Activities of the Institute of Classical Archaeology, Charles University, 2017

SHORT REPORTS ON THE ONGOING PROJECTS

Bulgaria

Pistiros-Septemvri

The Pistiros project aimed in 2017 to publish individual finds and studies. The main subject was the analysis of the hoard of clay sealings by Jan Bouzek and the late Iva Ondřejová, which are being published gradually in three parts. The first part in Eirene 2016, the second in Eirene 2017 and the third in Graecolatina Pragensia (Festschrift V. Marek). Jan Bouzek is also currently focusing on the space and function analyses of the emporion and its vicinity, presenting partial studies on this topic at conferences, followed by publications. One such article is being prepared in cooperation with Barbora Weissová for the Acts of the Sixth International Congress on Black Sea Antiquities held in Constanţa, 2017.

Yurta-Stroyno

Two weeks of post-exavation documentation of the most abundant material classes (pottery, glass, metals and architectural ceramics), found within the three years of the Yurta-Stroyno Archaeological Project, took place in summer 2017. During the study season finds from the settlement, which had been discovered prior to our project – three sarcophagi lids, two parts of a Thracian horseman marble plate, several small finds of bronze and a rare silver gold plated buckle, were also documented.

Republic of Macedonia

Lake Ohrid

A new project, Frontier Studies. Investigation into Identity and Cultural Contacts in the Border Area of Ancient Macedonia, focused on the reconstruction of the socio-cultural development in the region of Lake Ohrid and its changes in a diachronic perspective from the Bronze Age to the Late Antiquity, started this year in cooperation with the National Museum in Skopje. The main aim of the undertaking is to draft a systematic picture of the habitation in the region using a complex interdisciplinary analysis (archaeological, archaeometallurgical, bioarchaeological, epigraphical, paleontological), and thus contribute to a better understanding of the northern contact zone of the Aegean cultural koine.

In the first field season of 2017, a surface survey aimed to verify a representative amount of archaeological sites, whose position and character is roughly described in the publication from 1996, Археолошка карта на република Македонија, in the Ohrid and Struga Vallayes. Furthermore, the work focused on detecting burial mounds marked on topographical maps created during the 1980s and 1990s. For the preliminary results of the project see the report in this volume.
The project is a part of the Centre for the Study of Mankind and Society, a platform for excellent research focused on the mechanisms and strategies of adaptation and integration, established at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University. The current activities were funded by the Charles University program PROGRES Q 09: History – The Key to Understanding the Globalized World.

**Turkey and Greece**

Kaymakçı

The 2017 season of the KAP project led by Ch. Roosevelt and Ch. Luke was a study season, following the three years of previous excavation. The Prague team consisted of five members: Peter Demján, Kristina Jarošová, Miloš Roháček and Lucia Šušková, led by Peter Pavúk and concentrated mainly on the processing and evaluation of the pottery.

A major innovation was the introduction of a Laser Profiler (LAP) constructed and maintained by Peter Demján, which speeded up the documentation of the processed pottery and it was attempted to find the right balance between bulk scanning and graphically detailed final ‘drawings’. It was also attempted to understand and tackle the issue of the strong post-depositional processes at the site and the impact of the redeposited material on our data collection strategies. In total, 2,356 new diagnostic fragments were inventoried, ca. 1,200 were scanned and double-checked within a period of some six weeks.

The season was also a good opportunity to finalize the report on the first three years of the project submitted later on to the American Journal of Archaeology.

**Interface**

‘Along the Interface. The Eastern Aegean and Western Anatolia in the Second Mill. BCE’ is currently a new project at the ICAR, funded by the Czech Science Foundation GAČR for the years 2017–2019. The project builds upon the long-term involvement of the PI Peter Pavúk in the said area and its aim is to bring his various obligations in the NE Aegean and in NW Anatolia to a fruitful end. Further involved are Magda Pieniążek and Luca Girella, aided by Kristina Jarošová and Miloš Roháček.

The project aims to study the processes of interaction and acculturation between non-neighbouring cultures with different degrees of social/economic/political complexity. The so-called Aegean-Anatolian Interface is an ideal case study in this regard. While the distinct Mycenaean, Minoan and Hittite cultures occupied its hinterlands, and the area became repeatedly the focus of their interests, none of them actually defined this region. However, modern research has primarily targeted imports and elite production while at the same time neglected local and everyday material culture. A new evaluation of stratified material from selected sites in the region (Thermi and Antissa on Lesbos, Emporio on Chios (Fig. 1), Bademgediği Tepe in the Kaystros Valley and Mikro Vouni on Samothrace) as well as work on survey material from NW Anatolia (mainly the Kaikos Valley) will provide a more differentiated picture of Minoanisation and Mycenaeanisation processes and allow us to rethink the identity of the local population, its emulation strategies, and its active/passive attitude to incoming cultural and technical elements.

**Uzbekistan**

Baysun District

The first expedition to Central Asia in this season taking place in April–May led the Czech-Uzbek team to the new research area located in the Baysun District, south Uzbekistan, around Darband, the historical Iron Gate. The work in the foothills of the Baysun Mountains,
especially on the ridges of Sarymas, Susiztag and Alamli, as well as in the adjacent valleys, focused predominantly on detecting ancient roads, fortifications and places of refuge. The survey ensued in the detecting of many new archaeological sites and confirming of some of the hypotheses concerning historical roads.

**Kugitang foothills**

The second expedition of the Czech-Uzbek-French team took place in August–September and resumed the works of previous seasons in the Kugitang Piedmonts, south Uzbekistan, with special focus on the Pashkhrut Valley. Small teams worked on three main projects: finishing the survey of the villages in the Pashkhrut Valley (Anna Augustinová) including a small-scale excavation at the Late Bronze Age site of Bobolangar (Zarabag); starting a new two-year project of mapping and studying kurgan-like features (Jakub Havlík) including excavations of selected ones (Jan Kysela); finishing the documenting of rock art (Anna Augustinová), continuing the excavations of the Early Iron Age site of Burgut Kurgan (Jan Kysela); and continuing exploring the steppe landscape of the foothills of Kugitang in an extensive way (Ladislav Stančo) with remarkable results (a new Hellenistic site in Loylagan Valley has been discovered, for instance).

A detached group led by Ladislav Nejman investigated the prehistoric settlement of the Kaptar Kamar rock-shelter at the village of Khojaunkan. The geophysical survey of Burgut Kurgan and Gaza Kutan has been undertaken by Lionel Darras, while Johanna Lhuillier studied the Yaz I pottery of Burgut Kurgan and Kayrit Tepa (excavated in June by the Uzbek members of our team). All of these activities are well covered by a series of field reports in this journal.

The Uzbekistan project is funded from multiple sources, the main one being the Neuron Foundation for the promotion of science ‘On the Oxyartes’ Rock: detection of forts and places of refuge of the Alexander the Great period in Central Asia’ granted to Ladislav Stančo, in combination with student projects ‘Settlement dynamics of the steppe zone in the foothills of Kugitang’ and ‘Petroglyphs in Surkhandary Province’ of Anna Augustínová; ‘Kurgan Burial Grounds of Northern Bactria: A Contribution to Knowledge of Nomadic Peoples in Central Asia’ of Jakub Havlík.

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*Fig. 1: View of the Bronze Age site of Emporio on Chios, with its harbour, as seen from the hill with the later classical settlement (photo by P. Pavůk).*
PUBLICATIONS OF ICAR AND ICAR MEMBERS ISSUED DURING THE YEAR

Studia Hercynia XX/1 and XX/2

The year 2016 was not the happiest for the community of the Czech classical archaeologists. The first issue of SH 2017 opened with two obituaries, for Iva Ondřejová and Marie Duňková, our longtime colleagues and friends, both experts in their fields – ancient Greek and Roman art.

Articles in the volume proved further our commitment to publish not only in English but also in a range of other main languages to maintain the diverse scientific discourse. The first two papers discussed issues linked with Anatolia: the opening paper targeted the description of the River Halys by Herodotus (K. Leloux), followed by an insightful new analysis of the early iron metallurgy in coastal Western Anatolia (M. Verčík). The peer-reviewed studies section closed with a complex portrait of our current knowledge on the beginning of the early Celtic art and its links with Mediterranean imports to Bohemia (J. Bouzek et al.).

The second issue of SH included papers offering new insights into Ionian sanctuaries (M. Verčík), an analytic summary of the interdisciplinary research at the site of Pistiros after 30 years of research (L. Parvoničová and J. Bouzek), a breakthrough paper on the monetary system of the Central European Celts (T. Smělý), and an equally stimulating paper on Roman Ceramic Building Material (T. Janek). Both issues have traditionally included also numerous reports on our projects in Bulgaria and Uzbekistan.

This year we learned with great pleasure that as of 9/6/2017 our journal Studia Hercynia has been included in the ERIH Plus database (European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences) run by The European Science Foundation (ESF) in collaboration with the Norwegian Centre for Research Data (NSD).

Monographs


Studies of Homeric Greece is a comprehensive companion to the archaeology and history of Late Mycenaean to Geometric Greece and the koine of Early Iron Age Geometric styles in Europe and Upper Eurasia, circa 1300–700 BC, in relation to their Near Eastern neighbours. The author discusses this pivotal period of human history – the transition from Bronze to Iron Age, from the pre-philosophical to philosophical mind, from myth to logos - in an attempt to combine archaeological evidence with the words of Homer and Hesiod, and the first Phoenician and Greek trading ventures. In doing so, Jan Bouzek surveys the birth of autonomous Greek city-states, their art, and their free citizenry. Featuring numerous maps, drawings, and photographs, Studies of Homeric Greece is the capstone of a luminary in the field.


The volume dedicated to the eminent Czech Iron Age archaeologist Natalie Venclová has been published as a co-editition between the Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences and of the Institute of Classical Archaeology of Charles University. It presents 34
papers in Hallstatt and La Tène archaeology divided into five thematic chapters. These range from methodological issues through studies in archaeology of production, papers on single objects or classes of objects, a few studies in burial archaeology and the final chapter focusing on particular sites or settlement areas, in many cases promising to become significant for future research. The papers were authored by archaeologists of mostly the later Iron Age from twelve countries.

Books of abstracts


Articles and book chapters


Čisťakova, V. 2017: Metal and Glass Small Finds from Yurta-Stroyno, Season 2016: Selected Finds. Studia Hercynia XXI/2, 113–120.


Verčík, M. 2017: Kde sa dvaja bijú, tretí vyhráva. Vznik a expanzia macedónskeho kráľovstva [Where Two are Fighting the Third is Wining. The Emergence and Expansion of the Macedonian Kingdom]. Historická revue 27/8, 49–54.

EXHIBITIONS

The Earthly Aphrodites

A tiny seasonal exhibition titled ‘The Earthly Aphrodites’ was held from April 25th 2017 as a temporary thematic extension of the permanent exposition ‘Enchanted by Antiquity’ at Dux Castle, North Bohemia, and continued also in the 2018 season. The cosmetics vases and instruments from the collection of ancient originals of the Institute of Classical Archaeology are presented together with the vases illustrating the beauty rituals of Greek ladies in Antiquity.

The Metamorphoses of Ovid in Words and Images

A traveling panel exhibition commemorating the (supposed) 2000th death anniversary of one of the most important Roman authors Publius Ovidius Naso was organized in collaboration with the Institute of Greek and Latin Studies. The exhibition was opened on November 30th 2017 at the Sweerts-Sporck Palace and it will be hosted at different locations until next year. Selected verses from Ovid’s works in various Czech translations are presented together with the images of well-known as well as less famous ancient sculptures and frescoes to remind one of the contemporary visual inspiration of the Poet. The examples of reflections of Ovid's work in the Czech Renaissance and Baroque art were also presented.

Alois Musil – A Priest Among the Bedouins

In the Gallery of Ancient Art, Franciscan Monastery in Hostinné, an adopted seasonal exhibition was held from April 28th 2017 to January 1st 2018. The exhibition was dedicated to the Czech orientalist, explorer, theologian, geographer, ethnographer and writer, professor Alois Musil, an eminent person deliberately neglected by the Communist regime and still unknown to the broader public. The panels with texts, photographs and maps illustrating Musil’s journeys as well as some personal memorabilia were kindly provided by the Academic Society of Alois Musil.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS HELD BY ICAR IN 2017


Humboldt-Kolleg. International Conference targeting the Central European Early Bronze Age was held at Chateau Křtiny, organised in collaboration with Michal Ernée (Prague), Volker Heyd (Bristol and Helsinki) and Jaroslav Peška (Olomouc).

The chronology of the Early Bronze Age (EBA) in Central Europe, both relative and absolute, has witnessed some turbulent developments over the past few years. The increased amount of absolute dates (AMS 14C), but also a new level in the quality of individual dates, gave rise to a number of new regional studies. At the same time, year over year, several new cemeteries, settlements and hoards are dug up, published and being discussed in scholarly circles. This also permitted the better recognition of discrepancies and common ground between the various relevant regions, most of which still use a periodization and terminology based on the almost 100 year-old system introduced by Paul Reinecke, albeit adjusted to the needs of the individual regions.
The starting point for all discussions was the Reinecke system itself and what it still means for the individual regions today: How do we define his individual phases today? How are they to be interpreted? Do they mean the same thing in different regions? Are the individual phases really synchronous all along the Danube? Do we need to move beyond and offer new solutions? We obviously do, but should we also throw out the baby with the bathwater, i.e. abolishing the Reinecke system altogether? This, but also many other issues were reason enough to bring together over 40 participants from broader Central Europe, reaching from Switzerland to Transylvania. The keynote evening lecture Fürsten, Goldwaffen und Armeen – War die Aunjetitzer Kultur Mitteldeutschlands ein früher Staat? was delivered by prof. Dr. Harald Meller (Halle/Saale).

The conference was generously supported by the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation and the proceedings are currently being prepared for publication.

Fig. 2: Participants of the Reinecke’s Heritage conference at the excursion to the Býči skála cave.

Towards Iron Ages. Southern Central Asia and Afghanistan in the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age. 23rd of June 2017.

The ICAR team active in Uzbekistan, led by Ladislav Stančo, organised a Czech-French archaeological colloquium in collaboration with the Délégation Archéologique Française en Afghanistan (DAFA) and CNRS Lyon in Prague. The one day conference targeted the latest archaeological discoveries from the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age in the territories of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan, and was kindly opened by His Excellency Sayed Mossadeq Khalili, Ambassador of Afghanistan to the Czech Republic.


The second year of international conference targeting young professionals and selected senior researchers from South-Eastern and Central Europe was organised in collaboration with Marek Verčík (Prague), Daniela Heilmann (Munich), Mario Gavranović (Vienna), Aleksandar Kapuran (Belgrade) and Aleksandar Jašarević (Doboj) in Belgrade.
The concept of this year’s conference was the role of the Balkans as a bridge between the Mediterranean region and Central Europe. The discussion focused on the general processes as well as individual features of interregional connections between the Late Bronze and Iron Age communities in the western Balkans and the Aegean, the Apennine Peninsula, the Black Sea region, the Southeast Alps or the Carpathian Basin. On the first two days, 28 oral contributions and four poster presentations addressed questions concerning not only the main communication lines of the Vardar/Morava valleys, but also discussed the routes along the Struma and the Adriatic coast often neglected by the past research. How do relationships and contacts materialize in settlements, grave contexts, and sanctuaries or in certain (burial) rituals or technological choices? If connections are visible in the archaeological record, how can they be interpreted? Are buffer-zones, contact zones or isolated regions identifiable? Can spheres of interaction be shown to change over time? A field trip to archaeological sites along the River Danube, such as Lepenski Vir or Golubac, completed this fruitful discussion on the last day.

The conference was founded by and is a part of the joint initiative ‘Perspectives on Balkan Archaeology’ of Charles University (Prague), OREA – Institute for Oriental and European Archaeology (Vienna) and Ludwig-Maximilian Universität in Munich, which aims to establish a sustainable and cross-border scientific network of young professionals in South-Eastern Europe. The proceedings are currently being prepared for publication within a new-founded series ‘Perspective on Balkan Archaeology’ (VML-publishing house).

Perspectives of Classical Archaeology VI

The annual postgraduate conference on Classical Archaeology and Classics took place on December 11th–12th 2017, organised by S. Kučová, J. Musil, P. Pavúk, J. Souček, and M. Verčík. The theme of this year’s conference was Resources: Power and Connectivity in the Ancient Mediterranean. The keynote lecture was delivered by prof. Dr. Barbara Horejs (Institute for Oriental and European Archeology, Vienna).

Speaking of resources one usually thinks directly of the copper ingots on the Uluburun shipwreck or the grain from Egypt in the later periods. However, the range of resources being traded and consumed by the ancient Mediterranean societies was much broader than that. It encompassed not only the omnipresent metals and other raw materials, such as stones, minerals, clay or agricultural products, but also ready-made tools or even human power and the related transfer of knowledge and technologies. Therefore, the primary aim of the conference was to identify all the possible facets of the catch-all term ‘Resources’, from Prehistory to Late Antiquity. A diachronic approach in environmental archaeology and resource procurement strategies can offer results in shifting networks and economic background.

CONFERENCE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ICAR MEMBERS


Pavúk, P.: *Akulturace, hybridizace a postkolonialní teorie v archeologii. Případ Egejské oblasti a Anatolie* [Acculturation, hybridisation and post-colonial theory in archaeology. The case of Aegean and Anatolia]. ‘Interakce v socio-kognitivní, antropologické a historické perspektivě’. Ustavující konference Centra pro studium člověka a společnosti [Interaction in socio-cognitive, anthropological and historical perspective. Founding conference of the Center for the study of man and the society]. Faculty of Arts, Charles University, April 11th–12th 2017, Prague, CZ.

Pavúk, P.: *Neither Mycenaean, nor Hittite. Identifying Westanatolian Communities in the Late Bronze Age. ‘Ancient Communities and Their Elites from the Bronze Age to Late Antiquity (Central Europe – Mediterranean – Black Sea)*’, October 6th–8th 2017, University of Trnava, SK.

Pavúk, P.: *Modes of cultural contact and cultural change: Acculturation, Colonization and Hybridisation. ‘Starší doba bronzová ve střední Evropě [Early Bronze Age in Central Europe]*’, MAMUZ Museumszentrum Mistelbach, October 10th–13th 2017, Mistelbach, AT.


Pavúk, P.: *Islands on the Horizon. The, MBA and LBA Pottery of the NE Aegean. ‘Tavşan Adası and the Southeast Aegean/Southwest Coastal Anatolian Region (SASCAR) – A Ceramic Perspective’, Martin Luther University, Institute for Art History and Archaeologies of Europe, Halle/Saale. 10th–11th November 2017, Halle/Saale, D.*


STANČO, L.: *Kugitang Foothills in the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age: Preliminary Observations.* Czech-French archaeological colloquium ‘Towards Iron Ages: Southern Central Asia and Afghanistan in the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age’. 23rd June 2017, Prague, CZ.


INVITED LECTURES


TALKS GIVEN AT ICAR BY VISITING SCHOLARS

Ken Maasy (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich)

Konstanze Eckert (Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg)
Middle Bronze Age Settlement of Tavsan Adasi, Turkey (22/11/2017).

Christof Schuler (DAI, Kommission für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik, Munich)
New Excavation Results at Patara (06/12/2017).

EXCURSIONS OF ICAR

*The Balkans: from Vinča to Varna and back*

The long planned excursion to Serbia and Bulgaria, finally came to fruitful completion between the 12th and 20th of May 2017. The somewhat untraditional plan, which intended to merge the predominantly Neolithic sites and monuments with those of the Roman period, mirrored the fact that it was jointly organised by the Institute of Classical Archaeology at Charles Univer-
sity and by the Department of Archaeology of Olomouc University. We were joined also by additional Slovak colleagues.

The program started officially in Belgrade, and within Serbia, we visited Vinča, Viminacium, Lepenski Vir, we took a boat down the Djerdap/Iron Gorge dam, and Felix Romuliana. After a full day in Sofia we moved on to Veliko Tarnovo, Pliska and Varna, followed by Kabyle, Karanovo, Kazanlak, Stará Zagora, Plovdiv and Yunacite. A separate trip on the last day was also dedicated to Pitsiros, the site of ICARs long-term field involvement.

**THESES DEFENDED IN 2017**

**Doctoral Theses**

Helena Svobodová: *Antické sklo na základě analýzy materiálu Národního muzea v Praze* [Ancient Glass: Analysis of the Collection at the Prague National Museum]

**M.A. Theses**

Jana Staničová: *Textilná produkcia v strednej a neskorej dobe bronzovej na gréckej pevnine a v západej Anatolii* [Middle and Late Bronze Age Textile Production on the Greek Mainland and in the Western Anatolia]

Markéta Kobierská: *The Development of Ceramics in the Sherabad Oasis, South Uzbekistan*

Aneta Kohoutová: *Zobrazení Homérovy Odysseie v antickém výtvarném umění* [Iconography of Homer’s Odyssey in Greek, Etruscan and Roman Art]

**B.A. Theses**

Tomáš Kamp: *Lví památníky v Řecku: jejich význam a vývoj* [Lions Monuments in Greece: their Importance and Development]

Nikola Filipová: *Římské stolní a deskové hry v archeologickém kontextu* [Roman Table and Board Games in Archaeological Contexts]

Monika Matoušková: *Tzv. posvátný uzel v minojském a mykénském umění* [So-called Sacred Knot in the Minoan and Mycenaean Art]