SOFIA PETKOVIĆ
Archaeological Institute, Belgrade

ROMAN FIBULAE FROM ULPIANA
(Archaeological investigations 1981–87.)

Abstract. – During systematic archaeological excavations of the Roman town Ulpiana, from 1981 to 1987, which were carried out by the Archaeological Institute in Belgrade and the Regional Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments in Priština under supervision of dr. Maja Parovic-Pesikan, the north and west gate complex of the fortress and part of the town nucleus, 40 m along the main street cardo maximus, were investigated. On that occasion, fourteen fibulae and six fragments of fibulae, in clearly stratified layers and life horizons, were found at that site. Nine types of fibulae from the chronological period 1st to 5th century A.D. were identified. The majority of fibulae are made of bronze, one example is of silver and two of iron. The chronological determination of investigated horizons, which was ascertained by the author of excavations, is confirmed on the basis of the fibula founds dealt with in this study.

Key words. – fibulae, Ulpiana, Roman period

The Roman town Ulpiana, which was most probably founded at the beginning of the 2nd century AD, soon achieved the status of municipium and flourished throughout the 3rd and 4th century. Destroyed by the invasion of the Huns and Goths in mid 5th century and catastrophic earthquake in 518 A.D., it was rebuilt by the emperor Justinian as Justiniana Secunda in mid 6th century. The town was finally abandoned in 618 A.D., just before the invasion of the Avars and Slavs from the Danube valley towards Thessalonica.¹

During its long history, Ulpiana rebuilt many times, had several life phases, which have been confirmed by archaeological investigation. The town rampart, the north gate complex, part of the north necropolis together with the memorial and the tomb structures in the west necropolis, as well as the early Byzantine basilica and, to the north, a complex of buildings and termals, have been partly investigated.² However, only the systematic investigations of this site, from 1981 to 1987, under the supervision of Maja Parovic-Pesikan, which were carried out by the Archaeological Institute in Belgrade and the Regional Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments in Priština, provided the opportunity for more precise chronological differentiation of the life phases in Ulpiana.³

During systematic archaeological excavations at Ulpiana from 1981 to 1987, which included the north gate complex, the west gate and the town nucleus, approximately 40 m along the main street, cardo maximus, fourteen fibulae, which could be typologically defined and six atypical fragments of the arches and pins of bronze fibulae, were found. We considered it useful to present this chronologically indicative archaeological material in the framework of already defined life phases at the site.

Of the twenty fibulae and fragments of fibulae found, the majority is cast bronze (85%), only one is silver (cat. no. 13) and two are iron (cat. no. 10 and 11).

Fibulae from Ulpiana have been classified into nine types, which belong to a wide chronological

period from the end of 1st to mid 5th century. Individual examples in the catalogue are dated on the bases of stratigraphic data of the archaeological entities from which they originate, in the framework of already defined chronological phases of the sector investigated in the period from 1981 to 1987.\(^4\)

Fibulae found at *Ulpiana* in the course of the systematic archaeological investigations from 1981 to 1987 belong to the following types:

1. **Fibulae with hinge and plate arch decorated with enamel**, are dated in the 1st and 2nd century:\(^5\)

   1. Plate-like bronze fibula with hinge mechanism, with wide trapezoid foot and a short catch-pin. Decoration, with "fish bone" motif carved along the arch and two zigzag lines on the foot, was filled with enamel. The pin is missing. The fibula, in shape and decoration, represents a stylized snake.

   **Pl. I, 1**

   - **dimensions**: 45 mm
   - **finding place**: sq. G/7, building, horizon I
   - **dating**: end of 1st – beginning of 3rd century
   - **analogy**: No direct analogies

2. **Strongly profiled arch fibulae with short pin-catch, button shaped foot ending and head in the shape of a trumpet**, characteristic of the 2nd century:\(^6\)

   2. Strongly profiled bronze arch fibula with a short pin-catch, button shaped foot and head in the shape of a trumpet. There is a ring-like thickening where the arch and foot meet. The pin-catch is damaged and the pin is missing.

   **Pl. I, 2**

   - **dimensions**: 46 mm
   - **finding place**: sq. B/3, layer C, horizon III
   - **dating**: 2nd–3rd century
   - **analogy**: Bojović, D. 1983., pl. XVI, 141; Jovanović, A. 1978, 52, local variant, Fig. 102, 2nd–3rd century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 45–46, Pl. XXXVIII, 4, 2nd century; Vádáy, A. 1989, 77, Abb. 12, 7, 2nd century; Jobst, W. 1975, 39–40, type I/5 b, pl. 7, 48–49, 2nd century; Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 166, Type 1, Fig. 105, 1–2, end of 2nd century.

3. **Strongly profiled arch fibulae with a high pin-catch and button shaped foot ending**, dated to the 2nd and beginning of 3rd century:\(^7\)

   3. Strongly profiled arch fibula with a high pin-catch and button shaped foot ending. The profiling on the arch is divided and the triangular foot is profiled with a crest in the middle.

   **Pl. I, 3**

   - **dimensions**: 40 mm
   - **finding place**: sq. F/9, layer B2, horizon II
   - **dating**: 2nd–3rd century

4. **Arch fibulae with hinge mechanism, crest on the arch, high pin-catch and button-shaped foot ending**, dated to the end of the 2nd and 3rd century:\(^8\)

   4. Arch bronze fibula with hinge mechanism, profiled crest on the arch, high pin-catch and button-shaped foot ending, which is separated from the arch with a ring-like thickening. The pin-catch handle is damaged and the pin is missing.

   **Pl. I, 4**

   - **dimensions**: 51 mm
   - **finding place**: sq. F/10, layer B, horizon III
   - **dating**: 3rd – beginning of 4th century
   - **analogy**: Bojović, D. 1983, type 14, var. 1, T. XVII, 150, end of 2nd century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 45, type 14/1, Pl. XLV, 1, second half of 2nd – beginning of 3rd century; Grbić, D. 1996, 89, Fig. 3, 3–6, III – beginning of 4th century.

   5. Arch bronze fibula with hinge, profiled crest on the arch, high pin-catch and button-shaped foot ending. The arch has divided profiling at the junction with the foot.

   **Pl. I, 5**

   - **dimensions**: 56 mm
   - **finding place**: sq. F/9, layer B2, horizon II

---

\(^4\) Apart from the cited studies in note 3, archaeological documentation from the excavations was used with the permission, help and suggestions of the supervisor of excavations, Dr Maja Parović-Petkan, the Scientific Councilor of the Archaeological Institute in Belgrade. Her suggestions about this work have been of great value, for which I thank her.


\(^7\) Jobst, W. 1975, 35–36, type I / 4 E, second half of 2nd and beginning of 3rd century; Bojović, D. 1983, 37, type 9, var. 11, 2nd and beginning of 3rd century.

\(^8\) Bojović, D. 1983, 46–47, type 14, var. 1 and 2, end of 2nd century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 45, 2 / a, 2nd and first half of 3rd century; Grbić, D. 1996, 89, Fig. 1, 3rd and beginning of 4th century.
dating: 2nd–3rd century
analogy: Bojović, D. 1983, type 14, var. 2, T. XVII, 152, end of 2nd century; Grbić, D. 1996, analogies like under cat. no. 44.

5. Knee-like fibulae with a high pin-catch, characteristic from the 2nd to 4th century:

6. Bronze knee-like fibula with plate head and high pin-catch. The head and the pin-catch are damaged and the pin is missing.

Pl. I, 6
dimensions: 37 mm
finding place: sq. A/3, layer A, horizon IV
dating: 4th century

6. Simple arch fibulae with head in the shape of a coil, most frequently of four coils and a short pin-catch, can be; of bronze with gutter-shaped pin-catch and, sometimes, with button-shaped foot ending – variant 1; or with curve on the head and foot and plate-like pin-catch – variant 2; which are dated from the end of 1st to 4th century10, as well as iron imitations of the previous variant – variant 3, characteristic of the 3rd and 4th century11:

7. Arch fragment with foot of a bronze arch fibula, with a short tubular pin-catch and button-shaped foot ending. The arch is semicircular in cross section.

Pl. II, 1
dimensions: 57 mm
finding place: sq. G/7, layer B1, horizon III
dating: 3rd–4th century
analogy: Riha, E. 1979, 61, type I/6, var. 3, T. 3, 127, 1st century.

8. Arch fragment with foot of a bronze arch fibula, with a short tubular pin-catch. The arch is a triangular in cross section.

Pl. II, 2
dimensions: 21 mm
finding place: sq. E/10, layer A1, horizon IV
dating: 4th century

9. Arch bronze fibula with short pin-catch and curves on the head and foot. The head, foot and pin-catch are damaged, and the pin is missing.

Pl. II, 3
dimensions: 52 mm
finding place: sq. A/3, layer C, horizon III
dating: 3rd–4th century
analogy: Bojović, D. 1983, 48–49, type 15, var. 2, Pl. XVIII, 156–157, end of 1st – beginning of 3rd century; Jovanović, A. 1978, 52–53, Fig. 103–107, 2nd–4th century; Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 168, type 4, Fig. 106; Davidson, G. 1952, 266, cat. 2169, Pl. 113, 1st – beginning of 2nd century.

10. Large iron arch fibula with short pin-catch, fragmented and corroded.

Pl. II, 4
dimensions: 87 mm
finding place: sq. H/4, layer B1, horizon III
dating: 3rd–4th century
analogy: Bichir, Gh. 1984, 49, type 2/k, Pl. XXXVIII, 7–10, 3rd–4th century;
Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 168, type 4, Fig. 108, 1, 3rd–4th century;
Koščević, I. 1980, 26, Pl. XXV, 205, second half of 1st – first half of 3rd century.

11. Fragment of the arch and foot of an iron arch fibula, with short pin-catch,

Pl. II, 5
dimensions: 53 mm
finding place: sq. E/12, layer A1, horizon IV

---


dating: 4th century
analogy: like the cat. No. 8.

7. Ring-like »omega« fibulae – clasps with spirally twisted ends, characteristic of the period 3rd and 4th century:12
12. Ring-like bronze »omega« fibula, damaged at one end.

Pl. II, 6
dimensions: R=27 mm
finding place: sq. F/9, layer B, horizon III
dating: 3–4th century

8. Small arch fibulae with plate-like round head, rhomboid plate-like foot and tubular pin-catch, belong to the early finds of the Great Migration, that is the final phase of the Tchernyakhov–Sintana de Mures culture and are dated in the 4th and beginning of 5th century.13
13. Little silver arch fibula with arched head, rhomboid foot and tubular pin-catch. The head and foot are damaged, and the pin is missing.

Pl. II, 7
dimensions: 33 mm
finding place: sq. E/10, layer A, horizon IV
dating: end of 4th and first half of 5th century
analogy: Jovanović, A. 1989, 91, fig. 4, bronze example from Mediana; Diaconu, Gh. i 1965, M. 107, pl. XCIII, 3–4, a pair of silver fibulae, end of 4th – beginning of 5th century; Mitrea B.–Preda C. 1966, 138, Spanov, M. 63, fig. 87, 3, M. 65, fig. 91, 1.
Izvorul, M. 32, fig. 206, 1, 4, a pair of silver fibulae, end of 4th century; Hoerd, op. cit., 589–590, fig. 2, Alexandru Odobescu, Cluj, Curcani, Izvoare, Izvorul, Lechina de Mures, Oinac, Palaica, Sintana de Mures, Spanov, Tiszasor, Valea Strimba; Petrov, V. P. 1964, 107, grave 160, fig. 11, 17–18, a pair of silver fibulae.

9. Arch fibulae with reversed, enlarged trapezoid foot and a crest on the arch, also represent a characteristic type for the final phase of the Tchernyakhov–Sintana de Mures culture and date to the 4th and beginning of 5th century:14
14. Biparted, bronze arch fibula with reversed, trapezoid enlarged foot and a crest on the arch. The head and foot are damaged and the pin is missing.

Pl. II, 8
dimensions: 58 mm
finding place: sq. E/11, layer A, horizon IV
dating: end of 4th and first half of 5th century
analogy: Diaconu, Gh. 1965, M. 5, pl. LXIII, 1; M. 136, pl. XCIX, 6–7; M. 277, pl. CXXXI, 8, 4th century; Mitrea B.–Preda C. 1966, Independenta, M. 19, fig. 132, 1, 4th century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 50, type 2/4, 4, pl. XL, 7, Matasaru level X, 2, 4th century; Peşer, I. 1972, 117, Grab 320, Kostelec, pl. 31, 3–4, end of 4th – beginning of 5th century.

The oldest fibula type from Ulpiana are fibulae with hinge mechanism on the head, with which the pin is fixed. Our type 1 is of this shape, decorated with incisions and filled with enamel, so that on the basis of the motifs on the arch and foot it is possible to consider the fibula as a stylized snake (Pl I.1). Regardless of the fact that we did not find any direct analogy for our example, we think that it belongs to the Pannonian type of plate-like hinge fibulae decorated with enamel, which is characteristic of the period of the Flavius and Antonine dynasties.15 The plate-like arch of these fibulae, which was made in different shapes, was decorated with impressions or incisions, filled with enamel, while the foot, sometimes, ends in the shape of an animal head.16 Our type 4 also belongs to the hinge – fibulae, synthetic shape derived from the Italic Aucissa fibulae and strongly profiled arch fibulae, which is characteristic of the Lower Danube Valley, that is, the provinces Dacia and Upper and Lower Moesia. This type was probably produced in some center on the Danube Limes during the 2nd and 3rd century, perhaps in Drobeta or Diana.17

13 Ambroz, A. K. 1966, 83, group 21Ia b, fig. 4, 13–14, pl. 13;
14 Ambroz, A. K. 1966, 69, group 16, subgroup 4, series III, pl. 12, 8–11, 4th and the beginning of 5th century; Diaconu, Gh. 1971, 251–253, pl. VIII, 3, 10–11, 330–400 AD.
Strongly profiled arch fibulae also belong to the Early Imperial period, dated in the 2nd and first half of the 3rd century, that is during the Antonine and Severan dynasties. Our type 2 is particularly Pannonian-Noric shape of the 1st and 2nd century, which, during the 2nd and 3rd century, had spread in the border provinces of the Lower Danube valley (Pl. I, 2).\(^{18}\) In the interior of the Upper Moesia province this type of fibula may have been imported along the road Pontes – Timacum Minus – Naissus.\(^{19}\)

Type 3 is characteristic of the border provinces in the Danube Valley, while in Upper Moesia it is frequent on the Limes (Pl. I, 3).\(^{20}\)

Knee-like fibulae, to which our type 5 (Pl. I, 6) belongs, was a very widespread shape of Roman provincial fibulae in the border regions of the Danube and Rhine during the 2nd and 3rd century.\(^{21}\)

Simple arch fibulae with coils on the head and short pin-catch, the so-called " legionary fibulae" to which our type 6 belongs, developed from the oldest types of the Imperial period. These were wire fibulae with coil on the head, so called Middle La Tène scheme, dated in the 1st century BC and 1st century AD.\(^{22}\) The oldest shapes of this type, characteristic of the provinces Germania and Raetia, could have had a button-shaped foot ending according to the model of Ancissa fibulae, like our example var. I (Pl. II.1).\(^{23}\) Fibulae of the same variant, but with a tubular pin-catch (Pl. II, 2) can be found on the border in the Lower Danube Valley and Dacia from the 2nd to the end of 3rd and beginning of the 4th century.\(^{24}\) The " legionary" fibula variant with short plate-like pin-catch and with curves on the head and foot, our var. 2. (Pl. II, 3) is characteristic of the 3rd and 4th century, only in the Lower Danube Valley, that is the provinces of Upper and Lower Moesia and Dacia.\(^{25}\) Fibulae var. 3, made of iron (Pl. II, 4–5) also belong to the local production.

Ring-like fibulae – clasps are represented in our material by the omega fibula with spirally twisted ends (Pl. II, 6) type 7, with their Late Roman shape found over the whole territory of the Empire, especially in the west and Danubian provinces at the time of the Tetrarchy and Constantine the Great.\(^{26}\)

Silver arch fibulae with semicircular plate-like head and rhomboid foot, our type 8 (Pl. II, 7) are Gothic-Pontic fibula type characteristic for the final phase of the Tchernyakov–Sintana de Mures culture, dated in the 4th – first half of 5th century.\(^{27}\) This shape of fibulae can also be of very big dimensions, decorated with inlays of semi-precious stones or glass paste, which is characteristic of examples made in Pontic workshops on the Crimea, or it can have a reversed foot.\(^{28}\) Women wore this kind of fibula in pairs, on their shoulders, which is confirmed by numerous finds from the Gothic necropoises.\(^{29}\) Examples found outside the necropolises like our fibula from Ulpiana, are very rare. Made mostly of silver, fibulae with plate-like semicircular head and rhomboid foot were also cast in bronze.\(^{30}\) Silver fibulae with plate-like semicircular head and rhomboid foot were the status symbol of Gothic women and signified their noble origin.\(^{31}\)

Our type 9 (Pl. II, 8), which includes the arch fibulae shape with reversed foot, characteristic of the Tchernyakov–Sintana de Mures culture, over its entire area, also belongs to the older finds of the Great Migration period.\(^{32}\) This kind of fibulae can be found in several variants from the end of the 2nd to the beginning of the 3rd century; they are characteristic in the 4th and first half of the 5th century,\(^{33}\) and in a slightly altered shape, in the Lower Danube Valley, they survive until the end of the 6th and the beginning of the 7th century.\(^{34}\) Our example, on the basis of analogies and the conditions in which it was found can be dated in the end of the 4th and the beginning of 5th century.\(^{35}\)

These two fibulae from horizon IV at Ulpiana testify to the influence of the late phase of the Tchernyakov culture, which penetrated from the Danube Limes

---

\(^{18}\) Bojović, D. 1983, 42–43.


\(^{22}\) Bojović, D. 1983, 48.

\(^{23}\) Riha, E. 1979, 61, type 1/6, var. 3, known as type Hofheim IVb, dated to the period of Claudius dynasty.

\(^{24}\) Bojović, D. 1983, 48–49, type 15, var. 1; Riha, E. 1979, 61, type 1/6, var. 4; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 49, 2k.


\(^{28}\) Ambroč, A. K. 1966, 77 ff., group 21, subgroup I, pl. 13, 10–13, fig. 4, 1–8, 12–14; Petrov, V. P. 1964, 107.

\(^{29}\) Sălămone A. – Bârcoci L. 1979, 80–81; Bierbrauer V. 1980, 135.

\(^{30}\) Jovanović, A. 1989, 91, Fig. 4. The closest analogy to our fibula, found in Mediana, made of bronze.

\(^{31}\) Bierbrauer, V. 1980, 139–140.

\(^{32}\) Diaconu, Gh. 1971, 239–240.


\(^{35}\) See cat. No. 14.
through the Timok valley into the interior of the Upper Moesian territory, most probably during the last decades of the 4th century in the reign of Theodosius I, in the East part of the Empire.\textsuperscript{36}

As can be seen from a review of fibula types found at Ulpiana during the investigations in 1981–1987, they can be classified in three chronological groups:

1\textsuperscript{st} group – fibula types which last from the the end of the 1st to mid 3rd century, generally dated in the 2nd century and first part of the 3rd, hinge – fibulae, strongly profiled arch fibulae and knee-like fibulae (type 1–5);

2\textsuperscript{nd} group – types of the 3rd to 4th century, simple arch fibulae and ring-like omega fibula (type 6–7) and

3\textsuperscript{rd} group – types characteristic of the beginning of the Great Migration period, silver fibula with semi-circular plate-like head and rhomboid foot and fibula with reversed trapezoid foot (type 8–9) dated to the end of the 4th and first half of the 5th century.

Among all typologically and chronologically defined fibulae 42.85% belong to the 1\textsuperscript{st} group, dated to the 2nd and first part of the 3rd century and to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} group attributed to the 3rd and 4th century, while 14.30% belong to the 3\textsuperscript{rd} group, dated to the end of 4th and beginning of 5th century. Thus, we can conclude that the fibulae of the Early Imperial period are equally represented as finds of this kind of jewelry dated to the 3rd and 4th century, while the fibulae from the beginning of the Great Migration, are relatively rare in the sector, investigated in 1981–1987.

The distribution of our chronological groups and fibula types in the habitational horizons\textsuperscript{37}, at Ulpiana in the course of investigation in 1981–1987 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Horizon I</th>
<th>Horizon II</th>
<th>Horizon III</th>
<th>Horizon IV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st} group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type 1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type 2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type 4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 2\textsuperscript{nd} group |           | 3          | 2           |            |
| type 6   |           | 1          |             |            |

| 3\textsuperscript{rd} group |           |            |             | 1          |
| type 8   |           |            |             |            |
| type 9   |           |            |             |            |

Fibulae found during the excavations in Ulpiana in 1981–1987, in accordance with their finding place, correspond chronologically to the habitational phases established on the basis of stratigraphic data and analyses of the architecture discovered. Fibula of type 2 (cat. no. 2, Pl. I, 2) and fibula of type 4 (cat. no. 4, Pl. I, 4), which were found in horizon III, as well as fibula of type 5 (cat. no. 6, Pl. I, 6) found in horizon IV are examples which do not entirely fit into this framework. However, if they are dated as local variants, the fibula of type 2 in the 2nd and 3rd century and the fibula of type 4 in the 3rd and 4th century, these examples fit chronologically in horizon III, that is the end of the 3rd and the 4th century. There are doubts about a fibula of type 5, found in horizon IV, dated, according to the analogies, in the 2nd and 3rd century. Having in mind the very wide dating of provincial variants of knee-like fibulae, from the 2nd to the 4th century\textsuperscript{38}, and the conditions under which they were found, our example is dated in the 4th century, with the possibility that it was also in use at the beginning of the 5th century.

The distribution of typologically defined fibulae in the habitational horizons identified by the investigation at Ulpiana in 1981–1987, is as follows: in horizon I 7.15%, in horizon II 14.30%, in horizon III 42.85%, and in horizon IV 35.70%. One should have in mind that the earlier layers, during these investigations at Ulpiana, have been examined more completely, so that the archaeological finds are relatively larger. However, a coincidence is noticed in the distribution of fibulae in horizon III, that is in the period from the end of the 3rd to the last quarter of the 4th century, and in the 2nd chronological group, dated in the 3rd and 4th century, which probably indicates intensive local production during this period.

We can assume that fibulae, as a relatively luxurious kind of jewelry reflected the general economic situation of the inhabitants in Ulpiana. Conditioned by the development of Roman mining in the Janjevo basin area,

\textsuperscript{36} The complex historical circumstances in the Lower Danube Valley, following the defeat of the Romans at Hadrianopolis brought groups of barbarians, bearers of the Tchermyahov–Sinta de Mares culture, into this territory on several occasions. Here we are considering primarily the passing of Goths, Huns and Alans under the leadership of Alathacus and Saphrac on their way to Pannonia, and invasions of Fritigern’s Vizigoths in the course of 380 AD, as well as the constant presence of the latter in East Iliricum from 382 AD, when Theodosius I gave them foedus.

\textsuperscript{37} Parović-Pesikan, M. 1989. A. 118–119. horizon I is dated from the end of the 1st to the mid 2nd century, horizon II in the 2nd and 3rd century, horizon III from the end of the 3rd to the end of 4th century and horizon IV from the end of the 4th to the mid 5th century. In horizon V dated in the 6th century there were no fibula finds.

\textsuperscript{38} See note. 9.
the town flourished during the 2nd and 3rd century\(^{39}\), but from the end of the 4th century a constant fall of standard is noticed which followed destruction of the Limes and penetration of the Huns into Upper Moesian territory in 441–443 and culminated with administrative and economic chaos in the Dardanian province.

One should bear in mind that Ulpiana, located at the crossroads, which connected the Danube Limes of the provinces Moesia Prima and Dacia Ripensis with Dalmatia and Macedonia, and through Naissus with Moesia Secunda and Thracia, must have been a significant craft and trade center, so the variety of fibula types, including also those in modest materials, which were found during the excavations in 1981–1987, is understandable. Although, for the time being, there is not enough data on the local production of fibulae at Ulpiana, workshops for melting and processing metal, from the end of 3rd and beginning of 4th century, identified in horizon III, to the west of the North gate, favor the assumption that this kind of jewelry was actually made here.\(^{40}\)

We have already mentioned that on the basis of typologically chronological analysis of our fibulae, we could set aside the period, end of the 3rd and first half of the 4th century as a time of intensive local production. In any case, Ulpiana was the administrative center of the Dardanian mining area, so that metallurgy must have been a significant factor of the town economy.

The routes by which fibulae were imported to Ulpiana can clarify the trade connections and cultural influences between the Imperial provinces in the Balkans. It is interesting that the chronological groups of our fibula types correspond absolutely to the intensive production of individual provinces and cultural areas, while import and influence on local production in the Early Imperial period comes from the north, through the Danube and the Great Morava Valley, and the center of gravity moves to the Lower Danube Valley, from where it reaches our locality through the Timok valley in the Late Roman period. Thus, fibulae of the 1st group belong to the Pannonian types (type 1–3), with the exception of hinge fibulae with profile-ribbed arch, which were most probably produced in the Upper Moesian Limes. Fibulae of the 2nd group were produced locally, except type 7, finds of which, in Upper Moesia, are concentrated on the Limes, around Singidunum\(^{41}\), while Tchernyahov fibulae of the 3rd group (type 8–9) reach Ulpiana from Dacia Ripensis through the Timok valley.\(^{42}\) Fibula finds of the final phase of the Tchernyakhov–Sintana de Mures culture at Ulpiana, which are not numerous in the interior of the Upper Moesian territory are especially significant.\(^{43}\)

It can be said, that fibulae from Ulpiana studied in this work, fit into the framework of the historic and economic picture of the Roman province Upper Moesia and latter diocese of Dacia, which is known to us from the archaeological finds and historical sources.


\(^{40}\) Parović-Pesikan, M. 1990, 33 ff.

\(^{41}\) Bojović, D. 1983, 70.

\(^{42}\) Concerning the previously mentioned road through the Timok Valley, which passed through the fortress Timacum Minus and Naissus to Ulpiana, during the early phase of the Great Migration, see Jovanović, S. 1993, 59 ff.

\(^{43}\) Fibulae with reversed foot appear on the Danube Limes, in Naissus and its surroundings, as well as at the fortress Timacum Minus – Jovanović, A 1978, 54–55, cat. No. 19–25; Jovanović, S. 1993, 64, pl. 1, 6–8, 11; Petrović P. – Jovanović S. 1997, 89, cat. No. 8–9; while from the Upper Moesian territory, apart from one example of a bronze fibula with semicircular plate head and rhomboid foot, from Mediana – Jovanović, A. 1989, 91, fig. 4., just one other example of this type of fibula is known, from the fortress on the Danube Limes on the island Sapaja near Sura Palanka – Ivanisević, V. 1999, 97–98, Fig. 1, 1.
BIBLIOGRAPHY:


Bojović, Đ. 1983. – Đ. Bojović, Rimske fibule Singidunuma, Beograd.


Čerškov, E. 1969. – E. Čerškov, Rimljani na Kosovu i Metohiji, Beograd.


Dautova-Ruševljan, V. 1995. – V. Dautova-Ruševljan, Zanatski proizvodi i numizmatički nalazi, у Петровић, П. и др. Фрушка Гора у античком доба, Нови Сад.

Davidson, G. 1952. – C. Davidson, The Minor Objects, Corinth XII, Princeton.

Diaconu, Gh. 1965. – Gh. Diaconu, Tirgur, necropola din secolele III–IV e. n., București.

Diaconu, Gh. 1971. – Gh. Diaconu, Über die Fibel mit umgeschlagenem Fuß in Dazien, Dacia XVII/1971, București.


Janković, Đ. 1981. – Ђ. Јанковић, Прогонавски део областити Аквиса у VI и њојштима VII века, Београд.


Mitrea B., Preda C. 1966. – В. Mitrea, C. Preda, Necropole din secolul IV-lea e. n. in Muntenia, București.


Petrović, V. P. 1964. – В. П. Петров, Черняховский могильник (по материалам раскопок В. В. Хвойки в 1900–1901 гг.), Древности эпохи сложения восточного славянства, МИА 116, Москва.


Током ових истраживања, која су обухваћени комплекс северне капије, западне капије и градско језгро дуж главне улице, cardo maximus, пронађено је четрнаест фибула, које су могле бити типолошки одређене. Сматрали смо да се би било корисно приказати овај хронолошки индикативан археолошки материјал на окvirу утврђених фаза живота на локалитету.

Фибуле са Улпијане разретали смо у делов типа, који припадају широком хронолошком распону од краја I до средине V века. Датовање типа извршено је на основу аналогија и стратиграфских података о археолошким целинама из којих потичу:

1. Бронзана фибула са шарниром и јелоначишим луком украсеним емаљом, T. I, 1, датује се у крај I – почетак III века.

2. Бронзана лучна јако профилисана фибула са кратким држачем иле и гумешистим завршном снобом и главом у облику шрупаве, T. I, 2, датује се у II–III век.

3. Бронзана лучна јако профилисана фибула са високим држачем иле и гумешистим завршном снобом, T. I, 3, датује се у III век.

4. Бронзана лучна фибула са шарнир механизmom, редом на лук, високим држачем иле и гумешистим завршном снобом, T. I, 4–5, датује се у III век.

5. Бронзана лучна коленастиа фибула са високим држачем иле, T. I, 6, датује се у II–IV век.


7. Бронзана криволасна "омета" фибула симетрично увицених крајева, T. I, 6, датује се у крај III–IV век.

8. Мало сретена лучна фибула са јелоначишим било кружном главом, улочашким робовима и глави јелоначишим држачем иле, T. II, 7, датује се у IV век, као и гвоздени њихов украс.

9. Бронзана лучна фибула са госпуштањем, царешасти проширеним стопом и главом на лукu, T. II, 8, датује се у IV век, као и гвоздени украс.

Као што се види из прегледа типа фибула нађених на Улпијане током истраживања 1981–1987. године, они се могу сврстати у три хронолошке групе:

I група – типови фибула који трају од краја I до средине III века, генерално датовани у II – прву половину III века, шарнир – фибуле, јако профилисана лучна фибула и коленастиа фибула (шири I–5),

II група – типови III–IV века, једноставне лучне фибуле и прстенасти омета – фибула (шири 6–7) и

III група – типови карактеристични за почетак периода сеобе народа, сретена фибула са полукружном плочастом главом и робовима плочастом и фибула са посуштеном трапецистом стопом (шири 8–9), датовани у крај IV – прву половину V века.

Дарланске рудне области, те је металургија морала чинити значајан фактор економије града.

Путеви импорта фибула на Улијану и утицаји на локалну производњу у раноцарском периоду долазе са севера, Дунавом и долином Велике Мораве, док се у време касне антике тежине помера на Доње Полунавље, одакле долином Тимока доноше на наш локалитет.

Тако, фибуле Ђруйе припадају панонским типовима (штампе 1-3), с изузетком шарив — фибула са ребразом профилисаним луком, које су највероватније произвођене на горњомезијском лимесу. Фибуле Ђруйе локално су произвођене, осим штампа 7, чији се налази у Горњој Мезији концентрише на лимесу, око Синцидунума, док черниховске фибуле Ђруйе (штампе 8-9) на Улијану стижу из Прибалне Дакије долином Тимока.

Може се рећи, да се фибуле са Улијане обрађене у овом раду укључују у оквире историјске и економске слике о римској провинцији Горњој Мезији и касним диоцези Дакији, која нам је позната на основу археолошких налаза и историјских извора.