

## **The Treasure of Golden Byzantine Coins from Professor Ishirkovo, Silistra Region**

Ioto VALERIEV

### **Abstract**

**Keywords:** treasure, coins, Byzantines, Petchenegs, military campaign, battle.

The author discusses the discovery circumstances in Professor Ishirkovo village, Silistra region, of a Byzantine coins hoard from the 11<sup>th</sup> century, of which only 22 pieces are known.

Some specialists' opinion, establishing a link between the existence of the hoard and the medieval settlement in the discovery place neighborhood, is contested.

In 1087 the Emperor Alexios I Comnenos decided to start a campaign against the Petchenegs from Durostorum. The battles had an evil outcome for the Byzantine army and the author considers that as a consequence of this defeat, an officer hid the coins during the Byzantines' retreat.

The author reminds, as to argue his opinion, that other hoards are also known from the same area, dated to the period previous to the Byzantine campaign against the Petchenegs too.