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Social structure in cemeteries in the Late Eneolithic and Early Bronze Age in the areas of Moravia and south-western Slovakia

The main aim of this work was to find out to what extent the society of the Late Eneolithic was differentiated from that of the Early Bronze Age based on the cemeteries situated in Moravia and south-western Slovakia. To answer this question the most suitable were the grave goods whose thorough analysis and comparison was one of the most important parts of this work. There were also used anthropological data (age, appearance, records about diseases) that together with the results of the analysis gave an insight into burial practices of the mentioned societies. The results were arrived at through a comparison based on similarities and differences.

A considerable growth in number and variability of grave goods in rich male, female and child burials was observed in the cultures connected with the beginning of the Bronze Age. Animal burials or symbolic graves occurred just sporadically.

The following methods were used: geographic information system (GIS), analysis of individual cultures on the basis of cemeteries (processed as a database in MS Access).

Roman bone jewellery from Gerulata

Roman provincial jewellery made of bone or antler consists of wide range of objects that can be divided into several groups. The decorative pins belong to the most numerous findings in civil and military environment. They were used in styling hair or joining fabrics. From bones and antlers were likewise produced pearls, charms and amulets of various shapes that adorned neck or hands. Another group consists of bracelets, pauldrons and rings. The last group consists of earrings and claps; their bony variants were produced in the Roman period. Jewellery made of this type of material appears during the whole Roman period, but their golden age is considered to be mostly the 4th century A.D. Significant increase of combs, needles and bracelets made of bone, antler and ivory on Roman necropolis in this period is by many researchers linked mainly with the Germanic element that influenced events in the north of the Roman Empire. The aim of this paper was to typologically and chronologically analyze a collection of bone jewellery from the graves in cemetery I, II, III and in the contexts of late Roman military camp in the position Bergl in Bratislava-Rusovce (Ancient Gerulata). The analyzed group, consisting of approx. 38 pieces, can be divided in functional terms to decorative pins, beads, amulets and bracelets.

Older Early Medieval Settlement Finds in the Záhorie Region

In the 1950’s and 1960’s L. Kraskovská excavated many early medieval settlements on the territory of the Záhorie region. However, the results were often published only in part. Therefore, the evaluation of settlement finds from the mentioned region was taken up. Three settlement sites were analysed in particular: positions u Cigánkov in Bilkové Humenice, Riškových vŕšok in Kúty, Lipovec in Lakšárska Nová Ves. In the evaluation of finding contexts and finds, the features and pottery dated to the 8th and the beginning of the 9th century were analysed.
The Archaeobotany of Kopčany settlement complex

This study is focused on the issue of plant macro remains in early medieval graves in Kopčany. The main goal of the analysis is to address the question of the origin of carbonized seeds in graves and their relation to funeral rite context. Based on the detailed examination of the macro botanical remains, we may prove the origin of the seeds in graves as an evidence of various transformation processes. From the results of the analysis it is obvious that the graves which were situated closest to the settlement structures contain the highest number of carbonized seeds, while more distant graves contain only a minimum of macro remains. It is also evident that the samples from the skeleton’s surroundings areas are sterile, and the macro remains are found only in the upper layers of the grave pit filling.

The Research of the Foundations of Medieval Church and Cemetery in Krásno by Non-destructive Methods

In addition to archaeological artefacts and situations, the database of cemetery and church in Krásno in western Slovakia contained numerous items that needed interdisciplinary cooperation to evaluate them properly. The existing works point out that the missing information can be gradually filled in via modern processing (GIS) methods, thus allowing the research to continue regardless incomplete graphical and find documentation.

In the nave interior, remarkable georadar (GPR) anomalies were measured under the ground surface, most probably indicating a building destruction in its southern part. In the interior of the northern extension of an early Romanesque church, the georadar anomalies can indicate a tomb. Other GPR anomalies are caused by construction destruction related to the adjustment of the sacral building after archaeological research.

Medieval and modern ceramic in north-western Slovakia

This article summarizes the results of my thesis as well as reflects some new facts from my doctoral work. The main goal was to create the evolutional schemes of pottery from cities, castles, bulwarks, manors and similar fortified high-placed locations of north-western Slovakia. Tiles and pipes, as part of potter’s production, are included too. The whole described collection dates back to a relatively long time period, from the High Middle Ages to the end of the Early Modern Age (13th–18th centuries). The secondary aims include the relations of pottery production to the neighbouring areas (south-western Slovakia, both Silesias, north-eastern Moravia, and Lesser Poland), the creation of ceramic-material classes of pottery and the percentage and typological comparison of ceramics from cities, castles and fortified high-placed locations.
Settlement in the Micro-region of the Stream Jarč in the Middle (Lower) Váh Region (Archaeological Predictive Model)

Choosing section on the micro-region of the stream basin of Jarč for analysis was motivated with the variability of natural environment elements and density of archaeological sources. Basic element in defining the area was hydrologic criterion of the stream Jarč. The work process consisted of assembly, supplementations and clarification of available archaeological and geographical information on the micro-region. Subsequent digitizing, vectorization and data analysis was carried out in a GIS environment.

The output of the predictive model is a map of potential occurrence of archaeological sites in each area (Fig. 10). Predictive model indicates that inhabitants used the same landscape features from the Neolithic up to the Early Middle Ages. Some differences were observed in burial places in the Roman Period centralized on locations with low potential (Fig. 11). Probably other factors than the natural environment played an important role in establishing cemeteries (social, religious, etc.) However, these are hardly recognizable.