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**ON THE STUDY OF GEMMAS WITH HORSEMAN IMAGE
DISCOVERED IN MTSKHETA**

Four seals with the depicted horseman image discovered in Mtskheta burial grounds fall within the scope of our interests. From the very beginning, scholars have indicated parallels between the gemmas with horseman image and municipal coins of Trapezus discovered in Bichvinta and Sokhumi, being claimed as items representing the same deity.

The research has revealed that despite iconographic similarity between the intagli discovered in Mtskheta and the coins of Trapezus, the former still presents the following dissimilarities: 1. None of the Mtskheta gemmas have the usual attributes of Mithra; 2. None of them depict the Phrygian cap characteristic of the deity; 3. Having inherently local tones, the garments of a horseman on the Mtskheta gemmas quite differ from clothing of the deity depicted on the coins of Trapezus. They rather resemble the figures of the horseman found on Urbnisi gemmas. 5. Initially, the Mtskheta seals illustrated the deity on the horse-back only (on the turn of the 2nd - 3rd centuries), while to the later depictions were added a tree, a crescent and a star that could be considered as signs of syncretism of the above-mentioned and other deity; 6, given the burial inventory, the Mtskheta gemmas supposedly belonged to a female, an unlikely fact with regard to the late antiquity Mithra.