

THE NEOLITHIC STONE TOOL FOR DECORATION OF POTTERY

SUMMARY

The article presents a stone tool meant for the decoration of pottery, discovered with the occasion of field-survey on the neolithic settlement of Tărtăria (district of Alba).

The fragmentary tool (2 cm long) has a triangular section, with parallel shallow fluting (channels) carved on one face.

Typical for the Vinča-Turdaş culture pottery, the channelled ornament appears at Tărtăria on some sherds belonging to the Turdaş level.

Whilst no stratigraphical context, this tool must be related to the channelled wares from Turdaş culture.

Up to present, the polishing stones and bone spatula are the only neolithic tools known for the decoration of vessels.

This unique piece from Tărtăria may contribute to elucidate some aspects concerning the prehistorical technologies of the pottery ornamentation.

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

Fig.1: 1 - The fragmentary stone tool from Tărtăria ; 2,4 - Channelled sherds from Tărtăria (Turdaş level); 3 - Reproduction of the channelled ornament with the stone tool on a piece of wet clay; 5 - Polishing stone from Tărtăria .

Fig.2: 1 - The fragmentary stone from Tărtăria ; 2 - Polishing stone from Tărtăria; 3 - Bone tool from Tărtăria; 4 - Bone tool from Alba Iulia-"Lumea Nouă".