

inventory discovered alongside the cup with the inscription does not belong to a pitiakhsh either. It is more believable that this cup is Pitiakhsh Buzmihr's gift. There are a few similar occasions known in the kingdom of Iberia in Roman period. Where exactly is the burial of Pitiakhsh Buzimih? This question has not been answered yet. Apart from other problems the article deals with the chronological order of the pitiakhshs of Armaziskhevi cemetery and leads one to an opinion that the pitiakhshs are buried only in burials 1, 2 and 3. In addition, the article looks at the problem of interrelation between the pitiakhshs' burials and the structures in Armaziskhevi and expresses an idea that the structures date to earlier period than the burials. In the 70s (no later than 75 AD) the residential area was destroyed as a result of an earthquake and since then the area was used as a cemetery of the Armaziskhevi pitiakhshs and their family members. Ref. 43.

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**1.6.1.2.10. Origin and historical significance of artificial cranial deformations found in Samtavro cemetery in the Early Middle Ages.** /N. Tavartkiladze/. West Caucasus - Archaeological Context. – 2020. – #1. – pp. 94-116. – geo.; abs.: geo., eng., rus.

The work is based on the research of normally and artificially deformed skulls of the Samtavro Cemetery, dating back to the period the Early Middle Ages. The skulls are now located in the anthropological research laboratory of the Ivane Javakhisvili Institute of History and Ethnology. Apart from the skulls themselves, the craniological catalogue, located in the same institute, as well as individual blank of each of the skulls was used for the research. Archaeological diary from the Georgian National Museum has also been used for the research, through which, information about the cemetery types, burial rites and artifacts was acquired. The work analyzes the types of cranial deformations, the sexual and age structures of the buried, markers of the physiological stress and anomaly frequencies in the population of this period. The inventory is also distributed between those with deformations and those without them, in order to analyze if the deformations implied being part of the elite parts of the society. There are tables distributing information about those with deformed and non-deformed skulls, based on their gender and age, which gives a clear picture of the lifespan of those with and without skull deformations. For the purpose of understanding underlying reasons for the skull deformation, historical sources have been analyzed and the reasons summarized in order to determine why the artificial deformation took place among those living in Mtskheta territory. Fig. 7, Tab. 7, Ref. 28.

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**1.6.1.2.11. Human habitation in Caucasia in the Coldest and Driest Period of the Last Glaciation.** /A. Gavashelishvili/. West Caucasus - Archaeological Context. – 2020. – #1. – pp. 117-132. – geo.; abs.: geo., Eng., Rus.

Since the period the modern human originated anatomically, genetic diversity was accumulated in the hereditarily transferred DNA (e.g. Y-chromosome and mitochondrial DNA), which makes it possible to estimate the ways of human origination and evolution. The research presented in the article uses the branches of Y-chromosome (or paternal branches) which originated in the period of the Last Glaciation. According to the hypothesis to be researched, the major phenomenon in the geological past which could have caused genetic differences by means of reproductive distancing of human populations (i.e. isolation) was the succession of minimal temperatures over the period of glaciation. The author's hypothesis was motivated by the fact that the dates of temperature minimums almost coincided with the times of origination of paternal branches presumed by other scholars. Consequently, it was the distribution of the biomes during these minimums that must have affected creation and dissemination of paternal branches. Fig. 1, Tab. 6, Ref. 1.

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