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COINS OF THE MINT OF VIMINACIUM AND OF THE BITHYNIAN MINTS FOUND AT SCUPI

Abstract: The subject of this research is Roman provincial coins of Viminacium (Upper Moesia) and of Nicaea (Bithynia) found on the archaeological site of Scupi. Following a decade of intensive archaeological excavations conducted in *Colonia Flavia Scupinorum*, a large sample of numismatic material has been obtained. The excavations of the theatre, the central urban area, the south-eastern defensive wall of the urban area and the south-eastern necropolis have provided numerous Roman imperial and provincial coinage issues, dating back to the period of the colony foundation, during the Flavian reign, following the turbulent military movements throughout the Balkans, until the end of the organized urban life in Scupi during the second half of the 6th century. The processing and conservations of coins are still ongoing and are likely to continue for a certain period of time. Following the data available at present and focusing on 138 coins (Viminacium – 36), Nicaea – 98, Nicomedia – 3 and Juliopolis – 1), this paper aims to provide new perspective on the circulation and distribution of coinage issues of Viminacium and Bithynian mints in the Balkan provinces.

Key words: Roman provincial coinage, Scupi, Viminacium, Nicaea, Nicomedia, Juliopolis

The Roman colony of Scupi is one of the largest Roman sites in Upper Moesia since its foundation during the Flavian Dynasty.¹ Although the ancient sources give us relatively poor data about its existence, Scupi is mentioned as one of the four cities of Dardania, along with the cities of *Naissus*, *Ulpiana* and *Aribanton*, and located in the vicinity of *Ratiaria*.² Furthermore, the name of Scupi appears in the two imperial edicts that were issued under Theodosius II.³

1 Микулчиќ 1982, 36–41.

2 *Ptol.* III. 9.4; VIII. 12.5.

3 *Cod. Theodos* VI. 30.2; XII. 1.119.

Its position as the southernmost city of Upper Moesia and its proximity to Macedonia not only accorded its defensive role, but also transformed it into a point where both the Hellenistic and Latin cultures and civilizations intermixed and cultivated their coexistence, which can be illustrated by several Greek funeral inscriptions found at Scupi.⁴ Having been established by organized “*deductio*” (settlement) of veterans drawn mostly from the *VII Claudia* legion⁵ and to a greater degree from the legions of *V Macedonica*, *V Alaudae* and *IV Macedonica*⁶ and being located near the crossroad of two significant Balkan roads,⁷ Scupi has easily transformed into a complex urban Roman city (Fig. 1).⁸ Apart from being founded as a settlement of veterans, the possibility of a continuous presence of the Roman legions in the southern part of Upper Moesia is becoming more probable due to the epigraphic evidence suggesting that there must have been stationed military detachments of various legions at various times in Scupi. This could be proved by a number of tombstones of buried active soldiers belonging mainly to the *VII Claudia* legion.⁹ However, evidence shows that there are also soldiers from other legions, for instance, the tombstone of a young soldier from the *I Italica* legion, buried in Scupi at the age of 18.¹⁰ Apart from the testimony of the active soldiers serving their duty in Scupi and coming from different parts of the Roman Empire, the epigraphic evidence also indicates that local soldiers from Scupi were recruited for the *VII Claudia* legion. From the roster of the *VII Claudia* legion inscribed on a marble block, discovered at Viminacium and exhibited at the Museum of Požarevac, it can be observed that, out of the total number of discharged veterans in 195 AD, after more than 25 years of service, the vast majority of soldiers originated from Scupi, thus suggesting that Scupi had a significant role as a recruitment centre in Upper Moesia.¹¹ These epigraphic records and the numismatic evidence of coins of the Bithynian mint of Nicaea and the Viminacium mint, shall provide us with a solid base for reconstructing the history of Scupi during the mid-third century.

In recent years, intensive archaeological excavations have been carried out in several different areas on the archaeological site of Scupi (the urban zone with its south-eastern defensive wall, the theatre and the south-eastern necropolis) which resulted in a significant augmentation of the numismatic collection of the Museum of the City of Skopje. Due to the ongoing restoration of the coins, the documentation of the numismatic material is still incomplete for a group of coins. It is vital to emphasize that the conclusions recorded here are based on preliminary data gathered from limited number of coins. The article analyses 36 Viminacium coins and

4 IMS VI, 19; 20; 61; 180–182; 184; 187–188; 246.

5 IMS, VI, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 216.

6 IMS, VI, 43 (*V Macedonica*), VI, 41 (*V Alaudae*), VI, 38–39 (*III Macedonica*).

7 The first one leading from the north to the south, connecting the Danube River with the Aegean Sea through the Morava-Vardar Valley (cf. *Rav.Geogr.* IV.15; *Strab.* VIII.8,5) and the second one following from the west to the east, connecting *Via Egnatia* road with *Via Militaris* road.

8 Jovanova and Ončevska Todorovska 2018, 449–458.

9 IMS, VI, 24, 44, 47.

10 IMS, VI, 36.

11 IMS, II, 53; Mirković 2004, 65–72.

98 Nicean coins that have been documented so far, and will be subject to additional reporting with the completion of the restoration process.



Fig. 1 Panoramic view of the central city area with researched buildings (documentation of the Museum of the City of Skopje)¹²

The theatre of Scupi, with its completed coinage evidence, has revealed a total of 3,200 coins¹³ minted by almost all Roman emperors and members of their families, including three collective finds.¹⁴ They indicate the highly developed monetary economy of the city and suggest that this building in Scupi served its function until the end of 4th century and the beginning of the 5th century AD.¹⁵ Approximately 86 pieces, out of the total number of specimens discovered at the theatre belong to provincial coinage, most of which date back to the mid-third century or more precisely, 24 coins were issued by Viminacium mint and 43 coins by Nicaean mint. Among them, 6 Viminacium coins (Gordian III: Cat. 2, 6, 7, 13, 14; Hostilian: Cat. 30) and 4 Nicaean coins (Severus Alexander: Cat. 66, 71; Gordian III: Cat. 124, 132) are part of one collective find (Graph 1) discovered between the radiate walls of the theatre.¹⁶ This collective find contains 60 coins spanning around 300 years from the oldest coins from Philippi until the most recent coins minted during the reign of Valens.

The Viminacium provincial coins that were discovered during the archaeological excavations at the theatre had been minted by the following emperors: Gordian III (10), Phillip I (6), Herrenius Etruscus (1), Hostilian (3), Trebonianus Gallus (2), Volusian (1) and Aemilian (1). In terms of the nominal value of the coins, the sesterces prevail with 18 pieces, followed by dupondii with 5 pieces and only 1 as.¹⁷

12 The edited photo was also published in: Jovanova and Ončevska Todorovska 2018, 27, Fig. 9.

13 Miloševski and Lilčić 2017, 419–469.

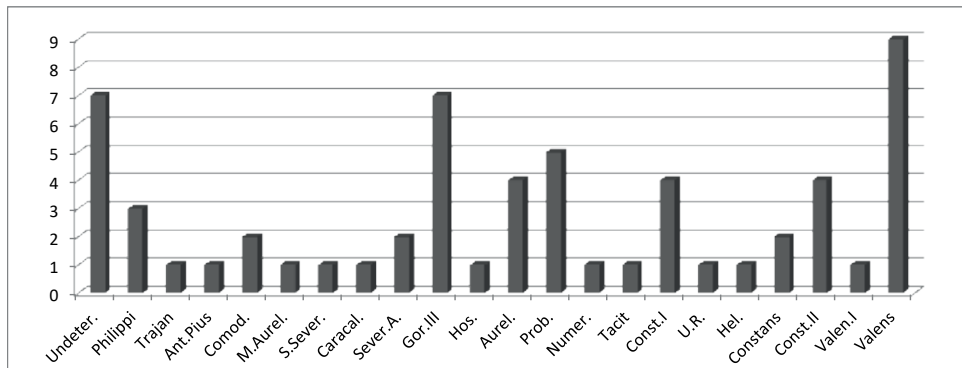
14 The compositions of all three collective finds were presented in tabular form without detailed catalogue specifications (cf. Милошевски 2018, 315–335).

15 Jovanova 2017, 159–238.

16 Милошевски 2018, 315–335.

17 Dupondii and as belong to the issues of Gordian III.

Furthermore, on the archaeological site of the theatre, as aforementioned, 43 coins minted in Nicaea were unearthed, i.e., 1 coin of Maximus Caesar, 22 coins issued by Severus Alexander, 18 coins issued by Gordian III and 2 coins with illegible obverse inscription.



the one hand the central urban zone and the Thermae-atrium Basilica complex, and on other hand the south-eastern defensive wall of Scupi, has resulted in the discovery of more than 3,400 coins in total, a larger part of which is still being documented and restored. From the available data, we can present 7 Viminacium sesterces minted by Gordian III (Cat. 1, 10), Philip I (Cat. 16, 17, 24) and Trajan Decius (Cat. 26, 27) and only 2 Nicaean coins issued by Severus Alexander (Cat. 52, 56). They have all been discovered at the central urban zone except for the one sesterce minted by Trajan Decius which has been unearthed at the south-eastern defensive wall. From those discovered at the central urban zone,¹⁹ two Viminacium sesterces (Gordian III, Cat. 10 and Trajan Decius, Cat. 27), together with one Nicaean bronze coin (Severus Alexander, Cat. 56), were discovered as part of a hoard of 97 coins unearthed in an iron container in the northern part of the street in the central urban zone. The oldest coin of this collective find is silver denar of Trajan and the most recent one is a half-follis of Byzantine emperor Maurice Tiberius.²⁰

With the latest excavations carried out from 2008 to 2012, the south-eastern necropolis (Fig. 2) of Scupi has been the most explored necropolis site, thus producing a complete excavation record of around 5,200 graves in total. This evidence shows a continuity in burial practice from the middle of the 1st to the middle of the 4th century AD with the domination of cremation burials until the middle of the 3rd century AD, although the inhumation type was also observed. In the middle of the third

18 Jovanova and Ončevska Todorovska 2018.

19 Jovanova and Ončevska Todorovska 2018, 395–404 (Cat. 26)

20 The majority in this hoard are coins from 4th and 5th century but the wide spanning of several centuries is set by the oldest two coins belonging to second century (Trajan, Commodus) followed by only four coins of third century (Severus Alexander, Gordian III, Trajan Decius, Philip I) until the most recent coins from the sixth century (Justinian I, Justin II and Maurice (*cf.* Ončevska Todorovska 2004, 28–42).

century AD, there was a change in funeral rituals and inhumation became the only form of burial throughout the middle of the 4th century AD.²¹



Fig. 1. Excavation of the necropolis of Scupi, 2015. Photo: Jovanova 2015, 17, Photo 6.

During the excavations of this necropolis roughly 2,600 coins were unearthed a large part of which is still in process of conservation. From the coins that have gone through the conservation process so far, we have 5 coins of Viminacium and 53 coins of Nicaea to present. The 5 coins of Viminacium are the following: Gordian III (3), Philip I (1) and Trebonianus Gallus (1). Regarding the coins of Nicaea, out of 53 examples documented from this necropolis, 47 are issues of Severus Alexander and 6 of Gordian III. One Nicean bronze coin of Severus Alexander with three standards (Cat. 89) was found within an inhumation burial grave (G-3100) of a young male of 20–25 years of age deposited in a lead coffin.²³ Apart from the coin, a piece of significant veterinary equipment, pottery and a ceramic lamp were also discovered. According to the burial elements found on the site and particularly the lead coffin, which is also traced at the necropolises of the other urban centres of Upper Moesia,²⁴ it has been concluded that the deceased was probably an individual of a higher social rank, maybe originating from the East.²⁵ These and previously mentioned

21 Јованова 2015, 16–44.

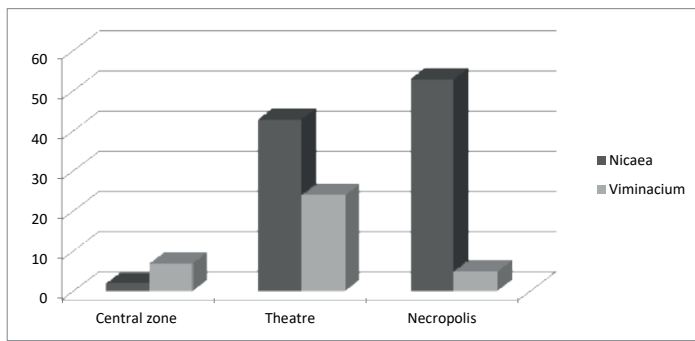
22 The photo was also published in: Jovanova 2015, 17, Photo 6.

23 Јованова 2015, 159–189.

24 Јованова 2015, 159–189; Golubović 2002, 629–640.

25 Јованова 2015, 159–189.

Nicaean finds clearly indicate that coins with the military standards from Nicaea mint were widely accepted in everyday monetary transactions in Scupi (Graph 2).



The specific reduction in weight during a time of crisis in the Roman Empire in the 3rd century is also evident from the coins of Viminacium mint found at Scupi, especially from the sesterces, whose mass differs from the heaviest 21.32 g. of Gordian III to the lightest 7.78 g. of Aemilian. Since the severe reduction in weight reaches its pick during the twelfth and the thirteenth year of the Viminacium mint and consequently the issue of the dupondii and asses in the following years becomes quite exceptional²⁶ it is quite understandable why among these coins excavated on the site of Scupi only the emperor Gordian III is represented with all three denominations (Table 1).

Emperor	Gordian III			Phil I.	Tr.Dec.	H.E.	Hos.	Tr.Gall.	Vol.	Aem.	Total
	S	Dp	AS								
Nom.	S	Dp	AS	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
AN I	2	1	1								4
AN II		3									3
AN III	3	1									4
AN IIII	1	2									3
AN V											0
AN VI				4							4
AN VII				2							2
AN VIII				2							2
AN VIII				2							2
AN XI					1						1
AN XII					1	1	3				5
AN XIII								3	1		4
AN XIV										1	1
Total	6	7	1	10	2	1	3	3	1	1	35

Table 1 Viminacium coins from Scupi by denomination and by Emperor²⁷

²⁶ Борић-Брешковић 1976, 11–14.

²⁷ One sesterce of Gordianus III has illegible AN and it is not inserted here.

Regarding the coin type, all coins on reverse have standard representation of a female figure, standing between a lion and a bull, except for one dupondius of Gordian III (Cat. 15) found at the south-eastern necropolis (Grave 2294) with the female figure holding a *vexillum* and a rabbit by its hind legs. Considering the coins of Nicaea, the coin type that prevails is the one of Severus Alexander with three military standards and few specimens of two military standards and a legionary eagle (*aquila*) in between. On the other hand, the coins of Gordian III display rich iconographic diversity. The most common type is the one of two standards surmounted by a capricorn between two standards, followed by the coin type of three military standards, i.e., two *signa* and an *aquila* in between. Besides the usual inscription positioned between the standards and below the line of the standards there is one atypical coin whose inscription is indeed, in two lines but above the line of the standards (Cat. 125).

The analysis of the numismatic findings confirms that during the reign of Severus Alexander and Gordian III, there was an increased presence of provincial coins from Bithynia in Scupi. However these coins were decorated almost exclusively with reverse motifs with military insignia, as it was also evidenced in large quantities in northern part of Upper Moesia, i.e., in Viminacium and along the Danubian Limes.²⁸ In Scupi, the coin of the Bithynian mint of Nicaea with the military standards, as might be expected, is the most commonly circulated type of coin, whereas the coins of the same type from the remaining Bithynian mints, according to the present documentation available are represented as follows: a single coin from Nicomedia (Cat. 137) and another one from Juliopolis (Cat. 138).

Apart from this type of coin with three *signa*, from the mint of Nicomedia we have also discovered the octastyle temple coin type at the south-eastern necropolis of Scupi (Cat. 135, 136), which has not been the case until now with the mint of Nicaea or Juliopolis.

As for the other parts of Upper Moesia,²⁹ the presence of the Nicaean coinage with military *signa* in Scupi, reaches its peak during the reign of Severus Alexander and of Gordian III. It can be concluded that, the coinage issues of Severus Alexander (73) outnumber the ones of Gordian III (24). They were chiefly unearthed at the south-eastern necropolis in Scupi (6 coins of Gordian III and 29 coins of Severus Alexander and 18 pieces with illegible obverse). On the other hand, the most concentrated find spot of the coins of Gordian III is the theatre where 18 pieces out of a total of 24 coins have been found.

The increased circulation of these coins with military character of the reverse designs is evidently connected to the military movements in Upper Moesia.³⁰ If we look at the epigraphic evidence from Scupi, we can confirm that these soldiers were either going to or returning from different battlefields, and were either spending time in Scupi or originated from Scupi. Hence, these low denomination value

28 Vojvoda and Crnobrnja 2018, 131–141;

29 Vojvoda and Crnobrnja 2018, 131–142; Vojvoda and Mrdić 2015, 13–18.

30 Војвода и Петровић 2011, 289; Војвода и Јесретић 2012, 119; Војвода и Бранковић 2016, 108; Војвода 2013, 115–196.

bronze coins, evidently intended for everyday basic monetary transactions of the Roman legions were probably brought in Scupi with the return of soldiers or veterans. This intensive use of Nicean military type of bronze coin during the reign of Severus Alexander in Upper Moesia, was gradually diminished but probably not entirely vanished from the coin circulation,³¹ with the opening of the Viminacium mint in 239 AD.³² As it has been noted in the numismatic literature before, the purpose of Viminacium mint was to cover the lack of bronze coins in the first half of 3rd century, that resulted from the closing of the Stobi mint during the reign of Caracalla.³³ Again, on the reverse of the Viminacium coinage, we have an iconography that pays tribute to the Roman legions or more precisely to the legions of VII *Claudia* and VIII *Flavia*, through the representation of a bull and a lion, *vexillum* etc. Consequently, in the middle of the 3rd century, after a dominant use of the Nicean bronze coins, the mint of Viminacium probably became the leading supplier in bronze coins of the military detachments stationed in Upper Moesia. As expected, the issues of Gordian III are the most common among the Viminacium coins in Scupi, followed by a certain number of coinage issues of Philip I, although with only one denomination, the sesterce, continuing until Aemilian with gradual decline of the weight. Unfortunately, the body of Viminacium coins available as numismatic evidence presently at Scupi cannot be accepted as adequate to support a conclusion about their share in the coin circulation in this part of Upper Moesia. We hope that the ongoing conservation of the numismatic material will shed new light on this phenomenon and lead us to new conclusions.

These types of coins of Nicaea and Viminacium with military iconography according to the numismatic evidence of Scupi played a significant part in the monetary circulation, not only in the north but also in the south of Upper Moesia during the mid-third century. Their role, however, in the local circulation in this part of the Balkans in interaction with the coins of the Macedonian mints is yet to be scientifically clarified and defined.

31 For collective finds: Ončevska Todorovska 2004, 28–42; Miloševski 2018, 315–335.

32 Vojvoda and Crnobrnja 2018, 131–142.

33 Borić-Brešković 2011, 415; Borić-Brešković and Vojvoda 2017, 7–31.

CATALOGUE

The catalogue is arranged chronologically according to the reigns of the Roman Emperors and it contains the following abbreviations and references:

Abbreviations

Cat. no.	catalogue number
Wt.	weight (gr)
Size	diameter (mm)
MS Coll.	records of field documentation of the Museum of the City of Skopje
(A)	Laureate bust right
(B)	Radiate bust right
(C)	Bare-headed bust right
(D)	Bust right (worn)
(NT)	Normal type (Personification standing between bull and lion)
(1)	Three standards
(2)	Legionary eagle between two standards
(3)	Four standards
(4)	Four standards, the middle ones surmounted by a capricorn

References

BMC	W. Wroth, <i>A Catalogue of Greek Coins in the British Museum. Catalogue of Greek Coins. Pontus, Paphlagonia, Bythinia and King of Bosphorus</i> , London 1889.
MOT, MH	M. Ončevska Todorovska, <i>Coin Treasure from Scupi, Macedonian Heritage</i> 23, 2004, 29 – 42.
NKV	Б. Борић-Брешковић, <i>Новац колоније Виминацијума у здици Свејозара Св. Душанића</i> , Београд 1976.
Pick 1898	B. Pick, <i>Die Antiken Münzen Nord – Griechenlands</i> , Bd.1.1, <i>Die antiken Münzen von Dacien und Moesien</i> , Berlin 1898.
Scupi	L. Jovanova and M. Ončevska Todorovska, <i>SCUPI, Sector southeastern defensive wall and Thermae- Atrium Basilica Complex</i> , Skopje 2018, 395-404.
Scupi, coll. find no. 3	В. Милошевски, Три колективни наоди од театарот во Скупи, <i>Folia Archaeologica Balkanica</i> IV, 2018, 315-335.
Scupi RT	V. Miloševski, G. Lilčić, Overview of the Numismatic Material from the Theatre in Skupi (Research 2013-2016), in: Antonio Jakimovski, <i>Roman Theatre Scupi</i> , Skopje 2017, 419-470.
SNG von Aulock	<i>Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum, Deutschland, Sammlung Hans Von Aulock</i> , Vol. 1: <i>Pontus, Paphlagonia, Bithynia, Mysia, Troas, Aiolis, Lesbos, Ionia</i> , Berlin 1957.
WBR	W. H. Waddington, E. Babelon et Th. Reinach, <i>Recueil général des Monnaies grecques d'Asie Mineure, Nicée et Nicomédie</i> , Paris 1910.

Photos

Chosen specimens are presented in photographic form and their numeration on the plates is coordinated with the catalogue numbers.

VIMINACIUM COINS IN THE COLLECTION
OF THE MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF SKOPJE

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
Gordian III							
1	[...] ANT GORDIANVS AVG (A)	P M S CO]-L VIM // AN •I• (NT)	4.15 19	Theatre	Pick, no. 73	239/240	1091/15
2	[...]RDIANVS AVG (A)	P M S C[O-L VIM] // AN •I• (NT)	15.93 28	Theatre	Pick, no. 71	239/240	2523/14 Scupi, coll. find 3
3	IMP CAES M ANT GORDIANVS AVG (B)	[P M S CO-L] VIM // AN •I• (NT)	6.62 22	Theatre	Pick, no. 72	239/240	3911/14
4	[...]NT GORDIANVS AVG (A)	P M S CO-L VIM // AN I (?) (NT)	15.3 30	Central city area	Pick, no. 72 (?)	239/240?	17531
5	Illegible (B)	P M S CO-L VIM // AN II (NT)	4.61 20	Theatre	Pick, no. 77	240/241	3351/14
6	IMP CAES M ANT [GORDIANVS] AVG (B)	P M S CO-L VIM // AN II (NT)	6.50 21	Theatre	Pick no. 77; Scupi, RT, no. 57	240/241	2532/15 Scupi, coll. find 3
7	IMP GORDIANV[S PIVS FEL AVG] (B)	P M S [CO-L VIM] // AN II (NT)	7.78 23	Theatre	Pick, no. 76*	240/241	2512/14 Scupi, coll. find 3
8	IMP CAES M ANT GORDIANVS AVG (A)	P M S CO-L VIM // AN [...] (NT)	19.52 31	Theatre	/	239-243	2524/14
9	IMP GORDIANVS PIVS [FEL AVG] (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN III (NT)	17 30	Grave 2389	Pick, no. 81; NKV, no. 168.	241/242	8641
10	IMP CAES M ANT GORDIANVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN III (NT)	16.10 31	Central city area	Pick, no. 81; NKV, no. 210; MOT, MH, no. 4	241/242	24541 part of hoard MS 5755/545
11	IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG (A)	P M S CO-L VIM // AN III (NT)	21.32 29	Theatre	Pick, no. 81; Scupi, RT, no. 58	241/242	4916/14
12	IMP GORDIANVS P[IVS FEL] AVG (B)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN III (NT)	5 22	Grave 2692	Pick, no. 82	241/242	7141
13	IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG (B)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN III (NT)	7.75 23	Theatre	Pick, no. 84; NKV, no. 430	242/243	2563/14 Scupi, coll. find 3

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
14	IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN III (NT)	18.76 28	Theatre	Pick, no. 83; NKV, no. 328	242/243	556/15 Scupi, coll. find 3
15	IMP GORDIANVS PIVS [FEL] AVG (B)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN III Personification standing between bull and lion, in r. hand holding a rabbit, in l. hand, vexillum.	6.1 23	Grave 2294	Pick, no. 90; NKV, no. 490	242/243	8714

Philip I

16	IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VI (NT)	19.6 30	Central city area	Pick, no. 102; NKV, no. 625	244/245	17139
17	IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VI (NT)	20.9 30	Central city area	Pick, no. 102; NKV, no. 625	244/245	16524
18	IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VI (NT)	18.24 27	Theatre	Pick, no. 102; Scupi RT, no. 60.	244/245	622/15
19	IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS [AVG] (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VI (NT)	19.68 30	Grave 2336	Pick, no.102; NKV, no. 618	244/245	8729
20	IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS [AVG] (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VII (NT)	18.03 28	Theatre	Pick, no.103; NKV, no. 716	245/246	1068/15
21	IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS [AVG] (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VII (NT)	16.94 27	Theatre	Pick, no.103; NKV, no. 716	245/246	3818/14
22	IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VIII (NT)	19.8 29	Theatre	Pick, no. 104; NKV, no. 845	246/247	2553/14
23	[IMP M IVL P]HILIPPVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VIII (NT)	20.36 28	Theatre	Pick, no. 104; NKV, no. 845.	246/247	4604/14
24	IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VIII (NT)	14.4 28	Central city area	Pick, no. 105; NKV, no. 992.	247/248	16382
25	IMP M IVL PHILIPP[VS AVG] (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN VIII (NT)	14.65 27	Theatre	Pick, no. 105; NKV, no. 992.	247/248	204/15

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
Trajan Decius							
26	IMP TRAIANVS DECIVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XI (NT)	13.54 28	South eastern wall	Pick, no.125; NKV, no. 1076 -1077; Scupi, no. 173	249/250	27188
27	IMP TRAI[ANVS DE- CIVS AVG] (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XII (NT)	13.68 26	Central city area	Pick, no.127; MOT, MH, no. 5.	250/251	24542 part of hoard MS 5755/545
Herennius Etruscus							
28	Q HER ETR MES DECIVS NOB (C)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XII (NT)	11.41 26 10	Theatre	Pick, no. 141; NKV, no. 1270.	250/251	2024/14
Hostilian							
29	[C V]AL HOST M QVINTVS CAE (C)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XII (NT)	12.42 26	Theatre	Pick, no. 148; Scupi, RT, no. 62	250/251	1247/15
30	C V[AL] HOST M QVINTVS CAE (C)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XII (NT)	12.80 25	Theatre	Pick, no. 148; NKV, no. 1319	250/251	2508/14 Scupi, coll. find 3
31	C [VAL] HOST M QV[INTVS CAE] (C)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XII (NT)	12.79 25	Theatre	Pick, no. 148	250/251	2853/14
Trebonianus Gallus							
32	IMP C C VIB TRIB GALLVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XIII (NT)	12.94 26	Theatre	Pick, no. 164; Scupi RT, no. 63	251/252	257/15
33	IMP C C VIB TRIB GALLVS AVG (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XIII (NT)	13.26 27	Theatre	Pick, no. 164; NKV, no. 1462	251/252	5922/14
34	[IMP] C C VIB TRIB GALL[VS AVG] (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XIII (NT)	14.3 27	Grave 2891	Pick, no. 164; NKV, no. 1462	251/252	9702
Volusianus							
35	IMP C VOLVSIAN- VSAVG (A)	P M S COL VIM // AN XIII (NT)	9.61 26	Theatre	Pick, no. 176, Scupi, RT, no. 64	251/252	2865/14

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
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Aemilianus

36	IMP C M AEMIL AEMILIANVS [AVG] (A)	P M S C-OL VIM // AN XIV (NT)	7.78 25	Theatre	Pick, no. 179; NKV, no. 1643; Scupi, RT, no. 65	252/253	4915/14
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NICAEA COINS IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF SKOPJE

Severus Alexander

37	M AVP CEV ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC [...] (A)	NI-K-A-IE // ΩΝ (1)	5.7 20	Theatre	WBR, no. 617	222-235	5222/14
38	M AVP CEVH ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC [...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	3.2 19	Theatre	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	3721/14
39	M AVP CEVH ΑΛΕ[ΞΑΝΔΡΟC] AVT (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	3.5 20	Theatre	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	4921/14
40	M AVP CEV ΑΛΕ [...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	3.7 20	Grave 2302	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	8455
41	M AVP CEV ΑΛΕΞΑΝ [...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	3.5 20	Grave 2341	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	8964
42	M AVP CEVH ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC [...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.9 20	Theatre	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	372/15
43	M AVP CEY ΑΛ[ΕΞ] ΑΝΔΡ [...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.2 20	Grave 2912	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	9644
44	M AVP CEVH ΑΛΕ [...] (A)	NI-K-A-IE // ΩΝ (1)	4.2 20	Grave 2906	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	9852
45	M AVP CEY ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡ [...] (A)	NI-K-A-IE // ΩΝ (1)	3.7 20	Grave 3129	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	10385
46	[M AVP] CEY ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡ [...] (A)	NI-K-A-IE // ΩΝ (1)	4.1 21	Grave 3057	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	10192
47	M AV [CEV] ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡ [...] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.3 21	Grave 3069	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	10080
48	[...]ΑΝΔΡΟC AVT (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	3.7 20	Grave 2742	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	7218

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
49	M AVP CEV ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC AVT (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.4 21	Grave 2749	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	7268
50	[M AVP CE]VH ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC A[VT] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.3 20	Theatre	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	4919/14
51	M AVP CEVH ΑΛΕΞΑ[...] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	3.8 20	Grave 3192	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	12136
52	M AVP CEVH ΑΛΕΞΑN[...] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.1 18	Central city area	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	14321
53	M AVP C ΑΛ[...] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.9 20	Grave 2346	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	8513
54	M [AV]P CEV[H] ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC A[.] (A)	NI-KA-IE-ΩN (1)	5.1 20	Theatre	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	1235/14
55	M AVP CEVH ΑΛΕ[...] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.8 19	Theatre	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	4920/14
56	[M] AVP CE[V] ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC AVT (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	3.9 20	Central city area	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617, MOT, MH, 3	222-235	24540 part of hoard MS 5755/545
57	M AVP [CE]V ΑΛΕ[ΞΑΝΔΡ]OC [...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.2 19	Theatre	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	5106/14
58	[M AVP] CEVH ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC AV (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.7 20	Theatre	WBR, no. 617	222-235	3666/14
59	[...] ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC [...] (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	3.8 20	Grave 2342	WBR, no. 617	222-235	8504
60	M AY CE ΑΛΕΞΑN[ΔΡΟC] AY[Γ] (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	3.9 19	Theatre	WBR, no. 617	222-235	264/14
61	M AY CE ΑΛΕΞΑN[...] (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.6 19	Theatre	WBR, no. 617	222-235	205/15
62	M AY CE ΑΛΕ[...] (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	5.8 20	Theatre	WBR, no. 617	222-235	5169/14
63	[...] ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟC [...] (B)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.4 20	Theatre	WBR, no. 617	222-235	2866/14
64	[M] AVP CE[...] AVT (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (2)	4.6 19	Theatre	BMC, no. 104; WBR, no. 616	222-235	3873/14
65	[M] AVP CE[...] AVT (B)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (2)	2.1 18	Grave 2471	BMC, no. 104; WBR, no. 616	222-235	10539

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
66	[M AVP] CEY ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ Α[...] (A)	NI-KA-IE-ΩΝ (1)	4.4 19	Theatre	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617; Scupi RT, no. 53	222-235	614/15 Scupi, coll. find 3
67	[M] AYP CEYH ΑΛΕ[...] (A)	NI-KA-IE-ΩΝ (1)	5.2 19	Theatre	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	328/15
68	[M] AYP CEYH ΑΛΕΞ[...] (B)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.3 20	Theatre	BMC, no. 99	222-235	5928/14
69	[M AVP CE]V ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ [...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.4 20	Grave 3520	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	10829
70	M AV[P CEV]H ΑΛΕΞ[...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.5 20	Grave 2925	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	9679
71	[M AVP CEV ΑΛΕ] ΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ ΑΥΓ (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.1 19	Theatre	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	2968/14 Scupi, coll. find 3
72	M AYP CEV ΑΛΕ[...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.3 21	Grave 2425	BMC, no. 102	222-235	8956
73	M AYP CEY ΑΛΕ[ΞΑΝΔΡ]ΟΣ ΑΥΤ (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.8 21	Theatre	BMC, no. 102	222-235	1389/14
74	[M AVP CEV ΑΛ] ΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ ΑΥ (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ (2)	4.3 20	Theatre	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 616	222-235	4953/14
75	[M AV]P ΑΛΕ[...] (A)	NI-KA-IE-ΩΝ (1)	2,5 20	Grave 3292	WBR, no. 580	222-235	12215
76	M AVP CEY ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ Α (A)	NI-KA-IE-ΩΝ (1)	3.8 22	Grave 2721	BMC, no. 102, WBR, no. 617	222-235	7281
77	M AVP ΑΛ[...] (A)	NI-KA-IE-ΩΝ (1)	3.6 22	Grave 2424	BMC, no. 99; WBR, no. 617.	222-235	8976
78	M AVP [CEVH ΑΛΕΞΑΝ]ΔΡΟΣ [...] (A)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4 19	Grave 3654	BMC, no. 100; WBR, no. 617	222-235	10883
79	[...] CEV A[.....]ΔΡΟΣ ΑΥΓ (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	6 19	Theatre	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no.617	222-235	470/14
80	[...]ΑΝΔΡΟΣ [...] (A)	[N-I]K-A[I-E] // ΩΝ (1)	4.6 21	Grave 2886	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	9555
81	[M AVP] CEVH ΑΛΕ[...] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	5.3 19	Grave 3265	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	12200

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
82	[M AV]P CEVH AAE[...] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.8 19	Grave 3318	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	12325
83	[M AVP C]EY AAE[...] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.5 20	Grave 2368	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	8531
84	[...]ANΔPOC [...] (A)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4 19	Grave 2454	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	10582
85	M AYP CEV AAEEANΔPOC A (B)	NI-KA-IE-ΩN (1)	4.2 21	Grave 2855	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	9514
86	[M AVP CEV AAEΞ] ANΔPOC A[...] (B)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.1 20	Grave 2385	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	8934
87	[M AVP CEV AAEΞ] ANΔPOC A[...] (B)	[N]-IK-AI-[E] // ΩN (1)	3.8 19	Grave 3107	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	10408
88	[M AVP CEV AAEEANΔ]POC AVT (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	3.8 19	Theatre	BMC, no. 102; WBR, no. 617	222-235	1135/15
89	M AVP CEVH AAEEANΔPOC A[...] (B)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.8 21	Grave 3100	BMC, no. 103	222-235	12987
90	Illegible (D)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.3 20	Grave 2382	/	222-235	8656
91	Illegible (D)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.5 20	Grave 2399	/	222-235	8776
92	M AV[...] (D)	[N]-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4 20	Grave 2780	/	222-235	7346
93	Illegible (D)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	3.4 21	Grave 3266	/	222-235	12202
94	Illegible (D)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.2 21	Grave 2731	/	222-235	7206
95	Illegible (D)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	3.9 19	Grave 2891	/	222-235	9703
96	Illegible (D)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.3 20	Theatre	/	222-235	1132/14
97	M AV[...] (D)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (1)	5.2 20	Theatre	/	222-235	757/15
98	Illegible, (D)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	3.7 20	Grave 2387	/	222-235	8736
99	[.....]AAE[...] (D)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩN (1)	4.3 18	Grave 2474	/	222-235	8943

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
100	Illegible (D)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.1 19	Grave 2410	/	222-235	8681
101	Illegible (D)	NI-K-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	3.9 19	Grave 2404	/	222-235	8676

Maximus Caesar

110	Γ IOV OVH M[AXIMOC K] (C)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	4.3 18	Theatre	WBR, no.685	236-238	4932/14
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Gordian III

111	[M ANT Γ]OPΔIANOC AY[Γ] (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩΝ (4)	2.9 19	Theatre	WBR, no. 715	238-244	1126/14
112	[M ANT ΓOPΔIA]NOC AY[Γ] (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩΝ (4)	2.4 19	Grave 2904	WBR, no. 715	238-244	9572
113	[M ANT] ΓOPΔIA[NOC AYΓ] (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩΝ (4)	2.5 18	Grave 2178	WBR, no. 715	238-244	7189
114	[M ANT ΓO]PΔIANOC AYΓ (B)	N-I-K-AI // EΩΝ (1)	3.8 18	Theatre	BMC, no. 122; WBR, no. 716.	238-244	779/14
115	M ANT ΓOP[ΔIANOC] AYΓ (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	2.7 17	Theatre	BMC, no. 122; WBR, no. 716.	238-244	5158/14
116	M ANT ΓOPΔIA[NOC AYΓ] (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ (1)	3.3 18	Theatre	BMC, no. 122; WBR, no. 716.	238-244	562/15
117	M ANT ΓOPΔIANOC AY[Γ] (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩΝ Vexillum surmounted by eagle between two standards.	2.5 19	Grave 2446	BMC / WBR /	238-244	8910
118	[M AN]T ΓOPΔIAN[OC AVΓ] (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩΝ (4)	2.8 18	Theatre	WBR, no. 715	238-244	834/14
119	M ANT [ΓOPΔIANOC] AVΓ (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩΝ (4)	2.6 18	Theatre	WBR, no. 715	238-244	388/15
120	[M A]NT ΓOPΔIANOC AVΓ (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩΝ (4)	3.4 19	Theatre	WBR, no. 715	238-244	2447/14

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
121	[M ANT ΓO]ΡΔΙΑΝOC AVΓ (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩN (4)	3.1 19	Theatre	WBR, no. 715	238-244	95/16
122	[M AN]T ΓOPΔΙΑΝOC AVT (in ligature) (B)	N-I-K-AI // EΩN (1)	4 18	Theatre	BMC, no. 122; WBR, no. 716	238-244	1488/14
123	M [ANT] ΓOPΔIA[...] (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (2)	2.4 16	Theatre	BMC, nos. 123 – 124; WBR, no.713.	238-244	89/15
124	[M ANT ΓOPΔI]ANOC AVΓ (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (2)	2.4 19	Grave 2444	BMC, nos. 123-124; WBR, no.713.	238-244	8972 Scupi coll. find no.3
125	M ANT [ΓOPΔI]ANOC [AVΓ] (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (in two lines between standards). (2)	2.9 17	Theatre	BMC / WBR /	238-244	5017/14
126	[M A]NT ΓOPΔΙΑΝOC A[VT] (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩN (4)	3.5 20	Theatre	WBR, no. 715	238-244	5220/14
127	M ANT ΓOPΔΙΑΝOC [A VT] (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩN (4)	3.1 20	Theatre	WBR, no. 715	238-244	1273/15
128	M ANT ΓOPΔIA[...] (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩN (4)	2.6 17	Theatre	WBR, no. 715	238-244	3608/14
129	M ANT ΓOPΔΙΑΝOC [A VT] (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (2)	2.6 20	Theatre	BMC, nos. 123 – 124; WBR, no. 713.	238-244	157/13
130	[M AN]T ΓOP[ΔIA]NOC AVΓ (B)	N-IK-AI-E // ΩN (2)	2.9 19	Theatre	BMC, nos. 123 – 124; WBR, no. 713.	238-244	107/15
131	M ANT ΓOP[ΔIA]NOC [AVΓ] (B)	N-I-K-A-I // EΩN Two legionary eagles between two standards.	2.2 21	Theatre	BMC, nos. 119-121; WBR, no. 712.	238-244	3744/14
132	M AN[T] ΓOPΔIAN[...] (B)	NI-K-AI- E // ΩN Legionary eagle between two standards topped by capricorn.	2.7 18	Theatre	BMC, nos. 123-125; WBR, no. 713	238-244	1137/15 Scupi, coll. find 3
133	[....]ΡΔΙΑΝ[...] AVΓ, (B)	N-I-K-A-I // [E] ΩN (3)	3 19	Grave 3545	BMC, no. 118	238-244	10611

Cat. no.	Obverse	Reverse	Wt. Size	Place of find	References	Date	MS Coll.
134	[...]NT ΓO[ΠΑΙ]ΑΝOC [ΑΥΓ] (B)	N-I-K-A-I // [ΕΩΝ] Two legionary eagles between two standards topped by capricorn.	2.5 19	Grave 3592	BMC, no. 118	238-244	10692

NICOMEDIA COINS IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF SKOPJE

Severus Alexander

135	M AYP CEY ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡOC ΑΥΓ (in ligature) (A)	NI-KO-MH-ΔE-Ω-N // ΔIC NEΩ-K Octostyle temple.	5 22	Grave 3117	WBR, no. 325	222-235	10254
136	M AVP CEV ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡOC [ΑΥΓ] (A)	NI-KO-MH-ΔE-Ω-N // ΔIC NEΩ-K Octostyle temple.	4.3 21	Grave 2775	WBR, no. 325	222-235	7290
137	[...]EV ΑΛE[.....] (D)	[NIKO-MH]-Δ-EΩN // ΔIC NEΩ K (2)	3.5 19	Grave 3285	WBR, no.327	222-235	12229

JULIOPOLIS COINS IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF SKOPJE

Gordian III

138	M ANT ΓOPΔΙΑΝOC [A VI] (B)	IO-YA-IO-ΠO // ΔEITΩN (2)	2.3 17	Theatre	SNG von Aulock, no. 6975	238-244	113/15
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НОВАЦ КОВНИЦЕ ВИМИНАЦИЈУМ И БИТИНИЈСКИХ КОВНИЦА ОТКРИВЕН У СКУПИМА

РЕЗИМЕ

Обимна систематска и заштитна археолошка истраживања спроведена у последње две деценије на простору римске колоније Скупи (*Colonia Flavia Scupinorum*) значајно су обогатила нумизматичку колекцију Музеја града Скопља. Поменута археолошка ископавања одвијала су се на неколико различитих локација: театар, централна градска зона, југоисточни бедем и југоисточна некропола, од којих је једино театар комплетно археолошки истражен, док се остали локалитети још увек интензивно истражују. Слична је ситуација и са конзервацијом монетарних налаза, при чему је новац откривен на простору театра у целости конзервиран, док је онај с осталих локалитета још увек у том процесу. Стога су предмет овог рада само конзервирани примерци провинцијалних ковница: Виминацијум (36 ком.), Никеје (98), Никомедије (3) и Јулиополиса (1).

Иако је у овој фази, број обрађених примерака новца ковнице Виминацијум из Скупа мали уочена је континуирана циркулација. Заступљени су скоро сви императори у распону од Гордијана III до Емилијана, при чему су бројнији примерци Гордијана III и Филипа I. У односу на место налаза, виминацијумски новац је заступљенији на простору театра и централне градске зоне Скупа.

Новац Никеје документован је у већим бројем примерака, што указује на снажан продор овог провинцијалног новца у време Александра Севера и Гордијана III, при чему су примерци првог знатно бројнији. Треба нагласити да су скоро сви примерци новца из Никејске ковнице откривени на простору југоисточне некрополе Скупа.

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PLATE II



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73



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PLATE IV



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120



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122



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