementation of legitimate local management in terms of transparency, effectiveness and efficiency in administrative services;

- optimization of municipal offering and delivery of public services;

- facilitation of citizens and legal persons in obtaining information on types of administrative services, registration of applications for services, receipt of reports on the current status of the case file and obtaining information for the term;

- enhancing the quality of work in the administrative service delivery of the municipality of Shumen;
- direct contact between the broadcaster seeking service and the employee from the administration who actually works on providing the service for limiting the corruption opportunities;

• immediate objectives:

- enhancement of to the procedure for offering services;
- reduction of costs (in terms of money and time) required for carrying out administrative services by the municipal administration;
- elimination of possible corruption practices;
- creating a well-intended business environment for users of administrative services provided by the municipality of Shumen;
- control over the activities of employees in the municipal administration working on provision of administrative services;

Based on the strategic and immediate goals, the municipality has implemented and enforced Standards for providing services to users of administrative services by the municipality of Shumen.[12]

According to the service standards, the municipal administration:

• treats civilly, kindly and with due respect each user of administrative services;

• listens to requests and complaints;

• refers with care and concern to the problems of the users of administrative services;

• if there are some regulatory obstacles they seek an alternative solution to every problem associated with the administrative services;

• observes confidentiality regarding inquiries and complaints of users of administrative services;

• works professionally by not manifesting a subjective attitude and respects the principles of equality;

• provides relevant information about administrative services in full details and in an accessible manner;

• if the questions are not in the competence of the municipal administration, they recommend to the customer of administrative service an appropriate department or institution;

• takes into account the relevant proposal for additions and/or amendments to the provided information, which is noted in the book for opinions, suggestions and remarks, and also on the website, submitted as report in boxes at the lobby of the municipality or the Center for information services (CIS), or by inquiry cards;

[12] HARTA 2006.

• provides information through daily briefings;

• provides a transparent procedure for receiving, processing and reporting of requests, proposals, reports and complaints;

• provides clear, comprehensive, complete and accurate information, explanations and document templates that meet the needs of the customers of administrative services;

• notify about the name of the employee with whom the user of administrative services spoke on the phone or in CIS;

• informs about the options for solving a problem by detailed examination of the advantages and disadvantages of the relevant options;

• checks the performance of administrative services when there are complaints and informs the user about the results of the inspection;

• provides the necessary information at the first contact with the customer of administrative services;

• performs the requested administrative service within the legal term;

• analyzes proposals, comments, compliments and complaints of users of the administrative services, and also performs appropriate actions when they are within the competence of the municipality of Shumen;

• gives an answer in writing to the submitted written requests and/or complaints by customer of administrative services in connection with maladministration within 7 days of receipt (except in cases of necessiry checkups);

• measures the satisfaction of users of administrative services to the activity and takes the necessary actions to increase the same activity;

• performs administrative services under the laws and is responsible for qualitative and timely execution.

Users of the administrative services provided by the municipality in Shumen, have the opportunity to voice their opinions, suggestion, complaint for breach of the norms by the employees of the municipal administration.[13]

When written complaints are submitted the municipal administration responds in writing within 7 days of the receipt of the request/appeal. In cases where an inspection is required, the duration of response is 1 month. Anonymous complaints and requests are not answered.

They summarize the alerts and suggestions from the poll cards, as well as from the book for reviews, suggestions and remarks, and report them monthly to the mayor by presenting concrete proposals for solving the rpoblems of the users of administrative services.[14]

[13] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 15, al. 1-2.

[14] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 15, al. 1-2.

IMS is oriented towards stakeholders, as there:[15]

• are regulated activities and processes that are clearly understood and are managed as their effectiveness and efficiency is in constant improvement;

• is ensured effective and efficient management of processes and activities that apply to determining the satisfaction of stakeholders;

• is defined the size of any environmental impacts and applicable legal and normative requirements;

• is created maximum safe and healthy working environment for the staff and the external persons having access to it, such as customers, suppliers and other stakeholders;

• documented procedures are established for regular identification of the nature of things, assessing the magnitude and control of risks in the processes in the municipality;

• are regulated and established mechanisms to monitor the currently regulatory framework of local laws, as the municipal government is committed to disseminate laws, regulations and changes in laws of the relevant workplaces in the municipal administration;

• are provided effective and efficient operating and management processes, actions and data that are used to evaluate the results achieved.

IMS is built and oriented to stakeholders and the activities there include:[16]

• identifying the processes leading to the satisfaction of stakeholders' requirements of;

• identifying of the needs for processes leading to improved outcomes;

• systematically obtaining and processing information about the processes;

• orientating the development to continuous improving;

• identifying the risks to human health arising from the activities of the municipality and application of appropriate methods for minimization;

• identifying of legal and administrative provisions relating to the activities of the municipality, the management of occupational safety and the environment;

• implementation of appropriate methods for self assessment of the improvement of the processes.

The affiliation of a corresponding element in this process is described for clarity of its proper management. The management of Shumen

[15] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 8, al. 1.
[16] AK–DV 30/11.04.2006, chl. 8, al. 1-2.

municipality has identified the processes (main and auxiliary), their interrelationship and consistency in the municipality.

The main processes in IMS of Shumen municipality are related to:

• management of municipal property, municipal enterprises, municipal finances, taxes and fees, municipal administration;

• country planning of the municipality and the settlements in it;

• education;

• healthcare;

• the culture;

• planting and utilities, and public utilities;

• social assistance;

• the development of sport, recreation and tourism;

• defense, security and defense and mobilization training of the Municipality;

• determination of dangerous situations at working, risk assessment of workers' health in the municipality and ensuring health and safety in the workplace and during processes in Shumen municipality;

• assessment of the environmental aspects, the determination of the impacts from the activities of the municipality and the rational use of natural resources.

The activities related to the needs of citizens and judicial persons in the municipality, information exchange and communication with the structures of central power, conclusion of contracts and the award of public procurement, transport services, maintenance of facilities and equipment etc., are determined by the management of Shumen municipality as support activities.

The management of the main and auxiliary processes is regulated in IMS, the administrative documents, the external normative documents, the technical documentation of Shumen municipality, the instructions etc.

The municipal management is responsible for optimization and controlling the processes as well, and each employee in authority and its obligations as reflected in the relevant job descriptions, the Rules and Regulations of the municipal administration of the municipality of Shumen, the Law of local government and local administration (LLGLA) and IMS.[17]

The municipal management carries out regular monitoring, evaluation of results and continuous improvement of IMS for complying with the set objectives by regularly conducting internal audits and reviews of the effectiveness and efficiency by process management.

[17] ZMSMA 1991/2006; Prezentatsiya 2006; UP–April 2007.

For improving the efficiency in the municipality Shumen municipal government promptly prepares a resource plan and provides the necessary adequate and appropriate resources, the essential ones among them are:

• creating a functional working environment which meets the regulatory requirements for municipal activities and processes;

• providing the necessary material resources, information resources and financial resources and their management;

• efficient infrastructure and its optimization in accordance with the activities in the municipality;

• qualified personnel which, if necessary, is subject to instructions, training and retraining;

• capability development and management of the profiles of future managers of the municipality;

• organizational structures, including of the needs for governance structures.

Proper and timely identification and procurement of the necessary adequate and appropriate resources is a process that is done according to the proper implementation of the commitments towards stakeholders, in accordance with and by maintaining the effectiveness of IMS in Shumen municipality.

In order to improve the work of the municipality, to assist management and individual development of employees the municipality of Shumen implements the method for assessment of the work performance. As an organized process of evaluating the performance of an employee in a particular environment, the method is legally regulated and the legal basis is the Regulation of conditions and procedures for the testimonial of civil officers (RCPTCO) and the adopted decree of the Council of ministers (CM) №105/21.05.2002.

That attestation allows to define criteria for assessing the results of the work of employees through:

• assessment of current performance and the required level of competence for the respective position;

• identifying training needs and development at present and in the future;

• the way for development of the potential and abilities of employees;

• description of the manner in which the contribution of the the employee has a direct relationship with the objectives and the improvement of Shumen municipality.

In the municipality of Shumen is provided staff training in two directions:

• training related to IMS;

• centralized training for the implementation of the Government strategy for training of civil servants.

The municipal management has provided infrastructure and equipment, hardware and software, also communication systems, which are used to implement the core processes in the municipality.

Shumen municipality has approved a list of places for vocational rehabilitation of the staff with established health problems and thus the municipal members declare their abilities and desires to ensure the health and safety of every municipal employee.

The management of the municipality has created the necessary working conditions for effective and efficient work in a work environment, adequate to the processes in the municipality of Shumen, in accordance with the requirements and needs of both customers and staff.

The main methods and means of obtaining information in order to meet the demands, desires and presumed expectations of the stakeholders are:

• establishing direct contacts with current and potential clients and stakeholders and maintaining feedback with them by:

- the reception day of the mayor, deputy mayors and secretary of the municipality – once a month;

- surveys by the WEB-page of Shumen municipality in order to determine the attitudes and moods, specifying the existing problems – once a year;

- officials conducting telephone conversations with citizens , the employee who conducted the conversation immediately takes the appropriate actions to provide the administrative service;

- open discussions of the municipal government with citizens or representatives of their organizations, where they express opinions, ask questions and expect answers ;

- one-stop shop for businesses and the population through CIS where customers receive optimized with respect to the time, administrative services. The resulting applications, requests, suggestions and warnings are recorded in the electronic system of registration and control by the employee at the counter. Here responses to requests and applications submitted to the administration by citizens or legal entities can be obtained;

- ex officio place of the entrepreneur – opened by Shumen municipality in collaboration with the UK Department for international development and the Agency for small and medium enterprises (ASME) to CM. This ex officio place aims to assist companies in obtaining business information, the necessary permits and documents through creating a common database to exchange business information. Here services are carried outfor general business registration, disclosure of the new entity,

information on licensing, permits and registration of specific business activities;

- regular meetings and discussions on specific municipal issues, projects and programs with members of different social formations: expert advice, public forums, etc.;

- joint meetings with the school parliament of the town – for discussion and satisfying the demands of young people;

- incoming opinions and suggestions from citizens in the book of opinions, suggestions and remarks. With the registration of records this document studies their regularity and explores the causes for the onset of discrepancies;

- comments and suggestions from Internet-site of the municipality;

- incoming comments and suggestions from citizens in boxes which are located in the lobby of the municipality in CIS;

- data analysis from summary reports based on the data from the electronic system of registration and control;

- examining the state of the municipality by assessing the work of the municipal administration by the media. Depending on this the municipal government takes decisions for timely actions in relation of the requests of the groups of clients;

- informing, training, motivating staff for safe behavior at work and empathy in the activity in providing healthy and safe working conditions;

- informing the stakeholders about the severity of the estimated environmental issues resulting from the activities of the municipality;

- marking the dangers and sources of harmful health and safety factors in the work environment;

- improving the working conditions and performance in regard to the environment through interaction with public authorities, representative employer organizations and employees;

- maintaining active communication with local authorities in divulgation of emergencies and incidents occurring in the territory of the municipality of Shumen;

• comparisons with the performance achieved with those of previous periods and projections for the future, which are carried out on the basis of periodical analyses and forecasts worked out by the management of Shumen municipality;

• weekly briefing with the media to get acquainted with the basic aspects of the activity of the municipal administration;

• personal involvement of the mayor in public events and in the life of Shumen municipality as that provides extensive contacts with the public;

• organizing and conducting workshops, advisory councils with NGO, discussions, debates. etc.;

• analysis of the proposals and the expertise of NGO that are registered in the minutes of the public hearings organized by the mayor.

Influence on the determination of the requirements to the Shumen municipality has the management of individual processes, products, services and activities connected with the working environment, the working conditions, the aspects of the environment and their impacts.

The documentation relating to the registration requirements set by stakeholders and coordination with the municipality of Shumen, preparation of responses and copies are kept in the municipal registry by relevant officials and in the archive of Shumen municipality.

The presented topic is an attempt to present in brief and in general terms the conclusion that in June 2007 the administration of the municipality of Shumen implemented and maintained at different levels „Integrated management system" (IMS), according to the international standards ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 14001:2004 and declared policy management. The municipality has adopted and applied the standards of providing service to customers of administrative services presented in the Customer charter of Shumen municipality and the activities are in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Bulgaria and with the approved since April 2007 Rules of the municipal administration.

AK-DV – *Administrativnoprotsesualen kodeks* (obnarodvan v Darzhaven vestnik 30/11.04.2006)

HARTA 2006 - *Harta na klienta na Obshtina Shumen* (Shumen).

Presentatsiya 2006 - *Prezentatsiya na sertifitsirana Integrirana sistema za upravlenie po ISO 9001:2000, ISO 14001:2004 i OHSAS 18001:2002 na Obshtina Shumen* (Shumen).

UP – April 2007 - *Ustroistven pravilnik na obshtinskata administratsiya na Obshtina Shumen* (v sila ot April 2007)(Shumen).

ZMSMA 1991/2006 - *Zakon za mestnoto samoupravlenie i mestnata administratsiya* (obnarodvan v Darzhaven vestnik 77/1991, izmenenie i dopalnenie - Darzhaven vestnik 69/2006).

Svetlozar Stoyanov, The University of Shumen, Department of History and archaeology, 9712 Shumen, BULGARIA
s_v_stoyanov@abv.bg