

## **Terracotta figurines of boys with kausia from present-day Bulgaria**

(Abstract)

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The present paper discusses eight terracotta figurines of the popular Hellenistic type “boy with kausia”. The largest group was discovered on the territory of the Greek colony Odessos (presentday Varna). One was found in Kavarna (ancient Bizone), and one in Nesebar (ancient Greek colony of Mesambria). The only example from the interior of the country was found in Bednyakovo (present-day Stoyan-Zaimovo), Stara Zagora region, and is kept in the National Institute of Archaeology and Museum, BAS.

Following their specific iconographic features, the figurines of boy with chlamis and kausia on the head could be classified in four types with variants. Type 1 depicts a boy with kausia with low brim, shallow groove and trapezoidal upper part, and chlamis, fastened at the right shoulder. The hair is short. The left arm is bent at the elbow and pulls down the neck of the cloak. The type is dated to the Early Hellenistic Period. Type 2 is a boy with kausia with distinct brim, groove, and oval upper part. The face of the figure is with fine features, framed by curly hair, falling to the shoulders. The chlamis is fastened at the right shoulder and falls down to the left

ankle. In this case, variations in the facial features and the treatment of the cloak allow for distinguishing four variants. Variant A – broad face with small eyes, nose, and lips; the hair is long and curly and falls to the shoulders; the cloak is fastened at the right shoulder and covers the left part of the body. The left arm is covered by the cloak, bent at the elbow and slightly pulling down the neck of the chlamis. Variant B - the face is small and oval, with pretty features, small eyes, nose and lips. Variant C – the face is oval, with small eyes and nose and normal lips. Variant D - the head is missing; the chlamis is fastened at the right shoulder; the left arm is held tight against the body, pulling the inner end of the cloak to the left. This type could be dated to period from the first half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 2<sup>nd</sup> c. BC. Only one figurine belongs to Type 3 and it is partially preserved: the chlamis is fastened at the left shoulder and falls down to the ankles. Type 4 is with pillar-like body, tightly enveloped in the cloak that is fastened at the right shoulder. It falls down to the ankles and the lower edge is cut straight. Type 3 could be dated generally to the 3<sup>rd</sup> c. BC, and Type 4 is the latest that is attested, dated to 2<sup>nd</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> c. BC.