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## The Recent Discoveries at Gloska Čuka, R. of Macedonia

### Introduction

Gloska Čuka is an archaeological site in the Lower Vardar Valley, 4.5 km to the south of the village of Grčište and 13 km south of the small town of Valandovo. It is a dominant hill on the right bank of the Vardar River (ancient Axios), raising 120 m above the sea level (fig. 1)<sup>1</sup>. Situated at one of the main routes of the Balkan Peninsula which connects the North and the South, in a region with favourable climate and abundant in natural resources, the site was inhabited since the Iron Age.

In ancient times, this area was part of the Macedonian region of Amphaxitis, the land on the both sides of the Axios River, which, according to Thucydides, once belong to the Paionians<sup>2</sup> (map 1). After Greco-Persian Wars and Macedonian expansion toward east, the lower flow of Axios up to Demir Kapija Gorge became a Macedonian territory. During the reign of Philip V, it was one of the five regions in Ancient Macedonia that had autonomy in coin minting<sup>3</sup>. After the Roman conquest of Macedonia in 168 BC, Amphaxitis became part of the third meris with the main seat in Pella. This administrative division lasted until 147 BC when Macedonia officially became a Roman province.



Fig. 1 - Gloska Čuka, view from NW.

The small-scale excavations at the necropolis at Gloska Čuka in 1977, initiated by grave robbers activities, have revealed two cist graves and finds (bronze pendants and pottery) from other disturbed graves,

<sup>1</sup> Archaeological Map of the Republic of Macedonia, vol. II, 1996, 54.

<sup>2</sup> PAPAZOGLU 1988, 174–6. Strabo gives the same information saying that the Paionians once settled the lower flow of Axios, the region known as Amphaxitis.

<sup>3</sup> PAPAZOGLU 1988, 174; BITRAKOVA GROZANOVA 1987, 17.

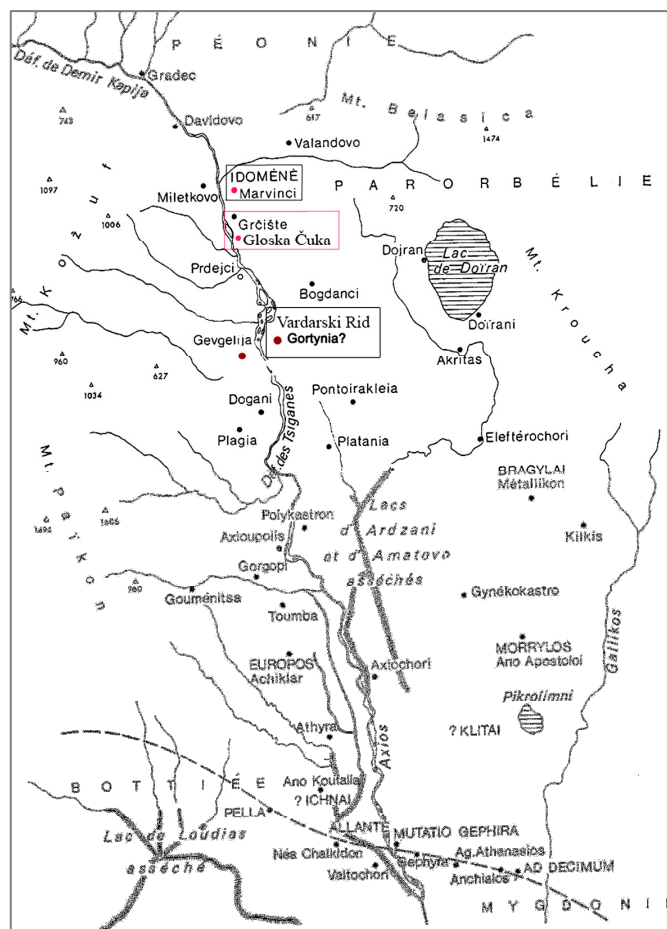
typical for the end of the 7th and the 6th century BC<sup>4</sup>. In 2006, the Institute of Art History and Archaeology from Skopje University in collaboration with Museum of Macedonia and TFAHR (Texas Foundation of Archaeological and Historical Research), began the excavations at the Acropolis and the Eastern Terrace. The research has revealed a settlement with a complex stratigraphy and continuous habitation from the Iron Age to the end of the 1st century BC.

### Eastern terrace

The excavations in the few trenches set on the lowest slope of the Eastern Terrace, discovered remains of prehistoric architecture, undisturbed by later habitation. Two strata that belong to the Iron Age (8th - 6th century BC) are distinguished.

The earliest dwelling points to a primitive architecture of which only the foundations set in carved canals in the bedrock, holes for wooden posts and pits for storage were preserved (figs. 2-3). The concentration of ash and traces of burning with circular shape are probably from a hearth.

Somewhat later, above the remains of this earlier dwelling a new house was erected.



Map 1 - Map of Amphixitis (after PAPAZOGLOU 1988, Carte 5).



Figgs. 2-3 - Gloska Čuka, Eastern terrace, Iron Age dwellings, earlier phase.

<sup>4</sup> PAŠIĆ 1995, 49–59.





Fig. 4 - Gloska Čuka, Eastern terrace, Iron Age dwellings, later phase.



Fig. 5 - Gloska Čuka, Eastern terrace, furnace in the Iron Age dwelling from the later phase.

The discovered parts show slightly different manner of building: one row of stone foundation and mud brick walls (fig. 4). No roof tiles were discovered, which points to the fact that the house was covered with hay, straw or reed.

At this point of the research, it is hard to describe the ground plan and inner spatial organization of the both phases of the Iron Age dwellings due to the limited space of excavation. Although the concept of the house remains unknown, the furnace found in the room of the later phase defines it as a kitchen facility. It has circular shape with foundation made of fragmented pottery, coated with smooth surface of burnt clay (fig.

5). The remains of wattle and daub on its northern side presumably belong to the upper construction.

The movable finds are mainly fragments of pottery, with shapes typical for the later phase of the Iron Age: jugs with cutaway neck and burnished surface or



Figg. 6a, b - Kantharoi, 8-7th cent. BC.

wheel made variants pain-*ted* with horizontal bands, deep bowls and cups, as well as handmade cooking pots and puranoi of coarse fabric. The both *kantharoi* with globular body and handles overhanging the rim (figs. 6a, b), represent a common shape for the Iron Age in the region, widely dated from 8th to 6th centuries BC<sup>5</sup>. Many grinding stones evidence the processing of wheat as a main domestic activity.

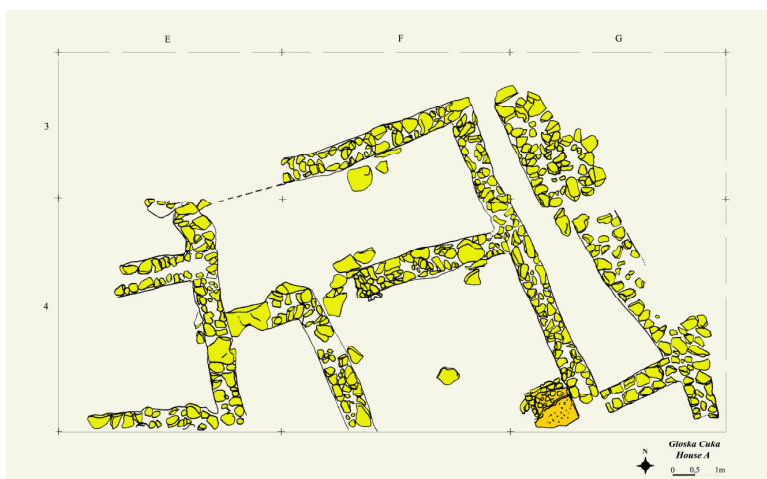
Fig. 7 - Gloska Čuka, Eastern terrace, a child grave beneath the floor of the Iron Age dwelling from the later phase.



<sup>5</sup> MIKULČIĆ 1961, 62, T. III, fig. 2, the closest analogy to our samples is the kantharos found in a tumular necropolis Orlova Čuka in Eastern Macedonia, dated to 7th century BC.

Interesting peculiarity represents the child grave buried beneath the floor level of the house from the later phase (fig. 7). The infant was inhumated in a cist grave oriented in South - North direction with no grave offerings. This practice of child burials in the settlement layers is confirmed at nearby site of Vardarski Rid of the same period<sup>6</sup>.

The previously mentioned cist graves discovered at the necropolis in 1977 are contemporary to the settlement, confirming its affiliation to the so-called Gevgelia cultural group of Later Iron Age in Macedonia.



Plan 1 - Gloska Čuka, Acropolis, House A.

## Acropolis

During the Classical and Hellenistic times, a small fortified settlement existed at the highest point, at the Acropolis (fig. 1). Segments of the fortification wall are noticeable at the surface, on the edge of the flat plateau. Because of the thick vegetation that covers most of the Acropolis, the excavations were carried out at the small clear area on its Northeastern and Southwestern part, where few houses were uncovered to a certain extent.

House A was built in the Northeastern part of the Acropolis (plan 1, fig. 8). The architecture and deposits of the house were partly disturbed by the deep roots of the bushes. The walls were made of stone foundations using fragments of roof tiles for levelling, at some points preserved up to a 1 meter height, and mud bricks for the upper parts. The house had gabled roof covered with Laconian roof tiles. The floors in each room were of beaten earth, using the bedrock wherever possible as a firm surface. It has East - West orientation with entrance from the West. This type of provincial, rather modest architecture is well known from the nearby larger towns at the sites Isar near village of Marvinci<sup>7</sup> and Vardarski Rid near Gevgelia<sup>8</sup>.

The total size of the house, disposition and usage of the certain rooms is unknown. There are six partly discovered rooms of which it is certain that room 2 served for storage and food processing. The discovered storage vessels (*pithoi* and storage beans) and the raised stone platform coated with clay surface



Fig. 8 - Gloska Čuka, Acropolis, remains of the House A.

<sup>6</sup> PAPAŽOVSKA 2005, 388–97.

<sup>7</sup> SOKOLOVSKA 1986, 59–67.

<sup>8</sup> PAČKOVA KUFOJANAKIS 2005, 347–72.





Fig. 9 - Gloska Čuka, Acropolis, raised stone platform in the House A.

(fig. 9), lead to this conclusion. Similar stone platforms were discovered in the inner courtyard of the House of the Collector at Vardarski Rid. They were used for grinding different kinds of cereals judging by the grinding stones found on their top and around them<sup>9</sup>.

The situation at the Southwestern part of the Acropolis is more complicated. At our first visit of the site in March 2006, we found a big trench made by grave robbers searching for valuable artefacts. Their trench that disturbed chronologically different deposits was a starting point for the excavations in this section. After clearing the debris, walls that belong to different buildings with several building phases have appeared. The excavations have confirmed existence of four build-



Plan 2 - Gloska Čuka, Acropolis, House B and the earlier building phases.



Fig. 10 - Gloska Čuka, Acropolis, remains of the House B and the earlier building phases.



Fig. 11 - Gloska Čuka, Acropolis, remains of the House B.

<sup>9</sup> MITREVSKI 2005, 247, fig. 36.

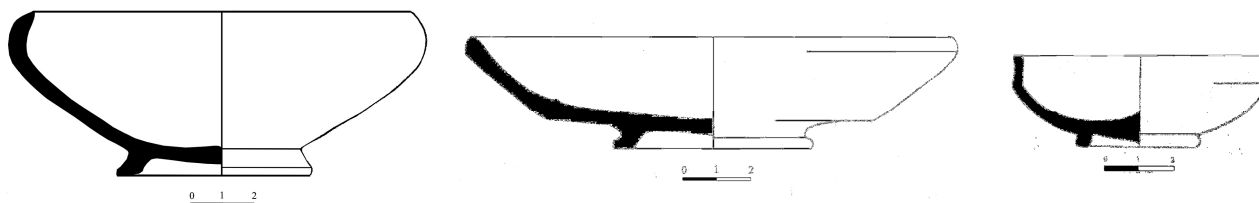


Fig. 12a, b, c. - Different types of bowls.



Fig. 13a, b - Relief molded bowls.

ding phases dated to the 2nd and 1st century BC. Due to the limited space of work, the discovered walls do not reveal the ground plan of a certain building. The manner of building in all phases is the same as House A: stone foundations with mud bricks walls and earthen floors. The building from the last phase is also unknown, but having parts of several rooms with their floor level allow us to mark it as House B (plan 2, figs. 10-11).

The diverse movable finds include mainly pottery, fragments of terracotta figurines, bronze and silver coins, few pieces of jewellery and other utensils, dated to the Late Hellenistic and Early Roman period, i.e. 2nd and 1st century BC.

The discovered vessels are typical shapes for the pottery assemblage in the region. The most numerous finds are different types of bowls and plates. The bowls with incurved, outturned or vertical rim (figs. 12a, b, c) made of micaceous red or grey fabric belong to the variety of semi-glazed or unglazed bowls common for the second half of the 2nd and early 1st century BC<sup>10</sup>.

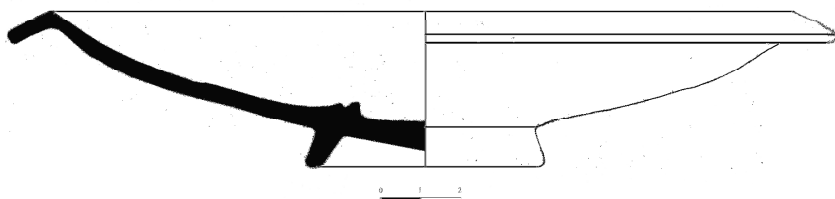


Fig. 14a - Fish plate.

Two fragments of a side-wall belong to the relief moulded bowls (figs. 13a, b). Although of different fabric, they bear similar decoration of long lotus leaves typical for the bowls of the 2nd century BC in the region. Because most of the parts from both vessels are missing and since the deco-

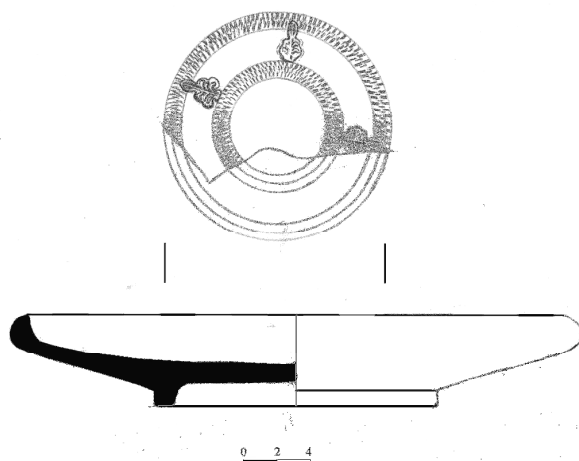
ration is very standard, it is hard to determine their origin. They may be local products of the workshops confirmed in nearby sites Isar - Marvinci and Vardarski Rid,<sup>11</sup> under the influence of the workshops in Pella<sup>12</sup> or other larger centres in Ancient Macedonia.

<sup>10</sup> ROTROFF 1997, 159; BLAŽEVSKA 2006, 108–9, cat. nos. 123-131.

<sup>11</sup> Moulds for relief bowls are found at many sites along Vardar River. For Vardarski Rid see: BLAŽEVSKA 2006, 50, cat. nos. 30-34; for Isar-Marvinci see STOKOLOVSKA 1986, T. 27: 6, 8, 9; for Stobi see ANDERSON SOJANOVIĆ 1992, 11, Pls. 151-152.

<sup>12</sup> AKAMATHIS 1993.





Figg. 14b, c - Plates with upturned rim.

Among the plates most frequent are fish plates (fig. 14a) and shallow plates with upturned vertical rim, decorated with palmette stamps within rouletting (figs. 14b, c). Plates of this type are found at other sites along the Axios River: Stobi, Isar - Marvinci, Vardarski Rid, Pella etc. They are well known from the repertoire of the Eastern Sigillata, but were also produced in the Italian area, as a part of the famous Campana A and B production. Our samples are of local production and belong to the group of Hellenistic colour-slip grey wares resembling the imported samples<sup>13</sup>.

The closed vessels for storage or pouring liquids are of different types, most of them very fragmented. The fully preserved filter jug of grey fabric (fig. 15a), with globular body, wide mouth shaped as a funnel, a strainer inside the neck and tubular spout on the belly has its analogies at Vardarski Rid, dated in the same period, late 2nd and early 1st century BC<sup>14</sup>. The very fragmented small krater (fig. 15b) of grey fabric has moulded decoration on the lower half of the body: long lotus leaves similar to those on the relief-moulded bowls. At the end of the 3rd and beginning of the 2nd century BC the moulded kraters, which are

clay imitations of the metal vessels, took over the role for serving and mixing wine. At the Athenian Agora, they were produced for a short period, to the middle of the 2nd century BC<sup>15</sup>, but in the region of Ancient Macedonia, they represent very popular shape during the Late Hellenistic period. Similar samples of grey fabric are found at Vardarski Rid, Pella, Petres, Aiani<sup>16</sup>.

Very familiar vessels for oil are the fusiform *unguentaria*, here represented by one



Figg. 15a-b - Filter jug and relief molded krater.

<sup>13</sup> ANDERSON STOJANOVIĆ 1992, 101-2, No. 729-732, Pl. 86; BITRAKOVA GROZANOVA 1987, 51, note 131, T. XV: 4-9.

<sup>14</sup> BLAŽEVSKA 2005, 218, fig. 14c.

<sup>15</sup> ROTROFF 139, having in mind that there are no samples decorated with the long petals motif, which are introduced around 150 BC, their production stopped somewhere in this period.

<sup>16</sup> For the sample at Vardarski Rid see: MITREVSKI 2005, 254, fig 30a; for Pella sample see: AKAMATIS 1998, 97, Eik. 7, dates from the late 2nd century BC; for Petres see: ΑΔΑΜ ΒΕΛΕΝΗ 1998, 64, Eik. 46; and for Aiani see: ΚΑΡΑΜΗΤΡΟΥ ΜΕΝΤΕΣΙΔΗ 1993, 23, Πίv. 7, 73, Πίv. 42.



Fig. 16 - Unguentarium.



Fig. 17 - Oil lamp.

sample of red fabric and diluted black glaze (fig. 16)<sup>17</sup>. The oil lamp discovered in House A belongs to the widespread wheel made type of Hellenistic lamps in the Ancient Macedonia (fig. 17). It appears in several variants during the 2nd and early 1st century BC<sup>18</sup>.

Two fragments of a *pyxis*, a moulded foot (fig. 18a) and relief medallion on the top of the *pyxis* lid (fig. 18b), may belong to the same vessel. The foot is shaped as a lion claw ending

with volutes in the upper part. The medallion has relief image of a female bust wearing helmet, shield and a medallion, attributes that can identify her as Athena<sup>19</sup>. Both fragments belong to a *pyxis* especially characteristic for the territory of Ancient Macedonia and Thessaly in the 2nd century BC<sup>20</sup>. Probably this type was developed at this territory under the influence of the metal (usually silver) samples but they were produced in other regions as well<sup>21</sup>.

Among the storage vessels there are *pithoi* and storage beans some of them bearing stamps on the rim. Fragments of transport amphorae, such as handles of early roman types of amphorae or the double barrel handle of Koan amphora testify for the trade with the distant centres in the Mediterranean.

Beside this common wheel made shapes there are three handmade vessels of coarse fabric. The first is a large pot with cylindrical shape of the body (fig. 19a), which narrows toward the bottom. It has a plain rim and combination of four handles, two tongue - shaped and two horseshoe handles. The surface is burnished and in the upper half of the body, it is decorated with wavy rib, with slanted incisions, that runs above and below the handles. The second vessel is coarse, one-handed deep cup with nipples attached on the upper half of the body (fig. 19b). The third one is a deep pot with slightly incurved rim, no handles and so-called "comb" decoration on the body (fig. 19c).



Fig. 18a,b - Fragments of *pyxis*.

<sup>17</sup> SOKOLOVSKA 1986, 83, T. 16: 1-3, T. 17: 3, T. 18: 6-9; BLAŽEVSKA 2006, 160-2, cat. nos. 208-212.

<sup>18</sup> ΔΡΟΥΓΟΥ 1992, 62-3, Πίλν. 45, 173.

<sup>19</sup> SOKOLOVSKA 1986, 83, T. 15: 1-2, the discovered mould for relief application of a Satyr in Marvinci indicates that these vessels are part of the local production in the region.

<sup>20</sup> ΔΡΟΥΓΟΥ and ΤΟΥΡΑΤΣΟΓΛΟΥ 1980, Type B, Π 1208-1209, Πίλν.5.

<sup>21</sup> ROTROFF 1997, 190, No. 1245, Pl. 93.





Figg. 19a, b, c - Handmade pots.



Figg. 20a-g - Terracotta figurines.

The handmade pottery has long production since the Bronze and Iron Ages. Some types of vessels have survived throughout long period having slight changes of the shape and decoration, becoming part of a local production in the Classical and Hellenistic periods. They were used in the kitchen or for storage, but during the 5th and 4th century also as funerary urns, such is the case with those found at the necropolis of the

site Isar near the village of Marvinci<sup>22</sup>. Their discovery in the settlement layers at many sites in Macedonia confirms their usage until the Late Hellenistic period<sup>23</sup>. One should have in mind that similar shapes and decoration are common for wider area in the Balkans. They are usually considered as local pottery products of different ethnic populations: Thracians<sup>24</sup>, Dacians<sup>25</sup>, Getae<sup>26</sup>, Celts<sup>27</sup> or Paionians<sup>28</sup>. These similarities are often explained as result of the mutual cultural development and influences of the neighbouring populations or the intense commercial exchanges in the Balkans. Although related in shape and decoration, there are certain features that are specific for the local pottery production of each of the above-mentioned ethnicities. However, a comprehensive study on the shapes and decoration of the handmade pottery on a wider area is needed before we can make final conclusions. There is no doubt that the third vessel, because of its specific “comb” decoration is of northern origin and most likely can be attributed to the Scordisci, a savage Celtic tribe that lived near Danube<sup>29</sup>.



Figg. 21a, b, c - Jewellery.

Five heads of female terracotta figurines have been discovered, all of them of different types (fig. 20a-e). Having in mind that only their heads are preserved, without specific attributes, it is very hard to identify the exact representation. Three of them are probably images of girls (figs. 20a-c) who are often found in shrines of Demeter or Aphrodite in the Hellenistic period<sup>30</sup>. Because of the flowers on the hat, the fourth one might be identified as Aphrodite (fig. 20d). The last one has kalathos and veil over her head, presumably representing the image of Demeter<sup>31</sup>. An interesting and so far a unique find in the R. of Macedonia, is the terracotta figurine of Attis confirming the presence of the cult of Cybele in this small town (fig. 20e). No similar analogies are familiar to us. The cult of the Great Mother of Gods is already confirmed at the nearby sites: Isar - Marvinci and Vardarski Rid<sup>32</sup>, and her shrine was discovered in Pella<sup>33</sup>. The most peculiar among the terracotta finds is the unidentified plaque shaped as an animal paw (fig. 20g).

Two finger-rings, one made of iron and the other of bronze and bronze fibula are among the rear finds of jewellery at the Acropolis. The iron ring has round hoop and ellipsoid shield-bezel for the gem that is missing (fig. 21a). It finds its closest analogies in one sample in the Collection of the National Archaeological

<sup>22</sup> SOKOLOVSKA 1986, 70; SOKOLOVSKA 1991, 163–81.

<sup>23</sup> SOKOLOVSKA 1991, 163–81; BLAŽEVSKA 2006, 251–2, cat. nos. 354–352.

<sup>24</sup> ČIČKOVA 1984, 18–31, Tab. I–III.

<sup>25</sup> SÎRBU and ARSENESCU 2006, 167, fig. 11: 1–7; PREDA 1986, Pl. IV–VII, dated to the second half of the 2nd and beginning of the 1st century BC.

<sup>26</sup> STOYANOV *ET ALII* 2006, 34, fig. 54.

<sup>27</sup> TODORVIĆ 1974, 66.

<sup>28</sup> SOKOLOVSKA 1991, 180.

<sup>29</sup> POPOVIĆ 2001, Pl. 4: 3, 5, 6; JOVANOVIĆ *ET ALII* 1988, Pl. XXXI, 11.

<sup>30</sup> BITRAKOVA GROZANOVA 1999, 188.

<sup>31</sup> BITRAKOVA GROZANOVA 2005, 294–5.

<sup>32</sup> BITRAKOVA GROZANOVA 1999, 198–204.

<sup>33</sup> ΛΙΛΙΜΠΑΚΗ ΑΚΑΜΑΤΗ 2000.





Figg. 22a-g - Iron Age objects.

Museum in Sofia, dated in the 1st century AD<sup>34</sup>. The ring is identified as a Hellenistic reminiscence, typical of the period between the 1st century BC and 1st century AD. The type was widespread and popular until the mid-3rd century AD. The bronze finger-ring, which probably belonged to a child, has an amber gem preserved (fig. 21b). The bow *fibula* (fig. 21c) dates from the end of the 1st century BC and beginning of the 1st century AD. This kind of *fibulae* is considered as a variant of the Aucissa type, but other authors separate them in a different group as a predecessor of the Aucissa<sup>35</sup>.

There are few unusual finds in House A: an iron razor, bronze tweezers with geometrical engraved decoration, a wet stone, piece of a bronze spectacle *fibula*, fragment of torques and few bronze circular applications (fig. 22a-g). They chronologically do not belong to the Hellenistic period and the time of the existence of the house. All of them are frequent grave offerings in the Iron Age. This especially refers to the razor, the tweezers and the wet stone, a toilet set which is common in the male graves since the Bronze Age and during the whole Iron Age<sup>36</sup>. In this group of chronologically unusual finds we should mention one much earlier object - a Neolithic stone axe found in the foundation of the previously mentioned platform in House A (fig. 23).

A similar case, where in the house inventory of the late Hellenistic period a much earlier finds are discovered, is to be found at nearby Vardarski Rid. In the so-called House of the Collector dated in the 2nd and early 1st century BC, the owner collected and preserved objects of aesthetic value which are much older

<sup>34</sup> Ruseva SLOKOSKA 1991, 77, 200, Type 1, variant 1 (rings with stones), Cat. No. 269.

<sup>35</sup> KOŠČEVIĆ 1980, 14, T. II, 11.

<sup>36</sup> GEORGIEV 1982, 97-113.

than the house itself<sup>37</sup>. It is obvious that the Iron Age and Classical necropolises were disturbed later in the antiquity. Most likely, some of the bronze objects (spectacle fibula and the torques) in the House A at Gloska Čuka were used as a row material.

Spearhead, an arrowhead and a lead sling bullets are the few weapons discovered at the Acropolis (fig. 24a, b, c). Beside the few bronze and iron belt-buckles (fig. 25a, b, c), which are male accessories, there are two spurs. The first spur with perforated ends (fig. 26a) is made of bronze, while the second



Fig. 23 - Neolithic stone axe.



Figg. 25a, b, c - Belt-buckles.



Figg. 26a, b – Spurs.

sample (fig. 26b), made of iron is specific for the Scordiskoi. It has button shaped ends, a typical element for their spurs<sup>38</sup>.

Grinding stones, loom weights, spindle-whorls and wet stones should be mentioned as common household inventory, an evidence for the usual domestic activities.

Finally, beside the various movable finds, there are coins confirming the time span of the Hellenistic settlement at the Acropolis of Gloska Čuka. Although most of them are illegible, coins of Philip V, Perseus (fig. 27), autonomous mints

<sup>37</sup> MITREVSKI 2005, 229–59.

<sup>38</sup> JOVANOVIĆ ET ALII 1988, Pl. XLVI, 18; MAJNARIĆ PANDŽIĆ 1972, 57, T.III, 2; ERCEGOVIĆ 1961, T.III, 2.





Figg. 27-31 - Bronze and silver coins.

of few Macedonian towns (fig. 28) and few Republican coins (figs. 29-31) can be identified: (*Gaius Publius Questor* 168-166 BC; *L. Axsius L.F. Naso* 71 BC - Rome; *Octavius* 31-27 BC Thessalonica<sup>39</sup>).

Gloska Čuka was one of the many Paionian settlements that developed during the later phase of the Iron Age in the Lower Vardar Valley. As it is mentioned before, in the 5th century BC it was included in Macedonian kingdom. The only event, known from the written sources, that with great certainty refers to this region is the Thucydides story about the expedition of the Odrisian king Sitalces in 429 BC (Thuk. II, 98-100). Except Paionian Doberos, names of three Macedonian towns in Vardar Valley, which were destroyed by Sitalces, are also known in following order: Idomenae, Gorthinia and Atalante, along with Europos which he failed to conquer. Identification of these towns was interest of many scholars<sup>40</sup>, and the scientific debate is still ongoing. If we acquiesce in the general opinion that Idomene should be identified with the site Isar near village of Marvinci, Europos is confirmed on the Greek side in the village of Ashiklar in Gumenitsa district, and that Atalante is situated south of Europos near Ichne and Thessalonica, then the dilemma remains whether Gorthinia is at Vardarski Rid. The site at Gloska Čuka was never considered in these debates, mainly because of its small size and because it was unexplored. We still have no information for the Classical settlement, except few chance finds.

The modest, provincial architecture and the size of the settlement at the Acropolis are the main arguments to determine Gloska Čuka, situated on the half way between two large towns Idomene and Gorthinia, as a watch over point in the Lower Vardar Valley during the Hellenistic and Early Roman period. The appearance of Celtic objects has historical background in the frequent attacks of the Scordisoi and the

<sup>39</sup> The coins are still in the process of conservation, these are the preliminary identifications.

<sup>40</sup> PAPAZOGLU 1988, 174-85, with quoted bibliography; Sokolovska 1986, 31-5, with quoted bibliography.

other northern tribes in the second half of the 2nd century BC. Tit Livius has described their ravaging in Macedonia as we learn from the scarce information in Eutropius, Flor and Fest, based on the lost parts of the Livy's History<sup>41</sup>. Epigraphic sources, such are the inscriptions in Delphi, the Macedonian town of Europos and Thessalonica, confirm these historical events<sup>42</sup>. These are not isolated Celtic objects found at the sites along Axios River. Archaeological evidences of Celtic presence are also found at Vardarski Rid, where the whole town was burnt<sup>43</sup>, and at the site of Isar - Marvinci.<sup>44</sup> After these events, the life at Gloska Čuka continued with small intensity a century later, when it was abandoned, same as at Vardarski Rid.

The excavations at Gloska Čuka raised many questions about the past of Amphaxitis, that request from the scholars to focus on issues such are the organization of the Iron Age settlements, the poleogenesis, the existence of small watch over points on the main routes and the barbaric raids towards the end of the Hellenistic period.

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<sup>41</sup> PAPAZOGLU 1969, 226.

<sup>42</sup> PAPAZOGLU 1969, 226–55.

<sup>43</sup> BLAŽEVSKA 2006, 24, archeologically is confirmed that all of the discovered buildings at Vardarski Rid suffered in severe fire in the late 2nd century BC.

<sup>44</sup> SOKOLOVSKA 1986, 75, T. 21, 1-8. In grave no. 100 at the necropolis of Isar - Marvinci beside the coarse one handled cup with nipples attached on the body, a bronze fibula and an iron spearhead typical for the Celts were discovered.



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