

NOTAE NUMISMATICAE

ZAPISKI NUMIZMATYCZNE



Tom XV

MUZEUM NARODOWE W KRAKOWIE
SEKCJA NUMIZMATYCZNA
KOMISJI ARCHEOLOGICZNEJ PAN
ODDZIAŁ W KRAKOWIE

Kraków 2020

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Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that we present volume XV of *Notae Numismaticae – Zapiski Numizmatyczne* to you. In accordance with the principles that we have adopted, our texts are published in the conference languages with English and Polish abstracts. The whole of the present volume can be found as PDF's on the website of the National Museum in Krakow (<https://mnk.pl/notae-numismaticae-zapiski-numizmatyczne-1>), as are previously published volumes of the journal. The website also contains general information about the journal as well as information for prospective authors and reviewers.

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Recent Finds of Islamic Coins from the Old Town and Zawodzie Districts in Kalisz

ABSTRACT: A settlement cluster around Kalisz first emerged in the Roman Period on a route leading from the south towards the Baltic coast. In the Early Middle Ages, a settlement centre connected with the Kalisz-Zawodzie stronghold developed at the crossroads of trade routes linking Wielkopolska with Silesia, Mazowsze, and Małopolska, with the earliest traces of early medieval occupation dating back to the 8th century. In the 10th century, oriental silver in the form of silver dirhams started to flow into the discussed region. These coins were part of deposits discovered in the sites of Kalisz-Szałe and Kalisz-Rajsków. Many years of research on artisanal settlement Kalisz-Stare Miasto produced a few fragments of Sāmānid dirhams minted between AH 279–343 (892–954). In 2018, during research at the Church of St. Adalbert located within the Kalisz-Zawodzie settlement accompanying the stronghold, a part of what was probably a larger silver deposit was found. In total, 13 dirham fragments were recovered, among which Sāmānid emissions dated to the first half of the 10th century were identified (8 pcs), as well as five pieces of undetermined dynastic attribution. As demonstrated by the stratigraphic analysis, the early medieval hoard had been discovered and dispersed at some point during

the period when the church cemetery was used, between the 17th century and second half of the 18th century.

KEY WORDS: early medieval period, Kalisz, Church of St. Adalbert, dirhams, hoard, stray finds

ABSTRAKT: Najnowsze znaleziska monet islamskich z terenu Starego Miasta i Zawodzia w Kaliszu

Kaliskie skupisko osadnicze powstało w okresie wpływów rzymskich na szlaku wiodącym z południa na północ ku wybrzeżom Morza Bałtyckiego. W okresie wczesnego średniowiecza na skrzyżowaniu dróg handlowych łączących Wielkopolskę ze Śląskiem, Mazowszem i Małopolską rozwinął się kaliski ośrodek osadniczy związany z grodem Kalisz-Zawodzie. Najwcześniejsze ślady osadnictwa w tym okresie datowane są na VIII w. W ciągu X stulecia na te tereny zaczęło napływać srebro orientalne w postaci dirhamów. Monety były składnikiem depozytów odkrytych na stanowiskach Kalisz-Szałe i Kalisz-Rajsków. W trakcie wieloletnich badań osady rzemieślniczej Kalisz-Stare Miasto znaleziono kilka ułamków dirhamów sāmānidzkich wybitych w latach AH 279–343 (892–954). W 2018 r. podczas badań prowadzonych przy kościele pw. św. Wojciecha znajdującym się na terenie przyrodowej osady Kalisz-Zawodzie odkryto fragment prawdopodobnie większego depozytu srebra. Łącznie znaleziono 13 fragmentów dirhamów, spośród których wyróżniono emisje sāmānidzkie datowane na 1. połowę X w. (8 egz.) oraz 5 ułamków o bliżej nieustalonej przynależności dynastycznej. Jak wynika z analizy stratygraficznej, wczesnośredniowieczny skarb został odkryty i rozproszony w trakcie użytkowania przykościelnego cmentarza w okresie od XVII do 2. połowy XVIII w.

SŁOWA KLUCZOWE: wczesne średniowiecze, Kalisz, kościół św. Wojciecha, dirhamy, skarb, znaleziska luźne

Owing to its location at the crossroads of trade routes,¹ Kalisz was among the most densely settled areas in early medieval Wielkopolska. Starting from the 9th century, its centre became the stronghold at Zawodzie. After south-eastern Wielkopolska was incorporated into the Piast domain, it seems the stronghold was turned into the main administrative centre for this part of the country.² As early as the turn of the 9th and 10th centuries, two large settlements developed nearby: Zawodzie

¹ WĄSOWICZÓWNA 1953: 76–86; WYCZÓŁKOWSKI and KĘDZIERSKI 2017: 121–122.

² TRAWKOWSKI 1962: 19. Recently, A. Buko proposed considering Kalisz as the place of origin of the Piast dynasty, given that the Zawodzie stronghold was extended rather than damaged in the 10th century, a situation unusual as compared with other tribal-period strongholds. It seems more likely, however, that the oldest Piast patrimony was the Giecz stronghold. This is evidenced by a rapid development of that centre during the reign of Mieszko I and Bolesław Chrobry, and its short distance from other major strongholds of the then Poland: Poznań, Gniezno, and Lednica, see BUKO 2013: 101–116.

settlement accompanying the stronghold, and the trading and artisanal settlement of Stare Miasto. The former remains poorly recognised due to significant transformation of the area in later periods and current development. The research carried out there focused primarily inside the Church of St. Adalbert and in its vicinity. The other site, Stare Miasto, was apparently the largest settlement in early medieval Kalisz. The character of the site gradually changed during the 12th century, developing into a proto-urban centre. The research in this settlement was first undertaken in the 1950s.³ Since 2001, archaeological excavations have been carried out in Stare Miasto, which has made it possible to determine the topography of the site and the chronology of settlement transformations in the area beginning from the Late Bronze Age.⁴ A few early features of industrial nature were assigned to the early medieval period. In addition, the exploration of a cultural layer formed between the 10th and 13th centuries produced early pottery dated to the 9th–10th centuries. Among many other artefacts, including coins dated to the 11th–12th centuries, many fragments of Islamic coins were also recovered from that layer (Map 1, Nos. 3–4).⁵

As mentioned, the early medieval settlements of Kalisz-Zawodzie and Kalisz-Stare Miasto lay in the immediate vicinity of Zawodzie stronghold, which functioned between the mid-9th and 14th centuries. Traces of early medieval occupation have been recorded both in the settlements and within the stronghold. Exceptionally favourable environmental conditions created the incentive for settlement. The river valley broadens up to 2 km near Kalisz, in part due to the flow of two right-bank tributaries of the Prosna: the Cienia and the Swędrnia. The warming climate, dropping ground water levels, and the slowing down of the river flow resulted in the formation of small elevations within the floodplain, surrounded by slowly flowing branches of the Prosna, suitable for settlement. Some of these elevations became settled as early as the 7th and 8th centuries,⁶ although it is worth noting that the first traces of human occupation there, primarily in the form of damaged cemeteries, date back to the close of the Bronze Age and the beginnings of the Przeworsk culture, a period spanning from c. the 3rd–2nd centuries BC to the 2nd century AD.⁷

The archaeological research has demonstrated that a cremation cemetery functioned in the 7th–8th centuries in the area where the stronghold was later built. The next episode is connected with the close of the 9th century, when the fortifications

³ DĄBROWSKA, RAUHUTOWA and UZDOWSKA 1960: 10–17; KĘDZIERSKI and WYCZÓŁKOWSKI 2017: 81ff.

⁴ *Ibidem*.

⁵ KĘDZIERSKI and WYCZÓŁKOWSKI 2017: 94, 97; SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 100 C. Kalisz XIII – Stare Miasto: 10, 11; 100 D. Kalisz XIII – Stare Miasto: 4, 5, 12; 100 F. Kalisz XIII – Stare Miasto: 1; BOGUCKI et AL 2016: 255. Kalisz – Zawodzie: 1.

⁶ STUPNICKA, BARANOWSKI and BENDER 2006: 99.

⁷ KĘDZIERSKI and WYCZÓŁKOWSKI 2017: 94.

of the first stronghold in Kalisz-Zawodzie were erected.⁸ The foundation of the stronghold undoubtedly affected the pattern of land use in the adjacent section of the valley. The most evident outcome seems to be the aforementioned emergence of settlements in which single fragments of oriental coins have been found. As in the case of the hoard from Kalisz-Szałe,⁹ the coins were discovered in the context of features dated to the late 9th and early 10th centuries. Both the place where the hoard was discovered and the settlements of Stare Miasto and Zawodzie lie on sandy elevations within the river valley.

The research in Zawodzie settlement focused on the Church of St. Adalbert. The works carried out in 1959, 2013, and 2017–2018 uncovered traces of occupation from the 10th–12th centuries, among others.

Features associated with the earliest phase of land use, dated to the 10th century, were probably damaged already during the early medieval period, or they were disturbed when the area was used as a churchyard cemetery. There were several layers of graves, with the grave cuts reaching down to between 0.5 and 2.0 m beneath the present-day ground surface. The excavations in 1959 and the more recent research did not find archaeological features older than the 11th century, neither inside the church nor in the churchyard cemetery. However, single potsherds dated to the 10th century were discovered both in the cultural layer in the settlement and in the cemetery. In trench IV from 2018, situated north-east of the church, remains of a two-phase feature were found, dated to a period between the 12th–13th century and probably the end of the 16th century. The remains of the feature were covered with a layer of sand. The arrangement of that layer suggests that the sand was being poured down the slope of the small hill on which the church stood. This allowed the area occupied by the churchyard cemetery to be extended, with the edge of the slope moved further west and south-west. This levelling layer, and the layers connected with the dwelling, were then cut by burials from two subsequent phases of the cemetery. Apart from the depth of the grave cuts, these two phases also differ in the orientation of burials. In total, 13 dirham fragments and a fragment of silver wire originating from an unplaited and fragmented necklace or bracelet were found in the fills of the grave cuts and in the burial layer. All these artefacts were found over a small area of less than 3 square metres in the southern part of the explored trench. The distribution of the artefacts in terms of depth clearly correlated with the grave cuts and spanned the entire depth of the burial layer from approx. 104.00 m *a.s.l.* down to 102.85 m *a.s.l.*, where the deepest coin fragment was recorded. The fact that the artefacts were concentrated within an area of merely 3 square metres suggests

⁸ BARANOWSKI 2013: 89–92.

⁹ KUBIAK, LEWICKI and MŁYNARSKA 1953: 136.

that all the fragments originate from a single, dispersed deposit. The absence of larger fragments, coin halves, and complete coins indicates that the dispersion of the deposit was connected with the fact that some part of it was taken away by the discoverers, while smaller coin fragments, more difficult to find, probably passed unnoticed and were left behind. Of particular importance for this discussion is the find of a larger fragment of a dirham coin during an archaeological supervision near the church in 2013. Its location in relation to the assumed direction of the levelling indicates that the fragment may have originated from the same source: from a deposit of artefacts dispersed during the levelling of the slope to the south-west of the hill on which the Church of St. Adalbert stands.¹⁰ As mentioned, this probably took place after the 16th century, when the feature on the western slope still remained in use, and before the beginning of the 20th century, when people ceased to be buried in the cemetery. Taking into account that some of the dirham fragments were discovered in the lowermost part of the burial layer, apparently undisturbed by the grave cuts, this period can be narrowed down to the first half of the 17th century, a time when the levelling of the slope probably took place. The coins found in the burials, which include a crown groschen of Zygmunt III from 1624 (Inv. No. 24/18), and a crown shilling of the same king from 1613 (Inv. No. 17/18), suggest this same period as the time when this part of the hill came to be used as part of the cemetery.

THE FIND FROM ZAWODZIE

The early medieval deposit comprises 13 fragments of dirhams and one fragment of silver wire, probably from a damaged necklace made from plaited silver wires. It remains unclear whether the above-mentioned coin fragment discovered during the archaeological supervision in 2013 was part of the deposit.¹¹ The set of the discovered artefacts suggests that the damaged hoard resembled the assemblage from Kalisz-Szałe and was comprised of coins and ornaments, most likely including both complete objects and fragments. The deposit was probably discovered at some point during the period when the cemetery functioned by the church, most likely in the 17th century, and the larger fragments of coins and ornaments were taken away by the discoverers.

The surviving part of the deposit (13 pieces totalling 7.56 g in weight) includes eight fragments identified as Sāmānid coins and three fragments that may have equally well been minted by ʿAbbāsīd or Sāmānid rulers given their typological similarity, while the last two, with illegible, obliterated inscriptions, remain undetermined.

¹⁰ A detailed description of the stratigraphy and the drawing documentation will be presented in the monograph of the site, currently under preparation.

¹¹ ZIĄBKA and KĘDZIERSKI 2016: 249–263; BOGUCKI et AL 2016: 255. Kalisz – Zawodzie: 1.

Among the eight fragments attributed to Sāmānid emirs whose names could be identified, five were minted under Naṣr ibn Aḥmad (301–331 = 914–942/3), two under Nuḥ ibn Naṣr (331–343 = 942/3–954), and one has the mint name Samarqa[nd] partially preserved and a poorly legible letter ξ under the Kalima on the obverse. The fragments of Naṣr ibn Aḥmad’s dirhams provide the fullest information concerning the emir’s name and the date and place of the minting. Three pieces have the mint name of aš-Šāš (Cat. I.1–3) completely or partially preserved, in two cases additionally confirmed by the manner of execution of the word ‘šarīk’ in the last verse of the Kalima on the obverse, characteristic of that mint (Cat. I.2–3).¹² Only one fragment (Cat. I.4) bears the full year of the emission: AH 325? (936/7), although this reading is not fully certain considering the poor preservation of the obverse. For two pieces, partially legible dates allowed for an attempt to reconstruct the year of emission as AH [3]2[3, -6] (934/5 or 937/8) (Cat. I.1) and AH [3]31 (942/3) (Cat. I.5). As mentioned, two fragments were identified as emissions of Nuḥ ibn Naṣr (Cat. I.6–7) based on the partially preserved emir’s name that could be reconstructed. One of these fragments (Cat. I.6) also bears the name of Caliph al-Mustakfī billāh, which allows the time of this dirham’s emission to be narrowed down to AH 333–343 (944/5–954).¹³ The last fragment attributed to the Sāmānids is fragment I.8, minted in Samarqand between AH 327 and 350 (938/9–961/2), with additional letters ξ [ξ] characteristic of that mint (here: partially preserved).¹⁴ The last group comprises pieces (Cat. I.9–13) bearing fragments of conventional and considerably obliterated legends which, given the contents of the surviving inscriptions, may have been minted in the 3rd–4th centuries of Hijra (9th–10th centuries).

The chronological structure of the above assemblage allows for an assumption that the deposit was buried after 954. Did the dirham fragment discovered in 2013, being an imitation of the Sāmānid type with errors in the names of Caliph ar-Rāḍī billāh and Emir Naṣr ibn Aḥmad on the reverse, also belong to this deposit (Cat. II.1)? According to Gert Rispling, such coins were minted by the Volga Bulghārs in Suwār between AH 320 and 338 (932–949/50).¹⁵ Given the dating of the entire assemblage and of the dirham fragment discovered there in 2013, we can assume that they were probably parts of the same deposit.

¹² LEIMUS 2007, nos. 2412, 2435–2437, 2439, 2441–2442, 2446–2447, 2450 (AH 316), 2473, 2476 (AH 317), 2500, 2503, 2516, 2518, 2521, 2523, 2556, 2568, 2575, 2578, 2580–2587, 2596, 2604, 2607–2608, 2650–2653; MAYER: nos. 305, 306 (AH 316), 320, 321.

¹³ The reign of Caliph al-Mustakfī billāh came to an end in AH 334 (946), but the Sāmānids continued minting coins with his name until AH 345 (956/7), see HITTİ 1969: 393–394; LEIMUS 2007a: 2815ff, 2993–2994, 3018, 3020–3028, 3033–3034.

¹⁴ LEIMUS 2007b: 68–69, tab. 1.

¹⁵ RISPLING 2005: 193, Table 1; 200, no. 1455.

Dirhams flowed into Wielkopolska from two directions: from the east and the north. In light of the most recent findings, we are today more convinced by the view positing that the first Islamic coins arrived by the eastern route: along the Bug River and then via Mazowsze. This hypothesis was outlined in 2005 by Mateusz Bogucki on the basis of Dorota Malarczyk's analysis of three numismatic assemblages from Wielkopolska.¹⁶ In his later publication Bogucki developed this view further, analysing other deposits from Mazowsze and Central Poland.¹⁷ A different position was taken by W. Łosiński. Analysing the composition of deposits dated to around the mid-10th century he reached a conclusion that the earliest dirhams arrived in Wielkopolska and central Poland through Eastern Pomeranian centres, especially Gdańsk, rather than directly via the Bug and Vistula valleys. In his opinion, the direct route from Mazowsze to Wielkopolska did not come into use before the 960s.¹⁸ The earliest dated assemblage from Wielkopolska is the deposit from Kalisz-Szałe, in the earlier literature referred to as the hoard from Piwonice (*Tpq* 934/5).¹⁹ Until 2000, only five mass finds containing Islamic coins were known from south-eastern Wielopolska. Two of these finds, Kalisz-Szałe (Map 1, No. 7) and Kalisz-Rajsków (*Tpq* 992–1000) (Map 1, No. 5),²⁰ were connected with the settlement cluster which started to develop in the middle course of the Prosna River in the first phase of the Early Medieval period.²¹ The other three deposits: from the village of Psary (10th cent.)²² (Map 1, No. 8); from Sieroszewice (*Tpq* 976)²³ (Map 1, No. 9); and from Masanów (*Tpq* 985)²⁴ (Map 1, No. 10), were connected with a poorly recognised settlement cluster approx. 20 km south of Kalisz, situated in the valley of the Prosna and its tributary the Ołobok, near present-day Ostrów Wielkopolski. Both these clusters developed in areas where traces of human occupation date back to the Bronze Age, and both areas were particularly intensely settled in the Roman period.²⁵

Originally hidden in a clay vessel, the dirhams from the Kalisz-Szałe hoard constitute only a small part of the deposit discovered around 1950. Apart from the coins, the deposit probably included silver ornaments, which suggests that

¹⁶ BOGUCKI, MALARCZYK and MARCZAK 2005: 182, 188.

¹⁷ BOGUCKI and MIŁEK 2010: 52–54; also see SUCHODOLSKI 2012: 159; ADAMCZYK 2018: 202.

¹⁸ ŁOSIŃSKI 1993: 32; IDEM 2002: 186–188.

¹⁹ KUBIAK, LEWICKI and MŁYNARSKA 1953: 136–156; SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 92. Kalisz V – Szałe.

²⁰ *Ibidem*: 97. A / Kalisz X – Rajsków.

²¹ WYCZÓLKOWSKI and KĘDZIERSKI 2016: 124–128.

²² SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 206. Psary.

²³ *Ibidem*: 228. Sieroszewice.

²⁴ *Ibidem*: 145. Masanów (Ołobok II/Kania).

²⁵ WYCZÓLKOWSKI and KĘDZIERSKI 2016: 122–123; BARANOWSKI 1988: 31–44; IDEM 2013:

most of the hoard has been stolen away. Thus, this would be a precious metal deposit typical of the 10th century, containing both coins and jewellery.²⁶ The small preserved part of the hoard, comprising two complete and 13 fragmented coins dated before 934/5, is kept in the collection of the Kalisz Regional Museum (Muzeum Okręgowe Ziemi Kaliskiej).²⁷ The results of surface surveys carried out in the place of discovery suggest that the hoard was most likely buried within a small settlement lying in the Prosna valley close to the place where the Pokrzywnica flows into the Prosna. The vessel fragments recovered from the site can broadly be dated to the 10th century.²⁸

The second of the Kalisz deposits containing dirhams, the one from Kalisz-Rajsków,²⁹ was discovered accidentally in 1992 during construction works in Rajkowska Street. This hoard has also been partly stolen away, and only a small part has survived to this day.³⁰ The preserved part, which undoubtedly comes from Kalisz-Rajsków and is today kept in the Kalisz Regional Museum, comprises 38 complete pieces and 386 fragments of Islamic and European coins, including what probably is the oldest Polish coin – a denarius of Bolesław Chrobry with a representation of an arrow. The preserved part also includes numerous fragments of silver ornaments. The collection kept in the Museum includes one complete dirham and 148 fragments, dated from the end of the 7th century until the last years of the 10th century. It should be noted that at least some part of this assemblage was gathered together in the Scandinavian cultural milieu. This is indicated by characteristic cut-marks, known as ‘pecks’, noticeable on the surfaces of several artefacts, both coins and ornament fragments.³¹ It is worth noting the presence, apart from ornaments undoubtedly associated with Central and Northern Europe, of a few fragments of Western European ornaments. Given its unique character, the deposit certainly requires further research.³²

²⁶ KUBIAK, LEWICKI and MŁYNARSKA 1953: 136; ANDRAŁOJĆ, ANDRAŁOJĆ, SILSKA and SZYNGIERA 2011: 56–57.

²⁷ KUBIAK, LEWICKI and MŁYNARSKA 1953: 136–156; SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 92 / Kalisz V – Szałe (Piwonice); BOGUICKI and MIŁEK 2010: 49–52.

²⁸ KUBIAK, LEWICKI and MŁYNARSKA 1953: 136–139; ANDRAŁOJĆ, ANDRAŁOJĆ, SILSKA and SZYNGIERA 2011: 56–57.

²⁹ SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 97 A / Kalisz X – Rajsków. The settlement of Rajsków is located near the place where the Swędnia River flows into the Prosna.

³⁰ Along with the surviving ornaments and Islamic, German, Bohemian, and Polish coins, the hoard from Kalisz-Rajsków may have originally also contained other ornaments and coins (most of them in fragments): Persian, Islamic, Byzantine, German, French, Italian, Bohemian, English, and Scandinavian, dated analogically to the artefacts preserved in the museum collection, see SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 97 A, 97 B, 97 C, 97 D. A hypothetical reconstruction of the hoard has been presented by S. Suchodolski, see SUCHODOLSKI 2017: 574–575.

³¹ On ‘pecks’ see DUCZKO 2002: 195ff; for a different view see CZWOJDA 2007, who considers a possibility that the cuts on the coins may have been made by a local population as well.

³² SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 97 A / Kalisz X – Rajsków: pl. XLIV: 97 A: 2, 97 A: 3, 97 A: 16, 97 A: 23, 97 A: 26ff.

As mentioned, there are three more hoards known from the Kalisz region which contain Islamic coins from a period before the beginning of the 11th century: from Psary, Masanów, and Sieroszewice. The first one, from Psary, is only known from modest mentions in 19th-century literature – it reportedly contained dirhams and silver ornaments.³³ The second deposit, from Masanów, dates to before 985 and contains German, Bohemian, and Danish denars, and dirhams minted between 900 and 982.³⁴ The latest dated in this group is the hoard from Sieroszewice, which contained 71 complete dirhams and 77 fragments minted in the years 865–971, along with German and Bohemian denars. In light of their dating, these three assemblages can be linked with the northern wave of the oriental silver inflow.³⁵ To the above list of deposits with dirhams can be added a hoard discovered probably in the 1980s in the Tyniec cemetery in Kalisz (Map 1, No. 6). A coin allegedly originating from the dispersed hoard is in private hands (Cat. IV.1). The information is difficult to verify today, although it seems likely given that the cemetery lies above the valley of the Swędnia River, near the place where it flows into the Prosna. Archaeological excavations were carried out in Tyniec in 1953, revealing primarily remains of a large settlement dated between the 2nd and 4th centuries.³⁶ Thus, the nature of this place in the medieval period is difficult to determine. It is worth noting that the settlements from the 9th–10th centuries known from the Kalisz settlement cluster usually occupy low locations.

It has also been argued in the literature that no stray finds of dirhams are known from settlements in Wielkopolska, which allegedly implies the late introduction of currency in that market as compared with Pomeranian centres.³⁷ This view has been challenged by Mateusz Bogucki and Sławomir Miłek, who pointed to stray finds from Kalisz and its vicinity.³⁸ They based their argumentation on the examples of coins discovered in several sites near Kalisz, as well as those recovered during regular archaeological research carried out in settlement sites in the centre of this cluster.

The group of stray finds includes three dirham fragments discovered in unknown circumstances to the north of Kalisz, in the valley of the Prosna River. In Janków Drugi, 22 km from Kalisz, two fragments dated to the reigns of the Umayyad and

³³ SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 206. Psary.

³⁴ *Ibidem*: 145. Masanów (Ołobok II/Kania).

³⁵ ADAMCZYK 2014: 33–54.

³⁶ DREWKO 1953: 198–206; BARANOWSKI 2015: 17.

³⁷ TABACZYŃSKI 1958: 62 and footnote 322; ŁOSIŃSKI 1990: 302; IDEM 1991: 236ff; SUCHODOLSKI 1995: 67ff; ŁOSIŃSKI 1995: 72ff; ŁYSZKOWSKI 2006: 5–7; ADAMCZYK 2018: 141–143.

³⁸ BOGUCKI and MIŁEK 2010: 52; SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 100 C. Kalisz XIII – Stare Miasto: 10, 11; 100 D. Kalisz XIII – Stare Miasto: 4, 5, 12; 100 F. Kalisz XIII – Stare Miasto: 1; BOGUCKI et AL 2016: 255. Kalisz – Zawodzie: 1.

‘Abbāsīd dynasties were found (Map 1, No. 1),³⁹ while one illegible fragment of a dirham comes from the village of Macew, 15 km from Kalisz (Map 1, No. 2).⁴⁰ Research conducted in Kalisz-Stare Miasto between 2001 and 2015 yielded nine dirham fragments, which also can be classed as stray finds.⁴¹ Four of them represent emissions from the times of the following rulers: 1) Ismā‘īl ibn Aḥmad (279–295 = 892–907) or Aḥmad ibn Ismā‘īl (295–301 = 907–914) minted in AH 29[0–9] (902/3–911/2) (Cat. III.1); 2) Naṣr ibn Aḥmad (301–331 = 914–942/3) from AH [329–31] (940–942/3) (Cat. III.5) and AH [327–31] (938/9–942/3) (Cat. III.7); and 3) Nūḥ ibn Naṣr (331–343 = 942/3–954) from AH 33[1–9] (942/3–950/1) (Cat. III.6). The remaining fragments, apart from one undetermined piece (Cat. III.4), are Sāmānid emissions from the close of the 9th to the 10th century (Cat. III.3) and from the 10th century (Cat. III.2, III.8, III.9).

The analysis of the assemblage discovered in 2017–2018 and of the stray finds allows us to conclude that the coins must have been minted within the same time range of AH 290–343 (902–954), and their inflow can be linked with the wave of silver inflow described as III b, which in W. Łosiński’s opinion fell to the 930s and lasted until the end of the 970s.⁴²

CATALOGUE

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I. Kalisz-Zawodzie, Church of Saint Adalbert (2018)

SĀMĀNIDS

1. [Naṣr ibn Aḥmad] (301–331 = 914–942/3), [aš-Š]āš, AH [3]2[3, –6] (934/5 or 937/8); 1.121 g; Inv. No. 53/2018 (Pl. 1, Fig. 1)

Obv.: in the field: ... لا / ... الله / ... لا شر; r. 1

1st margin: ... هاش سنة ... وعشرين و ...

2nd margin: ... نذ ...

Rv.: in the field: محمد / الله / ... / ... / ...; floral ending of ‘ḥā’ and ‘dāl’ in Muḥammad; r. 1

margin: ... رسول ...

Inscriptions partly illegible, two cuts in the coin’s edge

LEIMUS 2007a, nos. 2570, 2581–2583, 2586–2587 (AH 323), 2622 (AH 326); MALMER 1977: XX

³⁹ SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 84. Janków Drugi II.

⁴⁰ BOGUCKI and MIŁEK 2010: 52; SZCZUREK et AL 2017: 141. Macew.

⁴¹ BOGUCKI and MIŁEK 2010: 52; KĘDZIERSKI and WYCZÓLKOWSKI 2017: 97; ADAMCZYK 2018: 203.

⁴² ŁOSIŃSKI 1993: 32–33; IDEM 2002: 188–189.

2. [Naṣr ibn Aḥma]d (301–331 = 914–942/3), aš-Šāš, [AH 301–329] (914–940); 0.514 g; Inv. No. 12/2018 (Pl. 1, Fig. 2)

Obv.: in the field: ... / ... / ... ريك ...; the word ‘šarīk’ ornamental; r. 1

1st margin: ... حرهم بالشائش ...

2nd margin: obliterated

Rv.: in the field: ... / ... / ... الله... / ... / ...; r. 8 (?) or 22 (?)

margin: ... الله ار ...

Edge partly removed, bent

LEIMUS 2007a, nos. 2412, 2435–2437, 2439, 2441–2442, 2446–2447, 2450 (AH 316), 2473, 2476 (AH 317); MALMER 1977: XX; MAYER 1998: nos. 305, 306 (AH 316)

3. Naṣr ibn A[ḥmad] (301–331 = 914–942/3), aš-Šāš, AH [301–331] (914–942/3); 0.769 g; Inv. No. 25/2018 (Pl. 1, Fig. 3)

Obv.: in the field: ... / ... / ... شريك ...; the word ‘šarīk’ ornamental; r. 1

1st margin: ... بالشا[ش] ...

2nd margin: illegible, obliterated

Rv.: in the field: ... / ... / ... / ... / ... نصر بن ا ...; r. 1

margin: illegible

LEIMUS 2007a, nos. 2500, 2503, 2516, 2518, 2521, 2523, 2556, 2568, 2575, 2578, 2580–2587, 2596, 2604, 2607–2608, 2650–2653; MALMER 1977: XX; MAYER 1998: nos. 320, 321

4. [Naṣr ibn Aḥmad] (301–331 = 914–942/3), mint missing, AH 325? (936/7); 1.028 g; Inv. No. 27/2018 (Pl. 1, Fig. 4)

Obv.: in the field: ... لا / ... الله / ... لا; r. 1

1st margin: بسم ... سنة خمس وعشرين وتلثمائة

2nd margin: ... ذ بفرح المؤمنون بنصر الله

Rv.: inscription in the field obliterated; r. 1

margin: ... ه على الدين ...

Half of the dirham broken in two pieces; too worn, especially on the reverse

5. [Naṣr ibn Aḥmad] (301–331 = 914–942/3), [aš-Šāš?], AH [3]31 (942/3); 0.876 g; Inv. No. 54/2018 (Pl. 2, Fig. 5)

Obv.: in the field: ... لا / ... الله / ... لا / ... / ... additional inscription? ornament?; r. 1

1st margin: ... [سنة احدى وتلثين و ...

2nd margin: ... رح المؤمن...

Rv.: in the field: ... / ... / ... / ...; floral ending of ‘ḥā’ in Muḥammad; r. 1

margin: ... شركون محمد ...

Edge partly removed

Tbg NC, Cl. IX: 478; MALMER 1977: XVIII–XX; *Ibidem*: 321: 610; ZENO, nos. 134441, 172712, 131435

6. Nūḥ ibn Na[ṣr] (331–343 = 942/3–954), mint missing, AH 3[33–43] (944/5–954); 0.698 g; Inv. No. 34/2018 (Pl. 2, Fig. 6)

Obv.: in the field: ... لا / ... الله / ...

1st margin: ... بن وثلاثمائة ...

2nd margin: الله ...

Rv.: in the field: ... /... /... / [ال-مستك-في بالله] / ... نوح بن ...; r. 1

margin: ... على الدين كله ...

7. Nūḥ [ibn Naṣr] (331–343 = 942/3–954), mint missing, AH [331–43] (942/3–954); 0.305 g; Inv. No. 47/2018 (Pl. 2, Fig. 7)

Obv.: illegible

Rv.: in the field: ... /... /... /... /... نوح

margin: illegible

8. Ruler:?, Samarqa[nd], AH [327–350] (938/9–961/2); 0.441 g; Inv. No. 13/2018 (Pl. 2, Fig. 8)

Obv.: in the field: ... /... /... / [ع] ع

1st margin: ... [الدر] هم بسمرق ...

2nd margin: ... [م-ن بعد ويومئذ] ...

Rv.: margin: ...; r. 1

LEIMUS 2007b: 68–69, Tab. 1

‘ABBĀSIDS(?) SĀMĀNIDS(?)

9. Ruler:?, mint missing, after AH 200 (815/6); 0.366 g; Inv. No. 11/2018 (Pl. 2, Fig. 9)

Obv.: in the field: ... لا اله ...

Rv.: illegible, obliterated

10. Ruler:?, mint unknown, after AH 200 (815/6); 0.459 g; Inv. No. 50/2018 (Pl. 2, Fig. 10)

Obv. and *Rv.*: traces of marginal legends visible

11. Ruler:?, mint missing, after AH 200 (815/6); 0.166 g; Inv. No. 29/2018 (Pl. 2, Fig. 11)

Obv.: obliterated

Rv.: in the field: الله

margin: ... حد ...

INDETERMINABLE DYNASTY

12. Ruler:?, mint missing, after AH 200 (815/6); 0.176 g; Inv. No. 28/2018 (Pl. 2, Fig. 12)

Obv.: obliterated

Rv.: margin: ... الدين ...

13. Ruler:?, mint unknown, after AH 200 (815/6); 0.641 g; Inv. No. 38/2018 (Pl. 2, Fig. 13)
Obv. and *Rv.*: illegible

II. Kalisz-Zawodzie, Church of Saint Adalbert (2013)

IMITATION OF SĀMĀNID DIRHAM

Volga Bulghārs, „Naṣr [ibn Aḥmad]”, mint missing, after AH 322 (934); 0.511 g

Obv.: in the field: لا اله الا ... /... /

1st margin: illegible

2nd margin: illegible

Rv.: in the field: نصر... الراضي ب... /... ال... /

margin: illegible

Dirham fragment broken in two pieces, edge partly removed, bent

RISPLING 2005: 1455; FMP V: 255/1, Taf. III: I.255: 1

III. Kalisz-Stare Miasto (Old Town) (2005, 2006, 2009, 2014, 2015)

2005–2006: *Henryk Brodaty Street / Sad, Early-Medieval burial ground*

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SĀMĀNIDS

1. [Ismā'īl ibn Aḥmad] (279–295 = 892–907) / [Aḥmad ibn Ismā'īl] (295–301 = 907–914), mint missing, AH 29[0–9] (902/3–911/2); 0.253 g; Inv. No. 75/2006

Obv.: in the field: ... لا /... / ...

1st margin: ... عين وما ...

2nd margin: ... بنصر الله ...

Rv.: in the field: ?; r. 1

margin: ... لو كره الله ...

FMP I: 100 D/12

2. Ruler:?, mint missing, AH 3xx (10th century); 0.250 g; Inv. No. 47/2005

Obv.: 1st margin: مائة ... [بسم-ح]

2nd margin: ... بنصر ...

r. 1

Rv.: in the field: الله /... /... /... / ...; r. 1

margin: ... ون محمد; ḥā' in Muḥammad with ornament

LEIMUS 2007a: 1636, 1640, 1648 (aš-Šāš, AH 301); FMP I: 100 D/5, Taf. LI: 100D: 5

3. Ruler:?, mint and date missing, last quarter of the 3rd–4th (end of the 9th–10th century); 0.209 g; Inv. No. 39/2005

Obv.: 1st margin: ... درهم ...

2nd margin: obliterated

Rv.: obliterated

FMP I: 100 D/4, Taf. LI: 100D: 4

INDETERMINABLE DYNASTY

4. Ruler:?, mint and date missing; 0.233 g; Inv. No. 92/2006

Obv. and *Rv.*: illegible

2006: 44 Henryk Pobożny Street / Sad

SĀMĀNIDS

5. Naṣ[r ibn Aḥmad] (301–331 = 914–942/3), [Samarqan]d, AH [329–31] (940–942/3); 0.628 g; Inv. No. 31/2006

Obv.: // [ع] ع

1st margin: ... د سنة ...

2nd margin: ... نذ ...

Rv.: in the field: ... /... / .../... الم/... نص

margin: ... لو كره ...

FMP I: 100 C/10, Taf. LI: 100C: 10

6. [Nūḥ ibn Na]ṣr (331–343 = 942/3–954), mint missing, AH 33[1–9] (942/3–950/1); 0.491 g; Inv. No. 4/2006

Obv.: in the field: ... لا/ .../ ...; r. 1

1st margin: ... ثلثين وثلاث ...

2nd margin: ... ن بنصر ...

Rv.: in the field: ... /... /... /... / صر ...; r. 1

margin: obliterated

FMP I: 100 C/11, Taf. LI: 100C: 11

2009: 3 Stare Miasto Street

SĀMĀNIDS

7. [Naṣr ibn A]ḥmad (301–331 = 914–942/3), [Samarqand?], AH [327–31] (938/9–942/3); 0.140 g; Inv. No. 54/2009

Obv.: in the field: ... / ... ل[ا] / ... لا ش ... ع

1st and 2nd margins: cut off

Rv.: in the field: .../ .../ .../ .../حمد...

margin: cut off

LEIMUS 2007b: 68–69, Tab. 1; FMP I: 100 F: 1

2014–2015: 13 Stare Miasto Street

SĀMĀNIDS?

8. Ruler?, mint missing, AH 3xx (10th century); 0.186 g; Inv. No. 65/2014

Obv.: in the field: .../ لا/ .../ .../ ...; r. 11

1st margin: ... وتلثم... ...

2nd margin: ... نصر ...

Rv.: in the field: .../ .../ .../ ...; r. 1

margin: ... كره ...

9. Ruler?, mint missing, AH 3xx (10th century); 0.341 g; Inv. No. 6/2015

Obv.:

1st margin: بسم الله... ائة

2nd margin: لله... الله

Rv.: margin illegible, obliterated

IV. Kalisz-Tyniec (?)

SĀMĀNIDS

Naṣr ibn Aḥmad (301–331 = 914–942/3), aš-Šāš, AH 328 (939/40)

Obv.: in the field: لا شريك له / الله وحده / لا اله الا; the word ‘šarīk’ ornamental; r. 1

1st margin: بسم الله... ضر... درهم... اش سنة خمس وعشرين وتلثمائة

2nd margin: ... يفرح ال[ل]مؤمنون بنصر ...

Rv.: in the field: / نصر بن احمد / الراضي بالله / رسول الله / محمد لله /

margin: محمد رسول الله ارسله ... حق ليظهره ... ركون

LEIMUS 2007a: 2620

ABBREVIATIONS

AH – Anno Hegirae

Obv. – Obverse

Rv. – Reverse

r. – ring type after CNS 1977.1.2:XX

1st margin – inner marginal legend of the obverse

2nd margin – outer marginal legend of the obverse

margin – marginal legend of the reverse

Inv. No. – Inventory number

FMP I = SZCZUREK et AL 2017 – T. SZCZUREK, B. PASZKIEWICZ, A. TABAKA, M. BOGUCKI, P. ILISCH and D. MALARCZYK, in cooperation with P. KAŻMIERCZAK, A. KĘDZIERSKI, T. NOWAKIEWICZ and M. SIKORA, “Frühmittelalterliche Münzfunde aus Grosspolen”. In: M. BOGUCKI, P. ILISCH and S. SUCHODOLSKI (eds.), *Frühmittelalterliche Münzfunde aus Polen. Inventar 1*, Warszawa.

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Tbg NC – C.J. TORNERBERG, *Numi Cufici Regii Numophylacii Holmiensis quos omnes in terra sueciae repertos*, Upsaliae 1848.

ZENO – www.zeno.ru; Oriental Coins Database

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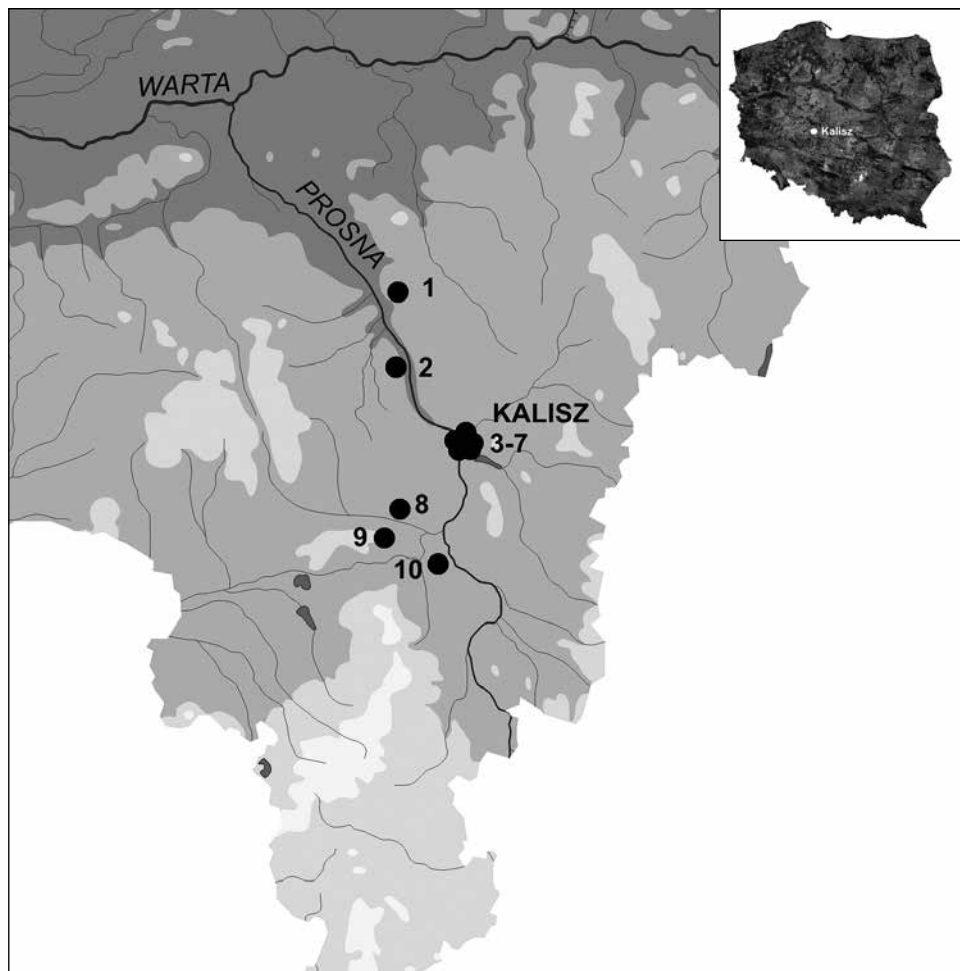
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MAP 1

Locations of dirham finds in Kalisz and its vicinity

PLATES 1–2

Figs. 1–13. Coins from Kalisz-Zawodzie, Church of Saint Adalbert, found in 2018. The numbers of the photographs correspond to the numbers of the coins as per “Catalogue. I. Kalisz-Zawodzie, Church of Saint Adalbert (2018)”. Photos by Adam Kędzierski (scale 2:1)

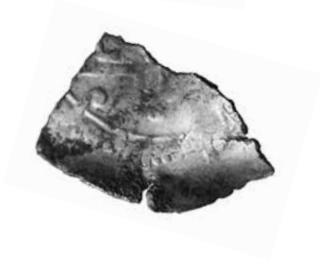


Locations of dirham finds in Kalisz and its vicinity

1. Janków Drugi, Blizanów Commune; 2. Macew, Gołuchów Commune; 3. Kalisz-Stare Miasto (Old Town); 4. Kalisz-Zawodzie; 5. Kalisz-Rajsków; 6. Kalisz-Tyniec; 7. Kalisz-Szałe; 8. Psary, Sieroszewice Commune; 9. Sieroszewice, Sieroszewice Commune; 10. Masanów, Sieroszewice Commune



1



2



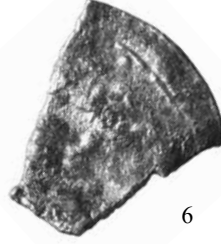
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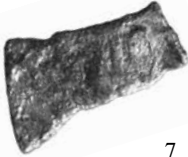
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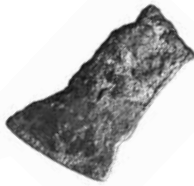
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6



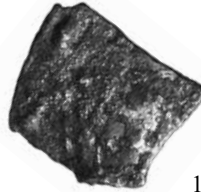
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