

24th EAA Annual Meeting

BARCELONA,
5-8 SEPTEMBER 2018

REFLECTING FUTURES

Abstract Book VOLUME II



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Edicions

The contextual and stratigraphic analysis of the deposits in the house that yielded macro-botanical remains allows the reconstruction of spatial and temporal distribution of different activities related to plant processing and food production. Further, it sheds light on the continuity/discontinuity over time of subsistence strategies within this particular household. The insights from this case study can be used to gain a better understanding of specific choices made by communities of the Vátya culture with respect to their plant-food economy, and of the role these choices played in the socio-cultural transformations in the Carpathian Basin at the onset and at the end of the Middle Bronze Age.

11 BRONZE AGE FOODWAYS IN THE MAROS REGION, SE HUNGARY: LITHIC AND CERAMIC PERSPECTIVES

Author(s): Szeverenyi, Vajk - Priskin, Anna (Deri Múzeum)

Presentation Format: Oral

The study of foodways – the diverse cultural aspects of food preparation and consumption – is still a neglected subject in Hungarian prehistoric research. It is a complex, interdisciplinary approach using results among others from archaeobotany, zooarchaeology, stable isotope studies on humans, animals and plants, study of food remains, residue analysis, environmental reconstruction, lithic studies, and last but not least, pottery analysis. The aim of our paper is to present some preliminary, but integrated results from the last two categories, the typological and functional study of macrolithic implements and ceramic vessels used in food preparation and consumption in the Maros region in southeast Hungary throughout the Bronze Age. Through simple formal analysis we investigate the sets of vessels used to store, prepare and consume foodstuffs and attempt to reconstruct basic food storage, preparation and consumption habits. Through the functional analysis of macrolithic tools and their contextual analysis throughout various settlement types, we attempt to reconstruct the organization of food production and preparation within a region and its changes through time. The paper is intended to bring us closer to a better understanding of Bronze Age foodways in Hungary and to form the starting point of more in-depth and multifaceted analyses in the future.

a. CORDED WARE MATERIALS IN THE FOREST ZONE OF NORTH-WESTERN RUSSIA

Author(s): Tkach, Evgenia (Institute for the History of Material Culture Russian Academy of Science)

Presentation Format: Poster

North-Western part of Russia (Pskov and Leningrad districts) is located in the forest zone. Corded Ware culture (CWC) materials were discovered along the border between Russia and Estonia, at the shore of Gulf of Finland. On the other hand, Corded Ware materials are also distributed on the Estonian side of the Lake Peipsi. In the Pskov region, not far from the Peipsi lake, Corded Ware materials are located on the bank of the lake Belaya Struga. In this region were also found rare materials of the local fish-gathering Neolithic (Pit-Comb) culture. CWC material includes 11 ceramic vessels. There are different wide-necked vessels with everted upper part. They are made in patching technique with grass as admixture. Some of the vessels are decorated by hollow stamps or grooves. One vessel was made in N- technique with grass and organic materials in the forming dough. In this collection, a beaker with “her-ringbone” as the ornamentation was distinguished. Also found here were fragments of a stone battle-axe and a copper awl. These ceramic materials could be described as vessels of the A-horizon of the CWC that were found at one of the most eastern forest site of this culture. There are rare flint tools which could be explained by long-distance trade of raw materials. It is possible that CWC inhabitants of the site used also quartz tools. The appearance in this region of the CWC traditions could have introduced metal production and agriculture to the local fish-gathering Neolithic communities.

c. DIETARY VARIABILITY DURING THE BRONZE AGE IN THE AREA OF PRESENT-DAY CZECH REPUBLIC

Author(s): Kaupová, Sylva (National Museum) - Parma, David (Archaeological Heritage Institute Brno) - Salaš, Milan (Moravian Museum) - Unger, Jiří (Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague) - Jarošová, Ivana (free-lancer)

Presentation Format: Poster

Earlier studies have referred to the Bronze Age as to the period of important dietary change. The introduction and subsequent intensification of millet production was reported from several parts of Europe. Isotopic analysis of carbon, nitrogen and sulphur in collagen allows for the direct estimation of dietary contribution of millet, as well as animal products of both terrestrial and aquatic origin. The studied sample could be attributed to the Early (EBA, 2000-1500 BC) and the Late (LBA, 1300-800 BC) Bronze Age. The Middle Bronze Age was regrettably not represented in our sample. EBA is represented by 21 individuals from Tuřany. Due to the dominance of cremation burial rite, the LBA sample consisted from either isolated inhumations or those scattered in the settlement context of several sites: Hostice (n=3), Ivanovice (n=1), Vyskov (n=1) and Blucina (n=5). The comparative LBA dataset comes from geographically distant site Zálezlice (n=8). Faunal samples (n=24) representing all the above mentioned contexts were included in the study. In comparison with other data from the area, faunal samples from all the Bronze Age contexts show higher nitrogen isotopic values, which may reflect specific husbandry practices. Carbon data show a range typical for terrestrial C3-plant environment. Millet was probably not used as a supplementary fodder.

Human carbon isotopic values differ significantly between EBA and LBA samples, suggesting a sharp increase in consumption of millet in the latter period. Nitrogen isotopic values suggest substantially limited access of most individuals to animal products. These results are discussed with respect to the burial characteristics (grave vs settlement pit, ritual vs non-ritual position of the body, presence of grave goods).