

With Eyes to the Mountains

Sa pogledom na planine

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Abstract

This paper analyses an archaeological find from the Momišići cemetery near Podgorica, Montenegro: a specimen of a rare type of eyed glass bead with prunts that illustrates the region's ancient trade networks and cultural exchanges. Discovered in 1959 with artefacts dating mainly to the 4th and 3rd centuries BC, the excavation revealed influences from neighbouring areas and Mediterranean trade. The discovery of local and imported pottery, jewellery, and fibulae suggests that Momišići functioned as a hub of consumption linked to extensive trade routes. The distribution and variation of these beads across Europe and the Mediterranean further underscore the interconnectedness of ancient societies. The study also delves into the economic and ideological systems of south-eastern Europe during antiquity, highlighting the cultural significance of glass beads within the region. Recent analyses provide evidence supporting local bead production in Europe, challenging earlier assumptions about their origins. The Momišići bead is a testament to the cultural complexity and prestige of glass beads in intercultural communities along the south-eastern Adriatic coast, underscoring its role as a status symbol and a key component of the region's intricate trade and cultural practices.

Keywords: Eastern Adriatic Coast, Momišići, Iron Age, grave goods, eyed beads with prunts, glass.

Apstrakt

U ovom radu analiziran je arheološki nalaz sa nekropole iz Momišića kod Podgorice, Crna Gora: primerak retkog tipa staklene perle sa okcima koja ilustruje drevne trgovinske mreže i kulturnu razmenu regiona. Otkrivena 1959. godine sa artefaktima koji datiraju uglavnom iz 4. i 3. veka pre nove ere, iskopavanja otkrivaju uticaje iz susednih oblasti i mediteransku trgovinu. Otkriće lokalne i uvozne grnčarije, nakita i fibula sugerise da su Momišići funkcionisali kao središte potrošnje povezano sa širokim trgovačkim putevima. Distribucija i varijacije ovih perli širom Evrope i Mediterana dodatno naglašavaju međusobnu povezanost drevnih društava. Rad se takođe bavi ekonomskim i ideološkim sistemima jugoistočne Evrope tokom antike, naglašavajući kulturni značaj staklenih perli u regionu. Nedavne analize pružaju dokaze koji potvrđuju lokalnu proizvodnju perli u Evropi, dovodeći u pitanje ranije pretpostavke o njihovom poreklu. Perla iz Momišića je svedočanstvo o kulturnoj složenosti i prestižu staklenih perli u interkulturalnim zajednicama duž jugoistočne obale Jadrana, naglašavajući njenu ulogu statusnog simbola i ključne komponente zapetljane trgovine i kulturnih praksi u regionu.

Ključne reči: istočnojadranska obala, Momišići, gvozdeno doba, grobni prilozi, perle sa okcima i ispupčenjima, staklo.

Introduction

This essay attempts to supplement the information about the interlacement of economic and ideological systems in antiquity on the territory of south-eastern Europe. This is a region where the mountain ranges of the Dinarides plunge into the Adriatic – a territory where, for centuries, influences of Mediterranean civilisations and European prehistoric cultures met and intertwined. As a metaphor for these processes, we have already observed a small trinket and its impressive distribution, the amphoriskos-shaped glass bead discovered in Momišići near Podgorica in Montenegro, an item produced in Macedonian workshops and traded across south-east Europe trespassing cultures and periods.¹ To widen the perspective, we will discuss another item discovered in the same prehistoric cemetery – an eyed glass bead with prunts, another technical and aesthetic small wonder of the ancient world. Both glass beads were presented to the broader public at the very beginning of the exhibition entitled *Touch of Fire*, produced by JU Muzeji i galerije Podgorica and authored by Dragan Radović and Miloš Živanović, where the overview of glass finds from the museums of Montenegro were put on display. It started with the presentation of four glass beads discovered in the vicinity of Podgorica in Momišići, glass beads reproduced in the first photo in the published catalogue.²

Nevertheless, let us return to the discovery itself. In 1959, archaeological excavations were conducted in Momišići after several archaeological finds were unearthed during construction works. The results were presented by Olivera Velimirović-Žižić seven years later.³ Interestingly, the article was revived almost 60 years later when it was edited in three parts and re-published in the daily journal *Pobjeda* in April 2022.⁴ Based on the quantity, quality, and composition of the findings, as well as the author's note mentioning that the local population remembered the presence of an earthen tumulus at the location, we can confidently conclude that we are observing the remains of several destroyed prehistoric graves that were covered by a mound. Upon observing the preserved finds, the author assumed that the burials were deposited in the 4th and 3rd

Uvod

Ovaj rad pokušava da dopuni podatke o preplitanju ekonomskih i ideoloških sistema u antici na teritoriji jugoistočne Evrope. Ovo je oblast u kojoj se planinski lanci Dinarida uvlače u Jadran – teritoriju na kojoj su se vekovima susretali i preplitali uticaji mediteranskih civilizacija i evropskih praistorijskih kultura. Kao metaforu za ove procese, već smo promatrali malu tričariju i njenu impresivnu distribuciju, staklenu perlu u obliku amforiskosa otkrivenu u Momišićima kod Podgorice u Crnoj Gori, predmet koji je proizveden u makedonskim radionicama i sa kojim je trgovano širom jugoistočne Evrope zadirući u kulture i periode.¹ Da bismo proširili perspektivu, razgovaraćemo o još jednom predmetu otkrivenom na istoj praistorijskoj nekropoli – staklenoj perli sa okcima, još jednom tehničkom i estetskom malom čudu antičkog sveta. Obe staklene perle predstavljene su široj javnosti na samom početku izložbe pod nazivom *Dodir vatre*, u produkciji JU Muzeji i galerije Podgorica, autora Dragana Radovića i Miloša Živanovića, na kojoj je izložen pregled staklenih nalaza iz muzeja Crne Gore. Počelo je predstavljanjem četiri staklene perle otkrivene u okolini Podgorice u Momišićima, koje su reprodukovane na prvoj fotografiji u objavljenom katalogu.²

Ipak, vratimo se samom otkriću. U Momišićima su 1959. godine obavljena arheološka istraživanja nakon što je tokom građevinskih radova otkriveno nekoliko arheoloških nalaza. Rezultate je sedam godina kasnije objavila Olivera Velimirović-Žižić.³ Zanimljivo je da je članak ponovo oživeo skoro 60 godina kasnije kada je uređen u tri dela i ponovo objavljen u dnevnom listu *Pobjeda* u aprilu 2022. godine.⁴ Na osnovu količine, kvaliteta i sastava nalaza, kao i napomene autora da lokalno stanovništvo pamti prisustvo zemljanog tumula na lokalitetu, sa sigurnošću se može zaključiti da posmatramo ostatke nekoliko uništenih praistorijskih grobova koji su bili prekriveni humkom. Posmatrajući sačuvane nalaze, autorka je pretpostavila da su sahrane deponovane u 4. i 3. veku pre nove ere.⁵ Koristeći retoriku i tumačenje ranih 1960-ih, autorka je identifikovala višestruko poreklo različitih grupa otkrića. Preve-

1 Kavur 2019.

2 Živanović 2016.

3 Velimirović-Žižić 1966.

4 Čukić 2022a; Čukić 2022b; Čukić 2022c.

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5 Velimirović-Žižić 1966.

century BC.⁵ Using the rhetoric and interpretation of the early 1960s, the author identified multiple origins for various groups of discoveries. Translated into modern interpretations, although lacking the contexts of individual finds, we can stress the intercultural character of the community burying their deceased in Momišići. The local and imported pottery (or perhaps even regionally produced ones)⁶, fibulae, pins, and, most importantly, jewellery suggest that the community who buried their deceased there was a centre of consumption. This community was influenced by cultural influences and trade from nearby regions, and it also played a role in “global” trade across the Mediterranean and its surrounding areas. With the presence of a single amphoriskos-shaped glass bead, the site stands at the beginning of several cemeteries along the eastern Adriatic coast used for the interpretation of ancient trade routes, supporting the flow of luxurious artefacts and luminescent trinkets from the south to the north.⁷ The discussed eyed glass bead presents a much more seldom discovered item but with a much culturally and spatially broader distribution.

Generally, it seems that the 13th century BC was when the production of eyed beads gained importance in Egypt and the Aegean.⁸ A century later, early versions of stratified eye beads, which had only two layers of the eye, appeared in northern Italy and Central Europe.⁹ Starting with the 6th to 5th century BC, eye beads had become the dominant form of beads in the Mediterranean area, Persia, South Russia and Central Europe, and it is assumed that at the same time, beads of local production also existed in Europe, but with a style that matched the imported ware.¹⁰ Stratified eye beads of the first millennium were predominantly decorated with eyes alone, although there were some early examples of combining eyes with trails of glass or prunts.¹¹ These laboriously crafted ones, known for their intricate appearance, peaked in production and distribution around the end of the Early and beginning of the Late Iron Age in Southern and Central Europe.¹² Around the 3rd century BC, a technological shift reached the Mediterranean, and eye beads

deno u moderne interpretacije, iako bez konteksta grobnih nalaza, možemo naglasiti interkulturalni karakter zajednice koja sahranjuje svoje pokojnike u Momišićima. Lokalna i uvezena grnčarija (ili možda čak i regionalno proizvedena)⁶, fibule, igle i, najvažnije, nakit sugerisu da je zajednica koja je tu sahranjivala svoje pokojnike bila glavni potrošač. Ova zajednica je bila pod uticajem kulturnih uticaja i trgovine iz regiona, a igrala je i ulogu u „globalnoj“ trgovini širom Mediterana i okolnih područja. Sa prisustvom jedne staklene perle u obliku amforiskosa, lokalitet se nalazi na početku nekoliko nekropola duž istočne obale Jadrana korišćenih za tumačenje drevnih trgovačkih puteva, podržavajući tok luksuznih artefakata i luminescentnih tričarija sa juga na sever.⁷ Pomenuta staklena perla sa okcima predstavlja mnogo ređe otkriće, ali sa kulturološki i prostorno mnogo širom distribucijom.

Uopšteno govoreći, čini se da je u 13. veku pre nove ere proizvodnja perli sa okcima dobila na značaju u Egiptu i na Egejskom moru.⁸ Vek kasnije, rane verzije perli sa slojevitim okcima, od samo dva sloja okaca, pojavile su se u severnoj Italiji i centralnoj Evropi.⁹



Figure 1. Glass beads from Momišići
(after Živanović 2016, Slika 1).
Slika 1. Staklene perle iz Momišića
(prema Živanoviću 2016, Slika 1).

5 Velimirović-Žižić 1966.

6 Miše 2015, 42.

7 Kavur 2019.

8 Panagiotaki et al 2005; Eisen 1916; Shiah 1944.

9 Spaer 1987; Blečić Kavur, Kavur 2015; Bellintiani, Angelini 2020.

10 Venclová 1983, 16.

11 Spaer 2001, 83.

12 Venclová 1990, 83.

6 Miše 2015, 42.

7 Kavur 2019.

8 Panagiotaki et al 2005; Eisen 1916; Shiah 1944.

9 Spaer 1987; Blečić Kavur, Kavur 2015; Bellintiani, Angelini 2020.

made with the cut-cane method replaced those made with the stratified technique. With the rise of mosaic beads, both eye bead techniques fell out of fashion, first in the eastern Mediterranean and gradually in other regions.¹³

Stratified eye beads with prunts

Several regional or general typological bead divisions have been proposed over time. However, when dealing with prehistoric glass, using the most complex and widely oriented classification proposed by N. Venclová is still optimal.¹⁴ In it, the eyed beads are meticulously divided. Still, the forms of eye beads with prunts offer much space for further elaboration, and K. Kunter already commented on their large formal variability.¹⁵ Being one of the largest beads, those belonging to type 548 are technologically complex and visually attractive, making them among the rarest forms. For this type, a large, cylindrical body is characteristic, with seven blue-white eyes of six layers and 28 yellow prunts of opaque glass, displayed as double rows on both bead edges.¹⁶

Although formally standardised, we can observe several regionally limited variants in the broader patterns of their distributions in the core colour.¹⁷ They were discovered in burials and settlements in the Carpathian Basin and Transylvania. In the broader region, we can see their largest concentration in the cemeteries of the Vekerzug culture, radiating into the neighbouring territories and crossing borders of cultures and epochs. Making their appearance as early as in the 5th century BC in the presumably Scythian Early Iron Age cultural contexts, they remain an essential status symbol at the beginning of the Late Iron Age in contexts linked to the early Celtic settlement of the region.¹⁸

Another concentration of beads could be observed in and around the Alps and the northern Adriatic, where they were discovered in Dürrenberg, Stična, Most na Soči and Kaštelir - where examples with yellow, blue and darker blue core appear.¹⁹

Beads of this type are also present around the

Počevši od 6. do 5. veka pre nove ere, perle sa okcima su postale dominantan oblik perli na području Mediterana, Persije, južne Rusije i srednje Evrope, a pretpostavlja se da su u isto vreme u Evropi postojale perle lokalne proizvodnje, ali koje su stilom odgovarale uvezenoj robi.¹⁰ Perle sa slojevitim okcima prvog milenijuma bile su uglavnom ukrašene samo okcima, iako je bilo nekih ranih primera kombinovanja okaca sa urezima na staklu ili ispupčenjima.¹¹ Ove mukotrпно i detaljno izrađene perle, poznate po svom izgledu, dostigle su vrhunac u proizvodnji i distribuciji krajem ranog i početkom kasnog gvozdenog doba u južnoj i srednjoj Evropi.¹² Oko 3. veka pre nove ere, tehnološka promena je stigla do Mediterana, a perle sa okcima napravljene metodom rezanog štapa zamenile su one napravljene tehnikom slojevitosti. Sa porastom mozaičkih perli, obe tehnike perli sa okcima su izašle iz mode, prvo u istočnom Mediteranu, a postepeno i u drugim regionima.¹³

Perle sa slojevitim okcima i ispupčenjima

Vremenom je predloženo nekoliko regionalnih ili opštih tipoloških podela perli. Međutim, kada se radi o praistorijskom staklu, upotreba najkompleksnije i najšire orijentisane klasifikacije koju je predložila N. Venclová je i dalje optimalna.¹⁴ U njoj su perle sa okcima pedantno podeljene. Pak, forme perli sa okcima i ispupčenjima nude mnogo prostora za dalju razradu, a već je K. Kunter komentarisao njihovu veliku formalnu varijabilnost.¹⁵ Kao jedne od najvećih perli, one koje pripadaju tipu 548 su po izradi složene i vizuelno atraktivne, što ih svrstava među najređe oblike. Za ovaj tip je karakteristično veliko, cilindrično telo, sa sedam plavo-belih okaca od šest slojeva i 28 žutih ispupčenja od neprozirnog stakla, prikazanih u dvostrukim redovima sa obe ivice perle.¹⁶

Iako su formalno standardizovane, možemo uočiti nekoliko regionalno ograničenih varijanti u širim obrascima njihove distribucije u osnovnoj boji.¹⁷ Otkrivene su u grobovima i naseljima u Karpatskom basenu i Transilvaniji. U širem regionu njihovu

¹³ Spaer 1987, 3-11.

¹⁴ Venclová 1983; Venclová 1990; Venclová 2016.

¹⁵ Kunter 1995, 169.

¹⁶ Venclová 1990, 86.

¹⁷ Urák 2023, 16.

¹⁸ Urák 2023, 16.

¹⁹ Rabsilber et al. 2017, 222, Abb. 17; Kunter 1995, 368, Taf. 17; Sakara Sučević 2004a; Sakara Sučević 2004b.

¹⁰ Venclová 1983, 16.

¹¹ Spaer 2001, 83.

¹² Venclová 1990, 83.

¹³ Spaer 1987, 3-11.

¹⁴ Venclová 1983; Venclová 1990; Venclová 2016.

¹⁵ Kunter 1995, 169.

¹⁶ Venclová 1990, 86.

¹⁷ Urák 2023, 16.

coasts of the Black Sea. They are, due to their numbers and, most importantly, due to their variability in the selection of the colour of the glass core, believed to be produced locally in the North Pontic area. Most beautifully, this is illustrated by the finds from Kerč (Panticapaeum), Olbia Pontica and Nadlimanskoye, where beads with different core colours were discovered.²⁰ Perhaps in this broader context, the bead found at the Mal-tepe tumulus near Mezek should also be included²¹, while the beads in Greece are not so numerous.²²

The beads mentioned are also found in the central and western Mediterranean. They are primarily associated with Phoenician influence, particularly the examples from Ibiza and probably the find from Palestrina.²³ The discovery from Montefortino is more likely linked to the eastern distribution area.²⁴ Stray finds are also known from this region, such as the turquoise core colour bead housed in the Collection of the Louvre.²⁵

And where does the bead from Momišići fit into this broad story? It does not. As mentioned, the large stratified glass beads with double rows of prunts and seven layered eyes are very variable – in colour and form – but the specimen from Momišići does not match any of these. It is smaller than most of the discussed beads, barrel-shaped, and due to its size, it has a smaller number of prunts and eyes. The most characteristic is that the eyes have only four layers. Observing it in detail, we can conclude that this particular bead is not the only example bearing these characteristics. Several such beads are known, and, more importantly, they form a smaller group distributed over a vast territory.

Besides Momišići, such beads are known from Most na Soči in north-western Slovenia. Two fragments, most probably from a single bead, were found among the materials from J. Szombathy's excavations.²⁶ The bead has a turquoise blue core, yellow prunts, and large four-layered eyes. Another complete bead from the same site comes from the excavations of C. Marchesetti, where it was discovered in grave number 2942.²⁷

20 Alekseeva 1978, 56, Tab. 32/67; 71-72; Kunter 1995, 250, Taf. 6/5, 8; Arveiller-Dulong, Nenna 2005, 208/14.

21 Filov 1937, 31, фиг. 80.

22 Kunter 1995, 316, Taf. 7/7.

23 Kunter 1995, catalogue 1901/3, 1963/3-5.

24 Kunter 1995, catalogue 860/5.

25 Arveiller-Dulong, Nenna 2005, 96, 160/31.

26 Teržan, Lo Schiavo, Trampuž-Orel 1984b, 392; Teržan, Lo Schiavo, Trampuž-Orel 1984b, Pl. 280, 20, 22.

27 Marchesetti 1893, 132, Tav. XXIX, 8.

najveću koncentraciju možemo uočiti na nekropolama Vekerzug kulture, koja se širi na susedne teritorije i prelazi granice kultura i epoha. Pojavljujući se već u 5. veku pre nove ere u kulturnim kontekstima verovatno skitskog ranog gvozdenog doba, oni ostaju suštinski statusni simbol na početku kasnog gvozdenog doba koji je povezan sa kontekstom ranih keltskih naseljavanja ovog regiona.¹⁸

Još jedna koncentracija perli može se uočiti u i oko Alpa i severnog Jadrana, gde su otkrivene u Dirnbergu, Stični, Mostu na Soči i Kašteliru - gde se pojavljuju primerci sa žutim, plavim i tamnije plavim jezgrom.¹⁹

Perle ovog tipa su takođe prisutne i oko obala Crnog mora. Za njih se, zbog njihove brojnosti i, što je najvažnije, zbog njihove varijabilnosti u izboru boje staklenog jezgra, veruje da se proizvode lokalno u oblasti Severnog Ponta. To najbolje ilustruju nalazi iz Kerča (Pantikapeja), Olbije Ponske i Nadlimanskoya, gde su otkrivene perle različite boje jezgra.²⁰ Možda u ovaj širi kontekst treba uključiti i perlu pronađenu u tumulu Mal-tepe kod Mezeka²¹, dok perle u Grčkoj nisu toliko brojne.²²

Pomenute perle su takođe pronađene u srednjem i zapadnom Sredozemlju. One su prvenstveno povezane sa feničanskim uticajem, naročito primerci sa Ibice, a verovatno i nalaz iz Palestrine.²³ Otkriće iz Montefortina je verovatnije povezano sa distribucijom istočnog područja.²⁴ Iz ovog regiona su poznati i slučajni nalazi, kao što je perla sa jezgrom tirkizne boje koja se nalazi u zbirci Luvra.²⁵

A gde se perla iz Momišića uklapa u ovu široku priču? Ne uklapa se. Kao što je pomenuto, velike staklene perle sa dvorednim ispupčenjima i sedam slojeva okaca su veoma raznolike – po boji i obliku – ali primerak iz Momišića ne odgovara nijednom od njih. Manja je od većine razmatranih perli, bačvastog oblika, a zbog svoje veličine ima manji broj izbočina i okaca. Najkarakterističnije je to da okci imaju samo četiri sloja. Posmatrajući je detaljno, možemo zaključiti da ova perla nije jedini primerak koji nosi ove karakteristike. Poznato je nekoliko takvih perli i, što je još važnije, one čine

18 Urák 2023, 16.

19 Rabsilber et al. 2017, 222, Abb. 17; Kunter 1995, 368, Taf. 17; Sakara Sučević 2004a; Sakara Sučević 2004b.

20 Alekseeva 1978, 56, Tab. 32/67; 71-72; Kunter 1995, 250, Taf. 6/5, 8; Arveiller-Dulong, Nenna 2005, 208/14.

21 Filov 1937, 31, sl. 80.

22 Kunter 1995, 316, Taf. 7/7.

23 Kunter 1995, katalog 1901/3, 1963/3-5.

24 Kunter 1995, katalog 860/5.

25 Arveiller-Dulong, Nenna 2005, 96, 160/31.



Figure 2. Map localising Momišići and some examples of this atypical 548 type beads (map by M. Urák)
Slika 2. Mapa lokalizacije Momišića i neki primeri ovih perli atipičnog tipa 548 (Karta M. Urák).

One bead, less than three centimetres long and of a roller form, with double rows of prunts – the outer being yellow and the inner of whitish colour, and seven, but only four-layered eyes – were also discovered in the Moldavian site Manta, where the Scythian kurgan, a child's burial, was, according to a red-figure Athenian pelike, dated to the around 400 BC.²⁸ The bead has a large hole in the middle, uneven edges, and irregular eyes, amongst the clumsiest products of its type. In kurgan no 2 at Nicolscoe in Moldavia, in burial number 3, a bead was found from the Scythian horizon, dating back to the 5th and beginning of the 4th century BC. The bead has a greenish-turquoise core with five eyes of four layers and prunts of white and yellow colour. It is wrapped in golden wire, creating a loop at the top. Reconstructed as part of a necklace with numerous other beads, this specific one was used as a vertically hanging pendant rather than a horizontally positioned bead.²⁹

Another bead, this time with a yellow core, five four-layered eyes and a double row of lighter blue prunts, comes from the grave 1963-9 from

malu grupu distribuiranu na rasprostranjenoj teritoriji.

Osim Momišića, takve perle su poznate iz Mosta na Soči u severozapadnoj Sloveniji. Dva fragmenta, najverovatnije iste perle, pronađeni su među materijalom sa iskopavanja J. Szombathy.²⁶ Perla ima tirkizno plavo jezgro, žuta ispupčenja i velike četvoroslojne okce. Još jedna celovita perla sa istog lokaliteta potiče sa iskopavanja C. Marchesetti, gde je otkrivena u grobu broj 2942.²⁷

Jedna perla dužine manje od tri centimetra i valjkastog oblika, sa duplim redovima ispupčenja – sa spoljašnjom žutom, i unutrašnjom beličastom bojom i sedam četvoroslojnih okaca, otkrivena je na moldavskom lokalitetu Manta gde se nalazio skitski kurgan i sahrana deteta koja je, prema crvenofiguralnoj atinskoj peliki, datovana oko 400. godine pre nove ere.²⁸ Perla ima veliku rupu u sredini, neravne ivice i nepravilne okce, među najnespretnije urađenim proizvodima tog tipa. U kurganu br. 2 u Nikolskou u Moldaviji, u sahrani broj 3, pronađena je perla iz skitskog horizonta, koja datira iz 5. i

²⁸ Петракова, Топал 2023; 228, Fig. 1, 3, 4.

²⁹ Агульиков, Сава 2004, 30, Рис. 15, 4.

²⁶ Teržan, Lo Schiavo, Trampuž-Orel 1984b, 392; Teržan, Lo Schiavo, Trampuž-Orel 1984b, T. 280, 20, 22.

²⁷ Marchesetti 1893, 132, T. XXIX, 8.

²⁸ Петракова, Топал 2023; 228, sl. 1, 3, 4.

Anaploga in Corinth, Greece. Although the skeleton was not preserved, the bead's position in the central part of the grave suggests that it was part of a necklace, most probably positioned on the deceased's chest. The burial was dated to the fourth quarter of the 4th century and was, according to its structure, a tile grave, oriented east-west, an exception in the cemetery. The lack of drinking vessels and the small size of the construction led to the assumption that it was a child's grave or that the deceased was buried in a crouched position.³⁰

Discussion

With every new research, the situation of the layered eye beads with rows of prunts is becoming increasingly complex. These beads are mostly encountered as individual pendants or as part of a necklace that includes various beads. Their distribution area, generally speaking, coincides with that of the common stratified eye beads, and they are often found in association with them, appearing as grave inventories, predominantly in female or child burials. They are present starting with the 7th century and lasting possibly until the 3rd-2nd century BC – however, they are most frequent in the 5th and 4th century BC. Two subtypes can be identified based on their colour: those with different prunt colours from the core and those with the same colour for both constitutive elements.³¹ The first one, also called the Vénice type, having an ochre yellow core and prunts, is dated to the 6th – 5th century.³² Around 90% of the yellow core beads with yellow prunts originate from the lower and middle Danube region and eastern Central Europe, with 30 beads traced explicitly to the Vekerzug culture³³ and a single fragmented bead discovered in the northern Adriatic.³⁴

The second subtype refers to beads that have different core and prunt colours. These are beads of dark core (dark brownish-purplish black) or colours that fall between shades of green and blue with a turquoise hue. The prunts are mainly of a single, but sometimes also of two different colours, primarily yellow and whitish. The differences in their accounts can be partially attributed to the various

početka 4. veka pre nove ere. Perla ima zelenkasto-tirkizno jezgro sa pet okaca u četiri sloja i ispupčenjima bele i žute boje. Umotana je u zlatnu žicu, stvarajući petlju na vrhu. Rekonstruisana kao deo ogrlice sa brojnim drugim perlama, konkretno ova je korišćena kao vertikalno viseći privezak, a ne kao horizontalno postavljena perla.²⁹

Još jedna perla, ovoga puta sa žutim jezgrom, pet četvoroslojnih okaca i dvostrukim redom svetlo plavih ispupčenja, potiče iz groba 1963-9 iz Anaploge u Korintu, Grčka. Iako skelet nije sačuvan, položaj perle u centralnom delu groba ukazuje na to da je bila deo ogrlice, najverovatnije postavljene na grudima pokojnika. Sahrana je datovana u četvrtu četvrtinu 4. veka i po svojoj strukturi bila je popločan grob, orijentisan istok-zapad, i predstavljao je izuzetak na nekropoli. Nedostatak posuda za piće i mala grobna konstrukcija doveli su do pretpostavke da se radi o dečjem grobu ili da je pokojnik sahranjen u zgrčenom položaju.³⁰

Diskusija

Svakim novim istraživanjem, situacija sa perlama sa slojevitim okcima i ispupčenjima na redove, postaje sve složenija. Ove perle se najčešće susreću kao pojedinačni privesci ili kao deo ogrlice koja uključuje razne perle. Njihovo područje rasprostranja, uopšteno govoreći, poklapa se sa uobičajenim perlama sa slojevitim okcima, i često se nalaze u vezi sa njima, pojavljujući se kao grobni inventari, pretežno kod ženskih ili dečijih sahrana. Prisutne su od 7. veka i traju verovatno do 3.-2. veka pre nove ere – međutim, najčešće se javljaju u 5. i 4. veku pre nove ere. Dva podtipa se mogu identifikovati na osnovu njihove boje: oni sa različitim bojama ispupčenja od jezgra i oni sa istom bojom za oba utvrđena elementa.³¹ Prvi, koji se naziva i tip Vénice, sa oker žutim jezgrom i ispupčenjima, datuje se u 6. – 5. vek.³² Oko 90% perli sa žutim jezgrom i žutim ispupčenjima potiče iz donjeg i srednjeg Podunavlja i istočne centralne Evrope, zajedno sa 30 perli koje se eksplicitno povezuju sa Vekerzug kulturom³³ i jednom fragmentovanim perlom otkrivenom u severnom Jadranu.³⁴

30 Pemberton 1985, 272-273, 296, Pl. 83, 6.

31 Urák 2023, 23-24.

32 Frána et al 1987, 83.

33 Chochorowski 1985, 53.

34 Sakara Sučević 2004a, 38, 139, 167, nr. 288; Sakara Sučević 2004b 19 – 23.

29 Агульков, Сава 2004, 30, Рис. 15, 4.

30 Pemberton 1985, 272-273, 296, T. 83, 6.

31 Urák 2023, 23-24.

32 Frána et al 1987, 83.

33 Chochorowski 1985, 53.

34 Sakara Sučević 2004a, 38, 139, 167, st. 288; Sakara Sučević 2004b 19 – 23.

ways of describing and observing the core colours³⁵ and the fact that some beads were heavily patinated, perhaps even cremated. They appear across the Mediterranean from the Black Sea and the North Pontic region to the Balearic Islands and the northern African coast around Cartago. They are found in Transylvania and Thrace, around the Alps and the Apennine peninsula. Still, they are entirely lacking from the territories where the dominant one is the Vénice type.³⁶ Observing the bead from Momišići and several comparisons, we could identify in the latest group a subgroup consisting of slightly smaller beads, less than 3 cm long, with roller and mainly barrel shapes. These beads have fewer eyes and prunts, and the eyes are predominantly only four-layered.

In her ample analysis and classification of these beads, N. Venclová provided special attention to the types with additional rows of prunts. Comparing this bead type from central Europe to those from glass workshops in Italy or the east Alpine region, she observed that although decorative patterns like those on bead type 546 are typical of beads from the south-eastern Alpine region, these patterns are usually found on smaller beads, making larger beads such as type 548 less common. Therefore, she suggests that one of the glass workshops in the classical glass-producing areas, such as Carthage or Egypt, should be considered.³⁷ With the recent overview indicating that there are territories where specific forms or colours present a dominant majority and territories where different forms and colours are discovered on a relatively limited and culturally homogenous territory,³⁸ it becomes more plausible that perhaps different production centres were included in the supply chains and that the demand in certain areas was highly selective.

In recent decades, with the introduction of archaeometric investigations and experimental production aimed at understanding the origin of raw glass materials and the technology used to create beads, the theory that these artefacts originated solely in Egypt and the Near East, which was based on typology and assumed archaeological narratives, was seriously challenged. Instead, there is increasing evidence that some beads were locally produced in Europe. A recent analysis of prehistoric glass from

Drugi podtip se odnosi na perle koje imaju različite boje jezgra i ispupčenja. To su perle tamnog jezgra (tamno braonkasto-ljubičasto crne boje) ili boje koje se nalaze između zelene i plave sa tirkiznom nijansom. Ispupčenja su uglavnom jedne, ali ponekad i u dve različite boje, prvenstveno žute i beličaste. Razlike u njihovim prikazima mogu se delimično pripisati različitim načinima opisivanja i posmatranja boja jezgra³⁵ kao i činjenici da su neke perle bile jako patinirane, možda čak i kremirane. Pojavljuju se širom Sredozemnog mora, od Crnog mora i Severnog Pontija do Balearskih ostrva i severne afričke obale oko Kartaga. Pronađene su u Transilvaniji i Trakiji, oko Alpa i na Apeninskom poluostrvu. Ipak, potpuno izostaju na teritorijama na kojima je dominantan tip Vénice.³⁶ Posmatranjem perle iz Momišića i nekoliko analogija, u poslednjoj grupi možemo identifikovati podgrupu koju čine nešto manje perle, manje od 3 cm dužine, valjkastog i uglavnom bačvastog oblika. Ove perle imaju manje okaca i ispupčenja, a okci su pretežno četvoroslojni.

U svojoj opširnoj analizi i klasifikaciji ovih perli, N. Venclova je posebnu pažnju posvetila tipovima sa dodatnim redovima ispupčenja. Upoređujući ovu vrstu perli iz centralne Evrope sa onima iz staklarskih radionica u Italiji ili istočnoalpskom regionu, primetila je da iako su ukrasni obrasci poput onih na tipu 546 tipični za perle iz jugoistočnog alpskog regiona, ovi obrasci se obično nalaze na manjim perlama, čineći veće perle kao što je tip 548 manje uobičajenim. Stoga ona predlaže da se razmotri o jednoj od staklarskih radionica u klasičnim oblastima proizvodnje stakla, kao što su Kartagina ili Egipat.³⁷ Sa nedavnim pregledom koji ukazuje da postoje teritorije na kojima specifične forme ili boje predstavljaju dominantnu većinu i teritorije na kojima su različiti oblici i boje otkriveni na relativno ograničenoj i kulturno homogenoj teritoriji³⁸, verovatnije je da su možda različiti proizvodni centri bili uključeni u lanac proizvodnje i da je potražnja u pojedinim oblastima bila veoma selektivna.

Poslednjih decenija, sa uvođenjem arheometrijskih istraživanja i eksperimentalne proizvodnje u cilju razumevanja porekla sirovih staklenih materijala i tehnologije koja se koristi za pravljenje perli, teorija da su ovi artefakti potekli isključivo

35 Urák 2023, 23-24.

36 Urák 2023, 24.

37 Venclová 1990, 87.

38 Urák 2023, 23-25.

35 Urák 2023, 23-24.

36 Urák 2023, 24.

37 Venclová 1990, 87.

38 Urák 2023, 23-25.

Slovenia concluded that the glass for the production of yellow-core layered eye beads dated to the end of the Early Iron Age was likely made in workshops in the Levant based on the high strontium and low zirconium content considered to be characteristic of the Levantine glass.³⁹ Nevertheless, encouraging signs point to local bead, if not even glassmaking workshops in Novo Mesto.⁴⁰

For a long time, the theory of workshops in the north Black Sea region has been supported by the abundance of finds, glass waste, and the higher occurrence of a specific type of beads, such as 548. Recently, a workshop that may have been involved in glassworking has been presumed in the Pontic region at Apollonia Pontica (present-day Sozopol) in Bulgaria.⁴¹ This town imported several goods, including glass jewellery, from the Near East or Rhodes, as the chemical composition of some glass beads from the necropolis of the colony, dated to the 5th-3rd centuries, has shown.⁴² Moreover, sand-core vessel of the entire Black Sea area points to the links between the Pontic colonies and the Greek production centres, among which Rhodes, where the local glass production seems to have begun in the last quarter of the 6th century BC, had a prominent position. Opaque core-formed vessels, opaque rod-formed, head-shaped and figurine-pendants, and multi-coloured beads of similar manufacture were produced here.⁴³

Returning to Central Europe, the latest analysis of Early Iron Age glass beads from Czechia has shown that raw glass from several primary workshops has been used for producing the eyed beads, thus elucidating their provenance based on compositional trace elements being disconcerted. Nevertheless, it was concluded that from the technological point of view, the common stratified eye beads and the stratified eye beads with prunts were produced with the same technology. It pointed out that the prunts were applied and not squeezed with pliers or scissors from the core material.⁴⁴ These beads present a solid stylistic and technological resemblance to those discovered in the Middle Tisza Region, Hungary, which have been investigated in recent years. In the framework of the

iz Egipta i Bliskog istoka, zasnovana na tipologiji i pretpostavkama arheološkog narativa, je ozbiljno dovedena u pitanje. Umesto toga, sve je više dokaza da su neke perle lokalno proizvedene u Evropi. Skorija analiza praistorijskog stakla iz Slovenije zaključila je da je staklo za proizvodnju perli sa slojevitim okcima i žutim jezgrom datovanih na kraj starijeg gvozdenog doba verovatno pravljeno u radionicama na Levantu, na osnovu visokog sadržaja stroncijuma i niskog sadržaja cirkonijuma koji su karakteristični za levantinsko staklo.³⁹ Ipak, ohrabrujući znaci upućuju na lokalnu perlu, ako ne čak i staklarske radionice u Novom Mestu.⁴⁰

Već duže vreme teoriju o radionicama u severnom crnomorskom regionu podržava obilje nalaza, staklenog otpada i veća pojava specifične vrste perli, kao što je 548. Nedavno se došlo do pretpostavke da se radionica koja je možda bila uključena u obradu stakla nalazi u Pontijskom regionu u Apoloniji Pontici (današnji Sozopol) u Bugarskoj.⁴¹ Ovaj grad je uvezio robu, uključujući i stakleni nakit, sa Bliskog istoka ili Rodosa, što pokazuje hemijski sastav nekih staklenih perli sa nekropole kolonije, datovanih u 5-3. vek.⁴² Štaviše, posude sa peščanim jezgrom čitavog crnomorskog područja ukazuju na veze između pontskih kolonija i grčkih proizvodnih centara, među kojima je Rodos, gde je lokalna proizvodnja stakla, koja je izgleda počela u poslednjoj četvrtini 6 veka pre nove ere, imala istaknutu poziciju. Neprozirne posude napravljene tehnikom peščanog jezgra, neprozirne perle napravljene tehnikom štapića, privesci u obliku glave i figurina, i raznobojne perle slične izrade proizvedene su ovde.⁴³

Da se vratimo na Srednju Evropu. Najnovija analiza staklenih perli iz ranog gvozdenog doba iz Češke je pokazala da je za proizvodnju perli korišćeno sirovo staklo iz nekoliko prvobitnih radionica, čime je razjašnjeno njihovo poreklo na osnovu kompozicionih elemenata u tragovima, koji su zbunjivali. Ipak, konstatovano je da su sa tehnološke tačke gledišta uobičajene perle sa slojevitim okcima i perle sa slojevitim okcima i ispupčenjima proizvedene istom tehnologijom. Istaknuto je da su ispupčenja nanosena, a ne istisnuta kleštima

39 Šmit et al. 2020.

40 Križ, Guštin 2015, 51; Franjić et al. 2022.

41 Boțan, Chiriac 2016.

42 Lyubomirova et al. 2014.

43 Triantafyllidis 2001, 131.

44 Zlámalová Cílová et al. 2022.

39 Šmit et al. 2020.

40 Križ, Guštin 2015, 51; Franjić et al. 2022.

41 Boțan, Chiriac 2016.

42 Lyubomirova et al. 2014.

43 Triantafyllidis 2001, 131.

archaeometric study, Scythian period eye beads were compared with the bobbin and simple eye beads dated to the Celtic period, unearthed from the same geographic area. It has been determined that they share similar chemical compositions and colourants, suggesting a technological continuity in the production of raw materials used and cannot be attributed to accidental coincidence. Comparing the compositional data of Apollonia Pontica glass beads with that of the Mezőtúr and bobbin beads, it can be concluded that they were made using similar recipes and/or sourced from the same places. Therefore, it can be assumed that they share a common origin, or at the very least, technological continuity between the workshops producing the raw materials used in their manufacture.⁴⁵

To conclude – the small (large) eye bead with prunts of Momišići type indicates a group of beads of reduced size, fewer eyes, fewer layers, and fewer prunts. Importantly, it is most commonly found in regions with evidence of diverse forms, colours, decorations, and archaeological records indicating the production of glass and eye beads with prunts. These regions include Pontus and the area south of the Alps in the hinterland of the northern Adriatic, where various cultural influences have converged.

Looking at the archaeological record, the territory of the southern part of the eastern Adriatic coast played a crucial role as a connecting point in the network of trade and travel, facilitating the exchange of various artefacts. These artefacts included prestigious metal vessels, sought-after painted pottery, and decorative items like glass beads. However, these were not only shiny trinkets such as amphoriskos-shaped glass pendants but also iconic artefacts such as large-eyed beads with prunts. It is beyond any doubt that the latter, being a part of jewellery, functioning as body adornment, had a status-defining and/or status-enhancing role. Since it is mainly found in female and children's (presumably of female sex) burials, we can assume a similar role in the Momišići cemetery. Due to the complex technology and materiality of their production, their rare occurrence and wide distribution, being a consequence of the low numbers of such beads included in the long-distance trade, they were of a significant material or intrinsic value; they were the proper elements of prestige. In several previous presentations addressing the lavishly equipped graves from Adri-

ili makazama iz jezgra.⁴⁴ Ove perle predstavljaju solidnu stilsku i tehnološku sličnost sa onima otkrivenim u regionu Srednje Tise, u Mađarskoj, koje su istraživane poslednjih godina. U okviru arheometrijskog proučavanja, perle sa okcima iz skitskog perioda su upoređene sa namotanim i jednostavnim perlama sa okcima koje datiraju iz keltskog perioda, pronađene na istom geografskom području. Utvrđeno je da dele slične hemijske sastave i boje, što ukazuje na tehnološki kontinuitet u proizvodnji korišćenih sirovina i ne može se pripisati slučajnoj koincidenciji. Upoređujući podatke o kompoziciji staklenih perli iz Apollonije Pontike sa onima iz Mezotura i perlama sa navojima, može se zaključiti da su pravljene na sličan način i/ili su potekle sa istih mesta. Stoga se može pretpostaviti da dele zajedničko poreklo, ili u najmanju ruku, tehnološki kontinuitet između radionica koje proizvode sirovine i koriste ih u njihovoj proizvodnji.⁴⁵

Da zaključimo – tip male (velike) perle sa okcima i ispupčenjima iz Momišića ukazuje na grupu perli redukovane veličine, sa manje okaca, manje slojeva i manje ispupčenja. Ono što je važno, najčešće je pronalazena u regionima sa evidentnom razlikom u oblicima, bojama, ukrasima a arheološki zapisi ukazuju na proizvodnju stakla i perli sa okcima i ispupčenjima. Ovi regioni obuhvataju Pont i oblast južno od Alpa u zaleđu severnog Jadrana, gde su se mešalirazličiti kulturni uticaji.

Posmatrajući arheološke podatke, teritorija južnog dela istočne obale Jadrana imala je presudnu ulogu kao spojna tačka u mreži trgovine i putovanja, omogućavajući razmenu različitih artefakata. Ovi artefakti uključivali su prestižne metalne posude, oslikanu grnčariju za kojom se tragalo i ukrasne predmete poput staklenih perli. Međutim, to nisu bile samo sjajne drangulije kao što su stakleni privesci u obliku amforiskosa, već i istinski vredni artefakti kao što su perle sa velikim okcima i ispupčenjima. Nesumnjivo je da ovo poslednje, budući da je deo nakita koji funkcioniše kao ukras tela, imlo ulogu definisanja statusa i/ili poboljšanja statusa. Budući da se uglavnom nalazi u ženskim i dečijim (verovatno ženskog pola) sahranama, sličnu ulogu možemo pretpostaviti da ima i na nekropoli u Momišićima. Zbog kompleksne izrade i materijalnosti njihove proizvodnje, njihove retke pojave i široke rasprostranjenosti, kao posledica malog broja

44 Zlámalová Čilová et al. 2022.

45 Osváth 2017; Osváth et al. 2017; Osváth et al. 2018.

45 Osváth 2017; Osváth et al. 2017; Osváth et al. 2018.

atic redistribution centres, we attempted to present the today, sometimes even hard to imagine, amplex of different regions contributing to the creation of the preserved as well as to address the complexity of behaviour and practices involved in the creation of the discussed archaeological record.⁴⁶ The eyed glass bead with prunts from Momišići is just another contribution to understanding the splendour of intercultural communities inhabiting these areas.

takvih perli uključenih u promet na daljinu, one su imale značajnu materijalnu ili suštinsku vrednost; bili su pravi elementi prestiža. U nekoliko prethodnih izlaganja o raskošno opremljenim grobovima iz jadranskih redistributivnih centara, pokušali smo da predstavimo današnje, ponekad čak i teško zamislivo, obilje različitih regiona koji doprinosi stvaranju očuvanog, kao i to da se bavi složenošću ponašanja i praksi uključenih u stvaranje diskutovanih arheoloških podataka.⁴⁶ Staklena perla sa okcima i is-pupčenjima iz Momišića samo je još jedan doprinos razumevanju raskoši interkulturalnih zajednica koje naseljavaju ove prostore.

46 Blečić Kavur, Kavur 2016; Blečić Kavur 2024.

46 Blečić Kavur, Kavur 2016; Blečić Kavur 2024.

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