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FACULTY OF HISTORY AND PATRIMONY
INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY AND VALORIFICATION
OF THE TRANSYLVANIAN PATRIMONY IN EUROPEAN CONTEXT

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VII

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ACTA TERRAE

SEPTEMCASTRENSIS

VII

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**The Carpathian Basin and its Role
in the Neolithisation of the Balkan Peninsula**

Editor: Sabin Adrian LUCA

Sibiu, 2008

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**MIGRATIONS AND LOCAL EVOLUTION
IN THE *EARLY NEOLITHIC* OF TRANSYLVANIA
THE TYPOLOGICAL-STYLISTIC ANALYSIS
AND THE RADIOCARBON DATA¹**

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Key words: *early Neolithic, migration, Central and South-East Europe.*

Abstract: *The spread of Neolithic life as a historical phenomenon is a process which brings about major changes in the lives of human communities. Neolithic communities are different to Mesolithic ones in terms of tools, architecture and technology.*

The earliest Neolithic sites are located in south-western Transylvania (the Hațeg region), in the middle Mureș valley, and along its tributaries and the Someș River (in the Cluj county region). According to the latest information, sites belonging to an earlier stage may also be present along the Someș in north-eastern Transylvania.

New radiocarbon results, typological and statistical observations, indicate that a fully-Neolithic culture appeared in Transylvania around 7200 BP, with artefacts very similar – if not identical – to those of contemporary communities south of the Danube.

*The definition of **Early Neolithic** cultural phenomena has become an important subject of debate. In Transylvania and not only here, the term **Starčevo-Criș** was and is still used to define a cultural phenomenon spread over a long period of time, with four stages of evolution which span from the appearance of the first Neolithic communities to the arrival of the first **Vinča** communities. The term **Pre-Criș** deals with the process of Neolithisation, or the first two stages of the **Starčevo-Criș** culture and it belongs to the past from terminological point of view. The stylistic-*

¹ Note: This article was prepared in 2005 for the proceedings of the **A Short Walk through the Balkans: the First Farmers of the Carpathian Basin and Adjacent Regions**, 20-22 June 2005, London. From reasons that depend of human behavior was not yet published. So, for this reason, we will publish it with this occasion. Some aspects reflect the stage of research in 2005.

typological analyses and especially the statistical ones that have been made in recent years force us to consider as most suitable the theory, at least in Transylvania, of a gradual development, in the form a unitary complex closely related to the nearby surroundings at the south of the Danube.

1. The beginning of the Neolithic

The earliest Neolithic of Transylvania is represented by the *Starčevo-Criș* Culture (VLASSA 1966, 9-48; LAZAROVICI 1975: 8-12; 1977: 34-42; 1979: 39-56; 1983: 9-34; 1984: 49-104; 1992: 25-59; 1993; DUMITRESCU *et al.*, 1983, 69; URSULESCU, 1984: 90 and following; PAUL, 1989: 3-28). The explanation of the origin of the *Early Neolithic* has oscillated between the autochthonous theory, which presupposes the existence of areas of a primary origin (BERCIU, 1958; 1966: 32; BORONEANȚ, 1968; 1973; 1980; 1996; PĂUNESCU, 1958: 269-271; 1970: 25-26; DUMITRESCU, 1970: 190-191; SREJOVIĆ, 1969; 1971; 1978; GIMBUTAS, 1989; 1997), and that which states the Near East, where the neolithisation process originated, as the source of the European Neolithic, a theory that many archaeologists have agreed with during the last decades.

The way the newcomers spread is dictated by the new regions formed after the end of the last glaciation. This is the only possible explanation, after plotting all the radiocarbon dates linked to the neolithisation process (BREUNIG, 1987: 86). The existence of an *aceramic* or *preceramic* Neolithic cannot be demonstrated for Transylvania. The nearest site, previously supposed to belong to this cultural and chronological horizon (although its chronology is not specified) is Dârțu-Ceahlău (PĂUNESCU, 1958: 269-271; BERCIU, 1958: 91-98), although it was proved to be, in fact, of a later period (VLASSA, 1964: 463-464).

According to Lazarovici's chronological system the first Neolithic communities diffused in Transylvania in three migration waves. The problems related to the first and second migrations are treated in this paper (LAZAROVICI and KALMAR, 1995: 30, 199-200; LUCA *et al.*, 2004: 99-103)

The earliest Neolithic sites in Transylvania are those of Gura Baciului I (VLASSA, 1976: 198-264; LAZAROVICI and KALMAR, 1995: 199, 201), Ocna Sibiului-*Triguri* I and II (PAUL, 1989; 1995, 28-68), Șeușa-*La cărarea morii* (CIUTĂ, 1998; 2000), and Miercurea Sibiului-*Petriș* (LUCA, 2002; 2004; LUCA *et al.*, 1998; 1999; 2000a, 2001; 2002).

The most important site seems to be Gura Baciului, near Cluj-Napoca. The first horizon (VLASSA, 1976: 257-269) yielded a cultural assemblage, which can be referred to as phase IA (?) of the *Starčevo-Criș* Culture (LAZAROVICI and KALMAR, 1995: 5, 63, 68-79). The archaeological materials of the first stage (IA) appeared hypothetically in the Romanian sites (LAZAROVICI, 1977: 34; 1979: 17; 1984: 53-55; 2005: 50) without having complexes to demonstrate clearly a phase IA of the *Starčevo-Criș* Culture.

The excavators consider hut H_{2A} to be the oldest discovered at this site and also the most important (LAZAROVICI and KALMAR, 1995: 68-69). Besides hut H₁₀, pit P_{1a}, huts H₈, H_{2A1}, pit P₁₁, hut H_{9B}, pit P₃₃, and H_{2B}, there are some assemblages

recovered from the earliest horizon (LAZAROVICI and KALMAR 1995: 68-69) that N. VLASSA (1976: 257-269) considered contemporary with the *Protosesklo* stage.

Ocna Sibiului-*Triguri* (PAUL, 1989; 1995: 28-68) is particularly important for both its stratigraphic sequence and the material culture assemblages. The three earliest occupation layers (Ia-IIa) belong to the *Protosesklo* horizon. Layer IIb might represent the transitional phase to the Criş Culture (contemporary with Gura Baciului II), while the last two layers (IIIa and IIIb) belong to the *Starčevo-Criş* Culture (PAUL, 1989: 10).

I. PAUL (1989: 11) pointed out that the *Protosesklo* horizon appeared as a “distinct culture with a quite long evolution”, which he called *Pre-Criş*. This culture was subdivided by him into two regional northern Danube aspects, those of: Cârcea (in Oltenia), and Ocna Sibiului-Gura Baciului (in Transylvania), and into two stages of development (I and II).

Given his opposition to a unitarian evolution of the *Early Neolithic* in the northern Balkans, namely the *Starčevo-Criş* cultural complex (LAZAROVICI, 1992: 27), I. Paul tries to vary the Ist, and partially, the IInd phases of the Lazarovici chronological system through *Pre-Criş* I-II, although this fact has not been demonstrated by the latest discoveries made in Transylvania at Gura Baciului (new excavations carried out by Gheorghe Lazarovici) or Miercurea Sibiului-*Petriş*. In the same time I. Paul could not provide clear observations concerning the dwellings and the pottery evolution on the successive levels of living.

If we consider Transylvania, the term *Pre-Criş Culture* (PAUL, 1989; 1995; CIUTĂ, 1998; 2000; 2001) is based, in our opinion, on too little information (LAZAROVICI 2001: 42-45; 2005), because is based on sites excavated through small trenches and without statistic analysis of the material culture assemblages, as well as proper horizontal and vertical stratigraphies (with the exception of Gura Baciului, Miercurea Sibiului, and Cauce Cave).

This impression has been confirmed by the discovery and the excavations carried out at Miercurea Sibiului-*Petriş*, a site which belongs to the earliest Neolithic of the region. The site was first mentioned when the monograph on the *Petreşti* Culture was published (PAUL, 1992: 141, point 29a). The material belonging to the *Turdaş* and *Petreşti Eneolithic* Cultures, accidentally discovered at the city boundaries, is mentioned in this paper.

2. Pottery statistical analysis (tables 1 to 5)

The archaeological material was studied quantitatively and qualitatively. Description of the ceramic material was carried out, considering the following: shapes, rim variants, bases and handles, decoration (technique and type); sort, blending (mixture), surface treatment or burned and colours of potsherds. The structure was designed in the Bazarh system, in the Department of Prehistory, Cluj University (since 1984). After 1988 the work with the database was carried out by means of a more comprehensive system, “ZEUS” (TARCEA and LAZAROVICI, 1996). In this paper we present only a little part of our statistical work from complexes: B₁ from Gura Baciului; H₁ (B₁), H₁₀ (B₁₀) and H₉ (B₉) from Miercurea

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Sibiului-Petriș; L₁ from Șeușa-La cărarea morii and Cauce Cave. We focus on H₁ (B₁) and H₁₀ (B₁₀) from Miercurea Sibiului-Petriș. In this study we are presenting only five tables with main characteristics. All of them show a great unity in this first early Neolithic wave confirming absolute dating data. In the same time we can fine differentiate them through some typological characteristics.

We analysed **1245 potsherds: 188** from B₁ Gura Baciului (LAZAROVICI and MAXIM, 1995: 69-71), **382** from H₁₀ and **141** from H₁ at Miercurea Sibiului-Petriș, **423** from L₁ at Șeușa-La cărarea Morii and **111** from Cauce Cave (Cerișor-Peștera Cauce) (Table 1 to 6).

The tables below were made using the *AplWin* seriation programme (LAZAROVICI and MICLE, 2001: 121-125) for each table.

2.1 Description of H₁ (B₁), H₁₀ (B₁₀) from Miercurea Sibiului-Petriș

The site *Petriș* is located some 500 m east of the Miercurea Băi, 50-80 m north of the national motorway Sebeș - Sibiu, at the edge of a long terrace, 4-5 m higher than the flooded meadow of the Secaș River. The archaeological finds are spread on a surface of 300 m. (width) by 80-100m (length) along the terrace parallel to the river.

In 1997, the excavation of the site was carried out in collaboration with the “Lucian Blaga” University and the Brukenthal National Museum, Historical Department (Sibiu). Between 1997 and 2000 a few trial trenches were opened, whose purpose was to check the archaeological sequence of the settlement (LUCA *et al.*, 1998; 1999; 2000a; 2001). The excavation revealed the presence of surface dwellings (habitation structures), fireplaces, rubbish pits, foundation ditches, postholes and 5th century AD Gepid period graves.

In 2001 an area 20x20 m. (SI/2001-2003) was opened. In 2001 and 2002 we excavated the *Petrești* occupation layer, represented by surface dwelling (2 houses), the most recent *Eneolithic* structures of the site (LUCA *et al.*, 2002). During the same season the remains of a few surface dwellings, which belong to the ancient *Vinča* horizon (2 structures) were excavated. In 2003, we finished the excavation of the oldest *Vinča* Culture (phase A) layer (5 pit dwellings), other pits and early *Starčevo-Criș* (3 pit dwellings, three other pits). In 2003, we began the excavation of trench S II (15x16 m.), which was completed in 2004 and 2005. At this stage of the research, we suggested that layer Ia represented the first Neolithic horizon of this site, defined by hut H₁₀ (2003), a rectangular dwelling, with rounded corners, partially cut, in the north-western corner, by another hut foundation: hut H₁ (1998, 2003) belonging to later stage (Ib layer) of the same culture.

Hut H₁₀ / 2003 belong to *Starčevo-Criș* IB Culture

The fine and semi fine potsherds represent almost 83 % in this complex instead of 17% of coarse one with percentages similar to the other complexes analysed in this study

From the potsherds we analysed in this complex, 76% are well burned 49% of potsherds have polished surfaces. The exterior colour of potsherds had the next percentage (this not represent the painting, it is colour of surfaces): 27% of the

reddish colour, the next most common colours being brick (19%), dark brown (11%), whitish brown (10%) and grey (11%). We can also notice a great quantity of cherry-colour pottery (7%). The H₁₀ (B₁₀) assemblage is clearly dominated by polished (185 potsherds) or smoothed ceramics (185 potsherds) (see Table 4) in equal proportions.

The study of the ceramic assemblage shows that hut H₁₀ (2003) is one of the oldest dwellings of the Romanian Neolithic. This structure was almost entirely excavated. Regarding the pottery, parallels can be found with Gura Baciului (I). It did not show any trace of disturbance by other archaeological complexes. Its deposit yielded some unusual finds, such as, for instance, one single potsherd of well burnished red ware with white-yellowish painted dots, also characteristic of Gura Baciului I. The radiocarbon date for this complex is GrN-28520 = 7050±70 BP (BIAGI *et al.*, 2005: 49).

Hut H₁ / 1997, 2003 belong to *Starčevo-Criș* IC-IIA Culture

This is another very old dwelling discovered at Miercurea Sibiului-*Petriș*, which is more recent than hut H₁₀/2003. Unfortunately it was seriously damaged by the building of hut H₄ / 2003, which belongs to the *Vinča* period. H₁ / 1998 is a large hut, measuring 6x4 m. and, according to its stratigraphic position, belongs to horizon I b, which has been attributed to the SC Culture, period I C or II A.

The pottery is very similar to that of H₁₀: 78% of the vessels are of fine or semi-fine (Table 1), 94% of the potsherds contains chaff (Table 5), 6% of the pottery has sand inclusions, a percentage lower than that in level Ia, 49% of the potsherds are polished (Table 4), while 74% of them are well burned. We have noticed that 14% of the potsherds are highly fired (to the point of vitrification). The colour of their outer surfaces varies (Table 3): the reddish ones represent 13% of the total assemblage, while that of the brick-red ones is higher (23%). A peculiar item was found inside this hut. It is a figurine, 3.7 cm high and 2 cm wide in the shape of a bull's head. The tips of its horns are broken from ancient times. The body is rounded, somewhat thickened, decorated on the front part with deep, parallel zigzag incisions. This stylised object is made of fine pottery with black, well-polished surfaces.

These objects have been published under the name of bucrane idols or labrets (KARMANSKI, 1986, 12, Prilog 1). They are made of clay, stone, bone or other materials (KARMANSKI, 1986: 11). In Romania, they come from *Starčevo-Criș* (phase II A, included) settlements.

These objects belong to the *Starčevo-Criș* Culture, phase IIA (LAZAROVICI, 1983: 13; CIOBOTARU, 1998: 75; DRAȘOVEAN, 2001). The occurrence of this object together with characteristic pottery in hut H₁ suggests that this item is to be referred to the same period of the archaeological complex, which is to SC phase IC-IIA. As a consequence, it is contemporary with Gura Baciului I (a part of the complexes, hut H₈, hut H_{2a1}, pit P₁₁, hut H_{9b}, pit P₃₃, hut H₁₀ and hut H_{2b} (LAZAROVICI and KALMAR, 1995: 68-79) or with *Pre-Criș* Ib – pit dwelling 9 at Ocna Sibiului-*Triguri* (PAUL, 1995: 30-31, Abb. 2, 5-6), *Șeușa-La cărarea morii* (dwelling 1/ 1997) (CIUTĂ, 1998; 2000) and the cave site of *Cauce Cave* (LUCA *et al.*, 2004: 80-103). The

radiocarbon date for this complex is GrN-28521= 6920+-70 BP (BIAGI *et al.*, 2005: 49).

2.2 Description of pit-house B₁BG from Gura Baciului

B₁BG belongs to *Starčevo-Criș* IB and the pit contained a large quantity of painted ceramics with white decoration composed of spots, oblique lines, spots in arcades, lines without a precise contour on the light red or dark background of the pot. The majority of the pots were of finer fabric, the sandy monochrome paste having the colours: red, cherry-red and brown. Potsherds decorated with impressions, pinches and prominences are absent, only one fragment with polished lines being found. The materials from this context are defined as *Starčevo-Criș* IB with *Starčevo-Criș* IC elements. At this early stage some very fine paste ceramic fragments appear, decorated by “unsmoothing” or “pseudo-barbotine”, actually wadding soft clay applied with the fingers, leaving a row of uneven levels, not being actually a barbotin (ledge applied). The finest potsherds represent, in this complex 31% instead of 39% of semi fine and 30% of coarse one. The B₁ Gura Baciului assemblage has an almost double the percentage of coarse and a smaller percentage of fine ceramics compared with the other complexes from these study. The B₁ Gura Baciului is different in the high quantity of chaff and sand (where the chaff prevails) in the potsherds mixture (Table 5). Other characteristics (see table 5) difference it from the others complexes analysed in this study and this is the reason the computer seriation process push it at the end of the series. The radiocarbon date for this complex GrA-24137 = 7140+-45 BP (BIAGI *et al.*, 2005: 49) and is the oldest from Transylvania.

2.3 Description of Cauce Cave assemblage from Cerișor

This complex is in the mountain area inside of a cave. The existence of a new monochrome horizon *might be* suggested on the basis of the discoveries made at Cauce Cave. A layer with fine, polished pottery exists in this cave, but we could not assign it a clear chronological significance (LUCA *et al.*, 2004: 103). The potsherds analysed represents a highest percentage of semi fine ones (57%) (see Table 1). The finest potsherds are in 37% close to the other complexes analysed but the difference is in small amount of coarse one (6 %). The smoothed potsherds are almost double like the polished ones (Table 4). The same pattern like the other complexes is revealed in the Table 5 regarding the mixture.

We must mention that painted pottery has not been found here. The existence of these settlements in Romania is known thanks to the discovery of Iosaș-*Anele* (LUCA and BARBU, 1992-1994). A few Romanian archaeologists would attribute the *Early Neolithic* settlements without painted pottery (Monochrome horizon, following DIMITRIJEVIĆ (1974)) to phase IC-IIA of the *Starčevo-Criș* Culture, a chronological horizon in which the painted ware disappears or is scarcely represented (LAZAROVICI, 1973: 43 – which is also true of phase IA). At present, we know that ceramics with white painted dots characterise phases IB and IC of the *Starčevo-Criș* Culture; the presence of this kind of pottery during other phases of

the same culture might be accidental. At *Șeușa-La cărarea morii*, pottery with white painted motifs is very rare (3-4 fragments – CIUTĂ, 2000: 67-68, Fig. 25/1-3; the first fragment is still unpublished), although the same paper questions the existence of a Monochrome horizon in Romania (CIUTĂ, 2000: 76).

This Monochrome period of Dimitrijević would represent the second migration period suggested by Gheorghe Lazarovici and Zoia Kalmar, later than Monochrome = Frühkeramik from Thessaly (LAZAROVICI and KALMAR, 1995: 200; LAZAROVICI, 2001: 42; LAZAROVICI, 2005: 42).

2.4 Description of L₁/1997 from Șeușa-La cărarea morii

The dwelling L₁/1997 is situated at the base of the archaeological occupation from *Șeușa-La cărarea morii*. It is a house built on a “stone-floor foundation” (CIUTĂ 2000, 55). A special category is represented by the exterior surface of a spherical, small pot, painted with white-yellowish dots, on a grey brick-coloured background. The dots are arranged in oblique parallel rows. The painting of the second fragment consists of a row of white dots on a purple background. The third fragment is a brown-reddish rim, with a light coloured band 8 mm wide. Complete pots have not been discovered and only in four cases was it possible to restore the vessels to obtain a full profile (CIUTĂ, 2000: 63). The author assigns this dwelling to the *Pre-Criș I* Culture (Paul’s system) or to *Starčevo-Criș IC* Culture (Lazarovici system) (CIUTĂ, 2000: 75). We attribute this dwelling to the IC-IIA phase.

The fine and semi fine potsherds (Table 1) represent almost 83 % in this complex instead of 17% of coarse one with percentages similar to the other complexes analysed in this study.

The radiocarbon date for this complex GrN-28114= 7070±60 BP (BIAGI *et al.*, 2005: 49).

In conclusion, the typological proximity between materials from H₁ and H₁₀ (Miercurea Sibiului), L₁ (Șeușa), B₁ (Gura Baciului) and Cauce Cave is shown in **Tables 1 to 6**. They belong to the same chronological horizon with a closer relationship between B₁ (Gura Baciului), L₁ Șeușa and B₁₀ Miercurea Sibiului. Cauce Cave is individualising through some characteristics but keep close the basics ones. Only the rims of the pot table seriation is working perfect with absolute radiocarbon series (we have the same order) and we obtained a typological series in a chronological order. In all clusters (Table 1 to 6) the complexes are closely one to each other, and shows us a great unity in almost all characteristics. This is a different image compared with complex H₉ (from a later phase –it is described down in the text). Soon will be capable to compare more complexes from all phases of *Starčevo-Criș* Culture and will can to describe finest de differences between complexes and define perfectly each evolution phase.

3. The First Migration

The oldest migration route of the Neolithic communities at the northern Danube, in Romania, can be indicated now for the regions of Oltenia and western Transylvania due to recent stylistic and typological analyses as well as the absolute

chronology. The communities reached the Danube, after having crossed the Timok Valley, followed the route along the Oltenia sub-Carpathians, travelled across the mountains and settled in the area of the middle Mureş Valley, its left tributaries and the Someşul Mic River (Map 1).

Considering the Vardar-Morava route we easily understand why one can reach Oltenia coming from the Timok Valley. Thus it is clear why they chose to settle the higher areas of Oltenia. The hardest part is to prove how they crossed the mountains. Taking into account more recent routes contemporary researchers are tempted to believe that the passages of the Jiu and Olt rivers were used. But these have been opened to travellers since Roman times and the Middle Age (the Jiu and Olt rivers are quite wild in the passages, and was dangerous to cross them).

The route along the northern and southern transverse valleys of the mountains is more credible. In the oral tradition of the latest centuries it is called “the route of the cuckoo” (or more adapted in English “As the crow flies”) It was used by villagers to avoid authorities (the distance could be covered with the cattle in three or four days) but in the same time was a way used for transhumance from ancient times. In our days it is still used by shepherds for transhumance process. The first Neolithic people may have used this route. In Transylvania Miercurea Sibiului, Şeuşa, Gura Baciului and Ocna Sibiului settlements are nearby open air salt deposits or salted lands. In the same time for Gura Baciului the percentage of the sheep-goat husbandry complex reach 33.2% and for Şeuşa is increasing to almost 57.1% The cattle husbandry complex represent 41.8% at Gura Baciului and 30.8% at Şeuşa (LUCA *et al.*, 2005: 106).. The bone materials from Miercurea Sibiului are in working process but the dates seem to be closed to the previews presented. This shows us shepherd communities who searched salt for their herds. The latest data indicate another possible way of migration through Banat and South Crişana. This new route was revealed after reanalysing the archaeological remains from Lepenski Vir, the radiocarbon dates from Foeni and the materials from Iosaş-*Anele*. The lack of research made this hypothesis almost impossible to demonstrate. All new radiocarbon data suggest that the first phase of the *Starčevo-Criş* Culture (IA-IB) appeared during the last two centuries of the eighth millennium uncal BP, and probably lasted slightly more than 100 years (7200-7000 uncal BP) (BIAGI *et al.*, 2005).

4. The Second Migration (Map 2)

The first phase was later followed by another, just after 7000 uncal BP (5900 Cal BC) (BIAGI *et al.*, 2005). Some sites continued to be occupied during this phase (Cârcea, Ocna Sibiului, Miercurea Sibiului, Şeuşa, Gura Baciului), others were newly settled. The radiocarbon data of this phase follow those of the preceding one, without any apparent break. The second phase also appears to have lasted about 100 years (BIAGI and SPATARO, 2004: 10; BIAGI *et al.*, 2005).

The way of living reveals new access routes during the second migration, by crossing the Poiana Ruscă Mountains after going through Banat. The sheep-goat (ovis/capra) husbandry complex represents at *Cauce Cave* almost 75 % from all

osteological remains, the pig (*Sus Domesticus*) almost 11.9 % and *Bos Taurus* only 3.5 %. (LUCA *et al.*, 2005: 98).

It was to be expected that something like this would happen, because the number of dwellings suddenly increased covering the northern area of the Mureş River, as well as the area of the Crişul Alb River.

5. The evolution of the Early Neolithic after the third migration

By the end of the *Starčevo-Criş* phase IIB in Transylvania, the so-called “starčevisation” phenomenon begins (PAUL, 1989: 18). The settlement of Ocna Sibiului-*Triguri* lost its importance and did not develop the black painting characteristics of the late horizons of this cultural complex (PAUL, 1989: 21).

The cultural movement influenced Transylvania from west and south-west. The inhabitants of the *Early Neolithic* sites of the middle Mureş River (Miercurea Sibiului-*Petriş* and *Pustia* (Luncă), Orăştie-*Dealul Pemilor*, point X₈, *Limba-Bordane* and others) began to use ceramic decorative elements such as slip, applied decorations, incision or impressed patterns (PAUL, 1989: 21), besides black painting (DRAŞOVEAN, 1989: 42) or altars with stands, or with pierced stands.

These characteristics indicate a wide territory with cultural unity (PAUL, 1989: 24), known as the *Starčevo-Criş* cultural complex. Ocna Sibiului-*Triguri*, IIB and Miercurea Sibiului-*Petriş*, hut H₉/2003 (level Ic) belong to this phase.

Coarse pottery accounts for 23% of the potsherds recovered from Hut H₉, with a similar quantity of fine pottery (20%). The percentage of the semi-fine ware is overwhelming (57%). It is almost certain that we are facing a new southern impulse due to the fact that the 35% of potsherds contain sand, sand in small and big grains 75% of the potsherds are well burned and only 23% of them are polished. This slip occurs on 28% of the potsherds, which indicates clearly the beginning of the evolution to the classic stage of the culture. We find the colours (exterior surface of the potsherds) in equal proportions (black, black grey, light brown and dark brown, brown and whitish brown) except for brick-red (28%).

From phase III of Lazarovici typological list of the *Starčevo-Criş* cultural complex, one can easily detect the cultural influences on Transylvania from Banat, the Tisza Plain and from the regions south of the Danube. The first *Vinča* communities appear in Transylvania by the middle of this phase (LUCA, 1995-1996; LUCA *et al.*, 2000; 2000b).

To conclude, we can see here, at this stage of research, several cultural horizons, some of them contemporary during the *final Early Neolithic*:

- (1) *Starčevo-Criş* IIIA-IVA communities, such as Orăştie-*Dealul Pemilor-X₈* (LUCA *et al.*, 1998), *Hunedoara-Biserica Reformată* (DRAŞOVEAN, 1989), Miercurea Sibiului-*Pustia (Luncă)* (unpublished material).
- (2) Communities that appeared under the impact of the Polychromic technology, in south-eastern Transylvania. The main settlement of this type is Leţ (ZAHARIA, 1962; 1964).

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- (3) Early *Vinča* communities, such as Romos-*La Făgădău* (LUCA, 1995-1996), Miercurea Sibiului-*Petriș*, horizon II and Limba (BERCIU and BERCIU, 1949; CIUGUDEAN, 1978: 50, 52, Fig. 8/3-16) (for a synthesis of the early period of development of *Vinča* Culture in Transylvania see LUCA *et al.*, 2000; 2000b).
- (4) Communities where *Starčevo-Criș* and *Vinča* materials are set in distinct and successive layers, such as Limba-*Bordane* (CIUTĂ, 2002) and Miercurea Sibiului-*Petriș* (horizon Ia-c - *Starčevo-Criș* and horizon IIa-b - *Vinča*).
- (5) Communities with an evolution towards linear ceramic (LBK) technologies (LUCA *et al.*, 2000: 57-63; 2000b: 22-29).

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7. Tables, Maps and Graphics

Table 1 category	Semifine	Fine	Coarse	Total
Cauce	63	41	7	111
L ₁ Şeuşa	193	160	70	423
H ₁₀ (B ₁₀)	155	162	65	382
H ₁ (B ₁)	52	58	31	141
B ₁ GB	74	58	56	188
Total	537	479	229	1245

Table 1 – Ceramic categories.

Table 2	B ₁ GB	Cauce	H ₁₀ (B ₁₀)	L ₁ Şeuşa	H ₁ (B ₁)
Painting	20			1	3
Incisions	2	5			1
Printing(recording) Imprimare	6	8		2	3
Cuting (taieturi)	1	3			2
Ledging (pseudo barbotin)	7			2	37
Tweaks (ciupituri)	4			1	26
Lobe (alveolare)		4		6	11
Application (aplicare)	2	5			32

Table 2 – potsherds ornamentation technology (decoration).

Table 3	H ₁₀ (B ₁₀)	H ₁ (B ₁)	Cauce	L ₁ Şeuşa	B ₁ GB
Reddish	104	18	8	37	1
Grey	42	9	7	10	10
Dark brown	44	13	22	14	15
Whitish brown	40	26	23	50	9
Brick-red	71	32	16	82	42
Dark-red (Cherry)	26	16	6	48	14
Black	7		3		6
Brown-reddish	1	2	1	16	
Yellowish	18	8	10	85	17
Black-grey	5	1	5	13	7
Light-brown	19	12	10	46	29
Rainbow					1
Brown	3	1	2	12	7
Ashen - hoary				4	8
Red	1				10
Orange			1		11

Table 3 – potsherd exterior surface colour.

Table 4	H ₁₀ (B ₁₀)	L ₁ Şeuşa	H ₁ (B ₁)	Cauce	B ₁ GB
Ledge	2	52	2		1
Flour-like	6	10		3	
Polished	185	120	56	24	38
Smoothed	185	185	79	65	64
Polished slip	1	14	3	1	10
Coarse	1	5		6	61
Slip	1				12

Table 4 – potsherds exterior smoothing.

Table 5	H ₁₀ (B ₁₀)	L ₁ Şeuşa	H ₁ (B ₁)	Cauce	B ₁ GB
Sand, potsherds and silt	1				
Chaff and silt		1			
Chaff, Sand and gravel		32	1	6	
Sand	24	46	1	3	5
Sand and chaff	327	291	115	58	66
Fine Sand	10	13	5	1	12
Sand and graphite				1	
Coarse sand	5	7		1	9
Chaff and Sand	15	30	18	39	54
Chaff and potsherds		1			1
Sand and gravel		1		1	2
Sand and potsherds			1		5
Sand and silt			1		11
Sand with mica					29

Table 6	B ₁ GB	L ₁ Şeuşa	H ₁₀ (B ₁₀)	H ₁ (B ₁)	Cauce	
B	6			1		
N	5	1			1	
M	7	5			1	
K	3	3				
G	1	1		2		
I	1	2		3	1	
V	1				2	2
Y	5	6		11	6	6
E	2	3			2	10
A	1	13		2	1	6
H	1	16		3	3	6
C			2			
P			2			
Z			1			
D				1		
L				1		
Q				2		
S				3		
F		13		4	4	
R				1	1	
J		1			3	1
U				1	1	

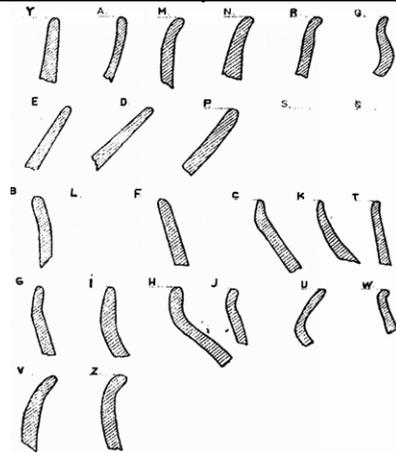


Figure 1 - Typology of the *Starčevo-Criş* Culture (MAXIM, 1999)

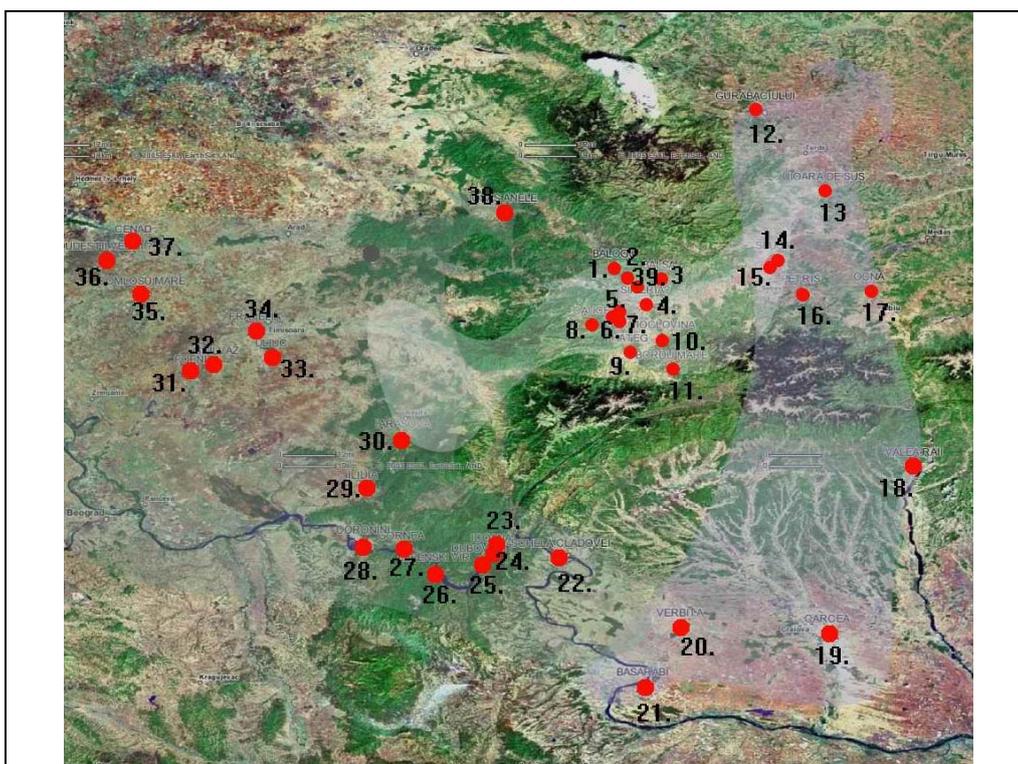
Table 5 - Rims of the pots table, computer seriation table. The letters correspond to typology in Figure 1.

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1. Gura Baciului
2. Ocna Sibiului
3. Șeușa
4. Miercurea Sibiului - Petriș
5. Cârcea
6. Grădinile
7. Verbița
8. Icoana
9. Lepenski Vir
10. Foeni
11. Iosaș- Anele

Map 1 – The First Migration traces in the Romanian area.



Map 2 – The Second Migration traces in the Romanian area. 1. Balogu; 2. Crăciunești; 3. Balșa; 4. Simeria(?); 5. Peștisul Mic; 6. Dumbrava(?); 7. Manerău; 8. Cauce; 9. Hațeg; 10. Cioclovina; 11. Ohaba Ponor-Bordu Mare; 12. Gura Baciului; 13. Uioara de Sus; 14. Șeușa-La cărarea morii; 15. Limba-Bordane; 16. Miercurea Sibiului-Petriș; 17. Ocna Sibiului; 18. Valea Râii (Copăcelu); 19. Cârcea; 20. Verbița; 21. Basarabi; 22. Schela Cladovei; 23. Ogradena; 24. Icoana; 25. Dubova-Cuina Turcului; 26. Lepenski Vir; 27. Gornea; 28. Coronini-Pescari; 29. Ilidia; 30. Carașova; 31. Foeni; 32. Giulvăz; 33. Uliuc; 34. Fratelia; 35. Comloșu Mare; 36. Dudeștii Vechi; 37. Cenad; 38. Iosaș-Anele; 39. Măgura-Toplița.

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