

“Life of St. Gregory of Khantsta” and the monastery complex of Sakvirike opposite Kvabiskhevi are the same. Correspondingly, we date the monastery complex to the 840s. Fig. 1, Ref. 15.

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1.6.1.1.4. Trade Relations between the Roman Empire and the Kingdom of Iberia in the 1st -3 rd cc. AD. /K. Shavlakadze/. Bulletin of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences (Moambe). – 2020. – v. 14. – #1. – pp. 155-159. – eng.; abs.: geo., eng.

The paper aims at studying the imported glass unguentaria discovered in the tile graves of Samtavro necropolis excavated at Mtskheta in the eastern part of Georgia (former Kingdom of Iberia), finding parallels of the finds and identifying Iberia’s links and trade relations with the Roman Empire. Glass unguentaria, lacrimarii and flasks represent the homogeneous group of the burial inventory of tile graves dated to the 1st -3rd cc AD; they were presumably imported from Syria which was under the Roman influence at the time. All of the imported glassware is produced by a blowpipe. Besides Iberia these vessels occur on many sites of the Roman Empire and its environs (e.g. Northern Black Sea Area, South Caucasus, etc.). As Mtskheta (the capital of Iberia) was located on the crossroads of ancient trade route connecting east to west, different luxury goods, like unguentaria with frankincense oil and miniature lacrimarii with perfumes and medicines were delivered to satisfy the cosmetic needs of the local aristocracy. It should be assumed that Syrian products carried by these glass containers were being brought in Iberia via Armenia and would head towards Mtskheta and were eventually distributed to different town centres of the Iberian Kingdom. Ref. 10.

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1.6.1.1.5. An Interesting Letter in Tudor Archives and the Georgians’ Fight for the Holy Places. /G. Kalandia/. David Aghmashenebeli University of Georgia Scientific Journal Spectri. – 2020. – #3. – pp. 148-151. – geo.; abs.: geo., eng.

This publication discusses one of the documents preserved in the Tudor Archives’ printed collection in the National Library of England. Namely, a letter in Latin named “The Holy Sepulchre” from 1514 intended for the notorious English King Henry VIII. The document tells of the Georgian people’s fight for Calvary in the holy land. As it turns out, in the 16th century, Georgian Christian community was able to direct international or religious processes in Jerusalem in a way that brought the events to the attention of European monarchs. Ref. 11.

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6.1.2. Archeology

1.6.1.2.1. A New View on the Caucasus in the System of Old Civilizations. /K. Pitkhelauri/. Bulletin of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences (Moambe). – 2019. – v. 13. – #1. – pp. 188-195. – eng.; abs.: geo., eng.

Conducting archaeological studies with the use of modern digital technologies and analyzing the obtained material on the basis of the natural sciences will create an important innovative base that is designed to conduct the research process in the right direction and will reclaim the Caucasus its rightful place in the system of Middle East civilizations. Ref. 21.

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1.6.1.2.2. Tools and Techniques Used by Goldsmiths in Ancient Georgia. /E. Magradze/. Bulletin of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences (Moambe). – 2020. – v. 14. – #2. – pp. 122-126. – eng.; abs.: geo., eng.

The present paper reports on some tools and techniques developed by goldsmith in the workshops of ancient Georgia. The written sources concerning the processing of precious metals and special tools used for this in the jewelry practice widely known in the world are taken into consideration. On the basis of theoretical and practical data contained in these sources, as well as the results of the conducted experiments, it was shown

that the so-called Trialeti goblet, an artifact dated back to the early second millennium BC, was made using the similar tools and techniques. The monument is kept at the archeological treasury of the Simon Janashia National Museum of Georgia. Fig. 6., Ref. 6.

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1.6.1.2.3. Chalcolithic Settlement at Bronze Cave, Tsutskhvati Cave Complex (Republic of Georgia, Imereti).

/N. Tskvitinidze, N. Tsikaridze, E. Kvavadze, D. Lordkipanidze/. Bulletin of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences (Moambe). – 2020. – v. 14. – #2. – pp. 127-131. – eng.; abs.: geo., eng.

The present paper provides a brief research of new Chalcolithic materials discovered at the bronze cave, Tsutskhvati cave complex. A small number of Chalcolithic sites in West Georgia enhances importance of this discovery and makes it unique. The Chalcolithic culture of West Georgia is very distinct. It has close connections with both the earlier Neolithic culture, and the later Early Bronze. Compared to the Neolithic period, the Chalcolithic lithic and ceramic industries show change. Lithic techniques are more concentrated on pressure flaking, while pottery loses decorative elements and becomes focused on the utilitarian functionality without aesthetic embellishment. The discovery of copper objects and crucibles shows evidence of cold forging and the emergence of metallurgy. Previously, the upper layers of Bronze cave thought to belong the Early Bronze Age, but following a comparative-typological analysis of the discovered materials, we can conclude that the Bronze cave was inhabited in the Chalcolithic era and used as a permanent or temporary shelter. This discovery provides us with important update about West Georgian Chalcolithic period, enriches its scarce collections, is a novelty for the site and finally this research is important to qualify holistically the process of site formation. Fig. 4, Ref. 14.

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1.6.1.2.4. Archaeology and Formation Processes in the M6 Block at Dmanisi, Georgia.

/T. Shelia, R. Ferring, M. Tappen, M. Bukhsianidze, D. Lordkipanidze/. Bulletin of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences (Moambe). – 2020. – v. 14. – #1. – pp. 148-154. – eng.; abs.: geo., eng.

Excavations at the M6 Block of the Dmanisi Paleolithic site reveal a unique record of occupation patterns and activities. Geo-archaeological investigations and faunal analyses show that the materials in M6 most probably accumulated as an in situ deposit. Lithic assemblages reveal a very low intensity of reduction, with very few flakes per core. This may correlate with an emphasis on bone breakage, based on bone fragment data. The geological and archaeological data from these excavations indicate a high degree of variability in occupation patterns. The very high ratio of bones to lithic artifacts in M6 (1156/72) is possibly unique at Dmanisi, indicating a locus of substantial bone accumulation by carnivores and humans. The record from M6 is unlike that from any of the other areas of the site excavated thus far, showing that Dmanisi was a location of diverse activities during the many repeated occupations that are shown by spatial and stratigraphic distribution of in situ deposits. This is one of the few opportunities in any Paleolithic setting; most of the sites in globe present single occupation events in same localities. Fig. 1, Tab. 4, Ref. 7.

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1.6.1.2.5. Reconstruction of the Shiraki Valley paleoenvironment: the first traces of the state formation in the South Caucasus. The primary research results.

/K. Pitskhelauri/. West Caucasus - Archaeological Context. – 2020. – #1. – pp. 28-42. – geo.; abs.: geo., eng., rus.

Modern archaeology has long gone beyond the research of cultural heritage of humanity and aims to study human and historical environment as a whole. A research of the past of the community of any region and epoch should commence with characterization of the contemporaneous paleoenvironment, as it is the changeable, epochal differences that the whole system of economic, social and political development of the society is based on. Thus, unless reconstruction of the paleoenvironment of certain epochs occurs from the very beginning, every effort of proper interpretation of the past of any society will be conducted with major flaws, will be prone to substantial mistakes and establishment of the truth will be difficult. Fig. 8, Tab. 1, Ref. 6.

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