The Toreutics of Colchis in the 5th-4th Centuries BC
Local Traditions, Outside Influences, Innovations

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Abstract
Two silver vessels: a silver aryballos from the mid-5th century BC burial No. 11/1969 in Vani and a silver goblet from the ritual complex No. 1 of the Ulyap barrow No. 1 in the Kuban basin, dated to the late 5th-early 4th century BC, are discussed. The similarities in details of the vessels and their decoration with those of the silver vessels found in Lydia and the vicinity of Sinope are pointed out. A group of items of toreutics from the 5th-4th centuries BC complexes in Colchis and outside it is singled out: they are decorated with incised animal or mythological images, the bodies of which are covered with vertical rows of horizontal notches. One can not exclude, that this kind of decoration goes back to the images on the Colchian bronze axes and belts of the 8th-6th centuries BC. The characteristic rosette decorating the bottoms of the vessels from Vani, Ulyap and the phiale No. 61 from the Treasure of Akhalgori is analysed; its genesis is discussed going back to the rosettes on the 6th century BC phialai from Iran, Asia Minor and the Balkans. Further the examples of Lydian metalware found in Colchis are discussed, including the phiale with the votive inscription to the temple of Apollo in Phasis found in the later Sarmatian burial in the Kuban basin. Finally, the problem of the ‘international Achaemenid style’ and the regional school of Achaemenid-inspired toreutics is analysed. In general the author comes to the conclusion of the strong influence of toreutics of the Lydian-Ionian school and Anatolia in a broad sense of this term on the local school of toreutics, which emerged in Colchis in the 5th-4th centuries BC.

Keywords
Toreutics / Silver vessels / Metalware / ‘International Achaemenid style’ / ‘Lydian Achaemenid style’ / Colchis / Asia Minor / Lydia

1. A Silver Aryballos from the Burial No. 11/1969 in Vani and A Silver Goblet from the Ulyap Barrow No. 1/1982

I am going to discuss certain items of toreutics originating both from the territory of Colchis, and outside it. In the centre of the discussion will be a silver aryballos1 from the mid-5th century BC burial No. 11/1969 in

1 Aryballos with a rim of lekythos-shaped vessel, spherical body and handles in form of flat-figures of ducks with the heads turned backwards, with feathers shown by engraved parallel lines. On the necks of the ducks there are fixed chains, which were originally connected (?) to a lid or...
Vani² (Fig. 1) and a silver goblet from the ritual complex No. 1 of the Ulyap barrow No. 1/1982 in the Kuban basin, dated to the late 5th-early 4th century BC³ (Fig. 2). The Ulyap goblet has not been discussed specially. The aryballos from Vani was identified by O. Lordkipanidze as an item of Attic manufacture of the first half of the 5th century BC. This view, expressed by Lordkipanidze as early as in 1971,⁴ was later repeated in numerous publications, both written by him.

Stopper. The figures of the ducks are soldered to the rectangular bases. Two rectangular plates with rounded edges are attached by two rivets each to the neck of the vessel. The necks of the ducks are soldered to these plates. The stopper is a circular plate with a concave upper surface with a vertical plug, soldered in the middle of the lower surface, the diameter of which corresponds exactly to that of the neck of the vessel. The upper and the lower parts of the body are decorated with petals, the contours of which are shown by double lines. Between the oval-shaped endings of the petals there are engraved five-petal palmettes. The middle part of the body is decorated with a frieze showing a procession of sphinxes with the front right paws lifted upwards to the left. Six figures of sphinxes remain of originally ten (?). – Silver, forged, engraving, soldering. – Ht. 8.5 cm. Dm. of the rim 3.3 cm, dm. of the body – 7.5-8.0 cm. Dm. of the rosette 3.2 cm. Frieze: ht. 2.5 cm; ht. of the sphinxes ca. 2.2 cm. – Ht. of the handles 2.4 cm. – Basements of the handles: l. 1.2 cm, w. 0.4 cm. – Stopper: dm. 2.7 cm, plug: dm. 1.0 cm, h. 1.1 cm. – Tbilisi, Georgian National Museum. Inv.-No.10-975: 101 (07: 1-69/10) 6-783. – Date: first half – middle of the 5th century BC. – Literature: Lordkipanidze 1971, 282-284, fig. 19-19a; Lordkipanidze et alii 1972, 235, No. 48, fig. 210; Lordkipanidze 1973; Lordkipanidze 1976, 143; 149 6; figs. 9, 11; Lordkipanidze 1979, 160, fig. 44; Boardman 1980, 254, fig. 294 (about 500 BC); Lordkipanidze 1983, 90, No. 404, pl. 40; Marchabeli 1983, No. 11; Lordkipanidze 1985, 37 (fig.); Pfrommer 1987, 97, Anm. 577; Lordkipanidze 1989, 265; 267-268, fig. 131-131A; Lordkipanidze 1991, 130, pl. 26, 4; Boardman 1994, 218, fig. 6. 45; Kacharava 1995, 69, 71, fig. 12; Vani IX 1996, pl. 9, third row in the middle; Gigolashvili 1999, 605-613; Bill 2003, 235, No. 49, pl. 175, 3. The author is grateful to Guram Kvirkvelia and Mindia Dzhalabadze for the possibility to study the aryballos in October 2006.

² Bill 2003, 233-235.
³ A vessel with an egg-shaped body and a high neck with slightly thickened and out-turned rim. On the neck a scene of a pursuit of a hoofed animal (a doe?) by a lion is engraved. The lower part of the neck is decorated with six rows of feathers, which are divided from the figural frieze with a band of ovae. A raised ring, decorated with pearled pattern, is observed at the junction of neck and body. The upper and the lower parts of the body are decorated with petals drawn with double lines. Between the oval endings of the petals there are flowers composed of four punched circles. The middle part of the body is decorated with a frieze composed of stylized lotus flowers, connected with arcs in the lower part. At the conjunction of the arcs similar flowers composed of four punched circles were placed. The bottom of the vessel is decorated with a rosette. – Silver, forged, engraving. – Ht. 17.7 cm. Dm. max. 8.7 cm. Wt. 79.3 g. – Moscow, State Museum of Orient. Inv. No. 1 M-IV. – Date: middle – second half of the 5th century BC. – Literature: Cat. Moscow 1985, No. 361, fig. 63; Cat. Moscow 1987, No. 104, pls. XIX-XX; Cat. Mannheim 1989, No. 104, pl. 20, fig. 37; Leskov 1990, No. 59, figs. 183-185; Cat. Speyer 1991, No. 108; Cat. Moscow 2002, No. 615; Bill 2003, 104.

⁴ Lordkipanidze 1971, 282.
⁵ See, e.g., Lordkipanidze 1973; Lordkipanidze 1976; Lordkipanidze 1985, 37.
Kacharava 1995, 69. A. Bill (2003, 235, No. 49) also considers the piece as Attic.


Gigolashvili 1990a, 317-319, fig. 2; Guigolachvili 1990b, 280 f., 313, fig. 33; Tsetskhladze 1993/94, 19; Vani IX 1996, pl. 9, third row to the right; Bill 2003, 235, No. 50, pl. 175, 4.

Gagoshidze 2003, PPT slides 28-29.


Silver oinochoe, Uşak, Inv. No. 1.6.89: Akbiyikoğlu 1991, 4-5, 20, fig. 15; Akbiyikoğlu 1994, 6, fig. 5; Özgen and Öztürk 1996, No. 223; Silver alabastron, Uşak, Inv. No. 1.1.89: Akbiyikoğlu 1991, 7, 21-22, fig. 11; Akbiyikoğlu 1994, 6-7, fig. 6; Özgen and Öztürk 1996, No. 228 (Fig. 4, 3).

Silver oinochoe from Sinope, earlier in the Stathatos collection, now Athens, National Museum: Amandry 1953, 13, fig. 17; Amandry 1953-54, 13-13, fig. 3, pl. 2; Summerer 2003, 24, fig. 3.

and by his colleagues. Not going into a detailed analysis of the vessel, J. Boardman mentioned this aryballos, which reminded him of “silver products of Lydo-Ionian Anatolia.” Later on E. Gigolashvili also suggested, that the aryballos is not Attic, pointing to the Rhodian-Ionian and Achaemenid elements of its decoration, but he did not come to a certain conclusion about its origin.

The vessel from the Ulyap barrow (Fig. 2) has prototypes among the silver goblets with egg-shaped body and high widening upwards neck, originating from the illegal excavations of the tumuli in Ikiztepe in Lydia. The body and the neck of the Lydian vessels, as on the Ulyap goblet, are separated with a raised ring; on one of the vessels from Ikiztepe this rim is also decorated with vertical notches (Fig. 3, 1-2). A similarly shaped silver goblet with a frieze of incised vertical notches was also found in the burial No. 11/1969 in Vani (Fig. 3, 3). A silver goblet from the 5th century BC burial in Saikhe has a similar shape, its neck is decorated with incised images of the animals, the body is fluted and there is also a raised ring with vertical notches at the junction of neck and body (Fig. 3, 4).

Similar raised rings with vertical notches at the junction of body and neck are known on the vessels of other shapes (Fig. 4), both in silver and bronze and originating from Lydia (Sardis, Ikiztepe (Fig. 4, 1), Basmaci, southern coast of the Black Sea (Fig. 4, 2), as well as from Colchis and Iberia, the latter
Fig. 2. Silver goblet from Ulyap barrow No. 1/1982. Moscow, State Museum of Orient. Inv. No. 1-M-IV (after Cat. Mannheim 1989; Leskov 1990).
including the silver goblets from the burial No. 24/2002 in Vani and from the Treasure of Akhalgori (Figs. 4, 4, 5).

Silver aryballoi comparable in shape to the vessel found in the burial No. 11/1969 in Vani (Fig. 1) are unknown to me. Given the characteristic shape of the neck and the spherical shape of the body, the aryballos from Vani finds the nearest parallels among the so-called Mediterranean core-formed glass aryballoi of the type I:3A, according to the classification by D. Grose, including the piece from Rhodes, now in Toledo, dated to the second half of the 5th-early 4th century BC. A comparable aryballos in the Hermitage is dated to the 5th century BC by N. Kunina. I would also mention the similar faience aryballoi, not only in the shape but also in the decoration (petals in the lower and the upper part of the body), for instance the vessel of unknown provenance, which is kept in the Antikensammlung Berlin and which dates to the first half of the 6th century BC. Another analogous piece originates from Camirus on Rhodes. The core-formed aryballoi discussed have loop-shaped handles. The handles of the aryballos from Vani in the form of the duck figures (Fig. 1, J) may be to certain extent compared with the handles of the silver alabastra in the form of duck heads from Ikitzepe (Fig. 7, I), Basmaci (Fig. 7, 2) in Lydia and from Sinope, as well as with those of the silver incense-burner found also in Ikitzepe and bearing a Lydian graffito. Such silver alabastra with similar handles were in use in Asia Minor in the Early Hellenistic

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18 A goblet with a spherical body and high neck with the edge turned outwards, with a raised ring at the junction of body and neck, decorated with vertical relief notches. – Silver, forged, hammered, engraving. The body is partly lost. – Ht. ca. 12.5 cm. – Tbilisi, Georgian National Museum. – Date: 4th century BC (?). – Literature: Smirnov 1934, 47 f., No. 66, pl. XII; Bill 2003, 211, No. 81.90, pl. 125, 3. Cf a silver goblet from the burial No. 10 in Sairkhe, dated to the 4th century BC: Nadiradze 1990a, 165, pl. XL, 4; Nadiradze 1990b, 215, 220, fig. 5; first half of the 4th century BC: Bill 2003, 104, 215, No. 21; pl. 136, 10.
20 Toledo, Inv. No. 23.81: Grose 1989, 112, 152, No. 121.
23 London, British Museum, Inv. No. 60.4-4.71: Webb 1978, 121, No. 819, pl. XVIII.
24 Uşak, Inv. Nos. 1.58.96; 1.59.96; 1.60.96; 1.61.96: Özgen and Öztürk 1996, Nos. 75, 76, 77, 78.
25 See above note 15.
period as well, exemplified by the finds from Sinope\textsuperscript{28} and from Western Asia Minor.\textsuperscript{29} It is also worth noting that the silver alabastron from Sinope, now in Athens,\textsuperscript{30} as well as the alabastron mentioned above from Basmaci (Fig. 7, 2) have stoppers, similar to that of the aryballos from Vani. In the Treasury in Persepolis a tray was found of grey polished stone with four handles terminating in ducks’ heads.\textsuperscript{31} Another tray of marbled red stone found in the same Treasury shows one handle in the shape of a duck’s head.\textsuperscript{32}

Silver vessels dated to the 6\textsuperscript{th}-5\textsuperscript{th} centuries BC, and decorated with incised friezes with warriors or animals are quite rare. They include the alabastra from Lydia (Fig. 6): from the illegal excavation of the Ikiztepe tumuli\textsuperscript{33} (Fig. 7, 1),

\begin{itemize}
  \item[Copenhagen, Nat. Mus., Inv. No. 15095:] Pfrommer 1987, 101, 261 KBk 102, pl. 51a.
  \item[Bohmer 1984, No. 45 = Özgen and Öztürk 1996, No. 78.]
\end{itemize}
from the tumulus at Basmaci\textsuperscript{34} (Fig. 7, 2), as well as the skyphos from the former collection of Hagop Kevorkian, now in the Metropolitan Museum of Arts\textsuperscript{35} (Fig. 7, 3), the shape of the latter finding the closest parallel in the bronze vessel from the tomb No. 723 in Sardis, dated to the 7\textsuperscript{th}-6\textsuperscript{th} century BC.\textsuperscript{36} Finally, incised images of animals have been partly preserved on the outer walls of a late 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC silver-gilt kylix from the central burial of the Solokha barrow.\textsuperscript{37} The origins of this technique of vessel decoration may be sought in the so-called Syro-Phoenician bowls of the Orientalizing style\textsuperscript{38} and the related vessels widely spread in the Mediterranean during the

\textsuperscript{34} See above note 15.


\textsuperscript{37} St.Petersburg, Hermitage, Inv. No. Лит 1912 1/55: Mantsevich 1987, No. 7.

\textsuperscript{38} Markoe 1985; S. Moscati, in Cat. Venice 1988, 436 ff.
Fig. 7. Silver vessels of the 6th-5th centuries BC with incised friezes showing animals or warriors: 1 – İkiztepe. Uşak, Museum. Inv. No. 1.61.96 (after Özgen and Öztürk 1996); 2 – Basmaci. Uşak, Museum. Inv. No. 1.1.89 (after Akbiyikoğlu 1991; Özgen and Öztürk 1996); 3 – silver skyphos from the former collection of Hagop Kevorkian, at present New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Inv. No. 1971.118 (after von Bothmer 1984).
7th century BC, as the example of the so-called situla with the inscription of Plikasnas found in Chiusi in Etruria shows.

The aryballos from Vani is decorated in the middle part of the spherical body with a frieze showing a procession of sphinxes moving to the left (Fig. 1, 1, 4). On the neck of the Ulyap goblet there is a scene of a lion pursuing a hoofed animal (a doe?) (Fig. 2, 1-3). The structure of the decoration on the Ulyap goblet and the aryballos from Vani is similar. The upper and the lower part of the bodies are decorated with long-petals with flowers and palmettes between them (Figs. 1, 1, 4; 2, 2-3). Comparable decoration showing palmettes between long petals are found on a silver goblet from the 5th century burial in Saikhe (Fig. 8, 2-3).

The central part of the body of the Ulyap goblet is occupied by a frieze composed of alternating almond-shaped elements and large five-petaled lotus flowers, connected to each other with arcs in the lower part. At the conjunction of the arcs four-petaled flowers are punched (Fig. 2, 2-3). This ornamental frieze corresponds well to the rosette engraved at the bottom of the vessel (Fig. 2, 4). Somewhat different is a variant of engraved decoration on the stand-rings of silver situlae from the barrows No. 6/1961 of the first half of the 4th century BC and No. 11/1969 of the mid-5th century BC in Vani, which have the attachments of the handles in the form of animal figures, which, according to J. Boardman, are „of Anatolian Greek style“. Here the
Fig. 8. Silver goblet from Saîrîkhe. Tbilisi, Museum of Art (after Gagoshidze 2003).

of the middle – second half of the 6th century BC (see in general: Diehl 1964, 214, No. B31, pl. 3, 6; 215, No. B44, pl. 4, 2; Stibbe 1992, 15 f., fig. 23; No. E2; 21, fig. 28; No. F8; 22, fig. 31; F9; 34, fig. 44; No. H2; 38, fig. 49; No. I1; 40, fig. 51; No. I3; 41, figs. 52-53; Nos. 14, 16; 42, fig. 54; No.19), in particular from South Italy (Paestum: Rolley 1982, pls. VII, 25-26; X; 41-43; XI, 44-48; Sala Conselina: Rolley 1982, pl. VII, 27-28; Gela: Rolley 1982, pl. XXXII, 151-152). Among the silver ware the handle attachments in the form of recling rams in a heraldic pose find
three-petaled lotus flowers not only alternate with the almond-shaped elements, but also decorate the tops of the latter.

The decoration of the neck of the Ulyap goblet with rows of feathers (Fig. 2, 2-3) finds parallels on the above-mentioned silver amphora of unknown provenance in Teheran, as well as on a silver phiale from the Treasure found in Vladinya in Thrace, dated to the early 4th century BC.

The aryballos from Vani is decorated in the central part of the body with a frieze, showing a procession of sphinxes (Fig. 1, 1, 4). This motif was extremely widespread, in particular in the Attic black-figured vase painting, a fact mentioned by O. D. Lordkipanidze (for him, this was an argument in favour of the Attic origin of the aryballos). The figure of the sphinx, decorating the spoon from the burial No. 11/1969 in Vani, and with parallels among the figures on one of the ladles from Iktizepe, shows that the images of sphinxes were popular in the toreutics of the 6th-5th centuries BC. The moving sphinxes in heraldic pose are seen on the skyphos from the former Kevorkian collection. Similar sphinxes, with raised front leg, as on the aryballos from Vani, are represented on the silver belt from burial No. 24, found in Vani in 2002. Stylistically the images of sphinxes on the aryballos and the belt vary; they are united, however, by the same decoration principle – the body of the sphinx

the closest prototypes in a silver oinochoe from Iktizepe in Lydia (von Bothmer 1984, No. 35; Ör gen and Öztürk 1996, 35, fig. 54, No. 106). I would also mention, that the figures of recling rams is an extremely popular motif of the bronze formers found in Iktizepe (Ör gen and Öztürk 1996, Nos. 189-191; Treister 2001, 61 ff., fig. 4). Among the materials from Iktizepe there are numerous separate figures of rams shown in similar poses and executed in gold, electrum and silver (Ör gen and Öztürk 1996, Nos. 151-158; see also commentary p. 197).

47 Lordkipanidze 1976, 143.
50 See above note 35.
51 Japaridze 2005, 16 (fig.). The author is grateful to G. Kvirkvelia for the possibility to study the piece.
52 The importance of the study of „toolmarks” on the objects of toreutics is proved, e.g. by the investigation of some items of Thraco-Getic toreutics conducted by P. Meyers (1981, 49-54), and my studies of the so-called Graeco-Scythian toreutics (Treister 2001, 127 ff.; Treister 2005b).
(excluding its head and wings) is covered completely with vertical rows of horizontal notches, reminding of the decoration of the animals on the above mentioned skyphos from the former Kevorkian collection (Fig. 7, 3). Similarly arranged notches cover the bodies of the animals on the goblet from the 5th century BC burial in Saiakhe (Fig. 8, 1) and on the discussed goblet from the Ulyap barrow No. 1 (Fig. 2, 1), as well as on the numerous examples of silver and bronze vessels and gold jewellery from Vani, dated from the 5th and the 4th centuries BC53 (Fig. 9). The fact, that this coincidence in the technique of decoration of the surface of images is not by chance is demonstrated by the decoration of the animals on the silver alabastron from Ikiztepe: the bodies of the deer are decorated with pairs of notches, those of lionesses – with groups of three dots, whereas the images of bulls and lions lack such decoration54 (Fig. 7, 1).

Thus, a group of items of toreutics from 5th-4th centuries BC complexes in Colchis and outside it is singled out: they are decorated with incised animal or mythological images, the bodies of which are covered with vertical rows of

53 A silver plate in the form of a wild boar, an attachment of a situla from the burial No. 24/2002 in Vani (Cat. Tbilisi 2005, back cover), and stylistically similarly decorated images of wild boars – the terminals of gold bracelets from the burial No. 11/1969 in Vani (Lordkipanidze 1971, 274-275, fig. 10-10a; Lordkipanidze et alii 1972, 224, No. 11, fig. 199; Chkonia 1981, No. 52, fig. 25; Dschwachischwili and Abramischwili 1986, fig. 22 above; Lordkipanidze 1991, 124, pl. 52, 3-4; Tsetskhladze 1993/94, 14, 43, fig. 3; Lordkipanidze 1995, 372, col. pl. V, 3; Bill 2003, 234, No. 17, pl. 173, 3-4). – The figures of a wild boar and a wolf on a silver phiale from the burial No. 2/1947 of the early 3rd century BC (Vani I, 1972, fig. 4; MAtiashvili 1977, 105, No. 2; 190-191, No. 6, figs. 100-101; Matchabeli 1972, fig. 230; Lordkipanidze 1979, 62, figs. 25-27; Chkonia 1981, No. 2, pl. 2; Tsetskhladze 1993/94, 12, 43, fig. 1; Braund 1994, 128, fig. 5; Cat. Saarbrücken 1995, 146, fig. 145, No. 272; Lordkipanidze 1995, 370, col. pl. 1, 3-4; Bill 2003, 77-78 (Gruppe I), 231, No. 1, pl. 163, 1; Cat. Tbilisi 2005, 90) (Fig. 9, 2). – Images of a wild boar, aurochs, cock and lion on the bronze lid of a miniature situla from the burial No. 11/1969 in Vani (Lordkipanidze et alii 1972, 114, No. 3, figs. 37-38; Andriaishvili 1972, fig. 230; Lordkipanidze 1979, 62, figs. 25-27; Chkonia 1981, No. 2, pl. 2; Tsetskhladze 1993/94, 12, 43, fig. 1; Braund 1994, 128, fig. 5; Cat. Saarbrücken 1995, 146, fig. 145, No. 272; Lordkipanidze 1995, 370, col. pl. 1, 3-4; Bill 2003, 77-78 (Gruppe I), 231, No. 1, pl. 163, 1; Cat. Tbilisi 2005, 90) (Fig. 9, 2). – Images of a wild boar and aurochs, cock and lion on the bronze lid of a miniature situla from the burial No. 11/1969 in Vani (Lordkipanidze et alii 1972, 238, No. 72, fig. 225; Lordkipanidze 1979, 61, fig. 24; Lordkipanidze 1989, 248, 250, fig. 127A; Lordkipanidze 1991, 122, fig. 60, 1-2; pl. 24, 4; Lordkipanidze 1995, 369, fig. 6: below right; Vani IX 1996, pl. 7 above right; Tsetskhladze 1998, 117; Bill 2003, 235, No. 56, pl. 175, 11) (Fig. 9, 3).

The shape of this bronze vessel (Lordkipanidze et alii 1972, 238, No. 71, fig. 224; Lordkipanidze 1979, 61, fig. 23; Lordkipanidze 1989, 248, 250, fig. 127; Lordkipanidze 1991, 122, fig. 60, 1; Lordkipanidze 1995, 369, fig. 6: below left; Vani IX 1996, pl. 7 above left; Bill 2003, 235, No. 54, pl. 175, 10) corresponds to that of the silver situlae from the burials Nos. 6 (see above note 41) and 11 (see above note 43).

54 See above note 33.
horizontal notches. One can not exclude that this scheme of decoration goes back to the images on the Colchian bronze axes and belts of the 8th-6th centuries BC. It is also worth noting a similar treatment of the bodies of animals on the local Colchian pithoi of the 4th-3rd centuries BC, as well as on one of the bronze flasks from the Kazbegi Treasure.

2. Blattkelchmedallions

The rosettes on the bottom of both discussed vessels, the so-called Blattkelchmedallions, composed of four almond-shaped petals with the lotus flowers between them, show a great extent of similarity. The almond-shaped elements are oriented with the pointed ends toward the edge of the rosettes (Fig. 10, 1-2). It is beyond doubt, that these engraved medaillions reproduce the type of decoration seen on the outer side of the bottom of the phiale from Akhalgori (Fig. 10, 3). M. Pfrommer has rightly remarked the similarity between the rosettes on the bottom of the aryballos from Vani and the phiale from Akhalgori, and followed M. Rostovtzeff, mistakenly ascribing to the same type of rosette on the bottom of the electrum vessel with the image of the Scythians from Kul-Oba, and designating the rosette proper as that of the “Kul-Oba variant”. Thus, we have the chance now to correct this historical injustice.

56 See, e.g., Cat. Saarbrücken 1995, 118, fig. 109, No. 223. See in general on bronze belts with incised decoration: Urushadze 1984.
57 For instance, from the Dapnari necropolis: Lordkipanidze 1974, 938, fig. 26; Kiguradze 1976, 44, pl. XL; Cat. Saarbrücken 1995, No. 287.
58 Moscow, State Historical Museum, Inv. No. 1762; Uvarova 1900, 140-141, fig. 122; Tallgren 1930, 118, Nos. 2-4; 119, fig. 6.
59 Phiale omphalos with the edge turned outwards. Around the omphalos there are grouped four almond-shaped lobes; between them lotus flowers with 15-18 petals. Silver, forged, chiselled, hammered. – Dm. 19.0-19.25 cm. Ht. max. 3.4 cm. – **Date:** 5th century BC. – Tbilisi, Georgian National Museum. Inv. No. SM 62. – **Literature:** Smirnov 1934, 44 f., No. 61, pl. 8; Lushey 1939, 97 No. BK 18; S. 106; Matchabeli 1983, No. 3; Pfrommer 1987, 97, note 578; Alkaï-Khavari 1988, 106, 125-126, No. F3C14, fig. 6 (4th century BC); Cat. Saarbrücken 1995, No. 303, fig. 5; Bill 2003, 211, No. 81.95, pl. 125, 7; Gagoshidze 2003, PPT, slide 10 (mid-4th century BC, local production).
60 Rostovtzeff 1914, 86, pl. 4, 3.
61 Cf. this eight-petaled rosette with oval petals, which was published first in 2001: Cat. Milan 2001, 102 (below) No. 54.
62 Pfrommer 1987, 97, pl. 55.
The analysis, the brief results of which I am going to present, shows that the prototype of this type of rosette was the pattern (a frieze around the omphalos with large almond-shaped lobes and with large lotus flowers) decorating the low phialai with the rim slightly bent inwards, spread in Asia Minor, Iran and in the Balkans (Fig. 11), including the first half of the 6th century finds from the Lion Tomb in Miletos63 (Fig. 12, 1-2), the piece from the late 6th century BC burial No. 52 in Sindos, Macedonia64 (Fig. 12, 4) and the late 6th-early 5th century BC phiale from the Rogozen Treasure65 (Fig. 12, 3). Rather similar

63 Berlin, Antikensammlung, Inv. Nos. 33809-810: Luschey 1939, 95, No. BK 2, fig. 31; 98, 103, 163, No. 31: second half of the 6th century BC; Strong 1966, 56 f., pl. 9A: as supposedly originating from Asia Minor; Abka’i-Khavari 1988, 114-115, No. F3A5, fig. 4; Forbeck and Heres 1997, 26-31, figs. 24-27.
64 Thessaloniki, Inv.-No. 8575: Cat. Thessaloniki 1985, No. 374; Vokotopoulou 1996, 134, No. 8575.
65 Sofia, Nat. Museum of History, Inv. No. 22302: Silberschatz aus Rogozen, No. 2; Cat. Saint Louis 1998, No. 79; Archibald 1998, 179 (as manufactured probably in the Chalcidic peninsula in the early 5th century BC).

Fig. 11. Distribution map. Low silver phialai with the rim slightly bent inwards and a frieze around the omphalos with large almond-shaped lobes and large lotus flowers.
engraved rosettes decorate flat bottoms of the goblets from the Thracian burial in a barrow near Dalboki\(^66\) (Fig. 12, 5-6), which is dated to ca. 430 BC.\(^67\)

On the silver phialai of different shape with a rim bent slightly outwards (Fig. 13) from Susa,\(^68\) Agighiol\(^69\) (Fig. 14, 1), as well as the finds from the burial No. II, 6 of the first half of the 5\(^{th}\) century BC in Kozani, Macedonia.\(^66\)

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\(^{67}\) Vickers 2002, 59.

\(^{68}\) Luschey 1939, 96, No. BK 16; Abka'i-Khavari 1988, 121-122, No. F2C18, fig. 4.

\(^{69}\) Bucharest, MNIR, Inv. No. 11.178: Bereciu 1969a, 224 f., fig. 7; Bereciu 1969b, 52-53, No. 2; Bereciu 1974, 59, No. 2, figs. 16-17; Luschey 1983, 328 f., No. A24.2, pl. 61, 2; Abka'i-Khavari 1988, 117-118, No. FiC12, fig. 2; Cat. Frankfurt 1994, No. 49.7; Archibald 1998, 179, fig. 7.2 top right; 180. It is hardly possible, as it is done by H. Luschey, to attribute the phiale from Aghighol unconditionally as Achaemenid, based on the similarity of its decoration with that of a bronze phiale from Dumavizah in Iran (Luschey 1983, 329, A24 Taf. 61, 1). Z. Archibald (1998, 180) considers it as probably "a native north Aegean variant superimposed on the standard Achaemenid shape".
with votive inscription (dedication to the temple of Athena in Megara)\textsuperscript{70} (Fig. 14, 2) and from the burial No. 6/1967 of the Pichvnari necropolis\textsuperscript{71} (Fig. 14, 3), dated about the middle of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC,\textsuperscript{72} the decoration occupies the lower parts of the vessel, the proportion of the elements is changing; the almond-shaped lobes and lotus flowers are of almost the same dimensions. Perhaps also a fragmented silver phiale from the burial No. 1 of the Enageti necropolis in Kvemo Kartli\textsuperscript{73} belongs to this group, dated by the publisher to the first half of the 4\textsuperscript{th} century BC,\textsuperscript{74} or according to A. Kakhidze, to 430-420 BC.\textsuperscript{75} It is worth noting that a phiale of this decorative schema is shown on the Early Classical Ionian capital from the Parthenos Sanctuary at Kavalla, Macedonia\textsuperscript{76} (Fig. 14, 4), as well as on a terracotta pinax with the scene of sacrifice to Persephone from the sanctuary of Persephone in Manella (Lokroi Epizephyroi), dated to the first half of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC.\textsuperscript{76a}

Another type of similar decoration is observed on the phialai with two friezes of similar pattern (Fig. 15), represented by the find from the mid-5\textsuperscript{th} century barrow No. 24/1878 of the necropolis of Nymphaion\textsuperscript{77} (Fig. 16, 1), from the Rogozen Treasure\textsuperscript{78} (Fig. 16, 3), as well as from Aëtós on the island of Ithaca\textsuperscript{79} (Fig. 16, 4). To its variant belong three almost identical phialai from the Late Archaic tomb of the western necropolis of Archondiko in the area of Pella, Macedonia,\textsuperscript{80} from a complex unearthed in illegal excavations in

\textsuperscript{70} Kozani, Inv. No. 589: \textit{Cat. Thessaloniki} 1978, No. 45, pl. 10; Gill 1990, 625; Vickers and Gill 1994, 57.

\textsuperscript{71} Phiale with omphalos, around which there are grouped 13 almond-shaped lobes, with pointed ends towards the edge, between them there are stylized four-petaled lotus flowers. – Dm. 12 cm. Ht. 3.5 cm. – Batumi.- \textbf{Date:} first half – middle of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC. – \textbf{Literature:} Tsetskhladze 1994, 204, fig. 6; Tsetskhladze 1999, 47, 163, fig. 34; Bill 2003, 194, No. 3, pl. 102, 8; Kakhidze 2004, 96, 107, fig. 21, 2; 109, fig. 23.

\textsuperscript{72} Tsetskhladze 1999, 47; Kakhidze 2004, 100 ff.

\textsuperscript{73} Margishvili 1992, 5, 71-72, pl. XX; Bill 2003, 113, 164, No. 32.9; pl. 31, 6.

\textsuperscript{74} Margishvili 1992, 5, 30, 31, 71-72, pl. XX; Bill 2003, 113, 164, No. 32.9; pl. 31, 6.

\textsuperscript{75} Kakhidze 2004, 97.

\textsuperscript{76} Crafer 1990, 166 f., fig. 114, note 61.

\textsuperscript{76a} \textit{Cat. Cologne} 1998, 166, No. 96.

\textsuperscript{77} St. Petersburg, State Hermitage: Silant’eva 1959, 58, figs. 26; 62.

\textsuperscript{78} Sofia, Nat. Museum of History, Inv. No. 22381: \textit{Silberschatz aus Rogozen}, No. 81; Archibald 1989, 18 (4\textsuperscript{th} century BC).

\textsuperscript{79} London, British Museum, Inv. No. GR 1920.5-29.2: Luschev 1939, 96, No. 9; Richter 1959, 246, pl. 59, fig. 46 (not later than the end of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC); Davidson and Oliver 1984, 81; Steinhardt and Wirbelauer 2002, 230, No. 79, figs. 115-116: 2\textsuperscript{nd} half of the 4\textsuperscript{th} century BC.

\textsuperscript{80} Pella, Museum: Chryssostomou and Chryssostomou 2003, 512 f.; 516, figs. 16-17.
Chalkidiki, dated about 480 BC, and from the ritual complex of the Ulyap barrow No. 4 (Fig. 16, 2). On the gold phiale from burial No. 6/1961 in Vani dated to the late 5th–early 4th, or to the first half of the 4th century BC the frieze of the pattern discussed is put in the lower part around the omphalos, whereas the walls are decorated with vertical fluting (Fig. 16, 5). The combi-

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81 Mainz, RGZM: Inv. No. O.37894: Hassel 1967, 201 ff.; 203, fig. 1, pl. 49; Egg and Pare 1995, 147, No. 307, col. pl. XIV, 1.

82 Phiale with an omphalos, decorated with alternating large and small almond-shaped projections with lotus flowers between them. The edge of omphalos is decorated with a relief rim with pearl pattern. – Silver, forged, hammered, engraving. – Ht. 6 cm. Dm. 20.2 cm. – Moscow, State Museum of Orient, Inv. No. 38 M-IV; 36 M-IV. – **Date**: first half of the 4th century BC. – **Literature**: *Cat. Moscow* 1985, No. 366, fig. 66; *Cat. Moscow* 1987, No. 102-103, fig. 41; Leskov 1990, No. 235, fig. 186 (phiale); Leskov 1990, No. 246 (omphalos).

83 Phiale with a large omphalos, framed with an ovae frieze. Around the omphalos there are 12 almond-shaped lobes alternating with stylized five-petaled lotus flowers. Along the edge a frieze of long petals. – Gold, forged, chiselled, hammered. – Dm. 13.4 cm. – Tbilisi, Georgian National Museum. Inv. No. 11-974:39 (3-61/662, 3). – **Date**: late 5th–early 4th century BC. – **Literature**: Khostabia *et alii* 1972, 116, No. 39, fig. 55; Lordkipanidze 1979, 63, fig. 16; Dschwachischwili and Abramischwili 1986, fig. 33; Tietschkladze 1993/94, 17; *Cat. Saarbrücken* 1995, No. 280; 150, fig. 149; Lordkipanidze 1995, 373, col. pl. V, 4; Bill 2003, 113, 231, No. 34, pl. 166, 10.
nation of the two similar friezes, although located in different positions, is found on a silver phiale from the burial No. 213/1911 of the Sardis necropolis, which is dated to the late 6th-early 5th century BC\(^8\) (Fig. 16, 6).

The further development of the rosette under discussion may be followed in the engraved rosettes on the bottoms of the vessels from the Scythian barrows of the 4th century BC (on the round-bottomed vessels with segment-shaped handles from Solokha\(^9\) (Fig. 17, 1) and Chmýreva Mogila\(^6\) (Fig. 17, 2); round-bottomed vessel with a spherical body, with a short cylindrical neck and slightly turned-out rim – from Kul-Oba\(^7\) (Fig. 17, 3)) – the four large almond-shaped lobes were added with another four of smaller dimensions located between them, inbetween eight lotus flowers.

### 3. Lydian Imports and the Phiale from Zubov Farm

A certain number of silver vessels and utensils from Colchis may be assigned to the Lydian production. A ladle from the burial No. 24 in Vani with a vertical handle, decorated with two figures of rams, standing on their hind legs, forming a ring, finds its closest parallel in a silver ladle from Ikiztepe.\(^8\) In contrast to the find from Vani, the handle of the ladle from Ikiztepe is decorated with two lion figures. A similar construction of the handle finial is present on a ladle from the barrow at Toppepe.\(^9\) A handle of a similar scheme,

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\(^8\) Istanbul Archaeological Museum, Inv. No. 4539; Butler 1922, 83-84, fig. 82; Luschey 1939, No. 13; Waldbaum 1983, No. 963, pl. 56; Abka'i-Khavari 1988, 121-122, No. F2C14 Abb. 4; 20 almond-shaped projections, between them four-petalled palmettes; late 6th-early 5th century BC.

\(^9\) St. Petersburg, State Hermitage, Inv. No. Дш 1913 1/40; CR St. Petersburg 1913-1915, 115-117, fig. 187; Artamonow 1970, pls. 152-155; Onaiko 1970, 103, No. 435; 183, pl. XXIX; Il’inskaya and Terenozhkin 1983, 131 (fig. below); Cat. Leningrad 1985, No. 10 (4th century BC, Bosporan?); Galanina and Grach 1986, figs. 157-160; Mantsevich 1987, 88-92, No. 61; Ryabova 1987, 148, fig. 3, 1; 149-150; Rolle 1989, 77, figs. 50-51; Cat. Milan 2001, No. 65; Cat. Moscow 2003, 47.

\(^6\) Once in the Hermitage, transferred in 1932 to Kharkov, lost during World War II; CR St. Petersburg 1909-1910, 132-133, fig. 199; Pharmacowsky 1910, 221-222, No. 5, figs. 20-21; Onaiko 1970, 103, No. 437; 183, pl. XXIX; Rolle 1979a, pl. 22, 1; Il’inskaya and Terenozhkin 1983, 147 (fig. below); Ryabova 1987, 148, fig. 3, 6; 150.

\(^7\) St. Petersburg, State Hermitage, Inv. No. K-O 96: Artamonow 1970, pls. 239-240; Grach 1984, 102 ff., pl. 2a-d; Cat. Leningrad 1985, No. 11; Galanina and Grach 1986, figs. 188-189; Schiltz 1994, 161, fig. 119; Jacobson 1995, 206, VI.D.3. – See a rosette: Rostovtzeff 1914, 86, pl. IV, 3 (mistakenly published here as a rosette on the bottom of the electrum vessel); Grach 1984, 102 ff, pl. 2d.


Fig. 17. Silver-gilt bowls with rosettes on the bottom from the 4th century BC Scythian barrows: 1 – Solokha. St. Petersburg, State Hermitage, Inv. No. ДИ 1913 1/40 (after Mantsevich 1987; Cat. Milan 2001); 2 – Chmyreva Mogila. Lost during World War II (after Onaiko 1970); 3 – Kul'-Oba. St. Petersburg, State Hermitage, Inv. No. K-O 96 (after Grach 1984; Galanina and Grach 1986).
however with lion figures with their heads downwards, decorates a ladle from the Miho Museum.  

Most probably silver phialai of the type F3a, according to Abka’i-Khavari’s classification (Fig. 18) from the burial No. 13 of the necropolis of Sairkhe, dated to the first half of the 5th century BC with a frieze of chased tongues around the omphalos also belong to the Lydian imports. Similar silver phialai of comparable dimensions originate from a Lydian tumulus near Uşak.

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90 Cat. Miho 2002, No. 35.
91 Abka’i-Khavari 1988, 114. To the same group belongs also a smaller silver unprovenanced phial with comparable decoration, kept in Bloomington and dated to the 5th century BC (Indiana University Art Museum, Inv. No. 69.102.2: Cat. Baltimore 1976, No. 59; Cat. Toledo 1977, No. 2; Lordkipanidze 1997, 21; Archibald 1998, 181, note 31).
92 Tbilisi, Museum of Arts: Bregvadze and Makharadze 2002, 283, 286, fig. 7; Bill 2003, 215, No. 23.
Fig. 19. Silver phialai with a frieze of chased tongues around the omphalos: 1 – Zubov Farm, barrow No. 1. St. Petersburg, State Hermitage, Inv. No. 2234/18 (photo by M. Treister); 2 – Dardanos. Çanakkale, Archaeological Museum, Inv. No. 2086 (photo by M. Treister).
from a Dardanos tumulus in the Troad\(^{94}\) (Fig. 19, 2), as well as from the burial No. 67 of the Sindos necropolis in Macedonia, the latter dated to ca. 510 BC.\(^{95}\) Another similar silver phiale, but of smaller dimensions, was found in the 5th century BC burial of necropolis of Olbia Pontica in 1912.\(^{96}\)

Also worthy of mention here is a mid-5th century BC silver phiale omphalos dedicated in the temple of Apollo in Phasis, which was found in the late 1st century BC barrow No. 1 near Zubov Farm in the Kuban basin.\(^{97}\) Thirteen deer heads and a snake adorn the walls and omphalos, respectively, but the vessel’s shape, framing rosette, and dimensions are very similar to those of the above mentioned phialai. A beaded frieze between the omphalos and the petalled rosette constitutes the only difference in the framing of the omphalos (Fig. 19, 1). The known provenance of the vessels in Lydia and the Troad (Fig. 18) allows us to speculate about the origin of this type of phialai. As it was correctly stated by the publishers of the Lydian treasures, the shape and the large omphalos of the Uşak bowl find parallels in the bronze Phrygian bowls, for instance, from Gordion.\(^{98}\) It is also worth noting that an omphalos with 87 chased tongues, radiating around it, decorates another silver phiale of different shape found in the same Lydian tumulus with an incised monogram, probably representing the beginning of a Lydian name.\(^{99}\)

G. Tsetskhladze’s opinion that the Zubov phiale (Fig. 19, 1) was manufactured by a Colchian craftsmen in Phasis\(^{100}\) lacks conviction. It is also not necessary to date the phiale to the same time as the inscription, as O. Lordkipanidze suggests.\(^{101}\) Not only the observations of the genesis of the phialai of this group, which I presented now testify against the attribution, which was put forward by G. Tsetskhladze. I would also stress that the peculiarity of the Zubov phiale, namely the additional decoration of the omphalos with the image of a snake, and the walls – with deer heads (Fig. 19, 1) are in any case

\(^{94}\) Çanakkale, Inv. No. 2086. Treister 2002, 354-356, figs. 1-2; Seviç and Treister 2003, 229, No. 58; 239-240, pl. 8, fig. 59.
\(^{95}\) Thessaloniki, Inv. No. 8574: *Cat. Thessaloniki* 1985, No. 309.
\(^{97}\) St. Petersburg, State Hermitage, Inv. No. 2234/18. Dumberg 1901, 98-100, figs. 18a-b; Minns 1913, 231, figs. 136-137; Strong 1966, 75-76, pl. 14B; Tsetskhladze 1994, 199-215 with bibliography, esp. pp. 201-203, figs. 2-4; 1998, 9-10, figs. 6-8; Lordkipanidze 1997, 15 ff., figs. 1-2 (last third of the 5th century BC); Treister 2002, 355, fig. 3; Treister 2005a, 239, note 156; 241, fig. 16, 5-8; see also: Archibald 1998, 181, note 31.
\(^{98}\) Özgen and Öztürk 1996, 95.
\(^{100}\) Tsetskhladze 1994.
\(^{101}\) Lordkipanidze 1997, 23.
arguments in favour of its manufacture by a Colchian toreut – as I have shown the characteristic for the Colchian metalworking were chasing and engraving – in the given case we have to do with the use of stamps, the technique characteristic for the Lydian metalworkers of the 6th–5th centuries BC and also known to the craftsmen of the Greek cities of the Black Sea area. Another question is, whether the phiale was brought from Asia Minor, or commissioned for the dedication to the temple directly in Phasis (the latter seems more plausible to me), in any case the phiale reflects no features in favour of its manufacture by a Colchian craftsman.

4. Some Remarks Concerning “The International Achaemenid Style”

The Lydian goblets (Fig. 3, 1-2) as well as the goblets from Vani (Fig. 3, 3) and Ulyap barrow No. 1/1982 (Fig. 2) have flat bottoms. Similarly shaped goblets, but with pointed or round bottoms, are represented in glass among the Achaemenid materials. I would discuss as derivative the shape of some silver vessels from the Thracian complexes of the first half of the 4th century BC, in particular, from the Treasure of Borovo and the barrow in Rosovets. The structure of these vessels (the egg-shaped body, the neck widening in the upper part; a raised ring at the junction of neck and body) is rather similar, though the neck is somewhat shorter. The bottom of the vessel from Rosovets is decorated with an engraved 18-petal rosette, the body is decorated with wide leaves of water lily in a low relief, whereas the ring is decorated with ovae pattern.

H. Luschey has discussed the shape of the vessels from Borovo and Rosovets as Achaemenid, however, at the same time the Asia Minor parallels mentioned above are much closer to the shape of the Ulyap vessel (Fig. 2).

The vessels of the Achaemenid forms with a similar shape of the body and the neck, in some cases also with a raised ring at the junction of neck and body, additionally have two handles, usually in the form of animals. I would mention that one of these vessels originates from a burial in the

103 See, e.g. about the stamps from Berezan island: Solovyov and Treister 2004.
104 Grose 1989, 80, figs. 49-50.
105 Russe, Inv. No. II-361; Boardman 1994, 187, fig. 6, 4; Cat. Saint Louis 1998, No. 173; Cat. Bonn 2004, No. 226a: with a relief frieze.
107 See above note 45.
108 See, e.g. Cat. Paris 1961, No. 675, pl. LIII; No. 677, pl. LIV.
109 See in general on this class of vessels: Amandry 1959, 38-56; Pfrommer 1990, 191-209;
Kukova Mogila in Duvanli in Thrace dated to the third quarter of the 5th century BC, another, once in a private collection in Paris, originates supposedly from the region between Sinope and Trapesund, one more, in the G. Ortiz collection in Geneva – comes from a Treasure, found in ca. 1970 in the area of Sinope. It is worth noting, that vessels of similar shape, shown in the hands of the members of the VIth Delegation, the Lydians, and the IIIrd delegation, the Armenians, on the reliefs of the east side of the Apadana in Persepolis, are decorated with raised rings at the junction of body and neck, and are also represented on a grave stele from Kastamonu in Paphlagonia and in a wall-painting of the tomb in Karaburun in Lycia. On the gold and silver goblets originating from the Oxus Treasure and from the barrow No. 1 near Filippovka village in Southern Ural, for the vessels of which Achaemenid origin can be hardly argued, there are no such rings.

In contrast to the vessels shown in the hands of the participants of the Lydian delegation, the amphora-rhyton shown in the hand of the Armenian has an undecorated body and the ring (the corresponding vessels of the Lydians have a body with vertical fluting and a ring at the junction of body and neck is in the form of pearl-band). According to B. Filow, the depiction of similar...
vessels in the hands of members of different delegations points to the fact that
they were not of regional types, but rather belong to the type adopted by the
Achaemenid court, and they could have been manufactured in the workshops
situated along the coasts of Asia Minor.\textsuperscript{120} The analysis of the shape and the
decoration of amphora-rhyta, conducted by M. Pfommer, also gave him the
ground for the suggestion, that both the vessel from Kukova Mogila and those
in the J. Paul Getty Museum are the products of the Asia Minor workshop,
probably located at the court of one of the satraps.\textsuperscript{121}

In spite of the ideas of the existence of an ‘international Achaemenid
style’,\textsuperscript{122} even the careful analysis of the variety of forms and details of decoration
of the vessels shown in the reliefs of Apadana in Persepolis, representing
the members of delegations from various parts of the Achaemenid Empire\textsuperscript{123}
put the idea of strict standards and the unification of gold and silver plate
manufacture under the question.

The horizontal fluting is usually considered as one of the characteristic fea-
tures of the Achaemenid metalware.\textsuperscript{124} Also, the silver beaker with horizontal
fluting found in the burial No. 6/1961 in Vani,\textsuperscript{125} which was compared by M.
Vickers with a silver beaker allegedly from Erzerum,\textsuperscript{126} should not necessarily
be interpreted as an Achaemenid item of the standard type. Exactly such ves-
sels are shown in the hands of the members of the XII\textsuperscript{nd} Delegation, Ionians,
on the relief of the east side of Apadana in Persepolis,\textsuperscript{127} and not only the XV\textsuperscript{th}
Delegation, allegedly the Arachosians, the latter mentioned by Vickers.\textsuperscript{128}

It is worth noting, that the majority of vessels made from precious metals
of various, not only ‘Achaemenid’ and ‘Achaemenid-inspired’ forms, with
horizontal fluting occur from Asia Minor.\textsuperscript{129} From that point of view the

\textsuperscript{120} Filow 1934, 202.
\textsuperscript{121} Pfommer 1990, 205, 208 f.
\textsuperscript{122} See Melikian-Chirvani 1993, 111.
\textsuperscript{123} Calmeyer 1993, 160.
\textsuperscript{124} Vickers 2000, 262 with bibliography.
\textsuperscript{125} Tbilisi, Georgian national Museum, Inv. No: 11-974.44: Khoshtaria \textit{et alii} 1972, 115,
No. 44, fig. 60; Ggolashvili 1990a, 316 f.; Guigolachvili 1990b, 279 f., 313, fig. 32; Vickers
2000, 263, fig. 2.
\textsuperscript{126} Oxford, Inv. No. AN 1967.819: Archibald 1998, 181, fig. 7. 5 top right; Vickers 2000,
261 f., fig. 1.
\textsuperscript{127} Calmeyer 1993, 132 pl. 45 top.
\textsuperscript{128} Vickers 2000. See the fragment of the relief with the XV\textsuperscript{th} Delegation: Calmeyer 1993,
136-137, pl. 47 below; \textit{Cat. London} 2005, 106, fig. 47 (Parthians or Bactrians).
\textsuperscript{129} Even the above mentioned gold jug from the Oxus Treasure (see above note 118) finds the
closest parallel in the silver oinochoe from Ikiizepe in Lydia, Uşak, Inv. No. 1.13.96 (Özgen
and Öztürk 1996, No. 11). See horizontal fluting on other silver vessels from Ikiizepe: on a silver
oinochoe, Uşak, Inv. No. 1.14.96 (Özgen and Öztürk 1996, No. 12), on a small spouted pitcher,
horizontal fluting on a silver lydion from Ikiztepe is characteristic, the shape being well known from pottery finds in Sardis.\textsuperscript{130} We see the same decoration on a silver goblet of the derivative shape from the Treasure found in Panderma in Asia Minor.\textsuperscript{131} Its closest parallel is a silver-gilt rhyton from the cache No. 2 of the 4th century BC barrow No. 1 near the village of Filippovka in Southern Ural.\textsuperscript{132}

As has been shown above, there are certain grounds to stress the important role of the Asia Minor toreutic centres of the Pre-Achaemenid and the Achaemenid periods. A. S. Melikian-Chirvani came to the conclusion of the existence of a regional ‘Lydian Achaemenid Style’ and local atelier producing vessels in the Imperial Achaemenid taste.\textsuperscript{133} This brief analysis seems to confirm the suggestion put forward by J. Boardman that “Anatolia is… an important source for metalwork of the Persian period…, … much was made there, and… the workshops, deriving from a rich Lydian tradition, were influential in introducing types and decoration that we would call Persian”.\textsuperscript{134}

\section{5. Conclusions}

There is all reason to suggest that in the first half to the middle of the 5th century BC in the territory of Colchis there emerged a peculiar local school of toreutics and jewellery, with the roots in the local traditions of metalworking of the Late Bronze – Early Iron Age,\textsuperscript{135} which experienced the influence of toreutics of the Lydian-Ionian school and Anatolia in a broad sense of this term. The analysis of some works of toreutics presented here corresponds well with the results of studies undertaken by I. Gagoshidze, who has demonstrated the parallels in shape of some silver vessels from Georgia with the finds from Asia Minor, such as Akhalgori phiale No. 63 (parallels from Ikiztepe, Sinope and Cyprus), No. 64 (Ikiztepe).\textsuperscript{136}

\begin{thebibliography}{136}
\bibitem{129} See above note 129.
\bibitem{130} Berlin, Antikensammlung, Inv. No. 30963; Miller 1993, 126, pl. 29; Platz-Horster 2005, 299, figs. 9-10; G. Platz-Horster, in \textit{Cat. Speyer} 2006, 183; Lydian, ca. 400 BC.
\bibitem{131} Ufa, Inv. No. 831/388: \textit{Cat. Milan} 2001, No. 206; \textit{Cat. Moscow} 2003, 27 (fig.).
\bibitem{132} Melikian-Chirvani 1993, 120-125.
\bibitem{133} Boardman 2000, 186 f.
\bibitem{134} See: Lordkipanidze 1989, 251 f.
\bibitem{135} Gagoshidze 2003.
\end{thebibliography}
The Anatolian influences reflected both in the adoption of the shapes of the vessels (aryballoi, phialai, goblets with egg-shaped bodies) and in the ornamental pattern and the subjects of decoration (sphinxes on the aryballos, a scene with a youth laying on a kline and a cup-bearer, standing nearby on the belt, both from Vani). The analysis shows that for the toreutics it is possible to suggest a strong influence of the Lydian-Ionian school and the 'Lydian Achaemenid Style', rather than the art of Assyria, Media and the Achaemenid world, in general, as it was considered traditionally (O. Lordkipanidze). From that viewpoint I agree with Boardman, who not only stressed the Anatolian-Greek style of some of the items of jewellery and toreutics from Vani, but also suggested the manufacture of some of them by the wandering Greek craftsmen from Asia Minor. There emerged the type of decoration characteristic for the articles of the Colchian school (a rosette composed of four almond-shaped elements with the lotus flowers between them), having prototypes and parallels primarily on the phialai from Western Asia Minor and Macedonia. The local tradition is traced in the depiction of the scenes with animals, in the treatment of their bodies with vertical rows of horizontal notches, in the decoration of tails with "ticks". In the 5th-4th centuries BC the Colchian silver vessels and jewellery items (earrings, necklaces) found their way also outside Colchis, primarily to the Kuban basin, where the majority of finds is concentrated in the territory of modern Adygeya (Ulyap and Kurdzhips barrows) and even in the Sauromatian burials of the Lower Volga area.

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137 Lordkipanidze 1989, 252; Tsetskhladze 1993/94.
139 Noteworthy from this point of view is the presence of a certain number of items of horse harness and arms of Kuban types of the middle-second half of the 4th century BC in Abkhasia, including the remains of a supposed Maeotic sanctuary with the votive offerings in Hyäenos, see: Erlikh 2004.
140 I am going to publish a special article devoted to the finds of the Colchian jewellery outside Colchis.


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### Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACSS</td>
<td>Ancient Civilizations from Scythia to Siberia. An International Journal of Comparative Studies in History and Archaeology (Leiden, Boston, Cologne).</td>
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<tr>
<td>AJA</td>
<td>American Journal of Archaeology (Princeton).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMI</td>
<td>Archäologische Mitteilungen aus Iran (Berlin).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIT</td>
<td>Archäologische Mitteilungen aus Iran und Turan (Berlin).</td>
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<tr>
<td>CVA</td>
<td>Corpus Varrorum Antiquorum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CR St. Petersburg</td>
<td>Comptes Rendus de la Commission Impériale Archéologique (St. Petersburg).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VDI</td>
<td>Vestnik drevnei istorii (Moscow).</td>
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