

CATACOMBNAYA CULTURE IN THE SYSTEM OF ANTIQUITIES OF CARPATHIAN-DANUBE BASIN

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The data of Catacombnaya Culture was repeatedly used by many investigators in the purpose of solving the problem of the genesis and intercultural connections in Carpathian-Danube region. The solution of many problems is indissolubly connected with a more precise definition of the habitat of Catacombnaya Culture, with the revelation of the mechanism of its interaction with previous and synchronous population.

The elaboration of the last two decades has determined that from the turn of the 3rd - 2nd millenniums BC the territory westerly Dniester river began to be mastered by tribes of Catacombnaya Culture. The number of monuments during this period is not large, it does not exceed 20. This process was the most intensive during the latest period (North Black Sea horizon "ingulskiy type"). It is prescribed that the border of the habitat of Late Catacombnaya Culture approximately passed through the line Cherkassy-Uman-Mogilev-Podolskiy area between Prut and Siret and the right bank of the Danube. The whole number of monuments westerly Dniester reaches to 200, they are exceptionally represented by burials and find the accordance of data in South Bug and Dnieper regions.

The slow mastering of appointed territory was accompanied by partial displacement of population of Late Yamnaya Culture and was finished by the co-existence of bearers of these cultures in certain microregions. The late was reflected in the funeral rite and in the material culture. But the basic massif of bearers of Yamnaya Culture established a particular "barrier" between the tribes of Catacombnaya Culture and cultures of corded ware of Carpathian Mountains region and other cultures of Danube territory. There is a considerable inventory of foreign origin in the burials of late Yamnaya Culture, including the artifacts belonging to Catacombnaya Culture, but the material evidence of interactions between the tribes of Catacombnaya Culture and those of Carpathian-Danube regions are scarce, though their penetration into the environment of steppe population through the bearers of Yamnaya Culture is not exceptional.

In this conglomerate of data we are given an evidence about the advancement of the tribes of Catacombnaya Culture from east, the displacement of significant part of the population of Late Yamnaya Culture by them, and, as a result, the destabilization of ethno-cultural situation in these regions. Strictly speaking, the tribes of Catacombnaya Culture had not an important influence on the cultures of Carpathian basin, certain similar elements can be explained by close level of spiritual culture, which in the first instance was reflected in the funeral rites (Zlota culture). The role of the Catacombnaya Culture in elaboration of Polish investigators seems to be exaggerated. New data also show insolvency of existed elaboration of western origins of Catacombnaya Culture.

Integrational processes with the including of new eastern elements promoted the formation of Mnogovaljkovaja Culture in North-West Black Sea region, the bearers of which mastered the wide territories and helped to the ethno-cultural stabilization, which found its reflection in striking similarity of following cultures of late Bronze epoch Sabatinovka-Noua-Kozlozhen.