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ON THE INTERPRETATION OF THE BRONZE SEVEN-POINTED ROSETTE OF
PLISKA

(Summary)

The Pliska rosette has seven rays arranged radially around a circumference. On the obverse of the circumference is seen the sign (Y) on a large scale, and on the reverse of the rosette on each of the rays are inscribed two runic signs placed one above the other.

These symbols are examined within the context of the runic signs of Bassarabi (Murfatlar) in Northern Dobrudja, and also of the numerous Proto-Bulgarian characters seen on buildings and various other objects in the Early Bulgarian centres. Nowhere are these Proto-Bulgarian signs attested in connected speech, we even do not encounter them in a single word. The rosette had no practical purpose, and in no case could it be interpreted as an accessory of the bridle of a saddle-horse, as suggested by E. Sachev. Here we have rather an astral and symbolic object in which we may see represented the whole solar system known at that time.

The deciphering of the signs of the rosette is impossible for the time being, and the interpretation, proposed here, is nothing more than a hypothesis, however plausible it might seem in my view.