

**ANIMAL OFFERINGS IN HALLSTATTIAN NECROPOLIS FROM BANAT
(SOUTH-WEST ROMANIA)**

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This paper refers to animal bones as offerings uncovered in two Early Hallstattian necropolis in Banat.

1. The incineration necropolis at Voiteni (Timiș County) dates from the period of Late bronze/Early Hallstattian age.

2. The incineration necropolis at Ticvanu Mare dates from Hallstattian A1/A2 and it is placed in the western part of Caraș-Severin County, in a low region of Caraș River.

In the first case, from 24 incineration burials, in seven ones animal bones were found. These are not cremated like the human bones. For the funeral sacrifice domestic species as pig, sheep or wild ones (roe deer) were used. Six burials contain faunal remains from one species: sheep or pig. The greatest part of animals were slaughtered at an immature age; maybe the economic factor is foremostly involved in this choice. Concerning the skeletal region preferred for ritual deposal in all cases parts of forelegs (humerus region) were also preferred.

In the Ticvanu Mare necropoleis, from 26 burials 5 contained animal bones incinerated in the same way as the human remains. The offerings consisted in fragments of caprovines or bovins/red deer bones.

In about all cases the small ruminants rests were preferred. One species is usually represented by bones as burials Nos 3, 8, 11, excepted one case (B15), where two species are associated: sheep+ cattle/red deer.

In this case parts of nomeaty regions of limbs, as metacarpal, metatarsal, phalanges bones, were preferend.