Błażej Muzolf

The layout, the chronology and cultural relations of the positions of the Urnfields from Central Poland during the Bronze Age.

(Summarizing of the doctoral dissertation)

As the doctoral dissertation I submit 7 published works, out of 115 positions, comprising my academic achievements. I selected them on the basis of the thematic and regional content . They are the publications from 2002-2017 years, concerning findings, which I mainly directed in years 1999-2010 . The leading subject are issues associated with the Urnfield communities from the Bronze Age and the early Iron Age from Central Poland, but also with the neighbouring areas. The reesearch results of the settlements of this cultural place and the two graveyards are included in presented publications. In my works I suggested some new ways of classifying the settlement objects and mass materials. I also raised a subject of the chronology of materials, their stylistics of interregional connections and of very important problem of spatial layout of the settlements and graveyards, which turned into the leading subject of all works, in smaller or large degree.

The discussion of the research in the place called Grabek 11 of the municipality of Szczerców (position 1) is a first publication. A position in Grabek is a multicultural object of the examined area beyond 5 acreage and 1600 objects and nearly 60 000 diversified historic materials. Their chronology is placed between the paleolithic and early medieval graveyard of the type Alto Käblich. 1200 objects and nearly 50 000 of fragments of dishes were attributed to the chronological level of Urnfields and to the Pomeranian, which caused the need of creating a new classification of objects and mass materials. In the space of the position in Grabek 3 separate settlements were allocated from the chronological period as well as the settlement and the graveyard of the Pomeranian culture. As a result of conducted analyses a new, extremely important research problem associated with the layout space of the settlements appeared. There was suggested a cluster distinguish of objects which were classified in 6 types. In our opinion, the first five types suit the so-called homestead and the social fundamental unit, i.e. the family. The sixth type is the clusters of the exclusively stock-economic purpose.

The distinguished clusters comprised the individual settlements carried out on round plans with the central square and on terrace-drill assumptions. There was also the attempt to enumerate the number of families inhabiting given settlements and to determine the size of their population. In conclusion of analyses of settlements from Grabek , there was also considered their place in the settlement microregion and the connections with neighbouring regional groups. They showed that settlements from Grabek were a part of a central Polish group of the Urnfields , but they demonstrate the presence of such west elements, as well as perhaps south-east regional groups.

The study materials of the Urnfields from the position of Grabek 11, appointed my professional career which is connected with four essential issues which I developed in the next works, such as:

- improving the classification of the form of dishes, both in the technological, morphological as well as stylistic account;
- creating cohesive classification of settlement objects;
- attempts to reconstruct the plans of settlements, and graveyards;
- tracking intergroup connections

My next works are taken into account in frames of my dissertation, among others these issues concern Zgórz 1-2 (position 2). In 2005-2006 years, in that area, over 310 ares with 1400 objects and nearly 28 000 with artefacts were taken into examinations. The most numerous findings concerned the remains of the settlement of the community of the Urnfields, and while studying them an identical model of proceedings was used, like in case of the position in Grabek, but a ranking of ceramics was subjected to the far-reaching alteration. The distinctive feature of ceramic materials at the position in Zgórz 1-2 is an adornment with motifs in the form of oblique or arched wide bevels and flutings which dominated in Central Poland at the end of the 3rd and 4th period of the Bronze Age. The conducted analysis of appearing of such an adornment in other regional groups of the Urnfields showed that there is a possibility of the undoubted result of the direct effect from the range of Transcarpathia groupings. On the position, the remains of four settlements were identified of diversified spatial laying out. They were established on the plan of the wheel or the oval, often with the central square, but sometimes of the very developed spatial internal organisation. Again they showed that apart from home enclosures also deposits were found in frames of settlements of the warehouseeconomic purpose what can indicate on their community using. Based on the characterization of settlements from Zgórze they created the generalized classification in two categories. The category I – these are the "long-term" settlements of the area of the about 1 hectare with the extended internal structure, established on the round or oval plan, created by a dozen or more families. The category II - "short-lived" settlements of the area of 0.5 hectare and less extended in one's spatial structure, formed by a few families. Making a note on this position of four settlements in the immediate vicinity, as similarly as in Grabek, show the existance of family and friends in the functioning in the Urnfield community , the most probable of rotational system in the agricultural exploitation of the area and there is no possibility of the existance of several hundred years on this period of the single settlement of a few hectares area.

The next examined positions where settlements were discovered demonstrate the analogous agreements, it is among others a position in Bieniądzice and Smólsk (position 3 and 4). The position in Bieniądzice was examined in 2007 on the designed route of Wielun ring road and spread through the area of 123 ares. There was singled out, among others, a settlement of the Kępno subgroup of the Upper-Silesia-Lesser Poland groups in the Urnfields. The settlement again created the round arrangement with the central square around which homesteads were built. Its dating should be placed in the period of the V period of the Bronze Age – the Hallstatt period C.

However, the examining in Smólsk in years 2008-2009 was conducted in the area of over 867 ares, where a few phases of the settlement of the Urfields were distinguished in their variety of the Kuyavia region (Easter-Greater Poland), with dating in the range from V OEB after HaD inclusive. Nine concentrations of the objects were distinguished from the horizon of Urnfields, in which among others, settlements were detected on the round and oval plan with central squares were revealed. In their range, the grouping objects of purely stock purpose which allocated zones occupied in settlements by the appropriate homesteads was also appointed.

The position in Lutomiersk-Koziówki, state 3 a-c, was discovered in 1945 and was examined in many seasons, but it wasn't finished with the comprehensive publication (position 5). I carried recent surveys out in 2009 and they were a point of the beginning to create the monographs of this place. It is a kind of "tell" of Central Poland, where we deal with 12 chronological-cultural levels, beginning from paleolithic campsites but on modern times finishing.

Explicitly from the horizon of the Urnfield groups of objects of the purely stock purpose but also of residential character were identified.

The continuation of works over communities of the Urnfields in Central Poland is also the subject of graveyards raised with reference to two of them (position 6). The first one in examination is graveyard in Lutomiersk-Wrzącej state. 1, commune Lutomiersk (archival position with supplementing examinations) which is linked with settlements on the position of Lutomiersk-Koziówki state. 3 a-c. An object is the second graveyard from Smegmas state. 2, commune Chąśno, area Łowicz, examined in 1963-1964 years which has not been made available so far.

For both graveyards the outline of ceramic materials up was adopted the same as for of the ones coming from settlements. As a result of these works, the classification and comparison of ceramic stylistics for both graveyards was conducted. However, a special attention was paid to the spatial layout of the necropolis with the purpose of comparing the burial space. There were also used the arrangements of Jacek Woźny, which we modified a bit. After the conducted analysis, it is visible that in case of the graveyard in Mastki, its spatial ground plan gets the oval form, which comprises a few burial zones. In case of the burial ground in Lutomiersk-Wrząca, due to the lack of examining the large area of the graveyard, we could state appearing of graves only in certain centres and groupings, analogous like on the examined entirely graveyard in Mastki. The allocation of those clusters, training camps and zones is burdened with the subjective look to a considerable degree, however in order to check their presence or their lack on other places, a row of burial mounds were analysed. As it turned out, such systems can be also found in the Słowik state. 1, area Łęczyca, as well as in Stobnica state. 1, area Piotrków Trybunalski.

At the end of summarizing this dissertation, it should be claimed that particularly essential, beside of course "standard" of chronological-cultural deliberations, there are also the suggestions referring to the study of laying out the space of settlements and graveyards. At present we can already admit their resemblance.

In my opinion, the most essential achievement with reference to the graveyards is the statement of the resemblance in the size of alleged families creating them, with the hypothetically set number of families forming discussed earlier settlements, in our opinion, achieving. They are the significant similarities and they indicate that prehistoric societies from the area of Central Poland

accomplished the analogous assumptions of spatial laying out, both in case of settlements as well as graveyards at the number approximately identical to the families creating them.

The List of the Publications:

- 1. The position of Grabek 11. Monographic publication: Archaeological Examinations on the area of the outcrop "Szczerców " Brown Coal Mine " Bełchatów " S.A., vol. 2, ed.
- R. Grygiel, Łódź 2002; Findings of rescue excavation examinations on the area of the outcrop "Szczerców " KWB " Bełchatów " S.A. on the position of No. 11 in Grabek, commune Szczerców, Łódź PROV, author's chapters: B. Muzolf Introduction, 27-31 p.; The settlement Complex from Hallstat and La Tene Periods, for 121-384 Sr.
- 2. The position of Zagórze 1-2. 2015, Muzolf B., Frączak M, Muzolf P, K.D. Amphibian, Rescue archaeological research on the position 1-2 in Zgórze, area Kutno, PROV (route of the motorway A1), via Archaeologica Lodziensis, vol. V, Łódź, 2015. (ministerial grant).
- B. Muzolf the author of chapters: 1. Introduction 9-10 Sr; 3. Prehistoric settlement introductory remarks, p. 17; 3.4.3. The settlement of the Urnfields 64-232 p., and the article: Muzolf B., Preliminary discussing rescue findings on the position 1-2 in the town Zgórze, commune Strzelce, Łódź PROV, "Report 2005-2006", 2011, 113-124.
- 3. The position Bieniądzice 5. Article: Muzolf B., Report on inspections of an multicultural archeological excavation site on the designed ring road of the Wielun city in the town Bieniądzice, "Report" 8, 2013, for 429-448 Sr.
- 4. The position of Smólsk 2 / 10. Co-author's article: B. Muzolf, P. Kittel, P. Muzolf, Report on research works on multicultural settlement complex in the town Smólsk state. 2 / 10, commune Włocławek, Kuyavian Pomeranian Voivodeship PROV (Motorway A1, motorway No.: 93, 91), "Report" 2007-2008, Warsaw 2012, 43-64 p..
- 5. The position of Lutomiersk-Koziówki 3. Co-author's Monograph: Lutomiersk-Koziówki position 3 a-c, Pabianice district, Łódź PROV. Multicultural settlement team for the close of the paleolithic for modern period, Łódź 2012, author's pages: 9-25, 57-58, 114-188, 279-297 (ministerial grant).

6. The position of Lutomiersk-Wrząca 1, Mastki state. 2 commune Chąśno, Łódź province. Collective monograph: Muzolf B., Zielińska A., Kittel P., Lutomiersk-Wrząca state. 1, Lutomiersk commune, Mastki state. 2 commune Chąśno, Łódź province. Two graveyards from the Bronze Age of the Urnfields from Central Poland, Łódź 2017; author's pages: 5-8, 17-15, 25-251 (ministerial grant).