

Ioan Bejinariu, *Bronzuri preistorice din Sălaj (colecțiile Szikszai, Wesselényi – Teleki, Aszodi și descoperiri izolate aflate în colecția Muzeului din Zalău, [Prehistoric Bronze Artifacts. Szikszai, Wesselényi – Teleki, Aszodi Collections and Isolated Discoveries from Zalău Museum Collection]*, Ed. Mega, Cluj – Napoca, 2008, 124 p. + XXIV pl.

An year after the release of the volume which deals with bronze hoard from Bârglez, I. Bejinariu is back with a new book that has again as a subject prehistoric bronze artifacts from Sălaj County. This time the author introduces in the scientific circuit “*unpublished or little known bronze artifacts, of which, in most of the cases unfortunately, not even the exact place of discovery is known*” (p. 27).

The paper is structured in three main chapters. The first chapter discusses the analysis of artifacts and research history concerning bronze deposits belonging to the Middle Bronze Age - Hallstatt B period in Sălaj County area (p. 11 - 35). The chapter is accompanied by 5 tables summarizing the chronological horizons of the deposits and isolated bronze artifacts discovered in Salaj County, from Middle Bronze Age until the beginning of Hallstatt period.

The second chapter contains artifacts' description, which is the central part of the work itself (p. 36 - 70). Subchapter II.1. presents 56 pieces that were part of the Szikszai collection. In the next one relates (II.2.) some information about life and work of Lajos Szikszai together with the sinuous fate of his collection. The references and to the collection are also listed. In the absence of information about the provenience of the pieces, based on 1897 J.F. Fetzer the author tries to find the location of the artifacts in the third chapter (II.3). In the next chapter 5 bronze artifacts are presented, artifacts that were part of the Wesselényi - Teleki collection (II.4), while the last part of this chapter presents 35 isolated bronze artifacts from Zalău Museum of which 12 are inedited (II.5).

Findings analysis (p. 71 - 89) is made for the entire repertoire of findings presented in the previous chapter and not separately for each collection. Twelve categories of artifacts are being distinguished. For each of them, a typological classification and chronological analysis has been determined.

Extensive documentation and analysis of this volume can be traced from the literature that contains no more than 149 titles (p. 90 – 104). Also, the book has a Hungarian translation of the subsections II.2. and II.3., about the Szikszai collection (p. 107 - 113) and a summary in English (p. 114 – 122). Finally, the volume contains a list of localities in Salaj where bronze deposits and isolated artifacts were (p. 124), their distribution on the map (pl. I - II), as well as the illustrating archaeological material that this volume refers to (pl. III - XXIV).

We believe that what the author aims to achieve in this volume, is to present the inedited artifacts, pieces of the Szikszai, Wesselényi - Teleki collections and isolated finds from Zalău Museum collection filling in the repertoire of Bronze Age – early Hallstatt period in Sălaj County. I congratulate in this way my colleague and friend I. Bejinariu for this achievement and I must add that I am convinced that such approach is an example to follow for other geographical areas.

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