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and Linguistics  
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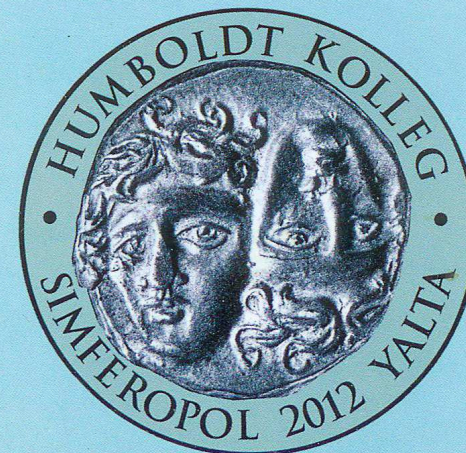
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# ABSTRACTS





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## THE MARKS ON THE SCYTHIAN BRONZE ARROWHEADS

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There is no fixed terminology in denotation of marks on the arrowheads at present. Therefore we have proposed a typology of the marks on the bronze arrowheads of the Scythian culture.

Two sections have been distinguished by the method of manufacturing: the casted and the scratched. It is worthy to note that the casted marks were made during the production of an arrowhead, and the scratched ones were traced on the finished product. Consequently, the first were made exceptionally by a caster and second — by a caster or by an owner. Due to the miniature size of the marks (length of lines was up to 5 mm, thickness to 1-2 mm) casting of a mark was jewellery, and possibly more valuable. The scratched marks are simpler in tracing; therefore special casting form is not necessary in that case.

The sections were divided into three basic types: linear, crossed and wrapped. Two more types are angular marks and «image of bow» which number is limited.

In our view, the sources for the tracing marks tradition can be found in the cultures of the preceding time. Probably, the basic types originated from the practice of fastening the tanged arrowheads to a shaft. The tradition have been traced from times of the Sintashta culture (Sintashta 2 burial mounds) through the Cimmerian (Vysoka Mohyla, Mala Tsimbalka) to the Scythian time.

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## THE LANGUAGE OF THE WALLS. INFORMAL INSCRIPTIONS AS A WAY OF COMMUNICATION IN ROMAN EGYPT: EVIDENCE FROM POLISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN EGYPT

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Wall graffiti are a very old way of direct communication of ideas. They also commemorate persons and events. In antiquity they were often more serious than today's wall scribbles. In Egypt of the pharaohs such inscriptions were very frequent. In the Greco-Roman period (4<sup>th</sup> century BC — 7<sup>th</sup> century AD) the use of Greek in the wall graffiti expanded, gradually prevailing over the Demotic Egyptian. Under Roman rule the Latin graffiti are surprisingly rare. In the Christian period a conspicuous phenomenon is the appearance of texts in Coptic.

In this paper some significant examples of wall graffiti discovered and/or studied by the author during his works with the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology in Egypt will be discussed. They are important evidence of the way in which people recorded their presence or communicated their thoughts.