

PALAEOANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE POPULATION OF ABASHEVO CULTURE, WHICH LEFT THE SECOND LIPETSK BARROW

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In 2011 employees of the State directorate for protection of cultural heritage of Lipetsk region under the guidance of Golotvin A.N. (PhD) performed rescue excavations of the partially destroyed archaeology site – the “Second Lipetsk barrow” situated in the southern outskirts of Lipetsk, in the watershed plateau of the Voronezh and Belokolodets rivers (the right bank of the Voronezh river). The excavations revealed three grave pits arranged along the North-South line. The grave pit 1 was situated in the southern part of the barrow, had subrectangular shape, and was oriented along the North-South line. On the bottom of the pit, the archaeologists recorded five human skeletons on the organic bedding. All the buried people were lying on their backs, with their heads oriented eastwards and their hands in the pelvis area. All the skeletons were more or less disrupted. The grave pit 2 was situated in the central part of the barrow, had subrectangular shape, and was oriented along the North-South line. On the bottom of the pit, the archaeologists recorded fragments of four human skeletons on the organic bedding. The skeletons were completely disrupted, only leg bones of two individuals were lying in situ – they suggest that the buried people were lying with their heads oriented eastwards (as in the pit 1). The grave pit 3 was situated in the northern part of the barrow, had subrectangular shape, and its long axis was oriented along the East-West line. On the bottom of the pit, there was a human skeleton on the organic bedding. The skeleton was lying in situ, on the back, with hands in the pelvis area and with head oriented eastwards. According to the author of excavations (Golotvin A.N.), the graves of the “Second Lipetsk barrow” belong to the burials of aristocratic warriors of the Don-Volga Abashevo culture. Moreover, Golotvin A.N. and Pryakhin A.D. find there some features characteristic for the Catacomb culture (flinty arrowheads, individual elements of knives). The C14 dates allow preliminary dating of the complex to the 3rd-2nd millennia BC. Thus, the burials of the “Second Lipetsk barrow” contained about 10 individuals. We have performed the craniological reconstruction and measured the skulls. Moreover, we have studied the osteological materials, examined the body proportions, calculated the intravital statures (about 170 cm for males and 162 cm for females), estimated the muscular texture (which is well-marked among the males) and revealed stress markers and palaeopathological changes (enamel hypoplasia, dental calculus).

Key words: *palaeoanthropology, craniology, osteology, Abashevo culture*

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FORENSIC GENETIC DATABASES FOR MIXED POULATIONS

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A genetic and demographic study of the Minsk, Moscow and Kharkov populations was performed using questionnaire and census data. Three megalopolises, differing in population size, are characterized by heterogeneous ethnic composition, high migration coefficients ranging from 0.40 to 0.55, long average migration distances (564–921 km) and a high proportions of interethnic marriages (up to 33%) resulting in intensive gene flow between ethnic groups. These populations can therefore be considered as mixed in the genetic and anthropological senses. In samples from the most numerous ethnic groups of the three