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THE COIN HOARD FROM PURIKI, SETUMAA

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About twenty years ago a silver hoard was brought to light by ploughing in the village of Puriki (Purka), Setumaa (Fig. 1; nowadays this village belongs to the Russian Federation). The local people have described it as “half a bucket of thin silver coins”. In 1998, thanks to the help of the inhabitant of Luhamaa, Olev Vaher, the author had the chance to investigate 12 coins of this hoard of a remarkable size, which had passed into private property. Unfortunately the fate of the rest of the coins is unknown.

Of the twelve investigated coins six (Fig. 2: 1–6) were gotes from Gotland, struck in Visby during the period 1340–1380/90 (Lagerqvist 1970, 104–105), which represent the oldest type of coins bigger than penny in Northern Europe. Most of the numismatists nowadays date the earliest of them to the 1330ies–1340ies (Jonsson 1995, 78). Gotes were struck until the mid-15th century. Unfortunately no proper system has been developed for determining these coins. Only the early gotes have been investigated a little more (Jensen 1985).

Determining the gotes from the Puriki hoard, I used Lagerqvist's system (Lagerqvist 1970, 104–106), which is based on different weights of the gotes of different periods. This system, in its turn is derived from Hauberg's tripartite division (Hauberg 1891, 58–63).

Gotes played an important role in monetary circulation of the 14th-century Estonia. Since 1332, when coin-striking in Livonian mints was interrupted, pennies of North-German towns and the *örtugs* (gotes) of Visby, prevailed in local cir-

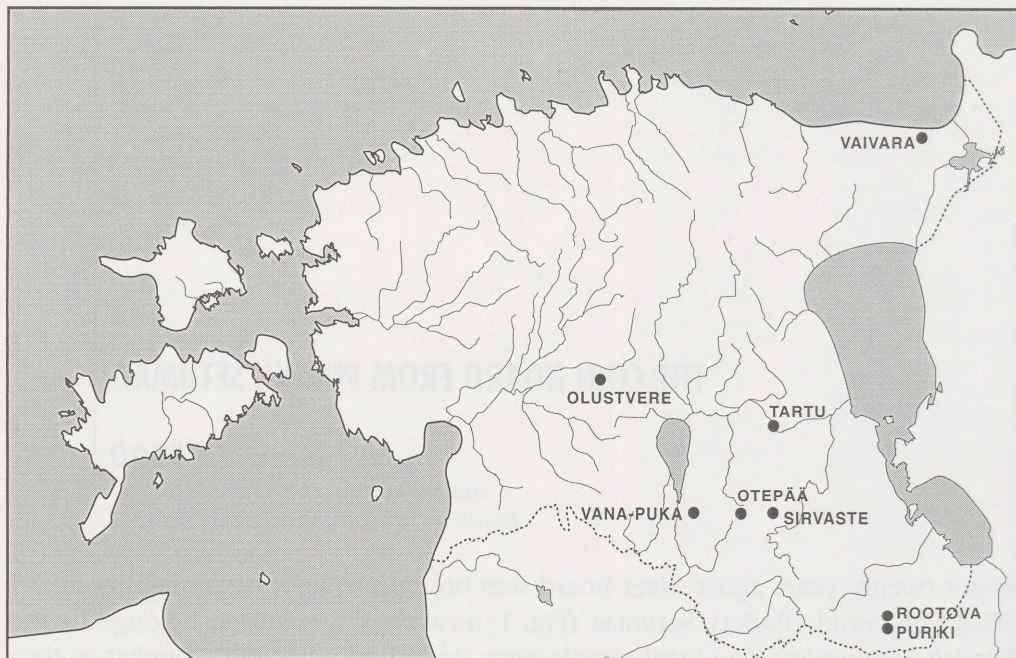


Fig. 1. Hoards of the 3rd quarter of the 14th century.
Joon. 1. 14. sajandi kolmanda veerandi mündiaarded.

culuation (Leimus 1998, 83–89). The earliest find in Estonia, containing gotes, was probably the Loosi II hoard found near Vastseliina. Deciding by the conditions of discovery, this hoard, collected in a cow's horn, had been thrown – probably sacrificed – in a bog. Relying upon different authors, this hoard, consisting of 762 coins, contained 11 (Hartmann 1871a, 10) or 12 (Sb. GEG 1871, 60) gotes.

Most of the gotes found in Estonia come from the hoards of the 3rd and 4th quarters of the 14th century. As we can see from Table, gotes have quite a remarkable share in the hoards and they indicate frequent contacts between Estonia and Gotland. As a comparison, it is interesting to observe that in a hoard from Kirial (Jutland peninsula, Denmark), deposited in 1365, which consisted of 81422 coins (Jensen 1971, 166), not a single gote occurred.

The latest known hoard from Estonia, containing Gotland gotes, was found from Väike-Rõude. This hoard, consisting of 1941 coins, contained 86 gotes and it was dated to the period 1413–1420 (Molvögin 1967, 352).

Besides stray finds (two gotes from Vana-Kariste and one from Kulina), and the presumable votive find from Kogula, containing three gotes, the *örtugs* of Gotland

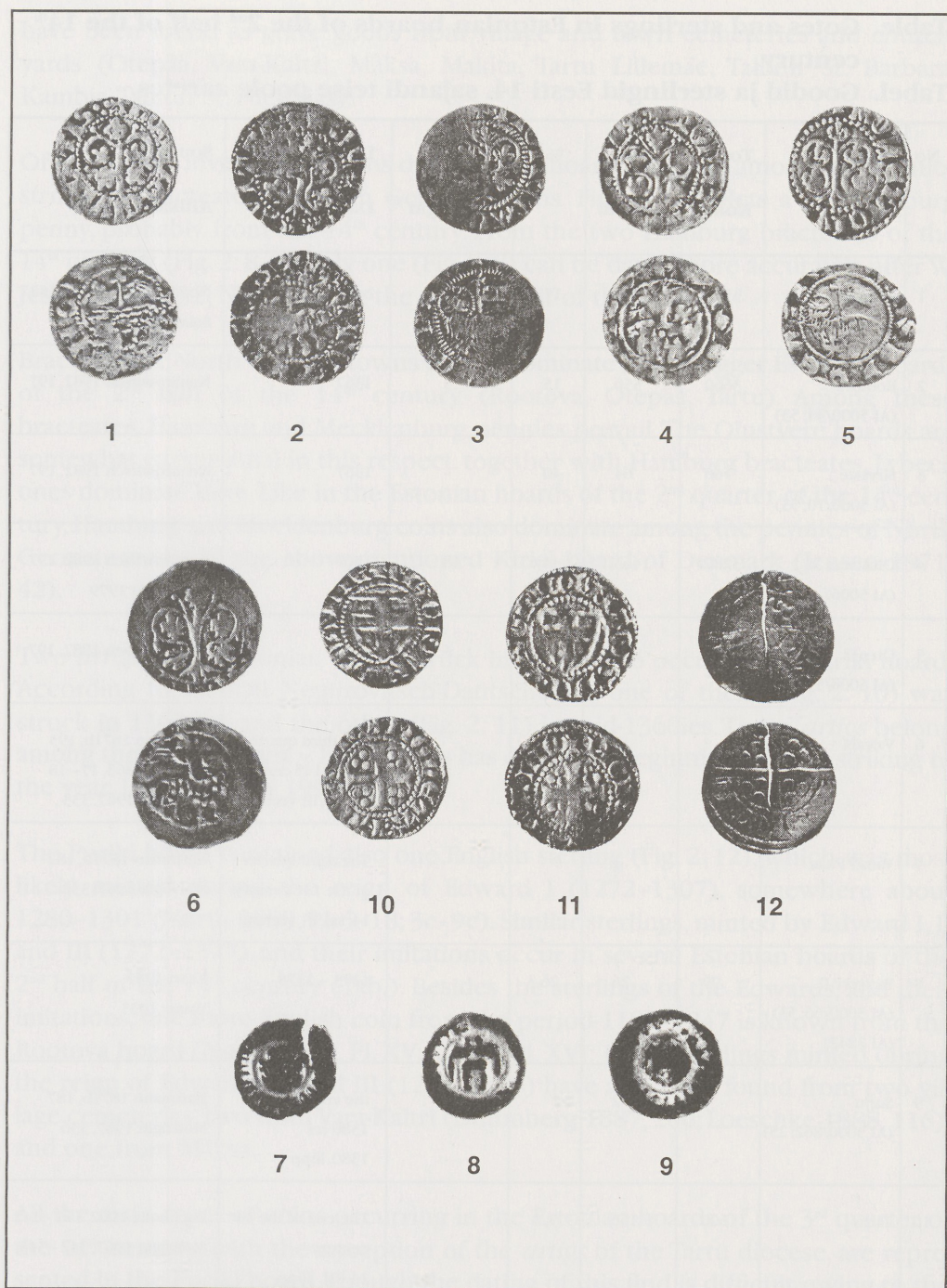


Fig. 2. Coins of the Puriki hoard.

Joon. 2. Puriki aarde müündid.

Table. Gotes and sterlings in Estonian hoards of the 2nd half of the 14th century.

Tabel. Goodid ja sterlingid Eesti 14. sajandi teise poole aaretes.

No	Hoard Aare	Total Kokku	Gotes Goodid	%	Sterlings Sterlingid	Dating Dateering	Sources Allikad
1	Olustvere II, 2 (AI 5006)	3567	561	15,7	39	before/ enne 1363	Nemirowitsch 1982, 182 Sokolovski 1979
2	Rootova (AI 5000/34; 53)	3660	550	15	5	1367	Nemirowitsch 1982, 197
3	Sirvaste (AI 5000/70; 53)	160	64	40	-	1367	Nemirowitsch 1982, 197
4	Olustvere II, 1 (AI 5006)	3282	1463	44,6	48	1369	Nemirowitsch 1982, 197 Sokolovski 1979
5	Otepää (AI 5000/55; 53)	2972	907	30,5	6	1369	Nemirowitsch 1982, 197
6	Vaivara	?	3	?	-	The third quarter of the 14 th century 14. saj. III veerand	Hartmann 1871b, 193 Sb. GEG. 1863, 17- 18 Molvõgin 1967, 333
7	Vana - Puka	?	1	?	-	The third quarter of the 14 th century 14. saj. III veerand	Hartmann 1871b, 182 Molvõgin 1967, 332
8	Parivere II (AI 5000/66; 53) (AI 3242)	99	26	26,3	-	1373 - 1378	Kaart 1939 Vassar 1933
9	Surju (AI 5000/862; 25)	?	2	?	-	the end of the 1380 ies 1380. lõpp	Hartmann 1871b, 187 Molvõgin 1967, 336
10	Tartu	1600	156	9,8	1	The end of the 14 th century 14. saj. lõpp	Buchholtz 1902, 141 - 142 Molvõgin 1967, 342 - 343

have been found as grave goods from village and town cemeteries and churchyards (Otepää, Vara-Kaltri, Mäksa, Makita, Tartu Lillemäe, Tallinn St. Barbara, Kambja, Tallinn St. Nicholas).

Of the twelve investigated coins of the Puriki hoard, 3 belong among the pennies struck as bracteates of North German towns. Fig. 2: 7 depicts a Mecklenburg penny, probably from the 14th century. From the two Hamburg bracteates of the 14th century (Fig. 2: 8, 9), only one (Fig. 2: 8) can be dated more accurately after W. Jesse (1928, 232, No 174) – to the second half of the century.

Bracteates of North German towns clearly dominate in the bigger Estonian hoards of the 2nd half of the 14th century (Rootova, Otepää, Tartu). Among these bracteates, Hamburg and Mecklenburg pennies prevail. The Olustvere hoards are somewhat exceptional in this respect: together with Hamburg bracteates, Lybeck ones dominate here. Like in the Estonian hoards of the 2nd quarter of the 14th century, Hamburg and Mecklenburg coins also dominate among the pennies of North German towns in the above-mentioned Kirial hoard of Denmark (Jensen 1971, 42).

Two *artigs* of the Livonian Order, struck in Tallinn also occur in the Puriki hoard. According to Mihhail Nemirovitsch-Dantschenko, one of them (Fig. 2: 10) was struck in 1363/64, and the other (Fig. 2: 11) in mid-1360ies. These *artigs* belong among the earliest ones – Ivar Leimus has dated the beginning of their striking to the year 1363 (Leimus 1998, 90).

The Puriki hoard contained also one English sterling (Fig. 2: 12), which was most likely minted during the reign of Edward I (1272–1307), somewhere about 1280–1301 (North 1989, Pl. 5–18; 3c–9c). Similar sterlings, minted by Edward I, II and III (1272–1377), and their imitations occur in several Estonian hoards of the 2nd half of the 14th century (Tab.). Besides the sterlings of the Edwards, and their imitations, one more English coin from the period 1180–1247 is known from the Rootova hoard (North 1963, Pl. XV: 32–40; Pl. XVI: 1–21). Sterlings minted during the reign of Edward I, II and III (1272–1377) have also been found from two village cemeteries: two from Vara-Kaltri (Duhmberg 1887, 200; Loeschke 1888, 116), and one from Mäksa.

All the main types of coins occurring in the Estonian hoards of the 3rd quarter of the 14th century, with the exception of the *artigs* of the Tartu diocese, are represented in the Puriki hoard. Though the dating of this find is difficult owing to the small number of known coins, I presume that the Puriki hoard was most likely

deposited in the 3rd quarter of the 14th century.

It is interesting to know, that from Rogozina Gora (Paiumäe) village (former Rootova county), only 3 km from the finding place of the Puriki hoard, a hoard of the 3rd quarter of the 14th century was discovered in 1937, deposited under a stone, in a clay vessel, wrapped in birch bark (see Fig. 1: Rootova). Arkadi Molvõgin dated in 1967 the seven coin hoards of the 3rd quarter of the 14th century, known by that time (Rootova, Otepää I, Sirvaste, Otepää II, Vana-Puka, Vaivara, Tartu), to the year 1373 (Molvõgin 1967, tab. 8). In the present article I have omitted the Otepää II hoard (AI 3680: 13–19) from the map of the hoards of the 3rd quarter of the 14th century (Fig. 1), as it was grave-goods consisting of 5 coins and 2 circular pieces of silver sheet and was discovered under ilium of one of the skeletons (Saadre 1938, 2).

Investigating the dies of the Livonian *artigs*, M. Nemirovitsch-Dantschenko has concluded that although the four biggest hoards of the 3rd quarter of the 14th century have been deposited within a very short period (Nemirowitsch-Dantschenko 1982, 196), the Rootova and Sirvaste hoards are somewhat earlier than the Olustvere II one (I vessel) and Otepää. He considers it most likely that the four mentioned hoards have been deposited in the ground during the so-called fish war, in the years 1367–1369. The depositing of the Rootova hoard can be connected with the Livonian campaign against Pskov in 1367 (*op. cit.*, 197). As the Puriki hoard was discovered only a few kilometres from Rootova, it can be assumed that both hoards were deposited in consequence of the same event.

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PURIKI MÜNDIAARE SETUMAALT

Mauri KIUDSOO

Umbes kakskümmend aastat tagasi tuli Puriki külas Setumaal (vt. joon. 1) kündmisel päevavalgele hõbeaare, mis olla kohalike elanike andmeil sisaldanud *pool pange õbukesi bõbemünte*. 1998. aastal õnnestus käesoleva artikli autoril lähemalt tutvuda 12 erakätesse jäänud mündiga sellest märkimisväärselt suurest leiust.

Nendest müntidest kuus (joon. 2: 1–6) on Ojamaal Visbys ajavahemikus 1340–1380/90 löödud öörtugid ehk goodid. Tõenäoliselt on meil üheks varaseimaks goote sisaldanud leiuks Vastseliina lähedalt Loosist avastatud II aare. Enamus Eestist leitud goote pärineb aga 14. sajandi teise poole aaretest. Nagu nähtub juuresolevast tabelist, moodustavad goodid tollastes peitleidudes küllaltki olulise osa, ning osutavad Eesti tihedale läbikäimisele Ojamaaga. Väike - Rõude aare on Eestist teadaolev hilisem leid, milles esineb Ojamaa goote. Viimase peitmisaeg on dateeritud ajavahemikku 1413–1420. Lisaks juhuleidudele ja Kogula ohvrileiule esineb Ojamaal vermitud öörtugeid ka küla ning linnakalmistute ja kirikaedade hauapanuste hulgas.

Olemasolevatest Puriki aarde müntidest kuuluvad kolm Põhja - Saksa linnades 14. sajandil löödud pennide hulka, mis vermiti brakteaatidena. Neist kaks pärinevad Hamburgi (joon. 2: 8, 9) ning üks Mecklenburgi (joon. 2: 7) linnast. Hamburgis löödud kahest brakteaadist saab mõnevõrra täpsemalt, s. o. 14. sajandi teise poole dateerida ühe raha (joon. 2: 8). Põhja - Saksa linnades löödud pennid moodustavad Eesti 14. saj. teise poole suuremate aarete müntidest selge enamuse, ning nende seas valitsevad just Hamburgi ning Mecklenburgi vermingud. Mündileidudest on mõnevõrra erandlikud Olustvere aarded, milles Hamburgi brakteaatide kõrval domineerivad Lübecki omad.

Puriki aardes on esindatud ka kaks Liivi ordu poolt Tallinnas löödud artigit. Mihhail Nemirovitsch - Dantschenko järgi on neist üks (joon. 2: 10) vermitud 1363/64 aastal ning teine (joon. 2: 11) 1360. aastate keskpaigas.

Puriki aardest on teada veel 1 inglise sterling (joon. 2: 12), mis vermiti suure tõenäosusega Edward I (1272–1307) valitsemisajal, u. aastatel 1280–1301. Sarnaseid Edward I, II ja III (1272–1377) sterlingeid ning nende järelmünite on avastatud mitmest Eesti 14. sajandi teise poole aardest (vt. tabel) ning kahelt külakalmistult.

Puriki aardest teadaoleva 12 mündi hulgas on esindatud kõik peamised 14. sajandi kolmanda veerandi Eesti leidude koostisesse kuulunud mündisordid (v. a. Tartu piiskopkonna artigid). Kuigi väheste teadaolevate müntide tõttu on selle leiukogumi dateerimine raske, arvan, et Puriki aare peideti kõige tõenäolisemalt 14. sajandi kolmandal veerandil.

Mihhail Nemirovitsch - Dantschenko on seisukohal, et neli 14. sajandi kolmanda veerandi suurimat aaret - Rootova, Sirvaste, Olustvere II (I savipott), Otepää - on peidetud suure tõenäosusega nn. kalasõja käigus, kõige tõenäolisemalt aastail 1367–1369. Rootova aarde peitmisaega seostab ta 1367. aasta Liivimaa sõjakäiguga Pihkva vastu. Kuna Puriki mündileid avastati Rootova aarde leiukohast vaid mõne kilomeetri kauguselt (joon. 1), siis on alust oletada, et mõlemad aarded võisid olla peidetud ühise sündmuse tagajärjel.