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## NEW FINDS OF „LONGOBARD” BROOCHES FROM THE LATE MIGRATION PERIOD IN SOUTHERN ZÁHORIE REGION<sup>1</sup>

KATARÍNA HLADÍKOVÁ

**Keywords:** south-western Slovakia, Záhorie, Late Migration Period, S-shaped fibula, square-headed brooch

**Abstract:** *New Finds of “Longobard” Brooches from the Late Migration Period in Southern Záhorie Region.* Finds of brooches from the Late Migration Period in southern Záhorie are relatively rare. The article presents new finds of brooches in this region resulting from surface prospecting and their chronological and typological classification within the relative-chronological schemes of the Migration Period, specifically the find of an S-shaped brooch at Moravský Svätý Ján, between the sites Švecova Lúka and Dlhé Lúky (SW Slovakia), and a find of a fragment of a brooch at Stupava, site: Za potokmi (SW Slovakia), probably a square-headed brooch. The occurrence of these types of brooches in the Central Danube region is mainly associated with the presence of the Longobards; the brooch from Moravský Svätý Ján can be dated to approx. mid-6th century and the brooch from Stupava to approx. the last third of the 6<sup>th</sup> century.

The article provides basic information about newer finds of brooches dated to the Late Migration Period in southern Záhorie, which were found by surface prospecting and are deposited with the Archaeological Museum of the Slovak National Museum. The brooches were found in Moravský Svätý Ján, specifically at the dune between Švecova Lúka and Dlhé Lúky, and in Stupava, site: Za potokmi (Fig. 1).

### State of Research

The Migration Period in Záhorie is documented by sporadic, mostly random finds (Hladík/Hladíková 2020), a situation that reflects the state of research. The Late Migration Period in southern Záhorie is associated mainly with the presence of the Longobards, who moved into the Central Danube region from the Elbe region. According to historical sources, they stayed in this region from early 6th century until the 1st or 2nd quarter of the 6th century, when they probably moved into Pannonia, where their new power centre was established. There was another move in 568, when they left their settlements in

Pannonia and moved to northern Italy (Tejral 2005; Pohl 2005).

The most well-known evidence associated with the presence of the Longobards in Slovakia are associated with southern Záhorie, which belonged to the Lower Austrian-South Moravian enclave (Pieta 2002, 21; Fusek/Zábojník 2010, 172–173; Tejral 1975). First, there are two burial sites at Bratislava-Devínská Nová Ves, part Devínske Jazero, excavated by E. Kraskovská (Kraskovská 1963; 1968). Settlement features are still absent. Isolated random finds from the region have been published, in particular a bow fibula with six knobs from Závod, which is deposited, similar to the finds presented here, in the Archaeological Museum of SNM (Turčan 2014). The research papers associate the following artifacts with the Longobards: a circle with openwork decoration from Suchohrad (Fusek/Zábojník 2010, 168n),<sup>2</sup> a comb from Gajary (Eisner 1933; Beninger 1937; Tejral 1975),<sup>3</sup> a glass (Rüsselbecher) and a bronze silvered artifact (brooch?) from a skeletal grave. The last two finds indicate the existence of

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<sup>2</sup> G. Fusek and J. Zábojník interpret this find as an enclave in Slovak milieu (Fusek/Zábojník 2010, 172).

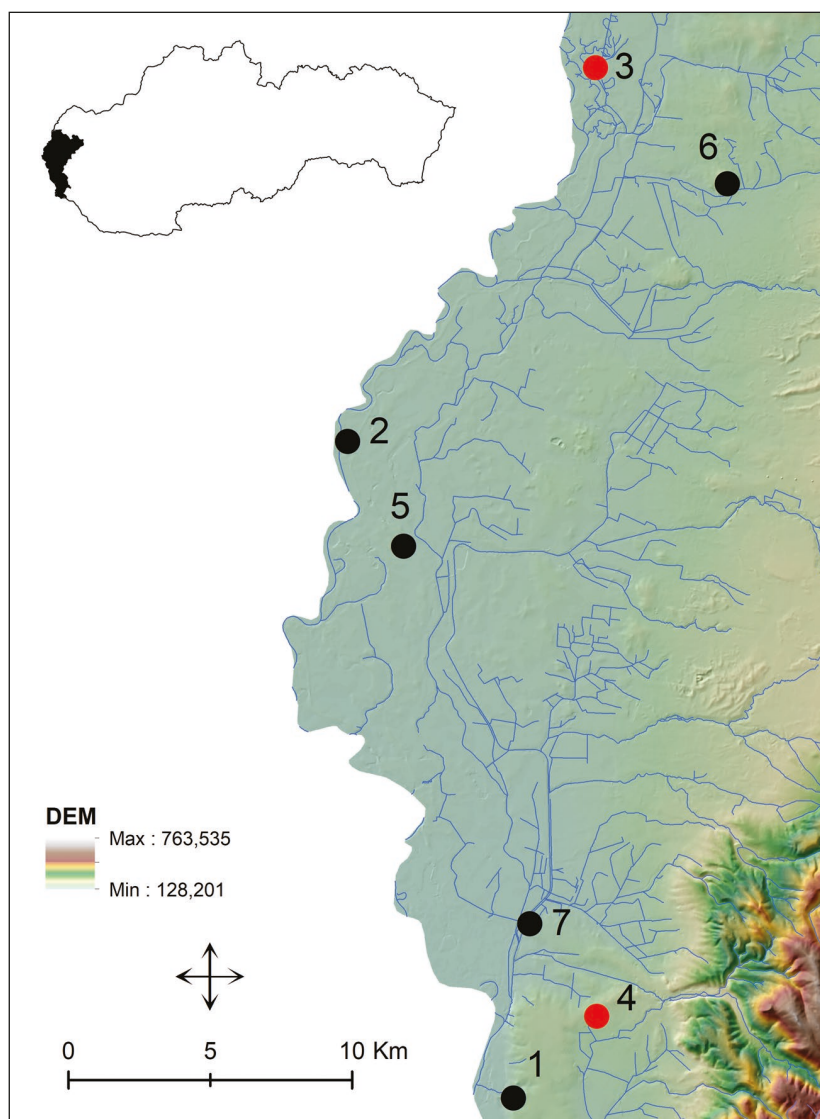


Fig. 1. Spatial distribution of Late Migration Period sites. 1 Bratislava-Devínska Nová Ves, časť Devínske Jazero; 2 Gajary-Stolička; 3 Moravský Svätý Ján; 4 Stupava, poloha Za potokmi; 5 Suchohrad; 6 Závod; 7 Zohor (Source: ÚGKK SR).

Obr. 1. Mapa lokalít s nálezmi mladšej fázy sťahovania národov. 1 Bratislava-Devínska Nová Ves, časť Devínske Jazero; 2 Gajary-Stolička; 3 Moravský Svätý Ján; 4 Stupava, poloha Za potokmi; 5 Suchohrad; 6 Závod; 7 Zohor (Zdroj: ÚGKK SR)

a settlement site (Kraskovská 1963, 693; Elschek 2014, 32) in the Zohor cadastral area (Fig. 1).

Based on written sources on the mobility of tribes in this period, these artifacts are directly related to the presence of the Longobards in the Central Danube region, of course, with certain reservations, as they could have been joined by other tribes, individuals or families on their

move (e.g. Thuringians, Saxons, etc.; Tejral 1990, 231). Although the absence of mentions of the presence of other tribes in the region could be interpreted as the Longobard material culture, we must keep in mind that it could have been linked to other Germanic tribes, whose members may also have been carriers/producers of these artifacts.

<sup>3</sup> The find from Gajary was first mentioned by J. Eisner. In his publication *Slovensko v pravěku* (1933) (Slovakia in Prehistory), J. Eisner mentions among the finds from the Hillfort Period at the site Stolička in Gajary a bone comb and a bone object, which should come from a settlement. E. Beninger (1937) assigned Germanic, specifically Longobard origin to these artifacts and dated them to the Migration Period. He assumed that the bone comb came from a skeletal grave, which, however, could not be verified. This assumption was gradually transformed into a fact and it is commonly identified in the research papers as a find from a skeletal grave in Gajary (e.g. Tejral 1975, 433; Tejral 2005, 176). It also appears on maps showing the distribution of Longobard skeletal graves in the Central Danube region. If the Gajary site is mentioned and attributed to the Longobards using the found comb fragment, one should be cautious and use a question mark at the least.



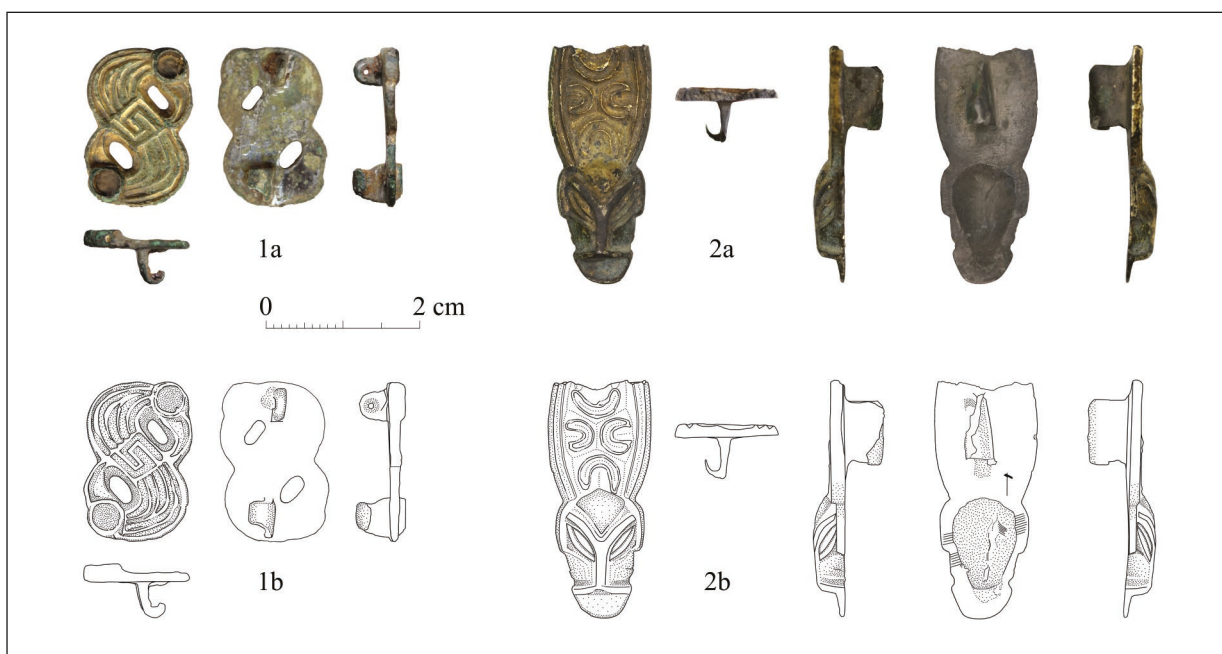


Fig. 2. New finds of Late Migration Period brooches. 1a, b S-fibula – Moravský Svätý Ján; 2a, b - fragment of square-headed brooch – Stupava (photo, drawing: R. Čambal, SNM-Archaeological museum Bratislava).

Obr. 2. Nové nálezy spôn mladšej fázy sťahovania národov. 1a, b Esovitá spona – Moravský Svätý Ján; 2a, b - fragment spony s pravouhloú záhlavnou doštičkou – Stupava (foto, kresba: R. Čambal, SNM-Archeologické múzeum Bratislava).

### Description of Finds

1. Moravský Svätý Ján (Senica district), between the sites Švecova Lúka and Dlhé Lúky (Fig. 2: 1a; 1b). Deposition: Archaeological museum Bratislava, Inv. no. 96 819.

S-shaped brooch - the brooch body decorated with chip carved lines is divided into three parts. The middle part with a chip-carved meander motif visually separates the ends of the brooch with stylised heads of birds with a beak, which were originally decorated with two almandines/garnets or red glasses located at the place of the eyes. The needle and spring were not preserved, only the pinholder and the small holder eyelet for fixing the spring were preserved. The brooch was made by casting.

Dimensions: length: 2.15 cm, max. width: 1.38 cm, thickness: approx. 1 mm, diameter of eye sockets: 4 mm, meander width: 0,5 cm, beak length: 5 mm. Weight: 2.35 g

Traces of use are noticeable on the brooch and manufacturing traces are not so clear due to a thick patina layer (Fig. 3).

2. Stupava (Malacky district), site Za potokmi (Fig. 2: 2a; 2b).

A fragment of an apparently oval foot terminal in a Y-shaped zoomorphic head. The foot was decorated with four chip-carved crescent shapes mirrored opposite each other, bordered by two convex lines. A pinholder was preserved on the foot. The brooch was made by casting.

Dimensions: preserved brooch fragment length: 3.1 cm, zoomorphic head length: 1.4 cm, zoomorphic head width: 1.2 cm, zoomorphic head thickness: 3.8 mm; foot thickness 0.18 mm. Weight: 4.87 g. Deposition: unknown

Traces of use and manufacturing traces are noticeable on the brooch (interspace between crescent shapes, surface treatment) (Fig. 4)

The brooches were subjected to the XRF analysis, which was performed by R. Čambal (SNM - Archaeological Museum Bratislava) using a hand-held XRF analyser NITON XL3t (manufacturer: Thermo Fisher Scientific, NITON). Spectral surface X-ray analysis provided information on the basic material composition

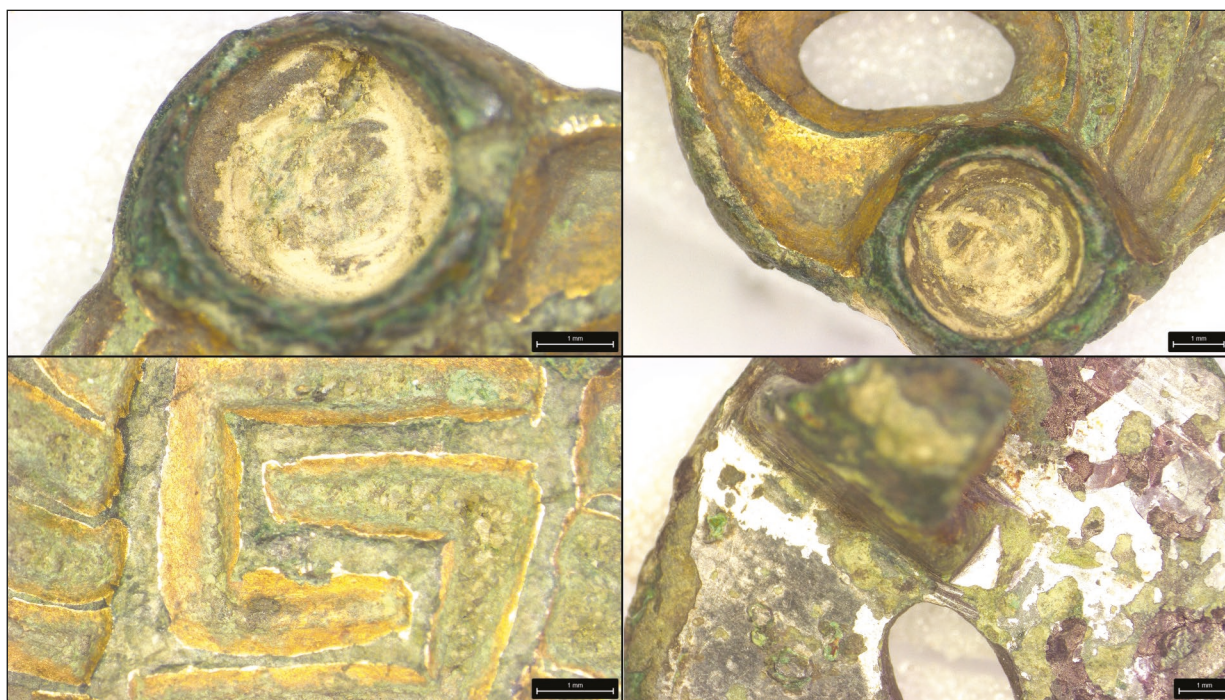


Fig. 3. Detailed view on brooch parts from Moravský Svätý Ján (photo: Juraj Čáčaný).

Obr. 3. Detailné pohľady na časti spony z Moravského Svätého Jána (foto: Juraj Čáčaný).



Fig. 4. Detailed view on brooch parts from Stupava (photo: Martin Sečanský).

Obr. 4. Detailné pohľady na časti spony zo Stupavy (foto: Martin Sečanský).



Stupava									
	Measurement	Measuring time (s)	Au	Ag	Cu	Sn	Fe	Pb	Zn
1.	zoomorphic head - front	32.3	44.41	37.26	10.67	2.58	2.83	1.44	0.39
2.	foot - middle - front	32.5	67.85	17.92	8.12	1.86	2.78	0.69	0.37
3.	zoomorphic head - back	34.5	2.38	81.01	7.65	4.34	1.29	2.42	0.41
4.	foot - middle - back	32.9	2.31	71.4	16.84	3.38	2.38	3.1	0.35
Moravský Svätý Ján									
1.	eye socket No. 1 (near spring) - front	32.9	12.7	0.83	56.8	18.53	1.76	9.08	1.2
2.	eye socket No. 2 (near pinholder) - front	32.9	15.55	0.97	50.36	17.41	2.1	12.08	1.1
3.	vertical ridges from eye No. 1 to meander pattern	34.5	30.48	1.29	36.31	12.14	2.15	15.88	0.98
4.	vertical ridges from meander to eye No. 2	32.5	36.89	0	30.26	15.81	2.08	13.17	0.999
5.	meander - front	34	42.7	0	27.97	12.94	1.85	13	0.88
6.	lower fibula part near spring	31.8	0.038	0.74	54.08	24.74	8.71	10.05	1.07

Fig. 5. Table of measurements of brooches material composition (NITON XL3t - realized by R. Čambal, SNM-Archaeological Museum Bratislava)

Obr. 5. Tabuľka meraní materiálovom zložení spôn (NITON XL3t - realizovaná R. Čambalom, SNM-Archeologické múzeum Bratislava).

of the surface layers of the brooches. The analysis of the S-shaped brooch from Moravský Svätý Ján showed that it is made of bronze with a gilded surface layer. The brooch from Stupava was made of silver and its surface was gilded. More detailed information regarding the percentage of individual elements is given in the table (Fig. 5).

### Typological and Chronological Classification

**Brooch from Moravský Svätý Ján (Fig. 2: 1a; 1b)**  
The brooch from Moravský Svätý Ján is classified as an S-shaped brooch. S-shaped brooches are smaller fasteners and they are traditionally associated with the Longobards, although they may have been made by other Germanic tribes. Their origin is still unclear. They appear already in the Thuringian phase and are widespread in Bohemia, Moravia, Lower Austria and Hungary. The brooches and their genesis cannot be associated exclusively with the Longobard ethnic group. Based on morphology, they were divided into several types with subtypes (for a summary, see e.g. Losert/Pleterski 2003; Milavec 2007; Tejral 2011; Droberjar 2013 and other literature).

The brooch from Moravský Svätý Ján is an S-shaped brooch of the Poysdorf type (Poysdorf-Holásky-Klučov) with the characteristic shape of the north Danube phase according to the classifications of J. Werner (1962) and J. Tejral (2002). The characteristic feature of S-shaped brooches are stylised bird heads with an eye and beak open or closed at the ends, sometimes with ears. Their typical decoration consists of vertical or horizontal ridges created by the chip-carved decoration technique, divided by a meandering shape in the centre. Triangular decoration may also appear on some specimens (Milavec 2007, 348; Tejral 2002). The division of the Poysdorf-type brooches into variants A and B as a follow-up to earlier works was also proposed by K. van der Lohe (1994). A more detailed classification for Poysdorf-type brooches was developed by H. Losert and A. Pleterski (2003, 164, 171) based on finds from the Altenerding burial site. They divided the Poysdorf-type brooches into variants 1, 2 and 3.

The brooch from Moravský Svätý Ján may be classified as variant 2 according to Losert and Pleterský (2003) or its derivatives, as it has minor differences (overall shape, shape of the beaks, the

orientation of the meander is closer to type 2a, although the design is closer to type 2b). Based on K. van der Lohe (1994), I classify it as variant B with some reservations, but there are also common features with variant A.

The spatial distribution of S-shaped Poysdorf-type brooches showed that the finds were concentrated in southern Germany, Bohemia, Lower Austria and Moravia as well as in the Pannonian region (Tejral 2011, 55; Droberjar 2013, 148). The S-shaped Poysdorf-type brooches, variants 2a and 2b (according to Losert/Pleterski 2003) are dated by J. Tejral (2002, 340-341; 2011, 57) to 530 – 550 (MD phase 4), but later dating is possible. E. Droberjar (2013, 156) dates S-shaped Poysdorf-type brooches to his own grade E2a (originally E2) of the Late Migration Period. He also dates Czech specimens to the first half of the 6th century. Ch. Hansen dates them to a longer time interval, between the years 470/480 – 560/570 (Hansen 2004, 51). Given that there are no find circumstances for the presented brooch, it can be roughly dated to the first half of the 6th century or to the mid-6th century.

### Foot fragment of a brooch from Stupava (Fig. 2: 2a; 2b)

A specimen from Stupava (Malacky district) with an absent head shows common features with several types of brooches, but due to analogies in decorative motifs (see below – Fig. 7), I assume that it was originally a brooch with a square head plate (Fig. 6).

There is a clear summary of the types of brooches with a square head plate in older works by A. Koch (1998), H. Kühn (1940; 1981), in more recent studies of J. Tejral (e.g. 2011 with other literature), in the recently published work by Z. Loskotová (2019) concerning a found fragment of a brooch with a square head plate from Mušov, site: Na Pískách, classified as Herbrechtingen type, and in an article by J. Schuster (2018) about a Polish find of a brooch inlaid with almandines with a damaged square head plate classified as type Anguilcoirt-le-Sart/Monceaux from the site Nowa Wieś (Czarnków-Trzcianka distr.). This is one of the reasons why it is not necessary to deal with their detailed typology in depth here. However, they do not mention the variant to which the fragment of the brooch from Stupava

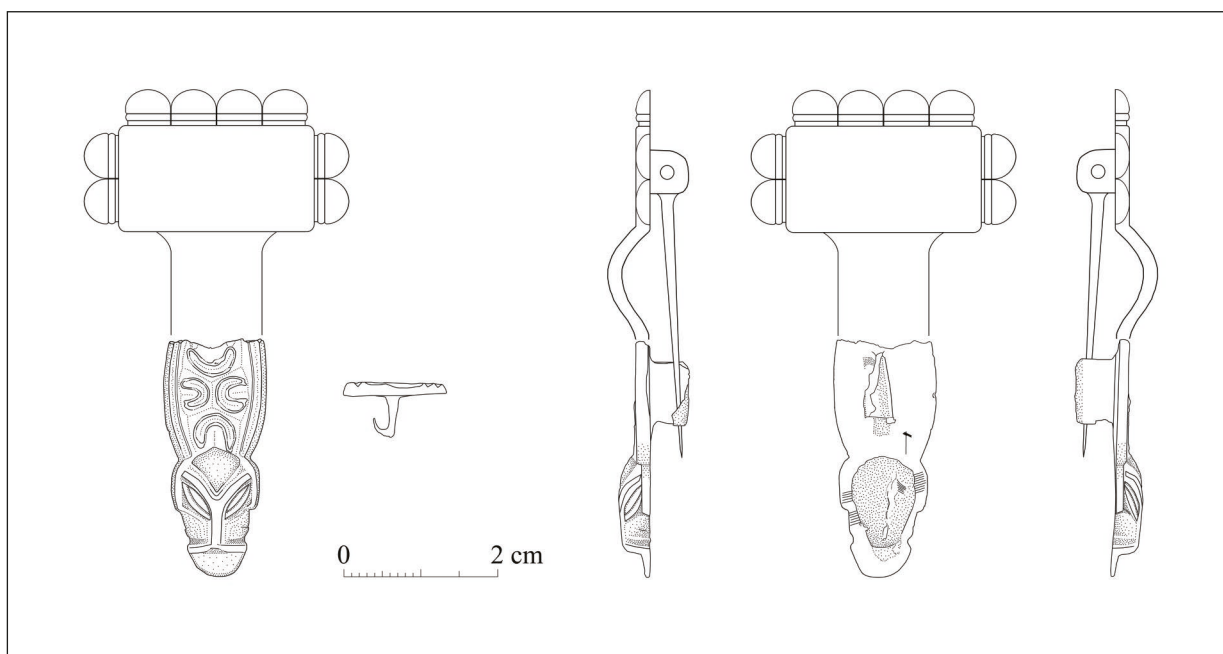


Fig. 6. Reconstruction of square-headed brooch – Stupava (photo, drawing: R. Čambal, SNM-Archaeological Museum Bratislava).

Obr. 6. Rekonštrukcia spony s pravouhlou záhlavnou doštičkou – Stupava (foto, kresba: R. Čambal, SNM-Archeologické múzeum Bratislava).



Fig 7. Analogical finds of square-headed brooches of type Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale (adapted according Possenti 2017, Fig. 3; list of sites according to number see Fig. 8).

Obr. 7. Analogické nálezy spôn s pravouhlou záhlavnou doštičkou typu Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale (upravené podľa Possenti 2017, Fig. 3; zoznam lokalít podľa čísla pozri Obr. 8).

can be classified, mainly due to the different decoration of the foot consisting of four crescent shapes mirrored opposite each other.

In terms of foot morphology, it can be classified as several existing types, but it seems that the decoration of the foot, as described above, and of the head plate in analogous specimens, played an important role, so it can be classified as type Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale (Fig. 7) according to E. Possenti (2017, 241). The author named this type based on eponymous sites where brooches were found with a specific

decoration consisting of four crescent shapes on the foot and on the head plate. It is characteristic of these brooches that their head plates are decorated with eight connected knobs (or nine – the Kaposvár site) and the foot ends with a zoomorphic head. The knobs are decorated with one or two lines. They were made of silver or bronze and were gilded. The specimen from Stupava is, as already mentioned above, made of silver and gilded. Formally, the closest analogy to the lower part of the Stupava brooch, whose head plate, unfortunately, was not preserved, is

the brooch from Grave 27 at the burial site San Mauro in Cividale, which probably belonged to a child  $7(\pm 2)$  years old. The grave is dated to the last third of the 6th century (ie just after 568) given other grave goods, mainly on the basis of a pink-glass drinking horn (*Ahumada Silva 2010*, 50–57). Other, although not very numerous finds of this type collected by E. Possenti (2017, 242, 243), are also documented at sites in Germany, specifically at the site Ammern-Mühlhausen, *Kühn 1981*, 63, 64), Aschheim-Bajuwarenring (*Gutsmiedl-Schümann 2010*) and Pfakofen (near Straubing; *Lohwasser 2013*), which provide more detailed information on the dating of these brooches, as they were found in closed grave assemblages. The brooch from Grave 405 at Aschheim-Bajuwarenring is dated to the mid-6th century and Grave 471 at Pfakofen to the second third of the 6th century. From the collected finds of brooches assigned to this type by E. Possenti, brooches from Kaposvár in Hungary (antiquarian find with uncertain geographical location (*Bóna 1956*, 197)) and from the Archaeological Museum in Oderzo in Italy (*Possenti 2017*, 248), again with unknown find circumstances of the find (Fig. 8), have a different decoration.

Researchers in this field look for the origin of brooches with a square head plate in the Rhine-Hesse region (Rhein Hessen – *Kühn 1940*; *Koch 1998*; *Tejral 2011*, 50), as evidenced by higher concentrations of their finds in this region, from which the brooches spread to the Thuringian and Longobard settlement sites, where they could have been manufactured subsequently. J. Tejral (2011, 50) also admits that there was a relatively widespread Early Merovingian brooch type, which could have appeared in various variants in closer or more distant regions. E. Possenti (2017, 241–243) points out the morphological proximity to the Rácálmás-Keszthely-Cividale type in terms of design and use of material for its production, as well as dimensions. The head plate is also square with eight connected knobs and the shape of the foot and its zoomorphic end is also similar. They differ mainly in decorative motifs. J. Tejral considers the Rácálmás-Keszthely-Cividale type brooches to be a later variant of the

Poysdorf-type brooches (from early 2nd quarter of the 6th century to the mid-6th century), which are dated to the second third of the 6th century. This type is widespread in Germany, Moravia, Hungary and Italy, with the highest concentration in Pannonia (see *Tejral 2011*, 50, Abb. 20; *Šmerda 2013*, 277). The main difference between the two types is the type of decoration used. Theoretically, these brooches could be parallel Poysdorf-type variants, but the verification of this hypothesis would require a more detailed analysis beyond the typological method.

According to E. Possenti (2017, 243), the square decorative motif bordered by vertically and horizontally placed crescent shapes on the head plate suggests a link with the development line of brooches from the first half of the 6th century, the Schretzheim type (*Kühn 1974*, 991–995) and the Anguilcourt-le-Sart type (*Koch 1998*, 295–315), whose (usually seven) knobs on the head plate, however, are separated. If the connected knobs are taken as a defining feature, the Monceaux variant comes into consideration, whose knobs are connected, cast together with the head plate (*Koch 1998*, 296) and which likely developed from the Anguilcourt-le-Sart type. The foot of both types is decorated with almandines or garnets (*Koch 1998*, 296, 299). These variants are dated to the first half of the 6th century (2nd quarter of the 6th century) (*Koch 1998*, 298–299, 468). A fragment of the brooch from Stupava is a find without context so I dated it approximately to the second third or the end of the 6th century based on the above analogies.

Decoration by crescents is not limited to brooches but can also be found on other artifacts, e.g. on ceramics, cabinet fittings, pendants etc. To formulate more specific hypotheses about its origin, a detailed analysis of these elements would be needed, at least their quantification in relation to the spatial distribution. The above shows that it is quite problematic to talk about the origin of the decorative motif and this type of brooches. We are not able to clearly answer the question whether they were direct derivatives of the Merovingian culture or modifications of their local variants. The use of a purely typological method in this respect is not sufficient (*Martin 2020*).



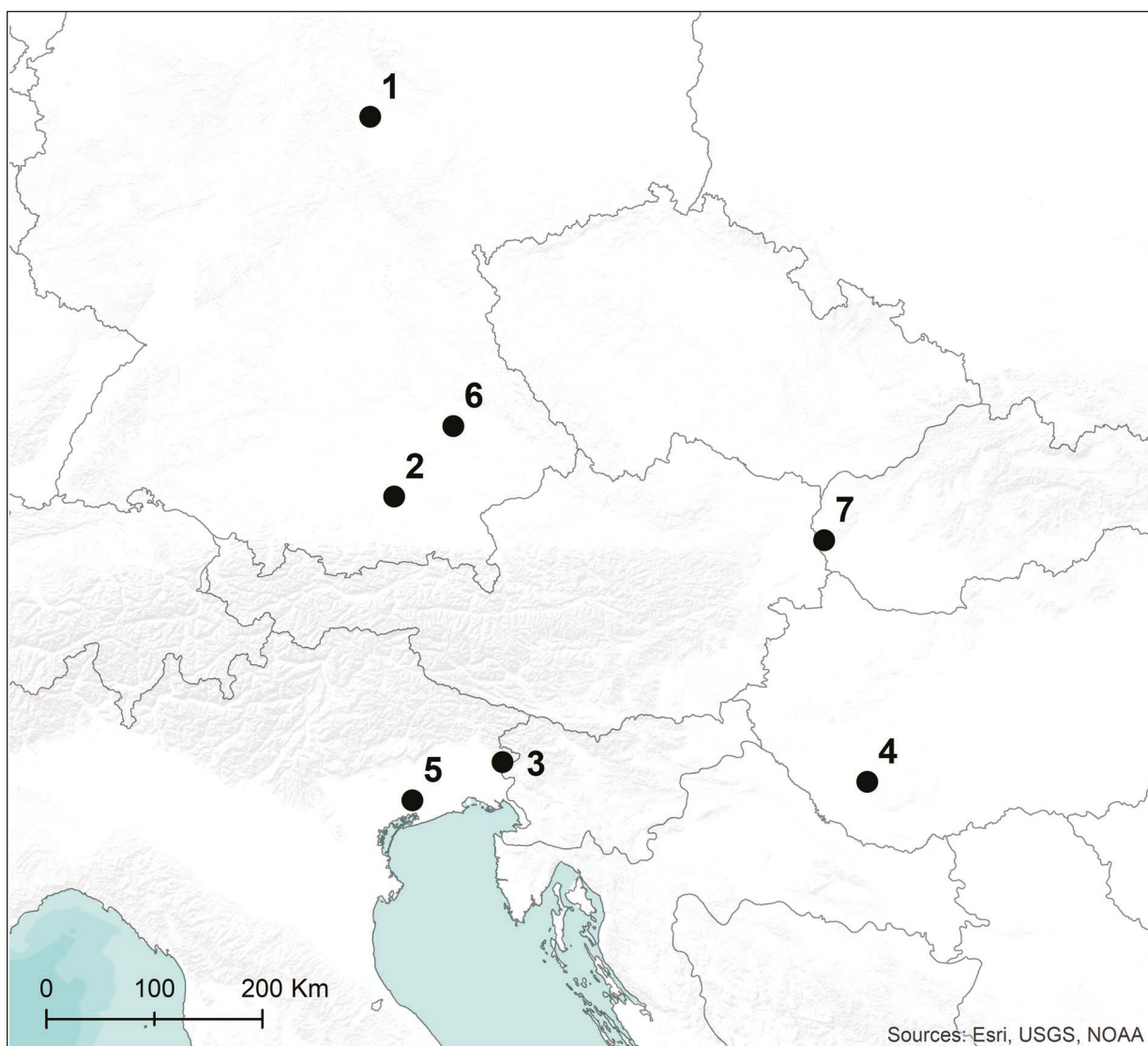


Fig 8. Spatial distribution of finds of square-headed brooches of type Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale. 1 Ammern-Mühlhausen (DE); 2 Aschheim-Bajuwarenring (DE); 3 Cividale del Friuli-San Mauro (IT); 4 Kaposvár (HU); 5 Oderzo (IT); 6 Pfaakofen (DE); 7 Stupava (SK).

Obr. 8. Mapa lokalit s nálezmi spôn s pravouhlou záhlavnou doštičkou typu Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale. 1 Ammern-Mühlhausen; 2 Aschheim-Bajuwarenring; 3 Cividale del Friuli-San Mauro; 4 Kaposvár; 5 Oderzo; 6 Pfaakofen; 7 Stupava.

### Brooches as a Part of Clothing – Costume

S-shaped brooches and brooches with a square head were fasteners, a part of women's clothing. They were used in pairs or separately in combination with other types of brooches and they were also a part of *Vierfibeltracht* (Droberjar 2013, 147; Losert/Pleterski 2003, 164).

S-shaped brooches are smaller brooches, which corresponded to the way they were worn. The analysis of the spatial distribution at the Altenerding burial site showed that S-shaped brooches appear most often in the upper part of the body between the chin/neck and the chest. In pairs, they were mostly placed above each other and were likely used to fasten headgear or clothing (Losert/Pleterski 2003, 164). Brooches from

graves at burial sites in Hungary show a similar distribution (*Droberjar 2013*, 154). The specimens are variable in size, examples from Altenerding are in the range: length 2.15 – 4 cm, width 1.15 – 3.1 cm; (specimens dated before 550 are 2.15 – 2.9 cm long, 1.15 – 2.6 cm wide; specimens from the second half of the 6th century are 2.4 – 4 cm long and 1.3 – 3.1 cm wide; *Losert/Pleterski 2003*, 165). The find from Moravský Svätý Ján is 2.15 cm long and 1.38 cm wide. S-shaped brooches are traditionally attributed to the Longobards, not only in the Central Danube area, but they were also manufactured by other Germanic tribes, which probably later transformed these fasteners into their own variants (*Droberjar 2013*, 147; *Milavec 2007*, 347).

The brooch fragment from Stupava is classified as the Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale type brooch, which were found in women's and children's graves with richer accessories (*inf. II*) (*Possenti 2017*, 241). Based on their position of these brooches in closed grave assemblages (it was determined only for two graves), it can be preliminarily concluded that they were located between the lower limbs or in the hip area. Based on the find situation from child's grave 27 at San Mauro, it is clear that they were a part of *Vierfibeltracht*. Only one brooch was found in a child's grave at Pfakofen. Twice they were found in pairs, in combination with another type of brooch (Aschheim-Bajuwarenring, Ammern-Mühlhausen). The Aschheim - Kaposvár - Oderzo - Cividale type brooches were 5.6 to 6.7 cm long.

Finds of some types of brooches from the Migration Period, but also other components of material culture, are often associated with ethnicity, with certain *gens*, but these opinions are currently subject to increased criticism (*Brather-Walter 2019*; *Fries-Knoblach/Steuer 2014*, 5, 6 with other literature; *Martin 2020*). Contrary to these opinions, some researchers argue that material symbols were not usually an expression of ethnicity (*Brather 2016*, 27; *Brather-Walter 2019*; *Martin 2020*). Linking specific types of brooches to ethnicity, such as Thuringian, Frankish or Alamanni brooches or Longobard brooches, using historical mentions of their settlement sites does not sufficiently

reflect their spatial distribution, which often overlaps but, on the other hand, there are significant concentrations of brooches outside these presumed settlement sites (*Martin 2020*). More recent studies also suggest focusing on innovative methodological approaches, which would allow a more comprehensive understanding of this phenomenon (see *Martin 2020* for more information).

## Conclusion

Finds of brooches from Stupava and Moravský Svätý Ján together with other objects from southern Záhorie in the Migration Period, which are attributed to the Longobards (Zohor, Gajary (?), Závod, Bratislava-Devínska Nová Ves, part of Devínske Jazero – Fig. 1), enrich our collection of data that enter discussions or interpretations concerning the relationship between archaeological finds and ethnicity or tribe, or, more precisely, the identity of their carriers.

Regarding the typological and chronological classification, the fragment from Stupava (Fig. 2: 2) is classified as a brooch with a square head plate of the Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale type and dated approximately to the second third to the end of 6th century. The brooch from Moravský Svätý Ján (Fig. 2: 1) belongs to S-shaped brooches of the Poysdorf type and is dated to the first half or middle of the 6th century. Due to the missing find circumstances, it is problematic to comment on the context of the origin of brooches. Although the finds of the brooches could indicate the existence of burial sites in this region, as presumed, for example, in connection with earlier finds from Gajary (?), it is necessary to be careful as they may not necessarily be a grave find. For example, S-shaped brooches, although less frequently, may also come from settlement sites (*Droberjar 2013*, 156; *Milavec 2007*, 347). It could also be a lost piece related to the mobility of individuals, i.e. end consumers in the context of supraregional contacts (exogamy, trade contacts, etc.), which probably took place in both directions over greater or lesser distances, or the mobility of

travelling craftsmen or tradesmen (Koch 1998, 496; Schuster 2018, 176).

The brooch from Moravský Svätý Ján, given its presumed dating to the first half or middle 6th century (MD 4 according to Tejral 2005; E2(E2a) according to Droberjar 2008; 2013 – Late Longobard Phase) could be related to the presence of the Longobards in the Central Danube region. However, as already mentioned, the link between specific types of brooches with a certain *gens* is problematic (Brather 2016; Brather-Walter 2019; Martin 2020). With respect to the brooch from Stupava, the hypothesis of a western import to our territory could be considered. Therefore, given also the relatively late dating, it is not necessarily linked to the

presence of the Longobards (or their remains after leaving for Pannonia), or other tribes or individuals, which were present in this region, based on the interpretation from historical sources. Some researchers prefer the opinion (e.g. Tejral 2011, 50; Possenti 2017, 243, 244) that brooches with a square head plate are of a relatively widespread Merovingian type, which was transformed into different variants in other regions. Its dating is approximate, only with respect to the spatial distribution associated with the chronological development of square-headed brooches and also on the basis of the mentioned analogies of the Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale type, between 2nd third and the end of the 6th century.

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## NOVÉ NÁLEZY „LONGOBARDSKÝCH“ SPŔN Z MLADŠEJ FÁZY SŤAHOVANIA NÁRODOV Z JUŽNÉHO ZÁHORIA

KATARÍNA HLADÍKOVÁ

Nálezy prezentovaných spŔn zo Stupavy a Moravského Svätého Jána spolu s ďalšími predmetmi z územia južného Záhoria v období sťahovania národov, ktoré sú v literatúre pripisované Longobardom (Zohor, Gajary (?), Závod, Bratislava-Devínska Nová Ves, časť Devínske Jazero – obr. 1), obohacujú našu kolekciu dát, ktoré vstupujú do diskusií či interpretácií pri riešení problematiky vzťahu archeologických nálezov a etnicity či kmeňovej príslušnosti alebo presnejšie identity ich nositeľov.

Spona z Moravského Svätého Jána (obr. 2: 1) patrí k esovitým sponám typu *Poysdorf* a datovaná je zhruba do 1. polovice, resp. do polovice 6. storočia. Čo sa týka typologicko-chronologického zaradenia, fragment spony zo Stupavy (obr. 2: 2) je zaradený ku sponám s pravouhlou záhlavnou doštičkou typu *Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale* a datovaný je orientačne do 2. tretiny resp. až na záver 6. storočia. Vzhľadom na chýbajúce nálezové okolnosti, je problematické sa vyjadriť ku kontextu, z ktorého spony pochádzajú. Napriek tomu, že by nálezy uvedených spŔn mohli indikovať existenciu pohrebísk v tomto priestore, podobne ako sa predpokladá ich existencia napr. v súvislosti so staršími nálezmi z Gajár (?), je nutné byť opatrný, pretože nemusí ísť nevyhnutne o hrobový nález. Napr. esovité spony, i keď menej často, môžu pochádzať aj zo sídliskových polôh (*Droberjar 2013, 156; Milavec 2007, 347*). Rovnako môže ísť o stratený kus súvisiaci s mobilitou jednotlivcov, teda konečných spotrebiteľiek v kontexte nadregionálnych kontaktov (exogamia, obchodné kontakty a pod.),

ktoré zrejme prebiehali oboma smermi v rámci väčších či menších vzdialeností, prípadne s mobilitou putovných remeselníkov či obchodníkov (*Koch 1998, 496; Schuster 2018, 176*).

Spona z Moravského Svätého Jána vzhľadom na jej predpokladané datovanie do 1. polovice, resp. do polovice 6. storočia. (SD 4 podľa *Tejrala 2005; E2(E2a)* podľa *Droberjara 2008; 2013* – staršia longobardská fáza) by sa mohla dávať do súvislosti s prítomnosťou Longobardov v stredodunajskom priestore. Avšak ako už bolo uvedené, spájanie konkrétnych typov spŔn s určitým *gens* je problematické (*Brather 2016; Brather-Walter 2019; Martin 2020*). V prípade spony zo Stupavy predbežne prichádza do úvahy hypotéza o západnom importe na naše územie. Nemusí preto, aj vzhľadom na pomerne neskoré datovanie nevyhnutne súvisieť s prítomnosťou Longobardov (alebo s ich pozostatkami po odchode do Panónie), resp. kmeňov/či jedincov inej príslušnosti, ktoré sa tu vyskytovali, vychádzajúc pri interpretácii z historických prameňov. Niektorí bádatelmi preferujú názor (napr. *Tejral 2011, 50; Possenti 2017, 243, 244*), že v prípade spŔn s pravouhlou záhlavnou doštičkou ide o pomerne rozšírený merovejský typ spony, ktorý sa v iných regiónoch transformoval do rôznych variantov. Jej datovanie je orientačné, len vzhľadom na jej priestorovú distribúciu späť s chronologickým vývojom spŔn s pravouhlou hlavičkou a tiež na základe uvedených analógií typu *Aschheim-Kaposvár-Oderzo-Cividale* do rozpätia 2. tretiny až záveru 6. storočia.

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