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Content

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SOME CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE ORNAMENTATION OF STARČEVO-CRIŞ POTTERY FROM CRISTIAN I (SIBIU COUNTY)

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Abstract: This article presents new information regarding Starčevo-Criş pottery from Cristian I (Sibiu County), resulted from the salvation excavations carried on the 4th section of Sibiu-Orăștie Highway, at the end of 2011, this time focusing on the ornamentation analysis. There are presented, in a graphic form, but also described as a dictionary, the new codes that were identified and it was included a comparative cluster analysis with other Early Neolithic sites from Romania, who benefited of the same type of pottery studies methods.

Keywords: pottery, Starčevo-Criş culture, Early Neolithic, ornamentation, Cristian I Rezumat: Articolul de față prezintă noi informații privind materialul ceramic Starčevo-Criş, de la Cristian I (județul Sibiu), rezultat în urma săpăturilor de salvare realizate pe traseul tronsonului 4 al autostrăzii Sibiu-Orăștie, de la finele anului 2011, de această data concentrându-ne asupra analizei ornamentelor. Sunt prezentate sub formă grafică, dar și descrise în cadrul unui dicționar, noile coduri identificate. Totodată, a fost efectuată o analiză comparativ-clusterială cu alte situri neolitice timpurii din România care au beneficiat de studii ale ceramicii prin aceleași metode.

Cuvinte cheie: ceramică, cultura Starčevo-Criș, neolitic timpuriu, ornamentație, Cristian I

1. Working method

The analysis of the pottery resulted after the preventive excavations from Cristian I, Sibiu County (Luca *et al.* 2012) was made by considering two aspects: the fabrication methods analysis and the typological analysis, including the ornamentation. In what concerns the analysis of the fabrication methods (general aspects, colour, temper, surface treatment and burning), but also the results obtained after interpreting them, we have discussed them through several studies dedicated to this archaeological site (Luca *et al.* 2013; Luca *et al.* 2013a). In the present article I shall focus on the ornamentation methods – ornamentation techniques and type – emphasising the aspects that are different for the pottery from Cristian I and the other sites studied through the same methods (Luca *et al.* 2004; Luca *et al.* 2006; Luca, Suciu 2008; Luca, Tudorie 2012; Luca, Tudorie 2013), the unitary interpretation of the data being very important.

The first version of the *Catalogues and dictionaries for Starčevo-Criş pottery* published by the author (Tudorie 2011) was substantially enriched: 53 new codes of

ornaments placed on the surface of the pot – 50 from Cristian I and 3 from Turdaş AS (Turdaş), AT (Turdaş), AU, BO, BP, BQ, BR, BS, ED, EK, FF, FO, FP, FR, HQ, HT, HU, HV, HW, HX, HY, HZ, NA, PD, RA, RB, T1, TG (Turdaş), TH, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TM, T0, TO, TR, TS, UA, VA, VB, VC, VD, VE, VF, VG, VH, VI, VJ, VK, VL, VM, VN and 5 new types of ornaments made on the rim, all from Cristian I C6, C7, D3, D4, D5 (Tudorie 2013, 82-88).

1. Additions to the typological catalogue and dictionary for ornaments

ORNAMENT	COD	DESCRIPTI	ORNAMENT		DESCRIPTI
	E	ON		CO	ON
				DE	
	AU	Plastic application presenting on its surface a series of smaller applications, teardrops shaped, forming a flower ornament.	0000	ВО	One row of pinches made vertically and horizontally displayed on the surface of the pot.
36 90 30 90 30 90	BP	Two rows of pinches made and displayed horizontally on the surface of the pot.	den and and and and and and and and and an	BQ	Two rows of pinches made vertically and displayed horizontally on the surface of the pot.
36 900	BR	Pinches displayed randomly on the surface of the pot.	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0	BS	Combination of two ornaments consisting of an alveolar plastic belt shaped application diplayed horizontally on the

		T			1
					surface of the pot and pinches.
The second secon	ED	Series of three wide incisions arranged horizontally and parallel to each other and a wide incision oblique displayed.	>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	EK	Elongated incisions arranged in "roof", displayed horizontally on the surface of the pot.
And the second s	FF	Series of fine grooves vertically displayed on the surface of the pot.		FO	Thin incisions organized in strips displayed both obliquely towards left and right.
	FP	Series of fine grooves oblique displayed and down warded towards right.	and the second second	FR	Wide incision.
	HQ	Plastic application having a an approximately oval shape, presenting on its surface three smaller plastic applications, also having an almost ovoid shape, displayed in an equilateral		НТ	Plastic application.

		triangle shape with the tip down.			
	HU	Combination of two ornament consisting of a plastic application in "V" shape, positioned upside down, placed on several rows of stiches made with an object square shaped in section, horizontally displayed.		HV	Plastic application horizontally displayed on the pot's surface, forming rhomboid shapes.
J	HW	Plastic application.		HX	Plastic application horizontally displayed on the pot's surface.
	НҮ	Plastic application vertically displayed on the pot's surface.		HZ	Two plastic application of ovoid shape, horizontally displayed.
	NA	Plastic application shaped in "U" letter.	7 0 0 0 Q	PD	Two rows of stiches med with an object square shaped in section, horizontally displayed.

TITE	RA	Printing displayed on the pot's bottom.		RB	Stiches made with an object and displayed on the pot's bottom.
•	T1	Perforation having the diameter of approximately 0.5 cm, displayed under the pot's rim.	111111111	TG	Row of stiches made with an object and displayed horizontally on the pot's surface.
700	TH	Series of stiches made with fingertip and nail, displayed right under the rim.	erese	TI	Two rows of stiches made with fingertip and nail, horizontally on the pot's surface.
300 3 3 300 3 3 300 3 3	TJ	Combination of ornaments consisting of a horizontal row of stiches made with an object and several rows of stiches displayed horizontally and made with the finger top.		ТК	Several rows of stiches made with an object and displayed horizontally on the pot's surface, oriented towards right.
	TL	Three row of stiches having a rectangular shape, made with an object, displayed horizontally on the pot's	Marie Marie and South	TM	A series of notches displayed horizontally at the maximum lower limit of the pot.

		surface.			
33333)) (333311)	ТО	Several rows of stiches made with an object and displayed horizontally on the pot's surface, orientated towards left.	00	TP	Two perforations having the diameter of approximatel y 1 cm, made close one to another, placed immediately under the rim.
1111111	TR	Rows of stiches made with an object and displayed horizontally on the pot's surface.	000 000 000	TS	Series of stiches made with the finger top.
20010	UA	Stiches made with the nail.		VA	Plastic application horizontally displayed, presenting on its surface pressure forming rhomboid shapes.
	VB	Plastic application displayed horizontally on the pot's surface, modelled in the form rounds.	De la Contraction de la Contra	VC	Plastic application made in "V" letter shape presenting deep pressures on its surface.
STORY OF	VD	Alveolar plastic belt shaped application	3	VE	Plastic application vertically displayed on

		displayed vertically on			the pot's surface,
		the pot's surface and stiches randomly arrange and made with finger top.	15g.		starting right under the rim and presenting deep pressures on its surface.
	VF	Plastic application with two alveolus, horizontally displayed right under the rim.	33	VG	Series of two plastic application oblique displayed, oriented towards right presenting deep pressures on their surface.
	VH	Plastic application displayed oblique, orientated towards left, with pressures on its surface.		VI	Alveolar plastic belt application in "V" letter shape.
	VJ	Alveolar plastic application vertically displayed on the pot's surface and three row of stiches made with an object.		VK	Two plastic applications having an almost quadrangle shaped, vertically displayed on the pot's surface.
3-55-50	VL	Alveolar plastic application displayed in		VM	Quadrangle plastic application.

		"L" letter shape.			
No De La Colonia Paris any	VN	Alveolar plastic application horizontally displayed under the pot's rim.		C6	Stiches made on the rim, creating the impression of a "lacy" rim.
mann	C7	Oblique incisions oriented towards left, placed on the rim.		D4	Notches on the pot's rim.
(e s)	D4	Stiches made with an object on the rim.	YNAKA	D5	Two rows of thrusts made on the rim, with the point orientated towards the inner part.

- 3. Comparative analysis of the ornaments¹
- 3.1. Plastic applications (code A)

	В	В	В	В	C	C	C	C	G	G	G	G	I	L	S	TR
	17	19	20	9	Ю	L1	L2	L3	26	28	35	58	S	1	1	D
A;	12	2	2	2	2	22	6	11	6	4	1	7	5	1	1	
						0		2								
A;						1										
AP																
A;						1		1								
AU																
A;	1							1				1				
HB																
A;	2					4		1			2					
HC																

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¹ The abbreviations of the sites from the table are: B17, B19, B20, B9, G26, G28, G35 – features from Mirecurea Sibiului-*Luncă*, CIO – Săliștea (Cioara), CL1, CL2, CL3 – Cristian I, IS – Iosaș-*Anele*, L1 – Şeuşa-*La cărarea morii*, S1 – Cerișor-*Peștera Cauce*, TRD – Turdaș-*Luncă*.

A;	1	1		18		7		1				
HG A;		1		1		1					6	
HJ												
A ; HT				1		2						
A ;				1								
HV A:				2								
H												
A:				1								
HQ						-						
A; HV A; H W A; HQ A; HX				1		1						
A; HY				1								
A; HZ A; HI				1								
A ; HI				1								
A ; M D				1					1			
D												
A; M G A; M H				3								
A ;				4								
M												
A;	1			1	1	1	2		1	1		1
MI A ·				1								
MI A; MJ												
A; NA				1								
A ;						1						
VA A;				2								
VC												
A; VE				3		1						
A; VG				1								
A; VH				6								

A;			1					
VK								
A;			1					
V								
M								
A;			1					
VI								

3.2. Plastic applications and stiches made with fingertip (code AA1)

	B 10	B 17	B 19	B 20	B 21	B 9	C IO	C L1	C L2	C L3	G 26	G 28	G 58	I S	L1	S 1	TR D
AA1								12		3							
;																	
AA1;	3	3	2					23		9	1				2	2	1
AB															3		
AA1;		2	1					8		1	4						
AC																	
AA1;			2		1	1		20		5	2						
AD																	
AA1;								12	1	1							
AE																	
AA1		3		1			1	5	1								
; MB																	
AA1;										1							
AC																	
;MC																	
AA1;										1							
AJ																	
AA1;										1	1		1				
HF																	
AA1;								1									
HG																	
AA1;								12	1	2			4	5			
MC								0		8							
AA1;										2							
VC																	
AA1;								1									
VL																	
AA1;										1							
VN																	
AA1								1									
; A3;																	
A3;																	
VJ]]]												

3.3. Stiches made with fingertip and naile (code A1), stiches made with nail (code A2), stiches made with an object (code A3)

	B 17	B 19	B 20	B 21	B 9	C IO	C L1	C L3	G 26	G 35	IS	TRD
A1 ;		1					34	10			1	
A1;BE							1					
A1 ;C3								2				
A1;CA							1					
A1;CC		5					5		1			
A1;CE							1					
A1;CJ							1					
A1;CL					1		3					
A1;CM							1					
A1;CO							2					
A1;TF							3	1			1	
A1;TD							1					
A1;TH							1					
A1;TI							1					
A1;TJ							1					
A2;						1	6	1				
A2;CG	1			1			1		2			
A2;CK		2	1					1				
A3;							18	4				
A3;C							1					
A3 ;C2							1					
A3;CC							1					
A3;CJ							1					
A3;CL							1					
A3;CM							1					
A3 ;D4							2					
A3;DH							1					
A3;EL							1					
A3;PC								1				
A3;PD							1					
A3 ;RB							1					
A3 ;TE								1			2	
A3 ;TG							2					1
A3 ;TK							1					
A3 ;TO							1					
A3;TL								1				
A;A3 ; HU								1				

3.4. Barbotine (code B)

	B 10	B 17	B 19	B 20	B 21	B 9	В 1	C L1	G 26	G 28	G 35	G 58	IS	L1	TRD
B ;	1	3	2			29		4	1			3			
B;IA		12	1	6		11		5	5		4	34	1	35	3
B;IA								1							
B;JC						5	1	1							
B;JG						3		2							
B;JN						17		1							

3.5. Abscission (code C), incision (code D), inlay (code E), printing (code F), thrusts (code G), pinches (code H)

	B 10	B 17	B 19	B 20	B 21	B 9	CIO	CL1	CL3	G 26	G 28	G 35	G58	L1	S1
C ;	10	17	19	20	21	9				26	28	35			
D ;			1			1		8	2						
D ;D2			1			1		1							
D ;EC			1					1							
D ;ED			1					1							
D ;Ei								1							
D;FC								1							
D ;FD								1							
D ;FF								1							
D ;FO								2							
D; FR								1							
E ;								1							
F;			1					4		1					
F;RA								1							
F;								1							
AA1;MC															
G;								2	1						
G;CK								1							
G ;D1								1	1						
G;PC									1						
G;RB								1							
Н;					1		1	46	40						
H;BA								1	1						
H;BB								2						1	4
H;BC						2		4	1					16	3
H;BE		2	2	2	1			5	2	4					8

H ;BG					1				1
H;BI					2				
H;BK		1	1		2	1			1
H;BN					3				
H;BO					7				
H;BP					2				
H;BQ					8				
H;BR					8				
H;CK					1				

3.6. Cuts (code I), grooves (code J), pleats (code K), polished incision (code M), perforation (cod T), alveolus (code W)

	B 10	B 17	B 19	B 20	B 21	B 1	C IO	C L1	C L2	C L3	G 26	G 28	G 58	L 1	S1	TR D
I; EK								1								
J ;FF								1		1						
J; FP								1								
M;										1						
T;			1					2								
T;TP								1						1		
T;TD								1		1						
W;	1	1				1		7		4		1		1	4	
W ;C1								1		3						
W ;C2													1			
W ;C3							1	80	1	31	1		4			1
W ;C4		1		1	1			12		7						
W ;C6								5		2						
W;CC								1								
W ;C3;								2								
AA1;M																
C										- 1						
W ;C4;										1						
A ; W ;C4;								1								
A;VE								1								
W ;C6;								1								
AA1;																
MC;MB																
W ;C6;								1								
T ;T1																
Y ;D3								2								
Y;TC								1								

Y ;D3;				1				
A;VH								

Conclusions

As it can be noticed from the cluster analysis from above, the site from Cristian I can be distinguished by the multitude of fragments ornamented with plastic application: either the ones made with fingertip or object or the simple ones, but also the combinations between plastic applications and other ornaments, as for s example code HU, which represents a combination of two ornaments: a plastic application in "V" shape, positioned upside down, placed on several rows of stiches made with an object square shaped in section, horizontally displayed. An ornament having a special aesthetics is the one noted as code AU, representing a plastic application presenting on its surface a series of smaller applications, teardrops shaped, all together forming a flower, discovered in C024 feature from Cristian I. The number of pottery fragments presenting plastic applications (for some of them it was possible to establish the type or ornament, for other, due to the small dimensions of the fragment, it was possible only to indicate the technique) is 675 fragments, which represents 3.5% from the total number of fragments from this site (19.144 fragments) and 76.5% from the total number of ornamented fragments (882 fragments). The type of plastic application most common for the site Cristian I is the one that presents on its surface stiches made with the finger, forming a belt – code MC – 149 cases, 22% of the plastic applications. This type of ornament was also identified on some pot fragments from Miercurea Sibiului-Petris, features B₁₇, B₉, B₅₈, at Iosaș-*Anele* and Turdaș-*Luncă*, feature C164.

In what concerns the stiches made with fingertip and nail, stiches made with nail, stiches made with an object here are the results of the study: 69 fragments present ornaments made by stiches with fingertip and nail, 9 fragments presents stiches with nail and 42 fragments are ornamented by stiches made with an object.

In what concerns the ornaments on the rim, it could be noticed that for type C3, at Cristian I, 112 fragments with this decoration were discovered, without taking in consideration the situations when they appear combined with other types of ornaments. But, this type of ornament is being quite spread for Starčevo-Criş culture pottery, as a proof we can take into account the identification of such materials also at Miercurea Sibiului-*Petriş*, features B₁₇, B₁₉, B₂₀, B₂₁, G₂₆, G₅₈, and at Turdaş-*Luncă*, feature C164.

Another important aspect regarding the ornamentation of the pottery from Cristian I represents the presence, in a quite high quantity, of pinches -137 fragments, 0.7% from the total fragments and 15.5% from the ornamented fragments.

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