



ÖAW

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Conference location: OREA,
Austrian Academy of
Sciences
1020 Vienna
Hollandstraße 11–13
1st floor

Let the dead speak for the living

**Late Bronze and Early Iron Age burials in Southeast Europe
– theoretical perspectives in Balkan archaeology**

**INTERNATIONAL conference VIENNA,
November 30th / December 1th–2th, 2016**

organized by the Institute for Oriental and European Archaeology –
OREA, Austrian Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Archaeology
Zagreb



Key note lecture 30th November 2016

Mike Parker Pearson, London

New perspectives in funerary archaeology for Later Prehistory



In the last 20 years the archaeological study of the dead has developed considerably, with theoretical advances and new scientific applications. In theoretical terms, funerary archaeologists have refined approaches to social structure, gender, status and social complexity and explored relationships between the living and the dead, between memory and materiality, and between ideology and power. Scientific advances have been made in human osteology, forensic archaeology and excavation methods of *anthropologie de terrain*, multi-element isotopic analysis and ancient

DNA analysis. This is an exciting time for integrating theoretical and scientific perspectives to better understand the living through their treatment of the dead. Case studies from European prehistory and elsewhere will be explored to highlight some of these interesting developments.

Time: 17.30

Location:

OREA, Austrian Academy of Sciences

1020 Vienna, Hollandstraße 11–13

1st floor

International conference 1th-2nd December 2016

Let the dead speak for the living

Late Bronze and Early Iron Age burials in Southeast Europe – theoretical perspectives in Balkan archaeology

The interpretation of Late Bronze and Early Iron Age societies in Southeast Europe is to a certain extent still based on the concept of cultural groups. Within the culture-historical paradigm, the identity of prehistoric communities was solely interpreted as collective manifestations of firm biological units or even “people of the same ethnicity”, downplaying dynamic social, economic, ritual and kin relationships. Identities are not conceived as multidimensional and fluid concepts, but as collective attributes reflected on material culture and illustrated by migrations of ancient people known to have inhabited the Balkan Peninsula from much later Greek and Roman texts. Further, the rather positivist processual perspective still approaches burials as something that can be categorized and statistically evaluated and overlooks ideological and ritual parameters that may distort this view. Hierarchies and other social relations are usually reconstructed on the material basis of tomb and artefact typologies and their spatial relations without the application of scientific analyses. We wish to discuss burial rites in Late Bronze and Early Iron Age Balkan communities from a supra-regional Urnfield perspective and re-address the topic of the gradual adoption of cremations as a new social and ritual practice rather than in the framework of migration theories. At the same time, the focus will be on the social meaning of variability in burial rites and patterns of appropriation as well a rejection of new mortuary practices.



Foto: Institut za arheologiju Zagreb, modified by Mario Gavranović

Program

December 1th, 2016

09.30 **Introduction (M. Gavranović, S. Gimatzidis, D. Ložnjak-Dizdar)**

1. Panel – Chairman Biba Teržan

10.00 Marko Mele, Graz
Land of the dead – continuity or discontinuity in cemeteries of Kleinklein/Großklein, Styria

10.30 Georg Tiefengraber, Graz
Grabausstattungen und soziale Differenzierung spätbronze- und früheisenzeitlicher Gräber am Rande der Südostalpen – die „steirische“ Perspektive

11.00 Christin Keller, Berlin
Trophy Wives und harte Kerle. Zur statistischen Rekonstruktion sozialer Gruppen und ihrer Bestattungssitten im Nordbalkanraum der frühen Eisenzeit

Coffee break

12.00 Brina Škvor-Jernejčič, Berlin
Burial rites between the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age in the cemetery of Ljubljana, Slovenia

12.30 Matija Črešnar, Ljubljana
Persistence and change in Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age Eastern Slovenia

13.00 Danijel Džino, Melbourne
Burials and social stratification in the Early Iron Age Eastern Adriatic Hinterland: problems and perspectives

Lunch break

15.30 Daria Ložnjak Dizdar, Zagreb
Late Bronze Age societies in the southern Carpathian Basin and perspectives

16.00 Mario Gavranović, Vienna
Late Bronze Age burials in Bosnia: rites, structures and identity traits

16.30 Aleksandar Jašarević, Doboj
The forgotten graves from Donja Dolina

Dinner at a Viennese *brewing local*/Bierstube

December 2th, 2016

2. Panel – Chairman Christopher Pare

10.00 Aleksandar Kapuran, Belgrad

Burial rites changes during the Bronze Age in the territory of Serbia

10.30 Marija Ljuština, Belgrad / Katarina Dmitrović, Čačak

On the outskirts of Urnfield World: West Morava Basin at dawn of Late Bronze Age

Coffee break

11.30 Daniela Heilmann, München

Pots in context – the dynamics of burial rituals between the Rhodope Mountains and Strymon/Vardar Valleys

12.00 Aleksandra Papzovska Sanev, Skopje

Burial practices and rites along Vardar valley in the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age

Coffee break

13.00 Maja Gori, Heidelberg

The Living are Speaking for the Dead. Interpretations of Late Bronze and Early Iron Age Burials in south-western Balkans

13.30 Sevi Triantafyllou, Thessaloniki

Identifying death in LBA northern Greece: innovations or traditions in the mortuary arena at the threshold of the EIA?

14.00 Stefanos Gimatzidis, Vienna / Asterios Lioutas, Thessaloniki / Maria Kitsati, Vienna / Anna Lagia, Freiburg

The necropolis of Polichni: a new paradigm of mortuary practice in the Aegean and the Balkans

Closing remarks discussion and get-together

The colloquium will be organized within the annual panel "UK-Gespräche" – Get Together of the Urnfield Culture Network (UCN) and in the frame of the project "Burial" *.

* This project has received funding from the European Union's research and innovation program under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie agreement No. 6559.

<http://www.orea.oeaw.ac.at/UCN.html>

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