

## **Encircled in water, living in water rich environment of the Serbian Banat during the late Neolithic period**

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The area of Northeast Serbia, east of River Tisza and North of Danube called Banat has, until vast reclamation works started in the 18th century, been a water rich environment that provided limited opportunities for permanent settlements. And yet, from the earliest period of the human habitation, the Neolithic there are numerous settlements registered in the area that show avid effort being put into living in such conditions. In the lecture two regional cases are observed, one around the area of the city of Vršac in southern part of Serbian Banat and the second in the northern area, north of the city of Kikinda. Each area, although rich in surface water is somewhat different, southern being dominated by two large bodies of still water, northern by former meanders of Tisza and numerous smaller streams and rivers. The lecture will illustrate how did such landscape influenced the forming, positioning, longevity and size of settlements during the late Neolithic.