

## Anna Blennow & Alessandro Palumbo: The runic and Latin epigraphic areas of the diocese of Skara 1100–1500: continuity and change

In late eleventh and early twelfth-century Scandinavia, the Roman script and the Latin language were successively introduced in local epigraphic practices that for centuries had been dominated by the use of the runic script and the vernacular language. The arrival of Latin epigraphy did not substitute the runic one, but led instead to a couple of centuries of coexistence. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, both Latin and runic inscriptions were produced in several areas of the diocese of Skara. But from the fourteenth century onward, runic inscriptions on monumental artefacts gradually ceased to be produced, while the occurrences of Latin inscriptions became concentrated to urban and/or monastic centres: the cities of Skara and Lödöse, and the monastery of Varnhem. What instigated this shift in the production and use of epigraphic monuments, and which agents were involved in this development?

The presentation will be given in two parts: the first part by Alessandro Palumbo, who will introduce the epigraphic source material from the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, and the second part by Anna Blennow, who will describe the epigraphic development in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.