

THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL STORY OF VUČEDOL CULTURE (EARLY BRONZE AGE, VUČEDOL, EAST CROATIA)

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Vučedol is a culture's eponymous settlement of the first half of the third millennium Before Christ (BC). The aim of this study was to complete the knowledge about life of Vučedol culture inhabitants with the help of biological anthropology, the wide unknown field which is still there after decades of archaeological excavation and research. The evidences are provided by well preserved skeleton remains of a few individuals, seven children and fourteen adult persons. From single to multiple grave funerary practices, through classic anthropological analysis of sex and age at death to usage of different forensic methods, unique details were revealed. Special attention has been given to musculoskeletal stress markers, possible conditions and a manner of life, its rhythm and difficulties, and pathological changes which all left their traces on bone remains. We were following the asymptote of the Vučedol inhabitants life and death.

Key words: *anthropological analysis, musculoskeletal stress markers, pathological changes, Vučedol culture, Early Bronze Age*

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WHEN BALISTICS MEETS ANTHROPOLOGY: A CASE STUDY FROM THE MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF OUR LADY OF MOUNTAIN CHURCH IN LOBOR (CROATIA)

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During the summer archaeological excavation in 2012, on the site of Our Lady of the Mountain church in Lobar, the grave number 888 was revealed, with skeletal remains of a young male person. The very position of the grave in a gothic church, along the apsidal area, accentuates the status of this person in the society. The apse as a remain of the gothic church elements is part of multi-stratified layers, maybe of a vertical complex where it is possible to separate structures from the 3rd to the 17th century, with the church Our Lady of the Mountain in Lobar as the last layer. It was a primary burial, with a position of the grave following the church's East-West orientation. The anthropological analysis was performed: determination of sex and age at death, body height, description of pathological conditions and eventual musculo-skeletal stress markers. On the skeletal remains circular defects were detected, in forms of a penetrating trauma due to a spherical or spheroid body or object activity. These fragments of uneven dimensions were embedded in the bones: right tibial bone, left and right femoral bone. With application of a scanning electron microscopy (Scanning Electron Microscopy / Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy method, SEM/EDX) and X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy (Micro X-ray fluorescence method, μ XRF) a chemical analysis of the elements, together with morphological 2D and 3D characterization of samples were obtained.

Key words: *anthropological analysis, skeletal remains, balistics, SEM/EXD method, μ XRF method, Lobar, Croatia*

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