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SOME TYPES OF HILTS OF MEDIEVAL SWORDS
FROM SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

There are some swords in collections from southeastern Europe which have characteristic forms of hilts. They are large knightly swords, for one-and-a-half or two hands, with square pommels and cross-guards which arms are horizontally bent in the shape of letter S. Ewart Oakeshott defined these cross-guards as his type 12 and pointed out that they appear on swords most often together with square pommels of his type Z, usually in Venice and Hungary (Oakeshott 1981, p. 118). Marian Głosek also noticed this connection in the material he gathered from the Pannonian plane and the neighboring regions and he distinguished the group of swords with type Z pommels, type 12 cross-guards and blades which he identified as type XXI (Głosek 1984, p. 30)¹.

When we are speaking about S-shaped cross-guards (Oakeshott's type 12), the first conclusion begging to be made is that they occur usually together with square-shaped pommels (Oakeshott's type Z). The exceptions are mainly 15th c. swords, mostly with types T, G or V pommels and also diverse variations of single-handed swords from the end of that century, which in fact reflect the later popularity of these cross-guards. So the swords with square pommels are actually the oldest specimens which have the S-shaped cross-guards. On the other hand, most finds of swords with square shaped pommels (of type Z) come from the southeastern Europe and they are usually followed by S-shaped cross-guards (Oakeshott 1981, p. 111). Besides that all pommels of type Z are of approximately

¹ These blades are defined here as type XXb.

square or slightly rectangular shape, they are very diverse. These morphological variations are divided in the following subtypes:

Z1 – Pommels of approximately square shape with almost straight edges and right corners, usually with circular convexities in the middle that sometimes could be centrally hollowed. The pommel width is about 5,5–6 cm while the height could vary (ca. 4–5,5 cm).

Z2 – Pommels of approximately rectangular shape with truncated corners and faceted edges. They could be flat (Z2a), with circular convexities in the middle on both sides that sometimes could be hollowed in the center (Z2b) or with shallow circular hollows (Z2c). The heights and widths of these pommels could vary from around 3,5 cm to around 6 cm.

Z3 – These pommels are similar to type Z1, they are of square shape with circular convexities on both sides but their top edge has protruding center and ends, i.e. it is shaped as accolade or cat's head and because of that they are sometimes called crowned pommels. These pommels are generally of square shape and they are of slightly greater width (ca. 5,5–6 cm) than height (ca. 4–5,5 cm). There are also specimens with circular convexities shaped almost as hemispheres, sometimes encircled with a molded ring.

Variations of shapes and sizes of type 12 cross-guards are divided in the following subtypes:

12a – Cross-guards with arms slightly curved in the opposite directions, in the shape of letter S. These specimens are not morphologically uniform. Their usual length varies between 18 and 22 cm although there are somewhat shorter specimens.

12b – Cross-guards with slightly expanded arms, which are symmetrically, horizontally bent in the opposite directions in the shape letter S. The length could be close to the previous subtype but is more often smaller, i.e. around 16 cm.

12c – Cross-guards with symmetrically and horizontally sharply bent arms in the opposite directions, in the shape of letter S. In the middle there is usually a triangular reinforcement, which extends on the blade like a small *ecussion*. Their length is on the average smaller than the length of the previous subtypes, around 14–15 cm, sometimes even smaller, around 12 cm (Aleksić 2007, p. 24–25, 31–32, fig. 1, 4).

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We can start the examination of swords with square pommels and S-shaped cross-guards from the youngest and best known group. These are swords for one-and-a-half or one hand, most usually with subtype Z3 pommels and, almost always, with subtype 12c cross-guards. They represent morphologically and metrologically relatively restricted group of finds. Many of these swords are housed in the Doge's Palace in Venice and the term *spada schiavonesca* in the Venetian historical sources refers to them (Boccia, Coelho 1975, p. 18; Franzoi 1990, pp. 232–233). Besides Venice and some other Italian towns, they may be found in many other collections worldwide. We marked them, on the basis of their mutual typological similarities, as a sword group Schiavonesca 2. They were produced in Venice and most probably in some eastern Adriatic towns, such as Dubrovnik, Kotor or Split around the second half of the 15th c. (Aleksić 2007, pp. 109–110, tab. 18). The *schiavone* swords evolved from this group in the 16th c.

There are finds of swords from the Balkans and Pannonian plane with Z type pommels and 12 type of cross-guards which are older than these Venetian *spade schiavonesche*. Mentioned Oakeshott's and Głosek's observations are referring to these swords. M. Głosek analyzed material from Pannonia, typologically defined them as XXI,Z,12 and dated them mostly to the 15th c. (Głosek 1984, p. 30). Because Głosek's designation XXI for this type of blades has not been widely accepted and today type XXI refers a different Oakeshott's type of blade, we marked this type as a XXb. The XXb blades are of squat form, like the type XIIIa (with almost parallel edges and rounded point), but they are also different as they usually have three, sometimes even four narrow fullers on each side instead of one and their maximum width is smaller than type XIIIa. Most of the blades have uniform dimensions, length being around 93 (± 5) cm and maximum width usually around 4,7 ($\pm 0,2$) cm. The hilts are for one-and-a-half or, rarely, two hands. Oakeshott dated his pommel type Z as well as cross-guard type 12 to the 15th c. (Oakeshott 1981, pp. 111–112, 118) and blades with such characteristics usually identified as later specimens of type XIII(a) (Oakeshott 1981, p. 110; 1991, p. 234), or type XX (Oakeshott 1981, pp. 75–76, pl. 40C).

Such dating of type XXb blades is also confirmed by the specimen which was once in Alexandria arsenal in Egypt. This sword is now placed in the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto and it bears the inscription which dates it before 1428 (Alexander 1985, p. 81; Bruhn-Hoffmeyer 1954, p. 62, cat. N^o IId,1, pl. XXIVb; Aleksić 2007, p. 70, 182, cat. N^o 393, fig. 23)². This sword also has pommel of type Z (subtype Z2) and type 12 cross-guard (subtype 12a).

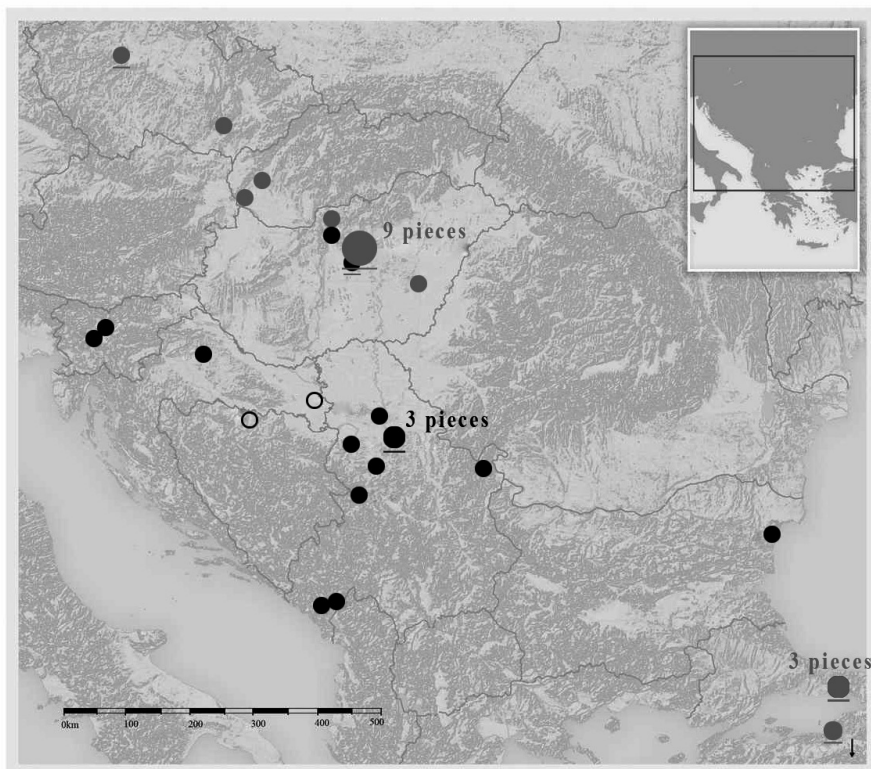
This specific manner of multiple fullering is not unknown in late middle ages, but generally it is not too common. A similar kind of fullering can be seen on Oakeshott's blade type XX. One of their main characteristics is the presence of three narrow fullers on each flat. Oakeshott usually dated these blades to the 15th c. (Oakeshott 1981, p. 76, pl. 40A,-C, 42A; Oakeshott 1991, pp. 207-211). Sword of Stephan the Great, the grand duke of Moldavia (1457-1504) as well as a few more similar lavishly decorated swords which are housed in the Topkapi Museum in Istanbul (Alexander 1987, pp. 22-25, 36, 47, cat. N^o 100-103) are some of the representative specimens of type XX swords. Generally these weapons are a later variant of the massive two-handed swords which are fullered in a distinct way. Blade types XX and XXb are chronologically close and they both appear sometimes during the first half of the 15th c.³

As Głosek already pointed out, almost all blades of type XXb (his type XXI) have type Z pommels and type 12 cross-guards (Głosek 1984, p. 30). If we try to be more specific, we may say that almost all of these cross-guards which come with blades of type XXb are of subtype 12b and that most common subtype of these square pommels is the subtype Z2 (and to be even more specific its Z2b variation). These typological characteristics are basic for group of swords which we marked as a Schiavonesca 1. Some examples don't fully correspond to this "formula" of Schiavonesca 1 swords (XXb, Z2[b],12b), but even then they are related to them - pommels are of subtypes Z1 and Z3, blades are of types XIIIa or XVIa and, extremely rare, cross-guards are of other subtypes of type 12 (Table 1).

Swords which belong to group Schiavonesca 1 and related specimens are not only a typologically but also geographically restricted group of finds. Their distribution pattern is concentrated in the Pannonian plane

² Inscription is mentioning the sultan Al Ashraf Sayf al-Dīn Barsbāy (1422-1428).

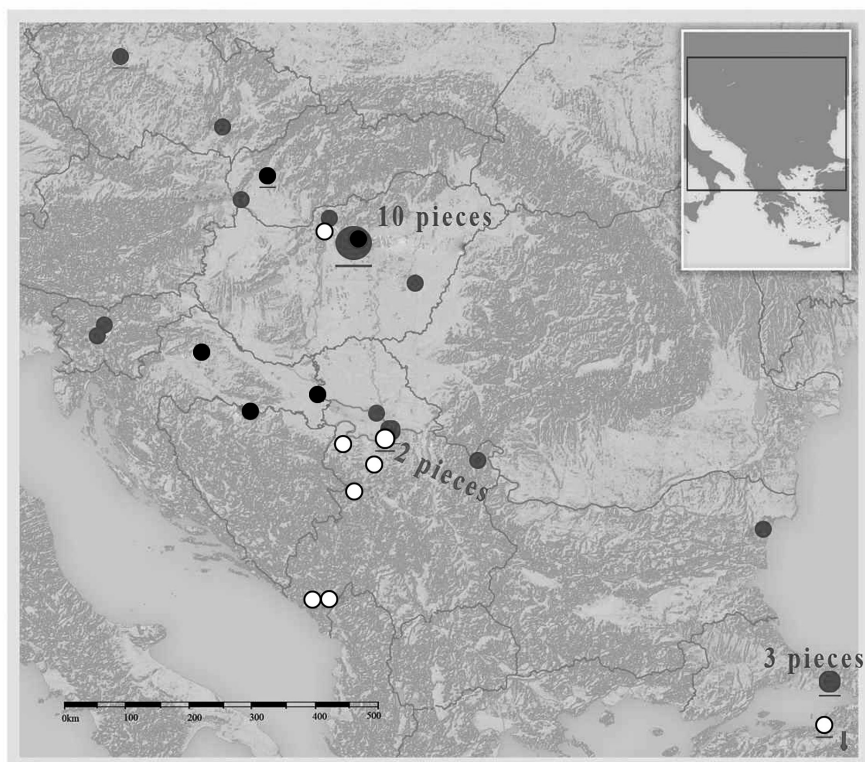
³ More about distribution patterns, dating and eventually mutual connections between these two type of sword blades (Aleksić 2007, pp. 91-92).



- - Swords with square pommels, S-shaped cross-guards and blades of type XXb
- - Swords with square pommels, S-shaped cross-guards and blades of other types (XVIa, XIIIa)
- - Swords with square pommels, S-shaped cross-guards and blades of unknown types

Map 1. Distribution pattern of blades of type XXb. Museum locations and specimens of unknown finding place are underlined (fig. M. Aleksić)

which corresponds to the territory of medieval Hungary and surrounding areas (Maps 1 and 2). This indication that swords of Schiavonesca 1 group were used and most probably produced in medieval Hungary could be also confirmed by at least one sword from Topkapi Museum in Istanbul which was most probably taken by the Turks from Hungarian royal armoury in Buda after the battle of Mohacs in 1526 (Alexander 1987, p. 25, 39, cat. № 107). This ceremonial weapon is of very large dimensions and



- - Swords with cross-guards of subtype 12a
- - Swords with cross-guards of subtype 12b
- - Swords with cross-guards of type 12, unknown subtype

Map 2. Distribution pattern of cross-guards of subtypes 12a and 12b. Museum locations and specimens of unknown finding place are underlined (fig. M. Aleksić)

has pommel of subtype Z3, blade of type XXb and cross-guard of subtype 12b which brings it to close the Schiavonesca 1 swords.

As we already pointed out, Głosek dates these swords mostly to the 15th c. (Głosek 1984, p. 30). This is also confirmed by the abovementioned dating of type XXb blades mostly to the first three quarters of this century. The dating of various subtypes of Z type of pommels won't be explained here in detail, but it should be said that subtype Z2b, which is the most common subtype on the Schiavonesca 1 swords, corresponds to this period (Aleksić 2007, pp. 70–75).

If we compare swords of Schiavonesca 1 group with those of Schiavonesca 2 group we may conclude that both groups are characterized by square pommels and S-shaped cross-guards and that Schiavonesca 1 are older than Schiavonesca 2. Schiavonesca 2 group of swords (Venetian *spade schiavonesche*) were produced around second half of the 15th c. in Adriatic basin, Schiavonesca 1 swords are from around first three quarters of the 15th c. and most probably were produced in mediaeval Hungary. Thus, cross-guards of subtype 12c (which is one of the most consistent typological properties of Schiavonesca 2 swords) are younger and more sharply bent variation than cross-guards of subtype 12b (which is one of the crucial typological characteristics of Schiavonesca 1 swords). Comparing their pommels from the morphological point of view we may also conclude that those of subtype Z3 (which is characteristic of most of Schiavonesca 2 swords) are derivatives of subtype Z1 which is of more simple shape. Because of such obvious typological mutual similarities and their chronological connection, we may also see them as two different phases of development of one type of weapon. Because they are concentrated in these two close but still different territories (Venice and Hungary), we may assume that they were produced simultaneously, at least for some time, perhaps during the third quarter of the 15th c.

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Beside Schiavonesca 1 and Schiavonesca 2 swords there are still some specimens with square pommels and S-shaped cross-guards which could hardly fit in either of these groups. At first glance they are large knightly swords which are typologically close to Schiavonesca 1 in general, but they never possess two main typological traits of Schiavonesca 1 group: blades of type XXb and cross-guards of subtype 12b. They also never have cross-guards of subtype 12c, always of subtype 12a. Instead of type XXb (as is the case with most of Schiavonesca 1 swords), their blades are of types XIIIa and XVIa. Their square pommels come in all subtypes (Z1–Z3). As we already pointed out, these swords are closest to group Schiavonesca 1 (and other related specimens), but they show important, coherent typological differences (cross-guards of subtype 12a, blades are never of type XXb). They represent a heterogeneous group of finds (pommels of any Z subtypes, blades of types XVIa or XIIIa which are the most common

types for swords from 14th and beginning of the 15th c.) with own distribution pattern. That is why they are separately assigned here as swords of group Schiavonesca 1a.

Cross-guards of subtype 12a, which are one of the main typological features of the Schiavonesca 1a group of swords, are not uniform in shape and size. In contrast to the specimens of subtypes 12b and 12c, they show more heterogeneity of their curvatures. Some specimens are curved not in the regular horizontal plane but their arms are slightly turned upwards or downwards (Table 2, № 3) some are symmetrically and moderately curved (Table 2, № 6) and some are sharply bent at almost right angle (Table 2, № 7). In any case, it can be concluded that cross-guards of type 12a, in contrast to types 12b and 12c, do not represent morphologically uniform group of finds, as almost every specimen is slightly different in some way. This could indicate that they were produced in many different (smaller) workshops or that some of them were secondarily curved by their owners⁴.

Distribution pattern of this group of swords shows a clear difference from the distribution of finds of Schiavonesca 1 swords. While most of the Schiavonesca 1 swords come from the territory of medieval Hungary or the neighboring regions, finds of 1a group of swords are concentrated south from the river Sava and lower Danube, in central and western Balkans (Map 2). Distribution pattern of the Schiavonesca 1 and Schiavonesca 1a group of swords shows that north from this line we find mainly the swords of Schiavonesca 1 group, and south from it swords of Schiavonesca 1a group. This line generally corresponds to the borderline between Hungary and Serbia in late Middle Ages and territory south from it correspond to the territory of medieval Serbia.

If we try to establish the relative chronological relations between these three groups of swords, we may assume that the Schiavonesca 2 swords are the youngest, preceded by swords of Schiavonesca 1 and Schiavonesca 1a, which is the oldest group. The 12c cross-guards appear on the Schiavonesca 2 swords and should be dated from around the second half of the 15th c., the 12b cross-guards are most frequently found on the Schiavonesca 1 swords, which are dated from around the first three quarters of the 15th c., while the 12a cross-guards are even earlier, although it should not

⁴ About the phenomenon of secondary modifying of cross-guards on mediaeval swords (Oakeshott 1981, p. 115).

be ruled out that these shapes could have been simultaneously used for a certain time. Considering that all these swords have S cross-guards and square pommels, they could be also understood as different phases in the evolution of a distinct sword type.

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The oldest historical records of *spade schiavonesca* in Venetian and Italian sources are from the end of the 15th and first half of the 16th c. and they probably refer to a group of swords that we marked as a *Schiavonesca 2* swords⁵. But the oldest historical record of *spada schiavonesca* is from the Dubrovnik archive and it is about one century older. In the will of the blacksmith Dobrič Bunisalić two swords are mentioned among his property as “... doe spade Schiavonesca” (Dubrovnik archive, Testamenta notariae 8, fol. 2, [after:] Petrović 1976, p. 25). Considering that *Schiavonesca 2* swords were not produced before around the middle of the 15th c. and surely not at the end of the 14th c., a question arises: how did those *spade schiavonesche* from the year 1391 look like?

Taking into account that the crucial typological traits of *schiavonesca* swords of the group *Schiavonesca 2* are square pommels and S-shaped cross-guards, it is logical to suppose that the *schiavonesca* swords from the year 1391 should also have those characteristics, even in slightest amount. As it was pointed out, swords with S-shaped cross-guards which could be older than around the middle of the 15th c. always have square pommels. On the other hand, most of the swords from this time which have square pommels also have S-shaped cross-guards. The obvious morphological uniqueness of this shapes clearly distinguish S cross-guards from all other types of cross-guards as well as square pommels from most of other types of pommels. These facts indicate that *spade schiavonesche* from the end of the 14th c. should be sought primarily among types of swords which have square pommels and S-shaped cross-guards.

Because the *schiavonesca* swords are recorded in Dubrovnik archive in a testament and that they already got their name at that moment, we could assume that their typological characteristics were already formed sometime before year 1391. It had to take some time from when their pro-

⁵ For example, in the inventory of weapons in the arsenal of the Doge's Palace in Venice from 1548 (Franzoi 1990, pp. 232-233).

duction started to when they got their specific name which reached Dubrovnik and was recorded in 1391. That is why it is reasonable to suppose that their production could start at least about five or ten years earlier, around 1380. If we accept the assumption that those schiavonesca swords from the end of the 14th c. had square pommels and S-shaped cross-guards, then we should look after them among swords which are older than Schiavonesca 2 group but are characterized with same traits. This leads solely to Schiavonesca 1 swords and related specimens or swords of group Schiavonesca 1a.

As we already said, Schiavonesca 1 swords are dated to the 15th c. and for now there are no reasons to assume that they were produced earlier. On the other hand, Schiavonesca 1a group of swords shows some older typological traits (blades of types XVIa or XIIIa but never of type XXb, cross-guards of subtype 12a) which allowed their earlier dating. Therefore we may conclude that among all swords with square pommels and S-shaped cross-guards, Schiavonesca 1a group is chronologically closest to this earliest known record of the schiavonesca swords. Actually, this is the only group of swords that both chronologically and typologically corresponds to this historical record of *schiavonesca* swords. Distribution pattern of Schiavonesca 1a swords shows that also geographically it is the closest group of such weapons to Dubrovnik (Map 2).

The swords which were recorded in the Italian sources as *spade schiavonesche* and *schiavone* got their names after the Slavs from the eastern coast of the Adriatic that used such weapons in the Venetian military service (Franzoi 1990, p. 29). But in the medieval Dubrovnik term *Sclavonia* possessed an even more specific meaning. Through all Middle Ages it referred to the medieval Serbian state and Serbian rulers and people. In the Dubrovnik archive there is a clear distinction, for example, between the historical and also modern region of Slavonia in the south Hungary, present-day northern Croatia that was called *Slovigna*, *Slovinia* and the term *Sclavonia* meaning the territory of Serbia (Динић 1966, pp. 27–28). Among many other, an illustrative contract between Dubrovnik and Italian town Ancona from 1292 can be given as an example. A part of east Adriatic coast which correspond to Serbian part of coast was named there as *Sclavonia* (ibidem). This name was used in Dubrovnik for Serbian medieval state until its very end (in 1459).

Therefore it can be concluded that the oldest known record of the term *spada schiavonesca* is from Dubrovnik archive and that its initial meaning was indicating the medieval Serbia (Petrović 1976, p. 25). This interpretation of historical data corresponds to the distribution pattern of sword finds which typologically and chronologically could only correspond to the mentioned type of swords. As we already pointed out, distribution pattern of *Schiavonesca 1a* group clearly indicates the territory of medieval Serbia and it is also geographically the closest group of such finds to the location of Dubrovnik. The connections between Dubrovnik and Venice were very strong during the entire medieval period, so the term *spada schiavonesca* could have easily been transferred from one town to another. However, we can't be sure whether the meaning of this term in Venice in the second half of the 15th c. was used to denominate all Dalmatian Slavs or in a more precise manner, like in the 14th c. Dubrovnik. Actually there is much evidence that at the time of production of Venetian fashioned *spade schiavonesche* (*Schiavonesca 2* swords) in the second half of the 15th c. the term *Sclavonia* was used in Venice to refer to all Slavs from Dalmatia and its hinterland. This terminological imprecision or confusing the Croats, Serbs or other Slav people in Venice in late the 15th c. and later does not have an important significance for the *schiavonesche* swords. We can assume that in practice these types of swords were used by all Slavs from Dalmatia, regardless of nationality or religious affiliation.

Table 1. Typological and metrical traits of the Schiavonesca 1 swords and related specimens. Traits “typical” for Schiavonesca 1 swords are in blackened cells

Nr.	FINDING PLACE/ MUSEUM	POMMEL TYPE	BLADE TYPE	CROSS- GUARD TYPE	L	BL	HL	CL	BW	PH	PW
1	r. Danube near Bratislava ¹	Z2b	XXb	12b	88.4*	67.3*	21.1	14.3*	5	4.2	5.8
2	Museum Trnava, W Slovakia ²	Z	XXb	12	78.9*	61.4*	17.5	14 (*)	4.8	3.5	3.9
3	Budapest, N Hungary ³	Z2b	XXb	12c	119.2	93.5	25.7	15	4.8	5.2	6
4	National Museum, Budapest ⁴	Z	XXb	12	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
5	National Museum, Budapest ⁵	Z	XXb	12	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
6	National Museum, Budapest ⁶	Z	XXb	12	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
7	National Museum, Budapest ⁷	Z3	XXb	12b	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
8	National Museum, Budapest ⁸	Z	XXb	12	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
9	Beces, SE Hungary ⁹	Z2b	XXb X11lc	12b	83	62	21	?	4.5	?	?
10	NW Hungary ¹⁰	Z2b	XXb	12b	111*	90*	21	?	5	?	?
11	National Museum, Budapest ¹¹	Z1	XXb	12b	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
12	National Museum, Budapest ¹²	Z1	XXb	12b	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
13	National Museum, Budapest ¹³	Z1	XXb	12b	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
14	Brno, Czech Republic ¹⁴	Z	XXb	12b	108.2	88.1	20.1	21.9	4.3	5.1	3.7
15	National Museum, Prague ¹⁵	Z1/Z3a	XXb	12b	115.4	90.2	25.2	15.2	4.7	4.1	4.8

16	use to be in Alexandria Arsenal ¹⁶	Z2b	XXb	12a	118.7	91.4	27.3	22.2	4.8	5.6	6.8
17	Topkapi Museum Istanbul ¹⁷	Z2b	XXb	12b 12c	121.2	99.3	21.9	12	5.1	?	?
18	Topkapi Museum Istanbul ¹⁸	Z3	XXb	12b	152	116.6	35.4	22	5.5	?	?
19	Topkapi Museum Istanbul ¹⁹	Z2b	XXb	12b	108.5	86	22.5	16	5	?	?
20	National Museum, Budapest ²⁰	Z2	XVII	12b	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
21	Museum Visegrád, N Hungary ²¹	Z2b	XVIa	12a	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
22	Varna, E Bulgaria ²²	Z1	XIIIa?	12b	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
23	Kladovo, E Serbia ²³	Z2b	XIII?	12b	95.8*	77.6*	18.2	?	?	?	?
24	Military Museum, Belgrade ²⁴	I1a	XIIIa	12b	118	95	23	?	?	?	?
25	Stari Slankamen, N Serbia ²⁵	Z1	XIIIa	12b	118.5	97	21.5	16.5	4.9	4.5	5.4
26	Srbac, N Bosnia ²⁶	Z2b	?	12	81*	63*	18	?	5	?	?
27	Bjelovar, N Croatia ²⁷	Z1	XVIa?	12b	123	100	23	ca 25	6	ca 5.4	ca 6
28	Vukovar, E Croatia ²⁸	Z2	?	12b	67*	48.5*	18.5	?	5.3	?	?
29	r. Ljubljana, Slovenia ²⁹	Z	XIIIa	12b	110	88.5	21.5	?	?	?	?
30	r. Ljubljana, Slovenia ³⁰	Z2	XVIa?	12b	124.5	ca 104	ca 20.5	?	?	?	?

Table 2. Typological and metrical characteristics of swords of group Schiavonesca 1a

NR.	FINDING PLACE/ MUSEUM	POMMEL TYPE	BLADE TYPE	C-GUARD TYPE	L	BL	HL	CL	BW
1	Museum, Visegrád, N Hungary ³¹	Z2b	XVIa?	12a	?*	?*	?	?	?
2	Military Museum in Belgrade ³²	Z2a	XVIa?	12a	91.5*	69*	22.5	16	5.5
3	Slepčević near Šabac, W Serbia ³³	-	XIIIa/XVIa	12a	104.5*	92	12.5*	21	5
4	City fortress in Užice, W Serbia ³⁴	I1	XVa	12a	111.3	88.5	22.8	21.5	6.1
5	Military Museum, Belgrade ³⁵	Z1	XIIIa	12a	118	95	23	19	5.8
6	Lipski Potok, Užice, W Serbia ³⁶	Z3	?	12a	36*	25*	11	?	?
7	r. Zeta by Podgorica, Montenegro ³⁷	Z2	XVIa/XXb?	12a	115	93.5	22.5	18	4.6
8	Zeta, by Podgorica, Montenegro ³⁸	Z3	XIIIa	12a	113	90	23	20.5	5.3
9	Arsenal in Alexandria, Egypt ³⁹	Z2b	XXb	12a	118.7	91.4	27.3	22.2	4.8
10	Vicinity of Valjevo, W Serbia	Z?	XVIa?	12a	?*	?*	?	?	?

Abbreviations

L – sword length;

BL – blade length;

BW – blade width;

BW' – blade width 60 cm from the cross-guard;

FL – fuller length; in brackets: on the tang;

FW – fuller width;

FW' – fuller width 40 cm from the cross-guard;

HL – hilt length;

TL – tang length;

CL – cross-guard length;

CW – cross-guard width;

PH – pommel height; in brackets: rivet high;

PW – pommel width;

PT – pommel thickness;

* – broken;

rec. – reconstructed value;

v. – village;

r. – river.

Notes

- 1 Głosek 1984, p. 137, cat. № 2, Plate XXXVI: 1.
- 2 Głosek 1984, p. 145, cat. № 106.
- 3 Nagy 1898, p. 228, table II:3; Głosek 1984, p. 173, cat. № 439, plate XXXVI: 3; Lugosi, *Temesváry* 1988, p. 226, cat. № 18.
- 4 Głosek 1984, p. 176, cat. № 483.
- 5 Głosek 1984, p. 176, cat. № 484.
- 6 Głosek 1984, p. 176, cat. № 485.
- 7 Głosek 1984, p. 176, cat. № 486, pl. XXXVI: 4.
- 8 Głosek 1984, p. 176, cat. № 487.
- 9 Nagy 1898, p. 228, pl. II/1.
- 10 Nagy 1898, p. 228, pl. II/5.
- 11 Kalmar 1971, p. 62, fig. 101/f.
- 12 Kalmar 1971, p. 62, fig. 101/g.
- 13 Csillag 1971, p. 34, cat. № 25.
- 14 Głosek 1984, p. 141, cat. № 45.
- 15 Głosek 1984, p. 144, cat. № 97, pl. XXXVI, fot. 2.
- 16 Bruhn-Hoffmeyer 1954, p. 62, cat. № III d.1, pl. XXIV b.
- 17 Alexander 1987, p. 25, 39, cat. № 106.
- 18 Alexander 1987, p. 25, 39, cat. № 107.
- 19 Alexander 1987, p. 25, 39, cat. № 108.
- 20 Kalmar 1971, p. 62, fig. 101/h.
- 21 Gyula 1986, pp. 278–279.
- 22 Historical Museum of Bulgaria, Sofia (inv. nr. 33733); Aleksić 2007, p. 165, cat. № 225.
- 23 Милосављевић 1993, p. 31, cat. № 21.
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STRESZCZENIE**NIEKTÓRE TYPY RĘKOJEŚCI ŚREDNIOWIECZNYCH MIECZY
Z EUROPY POŁUDNIOWO-WSCHODNIEJ**

W pracy zaprezentowane zostały miecze z Europy Południowo-Wschodniej o rękojeściach charakteryzujących się kwadratowymi w rzucie z przodu głowicami oraz S-kształtnymi w rzucie z góry jelicami. W klasyfikacji R.E. Oakeshotta głowice tego typu określone zostały jako typ Z, natomiast jelce jako typ 12. Egzemplarze łączące te dwie cechy, a także posiadające główne typu XXb (XXI), zaopatrzone w charakterystyczny układ strudzin, wyszczególnione zostały jako oddzielna grupa mieczy przez Mariana Głoska. Morfologiczne zróżnicowanie wspomnianych głowic i jeliców pozwoliło na wydzielenie ich podtypów (Z1–Z3, 12a–12c).

Najmłodsza grupa mieczy o wspomnianych cechach występuje w źródłach weneckich pod nazwą *spade schiavonesche*, tam też produkowano je w 2. poł. XV w. Jednak najstarsze źródło wzmiankujące *spada schiavonesca* pochodzi z archiwum w Dubrowniku i jest ono o ponad pół stulecia starsze niż domniemany czas rozpoczęcia produkcji tej broni przez rzemieślników z Wenecji. Wzmianka ta koresponduje jednak chronologicznie ze starszą grupą znalezisk mieczy noszących wyżej określone cechy elementów rękojeści. Początków ich produkcji doszukiwać się należy w środkowych i zachodnich Bałkanach oraz w Panonii w drugiej połowie XIV i w XV w.

tłumaczenie: Paweł Kucypera

CUM ARMA PER AEVA
UZBROJENIE INDYWIDUALNE NA PRZESTRZENI DZIEJÓW

REDAKCJA NAUKOWA

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