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Nikola TASIĆ  
Belgrade

## HISTORICAL PICTURE OF DEVELOPMENT OF EARLY IRON AGE IN THE SERBIAN DANUBE BASIN\*

*Abstract:* The paper offers a historical survey of the development of Early Iron Age cultures in Danubian Serbia, its characteristics, relations with contemporary cultures of the Pannonian Plain, the Balkans, Carpathian Romania (Transylvania) and the Romanian Banat. It describes the genesis of individual cultures, their styles, typological features and interrelationships. Danubian Serbia is seen as a contact zone reflecting influences of the Central European Urnenfelder culture on the one hand, and those of the Gornea-Kalakača and the Bosut-Basarabi complex on the other. The latter's penetration into the central Balkans south of the Sava and Danube rivers has been registered in the Morava valley, eastern Serbia, north-western Bulgaria and as far south as northern Macedonia. The terminal Early Iron Age is marked by the occurrence of Scythian finds in the southern Banat, Bačka or around the confluence of the Sava and the Danube (e.g. Ritopek), and by representative finds of the Srem group in Srem and around the confluence of the Tisa and Danube rivers. The powerful penetration of Celtic tribes from Central Europe into the southern Pannonian Plain marked the end of the Early Iron Age.

The time at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> and the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC, i.e. Bronze to Iron Age transition, is determined by strong economic, social, cultural and by all appearances also by paleoethnic changes. It had not been characterized only by introduction of new metal, iron, for production of weapons, tools and jewelry but also by using new techniques and occurrence of new stylistic traits in the material culture. Almost synchronously, in the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium, there appeared strong influences on autochthonous Bronze Age cultures in the Serbian Danube valley that arrived from two directions. On the one hand these are influences coming from the area of the final phase of the Gava culture, from the south Carpathian

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zone (Gava-Holihradly or the final phase of Gava culture, Gava-Medias as it was identified by M. Guma) and on the other hand these are influences from the central Europe, western regions of the Pannonian plain, that via some variants of Early Urnfield culture reached Baranja, north Bačka and western Srem. The eastern influences are associated with occurrence of black burnished channeled pottery, which covered, in the period of Bronze-Iron Age transition, rather large area from the middle Tisa basin over large areas of the Carpathian basin (Laszlo 1994, Smirnova 1990) and across the Carpathians reached Moldavia and even further to the Prut river. This pottery is known in archaeological literature under many different names: Granicești or Corlateni-Chisinau and so on. Of particular interest for the ethnic identification of its bearers is the opinion expressed by G. Smirnova in the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. She thinks that early Gava culture (Mahala III) is of Thracian origin. She also pointed to stylistic connections of Belegiš II and Chisinau-Corlateni culture already in her works published in 1990. Our experiences and so far published works indicate that significant changes in the material culture of the Belegiš group had happened at Bronze-Iron Age transition. They are conspicuous in the appearance of channels as leading fashion of urn decoration first of all in necropoles (Vojlovica, Belegiš etc) but also in settlements of this culture: in Srem (Ekonomija Sava) in south Banat (Dubovac – Kudeljište) and in south Bačka (Feudvar). For Srem, Banat and Serbian Danube basin this was an important phenomenon, which could be considered as characteristic of the beginning of the Early Iron Age.

The border where east European and central European influences important for the origin of Early Iron Age cultures had been meeting was, without doubt in Vojvodina, in west Srem and west Bačka. From the western areas of Pannonian plain arrived the reflections of central European Urnfield culture, large cultural complex, which covered most of the central European zone in the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC. The region of Bačka and certain part of Srem was covered by Val-Dalj culture as south variant of the Urnfield complex. More precisely, when Srem is concerned it is the area around the present border between Serbia (Vojvodina) and Croatia (Tasić 1994, 9 sq.). It is confirmed by the sites Lijeva Bara near Vukovar (one rather large necropolis of Urnfield culture) and finds near Šarengrad, Šid and Ilok (Vinski-Gasparini 1973, idem 1983). Some necropolies and single finds in northwest Bačka especially those near Odžaci and in particular from Doroslovo (Trajković 1977, 29) also pertain to this very circle of finds. Within this 'contact zone' had happened the direct contacts of these two large cultural complexes, Urnfield and Bosut-Basarabi that are reflected in the presence of shapes and type of decoration of the Basarabi-Bosut style on the pottery from the graves in Lijeva Bara (graves 16, 67, 80 and so on).

Within the context of these questions falls the cultural attribution of the hoards from Adaševci and Šarengard that belong to the so-called 'Thraco-Cimmerian horizon of hoards' of the Carpathian basin. We would like to add to these characteristics also certain facts concerning the funerary rituals: in the Urnfield culture as its name says the dead had been buried in urns (after cremation) while in the Bosut culture the inhumation had been exclusive mortuary ritual (two collective tombs at Gomolava, individual graves in Vrdnik, Asfaltna Baza near Zemun and burial near Jaša Tomić). In addition to the combination of styles in pottery production the individual inhumation burials at the Lijevo Bara necropolis near Vukovar also suggest strong influences of the Bosut culture on its western neighbor.

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Bosut (Bosut-Basarabi) culture continued through almost entire Early Iron Age; from the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium (9<sup>th</sup> century BC) until great migrations in the central Europe and south regions of the Pannonian plain that ended with invasion of the Celtic tribes in the Balkan Danube basin sometime around the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC. During these five centuries Bosut culture advanced through (generally speaking) three periods. These conclusions are reached on the basis of good stratigraphy of few sites investigated systematically and within rather large area. Gradina on the Bosut, Gomolava, Židovar, Feudvar and to some lesser extent Kalakača near Beška are just a few worth mentioning here. The data obtained in the course of these investigations, especially after publishing of *Praistorija Vojvodine* (1974) and first periodization and distinguishing of the Bosut (Bosut-Basarabi complex) culture as an independent phenomenon in the Early Iron Age evolution (Tasić 1970, 61 sq., idem 1971, 27 sq.) made possible distinguishing of three evolutionary phases or regional phenomena within this cultural complex. To that effect Gradina on the Bosut that illustrates all three phases offers the most reliable data. The sites in Banat (Židovar), in the Iron Gates (Vajuga-Pesak) or those in the west Romania and Romanian Danube basin (Valea Timisului, Remeta Mare, Gornea) as well as the necropolis Basarabi in Oltenia that had given the name to the entire complex illustrate only certain phases of the evolution (Dumitrescu 1968, idem 1970; Tasić 1970, idem 1971).

The only site investigated in Vojvodina that provides the complete stratigraphy of the Bosut-Basarabi complex evolution is Gradina on the Bosut river near Šid. The archaeological excavations conducted at this site for many years from 1964 to 1988 with shorter intervals provided the precise picture of continuous changes happening within this culture or cultural complex. Characteristics of the earliest phase (identified as

Kalakača-Bosut) are the absence of pottery decorated with 'S' motifs and 'S' spiral and presence of elements of the final phase of the Gava culture. In the course of further investigations of Romanian and Serbian archaeologists this phase was named Kalakača and Kalakača-Gornea phase (Guma 1993). Basarabi phase, i.e. the period exceptionally rich in pottery decorated with impressed spirals, running 'S' motifs and the like continues as the second phase but without cultural and chronological break. Finally, the latest phase is identified as Bosut culture III when engraved and impressed decoration was abandoned and once again the channel was the most popular decorative motif. In spite many new investigations at the sites in Vojvodina, in the Iron Gates region, in Serbia to the south of the Sava and the Danube and at many sites in Romanian Banat and in Oltenia there is hardly any possibility for some radical changes. All these investigations confirmed with slight amendments the classification already published in *Praistorija Vojvodine*. Something that could be of significance for the origin of this complex is the confirmed connection between the end of Bronze and the beginning of Early Iron Age. At Kalakača, settlement dating from the earliest phase of the Bosut culture there was encountered in some pits the black burnished pottery with stylistic traits of the Gava culture (Medović 1988). There is also confirmation of contacts of these two cultures – Belegiš-Gava and early Bosut culture - in the vertical stratigraphy of Gomolava. Furthermore, typological analysis of the pottery from the collective tomb especially one discovered in 1954 suggests gradual transformation into the new culture.

The horizon with channeled pottery at Gradina on the Bosut date from the latest phase of Bosut-Basarabi complex, Bosut culture III, but it is not the pottery typical for Belegiš-Gava style but entirely new system of decoration with horizontal and vertical channels, which often resemble facets. Considering the appearance of certain ornaments similar to the La Tène decoration this pottery certainly dates from the very end of a long-lasting cultural complex. This pottery except on the Bosut Gradina is also frequent at Židovar in Banat but also at some other settlements and necropolies.

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Therefore, the duration of the Bosut-Basarabi complex could be determined on the basis of the following data: a) connections with the final phase of channeled pottery of Belegiš II - Gava type, b) metal finds in the closed associations, c) elements in the latest phase as a consequence of contacts with the Celtic population, d) cultural and historical sequence of events in the Pannonian plain in the second half of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC. As a result of these analyses we can draw the conclusion that Bosut-Basarabi

complex covers almost the entire period determined as the Early Iron Age. The beginning is characterized by early Kalakača phase at the transition from the 9<sup>th</sup> into the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC, Basarabi horizon according to generally accepted opinion dates from the period between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> century BC while the latest phase of this complex dates from the end of 5<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC. In such established periodization the bronze hoards related to this complex (Šaregrad, Adaševci) as well as individual bronze finds (collective tomb II at Gomolava, finds from Kalakača) date from the first phase of the Bosut-Basarabi complex (Kalakača-Gornea).

We could not complete the outline of the Early Iron Age in Vojvodina without mentioning one phenomenon: first of all the Čurug hoard and luxurious finds from the vicinity of Sremska Mitrovica, Kuzmin, Salaš Noćajski and some other sites in Srem. There is first of all the problem of their chronological position. M. Garašanin, R. Vasić and even this author are inclined to attribute this phenomenon, conditionally, to the so-called Srem group (Garašanin 1973, 511, Vasić 1987, 555, Tasić 1992, 9). However, it is not clear what was its relation to the final phase of the Bosut group, which must have established certain contacts with newly arrived Celtic tribes in this area as it is suggested by some finds from Gradina on the Bosut and the stratigraphy of Gomolava. The problem could be solved if we take into account the following facts: a) that 100 years had passed between first contacts of the Celts with autochthonous population in Vojvodina (4<sup>th</sup> century BC) and their permanent settling (3<sup>rd</sup> century BC) and b) that finds of the 'Srem group' originating from graves or hoards possibly belonged to the tribal aristocracy from the end of the Bosut-Basarabi complex.

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The historical picture of the Early Iron Age to the south of the Danube including the regions of the Iron Gates (Djerdap I and II) reveals in certain nuances slightly different evolution in comparison to the northern regions. This concerns first of all the longer duration of the Gava culture and also relative scarcity of the Bosut-Kalakača finds as there was not encountered such strong horizon as identified in the Srem region. These circumstances are understandable when we have in mind that tradition of Dubovac – Žuto Brdo – Cîrna complex continued even when encrusted pottery disappeared at the beginning and during the Late Bronze Age. Relatively reliable stratigraphic data in the Djerdap I area could be identified at the site near Boljetin (Jevtić 1982, 19 sq.). If we disregard dubious occurrence of Verbicioara pottery in the upper layers then it is certain that two entities or 'strata' could be distinguished in the stratigraphy. To the earlier stratum belongs the channeled pottery of the late Gava period and to the later the

pottery corresponding to the advanced Basarabi style. Single finds decorated in the Kalakača style date from the horizon of 'contacts' of these two cultures and that was also noticed at other sites, from the Srem in the west (e.g. Kalakača) to the sites in Romanian Banat.

In the Djerdap II area at the site Vajuga-Pesak with very complex horizontal stratigraphy could be distinguished chronological relation of the final Gava culture and earlier phase of the Basarabi complex. Particularly interesting is grave 1 from this site including 11 vessels (urns and other grave goods) (Premk et al. 1984, 112 sq.). Material dates from the advanced Gava culture as we know from the area to the north of Danube, for example in large tumulus at Susani or from slightly later phase of the Gava culture identified by M. Guma as Medias (Guma 1993, 184 sq.). From the chronological point of view it was the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC, i.e. the first phase of the Early Iron Age in this area. It is obvious that Gava culture developed in southwest Romania and in the Djerdap II area at the same time when Kalakača phase of the Bosut-Basarabi complex occurred in the west, in Srem. This fact explains relatively infrequent occurrence of Kalakača pottery at the sites in the Djerdap I and II area. It is possible that black burnished pottery decorated with channeled garlands, facets, bands characteristic of the closing phase of the Gava culture in west Romania (e.g. Medias or Susani tumulus) existed until the occurrence of the classic phase of the Basarabi style. Consequently, it means that this 'prolonged' Gava culture continued until as late as the 9<sup>th</sup> century BC. It is particularly well distributed at the sites in the Djerdap I and II area.

Problem of Basarabi style, Basarabi culture, Basarabi complex is much more complex than it looked at first after investigations of some sites and necropoles in Romania or at our sites in Srem, south Banat or Djerdap I and II. Certain misunderstanding ensued after our investigations at Gradina on the Bosut river near Šid and after our interpretation of this culture or complex as we presented it in *Praistorija Vojvodine* and it was accepted by most of Romanian, Hungarian, of that time Yugoslav and other investigators interested in this culture. The same situation is in *Praistorija jugoslavenskih zemalja*, volume V (Vasić 1987, 536 sq.) in comprehensive publication of M. Guma from 1993 and similar opinions were advocated at the Colloquium 'Der Basarabi complex in Mittel- und Südosteuropa' (Bucharest 1996). The problem recognized at this moment especially when sites in the Djerdap I and II area are concerned is the problem of genesis of the earliest phase i.e. Gornea-Kalakača and classic Basarabi culture and its style, more precisely, whether it is the same culture and whether the bearers were identical. When the question of the ethnic bearers is concerned it is certain that the theory about its Triballian origin should be



abandoned. It is difficult to identify ethnically the Basarabi style distributed from Sopron to the finds in Romanian Banat, Transilvania or Oltenia or in the south as far as Macedonia. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that pottery of the Gornea-Kalakača group and the pottery from the Basarabi sites differ considerably in shapes and decoration so it is difficult to accept their attribution to the unique culture and to the same ethnic bearers. Such opinion relies also on the sites in the Serbian Danube basin, in the Djerdap I and II area. It is particularly so when we take into consideration material from the necropolis near Vajuga (Popović and Vukmanović 1998, Premk at al. 1984), somewhat more southern finds from Zlotska pećina (Tasić 1995) or the finds near Sofronijevo in Bulgaria (Nikolov 1972). Mapping of important Basarabi culture sites in Serbia from the Sava and Danube confluence and going eastward along the Danube revealed the following sequence: Zemun (Asfaltna baza), Kovin, Margum, Kostolac and others to Veliko Gradište and then settlements and necropolies in the Djerdap I area – Boljetin, Padina, Ušće Porečke reke, Hajdučka vodenica, Ušće Slatinske reke and finally the sites in the Djerdap II area – Velesnica, Mihajlovac and of course the most important and only one quite thoroughly investigated – Vajuga-Pesak. It is interesting that in the same region but in Romania there are also numerous sites of Bosut-Gornea-Basarabi complex including Moldova Veche, Gornea, Ljubcova, Svinita, Insula Banului, Ostrovul Corbului, Izvoreale and more to the east well-known sites Ostrovul Mare, Balta Verde and Basarabi that at first gave the name to the entire culture (Dumitrescu 1968, Guma 1993, Craciunescu 1996, etc) that later changed into Bosut-Basarabi with its variants. More comprehensive data about the mentioned Bosut-Basarabi necropolies and settlements were first offered by M. Guma in his synthesis from 1993 and for the Serbian sites by M. Jevtić (1982, 1983), P. Popović and M. Vukmanović (1998) and this author in 1983 and 1996. Concentration of the sites of Bosut-Basarabi culture, more precisely its middle phase (Basarabi II or Bosut II) in the east Srem area, in south Banat (site near Židovar among others), in the Serbian Danube basin (to the south of Danube) even also in Oltenia in Romania indicate that we could identify this area as the central zone of the large Basarabi complex, which as investigations suggest spread from Sopron in the west to the Oltenia including also some areas to the south as it is confirmed for example in Zlotska pećina (Tasić 1995) and in southwest Bulgaria (e.g. Sofronijevo). Problem of intrusion of the Bosut-Basarabi pottery to the south along the Morava or Timok valley is still unresolved. First of all it is difficult to accept combining of 'tremolo' pottery with Basarabi style of decoration because of stylistic but also other reasons. 'Basarabi ornament' is conceived as 'negative' into which white paste was inlaid, in contrast to



other decorative system that is 'positive'. Moreover, pottery from the most of sites in Serbia to the south of the Danube is related to the intrusion of the pottery of Bosut I (Kalakača, Gornea) type. Certain amount of specimens of 'Basarabi style' was recorded in Zlotska pećina, at Lanište and Panjevački Rit near Jagodina and at some other sites (Stojić 1996, 119 sq.) In spite of that, it seems that it was just a short-lasting intrusion, influence coming from the central areas of the Bosut-Basarabi complex. In the same way could be explained the appearance of pottery with 'S' ornament and other 'Basarabi motifs' at the sites in Austria, part of Slovenia and western regions of Hungary (along the Austrian border) (Eibner 1996, 105 sq., Teržan 1990, 441 sq.). The sites registered to the south of the Danube in eastern Serbia and northwestern Bulgaria are characterized more by numerous metal finds and less by pottery. Almost identical situation was encountered between Zlotska pećina and Sofronijevo. Large amount of often luxurious bronze objects and considerably less amount of iron objects was encountered in the course of excavation in Zlotska pećina. In the burial discovered by chance near the cave entrance were also found only metal objects, which considering the analogies with material from Zlotska pećina could be attributed to the Basarabi complex (Stanojević 1990, 25, Abb. 1-3).

The above mentioned examples of brief intrusion are important for acquiring precise picture of cultural and historical evolution of the Serbian Danube valley in general but also for interpretation of ethnogenetic processes, which could be better comprehended from the beginning of Early Iron Age. It is often quoted in literature that bearers of the Basarabi style in Serbian Danube basin and especially in the Morava valley were the tribes of Triballian stock. It is difficult to draw such conclusions for the Basarabi style even more so as Bosut-Basarabi pottery only brushes the area where the Triballi lived in the middle of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC according to the historical data (Papazoglu 1969, 11 sq.) It is more appropriate to attribute to the Triballi the pottery occurring in the Morava valley synchronously with the Basarabi culture and characterized by 'tremolo' ornament. Within cultural and historical processes in the Serbian Danube valley and more to the south should be also considered the strong intrusion of pottery decorated with Basarabi 'S' motifs to the south as far as north Macedonia (Cf. Georgijev 1993). This intrusion of Bosut-Basarabi style could be explained in the same way as intrusion of 'S' pottery of Basarabi style and other elements to the sites in eastern Austria or western Hungary (Eibner 1996, 105 sq.)

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The evolution of the Early Iron Age cultures in the Serbian Danube basin and in the area between the rivers Sava and Danube (Srem) reveals

that on the basis of the final phase of Belegiš culture with black burnished pottery and many hoards of Ha A1-A2 date was established in the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC a new culture different in its stylistic traits and it could be said of different bearers. In the first half of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC we can count for the first time in prehistory with 'ethnic' characteristics of certain cultures, more precisely with distinct paleoethnic traits of certain cultures. On the basis of former investigations we can conclude that Serbian Danube valley, Vojvodina as a whole and Serbia to the south of the Sava and the Danube experienced the following path of evolution:

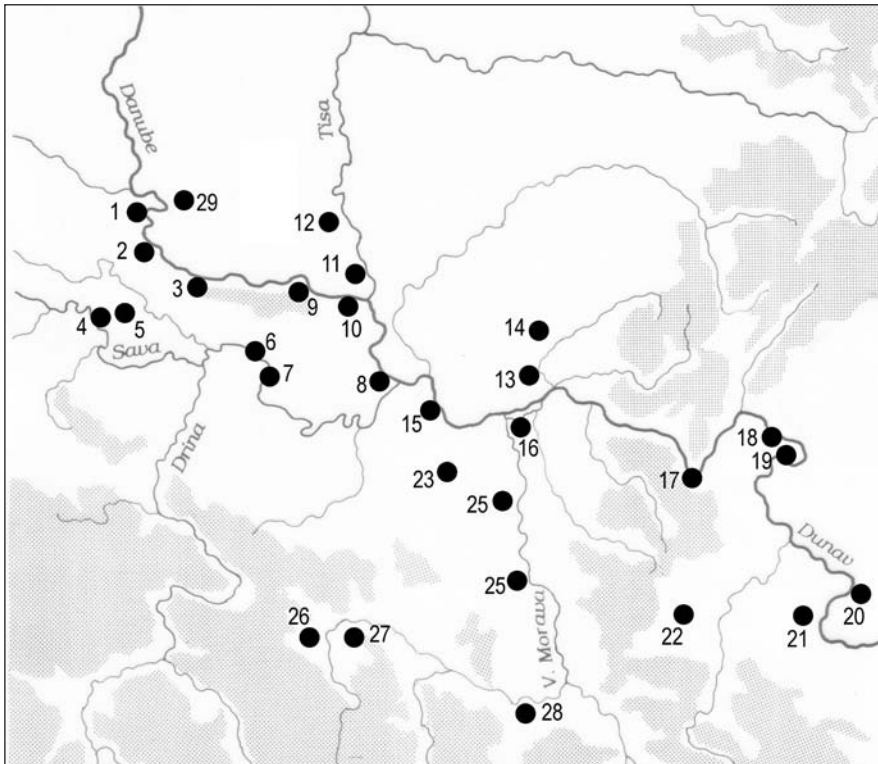
I Phase characterized by at one hand merging of the final phase of Belegiš (Belegiš-Bobda) pottery with finds of the earliest phase of the Early Iron Age in this area as it confirms the stratigraphy of Gradina on the Bosut and finds from Kalakača, Feudvar and other sites. It was, so to say, a dramatic transition from one chronological period to the other, from Bronze to the Iron Age that left as evidence exceptionally large number of bronze hoards within the entire area of Srem, Banat, in Serbia south of the Danube (e.g. vicinity of Požarevac) and of course in the most parts of Pannonian plain, in Transylvania and Romanian Banat. From the chronological point of view this turbulent times are dated in the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BC.

II After stabilization of newly established Bosut culture, Bosut-Gornea phase, the period of peaceful existence ensued. The initial stylistic traits taken from the Belegiš-Gava complex were gradually abandoned and new cultural identity was established. It is very well illustrated in the material from two collective tombs from Gomolava (Tasić 1972, 27 sq.), from the earliest Iron Age horizon at Gradina on the Bosut, from graves near Zemun (Asfaltna baza; Petrović 1991; Vranić 1994, 73-75) and in particular the material from the earliest graves of Vajuga-Pesak necropolis dating from the first phase of the Early Iron Age (Popović and Vukmanović 1996, 67, Pl. 2-4). Some of the Early Iron Age sites in the Morava valley also date from this period.

On the other hand, in the north and west regions of Bačka that in the end of Bronze Age belonged to the other cultural milieu – Hügelgräber complex – the beginning of Early Iron Age and its almost entire existence is characterized by the Urnfield culture. It is best confirmed at long-lasting necropolis Doroslovo near Sombor where we encountered burials from the first centuries of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium until the arrival of Scythians (Trajković 1977, 29; idem 1979, 258 sq.). It is interesting that pottery of Basarabi culture was not encountered independently in this area whence originate large Val-Dalj necropoles in western Srem, eastern Slavonia or south western Hungary. The only exception are individual vessels from the necropolis Lijeva Bara near Vukovar and finds from Šarengard and Dalj (Vinski-Gasparini 1973,

122/9; Tasić 1996, 96-97, Abb. 1). But they including some other finds (Postela and Borstek in Slovenia or sites in Austria – Frög in Carinthia, Bad Fischau in Niederösterreich and Kleinklein in Steiermark) or well-known find near Sopron in western Hungary belong to another cultural milieu. The urns decorated with motifs similar to the Basarabi style have the shapes of advanced Urnfield culture. These phenomena, as we said before, are the result of the short intrusion or the consequence of economic contacts between Basarabi complex and widely distributed Urnfield complex.

Historical survey of the Early Iron Age evolution would not be complete if we mention only the latest phase of Bosut-Basarabi complex illustrated at Gradina on the Bosut by stratigraphically distinct horizon with black burnished pottery decorated with sgraffito ornaments, carinated channels and other elements. It is generally accepted in literature that this phase should be dated in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC. However, the question is what happened in the Serbian Danube basin in the period of more then 150 years between the 5<sup>th</sup> and the middle of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC when we can speak with considerable certainty about the presence of the Celts in this area. Considering this problem B. Jovanović concluded that ‘settlements from the time of Celtic colonization (end of 4<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC) as well as traces of their expansion towards the south Balkans are entirely lacking’ (Jovanović 1987, 822). If we establish the chronology of Celtic colonization of the Serbian Danube valley in such a way then we should point to two important facts from the time preceding the arrival of the Celts. First is the appearance of Scythian finds in the Pannonian plain in general and in the Serbian Danube valley in particular that could indicate the end of Bosut culture and second is the phenomenon identified as ‘Srem group’ or more precisely the finds dating from the horizon of the Čurug hoard. Scythian finds, considering their character (weapons, seldom jewelry) and scattered burials date from the first horizon of the final phase of the Early Iron Age (acinaces from the vicinity of Vršac, finds from Ritopek, one burial from Doroslovo near Sombor etc.). From the second, later period, date representative finds, mostly ornaments, which according to the interpretation of M. Garašanin, R. Vasić and this author are distinguished as Srem group. In addition to the decorative objects from the Čurug hoard characteristic of this group are single finds from burials (?) near Sremska Mitrovica, finds from Kuzmin, Vučedol (Garašanin 1973, 511 sq., Vasić 1987, 555 sq., Tasić 1992, 7 sq.). According to the generally accepted opinions Srem group was of short existence, between the end of Bosut group in Srem and more effective presence of the Celts in the Danube basin especially after their defeat at Delphi in 279 BC and return in the Serbian Danube valley where they established their community, which under the name *civitas Scordischorum* existed until the arrival of the Romans in this area.



Major Sites of the Iron Age

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Dalj (Croatia)                      | 16. Pećine near Kostolac           |
| 2. Lijeva Bara near Vinkovci (Croatia) | 17. Hajdučka vodenica near Prahovo |
| 3. Šarengrad near Ilok (Croatia)       | 18. Mala Vrbica, Iron Gates        |
| 4. Gradina on the Bosut                | 19. Vajuga-Pesak, Iron Gates       |
| 5. Adaševci near Šid (Hoards)          | 20. Basarabi (Romanie)             |
| 6. Sremska Mitrovica                   | 21. Sofronievo (Bulgarie)          |
| 7. Gomolava near Hrtkovci              | 22. Zlotska pećina near Bor        |
| 9. Petrovaradin (Fortress)             | 23. Umčari                         |
| 10. Kalakača near Beška                | 24. Mramorac                       |
| 11. Feudvar near Mošorin               | 25. Lanište near Jagodina          |
| 12. Čurug (Hoards)                     | 26. Pilatovići near Užice          |
| 13. Židovar near Orešac                | 27. Atenica near Čačak             |
| 14. Vršac, At                          | 28. Globoder near Kruševac         |
| 15. Ritopek near Beograd               | 29. Doroslovo near Sombor          |

## ABBREVIATIONS

Basarabi-Komplex	–	Kolloquium Der Basarabi-Komplex in Mittel-und Sudost-europa Drobeta-Turnu Severin 1996, Bucarest 1996
MAA	–	Macedoniae Acta Archeologica, Prilep
Materijali ADJ	–	Materijali Arheoloskog drustva Jugoslavije
PJZ V	–	Praistorija jugoslovenskih zemalja V, Sarajevo 1987
Simpozium Novi Sad 1979	–	Die ältere Eisenzeit in der Wojwodina un Ihre Verbindungen mit anderen Donaulädischen und Benachbarten Gebieten, Novi Sad 1979, Novi Sad 1981
Symposium Donji Milanovac 1990	–	Ancient Mining and Mataiin llurgy in Southeast Europe, Donji Milanovac 1990, Beograd 1995
Simposium Zlatibor 1979	–	Sahranjivanje kod Ilira, Zlatibor 1978, Beograd 1979
Simpozium Sombor 1993	–	Kulture gvozdenog doba Jugoslovenckog Podunavlja, Sombor 1993, Beograd 1994

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ИСТОРИЈСКА СЛИКА РАЗВОЈА РАНОГ ГВОЗДЕНОГ ДОБА  
У СРПСКОМ ПОДУНАВЉУ

## Резиме

Хронолошка граница између бронзаног и старијег гвозденог доба уочљива је на налазиштима у српском Подунављу, посебно у Срему, јужном Банату па и у већем делу западне Румуније, на прелазу II у I милениј пре н. е. То је територијално јако распрострањена Белегиш II – Гава култура коју прати велики комплекс *остава На А1–А2 периода* и бројне некрополе и налазишта са црноглачаном керамиком која, нарочито у финалној фази, доживљава највиши домет (гирланд мотиви, изузетан квалитет израда посуда, максимално углачана црна површина). Престанком употребе ове врсте керемике започиње стварања новог, распрострањеног културног комплекса чија је керамика украшавана печатним мотивима, спиралама и „S” мотивима. Налази ове врсте су ређи на источноалпском простору (у Словенији, источној Аустрији), а знатно чешћи на налазиштима у српском и румунском Подунављу и северозападној Бугарској. Назван је Босут-Басараби комплекс по два добро истражена налазишта: Босут – вишеслојно налазиште у источном Срему и Басараби – велика некропола у Олтенији (Румунија). Временски траје, укључујући његову рану фазу (Калакача-Горнеа), од почетка па до средине I миленија, када на простору Војводине и непосредно уз Дунав на југу долази до краткотрајног продора скитских племена (налази из околине Вршца, са некрополе код Дорослова, из околине Београда – Ритопек, налази са подручја Ђердапа као што су украси из Барача). Налази који се у литератури помињу јужно од Дунава (Злотска пећина или Атеница код Чачка) могли су да доспеју и као предмети трговине између скитских и палеобалканских племена.

Без обзира што је продор скитских племена кратко трајао, он је био несумњиво пресудан за дубље промене које су довеле најпре до нестанка Босут-Басараби комплекса, затим до краткотрајне појаве сремске групе (коју између осталих налаза илуструје и чурушка остава) и првог таласа продора келтских племена из средње Европе у јужну Панонију и српско Подунавље. Стабилизација Келта припада нешто млађем времену, почетак III века пре н. е., после њиховог пораза код Делфа 279. године, када се враћају на север и у српском Подунављу оснивају бројна насеља. У античким изворима они су забележени као Скордисци, који су у Срему и јужно од Дунава у северној Србији основали своју државу.